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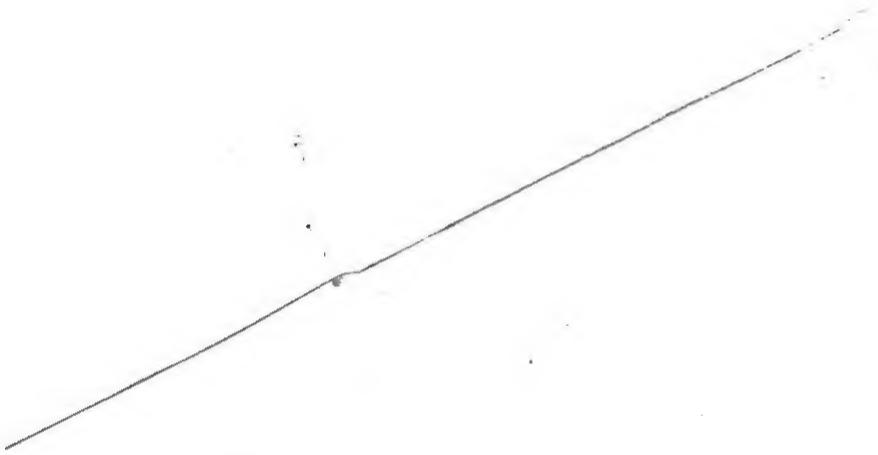

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 1903.

BIRTH.

On Dec. 27th the Wife of L. H. ABEL of a Son.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, on Dec 31st, ALFRED AUGUSTUS LOUREIRO, of typhoid fever. By cable.

By telegram—Julia, the beloved wife of GEORGE B. DODWELL.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PROF. TAKAYAMA RINJIRO died on the 24th Dec. at Hiratsuka from consumption.

FOUR felons escaped from Sugamo jail on the night of the 27th ult.

A VIOLENT shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama a little after nine o'clock on Saturday morning.

THE Zoological garden in the grounds of the Osaka National Exhibition will be opened on the 1st January next.

FOURTEEN boats containing seventy fishermen, belonging to Wakayama Prefecture, were caught in the gale at Katsu-ura bay, Higashi Ki... on the 25th ult.

THE Yokohama Chiho Saibansho was closed on Saturday for the New Year holidays. Business will be resumed on Jan. 5th.

MR. J. BEETHOM WHITEHEAD, the new First Secretary of the British Embassy at Constantinople, has arrived there and taken up his duties.

MAJOR-GENERAL TAKEDA SHUZAN, Director of the General Staff office, Formosa, died in the Hospital at Suma, on the 24th December.

ABOUT twenty minutes before three o'clock on the last day of the old year a fairly strong and prolonged shock of earthquake visited Yokohama.

COUNT MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI has been approved by the Emperor as President of the Japan Red Cross Society in place of the late Count Sano Tsunetami.

A MAN named Kitazawa Toshichi employed by the Yokosuka Post Office has been arrested on a charge of having stolen several money orders valued at *yen* 22.

THE Grand Duke Michael of Russia has been elected Lord High Steward of the Manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme. The office dates from the time of John of Gaunt.

WE are informed by the local Agent that the Messageries Maritimes has decided to leave out Nagasaki as a port of call in Japan from the 15th February next.

A HEAVY gale accompanied by snow was experienced at Shimonoseki on the 25th Dec. All work was suspended in the harbour and some junks were wrecked.

ON the 1st inst. a Chinese lad, eight years of age, died at Saigon of hydrophobia after having been bitten by a mad dog on the 11th November. He underwent the Pasteur treatment.

TWO men and five women were injured while working under a new building at Shichiken-cho, Asakusa, Tokyo, on the 25th inst. A heavy wind was blowing at the time and it caused the scaffolding to fall down on them.

MR. TOMINAGA HATSUSHU, ex-M.P., for Shizuoka Prefecture, was arrested by the police on the 28th, and charged with blackmailing. He was arrested just as he left the House after the dissolution.

AN armed burglar entered a house occupied by Chief Naval Engineer Miyagi Chiharu at Yokosuka early on the morning of the 28th ult. He stole *yen* 43, one sword, and nine articles. The owner of the house was absent at the time.

A MURDERER named Matsumoto Yoshigoro, living at Tsurugamine-mura, Kanagawa Prefecture, was arrested by the Hachoji Police on the 27th ult. He murdered a man named Takahashi Kotaro in a hotel at Hachoji on the 3rd ult.

A MAN named Hishiyama Ichitaro, living at Miyazakicho, Yokohama, was arrested by the Kagacho police on the 24th inst. on a charge of having stolen an overcoat from No. 83, belonging to Mr. Morgin, on the 19th inst., while the following day he visited No. 14, No. 66, No. 185, Bluff, and No. 244, Bluff where he stole an overcoat and other articles valued at *yen* 200.

KOMIYA YOTARO AND SHIMIZU MASAJIRO were arrested by the Asakusa police on the 27th ult. charged with stealing several novelties, dresses and tea services from the house of Mr. Oki Morikata, Kamakura, on the 9th ult.

A TELEGRAM from Shimonoseki dated Dec. 25th to the *Asahi* states that a trial of the new express on the Sanyo Railway was made and proved satisfactory. It runs between Kobe and Shimonoseki in eleven hours and a quarter.

SIX fishermen belonging to Nagai-mura, Miuragori, Kanagawa Prefecture, while fishing about 4 miles from Nishiura on the 25th ult. were caught in the gale that swept the coast that day. The following morning their boat was found bottom-up on the beach at Okuzure.

TWO cargo boats and one man in the employment of the Osaka Tow Boat Co. are missing as the result of heavy weather encountered by a tow of fifteen boats proceeding from Kobe to Osaka on Dec. 26th. In the same locality a schooner of 100 tons and sixteen boats were wrecked.

A FISHING boat belonging to Shinmachi, Kanagawa, while fishing near the breakwater on the Kanagawa side found on Friday the bodies of a young man and a young woman whose legs were tied together with a towel. The matter was reported to the police.

ACCORDING to an inspired note published by the *Etoile Belge*, of Brussels, the Comte de Flandre, brother of King Leopold, has definitively abdicated his claim to succession to the Belgian Throne in favour of his son, Prince Albert, who will shortly receive the title of Duke of Brabant, the usual title of the Crown Prince of the Belgians.

MR. ALLAN CAMERON, son of Sir Ewen Cameron of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, has been left a legacy of £5,000 by the late Mr. Harry Panmure Gordon. Mr. Panmure Gordon also directs his executors "to offer for acceptance to His Majesty the present Emperor of Germany the boat carriage launched by His Majesty the late Emperor Frederick, and his shooting carriage on wheels."

AS the 6.23 p.m. train from Tokyo on Dec. 29th was running down to Kanagawa, and was yet about a mile distant from the station an obstacle was encountered. Brakes were whistled for and the Westinghouse brake was applied from the engine yet the train had run two lengths before it was brought to a standstill. On examination the obstruction was found to be the body of a man, apparently about twenty years of age, but so horribly mangled as to defy identification.

THE funeral of Viscount Hase Nobuatsu, member of the House of Peers, took place at Yanaka cemetery according to Shinto ritual, on the afternoon of the 30th December. Prince Tokugawa, representatives of Princes Konoye, Takatsukasa, Iwakura and Mori; Marquis Saionji, Counts Sasaki, Tsuchimikado, Hojo, and Horikawa; and several members of the House of Peers, were present.

SPEAKING at a dinner given the other day by the members of the Port of London Sanitary Committee to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, the Chief Magistrate said it was a fact worth knowing that the Japanese, our allies in the East, were directing their attention to the municipalisation of their great cities, and in this work they had largely taken as their mode, the Corporation of the City of London.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Saturday, Dec. 27.

Thursday—Various meetings between the Prime Minister and representatives of the political parties are to take place to-day. Marquis Ito is also expected to have a conference with Count Katsura. But little hope is entertained of an amicable arrangement. As the situation develops itself, the *Seiyu-kai's* implacability becomes more and more apparent. The Cabinet is to be overthrown unless it yields at every point. Of course such wholesale concession is out of the question. Thus far, therefore, Count Katsura's procedure seems likely to result in laying upon his opponents' shoulders the entire onus of the rupture. But the *Seiyu-kai* will not be particularly distressed by the weight of that responsibility. In political contests the eclat of victory throws into shadow all the routes by which it is reached. The only question is, will the House of Representatives be dissolved or will the Ministry resign? We can not venture to predict, but at this moment dissolution seems more probable than resignation.

Friday—The attempts to effect a compromise have failed. There has been a meeting between members of the Cabinet and representatives of the two Parties. The Cabinet offered to reduce the proposed rate of tax upon low-lands from 3.3 per cent. to 3 per cent., and pointed out that, in consideration of the prison expenditures having been transferred from the charges of the communes to those of the Treasury, the people would then be actually paying only 2½ per cent., namely, the old rate of land tax. As to the financial deficiency caused by this change, the Ministry proposed to make it good by cutting down appropriations on account of public works and by diminishing administrative expenditures. But the Parties would not listen to that proposal. A meeting of Parliamentary members of the House of Representatives rejected it incontinently. After that decision had been adopted, Marquis Ito addressed the meeting. He explained that at the outset of the present complication—namely on the 21st instant—he had been approached by Baron Kodama on behalf of the Government with an intimation that the Cabinet desired to have a conference. The Marquis had agreed to take the necessary steps, but had been careful to explain that he gave no guarantee whatever as to the issue of the conference. Subsequently the meeting had taken place in the residence of the Prime Minister, the *Seiyu-kai* being represented by Messrs. Matsuda and Hara and the Progressists by Messrs. Oishi and Inukai. The result was known. The Marquis then explained that he and the members of the Standing Committee had felt that this question was of too great importance to be decided without reference to all the Party's representatives in the Lower House. Hence the present meeting. His Excellency emphatically declared that the *Seiyu-kai* had not been influenced in its attitude merely by a desire to oppose the Ministry. The interests of the country alone had been kept in view. That fact could not be too clearly presented to the public. The Cabinet, on its side, had adopted the course which it deemed most conducive to the good of the empire, and had very properly declined to abandon its convictions.

The Progressists also held a general meeting of their Parliamentary members to receive the report of their delegates and to vote upon it. It need scarcely be said that the meeting decided in the same sense as the *Seiyu-kai* meeting. The resemblance between the proceedings of the two Parties was completed by Count Okuma's addressing the meeting. The gist of his speech was that the Cabinet erred in imagining that the land-tax was the pivot of the situation. What the Progressists really objected to was the unconstitutional procedure of the Ministry, and they declined to be satisfied so long as such a Ministry remained in office. When increased taxation was proposed by the Ito Cabinet, the Progressists had endorsed that measure since they saw that no margin remained for selling bonds either at home or abroad, and that recourse to taxation was inevitable. They made no small sacrifice on that occasion, for their support of the Cabinet's programme had cost them the loss of over 30 adherents. When the Katsura Ministry came into power, it adopted the policy of paying for State enterprises by means of the taxes imposed on account of the North-China complication, and it refrained from any attempt to float loans. Therefore the Progressists supported it. But suddenly the system of financing by debts had been reverted to. A large sale of bonds was made abroad, and at the same time the Houses were asked to vote for increased taxation. Moreover, the Government, last session had presented to the House a number of supplementary budgets involving an expenditure of some thirteen or fourteen million *yen*, most of the expenditures being of a continuing nature and therefore constituting a lasting burden. On the other hand, the Cabinet, without making any resolute effort to reduce the administrative staff or to cut down needless outlays, confidently affirmed that no further retrenchments were possible. In short, they sought a renewed lease of idle office at the expense of the nation's interests. The Count further alluded to the text-book scandal, which, he alleged, was probably only an example of many similar irregularities. If such things happened among scholars and educationists, how much worse must be the state of affairs in other departments of the Government? Yet they were informed that no room for reform exists. The fact was that the present Cabinet might be called the final phenomenon of the system of clan Government at its last gasp. Unless this Ministry were driven out of power, the system it represented would be repeated in its successor.

Subsequently Messrs. Matsuda, Hara and Oishi waited on the Prime Minister, and formally stated that the Parties, having carefully considered the Government's proposals, had concluded that no reason existed for departing from the policy enunciated and adopted at previous meetings of the Parties.

The Prime Minister proceeded to the Palace after receiving the above communication, but of course the public knows nothing of the advice tendered to His Majesty. Nearly all the Tokyo newspapers, however, are persuaded that the dissolution of the House of Representatives will follow.

Monday, Dec. 29.

Saturday, 27th instant.—The universal opinion seems to be that dissolution of the Lower House will take place to-morrow. The Government is naturally indignant at the reception given by the Parties to its proposals for compromise. Had there been any desire on the side of the Opposition to avert a crisis, they would have made some clear statement of the lines they desired to see adopted. The Cabinet made such a statement on its own account. It explicitly defined the concessions it was prepared to offer and the measures it would consequently adopt. But the Parties did not concern themselves to announce their views. They simply rejected the Ministerial programme, thus showing that all idea of compromise was distasteful to them. Under these circumstances the Government is believed to consider that its duty is to dissolve the House and to make immediate arrangements for a new election. The latter may be held the middle of February and the new House could consequently re-assemble in Tokyo early in April. It would follow, of course, that the Government must work with the old Budget, but no special inconvenience would thereby be entailed. Such is the forecast to-day. It is alleged that there has been a special meeting of the Privy Council to consider certain questions submitted by the Emperor, but the proceedings have not become public property.

Sunday, 28th instant—The above expectation was verified on the 28th. The House met in spite of the day being Sunday, and when having listened to a speech by the Premier, the majority showed unequivocally that they were about to reject the Land Tax Bill, a Message from the Throne was read ordering dissolution. The members received the announcement with a considerable display of excitement, and the situation is one that can not be viewed without uneasiness by Japan's friends.

Tuesday, Dec. 30.

After the dissolution on Sunday, the 28th instant, the Parliamentary leaders of the two Parties and their standing Committees met within the precincts of the Lower House, and made an agreement that, as far as possible, the two should work peacefully and harmoniously in the approaching elections, and should endeavour to return the same members as those now representing them.

The *Seiyu-kai* held the usual meetings yesterday, one a formal assembly of Parliamentary members at the Party's offices; the other a friendly gathering at the Maple Club. There is also to be a convivial gathering at Marquis Ito's villa in Oiso in a few days.

The Progressists met on the afternoon of the 28th in the Imperial Hotel. Count Okuma made a brief speech. He claimed that the dissolution of the House was a victory for the Parties. They had achieved their object: the land tax bill had been defeated. From the Cabinet's point of view the dissolution might perhaps be regarded as a blow to the Parties, since it partook of the nature of punishment. But evidently a Ministry obliged to resort to such devices was a defeated ministry. The Budget had failed to come into existence. That meant that an expenditure of 20 millions of *yen* had been averted, which must be placed to the credit of the Parties. It was inexplicable that, under such circumstances, the Ministers should remain in office. They had obviously forfeited the confidence of the nation, and their plain duty was to recognise their responsibility to the Throne by laying their resignations at His Majesty's feet. Their continued tenure of power in the face of these facts was a most regrettable incident of constitutional government. This was the sixth dissolution of the Lower House in twelve years. Some of the dissolutions had

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been proper and inevitable, but such epithets could not be applied to the present case. Doubtless the Cabinet regarded themselves as the accusers and the Diet as the defendant, but the Diet took exactly the opposite view, and it would be for the nation to judge between the two. It could not be doubted that the constituencies would send up the same members. Of what use, then, was an appeal to them? How a Ministry so circumstanced could remain tranquilly in office for a single day must be regarded as inexplicable. No Cabinet could expect to remain in office unless it had the confidence of the Diet. This, then, was a struggle between constitutionalism and unconstitutionalism; between conservatism and liberalism. A Ministry unsupported by the Diet had nothing to rely on except secret machinations, corrupt practices and illegal interference. The Count here alluded to the text-book question as an evidence of the depraved state of public morality and a proof of the need of really responsible Cabinets. Superficially viewed, this crisis was a mere replica of previous occurrences. But there were points of cardinal difference. Above all there was the fact that the most distinguished statesman in the empire, the man whose achievements had signalled him out from all his contemporaries, Marquis Ito, now stood apart from the Government and had espoused the people's cause. Evidently he had long appreciated that the goal of constitutional government could not be reached by present methods, but considerations of various kinds had prevented him from shaping his acts in strict accord with his belief. That uniformity of conduct and conviction had now happily been attained. The approaching general elections would furnish a clear proof whether this Cabinet, which possessed nothing of the Diet's confidence, had made a success or a failure. It would be for the candidates to instruct the constituencies that continuance of this struggle could not conduce to the nation's advantage. Speaking to them as individuals he had to commiserate with them on the fact that all their efforts to succeed at the recent general elections—elections held under the new and greatly improved law—were now rendered futile. But they must remember that these sacrifices were made in the interests of the country, and he was persuaded that, regarding the result of the next election as the people's final verdict, they would labour with zeal worthy of the occasion.

Marquis Yamagata returned from Kyoto on the 28th instant. Interviewed by a representative of the *Jiji Shimpo*, His Excellency denied that he had any direct connexion with the present crisis. Even had he been interesting himself actively in politics, his coming to Tokyo at the very moment of a rupture between the Lower House and the Ministry should be sufficient proof that he had not interfered in the management of affairs. Nor did he now feel disposed to offer any opinions about the questions at issue. Concerning naval increment, however, it must be considered inevitable, and concerning the project of obtaining funds wholly from administrative retrenchments and reductions of public works, that programme could not be endorsed since it would involve virtual abandonment of railway extension. On the other hand it was difficult to appreciate the contention that the only conveniently available source of revenue was the land tax. On the whole the Marquis thought that the Government's financial scheme should have been more fully examined and discussed before summary rejection. In that respect it seemed to him that the majority of the Lower House had acted in a questionable manner.

Wednesday, Dec. 31.

The Government has announced that the new elections will take place on the 1st of March. Thus the Diet may be expected to re-assemble early in May. That is pretty much what the public had anticipated.

Naturally the political parties are girding up their loins for the fight, and their leaders are speaking words of encouragement. Mr. Matsuda Masahisa addressed a meeting of the *Seiyu-kai's* Parliamentary Representatives on the day after the dissolution. Assuredly his speech did not rise to the level of the occasion. He occupied the attention of his hearers with such petty questions as the useless iteration of Ministerial speeches in the House and the anomaly of passing sentence of dissolution before a hostile vote had been actually taken. Is that the kind of fringe with which the great Party's candidates are to deck themselves for the coming contest? Mr. Matsuda spoke better to the purpose when he exhorted the *Seiyu-kai* to join hands with the Progressists for the discomfiture of all neutral or pro-government candidates. In truth the time of neutrality is past. We can not pretend to feel much reverence for the so-called "business men," who simulate independence because they are too respectable to ally themselves with a political party and too circumspect to espouse the Government's cause openly.

At the same meeting Mr. Ooka Ikuzo said that as the Party would doubtless desire to have some instructions from Marquis Ito before the members returned to their constituencies, the Standing Committee had sent a deputation to the Marquis on that subject. His Excellency had replied that although he could not visit Tokyo, he would be very happy to receive any members of the *Seiyu-kai* that chose to come to his villa at Oiso, when he could take occasion to declare his views.

In consequence of the above announcement, 140 members of the *Seiyu-kai* chartered a special train on the 30th and proceeded to Oiso, where they were entertained by the Marquis. We have as yet received no report of what was said and done.

It will be remembered that Marquis Ito's original intention was to receive the *Seiyu-kai* members at a *réunion* on the afternoon of the 27th, but that the project was abandoned on account of the conflagration in Oiso. Under the circumstances the natural course would have been for Marquis Ito to come to Tokyo, but as he had excused himself from attending the New Year's ceremonials at the Palace, he naturally felt that to visit the capital for political purposes on the very eve of the ceremonial's would be incongruous, if not actually disrespectful. We need scarcely add that the newsmongers and sensationalists refuse to accept this simple explanation, and are reading all kinds of conjectures of their own between the lines of Marquis Ito's action.

The most interesting speech delivered at the meeting was that of Mr. Hara Kei, Chairman of the Budget Committee. He explained that although the Committee could not claim to have made an exhaustive examination of the Budget, they had arrived at the definite conclusion that certain economies might be effected. These economies were:—first, a sum of over 2½ million *yen* in the appropriations for new enterprises; secondly, a sum of 3,670,000 *yen* in the continuing appropriations under the above heading; thirdly, a sum of 9,340,000 *yen* in the ordinary expenditures under old headings, and a sum of 960,000 *yen* in the extraordinary expenditures under the same headings; fourthly, [illegible] million *yen* in the appropriations for railways and other public works. The total of these various economies was 18½ million *yen* in round numbers. Concerning the new enterprises disapproved by the Committee, he mentioned an increase of the consular staff; the carrying on of investigations abroad; the establishment of a Bank Bureau and a Customs Bureau in the Department of Finance; the laying out of a large gun-practice range for the Army; the extension of telephones; an increase of census business and so forth.

With regard to railway outlays, Mr. Hara protested against the imputation that the Committee advocated suspension of railway building in order to provide funds for naval expansion. He explained that the case stood thus. In the first-place, 27 millions remained of the original appropriation on account of first-period (ending in 1912) railway building. To that sum the Cabinet proposed to add 41 millions in consideration of the appreciation of commodities. In the next place, 3 millions remained out of the sum allotted for railway improvement during the period ending in 1909. To that amount the Government wished to add 14½ millions. Thus the total appropriations under these headings would be 86 million *yen* in round numbers spread over a period of from 7 to 10 years. Now it was to be observed that the programme of railway expansion and improvement had been based originally upon the hypothesis that public loans would furnish the necessary funds. But the state of the market had defeated that plan, and recourse to the ordinary revenues of the State had become necessary. The Committee did not advocate suspension of the programme. They merely claimed that, in consideration of the circumstances, railway extension and improvements should be paid for with funds accruing from the railways already in operation, the country not being required to make any new sacrifices on that account. Now the profits from Government Railways stood in the estimates at 8,720,000 *yen* for next fiscal year, and those earnings would aggregate 87¼ million in the course of the next decade, a sum in excess of the total appropriations sought by the Government. Hence it was only necessary to make the construction period and the improvement period synchronise, and there would result a saving of some 7 million *yen* under the Budgetary heading of "Railways" for next fiscal year.

As to the item of subsidies, the Government asked for 14,760,000 *yen* next fiscal year, but of that total only 450,000 *yen* represented new expenditure. Under this heading, therefore, the Committee had made little change.

If the Government, concluded Mr. Hara, were honestly bent upon sound financial management and real economy, it would probably be found possible to effect even larger economies than those indicated by the Committee. At any rate, the lowest calculation showed a saving of 15 or 16 million *yen*, which would amply suffice for naval

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increment without recourse to increased land tax.

The Progressists held a meeting on the same day and made speeches characterized by the extreme views which the public has learned to expect from that Party. Mr. Inukai having announced that an understanding had been arrived at with the *Seiyu-kai* for combined action against independent or official candidates and for mutual cooperation, Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi undertook to expound financial questions. He claimed that in reality the revenue exceeded the expenditures by some 50 millions *yen*, but we can not discover that he made any serious attempt to demonstrate the truth of that claim. He insisted, further, that not the slightest difficulty need be experienced in adjusting the Budget so as to provide ample funds for naval increment without any recourse to the land tax, and he accused the Government of gross financial mismanagement, in proof of which he pointed out that large tracts of State forests are sold for a mere song and that the timber is bought up by the Departments at high figures. He recommended the members of the Party to make these points clear to the constituencies.

Mr. Oishi Masami spoke very vehemently. He declared the dissolution of the House to be an outrageous measure, and he expressed the opinion that however excellent the Anglo-Japanese alliance might be, its benefits could not be realized so long as the Katsura Cabinet remained in power. In support of that proposition he advanced various arguments, the gist of them being that by dissolving the House and thus interrupting all legislation as well as State enterprises, the consummation of the purposes of the alliance had been deferred. Would it conduce to Japan's national credit that Great Britain should learn to regard her as a country governed not in accordance with the people's will but in obedience to the dictates of clan oligarchs? It was for the members of the Party to proclaim to the constituencies the glariug defects of such a Cabinet. He roundly abused the "independents," and incited his fellow-thinkers to drive them completely from the field in the coming elections.

Thursday, Jan. 1st.

Marquis Ito received a large number of the parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai*—some journals say 105, other 150—at his Oiso villa, the *Sorokaku*, on the forenoon of the 30th ult. After the usual salutations the Marqnis briefly addressed his guests. He said that the collision between the Government and the Party was very regrettable, but that although it appeared to have been precipitated with regard to one issue only, namely, the land tax, there could be no doubt that, had the session proceeded radical points of difference between the Government and the House would have been revealed. The opinions expressed by him recently at a general meeting of the *Seiyu-kai* were inspired by observations made during his recent visit to Europe and by his convictions as to the needs of Japan. By whatever officials those opinions were carried out, such officials would receive his support. But although he had impressed his views upon the cabinet now in power and had endeavoured to secure their practical adoption, he had been unsuccessful. The country had now entered upon a period of comparative tranquillity, and might consider itself tolerably secure for the present at all events. Under such circumstances the duty of its statesmen was to foster its resources and provide for the development of the national wealth, so that means should be forthcoming in the event of emergency. Some people said that the responsibility of the *post-bellum* programme rested with him. Assuredly it did rest with him. He accepted the responsibility and for that very reason considered himself bound to suggest a course of procedure at the present juncture. Not for a moment could he endorse the policy of undertaking, without regard to the country's internal conditions or foreign affairs, indefinite and imperfectly estimated enterprises calculated to involve a large outflow of specie. Men spoke of the grand policy of an enlightened progressive State as the policy that Japan had pursued throughout the *Meiji* era, and must continue to pursue. Unquestionably that had been her policy and that should remain her policy. His own doings when in office had shown that he appreciated the fact. But he had never suggested or urged that the policy of enlightenment and progress should be carried to the point of recklessly incurring liabilities which would imperil the empire's financial stability. His hearers were now about to return to their provinces after the dissolution, and to confer with their fellow-thinkers with a view to the new elections. He did not doubt that they would adhere to the views already endorsed by them at the Party's general meeting, and that they would proceed in a manner calculated to do credit to the purpose of constitutional government. That was their duty and also their right. He himself, taking counsel with the leaders of the Party, would spare no pains to contrive their re-election. He begged them, therefore, to continue their exertions with even greater vigour in the cause of the country's good.

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, on behalf of those present, thanked the Marquis for his speech; declared that his views were endorsed from point to point by the Party, and that His Excellency might confidently count on their diligence and zeal.

Subsequently the guests dined *al fresco*, and broke up at a little after four o'clock with three lusty cheers for the Marquis. On their way back they called at Oiso and made contributions for the relief of the sufferers by the recent fire.

We observe that journalistic controversy still continues about the question of the increased land tax and official *bona fides*. It is asserted by one party to the controversy that the Government is guilty of a breach of faith in asking the Diet to vote for an increase of the land tax from January 1st, 1904, in spite of the pledge given in 1899 that the tax should revert to its original figure at the close of 1903. That appears to us to be an argument based on a misconception. The Government gave no pledge of any kind. It merely agreed that a bill providing for a permanent increase of the land tax should be altered so as to limit the increase to five years. The Government has no power to make any hard and fast promise in such a case, for the decision whether a tax shall or shall not be increased or imposed rests ultimately with the Diet. The Diet insisted on setting a certain limit in 1899 and the Cabinet necessarily agreed. That is all. And now the Government comes to the Diet and asks it to agree that another increase of the tax shall be made from 1904. Truly it seems absurd to talk of breach of faith in such a context. If the contention be admitted we are landed in a quagmire of perplexities, for we have to grant either that a tax once revoked can never again be imposed by due process of law, or that its re-imposition would become quite proper were an interval left between the expiration of the original period of levy and the commencement of the new period. Can it be pretended that a Japanese Cabinet is perpetually precluded from proposing an increase of the land tax because an increase made in 1899 was terminable by law in five years? Of course nothing so silly can be claimed. Marquis Ito himself has made a plain declaration on the subject. He has said that what he objects to is, not the principle of re-imposition but recourse to a means of revenue which, he thinks should be reserved for greater emergencies. In fact no publicist would be so short-sighted as to raise this cry of *mala fides* had the proposal taken the form of an increased tax from 1905. The interval of a year would have silenced all scruples. And if a year, why not a month, why not a day? Thus the argument is reduced to an absurdity.

CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, Dec. 27.

It is now stated that Russia has abandoned her demand with regard to the control of postal affairs in Manchuria, and that she limits herself to the question of customs dues. The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Matsui, the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, has warned Prince Ching that if China agrees to Russia's demand in this matter, all the Powers will surely follow with similar demands in the case of the districts leased by them, and China will thus find herself confronted by a grave problem. The correspondent further alleges that no conference has taken place in this instance between the British and Japanese Foreign Offices, but how he finds himself in a position to make any such assertion we do not see. Of course it is inevitable that the anomalous position occupied by Russia in Manchuria should be productive of many complications. She is virtually mistress of the country through which her railway runs and of the towns where it touches, yet she is supposed to limit her exercise of Sovereign powers by some undefined and undefinable rule never yet even conceived by international jurists.

Perhaps owing to the absence of exciting intelligence from other quarters, a disquieting rumour comes from Kangsu, where Prince Tuan and General Tung Fuh-shao represent factors of always possible disturbance. The story now is that Tuan has openly declared his purpose of overthrowing the present Emperor and setting up his own son — presumably the discredited and degraded Prince Imperial — as Sovereign. General Tung is allied with the Boxer Prince in this enterprise and the strength of the two men is said to be very threatening. But the public will scarcely consent to regard as serious a belated danger coming from such a quarter. The material resources of Tuan and Tung for warlike purposes must be very limited, and unless all accounts err, neither of the two has any moral pretensions to be a great leader.

Mukden is said to be in a very troubled state. The Throne has instructed Viceroy Yuan to consult with the Commander-in-chief of Manchuria with a view to devising effective measures of pacification, and has

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further directed that General Ma, instead of returning to Peking, shall remain at Kinchou until quiet is restored.

It is rumoured that the only high personage opposed to Viceroy Yuan's project for the discrediting of Taotai Shêng, is Prince Ching. After Prince Ching's double dealing in the matter of the Yangtse Valley, China's interests, would seem to suggest that he be included in Shêng's fall from power. As to Sheng himself, however, foreign opinion has always been favourable to him, and we hesitate to express any definite views about the misfortunes now overtaking him.

Mr. Wu, who has distinguished himself so much during the past few years as China's Representative in Washington, has returned to China. He reached Shanghai on the 23rd instant. According to all accounts, a busy future awaits him in his own country.

Shanghai reports that the Russo-Chinese Bank is endeavouring to obtain the control of the Chinese telegraph service as soon as the various lines shall have passed into the Government's possession. The statement is made with full confidence, and it is added that Great Britain has lodged a protest. Of course no Western Power could be expected to acquiesce in such an arrangement, and it appears to us that strong confirmation is needed of a story attributing to the Russo-Chinese Bank designs obviously so futile.

A certain Yuan Shao-luh, of whom we hear for the first time, is said to have offered two million taels for the monopoly of mining privileges in Shingking. The Russian Authorities, however, believing that the money comes from England, are reported to be exerting their influence to defeat Yuan's project.

Telegrams from Bombay indicate that there is a scarcity of cotton of superior grades. Prices are ruling high and no prospect of a fall is in sight. China has felt the effects, and her cotton also is rising in the market.

Monday, Dec. 29.

The Chinese Government having granted to Liu Chu-boku (?) the concession for a line of railway from Chingtu in Szchuan to Hankow, the money being put up by a Belgian Syndicate, Liu is said to have presented to the Empress Dowager a sum of six hundred thousand taels, and to have received in return high official rank. A railway from the capital of Szchuan to Hankow is among the latest projects. We have not heard that any expert estimate of the engineering difficulties has been made, but they would probably be very great. The road would run in a direction virtually parallel to the Yangtse through a considerable part of its course, and would of course divert a large part of the traffic now dependent on the great river.

The occupation of arraigning Taotai Shêng continues. His name has now been coupled with that of the Taotai of Shanghai in a formal accusation, and the Throne is said to have ordered Viceroy Chang to undertake an investigation.

A Dane is said to have obtained a concession for supplying Peking with telephones.

It is alleged that Prince Ching and Wang Wen-shao have memorialized the Throne to the effect that in the present state of the Treasury it would be exceedingly inconvenient to buy up the telegraphs and the fleet of the China Merchants S.N. Company. Under these financial circumstances the administrative reasons for the purchase lose much of their force in the eyes of the memorialists, and they recommend that the enterprises should remain at present in the control of the local authorities Viceroy Yuan is expected to oppose that view of the situation.

The "Cassini Convention" is again in-volved. One of its conditions, according to the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent, has greatly hampered China in her attitude towards Russia's demand for control of the Manchurian Customs. Inasmuch, however, as England and Japan's attitude has been unflinchingly opposed to any grant of such control, the Chinese are said to be developing a stiff back. The "Cassini Convention" has played a prominent part on the Chinese stage during the past four years, but that it should now be quoted as conferring on Russia some title to control the Customs in Manchuria makes too large a demand on our credulity.

The Russian Representative in Peking is reported to have endeavoured to obtain for one of his countrymen the post of Inspector of Customs at Dalny. Prince Ching, however, refused to receive the candidate, and although he was admitted to see Wang Wonshao, his prospects of success are now said to be very small.

Lieut.-General Miles has reached Peking.

Tuesday, Dec. 30.

It is reported that the latest railway project in China is of British origin, a syndicate having been formed to put up a sum of 30 million taels together with 3 millions for expenses of preliminaries and promotion. The railways in question are one from Burmah to Yunnan and one from Chingtu, the capital of Szchuan, to Hankow. Sir Ernest Satow's visit to England is supposed to be largely connected with this business, and the *Asahi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, from whom we take the news, predicts that negotiations will be officially opened at an early date.

The French garrison left Shanghai on the 26th instant and now the only foreign troops remaining are a part of the German garrison. After all Germany remains longest in military evidence.

Wednesday, Dec. 31.

There are to be great improvements in that ancient organ of the Chinese Government, the "Official Gazette." It has been for many years an unwitting mirror of the most interesting phases of Chinese thought and Chinese customs, but probably the "improvements" now contemplated will tend to substitute conventionalism for naivete.

Liu Tien-ling is said to have obtained Imperial sanction for establishing an industrial bank in Shanghai. The regulations have been compiled and the bank will soon be an accomplished fact.

The conferences between the Japanese commissioners and the Chinese—the latter headed by Mr. Wu Ting-fong—were to commence on the 29th of December and to be adjourned from that day until the 7th of January.

The scheme for nationalizing the telegraphs in China is encountering much opposition. Taotai Sheng is reported to have repeatedly memorialized the Throne on the subject, pointing out that, apart from the difficulty of obtaining funds for the purpose of buying up the lines, the working of the telegraphs wholly by officials will certainly lead to much friction. The Throne, however, is disposed to regard these representations as insincere, and it is expected that the nationalization project will be carried through.

Fourteen Chinese students—10 from Yunnan and 4 from Chili—reached Nagasaki on the 29th of December by the *Chihsin Maru*. Mr. Wang, the new Inspector of Students, came in the same vessel. He is said to have stated that the Chinese Representative in Tokyo has already taken steps to procure offices for the use of the inspectorate, and that the number of students henceforth visiting Japan will largely increase.

THE READER QUESTION.

Monday, Dec. 29.

There are, roughly speaking, 3½ millions of pupils in the Common Elementary Schools of Japan and 800,000 in the High Elementary Schools. The former have to spend about 60 *sen* annually and the latter 1.60 *yen* on readers, making a total of 3½ million *yen*, which is probably swelled to 4 millions in various ways. So long as that great source of profit is open, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, there will be found people to exploit it by corrupt methods. In former years the Education Department compiled a reader for the use of Female High Schools. It was found that, including cost of carriage, this volume could be supplied at one-third of the price which would have been charged by a book store. The *Nichi Nichi* recommends that the Department should take upon itself the duty of compiling text-books, and that these alone should be used at public schools. That is what we have ourselves recommended. The objections are that by some possibility the abilities of a person extraordinarily gifted for purposes of reader compilation would be lost to the schools, and that the preparation of these volumes ceasing to be a matter of general competition, their quality might decline. But such objections are based upon the supposition that the Educational Department would be lacking in zeal or talent, while on the other side of the account would stand the facts that the children of the people would find their education cheaper and that an avenue to demoralizing corruption would be closed.

The officials of the Department of Education, however, are said to be troubled about a point in the Regulations. It is there provided that should evidence be forthcoming that a text book has been brought into use by dishonest methods, its further employment must be limited to the school-year, and it must not be used again for five years. It is just possible that if the present investigations are pushed to an extreme, all the readers now in use may be disqualified, a conjuncture which is reported to be causing much anxiety. But is that credible? The Regulations are of the Educational Department's compilation, and their amendment or alteration lies entirely within the Department's power. Can they not be amended or altered to meet any given emergency? Sometimes it becomes quite comical to observe the inconvenience to which the Japanese condemn themselves for the sake of observing without discretion regulations of their own enacting.

Perhaps it is well to recall the fact that, after all, the cause of education is not suffering in any way from the corrupt methods

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pursued in gaining vogue for special readers. There is no question of improper and unsuitable books being placed in the hands of students. Every one of the competing readers has been franked by the Educational Authorities after due and exhaustive examination. As usual we are confronted by another tea-pot storm. The dimensions of the evil are enormously exaggerated.

A fourth search has been conducted by the police under the directions of Chief Public Procurator Kawabuchi, and it is said to have resulted in the discovery of evidence that the Governor of Chiba Prefecture, not to speak of several other officials, have been guiltily implicated in this affair. The Governor has not yet been apprehended, and possibly the statement about him may prove to be entirely true. But another startling incident of the affair is that the residence of Baron Funakoshi in the Ushigome district of Tokyo was searched by the police on the 27th instant, the Baron himself being summoned to the police station and examined. Baron Funakoshi is a member of the House of Peers. He formerly served as Governor of Hiroshima, Chiba and Miyagi prefectures. How many persons are now under arrest on account of this business it is difficult to count accurately, but there must be fully twenty. The book-sellers are said to be showing a very bold front. Their doings do not bring them within the purview of the Penal Code, and if they choose to gild the palms of the men influential in procuring the adoption of a particular text book, the law, as it stands at present, can not gainsay them. But they are likely to be very heavy losers by this incident, for the Educational Authorities, in view of the present disclosures, can scarcely choose but take into their own hands the entire function of compiling and franking text books for public schools. Within recent years there has been formed a book-sellers' trust which now virtually controls the situation, and having command of large resources is able to monopolise the manufacture of text books as well as their sale, and to employ potent means for achieving their adoption. This trust will probably find itself deprived of its occupation.

There is a curious story as to the manner in which information originally reached the police with reference to these text-book frauds. A provincial school-inspector, travelling to Tokyo to attend a meeting of inspectors, had his hand-bag stolen *en route*. The thief, having extracted the valuable contents, threw away the bag, which, being picked up, was carried to the nearest police station, and its examination furnished evidence leading to the disclosures, searches and arrests that are creating so much commotion.

Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Mr. Kano Ryogen, formerly Governor of Shimane Prefecture and now on the Retired List, has been arrested at his residence in Kumamoto in connexion with the text-book scandal, and is now on his way to Tokyo for trial. Meanwhile the police are zealously continuing their inquiries.

Tokyo journals give figures showing the vast character of the book-selling business which has given rise to these corrupt practices. According to alleged inquiries made by the Department of Education, it appears that the number of readers in the hands of students at common elementary schools is 8 millions, the number of primers of morality, 4 millions, and the number of writing-books 8 millions, or 20 millions in all. The corresponding numbers for high elementary schools are 1,800,000 volumes, 90,000 volumes, and 1,800,000 volumes; to which must be added text-books of geography 900,000; of history, 900,000; of natural philosophy 900,000; of drawing 1,800,000; and of mathematics 900,000, the total for these schools being 9,900,000, and the grand total annually required for all elementary schools, 29,900,000. Of these books, the common elementary readers cost 12 *sen*; the high elementary readers, 21½ *sen*; the text books of morals 15 *sen* and 25 *sen* respectively, and so on. More than one half of all these books are supplied by the Kinkodo, and the profits of that big store may thus be conjectured.

MR. TAGUCHI UKICHI.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi has addressed to the Tokyo newspapers an open letter protesting against the procedure of the Lower House, inasmuch as it has reversed the natural and constitutional order of things by discussing the revenue first and the expenditure afterwards. Obviously the proper course is to determine the essential expenditures at the outset, and then to discuss means of defraying them.

That is precisely the opposite of the position taken by both Marquis Ito and Count Okuma in recent speeches. Their view is that a State, like a private family, must consider first what income it is in a position to command, and then afterwards should fix its outlays proportionately. Evidently there is much to be said for both views, but it appears to us that neither the one nor the other can be absolutely asserted. Evidently a State has a standard of financial obligations quite different from that applicable in the case of a private family. The latter can exercise any economies that it pleases without inviting fatal peril, but the former can not enjoy any such limitless liberty. Certain things are essential to the existence of an independent empire and certain things are essential to the status of a progressive country. Every responsible Government and every responsible legislature must accept the duty of incurring these indispensable expenditures, and must proceed to find revenue for the purpose. But no responsible government nor any responsible legislature would think of proposing or voting outlays unless revenue to defray them were in sight, or could be made visible.

Mr. Taguchi's strong point is that the House of Representatives itself refused, in 1899, to take the very course it is now adopting. When invited to pass the Ito Cabinet's Bill for increasing the land tax, it declared that to discuss revenue before considering the expenditures on account of which the funds were required would be irrational and unconstitutional. Yet that is precisely what the *Seiyu-kai* majority are now forcing the House to do. And indeed it can not be doubted that the rational plan in this instance would be to examine the expenditures in the first place, and having reduced them to absolutely essential dimensions, then to determine the sources of corresponding revenue.

As to naval increment, Mr. Taguchi takes a very practical view. He says that at least 12,000 tons of shipping must be provided every year to maintain the Navy at its present strength. In other words, an expenditure of some 15 million *yen* annually is required merely for purposes of maintenance. The Vice-Minister of Finance, questioned with regard to that, explained that 6½ millions would be procured from the additions made to taxation in connexion with the North-China trouble. Further, a sum of 1½ millions accrues from the Naval Capital Fund, so that a total of 8 millions is forthcoming, or a little more than one half of the amount needed to keep the Navy even at its present strength. Now the Government proposes to add 85,000 tons to the 240,000 already possessed. If that project be carried out, the tonnage annually required for maintaining the fleet of 325,000 tons will be 16,000, involving an outlay of 20 million *yen* annually, quite independently of the sums now to be appropriated for purposes of increment. Whence are those 20 millions to be obtained? Only 8 millions are in sight at present. We need scarcely add that these figures serve to preface repetition of Mr. Taguchi's favourite argument that the Army should be reduced by one-half, and that the money thus obtained should be devoted to the Navy. He strongly denounces the unpracticality of the political parties whose leaders insist in the same breath on naval increment and on reduction of taxation.

THE CHARGE OF CORRUPTION.

It is noteworthy that the public hears nothing any longer about wholesale corrupting of members of the Lower House by the Government. Every one remembers how vehemently and clamorously this accusation was preferred a few days ago. Certain newspapers went so far as to indicate the exact number of members that had been bought, and to predict the number whose purchase was in progress. What has become of all that talk? Were the 376 members found totally uncorruptible? Had a majority been induced to vote for the Cabinet's land-tax measure, dissolution—then a very visible menace—would have been averted, and dissolution meant; in the case of all the members, the immediate loss of a thousand *yen*, and, in the case of many, the incurring of further liabilities for election purposes, though they were already crippled with debts contracted on account of the election last July. We must now accept one of two conclusions; namely, either that with all these inducements to entertain "proposals" from the agents of the Ministry, the members of the Lower House maintained their integrity in a manner which the history of the past would assuredly not have justified us in expecting, or that there were no Ministerial agents making proposals. The publicists that fell into such a condition of excitement and indignation about alleged corrupt practices a week ago, ought really to offer some explanation now, for the total absence of any unsightly spectacle is quite perplexing. The Katsura Cabinet won applause from all sections of the political world for its attitude of strict neutrality last July. Even the Progressist leader, a conspicuous denouncer of official interference in elections, found himself constrained to applaud the Cabinet's impartial administration of the laws. This, nevertheless, was the Cabinet against which a vociferous clamour was raised a few days ago on the score of corrupt practices. Suddenly the clamour has subsided. Not even an echo of it is heard, and not even one member seems to have yielded to the alleged wholesale blandishments of the Ministry. We should like to hear a brief explanation from the some-time accusers.

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TRANSMISSION OF MALARIA BY MOSQUITOES.

Scientific men are now apparently quite agreed that the principal and probably the only method by which malaria is transmitted from one human being to another is by the bite of a special kind of mosquito, known to the learned as "anopheles," a prophetically well chosen name, for it is a transliteration of a Greek term signifying "noxious," and it was given to this particular mosquito long before any one entertained a suspicion of the little insect's harmful role. The process of transmission has been clearly traced. By sucking the blood of a sufferer from malaria, or, in some cases, of a person who has once suffered from it and who erroneously imagines himself entirely cured, the mosquito swallows malarial organisms which get encysted in the wall of the stomach. During about a week the parasite in the cyst grows, and becomes the parent of an immense number of minute rod-like bodies. Finally the cyst bursts, and all these germinal rods are carried through the body of the insect, accumulating specially in the salivary glands, whence they are injected into the blood of any one bitten by the mosquito. After an incubation period of about a fortnight, a man thus bitten develops malarial symptoms. His blood ultimately becomes so filled with parasites that a cubic space one-twenty-fifth of an inch across contains over five million of them. The ripening of the parasites is the cause of fever. When a crop of cysts ripen, they burst and set free masses of spores. Sometimes the period preliminary to rupture is 48 hours, in which cases the fever is tertian, each access corresponding with the liberation of a host of spores; sometimes it is 72 hours, and then the fever is quartan; and sometimes—this being the worst, or malignant, type—the cysts ripen irregularly so that swarms of spores are perpetually thrown off and the fever is continuous. It has further been demonstrated that yellow fever is similarly transmitted by a mosquito called *Fasciatus*, and we are thus confronted by the danger that so soon as maritime communication is established between two countries in one of which yellow fever prevails, the malady may be carried to the other by an agent of which medical inspection takes no cognisance.

It will at once occur to every reader of these facts that *anopheles* itself gets the malarial germs originally from a human being. The mosquito does not produce them, so far as is known, neither do they enter its system from vegetables or animals—indeed animals are impervious to the malaria that attacks human beings. Hence the investigation of the scientists is incomplete: they have not discovered how malaria was originally contracted. In this context, too, they prove a little too much. For they ask us to believe that people living in malarial regions will not contract the disease unless they are bitten by *anopheles*. The theory is based on the experience of four Englishmen who spent three months among the most deadly marshes of the Roman Campagna, and never developed a trace of malaria because they adopted precautions against mosquito bites, whereas out of a party of 15 policemen sent at the same time to the same place for a part of one night, who did not similarly protect themselves, not one escaped without fever: it came on after the usual period of incubation, a fortnight. That is certainly strong evidence, but we want to know how malaria came originally into the world if, although the malady must be contracted first by a human being, a human being is proof against it even in malarial regions unless he be bitten by a mosquito which received the parasite at the outset from a human being. It is a vicious circle. What constitutes a malarial district, and how is the malarial parasite generated in the first place?

The claim set up is that if mosquitoes, or at least the *anopheles* family, could be exterminated, and if the parasites in the blood of human beings could be killed with quinine, there would be no more malaria. But there is evidently a missing link in that chain of argument; for since malaria had its origin independently of mosquitoes, the prime source of the malady would remain after the demise of *anopheles*. What may be credited, however, is that the disease would rapidly diminish and might ultimately become almost a vanishing quantity. The experience of Havana goes to warrant that belief. Havana had 1,244 cases of yellow fever and 310 deaths in 1900, a normal year. In February, 1901, drastic measures were adopted to exterminate mosquitoes. The result was that there were only 19 cases of the disease that year. Considering that twelve generations of mosquitoes can be produced in a single summer, and that in the fifth generation one mosquito may be found to be the ancestor of twenty milliards, the task of exterminating this insect in any locality sounds formidable. But it is not impossible.

SOUTH-AFRICAN IDEAS ABOUT THE CHINESE.

The Cape Colonists have been debating the question of agricultural labour, and in doing so they expressed themselves with a degree of frankness which is very unusual. English farmers, they declared, could not cultivate their own country successfully and were therefore not desirable. The Chinese, on the other hand, must not be encouraged because "they soon give the go-by to any white man below the rank of a large proprietor." That is not the cause usually assigned for legislating against Chinese immigration. The cause is that the Chinaman is an undesirable citizen from a moral point of view, and that, living on a much lower scale than the white man, he undersells the latter. The Cape-colonists, however, openly announce their inability to face Chinese competition.

In South Africa a coloured man is not allowed to walk on the same foot-path as a white man, is compelled to travel third class by rail, and has to pay a poll tax of £3. England is beginning to growl about such discrimination. It is contrary to her natural mood, and she does not understand why her children in South Africa should yield to racial prejudices which she herself eschews. It is hoped that the delegates whom the self-governing colonies have been invited to send to the Delhi Durbar, will carry home a chastening sense of the grandeur and civilization of the Indian, and will appreciate the impropriety of making no distinction between him and "Kaffirs or Chinese." A fine hope, truly! As if the Indian had any better title to be treated like a civilized being than the Chinaman has! And what is remarkable, too, is that a leading English journal should bracket the Chinese and the Kaffirs together for the purposes of such comments.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The following figures are published with reference to the country's foreign trade, the returns for the present year being compiled up to the 26th of the current month:—

	1902 Yen.	1901 Yen.
Commodities exported	253,080,352	252,349,543
Commodities imported	267,201,421	255,816,645
Totals	520,181,773	508,166,188
Excess of Imports	[illegible]	[illegible]
Export of Gold	453,314	11,477,852
Import of Gold	29,941,523	10,609,123
Export of Silver	1,525,260	2,540,720
Import of Silver	1,975,447	309,539
Excess of Import of precious metals	29,938,296	

It will be observed that whereas gold and silver to the value of nearly 30 million *yen* have flowed into the country this year, nearly 3 millions worth flowed out last year. Further, the total bulk of the trade is 12 million *yen* greater this year than it was last year, and whereas exports and imports totalled only 177,970,037 *yen* in 1893, they now aggregate three times that figure. Of course the inflow of specie is due to causes quite independent of the general trade, but inasmuch as there has been such an inflow, certain Tokyo journalists seem quite happy. We share their satisfaction, however, about the wholesome expansion of the trade.

CAPTAIN CONNER.

Many people in Japan, whether of foreign or of native nationality, must have been deeply pained to learn of the death of Captain George Conner, which took place recently at San Jose in California. Captain Conner served the Nippon Yusen Kaisha during many years in the capacity of commander, and few men have succeeded in making a record so remarkable for competent and earnest discharge of duty as well as for genial and friendship-winning ways. He retired from active service, on the occasion of his marriage, and after living for a time in Japan, he settled with Mrs. Conner in California. But apparently the hardships of a sailor's career had undermined his constitution. Symptoms of heart disease soon developed, and the last years of his life were constantly overshadowed by imminent peril. A man faithful to the call of duty and endowed with exceptionally lovable qualities, he will live in many Far-Eastern memories.

THE MARCUS ISLAND CLAIM.

From time to time an item in the news columns of American journals tells us that Captain Rosehill is pushing the claim of the Marcus Island Development Company for damages on account of Japan's action in enforcing her claim to the island. Ex-Senator Thurston, it appears, has undertaken to present the claim to the State Department, and it is accompanied by an exhaustive brief, the compilation of Mr. Thomas Fitch. Everything was ready, the document alleges, for shipping guano from the island, when Japan interfered, and thus prevented the Company from doing what it had pledged itself to do under the guaranty of a bond for $50,000. But there was one thing not ready, namely, the guano. All accounts agree that there is no guano on Marcus Island; or, at any rate, that there is not enough to justify any such enterprise as that of Captain Rosehill and his companions.

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PEST IN TOKYO AND HACHIOJI.

December 25.

Three female employees of the Tokyo Gas-ito Boseki Kaisha were taken ill on the 17th instant, the 18th instant, and the 23rd instant, respectively and their symptoms are causing much uneasiness as suggesting an attack of pest. There are over two thousand hands employed at the factory, which is in the Honjo district of Tokyo, and it need scarcely be said that the incident has caused great uneasiness.

December 26.

There appears to be no doubt that the malady which has appeared among the Gas-ito Boseki Kaisha's employers in the Honjo district of Tokyo is true pest. One of the three patients has died and another has been attacked. Several dead rats have been found on the premises. The police have drawn a large cordon round the premises, and medical examination of the work-people at the Factory, some 2,400, is proceeding. It has further been resolved to examine the whole of the inhabitants of the Honjo district. The cause of the outbreak is supposed to be connected with an importation of cotton which took place three months ago.

Saturday, 27th.—There has been another unquestionable case of pest in Tokyo, and two other persons have been attacked by symptoms of a disquieting character. It is now stated that the number of hands employed at the cotton pactory where the disease has made its appearance is 3,111, and that of these 1,020 live outside the works. The possibility that the germs of pest may be carried by the latter into the heart of the city causes most uneasiness. Steps have been taken for the destruction of rats in the Hongo district, and the authorities are understood to be contemplating various drastic measures.

Sunday 28th.—No new case of pest is reported to-day nor has it yet been definitely ascertained whether the two patients last taken ill are really suffering from the malady. The figures now show that five cases of undoubted pest have occurred—one of them ending fatally—and that two cases are under observation.

Monday, 29th.—There have been four fresh cases in Tokyo of pest which is called "doubtful," but all the symptoms indicate that the doubts are very apocryphal, and that ten unquestionable cases altogether may be alleged to have occurred, two of them ending fatally. It is reported that the malady shows signs of developing great virulence and that it differs from the outbreak in Yokohama which was successfully checked by adopting drastic measures. It should be added that thus far all the seizures have been confined to persons employed at the Spinning Factory in Honjo. The position of the factory is about four miles removed from the centre of Tokyo, and the police have drawn a strict cordon about it, so that all communication with the city is cut off. Apparently no decision has yet been taken as to final steps.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that there has been in Hachioji a fatal case which presents doubtful symptoms and is suspected to have been pest. Investigations are in progress. The victim was a native of Yokohama sojourning in Hachioji. No fresh cases are reported in Tokyo.

January 1.

There have been three fresh cases of apparent pest among the work-people at the Honjo factory, One of them is a woman.

It is stated that a dead rat has been found at the house of a rag-merchant in Kotobuki-cho, Asakusa. This merchant has been in the habit of purchasing rags from the Honjo factory. The incident has caused no little alarm.

BRITISH SHIPPING IN CHINESE WATERS.

Mr. J. W. Jameson, in his most recent report of the foreign trade of China (in 1901), shows that the percentages of shipping under the different flags stood as follows :—

	1896.	1901.
British	65	54
Chinese	22	13
German	6	16
Swedish and Norwegian	3	—
Japanese	2	11
French	1	2
United States	—	2
Russian	—	1
All others	1	1

Commenting on these figures Mr. Jameson says :—

"That the percentage of British tonnage should have fallen off so considerably, is due to the strenuous efforts made by Germany and Japan to compete for a share of the carrying trade on the coast of China, to the increase in the size of the mail steamers which German companies employ in their Far Eastern line and to the development of the Japanese steamship services with the United States and Europe. It was not to be expected that we would be allowed to retain for ever our former supremacy in the matter of the carrying trade, but the opposition we now have to encounter is by no means to be despised, and should our percentage of the gross tonnage go on dwindling at the rate of the past five years, in 1926 the British flag will represent 4 per cent. of the whole. It is to be presumed that the ocean carriers know best how to defend their own interests, although to an outsider it is not clear why, if it pays the German and Pacific mail lines to cater for the large passenger traffic they have gradually built up, the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company should so systematically have neglected to avail itself of its opportunities."

NEW BOOKS ON CHINA.

Professor E. S. Morse has just published a book called "Glimpses of China and Chinese Houses." It is an unexpected effort. When last we heard of the Professor he had just finished his monumental catalogue of Japanese porcelain and pottery in the Boston Museum, and since that was only a few months ago, we did not imagine that he could have visited China in the interval, and not only visited it, but also collected materials for a book describing Chinese dwellings and the domestic manners and customs of of those that inhabit them. We have had many proofs, however, of Mr. Morse's faculty of observation; a faculty so keen that he sees in five minutes points and features which a man less richly endowed takes a week to recognise. The probability is, therefore, that his book contains many things worthy of attention. But it does not seem to have been a success. One reviewer at all events, says of it :—"Mr. Morse's crude sketches, reproduced from his journal and made among jostling crowds on the chance of the moment, constitute his 'excuse' for publishing the crude text that he has built around them. Nothing can be claimed for either on the score of quality or style, though the author hopes that 'they may add a few points to the overwhelming mass of facts and observations which have been chronicled for hundreds of years.'"

A new book about the Far East is about to be published. It is called "On the Coasts of Cathay and Cipango, Forty Years Ago," and the author is Mr. William Blakeney, R.N., who served from 1857 to 1862 in the sailing frigate *Actæon*, when she was engaged cruising, for purposes of surveying, in the China Sea, the Yellow Sea, the Korea Strait, the Japan Sea, the Formosan waters, the Gulfs of Pechili, Liaotung and Tartary, and the Yangtse-kiang. The *Actæon* took part in the capture of Canton in 1857; in the ascent of the Yangtse in 1858, and in the assault on the Taku Forts in 1860. We should not have supposed that there was much to be added to the public's already acquired knowledge of these events, but they are buried beneath such an overgrowth of changes and vicissitudes that it will be agreeable to have them once more presented for observation. Old Japan has passed completely out of sight. We shall be glad to meet it again in the pages of Mr. Blakeney and the pictures of Mr. F. Le B. Bedewell, R.N., already known to the reading public as the illustrator of Laurence Oliphant's work.

THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

Gradually independent testimony from various sources is accumulating to demonstrate how hysterical was the outery raised in certain countries of Continental Europe about the concentration camps. The latest evidence comes from Dr. Lair, who was sent by the Pasteur Institute to Rhodesia, at the request of the Chartered Company, for the purpose of studying the conditions of an epidemic of hydrophobia. In the course of his account of what he saw in South Africa the following statement occurs :—

"When the English invaded the Transvaal they refused to allow articles of food to remain in the hands of the tradesmen of the country. They established shops containing provisions, which they gave the inhabitants either for money or for tickets delivered by them. A *maximum* quantity of provisions that might be taken had been fixed, but it was soon discovered that the Boer women whose husbands were at the war bought for cash the *maximum* of what they had a right to take and, keeping enough for their own needs, sent the rest to their husbands. This was the cause and origin of the concentration camps organized by the English. The women and children of the killed and of those who remained in the field were brought into these camps, and were lodged at first in tents and then in huts of corrugated iron like that used by the English for the construction of their houses in the colonies. The people in these camps were by no means badly housed, but, unfortunately, the victualling was not always easy. During the first weeks the inhabitants of these camps endured much suffering. Sickness broke out and made numerous victims, especially among the children. But the supply of provisions was soon regularly ensured. It may even be said that it was these concentration camps that enabled the Boers to continue the war so long. The Boers allowed six or seven supply trains to arrive, and then, being certain that their families would not lack food, they stopped the next train and so secured food for themselves.

"With minds full of this war, which for three years passionately excited Europe, we asked some of our fellow-passengers inhabiting the colony for their opinion on these concentration camps, at which all Europe shuddered. We had by turns the opinion of a Frenchman of Johannesburg, of a Dutch lady, and of a Boer, and according to them the cruelties, the recital of which caused popular emotion and indignation in Europe, never had any existence. One of these concentration camps which I came across on my journey was constructed in the same way as the hospital which I have visited. This fact only confirmed what had been told me. The huts seemed very clean, and, I must say, had a better appearance than the slight and rather dingy building used by the English officers and solders who watched over Bulawayo during the war.

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THE CROWN PRINCE OF SIAM.

The Crown Prince of Siam left Nikko on the 26th instant, and passing through Tokyo without delay, took train for Yokohama at Shimbashi. His Royal Highness was met at Uyeno by various Japanese officials and escorted across the city. It will appear to unsophisticated persons that the Prince might have performed the whole journey by train without alighting at Uyeno, but there were doubtless reasons for that seeming superfluity of procedure. Before leaving Tokyo on the 24th instant, His Royal Highness presented handsome mementoes of his visit to the members of the Committee appointed to receive him.

The Prince is to proceed to Nagoya on the 29th instant. There he will worship at the temple Bansho-ji, where the celebrated relics are at present housed in a temporary structure, and he will also plant a young pine-tree to commemorate the event to future ages. It is a bad time of year for planting pine trees, but Japanese horticulturists can probably surmount that difficulty. On the 31st instant the Prince goes to Kyoto.

Certainly the Japanese are showing remarkable civility to this Royal personage. We read in Tokyo journals that the *Asama* and the *Takasago* are to proceed to Kobe for the purpose of doing honour to him when he reaches that port after visiting Nagoya and Kyoto. The Prince visited the *Chinyen* and the *Naniwa* in Yokohama, and it is possible that his eulogistic expressions on that occasion about the state of the Japanese Navy may have influenced the Authorities. At all events the *Asama* and the *Takasago* are to meet him in Kobe, and one very natural explanation offered with regard to this step is that when the two vessels touched at Siam on their way to the Coronation Celebrations, their officers were treated with exceptional consideration by the Siamese. We suspect that French newspapers will have something to say about the treatment that has been extended to the Prince, but of course it has no political significance, and indeed the only unusual incident is this procedure in the case of the two warships, for which there is a special reason.

The Crown Prince of Siam was received by an immense gathering of Buddhist priests at Nagoya on the 29th, and the whole town was decorated as though for a festival. The Prince greeted the officer in command of the troops and the other leading officials by a hand-shake—a palpable manner of identifying himself with Western customs. The Prince is to arrive in Kobe on the afternoon of the 1st and will immediately proceed to the Siamese man-of-war. The 1st happens to be the birthday of not only His Royal Highness but also of the Queen of Siam. There will therefore be a brilliant entertainment on board the man-of-war. The Prince will land again on the second, and will take his final departure on the 8th, having visited Kyoto, Osaka and Nara in the interval.

SPAIN AND AMERICA.

On the occasion of the departure of the French Ambassador, M. Cambon, from Washington to Madrid, whither he has been transferred, a farewell dinner was given to him, and Mr. Root created quite a sensation by delivering a speech in the course of which he said:—

"It is not the least of his claims to our affection that in those dark days for Spain, when the hardship and unbending decrees of fate required that this great Republic of overwhelming power should put an end to Spain's dominion in the western hemisphere, when that people, whose dignity, whose personal worth, whose abounding estimable qualities all recognize, was compelled to yield to overwhelming power, he was its fitting and sympathetic representative and defender."

In reporting this incident the New York correspondent of *The Times* says:—

The remarks were loudly applauded, and there was equally marked applause when Mr. Root went on to say that he hoped that when Mr. Cambon went to his new post in Madrid he would be able with certainty to say to "The gentlemen of Spain" that he left behind him in America nothing but respect, esteem, and admiration for them. And then Mr. Root spoke of the possibility of a "great Latin Republican Empire on the Continent of Europe, in which the Seine and the Guadalquivir should flow in unison and harmony." From some American statesmen such a speech would mean nothing more than the effervescence incident to after-dinner oratory, but Mr. Root is one of the most cautious as well as one of the ablest members of the Administration, and in saying what he did he expressed, and knew he expressed, simply the sentiments of the large majority of the American people. The truth is that feeling in this country towards Spain has in the last three years undergone an extraordinary change—a change to which it is doubtful whether the history of the world can show a parallel. Americans would not be Americans if they admitted that the war on behalf of Cuba was a mistake, but they do admit that it was an unfortunate necessity, and in their hearts they regret it. They know more about the Cubans than they did in 1898.

May it not be added, "they know more about the Filipinos" also? We all know more about the Filipinos. It used to be our habit, half a dozen years ago, to sneer at Spain's futile efforts to quiet the rebellion in the Philippines, and when America took the task in hand in 1898, we all predicted a very different record. "Now it will be seen," we said, "how greatly the thorough-going methods of the sturdy Anglo-Saxon differ from those of the effete Castilian." Well, we are wiser now. We understand that Spain was not in any sense to blame for failing to crush difficulties which overtaxed the Americans also. Another wholesome lesson about our own powers has been taught to us in South Africa, and perhaps it is permissible to allege that the Briton of 1902 is a more chastened and less self-convinced person than was the Briton of 1898. There was plenty of room for improvement.

KOREA.

It is stated that arrangements have been completed for a junction of the Seoul-Fusan and Seoul-Chemulpo Railways, and that the fact will soon be announced. This is a work that might have been confidently predicted.

The Foreign Representatives in Seoul appear to be stirring themselves in connexion with the New Year. A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that they met in the British Legation on the 29th, and decided to address a *note identique* to the Foreign Office, declaring that unless the demands previously preferred by them with regard to the tenure of land by aliens, were conceded before the close of the year, they would not take part in the ceremonials customary at this season.

Mr. Kim Seung-ku has been nominated to represent Korea at the Court of Japan.

A man named Nakayama Kichinosuke living at Kami Kurumazakacho, Tokyo, was arrested by the Shitaya Police on the 30th December charged with having stolen a large crystal weighing 1 *kan* 600 *me* and several other valuable samples of minerals belonging to Oki Yasugori, of Fukushima prefecture.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The pleasures of Christmas were greatly enhanced for the children of many of the foreign and Japanese residents of Tokyo by an entertainment given at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Takata on the 25th instant. About fifty children assembled, making, with their parents and older brothers and sisters, quite a large party. The proceedings opened with a display of legerdemain varied by a dance which, being performed on the pinnacle of a pyramid of lacquered rice boxes, combined comicality and acrobatics in a striking and most laughable manner. Thereafter the party repaired to the principal reception rooms, where they found a Christmas tree blazing with lights and decorations. On adjoining tables were laid out a profusion of beautiful gifts, one group for each family and for every lady. It seemed that all the Christmas resources of Yokohama must have been exhausted to bring together such a collection. Thereafter the children sat down to tea accompanied by all kinds of good things, and ultimately the elders of the party dined with Mr. and Mrs. Takata.

The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has decided that there would be much inconvenience at present in adopting the gold standard. Hongkong must necessarily depend upon China in this matter. So long as the neighbouring empire continues to be a silver-using country, its commercial dependency, Hongkong, would only be increasing the embarrassments of the situation did it adopt a different basis of currency. But no one can be surprised that the Hongkong community should be beginning to feel restless in the face of existing conditions. The prime essential of sound coin is that it should have stable intrinsic value, and silver, ever since the world decided to dethrone it from its traditional eminence, has ceased to satisfy that requirement. China must perforce readjust her currency one of these days, but until she does so, it would be very unwise on Hongkong's part to differentiate itself in such a matter from the nation with which virtually the whole of its business is transacted.

The *Jiji Shimpo* reports the movements of Lieut.-General Oku since his arrival in India, whither he has gone to attend the January Durbar. We need not reproduce the details. It will be sufficient to say that the Lieut.-General has received a hearty welcome everywhere. At Tuticorin a British Major-General, deputed by the Indian Government, met the Japanese officer and accompanied him to Bombay where he was received by a guard of honour.

Count Inouye is now in Kyoto, whither he has gone in compliance with the request of the Otani family. It is stated that the Count will consent to accept the task of adjusting the Sect's affairs on condition that all parties agree to invest him with full authority, and pledge themselves to abide by his decision. But as there is scarcely the slenderest probability that any such complete consent will be obtained, the expectation is that the Count's friendly intervention will have no result except to show his own willingness to put an end to a complication which disgraces Japanese Buddhism.

In Part 2 Vol. 1 of *Icones Floræ Japonicæ* there is a series of beautifully executed plates figuring a new variety of *Lilium Auratum*, Lindl. It is described by Mr. T. Makino, Assistant in Botany at the

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Science College in the Imperial University at Tokyo, who says its habitat is the island of Aogashima, Idzu. He declares it to be a new and interesting variety and has named it *Hamaoanum* in honour of Dr. A. Hamao formerly President of the Imperial University. A photograph by Mr. Ogawa and a drawing by Mr. Makino show that it carries superb blossoms. The Japanese name is *Sake-yaki*.

We observe by the programme of the Congress of Orientalists at Hanoi that several papers are to be read on Japan and Japanese subjects. The list includes the following:—

A paper by Dr. Baelz, on the Foreign Societies of the Far East.
A paper by Mr. Florenz, on the Archaic Poetry of Japan.
A paper by Mr. Pfoundes, on the Buddhist Iconography of Japan.
A paper by Mr. Ariga, on the Idea of Sovereignty in the History of Japan.
A paper by Mr. Okamoto, on the Japanese Drama "Tsubosaka-dera."
A paper by Mr. Takakusu, on the Voyage of Kanshin to Japan (A.D. 742-754).
A paper by Mr. Florenz, on a Japanese Romancist of the 17th century.
A paper by Mr. Maitre, on the Literary History of Japan up to the Kamakura Period.
A paper by Mr. Lemière, on the History of the Press in Japan.
A paper by Mr. Fujishima, on the History of the Shin Sect.
A paper by Dr. Baelz, on the Races of the Far East.

We learn that a scheme is under way having for its object the erection in the neighbourhood of Yokohama of an extensive factory for the production of dry plates. The project is backed by an Anglo-German company of large financial resources.

Exception has been taken, it appears, to the fact that in a recent King's Speech in which allusion was made to the United States, the words "of America" were "pointedly omitted." The Hon. A. Endicott, of St. Louis, wrote to the Prime Minister on the subject, and Mr. Balfour's courteous and flattering reply appears in *The New America*. Here are its terms:—"I have read your letter with some surprise, as it seems to imply that the omission of the words 'of America' from the King's Speech was intended to be derogatory to your country. I need not say that this is a complete delusion. The words 'United States' taken by themselves, without further qualification, have, with us, invariable reference to the great Republic of which you are a citizen. There may be, and are, other 'United States,' but that is the United States 'par excellence.'"

A very long list appears in the *Official Gazette* showing the rewards assigned, of a pecuniary and an honorary nature, in connexion with the North-China affair. The recipients of the largest sum (4,200 *yen*) are Count Matsukata and Baron Komura, after whom come Messrs. Uchida and Mr. Matsuo with 3,000 *yen*; then Mr. Kato Takaaki with 2,500 *yen*; Messrs. Kurino, Takahira, and Inouye (Katsu), Baron Sone, Mr. Engi, Mr. Chinda and Mr. Tajiri with 2,200 *yen*. Then follow Messrs. Murota, Matsui, and Kato (Masuo) with 1,800 *yen*. Mr. Sakatani receives 1,500 *yen*; Messrs. Mitsuhashi, Uyeno, Hioki and Sugimura receive 1,300 *yen*; and then follow various grants from 1,200 *yen* down to 70 *yen*. The total number of recipients seems to be about 240. Orders are also gazetted from the First to the Eighth.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* special correspondent at Delhi says that the procession on the 29th took an hour to pass a given point. At its head rode the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and Lord Curzon, and after them came three hundred Princes, all mounted on splendidly caparisoned elephants. Lord Kitchener rode on a white horse. The crowd of spectators was immense, and the whole affair seems to have been of historical brilliancy. The *Jiji Shimpo's* London telegram adds that the procession was six miles long and that its route was guarded by forty thousand troops.

THE LATE PRIMATE OF ALL ENGLAND.

The Most Rev. Frederick Temple, D.D., LL.D., Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England, whose death is announced, was a great figure in Church circles—greater perhaps in his latter days as an administrator than as a theologian. He was widely known as a temperance advocate, and as showing his fervour and zeal in that cause it may be noted that the last mail from London brought news of his having during his last archiepiscopal visitation spoken at no fewer than five temperance meetings in the space of 14 days. It was of him that a story was told which Dr. Temple used to say embodied the highest compliment that was ever paid to him. While he was at Rugby, a boy home for the holidays was asked by his father what sort of man was the head-master. The lad replied with much feeling that the head was a beast, but added on reflection that he was a "just" beast. Of stately and commanding presence and fine physique, though somewhat bowed by years, the Primate was, probably, next to the King and Queen, the most prominent figure at the coronation. More recently he has taken an active part in the discussion of the legislation proposed with reference to elementary education in England.

He was the son of an officer in the army, Major Octavius Temple, late Governor of Sierra Leone, and was born Nov. 30, 1821, in Santa Maura, Ionian Islands. He was educated at the Grammar School at Tiverton, and proceeding to Oxford, became Scholar of Balliol College, and took his degree of B.A. in 1843 as a double first class. He was elected Fellow and Mathematical Tutor of his college, and, having been ordained in 1846, was appointed Principal of the Training College at Kneller Hall near Twickenham, in 1848. This post he resigned in 1855; and having held an Inspectorship of Schools during the interval, was appointed, on the resignation of Dr. Goulburn, in 1858, Headmaster of Rugby School. Dr. Temple, who was a Chaplain to the late Queen, gained some notoriety in 1860 as the author of the first of the seven "Essays and Reviews," which caused so much controversy soon after their appearance. The Essay was entitled "Education of the World," and was held, by the timid and partially educated opinion of those days, to savour of German rationalistic tendencies. At the general election of 1868, Dr. Temple took an active part in support of Mr. Gladstone's measure for the di-establishment of the Irish Church; and the Premier nominated him to the Bishopric of Exeter, in succession to the late Dr. Philpotts—an appointment which caused considerable commotion in clerical circles. The confirmation of Dr. Temple's election took place on Dec. 8, 1869, at the church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, when Bishop Trower, as the representative of a portion of the clergy who were opposed to Dr. Temple, because he was the author of one of the "Essays and Reviews," instructed counsel to oppose the election. Counsel were accordingly heard on both sides, and Dr. Temple's election was confirmed by the Vicar-General. Dr. Temple received episcopal consecration at Westminster, on Dec. 21, 1869, together with the Bishops-elect of Bath and Wells, and of the Falkland Islands. Dr. Temple published "Sermons preached in Rugby Chapel in 1858-60;" in April 1883 he was elected Bampton Lecturer at Oxford for the ensuing year. His Bampton Lectures, which might have been delivered by a highly critical man of science, were entitled "The Relation between Science and Religion." They were afterwards published. On the death of Dr. Jackson in January 1885 Dr. Temple was appointed Bishop of London, and was succeeded at Exeter by Dr. Bickersteth. He was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in December 1896, as successor to Archbishop Benson. As Bishop of London his Grace was known, to the surprise of many, as a conservative and disciplinarian, especially in matters affecting the standard of clerical education and admission to Holy Orders, and after becoming Archbishop he was a champion of Orthodoxy. Jointly with the Archbishop of York, he issued, in February 1897, a lengthy and learned reply, in English and Latin, to the Pope's Bull on Anglican Orders. The reply, addressed to the whole body of Bishops of the Catholic Church, bears the significant motto, "Give peace in our time, O Lord," and follows throughout the ancient and rational tradition, in matters of doctrine and usage, of such authorities as Hooker. The Archbishop's attitude towards matters ecclesiastical was further emphasised in his Charge, nominally addressed to his diocese, but in reality to the whole Church of England, and delivered by him in Maidstone Parish Church early in October, 1898. The gist of the Charge is contained in the sentence, "The ceremonial is the order of the Church; the teaching must be, to a large extent, the voice of the individual." Beside the works above mentioned, his Grace was the author of many tracts and pamphlets. In October 1898 he was appointed Commissioner under the London University Act to make statutes and regulations for the new University. He married, in 1876, Beatrice, daughter of the late Right Hon. W. S. Lascelles. Together with Mrs. Temple the Archbishop was widely known for the interest he took in all movements which make for the social welfare of the working-classes, especially of working-women.—*Men and Women of the Time*.

FIRES.

At 12.50 p.m. on December 25th a conflagration broke out in Oiso, and owing to the violent wind that prevailed at the time the greater part of the town was destroyed before the flames could be subdued. The destruction caused by the Oiso fire extended to 585 dwelling houses, 19 godowns, 176 sheds, and 198 miscellaneous buildings, amounting in value to *yen* 434,990, including furniture, which is estimated at *yen* 267,000. These figures are said to be very conservative. Of the sufferers from this fire, the higher classes can doubtless support themselves on the money they will receive from the Tokyo or Meiji Fire Insurance Co. for such of their properties as were insured, but the petty traders and the poorer classes who are receiving aid at the refuges in the Oiso Primary School, Kyorakukan and the temple of Daiunji will probably be subjected to much distress.

The Emperor and Empress have contributed a sum of *yen* 700 towards the relief of sufferers by the conflagration.

About half-past three o'clock on Sunday morning fire broke out in a public bath-house occupied by Tomiyama Ishi at Hanazakicho Shichome, Yokohama, but the flames were confined to the building in which they originated.

An incendiary named Nishijo Asajiro (34), living at Kita-misujimachi, Tokyo; was arrested by the police at Mayesaka station on the 24th inst. Since he reached the age of thirteen he is alleged to have been guilty of over a hundred incendiary acts.

A destructive fire occurred at Miwasaki-machi, Mudagori, Wukayama prefecture, on the morning of the 27th inst. Five hundred houses were destroyed but no lives were lost.

A conflagration occurred in a hotel occupied by Hirano Daigo, Kakizaki-mura, Yechigo, on the afternoon of the 28th inst. Over two hundred and fifty houses were destroyed including a post and telegraph office, one national bank, one temple, and one city office. Two men were burnt to death.

A small fire broke out at 9.30 o'clock on Tuesday night near Miyagawa cho, Yokohama. It originated in a firewood shop, but fortunately was soon extinguishd.

Fire broke out in a large godown at Asahigawa station, Hokkaido, early on the morning of the 21st inst. The whole building was destroyed, including a large quantity of rice spirits, and various goods. The loss is estimated at over *yen* 40,000. Four cars were also damaged.

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KOREA.

THE leading journals of Tokyo agree in reporting that LI YONG-IK's journey to Port Arthur in a Russian man-of-war has been made the subject of a strong remonstrance by the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. HAGIWARA. In reply to this protest, the Court answered that LI's restoration to his post of Chief of the Imperial Estates Bureau had been in accordance with the wish of the EMPEROR himself, and had not been in any degree attributable to Russian interference; and further, that his going to Port Arthur was merely one stage of a journey to Cochin China for the purpose of laying in a stock of rice. Mr. HAGIWARA, however, is said to be dissatisfied with these replies and to be insisting on LI's total removal from office. We fail to see what right Mr. HAGIWARA would have to prefer any demand of the kind, for the appointment or dismissal of its officials is a function which every independent government is entitled to exercise apart from foreign interference. Neither do we believe that the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* has made any such demand or formulated any such crude representation. But as to LI's journey to Port Arthur in a Russian man-of-war, the public could only smile at the exceedingly thin pretext that the man's sole object was to accomplish one stage of a rice-purveying expedition to Annam. Fuller news must be awaited before we discredit Russian intelligence so far as to admit the reality of such a rejoinder. This whole affair is wrapped in much mystery. A statement sent from Seoul by a Japanese newspaper correspondent attributes the beginning of the trouble to Mr. WAEBER, Russia's former Representative who, finding on his return to the Korean capital that LI was the centre of political power, threw the whole of Russia's influence into the scale in his favour. Projects were devised by the two which necessitated a reconstruction of the Cabinet, and LI applied himself to effect the necessary changes. But here the Ministers whom he would have driven out of office proved too much for him, and his own fall resulted. Mr. WAEBER and Mr. STEYN, however, did not leave him in the mud. They offered to the Throne strong pleas in his behalf and to the man himself an asylum in the Russian Legation, the finale being his restoration to one of his former offices and his departure for Liaotung in a Russian war-vessel. That is the story now current in Japan and doubtless generally credited. There are various details, but we have given the outlines only not the embroidery. Probably even the outlines have been greatly refracted from truth by passage through the atmosphere of exaggeration that envelopes Seoul nearly as densely as Shanghai. But however incredulous we may be, there are two facts apparently indisputable, namely, that LI YONG-IK took his departure from Korea in a Russian man-of-war, and that he had previously found asylum in the Russian Legation. It is true that the celebrated KANG YU-WEI escaped from China in a British man-of-war, and it is also true that many Korean conspirators have found and do still find refuge in Japan. But there is a difference; a very obvious difference. At all events Korea is the storm centre of the Far East so far as Japan and Russia are concerned. There has not been, to our knowledge, any reason to accuse the Tokyo Government of indiscretions in its Korean policy during the past two years. Japanese statesmen seem to recognise the large responsibilities they have to face in that direction. Can the same eulogy be honestly spoken about Russia's Representatives, especially Mr. WAEBER? Perhaps he is more sinned against than sinning. Perhaps his acts have not been such as to warrant the rumours circulated about him. All sober-minded persons will be ready to admit that possibility. But a diplomatist has no business to get himself talked about. It is an important part of his duty to prevent the public tongue from wagging. Russian diplomatists in Seoul can not be called successes in that respect. When we consider what may ultimately be involved in their failure, we profoundly regret that they do not show greater circumspection.

IMPERIAL DIET.

HOUSE OF PEERS.

The House met for the first time this session at 10 a.m. on the 28th instant, and proceeded at once to the Order of the Day. The Minister of State for Justice, introducing the Bill for amending the Penal Code, explained that the draft had been submitted to the Diet in its last session, and having been more or less changed by the Peers, had been sent down to the Lower House where, however, it had failed to pass owing to want of time. It was now laid again before the Peers exactly in the form given to it by them last session.

The House handed the Bill to a special committee without query or comment.

Three minor bills relating to military affairs were similarly treated, and the House rose for the New Year's recess at 10.20 a.m., the President having announced that the recess would last until January 15th.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 1 p.m. Owing to a rumour that dissolution would be ordered, the galleries began to fill at 10 a.m., and by noon they were crowded to overflowing.

The President announced that business would be resumed at the point where it had been broken off on the 16th instant, namely, the discussion of the Budget Committee's Report on the Bill for increasing the Land Tax. The closure had been moved in the former session, but it had not been voted, and as several members had signified their desire to address the House, the debate would be continued.

At this point the Prime Minister ascended the rostrum and addressed the House:—

Gentlemen—I have already taken occasion to submit to you in general outline the policy which the Government proposed to pursue as immediately essential to the protection of the country and the development of the national resources. It now becomes necessary for me to explain why continuance of the increased rate of land tax is required for carrying out those objects, and to solicit your earnest attention to the matter.

With regard to economies resulting from administrative and financial reforms, the Government, without losing a day, applied itself to the task when compiling the Budget for the 35th fiscal year (1902-3), and reduced the official establishment by some 8,000 persons, thus effecting a saving of 2,800,000 *yen*, while at the same time making an addition to the salaries of local officials and of officials in the lower ranks of the Central Government. Further, since the spring of this year, abolitions or amalgamations of bureaux, undertaken in the sequel of careful investigation, have resulted in an additional saving of 1,900,000 *yen*, so that the total economies effected by the Ministry amount to 4,700,000 *yen*.

In fully reforming the administration and the finances of the country, it is necessary to include also the local expenditures, for these have increased [illegible] in recent years and have caused embarrassment to the autonomous communes. The Ministry have adopted a system of retrenchment in these matters, and are resolved to continue it in the future so as to place local autonomy on a firm basis.

The purpose of these reforms is not confined merely to saving money. It is to put the Treasury's accounts in an easy condition, to nurture the people's resources and to keep in line with the world's progress. With these objects in view the Government has carried its improvements to the very sources of State revenue, and deeming it essential to strengthen the basis of the national finances, has amended the system of the Tobacco Monopoly and the method of collecting the *sake* tax, at the same time introducing large changes into the administration of forests and moors.

Chiefly attention has been directed to developing the people's resources. That, of course, could not be achieved simply by cutting down expenses. Works of cardinal importance must also be carried out, and in order to obtain funds for them there must be no shrinking from an increase of outlays. Railways are essential to the growth of industries and the augmentation of the country's wealth. Therefore the railway system must be perfected. New lines must be built; those already constructed must be improved; posts and telegrams must be developed; and general facilities must be provided, for it goes without saying that these things exercise a powerful influence upon the economy of the State. Navigation also must be extended; lighthouses must be erected and buoys laid; riparian improvements must be undertaken in order to render the people's property secure; and the Government recognising all this, laid down the lines of its policy accordingly.

Observing the procedure of the Powers in the Far East, it is plain that nothing presses more imperatively and immediately for attention than the extension of this country's influence in China and Korea. Hence the Government has planned the establishment of financial mechanism in China. Further, the history of commercial and industrial progress in various countries shows clearly that the development of business depends largely upon education. Hence the Ministry took in hand the educational system and gave effect to the policy of increasing facilities for practical instruction.

Further, harbours and bays have been improved; commercial convenience has been consulted; the inspection of banks has been carried out with the utmost strictness so as to strengthen public confidence; the spirit of effective economy has been encouraged; the duty of economy has been inculculated; the system of industrial administration has been amended; the limits of the patent laws have been extended; useful inventions have been promoted, and, in short, nothing has been omitted that could contribute to the development of the national resources.

Thus, as I have said, all essential steps have been taken with due regard to the necessary limitations. In some respects administrative functions have been increased; in others they have been diminished. And not the administration of State affairs only, but also the administration of the law has been improved, the judicial machinery being re-organized, the procedure accelerated and the rights of the individual better protected. Necessarily large outlays have been required for these purposes. Nevertheless by following the rule of dispensing with superfluities and preserving essentials only, it has been found possible to meet all these expenditures by means of economies achieved in other directions—including a sum of 570,000 *yen* in the Budget for 1902-3—, so that out of the savings alluded to already, namely, 4,700,000 *yen*, a net sum of 800,000 *yen* remains after all expenditures have been provided for.

Again, with the object of easing the national finances and improving the economical position, the Government has had to consider carefully the question of enterprises carried on with the proceeds of public loans. When on assuming office I was called upon, in 1901, to devise measures for these public-loan enterprises, it was evident that the state of the money markets at home and abroad did not permit any issue of bonds. Therefore the Government, on the one hand, had recourse to the funds in the Deposit Bureau, and on ther other effected large adjustments and economies.

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But in September of the present year a sale of bonds was carried out, and the money thus obtained was devoted to the purposes which should have been accomplished with the proceeds of bonds issued in 1901 and previously. As to enterprises, however, on account of which public loans were to be floated in 1902 and 1903, the Government felt that any attempt to sell bonds at home might not only disturb the market, then just beginning to recover its normal condition, but might also impair the economic situation, while to raise a loan abroad would be injurious to the national credit. Therefore, with the exception of the special financial operations of [illegible] all recourse to loans was eschewed, and the policy was adopted of providing funds from the ordinary revenue. Fortunately the country's economic conditions have improved of late and the machinery of finance shows signs of working smoothly, which facts constitute grounds for mutual congratulation.

I trust that what I have now stated conveys a clear idea of the Government's policy, and further that you will understand that the fixed revenue being all absorbed for purposes already determined, no method offers for obtaining funds to carry out naval increment except recourse to increased land tax. There can not be any separation between the development of the country's resources and the completion of its defences. If either of these essentials be neglected an issue opposed to the spirit of the time is necessarily invited. During the thirty years of the *Meiji* era, the policy of an enlightened and progressive state has been steadily pursued. Whatever has been done has been in accordance with that policy. Above all, after the close of the war of 1895-6, the practical necessity was recognised of shaping the national procedure at home and abroad so as to raise the prestige of the empire and to be in accord with the progressive spirit of the age. There can be no retrogression hereafter. A sum of over eleven million *yen* annually is needed for purposes of naval increment. Even if, by reducing other outlays, some funds be obtained for that object, how can they possibly suffice? To suspend works already undertaken, to abandon enterprises essential to the country's development in order to obtain funds for purposes of naval increment, that can not be regarded as a course consistent with the policy of an enlightened and progressive State. Gentlemen, this is a time when national unity is indispensable. The Government does not consider it right that a collision between itself and the Diet should impede the nation's progress. It believes that mutual concession and consultation are in accord with the true principles of constitutional institutions. Therefore, putting a restraint upon its own sentiments and making an effort that involved no little difficulty, it sought to restore harmony and to achieve the reality of cöoperation. But you, Gentlemen, adhered firmly to your own ideas and showed no disposition to make any concession. Thus to the Government's great regret all possibility of consultation disappeared. A majority of you have declared in favour of the necessity of naval increment, but without propounding any matured conception as to a source of revenue for the purpose, without giving the matter careful consideration you are about to pronounce forthwith against the project of increased land tax. The Government can not possibly endorse such procedure, and I trust, Gentlemen, that you will clearly understand the Government's profound convictions.

Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi (Progressist) said that the Premier had spoken of the national policy that ought to be pursued by an enlightened and progressive country; but it seemed to him that the present Cabinet's procedure was diametrically opposed to any such policy. The Government had originally declared that apart from the land tax no means whatsoever offered for obtaining funds to expand the Navy; yet that very same Government, almost before the echo of its declaration had ceased to be audible, offered to reduce the proposed rate of land tax from 3.3 to 3 per cent., and at the same time announced that the deficiency thus caused could be compensated by deferring certain State enterprises and by cutting down administrative expenses. Could anything be more contradictory? Further, it appeared that the Premier had invited the Committees of the two Parties to put forward an amended financial project, though they were not invested with any power to deal with the Budget. Count Katsura had thus shown his ignorance of constitutional procedure. If indeed, the Cabinet was prepared to hand over the Ministerial portfolios to the Parties, the latter would not refuse to declare their financial programme, but as things stood the only conclusion was that the Ministry did not deserve the confidence of the country.

Mr. Ohashi Shintaro (representing the Business Men's section of the House), declared himself opposed to both of the programmes—the programme of the Cabinet and the programme of the Parties. He denied the necessity of naval increment, but he contended for the increased land tax in order that its proceeds might be employed to put the finances as a sound basis. He reminded the members that they had received an addition to their own stipends in consideration of voting for an increased rate of land tax some years ago, and now, while retaining the addition they urged the Government to practise economy. Their acts contradicted their words. He proceeded to argue in favour of the Land Tax Bill, but failed to obtain a hearing, and finally brought his speech to a close by declaring that the refusal of the Parties to listen to any proposal for compromise convicted them of setting their own interests above the interests of the nation.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo moved the closure, and as the House was about to vote, the President announced that a message had been received from the Emperor.

Thereupon the whole House rose amid vehement clapping of hands.

The President then read aloud this message;—"In accordance with Art. 7 of the Constitution We hereby order the dissolution of the House of Representatives."

This message elicited a fresh outburst of hand-clapping and the House dispersed amid cries of *Minto Bansai* (Hurrah for the People's Party!).

CHRISTMAS.

Christmas was celebrated in Yokohama in the usual fashion. Business was practically suspended in most branches of trade and many people, encouraged by the fine, though cold, weather left town for one or other of the country resorts. There were the customary Services in the various churches. Those at Christ Church were largely attended, particularly the half-past ten service, in which the old, familar hymns and the anthem "Let us go even unto Bethlehem" were very brightly given. The Rev. W. P. G. Field preached a deeply interesting sermon on the lessons of the nativity of Christ, handling the theme with fine effect. At the Union Church there was also a special service which was very well attended. The Christmas Eve celebration at the Roman Catholic Church drew as usual a large congregation.

Following upon the Christmas church celebrations the Evensong Service at Christ Church, Yokohama, on Sunday evening was of a special nature. There were seasonal hymns and the "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" were in F. (Simpson). The Rev. W. Field officiated and there was a large congregation. After the Service, which was greatly enjoyed by all, the following Carols were sung in the most inspiriting fashion: "Good King Wenceslas;" "The first Nowell;" "Hark the merry Christmas Bells;" "Ring out the Merry Christmas Bells." The outgoing Voluntary was a "Tocatta" in F (Dubois).

Van Schaick Hall was crowded on Tuesday afternoon by a band of happy children, parents and friends, the occasion being the Christmas Entertainment of the Yokohama Union Church Sunday School. The proceedings were of the brightest and happiest description and Mr. C. Griffin, the popular Superintendent, is to be heartily congratulated upon the result of his labours. After the long programme had come to an end, Father Christmas made his appearance down the chimney and then a most magnificent Christmas Tree, loaded with presents and most gaily decorated was lighted up, the illumination being by means of electric lights of various colours. Having distributed various special favours to the well-loved Pastor's wife and others, Father Christmas disappeared amid a whirling snowstorm. Then commenced a scene of joyeous festivity from which many found it hard to tear themselves away. Programme:—

Part I.

Opening Prayer.....Rev. E. S. Booth.
Carol No. 1..." O the Christmas Time"...The School.
Speech....." Welcome " .....Master G. Box.
Carol No. 2....." Oh, Holy Night".....The School.
Vocal Solo....." Just So ".....Miss Nellie McCready.
Carol No. 3..." Watchman! What of the Night?" ... The School.
Reading.."The Man in the Moon".Mrs. J. G. Doering.
Carol No. 4..." Glorious was the Night"...The School.
Rewards distributed to the most regular girl scholars.
Carol No. 5..."How Beautiful the Morn"..The School.

Part II.

Some events of the past Year.

These included clever rhymes and dialogues upon the House Tax Question, the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, the Peace in South Africa, the Destruction of Martinique, the Coronation, and last but not least the Christmas festivities.

Part III.

Carol No. 6....." O Little Town of....." Bethlehem".....The School
Carol No. 7..... " O'er the Hill and ....." O'er the Vale".....The School
Vocal Duet....." The Christ....." Child".....Miss N. and Master P. McCready
Carol No. 8....." O Radiant Morn "....The School
Rewards distributed to the best boy scholars.
Carol No. 9." Merry Christmas Bells".. The School
Vocal Solo....." When good old ....." Kris comes round".....Miss Elsa Doering
Carol No. 10..... " The Song of the ....." Angel Throng".....The School
Carol No. 11....." I should like to....." have heard".....The School
(Solo by Miss G. Booth).
Hark! the herald angels sing.

Mrs. Moore played all the incidental music.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The ordinary fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held in Van Schaick Hall on Monday evening, under the Presidency of Mr. A. Bellamy Brown. There was a crowded attendance and the long and varied programme received appreciative attention from start to finish, the auditors being by no means chary in their bestowal of applause. The programme, which we append, speaks for itself:—

Part I.

Pianoforte Duo....." Polonaise "....Dvorak.
Mrs. A. Bellamy Brown and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.
Seng....." As the Dawn " .....Alto Cantor.
Mrs. W. T. Payne.
Violin Solo....." Sonata in F." .....Handel.
Mr. H. A. Poole.
Recitation—
(*a*) " Queen Sigrid the Haughty "....Longfellow.
(*b*) " Aunt Tabitha ".....O. W. Holmes.
Miss Beatrice Ross.
Song....." Chantique de Nöel ".....Ad. Adam.
(with Organ obligato)
Mrs. E. C. Irwine.
Pianoforte Solo..." Humoreske," Op. 6.....Grieg.
Miss Poole.
Sketch....." Major Mamby "....Wilkie Collins.
Mr. G. Gustavus Brady.

Part II.

Pianoforte Duo....." Cortège ".....Moskowski.
Mrs. J. G. Doering and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.
Song....." The Vicar's Song " (from " The Sorcerer").....Sullivan.
Mr. N. G. Maitland.
Viola Solo..." Andantino " (from G. Minor Concerto) .....Sitt.
Mr. H. A. Poole.
Song....." The Flight of Ages " .....Bevan.
Mr. S. H. Somerton.
Banjo Trio..." Dreams of Darkie Land".....Anon.
Messrs. C. Aslet, E. Bernard and A. Manley.
Song....." Leonore " .....Trotere.
Miss Becker.
Octette....." Norwegian Bridal March "...Söderman.
Mrs. E. C. Irwine, Mrs. W. K. Wilson, Miss Poole, Miss Vincent, Messrs. H. E. Hayward, S. E. Unite, W. K. Wilson and S. H. Somerton.

Next Meeting—Friday, January 9th, at 8.30 p.m.

" A Visit to Kilauea " (illustrated), by the Rev. George Wallace.

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RUGBY FOOTBALL.

INTERPORT MATCH ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

YOKOHAMA v. KOBE.

A fine Christmas morning dawned in Yokohama this year of grace 1902, and the foreigners who were looking forward to the newly inaugurated interport event were pleased, though a blustery wind boded ill for successful place-kicking. For this was the first Rugby Football match between Yokohama and Kobe, for which a "pot" was provided by public subscription. When the teams lined up, as follows, the wind was blowing great guns, right athwart the field:

YOKOHAMA.

Back—W. Goddard.

¼ Backs—K. Van R. Smith, J. Cartwright, O. Strome, H. E. Hayward.

½ Backs—H. W. Kilby, J. E. Moss.

Forwards—W. S. Moss (Captain), F. O. Stuart, K. F. Crawford, F. W. R. Ward, F. Pollard, A. Kingdon, W. J. Waddilove, W. J. White.

KOBE.

Back—A. J. Cornes.

¼ Backs—H. Hancock, P. L. Spence, A. H. Gillingham, G. Stephens.

½ Backs—E. H. Moss, C. J. Lucas.

Forwards—E. F. Crowe, W. D. White, J. G. Murray, H. F. Scudamore, W. S. Squire, H. M. Nock, E. H. Summers, J. W. Thompson.

That both teams meant business was apparent from the moment the referee, Mr. J. H. Bathgate, sounded his whistle for the kick-off. The visitors from the southern port at once invaded with impetuosity, and is was some time before Moss was enabled to relieve the pressure by a timely break towards the Kobe goal. Fast the game was, and furious, but neither side had so far settled down to any definite plan of campaign. Cornes stopped one rush with a mighty kick into touch, and a futile pass from Moss to Hayward gained Yokohama nothing. Then W. S. Moss put in a good dribble, well backed up by Waddilove, but the Kobe backs were now set, and safe as the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Presently they gave colour to a hitherto uninteresting struggle by a brilliant episode of passing, during which the ball was handled successively by Hancock, Gillingham, Lucas and Stephens. This placed the home-side once more on the defensive, and things looked bad for them when a penalty kick was awarded against them for off-side. Next Lucas made a clever but unsuccessful attempt at the goal. After this Waddilove (whose consistent play throughout deserves special mention) had a touch down. There was some more passing by the Kobe backs—too high, by the way, but that might have been the fault of the wind rather than the men. By a series of kicks into touch, H. W. Kilby and his colleagues worked their way up the left wing, and loose play ensued in the Kobe twenty-five. Strome got away once, but was held just in front of home. In return, the visitors put in a very promising reply, during the course of which Hancock (a tower of strength to his side) made his one mistake, and the effort was neutralised. Kobe came again, and ten minutes of colourless play brought half-time without a score. In the second half the pace was very hot. Partizan yells encouraged the combatants to mighty efforts, and during the opening stages the Kobe backs had their hands full, but the attacks of Yokohama were not characterised by any conspicuous amount of combination. Their forwards had the best of matters in the scrums, but their backs were beaten over and over again by the visitors. It was forward play which gave Waddilove his opportunity. There was very little to see, to describe. There was some apparently aimless striving in the Kobe twenty-five, some seemingly careless exchanges, and then suddenly a yell heralded a happening of some sort. Waddilove was in possession, and managed to dodge over the goal line on the right wing. The wind carried Moss's place kick away to the eastward. Kobe henceforward tried hard to get even, making desperate and far from unskillful attempts to score, but the home fifteen were alive to the advantage they held, and worked well together to maintain it. The chief incidents of interest were: a brilliant run by Stephens, fed by Hancock, and an equally fine attempt by van R. Smith. H. W. Kilby constantly fed his three-quarters, a feature that was responsible for much of Yokohama's success. A lively, but, from the spectator's point of view, not very exciting game accordingly resulted as follow:—

Yokohama	1 try
Kobe	nil.

Tea was served after the match by Mrs. Dodds, wife of the popular President of the Y.C. & A.C., quite a large number of ladies having graced the proceedings with their presence. On Friday evening the Kobe team were the guests of the Yokohama players at the Y. U. Club.

One of the best hockey games of this season was played on the Cricket Ground on Friday, the 26th Dec., at 11 a.m., and resulted in a draw, each side scoring one goal. The teams lined up as follows:—

Goal.
S. Lucas.

Backs.
W. S. Moss, Miss Dodds.

Half Backs.
Mrs. Berrick, Miss Ross.

Forwards.
E. Hayward, H. Y. Irwine, Miss E. Kilby (Capt.), K. F. Crawford, E. Gillingham.

Goal
Mrs. Hayward.

Backs.
M. Marshall, C. E. Libeaud.

Half Backs.
Miss Abenheim, Miss Bailey, Mrs. A. W. Read (Capt.)

Forwards.
H. Kilby, K. Dodds, Miss Kilby, E. H. Moss, A. W. Read.

The drawing for the teams in the Six Aside Association competition of the Y. C. and A. C. is as follows:—

A. R. Firth (Capt.), W. J. White, A. W. S. Austen, J. Cartwright, J. S. Graham, H. E. Hayward.

W. S. Moss (Capt.), Van Smith, F. O Stuart, F. W. Ward, C. H. Thorn, J. R. Thompson.

H. W. Kilby (Capt.), E. Powys, F. Pollard A. Hills, O. T. Gillon, J. F. Marques.

O. Strome (Capt.), J. F. Drummond, A. Kingdom, C. E. Libeaud, A. M. Watt, C. S. Thwaites.

A. W. Read (Capt.), J. Waddilove, W. J. White, M. Marshall, H. Y. Irwine, Van Cleve.

E. G. Fradgley (Capt.), W. B. Mason, A. R. Ford, E. B. S. Edwards, W. Graham, H. Temme.

ORIENTAL PEARLS.

To the trade, the scarcity of the Oriental pearl is becoming a matter of deep concern. The supply, says a contemporary, has fallen off within the past year at least 75 per cent., and the price has advanced from 30 to 50 per cent. Whether the known pearl fisheries of the world are giving out for good we cannot say, but certain it is that many of these fisheries have of late been worked out; and as no new ones have been discovered, the supply is correspondingly lessened. If what remains of the ocean pearl fisheries continues to give out as rapidly in the future as in the immediate past it will become a case of literal exhaustion, and real Oriental pearls will command about their own price. Pearls are always in style. Many women attach a sentimentality to pearls that they throw around no other precious stone. It is the sparkle that catches the eye of the diamond, and it is the lustre of the real pearl that has the same fascination to women. Men do not especially care for pearls, nor do they appreciate them as gems. They are graded by size, lustre, and colour, black pearls being costly. The most expensive and rare pearl is a true pink. There are pearls of a pinkish hue, but we have seen but one or two true pink pearls in an experience of thirty years. A true pink pearl the size of a single carat diamond is worth about any price—say, £5,000—and it might be impossible to match it.

THE HAVANA MICROBE.

More than any other article of manufacture, the cigar stands upon its merits. It is bought for its flavour and aroma. No brand, not even the most honoured name in Cuba, would enable an inferior cigar to be sold to the expert at a high price. Every detail of the process of manufacture must, therefore, be conducted with religious care; but here, again, all that man can do is merely to make matters easy for the invisible workers who transform the juices of the leaf into a rare and precious alkaloid, and by fermentation turn a rank weed into the delicate, sweet-smelling aromatic product which we roll at our ear before we light it, and pass affectionately beneath our nostrils in the intervals of degustation. Certain German specialists, suspecting the lazy Cuban of an infinitesimal share in the lovely result, proceeded to the West Indies, where, after infinite pains, they succeeded in isolating the Havana microbe. In order to prove the correctness of their researches, certain heaps of inferior German tobacco were impregnated with Cuban bacteria; fermentation proceeded; the tobacco was dried and made up in the usual way. Samples of the resulting cigars were then placed in sealed envelopes, together with others of actual Cuban manufacture, and were submitted to experts, with the surprising result that the experts were unable to distinguish the real Cuban cigars from those "made in Germany." It would be difficult to imagine a more convincing test of the influence of local bacteria in the production of a distinctive flavour, or one more plainly exhibiting the danger incurred by manufacturers in entertaining scientific visitors of hostile nationality.—From an article on "Some Familiar Flavours," by A. S. M. B., in the *Pilot*.

CALENDARS.

From Mr. John W. Hall we have received a neat folding calendar for 1903.

Mr. K. Tamamura, the well-known photographer of Bentendori, sends as usual a charming card bearing the compliments of the season.

Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co., agents for the Royal Exchange Assurance Co., send a very useful calendar case, with removal monthly date blocks.

From the local agents of the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company we receive a small calendar which encloses the striking results of the 40 years' progress of this sterling company; and also a wall date block from the same.

The Western Assurance Company of Toronto, through their agents the China and Japan Trading Company, are well to the fore with a striking calendar setting forth their capital and date of incorporation.

Particularly charming are the art Calendars sent out by the Law, Union and Crown Insurance Company (Agents, Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co.) One bears a beautiful chromolithograph after J. L. G. Ferris, entitled "Lalla Rookh"; the other a dainty autumnal scene called "Afterglow." These calendars will be greatly sought after, we imagine, for their artistic excellencies.

The North British and Mercantile Insurance Company issue through their agents, Messrs. Findlay, Richardson and Co., their very handsome red leather desk Calendar.

With the complements of the Directors of the Tokio Marine Insurance Co., Ld., we receive through Mr. S. Kitadai, the local agent, the very ornate wall calendar of the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company.

MR. C. BRUCE-MITFORD.

Wei-hai-wei, says the *N.-Daily News*, is losing its historian, Mr. Bruce-Mitford, who is going away to Japan to engage in educational work there. Although he has been but a short time in Wei-hai-wei much regret will be felt at Mr. Bruce-Mitford's departure. We (*Japan Mail*) recently reviewed Mr. Bruce-Mitford's History of Wei-hai-wei in our columns. He is settling in Yokohama.

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NIPPON RACE CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held at the Club Hotel on Tuesday, Dr. Wheeler in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN apologised for the absence of Sir Claude MacDonald and said he thought the members ought to congratulate themselves upon the way in which the accounts had been drawn up and upon the exceedingly prosperous condition of the Club.

The minutes of last meeting were taken as read.

On the motion of Mr. Dodds seconded by Mr. Bugbird the report and accounts were taken as read.

The report and accounts were, on the motion of Mr. Blad, seconded by Mr. Catto, adopted. Voting was than proceeded with for the Executive Committee.

In reply to Mr. R. D. Robison the Clerk of the Course (Mr. Runge) said there would be nine China Griffins over in February. He could not get trained ponies.

Mr. CATTO asked whether it might not be suggested whether the Ladies Purse should not be given for Australian horses instead of China ponies.

Mr. WEALE pointed out that as a matter of historical record the prize should be given to China ponies so long as China ponies were available.

Mr. TEGNER thought the donors should have a voice in the matter. Eventually he proposed that the Committee should be asked to consider the advisability of giving the Ladies Prize to the Australian class.

Mr. CATTO seconded this on the ground that the China class seemed to be dying off.

The result of the voting for the Committee was then announced as follows:—

Messrs. Bianchi, Mori, Easton, Runge, Morris, Weale, and Elliott.

Mr. WEALE thanked the members for the honour they had done him in re-electing him but said that while he was happy to give his services in the interests of sport he expected that his efforts would be met in the same spirit. Unfortunately that had not been the case in the past and therefore he desired to be excused from serving.

Mr. ROBISON was then elected to the vacancy.

On the motion of Mr. Blad a vote of thanks was passed to the outgoing committee, Mr. Weale adding his testimony as to the efforts of the Committee.

Mr. TEGNER called attention to certain rules and suggested that a commission should be formed to discuss the question of revision of the Club rules. He also mentioned the case of a member "temporarily" absent who was turned off the course. He suggested that the subscription should be raised to *yen* 50 and 25 respectively.

In reply to Mr. Catto,

Mr. WEALE said the Committee thought they could get a veterinary surgeon from home at the retaining fee of about 50 *yen* a month. Perhaps a house might be put up for him on the course.

Mr. BLAD thought the Committee should consider the idea of having a man to act as veterinary surgeon and to assist the Clerk of the Course.

Mr. DODDS did not think that Mr. Bugbird's suggestion as to having the ballotting by all the members would be practicable but thought that the trouble could be got over by appointing a ballotting committee (applause).

Mr. TEGNER called attention to the advisability of having short distances race and races for all comers, Japanese country breds.

Mr. WARD thought there should be a fixed programme and no question of a horse being penalised as winner of six or ten races.

On the motion of Mr. Catto a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman.

It is with pleasure that the Committee are again able to submit to the Members of the Nippon Race Club accounts showing a substantial accession of strength to its financial resources.

As testifying to the sustained interest taken in racing,—notwithstanding the dispersal of several large stables at the close of 1901,—the Committee have the further satisfaction of recording a considerable increase in membership during the past twelve months, and entries at the last meeting for a larger number of horses than have ever been previously registered.

In this connection, the Committee desire to express, on behalf of the Members, their appreciation of the high honour conferred on the Club by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor's gracious presentation of a prize at both the Spring and Autumn Meetings.

The thanks of the Members are also due to Lady MacDonald and other ladies who kindly contributed to provide a Ladies' Purse; to Viscount Fujinami for facilities granted towards supplying Members with Country-bred ponies; to the community of Kobe for the presentation of a Cup; and to several individual donors of prizes.

Through the kindness of Mr. Blad, the Club is now in possession of an almost unbroken record of the various Race Meetings held in Yokohama since 1869.

LEASE OF RACE COURSE:—Up to the commencement of 1902, this has been held from year to year by virtue of an agreement dated December 27th, 1884, between His Excellency Oki Morikata, the then Governor of Kanagawa Ken, and Messrs. Count Saigo Yorimichi and Montague Kirkwood, acting as Trustees of the Club.

His Excellency Sufu Kohei, in accordance with existing regulations for the leasing of Government property, has since found it obligatory to withdraw that lease, but has kindly issued a new one on similar terms of rent, etc., for a period of 8 years terminating on the 28th February, 1910.

RIGHT OF WAY:—A long outstanding dispute between the villagers of Negishi-mura and the Club, pending at the time the present Committee took office, as to the right of way across certain property acquired by the latter south of the Grand Stand, has been permanently and satisfactorily compromised.

CLUB PROPERTY:—Various alterations and extensions conducive to the improvement of the Club's property and the comfort of its Members have been carried out.

There still remains much to be done in the same direction, notably as regards the Grand Stand, the condition of which needs early attention. It is a matter for congratulation that the financial resources of the Club now easily permit of any reasonable outlay for this and other necessary improvements.

STARTING GATES:—Negotiation for the two American Starting Gates, referred to in the last Annual Report, unexpectedly collapsed on the technical point of "royalties" after considerable correspondence, and the two which have since been ordered and received from Singapore, through the kindness of Mr. A. R. Catto, arrived too late to be of service at the last Meeting.

In the meantime Mr. F. H. Bugbird (to whom the Committee take this opportunity of tendering their thanks for much valuable technical advice and assistance), planned and supervised the construction of a third, which it is also hoped will find an opportunity of proving its merits at the next Spring Races.

VETERINARY SURGEON:—A suggestion has been made that in view of the steadily increasing number of racing stables, and the difficulty of obtaining expert local advice, the services of a duly qualified foreign veterinary from abroad should be engaged by the Club.

The Committee are of opinion that arrangements could be made for carrying this into effect on terms of little, if any greater expense that is at present incurrable, and with probably more satisfactory results to owners.

They invite the consideration of Members to this point.

In accordance with Rule 4, the Committee now retire.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE NIPPON RACE CLUB IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 1902.

DR.

December 1902.	Yen.
To Rent of Course for 1902	750
„ Rent of Course 1st Jan., 1903, to 31st March, 1903	187.50
„ Fire Insurance on Grand Stand, Pavilion, etc.	251.50
„ Wages, Keeping Course, etc.	1,003.61
„ Repairs to Fences, Roads, etc.	4,576.60
„ Repairs to Stables and Paddock Buildings	650
„ Expenses in Connection with Meetings.	1,443.45
„ Prizes, Spring Meeting	8,730
„ Prizes, Autumn Meeting	8,700
„ Australian Subscription Horses, Spring	7,640
„ Australian Subscription Horses, Autumn	9,856
„ Printing, including Race Books, etc.	1,410.24
„ Registration Fees, Taxes, etc.	6.37
„ Legal Expenses	345.70
„ Country Breds Subscription, Autumn	2,500
„ Secretary's Salary for the Year	400
„ Collector's Salary for the Year	100
„ Cost of Starting Gates from Singapore.	412.81
„ Settlement of dispute with Negishi villagers re right of way	75
„ Auditor's Fee	25
„ Fixed Deposits (Y. S. Bank, Ld.) ¥25,000	
„ Fixed Deposits (H. & S. Bank) 10,000	
	35,000
„ Credit Balance with H. & S. Bank	4,546.07
	88,609.85

CR.

December, 1902.	Yen.
By Balance brought forward	21,752.23
„ Interest on Current Account to 31st December, 1901	54.61
„ Interest on Current Account to 30th June, 1902	63.33
„ Interest on Fixed Deposits to 30th Dec., 1901.. ¥5,000=¥250	
„ Interest on Fixed Deposits to 18th Oct., 1902... 3,000= 210	
„ Interest on Fixed Deposits to 29th May, 1902.. 5,000= 350	
„ Interest on Fixed Deposits to 5th Dec., 1902... 5,000= 250	
	1,060
„ Members' Subscriptions	3,730
„ Rent of Stables, Jockeys' Licenses, etc.	1,197
„ Entries, Spring-Meeting	1,925
„ Entries, Autumn-Meeting	2,230
„ Australian Subscription Horses, Spring	7,640
„ Australian Subscription Horses, Autumn	9,856
„ Country Breds	2,500
„ Rent of Refreshment Room	100
„ Registration of Names and Colours	28
„ Sundry Receipts	115.96
„ Gate Money and Sale of Race Books, Spring	16,531.91
„ Gate Money and Sale of Race Books, Autumn	19,825.81
	88,609.85

E. & O. E.

PERCY DE C. MORRISS, Hon. Treasurer.

Subscriptions and Vouchers examined with the books and found correct.

J. F. COX EDWARDS, Auditor.

Yokohama, 24th December, 1902.

AN EXILE AND THE DYING YEAR.

I'd rather be hearing the sweep of the pines on the hill,
Than all your mad, night noises, mocking me so!
I'd rather be under the stars, shining steady and still,
Than here in the glitter of lights here above and below.

I'd rather be taking the old river path just begun,
With a glimmering candle afar making warmth in the night,
Than here in the crowd, and not one—O my heart—not one!
To turn all the longing to laughter, the gloom into light!

The waves of my river were never so dark and so cold
As the tide of the crowd and I in it, yet ever alone.
And I'd rather be eating a crust with her dear hand to hold
Than wanting the bread of the heart, in a city of stone!

Take all of your maddening bells, and the mirth they have wrung,
And give me a voice that is fair, a voice that is dear—
For the whisper of love can outmeasure all songs that are sung,
As one—O my heart!—could outnumber the multitudes here!

O, I know that the New Year is setting of hopes all a-thrill,
And I know that the new world is young and is brave and is bold—
But I'd rather be hearing the sweep of the pines on the hill,
For love has a soul of its own, and memory still thanks God for the Old!

VIRGINIA WOODWARD CLOUD.

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THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XVII.

Ieyasu rewards the Christian *daimyo* who were faithful to his cause.—Benevolence of Ieyasu with regard to the Christian religion.—Matsura, Kato, Mori and Terazawa alone persecute.—Conversion of Kyogoku Takatsugu, of Inaba Jubioe, of Ishikawa, of Ogasawara, of Hara Mondo and of the wife and the two daughters of Ukita Hideie.—Fervour of Julia Naito, of Julia Ota and other Christian women.—Ieyasu resigns the Shogunate to his son Hidetada and retires to Sumpu.—Construction of the castle of Yedo.

Of all the Christian *daimyo*, who had to congratulate themselves on having espoused Ieyasu's cause, Kuroda Nagamasa, is, without doubt, the one whose devotion was most generously rewarded. In exchange for his daimyate of Nakatsu, which brought him 220,000 *koku*, he received all the province of Chikuzen with a revenue of 520,000 *koku*. On his arrival in these domains, he undertook the construction of a new residence at Fukuoka, which, united to the town of Hakata, became from this moment the most important locality in the whole province, and even in all Kiushu. While waiting for the completion of this new residence, Nagamasa established himself temporarily at Najima, the ordinary residence of the *daimyo* of that province. Michael Kuroda Soyemon, the paternal uncle of Nagamasa, established himself at Akizuki, at a distance of two leagues from Fukuoka Michael equalled his elder brother Simon in fervour. He exhorted his new subordinates to embrace his religion, and, in the course of a year, more than half of them became converted to Christianity. As to Simon Yoshitaka himself, he had become the most ardent protector of the Christian religion. Already on the occasion of Konishi's fall, he had consoled the Religious, assuring them that he would make it his duty to protect them wherever he could. He had fixed himself at Fushimi, then the residence of Ieyasu, and it was owing to his influence that the latter showed so much good will towards the Religious and the Christians Relieved of all temporal cares, since his son Nagamasa had succeeded him, Yoshitaka devoted himself entirely to the religious propaganda. Affected by this good example, Nagamasa also showed himself more of a Christian than ever. The multitude of Christian *samurai*, come together from all directions, above all the presence of Akashi Kamon and of Francis Mori, also contributed much to maintain the religious fervour, of which the province of Chikuzen had then become the centre.

After the Kuroda, it was the Hosokawa who enjoyed the greater part of Ieyasu's favours. From Tanabe (Tango), they were transferred to Kokura (Buzen), with a revenue double of that which they had till that time enjoyed. Okimoto followed them into this new domain, and became not only the wise councillor of Gratia's children, but also the protector of the Christian Mission in this locality. At his instigation his brother Tadaoki granted full liberty to the Religious, gave them a piece of land to build a church and a residence on, and provided even for their maintenance. The Religious showed their gratitude by celebrating, each year, the anniversary of the unhappy Gratia with the greatest eclat possible. This attention pleased not only Tadaoki, but also his old mother who, touched by these religious ceremonies, began to study the Christian doctrine and was baptized under the name of Mary (70). Had it not been for his libertinism Tadaoki himself would have been converted, so at least he confessed to the Bishop, when the latter was passing through Kokura. Nevertheless he always tried to enduce his *kerai* to embrace the doctrine of the foreign preachers. Sometimes he even gave them examples of humanity very rare at this epoch. Thus, on Gratia's anniversary, he pardoned, at the request of the Religious, a certain number of culprits who had been condemned to death. On another occasion, he invited to his estate Jerome and Thomas Koteda, as well as 700 Christians, whom Matsura had driven into exile, because they had refused to take part in the pagan ceremonies, this *daimyo* had organized, at the time of the death of his father Takanobu(71).

The two Kyogoku had also to congratulate themselves on their fidelity to Ieyasu. John Takatomo was transferred from Takato to Miyazu (Tango), whilst Takatsugu exchanged the domain of Zeze for that of Obama (Wakasa.)

Asano Yukinaga received the important daimyate of Wakayama (Kii), in place of that of Kofu. In taking possession of this new domain, he neglected nothing to introduce the Christian religion. And when, some years later, he was cured of a kind of leprosy, he testified his thanksgiving to God by constructing, in Wakayama itself, a convent, a church and an hospital(72). Terazawa obtained, besides the daimyate of Karatsu, the Amakusa islands, which doubled almost his revenues. It was the same with the Arima, Omura, Hachisuka, Tsugaru, Mori Takamasa and other Christian *daimyo*, although to a less extent, than in the case of the *daimyo* mentioned above.

It will be seen clearly from what has just been said, that the Christian *daimyo*, by no means irritated Ieyasu by the opposition they offered to him, at the beginning of his reign. All the same, a glance at the events which followed, will suffice to convince the most sceptical that the Christian religion, far from receiving a mortal blow at Sekigahara, and of having begun to pass away from that time in a slow agony, made on the contrary such progress, during the first years of Ieyasu's administration, that one might well have assimilated the general movement to one of those extraordinary high waters, which menace to overflow the whole country. The entire nation seemed to be transported by the religious enthusiasm which then prevailed. Already in 1605, the number of Christians rose to 750,000 (73).

Certainly, Ieyasu did not love, and could not love the Christian religion, incompatible, as it was in all things, with his convictions as a fervent Buddhist; but he was too able a politician to alienate, by a precipitate zeal, the numerous Christian *daimyo* and *samurai*, who had given him proofs of their devotion. Moreover, he knew that through the medium of the Religious, he would more easily succeed in attracting to the ports of Japan the Spanish and Portuguese merchants, whose business he desired with all his soul. It was for this reason that he shut his eyes when, in 1601, Shimazu, without even informing Ieyasu, had invited the Dominicans of Manila to come and preach in his dominions (74). Much more, he himself extended a cordial welcome to the Religious of the different congregations who, several years after Sekigahara, went to see him at Sumpu, and permitted them to take up their residence wherever they wished, and to discharge the duties of their ministry. Knowing that the Jesuits were in want, he presented them with a large sum of money, and offered moreover to lend them 5,000 gold pieces (75). Finally, when, in 1604, Terazawa, having become embroiled with the Portuguese and cold towards the Religious, drew on himself the antipathy of the Christians of Nagasaki, Ieyasu deprived him of his post of governor of this town, and confided it to Anthony Murayama and to four other leading Christians (76). Save for some moments of ill humour, Ieyasu persevered in the same sentiments till 1614, when various causes drove him to openly declare himself a persecutor of the Christians.

The *daimyo* showed themselves as a rule more favourable still. Doubtless, the Christians were, in some places, treated with violence, and even martyred here and there. Thus, Matsura made war so pitilessly on them, that he exiled even his own relatives, the Koteda, for being unwilling to participate in Buddhist ceremonies. This state of things lasted till Takanobu, the Christian son of Mencia, becoming *daimyo* of Hirado, accorded some respite to the Christians (1609).

Terazawa, who had just apostatized, also delivered himself to some excesses against his ex-coreligionists.

The friendship which Kato Kiyomasa had promised to the Religious, had been of short duration. At the instigation of the bonzes, of whom he was the fervent disciple, he confiscated the goods of the Christian *samurai* and dismissed them from his service. Many of them had endured this disgrace with resignation, but the greater number had simulated apostacy, in order to thus escape misery. In vain did Thomas Naito address a letter to the Christians of Kato's domain, in order to encourage them to suffer all sooner than apostatize (77); the defections became more and more numerous. Above all, when Kato gave orders to the *samurai*, during a visit he paid to Udo and to Yatsushiro, to receive the imposition of the sacred books of Buddha, threatening with death those who refused to take part in this ceremony (78). On this occasion two noted *samurai*, John Minami Gorozaemon and Simon Takeda Gohioe were decapitated, the first at Kumamoto, and the second at Yatsuhiro. Their wives and children were crucified in the latter town (8 and 9 December 1603), where their corpses remained attached to the crosses for a whole year, in order to serve as a warning to those who would persist in following the foreign religion. It was at this time that several *samurai* left Kato's territory. Among them were the Naito, who retired to Maeda Toshinaga's.

Mori Terumoto also persecuted the Christians. Very superstitious, this *daimyo* had, since his disgrace, sought to win the favour of all the divinities possible. The god of lice himself had been the object of his devotions, and he had dedicated to him several temples.(79) On the other hand he attributed all his misfortunes to the presence of the Christians in his estates. The bonzes and his *karo*, Sase Iwami-no-kami, encouraged him in these ideas, and induced him to act with rigour towards the enemies of the gods (80). From the commencement of this persecution of Mori, Melchior Asonuma, Kano Hanyemon and Hirata, all three in the number of the principal *kerai* of that *daimyo*, declared themselves the defenders of the Christians. On this account, all Mori's anger fell on them. Asonuma was the first to feel the effects of it. In a discussion that he had with Sase, on the subject of religion, the latter accused Christianity of being fatal to the *daimyo*, and cited as a proof of his contention the fall of Otomo and of Konishi. Asonuma answered him —and with reason—that since Buddhism had not been able to preserve from misfortune men like Ishida, Ankokuji or even Mori, ought also to be regarded as a noxious doctrine. Far from convincing Sase, these words served to provoke him, and both the champions had already drawn their swords, when Asonuma made excuses, which were accepted. Matters were in this state when Mori, on his return from a journey, which he had made to Ieyasu's court, learned what had passed between his two *kerai*. He immediately enjoined on Asonuma to renounce the foreign religion. Asonuma refused categorically. On the 15th of August, 1605, Mori caused the residence of the rebellious *kerai* to be surrounded, and demanded hostages of him. Asonuma, after having declared that, not having the least intention to flee, he considered these precautions as useless. He nevertheless submitted to Mori's orders, and delivered to him his son Inosuke and his grandson Yosaburo. The next day Asonuma received orders to commit *hara-kiri*, and as he refused to do so, one of the *samurai* cut off his head. Asonuma was then 50 years of age. All his relatives were also executed and the bodies of the victims were delivered to the flames. But Mori wishing to preserve a single scion of this illustrious family, pardoned Yosaburo, and even took care of him (81). Two years later, Kano suffered almost the same punishment as Asonuma. Imprisoned at first in his own residence of Yamaguchi, he was then conducted to Hagi, where

(70) Hay, p. 632.
(71) Pagès, p. 38 and 103.
(72) Pagès, p. 165
(73) Pagès, p. 110.
(74) Pagès, p. 53.
(75) Pagès, p. 75.
(76) Pagès, p. 96.
(77) Pagès, Annexe p. 30.
(78) Pagès, p. 77-78.
(79) Pagès p. 91.
(80) Pagès p. 104 designates Sase under the name of Sachendono.
(81) Pagès P. 104, 118.

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everything was done to make him apostatize. As all had been useless, he was restored to liberty. His friends imagined that this generosity, on the part of his *daimyo*, would make Kano abandon the detested doctrine. But he only increased in his favour, so that Mori had him beheaded, at Hagi, on the 16th of April 1618. Hirata whose faith had remained unmoved before the greatest obstacles, had also a tragic end, although the details of it have remained secret.

But these persecutions of Mori, of Terazawa, of Kato and of Matsura were all local, and confined in the case of only a few individuals, or a certain class of individuals, without being extended to all the Christians. Then again, they were rare exceptions: out of nearly 300 *daimyo*, hardly more than four or five showed themselves hostile, the rest were nearly all favourable.

Thanks to this benevolence, and also to the emulation of the Religious of different orders, who had come to Japan, since 1600, the number of conversions effected each year rose to several thousands. In 1614, the Christians of Japan numbered nearly one million, the highest figure ever attained in that country.

Such being the disposition of Ieyasu with regard to the Christian religion, it is not astonishing that during the first years of his reign, the *samurai* and, in their train, the other castes embraced Christianity in crowds. Illustrious personages led, moreover, the way. For a long time previous to this, Kyogoku Takatsugu, the *daimyo* of Obama, yielding to the pressure of his brother Takatomo, and above all of his mother, had made up his mind to become converted, but the fear of displeasing the Taiko had prevented him. Free henceforth from all fear on this score, he signified his desire to take the decisive step, and received baptism with his wife and children (1602).(82) His wife was a niece of Nobunaga and an elder sister of Yodogimi, the mother of Hideyori. Under the name of Jokoin, Takatsugu's wife will play, later on, a rather important political part.

Several of Ieyasu's own *kerai* publicly embraced the Christian religion. Such were Inaba Jubioe, son of Inaba Masatsugu, the lord of Aono (Mino), who became converted along with his wife and all his household, composed of more than fifty persons(83). Then Ishikawa Yasumichi, the adopted son of Ishikawa Ienari, *daimyo* of Ogaki (Mino).(84) He died unfortunately in the following year, and his wife retired to Kyoto, where she became the benefactress of the Christians. Then Ogasawara Gonnojo, lord of Hazumura (Mikawa), and Hara Mondo, captain of the shogunate arquebusiers, distinguished themselves so much by the ardent faith, that they became in the sequel martyrs for their creed.

The women were no less eager to be initiated into the Christian doctrine. In 1607, the wife of Ukita Hideie was baptized along with her two daughters(85). Since the exile of her husband, she had attached herself to Mandokoro, of whom she had become a lady companion. Her brother, Maeda Toshinaga, allowed her to want for nothing, and it was owing to the generosity of the latter that she was always able to help the Religious. After her baptism, she retired to the house of her brother, at Kanazawa, where the latter had a retreat and a church constructed for her. He induced even his wife and his daughters to embrace the Christian religion. On the solicitations of Takayama, Maeda himself showed some disposition to become a Christian, but he dared not do so.

Julia Naito, sister of the ex-*daimyo* Naito Yukiyasu, had been converted some years before Ukita's wife, and it was owing to her exhortations that the latter had become a Christian. A widow at the age of 22, Julia Naito had renounced the world and become a Buddhist nun. Thus for 20 years, she led the life of a recluse, in a little temple, which her brother had had erected for her, at Kyoto, before he became Christian. Her fervour and her wisdom had gained for her little by little the esteem of the whole town, and Mandokoro herself consulted her in several instances. After her conversion to Christianity, she formed an association of pious women, composed of virgins or of widows like herself. These, all more or less related to the *daimyo*, had free access to the most distinguished families. It was on account of this privilege that their apostolate enjoyed much success.

At Sumpu, in the very residence of Iyeyasu, Julia Ota discharged the duty of a catechist. Daughter of a noble Korean, she had been made prisoner by Konishi, who had sent her to his wife. There she became converted and, when the Konishi family fell, after the disaster of Sekigahara, chance would have it that Julia should become a maid of honour to Ieyasu's wife, along with two other Christians known only under the names of Lucy and Clare.

Finally, at Kyoto, Itakura Katsushige, who had been nominated Governor, on the death of Maeda Motokatsu, openly favoured the Religious and assisted at their instructions. Honda Masazumi and other *daimyo* spoke already of becoming converted. The Kuge Konoye Nobumoto, son-in-law of the Mikado, made the Religious come into his residence, that they might expound to him the difficult points of the Christian doctrine. The Mikado Go-Yozei invited the Religious into his palace to have them explain to him the instruments of astronomy which they had placed at his disposal.(86)

While the Christian Religion was making these conquests, Ieyasu was fully occupied in consolidating his power. After the victory of Sekigahara, he had already abolished the office of the five *Tairo* and of the *Bugyo* and had established in their stead the *Roju*, a kind of councillors of state, generally at the number of five, and always chosen from among his most devoted *kerai*. In 1603, he made the Emperor bestow on him the title of Shogun, and thus began the series of the fifteen Tokugawa, who were to exercise, till 1868, supreme power in Japan. Two years after (1605), Ieyasu, then 63 years of age, transmitted the Shogunate to his son Hidetada, 26 years old, and retired to Sumpu, where he passed the last years of his life.

It must not be imagined, however, that, by thus retiring, Ieyasu renounced the control of affairs. He remained absolute master till his death, and the nomination of Hidetada had been anticipated only, in order to guard against all eventualities, and to secure the supreme power for the Tokugawa. The clever old man travelled unceasingly, whether he went to Kyoto or to Osaka to see for himself the disposition of the people, or whether he went to Yedo, Hidetada's residence, where he constructed an imposing fortress,(87) which was to become the residence of the Shoguns. All the *daimyo* of Japan took part in this immense work, and furnished workmen and materials, in proportion to their revenues. It is said that nearly 300,000 men were continually employed on it. The province of Izu was especially put under contribution; its mines furnished gold, its forests wood, and its quarries those enormous blocks of granite, which still figure in the ramparts of the fortress. In Izu also the works were executed at the expense of the *daimyo*: each had to send his workmen there. Over those of Fukushima presided the two Tsukushi father and son, who had been attached to this *daimyo* since Sekigahara. Very fervent Christians both of them, they looked after the Christians employed in the numberless mines or quarries of Izu. They even had an oratory built, in which they united their co-religionists (88).

(82) Hay p. 618 and Pagès p. 62.
(83) Pagès, p. 226.
(84) Pagès, p. 230.
(85) Pagès p. 158.

(86) Tre lettere annue del Giappone, p. 60 and 294.

(87) Ieyasu commenced the work of it in 1606, but it was only under Ietsuna (1650-1680), that the fortress, such as it still remained in our days, was finished.

(88) Pagès, p. 156.

Mr. Alexander McDonald, a capitalist of Ohio, is negotiating for the purchase of Sir Walter Scott's house, Abbotsford. If the bargain is concluded Mr. McDonald will present the house and estate to the Scottish people.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting.

By kind invitation of His Excellency the British Minister, the Annual Meeting of the Asiatic Society was held at the British Legation, on Thursday, December 18th, the President, Dr. D. C. Greene, being in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting, having been already published, were allowed to stand.

Report of the Council—Session 1902.

The annual report of the Council was read by the Secretary as follows:—

The Council of the Asiatic Society has to report for the current year the following events of special interest.

Seven Council and four General Meetings, including the present meeting, have been held. At the General Meetings, papers have been read, in whole or in part, as follows:—

"Autobiography of Arai Hakuseki".....By Dr. G. W. Knox.
"Japanese Calendars".....By E. W. Clement, M.A.
"Basho and the Japanese Epigram".....By B. H. Chamberlain, Esq.
"History of Political Parties in Japan".....By A. M. Lay, Esq.

The first three of these papers have been published within the year, and publication of the last has been ordered.

A complete catalogue of publications of this Society has been incorporated in Part II. of Vol. XXIX. The Librarian has also kindly prepared for publication in the Transactions of the Society a catalogue of recent Japanese Books.

Dr. Baelz was appointed a delegate to represent the Society at the *Congrès International des Orientalistes de Hanoi* to be held this month in connection with the Hanoi Exposition.

During the year, twenty names have been added to the list of members, and four members have died. The Council express deep regret especially at the death of His Excellency A. E. Buck, United States Minister to Japan, who, by sympathy and active interest, has rendered special service to the Society.

The President announced that, unless objection were raised in this meeting, the Council, in view of no constitutional prohibition, would in future give favourable consideration to application for membership in the society from ladies.

The election of Members of the Council for the ensuing year, which was for special reasons deferred till after Mr. Lay's paper was read, resulted as follows:

President.—Rev. Dr. D. C. Greene.
Vice Presidents.—Rev. A. Lloyd, Rev. E. S. Booth (Yokohama).
Corr. Secretary.—E. H. Vickers.
Recording Secretary.—E. H. Vickers (for Tokyo); Dr. J. L. Dearing (for Yokohama).
Treasurer.—R. S. Miller.
Librarian.—Rev. A. Lloyd.
Councillors.—Messrs. B. H. Chamberlain, C. S. Griffin, J. M'D. Gardiner, J. T. Swift, A. F. King, H. G. Parlett, R. J. Kirby, R. Masujima, W. Weston, Dr. Macdonald.

Mr. Parlett immediately resigned from the Council, and a motion was carried to the effect that the vacancy thus created should be subsequently filled by action of the Council.

Report of Librarian.

Appended to my report will be found a list showing the numbers of Transactions on hand. During the current year there have been added to our Transactions.

Vol. xxix. pt. 2.
Vol. xxx. pt. 1 and pt. 2.

Vol. vii. pt. 1 has also been reprinted and added to our stock.

In another appendix will be found a list of Exchanges, and of books added to the Library. This department of our activity is a large and increasing one. It is gratifying to receive so many applications from learned Societies desiring to possess the results of our labours, and willing to add to our Library by generous contributions from their own Transactions; and it is probable that as Japan increases in importance and more and more nations are brought into intimate relations with her, so the desire for learning something about her will increase and there will be a still greater demand for exchanges and contributions.

It is a most desirable thing, only every addition to our Exchanges entails additional demand upon our shelf-room, and our Library is already becoming cramped for want of space. I venture therefore to call the attention of the Society to the great need we have for a larger and more commodious building—one of our own if possible. Such a building should contain a room large enough for Library and Reading Room, a Librarian's office, a Store-house for our books, and a room large enough for our meetings

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unless perhaps the Library and Reading Room could be made available for this purpose. I do not claim to have any definite scheme in my mind for this; but if, as I hope, we should at this meeting make a start in a right direction by electing ladies to be members of our Society, I hope that they will give us some practical ideas on this subject, and that what they have done so successfully in starting the Tokyo Lending Library may be done equally successfully in helping the Asiatic Society to a building worthy of it.

Last year I undertook to bring out a list of new publications in Japanese. The Collection cost me a good deal of trouble, but I have since discovered a Japanese Society doing the same work, and I hope that by availing myself of their labours I shall be able to present a much better and more trustworthy list for the last half of this year.

Two most important works remain to be done. Our Library Catalogue wants revision, and a complete Index to all our transactions would add very much to their usefulness. I have done a little (a *very* little) in the way of an Index. I should be glad to hear from any members of the Society who would be willing to aid in the work by undertaking the task of preparing index-slips for individual volumes, or even individual papers.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Miss Wallace for her kind help in the Library during the last half year.

ARTHUR LLOYD,
Hon. Librarian.

Tokyo, December 17th, 1902.

The Chairman read portions of Mr. Lay's paper entitled: *A Brief Sketch of the History of Political Parties in Japan*, of which the following is a condensed summary.

The idea of popular representation in the government of Japan may be said to have had its birth with the Restoration, although some thoughtful men had been turning their minds in that direction at an earlier date. His Imperial Majesty the present Emperor, in his oath on the occasion of his succession to the throne made known his enlightened desire that men should meet in council from all parts of the country and all affairs of state be determined in accordance with public opinion. This pronouncement may be regarded as the starting point of the movement for parliamentary representation. The germ of the present House of Peers and House of Representatives is found in the *Gi-sei*, a department of the government, which was organized as early as June, 1868. The *Ko-gi-jo* which was opened in the following year was representative, not of the people, but of the governing authorities in the various localities. The members of the *Sa-In*, which replaced the *Ko-ji-jo* (or *shuji-in*) in September, 1871, were nominated by the Emperor and the council of state.

The history of political parties in Japan may conveniently be divided into four periods: (1) From the Restoration up to 1882, while as yet they were in embryo. (2) From the year 1882, when they for the first time took actual shape, until 1888. (3) From the organization of the *Daido-Danketsu* in 1887 until 1898. (4) The period since the amalgamation of the two strongest parties to form the constitutional party in 1898.

During the early seventies, discussion went on regarding the advisability of the formation of a popular assembly. In 1874 was formed the first political society, the *Aikoku-to*, or patriotic society, from which later sprang the Liberal Party (*jiyu-to*). In the previous year a division had taken place in the ranks of the higher officials of the government. The one party was composed of those who desired rapid progress in domestic matters and a vigorous foreign policy. The other desired steady progress at home and conciliation abroad. The latter party retained control of the government and the former went into opposition. Among the most important of the radical party was Itagaki of Kochi prefecture. He organized the first local society and devoted himself constantly to the attainment of his end of bringing about parliamentary institutions in the country. We thus have Kochi, and later on Hizen, working for the extension of the power of the people, while the government was in the main conducted by Satsuma and Choshu men.

The agitation for popular representation, although checked for a time by the Satsuma Rebellion, gained strength in 1879 and 1880, and the government became convinced that the question could not longer be postponed. On the 12th of October, 1881, the Emperor promulgated the famous ordinance in which the promise was given that a parliament should actually be established in 1890. As a preparatory measure, Ito, in company with a number of junior officials, was dispatched to Europe early in 1882 to study the political systems of the West. The promise of a parliament served to give a more definite purpose to the various political associations, and the year 1882 saw the formal organization of the three parties which, under various names, have continued almost uninterruptedly to occupy the field until the present time. The *Jiyu-to* was the first organized, although not the first to be properly registered as a political association.

It is noticeable that the utterances of the various political parties when they first came into existence present in the main no features of a distinctive nature. All put forth excellent doctrines, but usually of extreme vagueness. The same characteristic has been noticeable throughout their history except when some temporary question of urgency has arisen. This is no doubt the reason why the grouping has constantly changed, one merging into another, and secessions occurring without apparent cause. 1883 and the following years saw a falling off in the interest in political parties,—doubtless a natural result of the over excitement which had just preceded, and of the apparent certainty of a parliament after 1890. The interest in politics and in parties revived, however, as the date assigned for the granting of the constitution approached.

Since the opening of the first diet, the efforts of the parties have in general been directed towards the securing of control of the administration,—the establishment of parliamentary government. Except during the period of the war with China, when all party differences were for the time set aside, the parties have all been in more or less constant opposition to the government. Until within the last year or two, however, no party has possessed for any considerable length of time an absolute majority of the membership of the Lower House, sufficient to enable it to control the votes of that body. Political parties have now become a distinct power in the land which no statesman can afford entirely to neglect. From small and unruly beginnings, they have gradually progressed in influence and in organization. As by degrees they have been getting rid of their unruly and dangerous elements, and learning to a greater extent the lesson of responsibility, they have more and more gained the popular confidence. Possessing practically the power of the purse,—for in the Diet the House of Representatives has the first say as to the details of the budget presented by the government,—they have always to be reckoned with.

That there have been no distinct and well defined party issues may be traced to the fact that feudalism gave place so suddenly to a modern state of society. The leaders of thought and those who have taken up the work of national rejuvenation have all been men of progressive tendencies. That the parties have frequently opposed the government in cases where opposition for its own sake has been the only recognizable principle cannot be denied. It must be remembered that they have all along been struggling for a share in the administration. The political parties have well illustrated the intensely democratic character of the Japanese people side by side with marked reverence for the Emperor. The desire for equality and the revolt against the controlling influence of a narrow coterie has all along been exhibited.

At the close of the reading of the paper, the President said that only a very imperfect idea of the value of the paper could be gathered from the extracts read.

Mr. Griffin spoke as follows:—Some misunderstanding might arise from Mr. Lay's remark that the parties possessed practically the power of the purse. The control of the Japanese Lower House over the Budget is not to be compared with that of the English House of Commons in similar matters. In the latter case, if I am not mistaken, the House of Lords may in theory reject, but cannot amend the budget as passed by the Commons. In reality the Commons control, in this as in other matters, by virtue of the latent power of the Cabinet to appoint new members of the Upper House. In the United States the constitution provides that all bills for raising revenue must originate in the Lower House. It would be a serious error, however, to conclude that on that account the Lower House has a greater control over such bills than the Senate. On the contrary, the Senate has if anything greater control over this as over other matters than the Lower House. The reason is that the Senate has the general support of the community as well as the Lower House, its members have a longer term of service, and it has control over many appointments to office. In the various countries of Continental Europe, also, wherever the Lower House has greater influence on the budget or on legislation than the Upper House, the reason is to be found rather in the general strength of the Lower House in the country, the support which it could rely on in the case of a conflict with the Upper House, than on the privilege of initiation of "money bills." This is true, for instance, of France and Italy.

I may perhaps take this opportunity to mention two characteristics of Japanese political parties which have impressed themselves upon me in the course of my own, as yet comparatively slight, study of the politics of this country. As in so many other aspects of Japanese life, so also in politics, I think we can see a curious blending of Old Japan with the very latest and most advanced which the West has to offer. It was a remark of the most influential, if not the greatest, English political philosopher of the 19th century, John Stuart Mill, that, even if we could be assured that an autocrat, an all powerful individual ruler, would govern more wisely than a popular government, we ought, nevertheless, to prefer the popular government for the educative effect which the effort to govern produces upon the people.

Now it will be found that there has been very much conscious or unconscious following of this idea in the progress of popular government in Japan. In marked contrast to the history of popular government in the West, where parliaments have been forced on the government from below for the protection of popular rights, popular representation has been granted from above in this country, and the people have grown up to it, or are in process of growing. The truth of this is not affected by the fact that contest between rival clans has been an ever controlling factor in the domestic politics of the country since Restoration days. The agitation of the parties has been not so much directed against the measures of the government as against the fact that the government is not controlled by the representatives of the people.

The element of Old Japan in the political parties is seen in the nature of political allegiance. What holds the parties together is men rather than measures. In Old Japan personal allegiance to one's feudal lord was one of the strongest feelings of the individual, and sufficed to give a distinct character to the life of the time. The most important elements of feudalism, the political and economic organization of the society which was founded upon it, have passed away, but the sentimental part remains in the personal allegiance of men to their party leaders of to-day. What would the *Seiyu-kai* be without Marquis Ito, or the Progressive party without Count Okuma? No doubt other leaders would be forthcoming if these were not present, the names of the parties might be retained, but the membership would almost certainly undergo enormous changes.

KIAOCHOU'S BUDGET.

The other day we reproduced from a contemporary a Shanghai telegram giving some particulars of the Kiaochou budget, the figures of which had undoubtedly been muddled in transmission. The *Ostasiatische Loyd* of Shanghai prints the details as follows:—

Berlin, December 19.

The German Reichstag received to-day the Budget of Kiaochou for 1903-04. It shows expenses amounting to 12,876,000 marks, rendering necessary an allowance of 12,421,000 marks from the treasury of the German Empire, the revenue of the Colony itself being calculated only at 450,000 marks. During the present year the expenses were calculated at 12,528,000 marks, whereof 360,000 marks was the income of the Colony and 12,168,000 the contribution of the Empire.

The ordinary expenses reach the sum of against

	1903. Marks.	1902. Marks.	Marks.
Civil administration	966,664	79,547	†167,117
Military administration	2,441,755	2,458,592	— 16,838
General expenses	1,936,897	1,688,040	†248,857

Among the extraordinary expenses are mentioned:—

	1903. Marks.	against 1902. Marks.	Marks.
Building of harbour	2,999,000	3,400,000	— 401,000
Construction of buildings	1,934,000	2,105,000	171,000
Floating dock..	1,500,000	400,000	†1,100,000
Dwelling houses	200,000	200,000	—
Regulation of creeks and planting trees	100,000	45,000	† 61,000
Fortification ...	700,000	800,000	— 100,000
Seamarks	40,000	75,000	— 35,000
Besides these the Government asks reserve fund ...	60,684	69,697	— 9,013

H.S.H. Admiral the Prince of Leiningen, whose birthday was last month, was born in 1830, and in his young days served with the late Count Gleichen, under Sir H. Keppel in the *Raleigh*, and was in the galley of that vessel when to the great peril of her occupants she was sunk in Fatshan creek.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We are in possession of information to the effect that a fire occured on the Aust.-Lloyd S.N. Co. S.S. *Vindobona* at Singapore. The vessel left Yokohama about November.

It is stated that Mrs. Jovansen has not yet appealed against the recent decision in the case brought by her to annul her marriage, her reason being that she has not yet received the decision from the Court.

According to statistics just published in Prussia, there were in 1900 88 centenarians in the country. Of these the *Berliner Tageblatt* states that two men and sixteen women had seen just over 100 years, four women were aged 101, one man and four women 102, two men and two women 103, one woman was aged 104, one woman 105, one woman 107, and another woman 111. From which it will be seen that the chances of age are all on the side of the weaker vessel.

One of the most curious, as it is certainly one of the most determined, cases of suicide is reported from Vienna. A patient in the General Hospital who had persistently made attempts upon his life, and who was apparently under the most careful surveillance of the authorities from this very cause, at last succeeded in baffling all precautions by gradually biting off his own tongue, bit by bit. No one was aware of this extraordinary experiment until profuse bleeding occurred, and then it was too late. The patient died in a few minutes.

The rare experience of becoming the central figure of five generations of persons has just been vouchsafed to a prosperous old Swedish yeoman woman named Lisbeth Eliasdotter, of Hammerdel. The *Dagblabet* states that this venerable lady recently gave a family party, at which were gathered together four generations of her direct descendants, beginning with her daughter, Lisbeth Israelsdotter, and including grand children, great grandchildren; and a baby great-great-grandchild. The age of the principal personage in this interesting assembly is not stated.

The Duke of the Abruzzi has just performed an act of generous comradeship worthy his princely rank. The *Messaggero* states that he had set aside a sum of £4,000 as the expenditure connected with the publication of his work on the results of the exploring expedition conducted by himself. As, however, the King of Italy insisted upon defraying all the costs of a publication so creditable to the House of Savoy, the Duke genially requested Capt. Cagni, his co-explorer and collaborator, to accept the £4,000 as a mark of his respect and affection.

Mr. Lucy, in the November *Strand*, mentions a little "aside" he heard in a speech by the late Frank Lockwood some years ago at the Sheffield Press Club. Alluding to his long connection with Sheffield in the capacity of Recorder, he said:—"I hope that during the ten years I was connected with this city I gave satisfaction"—(here the company broke into a loud cheer). "I was about to add," continued Lockwood, gravely, "I gave satisfaction to those gentlemen who came before me in my judicial capacity. I did not realise till I heard the applause that there were so many present here to-night."

A recent Colonial report on the Caribs of Dominica contains allusions to the mysterious origin of the fierce savages, now almost extinct, who were in possession of the smaller West Indian islands when the first white man burst "into that silent sea." They showed a distinct Mongolian character, and it would be hard to distinguish a Carib infant from a Chinese child. Some 20 years ago a Chinaman, who had drifted to Dominica, declared the Caribs to be his own people, and married a pure bred Carib woman. Their child showed no deviation from the native type.

A man named Ono Yasumasa, formerly employed in the 27th National Bank, was arrested on the 26th Dec. by the Yokohama Isezakicho Police, in a hotel at Renjakucho, Tokyo. On the 8th inst. he drew a bill of exchange for one *yen* on the 27th Bank and addressed it to the 74th Bank of Yokohama. When he received the draft he altered the 1 to *sen* (meaning one thousand). The following morning he came to Yokohama drew one thousand *yen* from the 74th Bank and then hied him to a house of ill-fame in Nagoya. He returned to Tokyo on the 20th accompanied by a woman from Nagoya.

At the sixty-second annual meeting of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, which was held on Dec. 12, the directors were to recommend a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the preferred stock, and a dividend at the rate of 6½ per annum on the deferred stock together with a bonus of 3 per cent., making with the interim dividend paid in June a total payment on the deferred stock of 13 per cent. for the year. The stocks rose smartly on the dividend announcement. The bonus came as a complete surprise, and resulted in the stock being very scarce.

A tablet has just been placed on the house in Victoria-street, Swindon, in which Richard Jefferies, the Wiltshire naturalist and author, lived. Lord Avebury promised to perform the ceremony of unveiling the tablet, and Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, M.P., and Professor Story-Maskelyne were present. The tablet is the result of the efforts of the Swindon and North Wilts Field and Camera Club, and the house on which it is affixed was occupied by Jefferies when he was a reporter on one of the Swindon newspapers. Coate, Richard Jefferies's village home, is a couple of miles from Swindon.

An old Tientsiner, now resident in the French Indies, writes as follows to the *Peking & Tientsin Times*:—"Our new Governor-General, M. Beau, arrived and has produced a good impression. We hope he will follow M. Doumer's policy. Things are going ahead both here and in Tonkin, and the country will soon be covered with a network of railways. The trade of the colony, too, is increasing by leaps and bounds. Doumer did a great deal: he is a young and active man and will soon be in the Cabinet again, and stands a good chance of one day being President. The French are going steadily ahead in Yunnan too, where they have given us to understand that they will have no interference.

Several interesting details have just reached Algiers as to events following upon the death of the Sheikh Senoussi, whose systematic shrinking from all contact, however remote, surrounded his existence with so much mystery. Although, however, so little was known of him in life, death had no sooner taken place than the news travelled with almost telegraphic rapidity, and simultaneously to Morocco, Tunis, Tripoli, the Cyrenaic, and Egypt, where it produced a shock, as the Moslems had considered Senoussi a divine emissary, who would not quit the earth until all non-believers had been driven from Moslem lands. The chapter of the Senoussi Order lost no time in electing Sidi Ahmed el Sherif as Grand Master of the Order, and he was enthroned without opposition.

News has been received in Nagasaki of the resignation from the Service of Mr. J. H. Longford, H.B.M.'s Consul at Nagasaki. Mr. Longford left this port more than a year ago, and while at home was attached to the suite of Prince Komatsu during his Highness' visit to England for the Coronation of King Edward. Then, and since then, Mr. Longford's health has not been good—indeed we understand that a further sojourn in Japan would have been undesirable. This fact no doubt weighed heavily in deciding Mr. Longford to send in his resignation. In Nagasaki it can only be the more recent arrivals who do not know him, and these are a very small part of the foreign community. We feel, then, that we are voicing the sentiments of the great majority when we express the hope that Mr. Longford will soon regain health, and the regret that his ability should be lost to the British Consural Service in Japan.—*Nagasaki Press.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

A PROTEST.

To the Editor of the Japan Mail."

Sir,—On Christmas Day you published some verses which I had sent you, under the title "A Canticle for Christmas," yet not as I had written them. You ventured to change carefully chosen epithets and to print them, and without consulting me. This action of yours, Mr. Editor, I resent as an unwarrantable presumption on your part, and one entirely beyond your editorial rights.

The idea of my verses (which you need not have printed at all) was a struggle in the heart of the Virgin-Mother between her love for her child and her instinctive will to worship her God. Therefore I wrote that she yearned "to embrace an awful child," and that (at last) her mother-love won the victory and that she claimed "for her breast that awful child,"—for that child inspired the deepest awe in her heart.

Besides, no "Catholic Priest" would have said that our Lord was God-like.

Faithfully yours, SACERDOS CATHOLICUS.

The poem as originally written runs:—

A Christmas Canticle.

Lo! a pure Maiden, meek and mild,
Yearns to embrace an awful Child;
Those limbs her tenderest touch might win—
Yet thrill they with the God within.

She gazes! and what doth she see?
A gleaming Infant on her knee!
She pauses! can she dare to press
That glory with a fond caress?

Yes, 'tis her flesh—that Form so fair!
Her very blood is bounding there!
The Mother's Heart the victory hath won,—
It is her God! It is her Son!

Hers the proud gladness mothers know,
Without a thrill, without a throe!
And Mary, Mother undefiled,
Claims for her breast that awful Child!

Sacerdos Catholicus.

JAPANESE INTERCOURSE WITH FOREIGNERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your issue of to-day contains a summary of an article contributed to the *Toyo-gakugei Zasshi* by Baron Otori Keisuke, in which he lays down certain rules for the guidance of Japanese in their intercourse with foreigners. This might well be carried further, and it would be a great assistance to foreigners were a pamphlet somewhat on the following lines included among the numerous guides and advertisements distributed on board ship.

In these modern days of travel it is impossible for any one man to acquire a knowledge of the etiquette of every nationality he meets, and the first golden rule should be to take no offence where none is intended. There are, unfortunately, both foreigners and Japanese, who intentionally disregard the feelings of people of other races than their own, but such are comparatively few in number and the great majority are courteous, according to their own codes at least, until they receive offence which actually is, or which they imagine to be, intentionally given.

The unintentional giving of offence might be greatly lessened, and the pamphlet should include a list of things which may be done in Europe but not in Japan (for instance walking in boots on the matted floor of a house), and taking offence where not intended by a list of things sanctioned by Japanese custom but not by European (*e.g.* smoking anywhere in a railway train).

Next year there will probably be more visitors to Japan than ever and each will carry away his or her own impression of the country and people, leaving at the same time an impression good or bad on the Japanese who meet them. The matter surely merits the attention of some such affair as the Welcome Society or of the Steamship Companies whose future passenger traffic depends so greatly on the maintenance of a good understanding between the visitors and the visited.

I am, &c.,
FOREIGNER.
Yokohama, December 29th, 1902.

THE VENEZUELA DISPUTE.

A dispatch from Caracas, Veuezuela, dated December 9, said: "The combined British and German fleet to-day (Tuesday) seized the Venezuelan fleet, composed of four war ships, in the harbour of La Guayra."

It is reported also that an ultimatum will be delivered to-morrow (Wednesday) asking for an answer

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and a compliance with the demands of the British and German Ministers.

All German and British subjects in Caracas were arrested on Dec. 9th.

President Castro said to-day:—"The Venezuelan Government has not received any ultimatum, properly speaking, but rather simultaneous requests from Great Britain and Germany. The claims Great Britain asks this Government to settle are small and up to the present time we have not been aware of them. Never having been presented, Venezuela has consequently never refused to settle them. Great Britain's action therefore, is without justification.

"Venezuela cannot decide on foreign claims before the revolution has been entirely crushed. At present the only aim of the Government is the re-establishment of public order, and other questions must necessarily be subservient to this object. Nevertheless, to prove Venezuela's desire to settle all pending claims in a conformable manner the Government issued a decree during the last session of Congress, dated November 28th, creating a committee to which all pending claims should be referred. No claims have been presented to this committee and no claims have been rejected. There has been no denial of justice; why, then, should foreign chancelleries intervene, thereby ignoring our laws and endeavoring to violate our national sovereignty? We cannot understand this action."

"What do you intend to do in view of the present attitude of the Powers?" was asked.

"Enforce our rights," replied President Castro, "and explain to the world that Venezuela has laws and prove that we have never denied our engagements."

The President was asked what reply the Venezuelan Government would make to the requests handed it by Germany and Great Britain. He replied, after reflecting: "The Venezuelan Government is astonished that after the notes which were transmitted to it by the diplomatic representatives of Germany and Great Britain these envoys should leave Caracas without awaiting the reply of the Venezuelan Government."

Questioned as to what course he intended to pursue should the powers declare a blockade, the President excused himself from answering.

No ultimatum had been delivered to the Venezuelan Government up to 2 o'clock this afternoon. Should Venezuela refuse or fail to reply to the notes of Great Britain and Germany it is believed that an ultimatum will then be delivered. This ultimatum would be transmitted by Admiral Glass, commanding the combined British and German fleets, or by the captain of the British cruiser *Retribution*.

A Kingstown (St. Vincent) telegram of Dec. 9th said:—The British cruiser *Indefatigable*, which has arrived here from Venezuela, brings reports that President Castro of that country is defiant and indifferent to the threatened blockade. It is asserted that President Castro is prepared even to expel German and British residents of La Guayra and to close that port. The *Indefatigable* left the British cruiser *Retribution* and the German cruisers *Vineta* and *Gazelle* at La Guayra. There are at present five British men-of-war at Port of Spain, Trinidad, ready to leave there on short notice.

A telegram from La Guayra dated Dec. 10th said:—Ten German and four British cutters captured the Venezuelan fleet yesterday. They went alongside the Venezuelan vessels and ordered them to surrender, and, without a shot being fired, the British and German forces seized the vessels in the name of the German Emperor and the King of England. Two of the vessels, which were undergoing repairs, were broken up. The German cruiser *Panther* steamed into the harbour during these proceedings with her decks cleared for action. The Venezuelan steamers were taken outside the harbor, and at 2 o'clock this morning the *General Crespo*, *Tulmo* and *Margarita* were sunk.

The *Ossun* was the only vessel spared, in view of the protest made by the French Chargé d'Affaires, H. Quievreux, who notified the commodore of the allied fleet that the *Ossun* is the property of a Frenchman.

At 10 o'clock last evening 130 German sailors were landed and proceeded to Cardonel, a suburb of La Guayra, in which is situated the residence of German Consul Lentz, whom, with his family, they escorted back to La Guayra and placed on board the war ship *Vineta*. On their way back to this port the German sailors met a party of Venezuelan soldiers, but no collision took place. At 5 o'clock this morning a landing party of thirty British seamen went to the British Consulate and conducted the British Consul, Mr. R. Shunck, and his family on board the *Retribution*. The German and British residents at La Guayra have all been arrested with the exception of Messrs. Fieldwich, Prince and Lepage, the English directors of the harbour corporation, who barricaded themselves in their houses. Fieldwich, Prince and Lepage were rescued by the forces of the allied powers, and have been taken on board the *Retribution*.

The Englishmen's houses were surrounded by Venezuela policemen, but when a party of 320 sailors was landed at 5 o'clock in the afternoon and marched to their relief the policemen made no resistance, and the inmates were conducted to the *Retribution*, without trouble. The British and German warships, however, in the meantime had cleared for action.

No one here can explain the action of the allied powers in taking action without giving Venezuela time to reply to their note. The British torpedo boat destroyer *Quail* arrived here at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The German cruiser *Panther* left this morning in the direction of Corpano, and the German cruiser *Falke* has sailed for Puerto Cabello on a search for the remainder of the Venezuelan fleet. It is believed that the cruiser *Indefatigable* is on her way to the Venezuelan seaport of Guanta, the port of Barcelona, where the Venezuelan gunboat *Restaurador* is now lying.

Troops are expected here from Caracas, as the Government is credited with the intention of repulsing any landing by the allied forces.

All the stores and banks here are closed. Great excitement prevails, as the population fears that the town may be shelled or other action taken by the Anglo-German vessels to-night.

A port of Spain (Trinidad) telegram dated, December 10th said:—The British cruiser *Charybdis* seized the Venezuelan gunboat *Bolivar* in this harbour last night. She landed the *Bolivar's* officers here, while the British sloop *Alert* took the crew of the captured gunboat to the port of La Guayra, situated on the Venezuelan coast opposite to the island of Trinidad. The British torpedo boat destroyed *Quail* has sailed with instructions to capture the Venezuelan war vessel now engaged in blockading the mouth of the Orinoco.

The entire coast of Venezuela from the Orinoco river to La Guayra will be blockaded from to-day by British war vessels, while the Venezuelan coast from La Guayra to the Colombian frontier will be blockaded by German war vessels.

CUSTOMS IMPORT DUTIES.

On the 13th July last Messrs. E. H. Hunter & Co., of Kobe and Osaka, imported per S.S. *Bengloe* fifty tons of galvanised steel telegraph wire, says the *Kobe Chronicle*. The Customs appraisers refused to allow the wire to be passed under Article 228 of the Tariff, but imposed 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty under Article 271 of the German Conventional Tariff, claiming that the wire was made of hard steel. Messrs. Hunter paid the duty demanded, under protest, and then made an appeal to the Minister for Finance, pointing out that the wire was not made of hard steel as the Customs officials declared, but of mild steel. Moreover, it was pointed out that the same wire had passed the Yokohama Customs and paid duty under Articles 228 of the Tariff instead of under Article 271 of the German Conventional Tariff. Messrs. Hunter quoted facts regarding steel from Skelton's *Economics of Iron and Steel* to show that telegraph wire generally, and in particular the wire the firm imported, was made of mild steel and made from ingots, and as such should be admitted under Tariff item No. 228 at *yen* 0.256 per 100 catties.

This protest was addressed to Baron Sone on the 10th September. The Superintendent of the Kobe Customs, in making his report to the Finance Minister, said they were convinced from the regulation experiments made—which experiments consisted of heating a piece of the wire to a white heat, lowering the heat till red hot, when the iron was broken off without showing any bending—that the wire was of hard steel.

The decision given in this interesting case by the Minister for Finance is as follows:—Having examined all the documents and samples relative to the case, and the report of the Committee, I have determined that the article in question being No. 8 galvanised wire has been found not to possess the properties sufficient for hard steel. Its tensile strength and number of coiling are equal to those of ordinary mild steel telegraph wire, so it must be acknowledged that, as claimed, Article No. 228 of the Tariff should be imposed at the rate of *yen* 0.256 per picul of specific duty according to the Conventional Tariff rate applicable to No. 228 of the Import Tariff List. Judgment was given according to this decision.

It may be added that the letter addressed to the Minister for Finance was a long and able document, in which the whole question was thoroughly investied. Appeals are so seldom successful that the variation in this case may possibly be due to the care and skill shown in the presentation of the importers' case.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

A ROYAL SCANDAL.

Shanghai, December 25.

The Crown Princess of Saxony, it is now stated, eloped with her children's French tutor, and is staying at Geneva.

VENEZUELA.

The Italian cruiser *Giovanni Bausan* and the *Tribune* have captured five more Venezuelan schooners, while the German warship *Panther* has seized two.

The effect of the blockade is beginning to be felt, it being estimated that there is only a fortnight's food left in Caracas.

The *Fantome* has been refloated.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

Speaking at Stirling, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman said he had nothing but condemnation for those who by their stupid and vulgar abuse fomented discord between Great Britain and Germany. It was, however, the nature and extent of the obligation England had entered into that was being complained of. He added: "If ever there was a case for arbitration this was one. It was no part of our national duty to collect the falling dividends for the bond-holders of Berlin."

ARBITRATION FORMALLY PROPOSED.

The formal British and German proposals to President Roosevelt to arbitrate on the Venezuelan affair reached Washington to-day.

SOMALILAND.

Italy having accorded facilities, 700 troops have left Berbera for Obbia, where they will arrive on December 27.

Count Lavatelli, representing Italy, accompanies the expedition.

ITALY AND THE UNITED STATES.

London, December 26.

A Italian Note has reached Washington couched in the most cordial terms towards the United States. Italy is glad to learn that President Roosevelt will arbitrate. If he is not disposed to do so she will not object to the matter (the Venezuelan question) being referred to The Hague Tribunal.

INDIAN MINERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Several hundred Indians started work in the Kallinfontein Mines, Orange River Colony, on Dec. 25th by way of experiment.

THE ROYAL SCANDAL.

The Crown Princess of Saxony refuses to return, fearing that she will be placed in an asylum though quite sane. It is alleged that the recent injury which the Crown Prince suffered was not due to a hunting accident but to a duel with the brother of the Crown Princess, who has also gone to Geneva.

VENEZUELA AND ARBITRATION.

London, December 27.

Venezuela announces that she agrees to submit her case to the arbitration of The Hague Tribunal, provided the blockade be raised and her fleet restored to her.

Later.

President Roosevelt has declined to arbitrate in the Venezuelan dispute. The European Governments concerned agree to refer the matter to The Hague Court of Arbitration.

The value of the Venezuelan craft captured hardly exceeds five thousand dollars.

EARTHQUAKES IN TURKESTAN.

Further earthquake shocks have been felt

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in Andijan. Four or five continue to take place daily.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Chamberlain landed in Durban on the 26th of December and received an ovation from immense crowds. The Governor, Premier, the Mayor, and the members of the Legislative Council received Mr. Chamberlain at the Town Hall, where, in thanking his hosts for their addresses, the Colonial Secretary said that the object of his visit was to express the sympathy of the King and the people for South Africa.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, December 28.

Mr. Chamberlain speaking at a public luncheon at Durban, said that the British flag was and must be paramount. Reconciliation should be easy and there was no cause for despair. He came in a spirit of conciliation but also in a spirit of firmness. Federation was the great aim, but it would be a great mistake to hasten it prematurely. He mentioned that the British Government had accepted the offer of the Boer contingent for service in Somaliland.

FUNERAL OF DR. TEMPLE.

Later.

The late Dr. Temple, Primate of All England, was buried within the precincts of Canterbury Cathedral.

MR. BALFOUR.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, the Premier, who has been suffering from influenza, is now better.

THE COLONIAL MINISTER'S RECEPTION.

The most notable features at Durban yesterday were the fervid enthusiasm of the reception and the clear, incisive presentation of the situation by Mr. Chamberlain.

EARTHQUAKES.

London, December 29.

Continuous undulating movements at Andijan and in the surrounding districts are causing the greatest terror.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

An express train crowded with Christmas travellers collided with a goods train near London, Ontario, and was overturned into a ditch; 25 were killed and 30 wounded.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain and their party have arrived at Pietermaritzburg and were welcomed by an immense and enthusiastic crowd.

Speaking from the balcony of the hotel, Mr. Chamberlain referred to the keen interest in the mother country now manifested by colonial officers. He urged the colonials to take up the duties of a great empire.

VENEZUELA.

London, December 30.

The refusal of President Roosevelt to arbitrate in the Venezuelan matter has caused somewhat of a disappointment in Berlin and consequently some delay will be attendant upon the formalities necessary in presenting the case before the Hague tribunal.

TROUBLE IN MOROCCO.

The news is officially confirmed that the rebels at Taza on the 23rd December routed a Moorish army of 10,000 men, which fled precipitately to Fez, having lost 2,000 men killed.

THE DELHI DURBAR.

Later.

The Viceroy of India and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught made their state entry into Delhi on the 29th inst. They were mounted on superbly caparisoned elephants and were followed by a long and gorgeous procession of Indian princes, riding two abreast, and all mounted on elephants.

MOROCCO.

The Sultan of Morocco has barricaded himself in the palace at Fez. An attack on the town is expected and cannot possibly be resisted.

THE HUMBERT CASE.

The Humberts have arrived in Paris and been lodged in goal.

BOERS IN SOMALILAND.

The British Government has accepted the offer of 100 Boers for service in Somaliland.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

London, December 31.

The British Foreign Office has appointed a Commercial Agent at Vladivostock.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Speaking at Pietermaritzburg, Mr. Chamberlain urged all his hearers to rise to a higher level of imperial patriotism and to bear each others responsibilities as well as enjoy mutual privileges.

MOROCCO.

Later.

The rebels have cut the aqueduct at Fez and the city is without water. It is expected that it will surrender within three days.

The Sultan attempted to break out of the Palace but was driven back. The hostility of the populace is more marked and overt.

Communication with Fez is closed.

GENERAL VILJOEN.

The British Government is endeavouring to secure Viljoen to command the Boers in Somaliland.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE TURKESTAN EARTHQUAKES.

Saigon, December 24.

Violent earthquakes in the Andidjan region (Turkestan) have caused the death of 4,000 persons.

THE CROWN PRINCESS OF SAXONY.

Saigon, December 26.

The wife of the Crown Prince of Saxony has fled to Switzerland with the tutor of her children. She is accompanied by her brother Archduke Leopold Ferdinand, who has declared that he renounces his titles for the purpose of marrying an actress.

RAILWAYS IN AFRICA.

Saigon, December 28.

The first train on the Jiboutil Railway has arrived at Addis Harrar. The Emperor Menelik will visit Jiboutil on the occasion of the inauguration of the railway.

THE HUMBERTS.

Saigon, December 30.

The Humberts have arrived in Paris and been put in the Prison of the Conciergerie without any incident. Eve Humbert has been set at liberty.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

London, December 23.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is dead.

THE PROPOSED ARBITRATION.

A meeting of the Washington Cabinet has been held to consider the question of President Roosevelt consenting to arbitrate in the Venezuela Affair.

VENEZUELA.

Many sailing ships that tried to break the blockade of Venezuela have been captured.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Wireless telegraphy across the Atlantic is now in working order.

VENEZUELA.

London, December 24.

Six thousand Venezuelan rebels are on the march to Caracas. The period of truce will expire to-morrow.

FRENCH ADMIRAL-IN-CHIEF.

Admiral Fournier has been appointed Admiral-in-Chief of the highest grade in the French Navy.

JAPANESE PUBLIC LOAN BONDS.

Japanese 4 per cent. loan bonds have risen in price.

COUNT LAMSDORF.

London, December 26.

Count Lamsdorf, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, is proceeding to Belgrade to call on the King of Servia.

VENEZUELA.

President Castro, of Venezuela, has gone to La Victoria to confer with the Revolutionists.

The U.S. President, Mr. Roosevelt has still under consideration (the question of Arbitration).

The blockade of the Venezuelan coast is being continued.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of the Colonial Department, has arrived at Durban, Natal.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

FRANCE AND VENEZUELA.

London, December 22.

The French Government has demanded of the Venezuelan Government that a commercial treaty with France should be negotiated on the basis of the most favoured nation clause.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain had an interview with the Sultan on his arrival at Zanzibar.

FRENCH CONSUL AT CANTON.

M. Alzuan, (?) French Consul at Canton, has been appointed general private secretary to the Governor-General of Indo-China. It is considered from the above fact that France initiates a fresh movement for the purpose of advancing her commercial and political interests in Hunan and Kiangsi.

VENEZUELA.

The steamer *Siberia* of the Hamburg America S.S. Co., has left for Venezuela with German troops on board.

AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA.

Count Lamsdorf, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has left Sofia.

Several Austrian newspapers insist on a firm attitude concerning the Macedonian Question, and express the belief that it may be necessary to take steps against Turkey. Russia is taking all possible measures to avoid collision with Turkey

(FROM THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

THE VENEZUELAN TROUBLE.

London, December 26.

The arrangements with regard to the appointment of an arbitrator in the Venezuelan dispute are still undecided.

It is reported that the German Note to Washington contains a remediation requiring that one claim of £68,000 be immediately paid.

ITALY AND CHINA.

The Italian Ministry has fixed the indemnity due to the Italian missionaries in China at fourteen million francs.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

A WARNING TO THE TRADE UNIONS.

London, December 20.

The Taff Vale Railway Co. sued the Railway Servants' Union for £27,000 damages, for conspiracy to cause a strike in 1900, and have obtained a verdict, the assessment of damages being deferred. This is a severe blow to Trade Unions.

A WONDERFUL PROOF OF CIVILISATION.

Before he left Nair Obi, the Somalis presented Mr. Chamberlain with an address in a silver casket.

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FAILURE OF A COUNTRY BANK.

London via Bombay December 23.

The old-standing bank of J. and J. W. Pease, of Darlington, has made an assignment to its creditors. The liabilities amount to £500,000 sterling.

The partners involved in the failure are Sir Joseph Whitworth Pease, Bart, M.P. for Barnard Castle, Durham, and his sons, Mr. Joseph Albert Pease, M.P. for Saffron Walden, Essex, and Mr. Alfred E. Pease, ex-M.P. for Cleveland, Yorkshire.

THE DEAD ARCHBISHOP.

London, December 24.

The Archbishop of Canterbury never recovered his strength after an access of weakness in the House of Lords on the 4th December.

His Grace passed quietly and peacefully away.

The Archbishop took the Sacrament on Thursday, the 11th December, with the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of London, whom he afterwards solemnly blessed.

RELIEF FOR RUINED ANDIJAN.

H.I.M. the Tsar has given the first subscription of Rs. 50,000 to the Andijan Relief Fund.

THE FORMOSAN TEA INDUSTRY.

In his book on "The Island of Formosa," Mr. James W. Davidson, United States Consul for Formosa, gives an interesting account of the tea industry in that island.

A third of a century has wrought great changes in the tea-supply districts of the world. Amoy, once a great tea mart of China, finds its own tea trade rapidly disappearing, and is now practically dependent for its prosperity on the Formosan tea districts, for, owing to the present lack of suitable harbours in the island, the production goes almost wholly to Amoy for transhipment, as large steamers can safely load there throughout the year. Hankow, Foochow and other tea centres are also declining. In fact, regardless of the world's enormous consumption of tea, largely as it is increasing, China has fallen in a mere score of years from the high position of virtually supplying all Europe and America with tea, and finds her once vast export dwindling away. Japanese teas have found much favour in America; Indian and Ceylon teas have met with a brilliant success in the United Kingdom, and have gained an entrance into America and Continental Europe—all at the expense of China.

The export of Formosa teas, while yet comparatively small, has increased this same twenty years from 8,000,000 pounds, valued at $1,700,000 (local currency), to 20,000,000 pounds, valued at $1,700,000 ($3,500,000 United States gold), and has to-day the highest pro rata value of any tea produced in the world. Still, this rapid increase in production during the past should not be taken as an indication of what the future has in store. The great mass of tea drinkers are desirous of a tea at lower prices than those demanded for the Formosa product; so that the market is at present limited and the competition with other tea-producing districts is becoming more keen year by year.

Robert Swinhoe may be called the discoverer of the Formosan tea industry and John Dodd the promoter. In the year 1861, a few years before the arrival of the latter personage, Consul Swinhoe writes, in a report to the British Government, that Formosa tea is shipped in considerable quantities to Chinese merchants on the mainland; that he sent samples of the leaf to several tea inspectors, and that they have reported that the "taste of the tea is very fair, but the objection to it is owing to the coarse mode in which the leaves are prepared and packed." He then adds: "As the hills, however, are no great distance from the harbour this could be obviated by energetic speculators, who might themselves visit the spot on which the article is grown and make their own arrangements."

John Dodd, who had established himself in the island the year before, made, in 1865, inquiries among the Tamsui farmers as to the possibilities of the trade. The next year some purchases were made, some tea-plant slips were brought from Ankoi, in the Amoy district, and loans were made to the farmers to induce them to increase the production. Kosing, a Chinese who had arrived from Amoy in the interests of Tait & Co., shipped a few packages in 1867, and John Dodd made a shipment to Macao, which brought good prices. Satisfied with the prospect, he commenced tea firing in Banka. Previous to 1867 the unfired leaf had been sent to Amoy in baskets to be fired there; but from 1868 onwards the total export was prepared for shipment direct to foreign lands by skilled Chinese workmen brought from Amoy and Foochow.

Formosa tea had now been examined in America, and in 1869 a trial shipment of 2,131 piculs was made direct to New York in two sailing vessels. This is notable as the first and, up to the present day, the last direct shipment from Formosa to America. From an export of 2,030 piculs in 1867 the trade increased to 10,540 in 1870, and prices rose from an average of $15 a picul to $30.

At present the best tea comes from Tsapgoalun (Jugofun) and the Paichi district, in the vicinity of the town of Pankio. The gardens are all situated on the plateaux and hillsides, the more extensive ones covering an area of fifteen to seventeen acres, while those owned by the average small farmers extend over but two or three acres. The main centre of the production, however, is to the south and west, about twenty miles from Twatutia, where the soil is a reddish yellow sticky clay, most difficult to travel over in wet weather, but which produces large quantities of tea.

In preparing virgin soil in the hill districts the long grass and shrubbery are removed; the trees are then felled and the roots dug out, and frequently the whole patch of ground is burned over, fires that are sometimes seen at night with picturesque effect from Twatutia. The jungle being thus removed, a crop of indigo or sweet potatoes is planted, to be replaced the following season with young tea plants. There are two methods in vogue for propagating the leaf in Formosa. The first and most favoured is by slips and cuttings.

The picking of the spring, summer, autumn and winter crops occurs, for the most part, during the months of April, June and July, August and September and November, respectively. Of the four crops the summer one is considered the best; the autumn and spring ones take second place, and the winter one the third, the last being so inferior that but little of it is shipped for foreign consumption. The work of picking is performed almost exclusively by women and children, who walk along between the rows, stooping down beside each bush and stripping it of its leaves, which latter are then placed in baskets strapped on the collectors' backs. A group of these tea pickers—the girls attractively dressed in bright colours, laughing and chatting together, and lacking the boorish appearance which often characterizes the rustic labourers in other climes, the dark green of the tea plants and the hills, gracefully sloping away toward the interior—forms in all a scene picturesque and engaging. Work under such conditions gives a brighter aspect to the usual dull agricultural life of the Chinese, and the tea pickers are to be envied by their more aristocratic city sisters, who must suffer from ennui in their prison-like homes.

Formosa Oolong is the pure article, and free from all colouring matter. Compared with China and other teas, it has been subjected to the least amount of manipulation, and the process of manufacture is, therefore, very simple. The green leaves brought in by the pickers are spread out in the open air—in the sunshine if possible—and there stirred every five or seven minutes. In a short time the moisture in the leaf has evaporated slightly, and there is some trace of fermentation. The tea is then removed into a well-ventilated building, and there is spread out in shallow, circular bamboo trays two and one-half feet in diameter, a few pounds to a tray, which are then placed in a bamboo frame one above another, with a sufficient space between each to allow of a free circulation of air. Every ten minutes or so the leaves are stirred, which incites fermentation, although the process is not allowed to proceed far enough to place the leaf in the category of fermented teas, such as China Congous or Salous. After two hours the leaf is placed in big bamboo trays five feet in diameter, some forty pounds in each, and is stirred by attendants every ten minutes. After some two hours of this the edge of the leaf begins to turn to a reddish brown and slightly to emit the odour characteristic of the prepared tea. The leaves are now placed in metal pans, several pounds to each, over a wood fire, and subjected to considerable heat. After a few minutes, during which an attendant tosses and stirs the leaves, they attain the curled-up and spongy appearance and smell desired. They are then placed in small trays resting on benches, on one end of which the operator sits, and for several minutes rolls and twists the leaves. After another drying over the fire the leaves are again placed in bamboo trays for a second rolling or twisting, and then, on the completion of this, are again dried over the fire. No set rule can be laid down for this drying process. The object is to remove sufficient moisture from the tea to insure its standing transport and storage until placed in the hands of the exporters, and the amount of manipulation required to attain this is dependent upon the weather, hot, sunny days, of course, greatly lessening the labour. Finally, the tea is subjected to a light firing over a charcoal fire, an operation which will be described later on. It is then packed in jute bags holding some seventy pounds each to be transported by boat, railway or carrier to Twatutia, the market of Formosa.

So far we have dealt only with the preparation of pure Oolong. There is, however, a new but growing industry in the manufacture of scented tea, or "Pouchong," as it is commonly known. The term "Pouchong" means, literally, the kind in bags, referring to the small paper bags which are sometimes used in making up small packages of tea. In Formosa, however, the term is applied almost exclusively to scented tea. A Chinese merchant named Go Fok-lu in 1881 first introduced to Formosa the present method of manufacture. The demand for these teas is rapidly increasing, and the production during the last two years has averaged some 2,500,000 to 3,000,000 pounds, valued at upwards of 450,000 *yen* ($225,000 United States gold), which is about 12 per cent. in quantity and 6 per cent. in value of the total production of Formosa tea. It might appear to the reader that the opposition of the dealers who were endeavoring to obtain tea to be made in Pouchongs would interfere to a greater or less extent with the Oolong trade. It does not, however, for generally only the inferior [illegible] are utilized in the manufacture of Pouchongs, and this takes from the market the undesirable teas, which, were it not for this trade, would to a large extent be worked off in Oolongs, thus lowering the quality of the latter.

The greater part of Formosa Oolongs is exported via Amoy and Hongkong to Java and the Straits Settlements, and the balance goes to Swatow, Saigon, Siam, Hawaii and San Francisco. It is almost exclusively consumed in these various markets by Chinese colonists residing there.

While Oolong is the pure leaf, without the addition of colouring or flavouring matter, Pouchong is the leaf artificially flavoured with the scent of certain flowers, obtained by placing the leaf in direct contact with freshly picked blossoms, no chemical flavouring that can replace them having as yet been discovered. Tons of the strongly scented blossoms of the white jasmine and gardenia are gathered yearly to be used in the manufacture. In fact, such large quantities are required that the production of these flowers has become an industry in itself.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 24th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, I. Shimidzu, 24th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 25th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tydeus, British steamer, 4,800, M. H. F. Jackson, 25th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 23rd Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 26th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 25th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, Y. Tamuke, 26th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 25th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 26th Dec.,—Kobe, 24th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer. 1,433, I. Higo, 26th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,663, Jaburg, 26th Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai 22nd Dec., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 26th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, 20th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soongari, Russian steamer, 815, Kastyurine, 27th Dec.,—Put back to port, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, G. Anderson, 28th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, F. L. Pyne, 28th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 27th Dec., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 28th Dec.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 27th Dec., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 28th Dec.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 28th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 8th Dec., Mails & General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, Bahle, 29th Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 22nd Dec., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 28th Dec.,—Kobe, 27th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 29th Dec.,—Kobe, 27th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, I. Sato, 29th Dec.,—Taku, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, C. F. Lockstone, 30th Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 29th Dec., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

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Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,783, J. W. Wale, 30th Dec.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 29th Dec., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 31st Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 11th Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 31st Dec.,—Yokkaichi, 30th Dec., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 31st Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 26th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soongari, Russian steamer, 815, Kastyurine, 26th Dec.,—Dalny via Moji, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 29th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Hunter, 26th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, I. Shimidzu, 26th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Yamashita, 26th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koenig Albert, German steamer, 6,590, C. Polack, 27th Dec.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, J. S. Thompson, 27th Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 27th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tydeus, British steamer, 4,800, M. H. F. Jackson, 27th Dec.,—Yokosuka, Coal.—Butterfield & Swire.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, Y. Tamuke, 27th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rurik (26 guns), Russian cruiser, 10,923, Captain Matsuevich, 27th Dec.,—Nagasaki.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 27th Dec.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Cheltenham, British steamer, 2,415, Prophy, 28th Dec.,—Moji, Ballast —Samuel Samuel & Co.

Soongari, Russia steamer, 815, Kastyurine, 28th Dec.,—Dalny via Moji, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 28th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 29th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, G. Anderson, 29th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 29th Dec.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,663, Jaburg, 29th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Maha Chakrhri, Siamese cruiser, 2,500, Capt. Trolle, 29th Dec.,—Kobe.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 29th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, F. L. Pyne, 30th Dec.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 30th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 30th Dec.,—Shimonoseki General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 31st Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 31st Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Laos*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Solomon Ach, Mr. Schultz, Mr. Mazich, Mr. Goldberg, Mr. Martin, and 1 Japanese, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. S. Anton, Mr. B. Mitford, Mr. F. Cooper, Mr. F. B. Jacob, Mr. G. A. Adams, Mr. E. L. Van Nierop, and Mr. W. E. McMillan, in cabin. In Transit:—Mr. W. R. Lawton, Mr. E. G. Eagar, Mr. F. E. Kearney, Mr. A. E. Eddy, and Dr. F. Butterfield, in cabin; Mr. Chin Pay, Mr. Lee Cheung, Mrs. Lam Ng Shi and child, Mrs. Lee Lum Shi, Mr. May Sam, Mr. May Moon, Mons. Pauillard, Madame Pauillard, Miss Pauillard, Mrs. Cheong Say Ching, Mr. T. Akawa, and Mrs. Akawa, in second class; 11 Japanese, and 280 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. John Leonard, Mr. and Mrs. Bisset, Major S. Kumabe, Captain T. Yoshida, Surgeon O. Todzuka, Mr. T. Kumabe, and Mr. T. Hiyakusaki, in cabin; Mr. T. Adair, in second class; 38 in steerage.

Per American steamer *Olympia*, from Tacoma, Wash.:—Mrs. J. Truebridge, Mr. H. Means, Mr. C. H. Henning, and Mr. E. M. Van Bergen, in cabin; 29, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kinshiu Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. A. Christiansen, in cabin; Mr. Ohmachi, and Mr. C. Fome, in second class; 10 Japanese, 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. H. H. Beers and child, Mrs. C. C. Osborne, Mr. J. H. Vaile, and Mr. J. H. Vaile, in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. W. V. Johnson, Mrs. W. V. Johnson, and Miss Jennie Samuels, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. E. M. Bowie, Miss Claire Bowie, and Miss J. Callender, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. A. Bilger, Mrs. J. Cooper, Mrs. J. Hathaway, Mr. Geo. Lanning, Mr. L. Marthoud, Mr. F. J. Maxey, and Mrs. F. J. Maxey, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. C. A. Clivio, Miss E. Clivio, Mr. W. B. Fairfield, Mr. F. M. Kendall, Mrs. F. M. Kendall, Master R. Kendall, Mr. P. Friedrichsen, and Mr. Leon San Tong, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. I. Miyagi, Mrs. M. Miyagi, Miss Miki Miyagi, and Mr. J. Castelyn, in cabin; Mr. F. Takigawa, Mr. T. Shibata, Mr. Kin Shiung, and Mrs. Ra Koh Hei, in second class; 43, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Dr. F. Butterfield, Mr. E. G. Eager, Mr. A. E. Eddy, Mr. F. B. Jacob, Mr. F. E. Kearney, Mr. W. R. Lawton, R.N., Dr. H. R. Macaulay, and Mr. A. White.

Per German steamer *Koenig Albert*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. H. Hancock, Mr. H. F. Scudamore, Mr. C. J. Lucas, Mr. E. C. Jeffery, Mr. G. Stephens, Mr. H. M. Nock, Mrs. Bardens, Mr. P. L. Spence, Mr. C. H. Moss, Mr. A. J. Cornes, Mr. W. M. Squire, Mr. A. H. Gillingham, Mr. M. Landis, Mr. Plessmann, Mr. C. E. Fiske and native servant, Mr. C. J. van Griethuysen, Mr. and Mrs. de Souza, Mr. F. H. Sutton, Mr. H. McBladew, Mr. G. C. Warr, Mr. A. V. Hambro, Dr. W. S. Bigelow, Miss Fanny Eldridge, Dr. Mansfeld, Mr. Hy Bird, Mr. T. Narukawa, and Mr. W. Lauer, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. K. Yagiu, Mr. and Mrs. G. Nishi and child, and Capt. K. Miyabara, in cabin; Mr. K. Kuroki, Mr. C Shibashi, Mr. T. Nojiri, Mr. Ysikoro Tottes, Mr. K. Satohara, and Miss Toki Takatsuji, in second class; 25 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Consul and Mrs. E. F. Crowe and child, Capt. M. J. Curnow, Mr. S. Kawate, Mr. T. Kawate, Rev. Ernest F. P. Polonan, Mr. John Hartley, Mr. T. Fujita, Mr. Lai Sau Lan, Mrs. J. L. Maher, Miss Maher, Mr. J. L. A. Maher, and Miss C. A. Maher, in cabin; Mr. S. Yokoyama, Mr. M. Hasegawa, and Mr. La Sa Shin, in second class; 18, in steerage.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver:—

From.	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong	539	—	—	330	—	869
Foochow	194	—	—	—	—	194
Shanghai	271	—	—	—	—	271
Kobe	148	—	—	—	—	148
Yokohama	350	240	—	—	—	590
Total	1,502	240	—	330	—	2,072

From.	SILK. New York.	South	Manchester.	Total Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	199	.....	—	199
Shanghai	515	.....	—	515
Yokohama	1,218	.....	11	1,229
Total	1,932	.....	11	1,943

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is really nothing doing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—32½ lb, 32½ yds, 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 35½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2, 100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

Nothing special to record.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1¼ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market is unchanged.

American	$2.66
Russian	2.53
Langkat	2.47½

SUGAR.

There is no change to record.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 7.50
White Refined	8.80 to 10.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a fair amount of business for outgoing steamers at unchanged prices.

	QUOTATIONS.
Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,050 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,020 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	990 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 985
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	1,030 to 1,040
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,000 to 1,010
Re-reels—No. 2	970 to 975
Re-reels—No. 3	930 to 940
Kakedas—Extra	1,000 to 1,010
Kakedas—No. 1	970 to 980
Kakedas—No. 1½	940 to 950
Kakedas—No. 2	910 to 920
Kakedas—No. 2½	870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

There has been a moderate volume of business.

	QUOTATIONS.
Noshi—Filatures, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Filatures, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	160 to 165
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	140 to 145
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	130 to 135
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	65 to 70
Kibiso—Bushiu, Fair	55 to 60

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TEA.

No business to record.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	46 & upwar
Choice	43 to 45
Finest	41 to 42
Fine	38 to 40
Good Medium	33 to 35
Medium	30 to 32
Good Common	27 to 29
Common	23 to 26

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Princess Irene 1	Sa. Jan. 3
Europe	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	Tu. Jan. 6
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 2	W. Jan. 7
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	F. Jan. 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian 3	F. Jan. 9
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Tremont 4	F Jan. 9
Canada, &c	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India 5	M. Jan. 12
Tacoma, Wash	N. P. Co	Duke of Fife 6	W. Jan. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 7	Th Jan. 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co	China	Sa. Jan. 17
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of China	Th Jan. 22
America	O. & O. Co	Coptic	Th Jan 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co	Doric	M Jan. 26
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	W Jan 28

1 Left Kobe on the 2nd inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 19th ult
3 Left Hongkong on the 31st ult
4 Left Hongkong on the 31st inst.
5 Left Vancouver on the 29th ult.
6 Left Tacoma, Wash., on the 25th ult.
7 Left San Francisco on the 27th ul

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer	Date
America	O. & O. Co	Gaelic	Sa Jan. 3
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakuni Maru	Th Jan. 8
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	F. Jan. 9
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinzess Irene	Sa. Jan. 10
Europe, &c.	N. Y. K	Bingo Maru	Sa. Jan. 10
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa Jan. 10
America	T. K. K	H'kong Maru	Sa. Jan. 10
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Tremont	Sa Jan 10
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of India	M Jan. 12
Seattle, Wash.	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu. Jan 13
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co	Caledonien	Th Jan. 15
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Duke of Fife	Th Jan. 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co	City of Peking	F. Jan. 16
Australia	N. Y. K	Yawata Maru	Sa. Jan. 17
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu Jan. 20
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of China	F Jan. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co	Coptic	F. Jan. 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. Jan. 29

BOVRIL AT THE FRONT.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SEVERE cold prevails at Sapporo and the thermometer has fallen to 14.8° Far.

PRINCESSES FUMI AND YASU left the capital for Kamakura on the afternoon of the 6th inst.

THE Siamese cruiser *Maha Chakrhri* was to leave Kobe for Nagasaki on the evening of the 8th inst.

THE Yokohama Post office received 113,447 letters on the 1st inst. and delivered 88,846 in Yokohama.

Two goods cars on the Shinyetsu Railway ran off the line and capsized at Obasute, on the night of the 1st inst.

THE fine weather that attended Christmas continued over the New Year Holidays, the first of the year being an ideal day. On the following day and Saturday however there was by far too much dust flying for comfort. Most of the ships duly dressed in honour of the occasion.

GENERAL FUKUSHIMA is now at Kamakura, and it is reported that he will have been restored to health in two weeks hence.

LORD Kitchener has been appointed District Grand Master of Freemasonry in the Punjab in succession to Sir Power Palmer.

THE body of an old man was found floating under Banri-bashi, Takashima-cho, Yokohama, on the morning of the 5th inst.

Two sons of leading Chinese officials arrived in Nagasaki on January 6th by the *Saikio Maru*. They have come for purposes of study.

THE Rev. G D. Iliff, M.A., of the Church of England Mission, Tientsin, has been appointed Bishop of Shantung by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

THE sardine catch, upon which depends one of the great industries of the west coast of France, has experienced a general failure this year.

THE Emperor and Empress have contributed *yen* 350 towards the relief of sufferers by the conflagration which broke out in Wakayama prefecture on the 26th ultimo.

THE Prince Royal of Siam visited many places of interest in Kyoto on Tuesday, dividing his attention impartially between temples and business houses. He is now visiting Nara.

IT is considered almost inevitable that the Straits Settlements will have a gold currency. The Singapore Chinese, however, are preparing a petition to the Governor in favour of silver.

A PICKPOCKET named Fukazawa Matsugoro, of Tokyo, stole the watch of Tanaka Kametaro, of Shizuoka, at Yokohama station on the night of the 4th inst. The man was caught in the act.

A THIEF entered a restaurant known as Tanaka-ya, at Kanagawa-dai, on the night of the 2nd inst. and stole several articles valued at *yen* 220 belonging to the innkeeper and his employees.

FIGHTING occurred between Ina Tomejiro and Minamiiri Genmatsu living at Minami-ku, Osaka, at their house on the afternoon of the 1st inst. Both were drunk and, using swords on each other, inflicted such wounds that both died.

THE Canadian Niagara Power Company is to be equipped with three of the largest turbine wheels in existence. Each will have 10,000 horse-power. The contract for the wheels has been given to a firm in Switzerland.

A MAN named Uyehara Kanetaro, employed by Mr. Yonekura Ippei, was arrested by the police on the 5th inst. He collected on the 24th ult. over *yen* 100 for the firm but spent it in a house of ill-fame at Shinjuku.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Taitei Maru* ran ashore at Yankee Point between Hankow and Kinkizan on the Yangtze at 6 a.m. on the 1st inst. It is expected that after lightering the cargo the ship can be sent to Shanghai.

A TELEGRAM received by the Foreign Office from the Japanese Consul in Hankow states that fire broke out in the premises of a Japanese firm known as Tohi-Yoko on the 1st inst. The whole of the buildings were destroyed, including a large stock of goods.

A STEWARD named Weber, employed on the Toyo Kisen Kaisha steamer *Nippon Maru*, was examined by the harbour police on the 6th inst. on a charge of stealing 500 Mexican dollars belonging to a Chinese cook on the same steamer.

THE Japanese junk *Koju Maru*, belonging to Mr. Jutsukawa Yosaburo of Nagasaki, laden with 40,000 bricks, from Sakai, sank at the entrance to the breakwater at Osaka during the gale on the night of the 6th inst. Several other junks were wrecked or damaged the same night.

A RICH man named Nakayama Tokuzo, Director of the Hongo Saving Bank, living at Kiridoshi Saka-machi, Hongo, Tokyo, committed suicide by cutting himself with a sword on the morning of the 5th inst. He had been worrying over financial matters for some time, and had a fear that he was being robbed.

THE Yokohama Tetsudo Kaisha, which has secured a provisional charter, will hold a meeting shortly at the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce to settle preliminary measures for securing a permanent certificate, the surveying of the road, selection of surveying experts, establishment of an office, etc.

IN view of the proposal that the Government should take over the manufacture of tobacco, those interested in the work held a meeting the other day and passed a resolution to the effect that they are absolutely opposed to any Government monopoly of the industry and are determined to take all possible measures to carry out their views.

IT is understood that Mr. R. G. Hopkins, who has been concerned in the cases brought in the Japanese Courts by Mr. A. Jovansen and against that gentleman by his wife for annulment of marriage, has left Japan. Report has it that he has gone to some port on the Pacific Coast—Seattle has been mentioned. Mrs. Jovansen and her daughter are believed to have also departed from Japan by a south bound steamer.

THE recent departure of 150 men of the German garrison ftom Shanghai was saddened by a terrible accident. The horse of a mounted infantryman named H. G. Dann, collided with a carriage on the Bund, shied, and threw its rider. As a result both his legs were broken, several arteries were severed and, to make the nature of the fatality more horrible, a clasp knife in one of his trouser pockets was driven, by the force of the impact, right into the groin. Prompt assistance was immediately rendered, but despite every effort to save his life, the poor fellow died during the afternoon.

IT is always a pleasure to be able to chronicle an act of pluck and humanity, such as occurred in the Yangtze outside Woosung last Sunday evening, says the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 18th December. The P. and O. S. *Malacca*, Captain Street, was discharing cargo into lighters, when a ladder carried away and a quartermaster fell into the river. There was a considerable sea running, but the fourth officer, Mr. Shearme, at once jumped in to the man's rescue. They were both carried under the guard of the lighter, but by a vigorous effort Mr. Shearme suceeded at great risk to himself in saving the quartermaster's life. We understand that this is the second occasion on which Mr. Shearme has succeeded in saving a fellow-creature from drowning.

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Monday, Jan. 5.

The General Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* have issued to the constituencies a circular advising them to re-elect their former representatives except in cases of resignation or in the event of some other unavoidable obstacle. A similar step has been taken by the Progressist leaders, who further advise their followers to abstain from competition with the *Seiyu-kai*.

It is alleged that the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists have come to a definite agreement to avert collisions and competition in the pending general elections. With that object the leaders of each Party will enter the field of the other and deliver speeches inculcating concord and cooperation. Moreover, any one attempting to dispute the return of the selected candidates will be punished. But how is that programme to be followed? How can the Parties check the aspirations of men that contested the last elections unsuccessfully? Such men have an indisputable right to offer themselves again to the constituencies, and there are already indications that some of them intend to do so.

The grand motive of the two Parties, as now declared, has nothing of novelty. It is the motive that every political party, with exceptions so rare as to prove the rule, has professed during the past twelve years, namely, the overthrow of the "Clan Oligarchy." But the shibboleth should be changed. It is unreasonable to speak any longer of a "clan oligarchy." The clans fell out of the running long ago. What the nation has to decide to-day is whether it will choose its own Ministries or whether the Sovereign shall choose them. A precisely analogous contest was waged in England at the birth of constitutional government with the exception that in Japan the Sovereign is not personally involved, and will not be personally involved so long as his statesmen have wisdom enough not to take too conspicuous shelter under the Imperial shield.

Naturally when the two Parties have succeeded in throwing down the Oligarchy they will have to set up something in its place. Can they hope to agree about the distribution of materials in the new edifice? To-day they disavow any solicitude about the division of the spoils, but human nature is human, and when the morrow of success comes, there is likely to be trouble.

Tuesday, Jan. 6.

The General Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* have issued a circular to all the Party's branches requiring them to send in to the Head Office, by the 20th of this month, a statement of the candidates they propose to put forward at the coming elections. These candidates are to be franked by the Committee, and if any new candidate is proposed, the committee reserve the right of making full investigation and of refusing to endorse the nomination, the penalty for a recalcitrant attitude on the part of candidates and branch officials being expulsion from the ranks of the Party. It is agreeable to see that something like rigid discipline is about to be introduced among the rank and file of the *Seiyu-kai*. It would be also agreeable were any signs discernible of discipline among the leading members.

The Party is about to send out lecturers to the various constituencies. They will be carefully instructed as to the lines of policy to be advocated and the points against which an attack should be organized.

Opposition journals are gradually getting up an accusation against the Government on the ground of interference in the elections. It is early in the day for such a charge, seeing that the elections do not take place until March, and that they have been in contemplation for some ten days only. But nothing is premature or extravagant in the eyes of thoroughly unscrupulous journalists. The *Niroku Shimpo*, for example, undertakes not only to give a detailed and minute account of the steps that the Cabinet intends to take and the instructions that will be issued to the police, but it also publishes an exact statement of the funds available to the Government for electioneering purposes and the sources from which these funds are to be obtained. Of course such tactics merely exhibit the unscrupulous recklessness of the journals penning them and discredit the politicians on whose behalf they are penned. Nevertheless in the interests of the country we should be glad to see that the whole electioneering field was not abandoned to one party and its colleagues.

It would seem that despite the efforts of the General Committees and the resolutions passed at general meetings, a good many of the old members will lose their seats. Already symptoms of that result are apparent.

Much interest centres on Mr. Kato Takaaki, whose influence was strongly felt in the recent crisis and whose reputation was enhanced by the ability he showed. Apparently Kochi will not re-elect him. Either the constituency is reluctant to place itself in direct and declared opposition to Count Itagaki, or—which is very probable—Mr. Kato himself is unwilling to become a candidate. At any rate the talk now is that he will be replaced by Mr. Oishi Masami.

It is expected that at the pending assembly of Governors instructions with regard to the elections of March next will be issued, and the question of the text-books will also be brought up for discussion. The assembly has been convened for the 15th instant. Regardless of the fact that at the elections last year the Government maintained an attitude of strict neutrality, rumours are now circulated that precisely the opposite policy will be adopted next March, and that every possible effort will be made to secure the election of conservative candidates. The prospect is alluded to by Opposition journals in terms of strong reproach, as though a Ministry in power were precluded, by some unwritten law of political morality, from seeking to win the support of the constituencies to which, nevertheless, it is required to appeal. Ministries in Great Britain do not observe any such rule of abstention. They fight stoutly for their own hands at the polls, and truly it is difficult to understand why a Japanese Cabinet should necessarily leave the field entirely free to its opponents. The practical and plainly constitutional course for the Katsura Cabinet, or for any other Cabinet similarly circumstanced in any country, is to step down into the lists and "put up" the best fight possible. Only one restriction should be observed, namely, that all weapons used must be legitimate. It is time that there was a conservative party in Japan since there are many eminent statesmen of conservative principles—conservative, that is, to the extent of believing that the day has not yet come when Cabinets can safely accept their mandate from the House of Representatives rather than from the Throne.

From a speech delivered by Count Inouye in Kyoto and reported in the *Nippon* without mention of date or place, we gather that the Count, while not denying the advisability of naval increment, does deny that the necessity is sufficiently great to justify continuance of the increased rate of land tax. It is true that the people have been paying the increased rate for the past four years and that they have not shown any symptoms of distress. But because a nation can bear to be burdened up to the limits of its strength, wise statesmen do not see in that a reason for so burdening it. Were such an extreme policy pursued, there would be no margin to meet an emergency. There must be a margin. Without it there can not be any feeling of security. Such is Count Inouye's view.

As to financial difficulties, Count Inouye traces them all to the spirit of inflation that followed the war of 1894-5. The two hundred millions of taels that Japan then received were the means of disturbing her mental equilibrium. Count Inouye calls the jingle of those coins a mere phonographic sound, which the nation mistook for a real voice of plenty and prosperity. A fictitious boom was created and the country is now suffering from the re-action. It need scarcely be said that the Count dwells upon his favourite theory, the outflow of specie resulting from Japan's foreign purchases. Even in the department of bread stuffs she is becoming more and more dependant upon imports, and as she has no gold mine of her own, depletion of her hard-money stores is inevitable. He appears to think that one source of the trouble is the State's incursions into the realm of productive industry. The Government, with capital on which no interest is paid, becomes competitor of the people who have to pay a high rate for every *yen* they use. Private enterprise is consequently checked and general development is arrested. Count Inouye's language at this point is general, but there can be no mistaking the gist of his argument.

Friday, Jan. 9.

The Progressists' General Committee have addressed to the Party, over the signature of Count Okuma, a circular the gist of which is to inculcate avoidance of competition with the *Seiyu-kai* candidates and determined opposition to all candidates of a neutral complexion. The branches of the Party are directed to seek instructions from head quarters in the event of any local disagreement, and the circular further insists that as the incurring of expenses in connexion with elections is quite contrary to the spirit of constitutional Government, every effort should be made to correct that abuse.

It is no longer doubtful that the *Seiyu-kai* and Progressists will join forces in the coming elections. The extent of their success may be questionable, for whatever be their intentions, any "incident" in a particular locality may revive animosities now temporarily forgotten. The interesting thing will be the manner of dividing the spoils. When the two Parties have succeeded in overthrowing the so-called clan oligarchy, will the Progressists quietly step down, and leave their some-time allies in undisturbed possession of the seats of power?

Opposition journals continue to charge the Government with the intention of interfering in the elections. The accusation now takes an interesting form; namely, that the weapon of

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interference will be the strictest possible regulations for enforcing absolute impartiality. That will doubtless sound strange to our readers; but the meaning is that under the cloak of preventing corruption or improper practices of any kind, the local authorities will be instructed to exercise supervision highly irksome, if not absolutely fatal, to the canvassing of party candidates. This device is to be specially employed, say the newspapers, in constituencies now represented by men like Mr. Oishi Masami and Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the two political fire-brands of the time. It will be admitted that when publicists are driven to the expedient of indicting the Government because of alleged intentions which are still wholly matters of conjecture, lack of taugible material for accusation may fairly be inferred. After all, however, this is a critical era in the history of Japan's constitutional development; so critical that the tide of sentiment and passion must be expected to reach a high mark.

The *Chingai Shogyo* undertakes to give the outline of regulations which the police will be required to enforce. These regulations require candidates to send in their names beforehand to the election officials; limit the expenditures of a candidate to a thousand *yen*, except in the case of a constituency with over ten thousand electors, when an addition of a thousand *yen* may be made for every ten thousand voters; provide that all travelling and postal outlays shall be included in these expenditures, and that a candidate must keep an accurate account of every item, such account to be subject to official examination at any time; limit the number of a candidate's election offices to one for every ten thousand votes, and the number of an office's staff to three persons; and lay down that any violation of these rules shall disqualify a candidate. To onlookers such regulations seem thoroughly wholesome, but it is undeniable that the more stringent the provisions of a law, the more irksome can the manner of its enforcement be made.

FUGITIVES FROM JUSTICE.

The Japanese, if indeed they devote any thought to the matter, must have learned by this time that their critics are "kittle cattle." Some time ago the juridical authorities were severely condemned for alleged reluctance to grant bail to foreigners pending the conclusion of legal proceedings. It was urged that there could not be any serious danger of such persons escaping from the country, as it is so easy to supervise the exits and entries of aliens at the few treaty ports. We pointed out at the time that what was called "easy" would be virtually impossible in practice, for to exercise any efficient supervision the police would have to interfere intolerably with personal liberty. Since that time the truth of our comment has been demonstrated by the flight of certain persons who deemed it more discreet to remove themselves from the scene of their unlawful exploits and beyond the reach of punishment. Accordingly, the critics now "turn their stylus," erase what they previously wrote, and condemn, in the first place, the facility with which bail is granted, and, in the second, the failure of the police to keep watch against absconding. Such criticism sounds very arbitrary and capricious, but it nevertheless indicates a state of affairs which can not be called satisfactory, and which can not be rendered satisfactory by any immediately visible process. Unless a man is charged with the commission of some crime such as renders him notorious, there is but a very slender chance of his failure to escape, should he be so minded. That becomes evident if the conditions are considered for a moment. Then, again, it is essentially contrary to the principle of bail that the bailed person should be subjected to surveillance. The fundamental idea of bail is that by forfeiting his recognisances a man suffers punishment at least equivalent to any with which he is otherwise threatened. The whole system of bail is based on that doctrine. Whether the amount of bail required from a Japanese is sufficient in the case of a foreigner, may be open to discussion. But we strongly suspect that if the judges of this country showed any disposition to exercise discrimination to the disadvantage of the foreigner in such matters, they would become objects of clamorous condemnation. And rightly too.

BOOK-PUBLISHING IN JAPAN.

Foreign readers will peruse with interest an article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* the gist of which is that the industry of book-publishing in Japan depends for sustenance and encouragement mainly on the printing and sale of educational works. Were this class of business suspended, Japanese publishers would be virtually without occupation. Looking abroad, the *Nichi Nichi* is much struck by the fact that Germany exports more books than she imports. France is the only European country that gives to her more that it takes from her. Japan, on the other hand, exports some sixty thousand *yen* worth of books yearly and imports about a quarter of a million *yen* worth. It will naturally occur to the *Nichi Nichi's* readers that the circulation of Japanese books abroad is hampered by a serious difficulty, namely, that no one can decipher the script in which they are printed. Indeed, if the Chinese market were closed to Japan—a market for which she takes some trouble to cater—there would be very small demand for her publications outside her own borders. The *Nichi Nichi* appreciates that fact plainly enough, and makes it a text for re-approaching its familiar contention as to the necessity of substituting Roman letters for ideographs, and doing away with the distinction between written and spoken forms of speech. We are compelled to say that if the *Nichi Nichi* really entertains such views, its own practice belies its professions. Its editorial columns are conspicuous among Tokyo journals for the essentially classical character of their contents. They diverge about as widely as possible from the principle of abolishing the specialties of the written language.

Is it a feather in the cap of a country to export more books than it imports? Yes in one sense and not in another. Certainly any country may well be proud if its literature finds many readers in foreign lands. But can any one deny that Germany, to which country the *Nichi Nichi* specially alludes, would be in a much wholesomer condition if her people devoted a little more time to the perusal of English books, for example. They might then emerge from the crass ignorance in which they are apparently plunged with regard to Great Britain; ignorance which made itself unhappily and most unexpectedly conspicuous during the South-African war. Possibly England's knowledge of Germany is equally defective, but that is another question. At all events it appears that England reads German books more than Germany reads English.

BARON IWASAKI ON THE STATE OF THE TIMES.

Baron Iwasaki (Yanosuke) contributes a very interesting letter to the *Jiji Shimpo* on the subject of the state of the times. The thoughts it contains seem to have been suggested by the Baron's recent visit to the West, especially to England. His observation led him to conclude that the characteristics of Englishmen, the qualities which have made them succeed, are perseverance, integrity and a sense of responsibility. If a man puts his hand to a thing, he never abandons it, whatever difficulties he may encounter. His sense of responsibility is such that he commands confidence, and the value he sets on integrity is so great that a man who has once broken faith becomes thenceforth virtually ostracised from society. Baron Iwasaki does not by any means intend to suggest that these qualities are confined to Englishmen. He found them among Europeans generally, but we gather that they struck him most conspicuously in England. Now with regard to his own country he admits with much satisfaction that in all the essentials of outward improvement there has been remarkable progress; remarkable to a degree quite out of proportion with what might reasonably have been expected. But it is otherwise when one looks below the surface, and searches for the qualities without which there can be no solid advance nor any genuine enlightenment. In these essentials the record is not encouraging. A marked absence of the sense of responsibility is necessarily accompanied by want of respect for oneself and therefore failure to win the respect and confidence of others. The low value set upon integrity destroys mutual trust and prevents united effort. And want of perseverance leads to the light-hearted abandonment of enterprises that have already been carried far towards completion. Baron Iwasaki does not affirm that the basis of Japanese character is defective. He looks back to the days when the *samurai* spirit prevailed; when loyalty, self-sacrifice, faithfulness to promises and courageous perseverance were conspicuous traits of an educated man's disposition. But in the rush of modern materialism these qualities have been submerged, and the Japanese have engaged in a struggle without considering the essentials of equipment for it. The duty of every one conscious of this defect is to rouse his countrymen to a sense of its existence. Not that there should be any idea of engaging in or prosecuting undertakings out of proportion to the national resources. That is not the unreasoning kind of perseverance that Baron Iwasaki suggests. But he denounces the fickle abandonment of enterprises already seriously commenced, and he condemns the indifference to responsibility that leads men to look lightly on such abandonment. The great wants of the time are earnestness of purpose and integrity of conduct. Without them all these fine evidences of superficial progress can never be regarded with content.

Passing to consider the state of politics in Japan, Baron Iwasaki is evidently disposed to attribute the friction and collisions that occur to mere sentiment. There are no substantial reasons for such disquiet in this country. Germany has her more or less recalcitrant States; Austria has Hungary; France has a difficult position *vis-à-vis* Italy, and even England has Ireland on her hands. But in Japan there is a homogeneous and united people who are without any substantial reasons to fight among

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themselves. If they fight, the cause of their quarrels can not be anything more solid than sentiment.

Some publicists claim that agriculture must be the basis of Japan's wealth. That is palpably an untenable doctrine. Japan's arable area is limited. Its products barely suffice for the wants of her own people. Her hopes of prosperity lie in commerce and industry. The nation, tacitly recognising the fact, has set itself to develop its trade and its manufactures. But as yet the effort is a mere superficial imitation of Western models. There is no discipline, no organization, no integrity, no credit. In Europe the men that hold leading positions in tradal and industrial concerns are persons of long experience and a profound sense of responsibility. They make the discharge of their duties the first object of their life and they devote themselves uniquely to that purpose, while as for the organization of the companies they direct, it resembles the organization of a body of troops, so thorough is the discipline, so perfect the co-operation. In Japan things are very different. As a general rule, to which, of course, there are some fortunate exceptions, the leading names among company officers are those of men that take no active part in the business and are mere perfunctory figure-heads, putting in an occasional appearance at their offices; recognising no responsibility and abandoning the management of affairs to their juniors. Referring to banking operations, the Baron notes that in Europe and America banks never lend money on shares of which less than one-half of the face value has been paid up, nor do they re-hypothecate securities against which they have made advances. But in Japan no such rule is observed as to paid up capital, and if bank *A* lends money on stocks, it hypothecates them to bank *B*, which in turn pledges them to bank *C*, until finally they come to the Bank of Japan. The result is that several banks are involved in the failure of one company, and the whole financial system becomes unwholesomely tender. It is imperative that the Bank of Japan should immediately take steps to correct this abuse.

Turning to the problem of foreign capital, Baron Iwasaki observes that while fully approving of the use of cheap foreign money for the development of Japanese industries, he thinks that a distinction should be drawn between purely private enterprises, and enterprises that partake, more or less, of a national character. In the latter category he places railways, whether steam or electric, street lighting, tramways, harbour construction, gas works and water works. These he believes, should be conducted by the Japanese themselves. Foreign capital may be used for them, but they ought not to be placed in foreign hands. Japan is not yet ready for that.

Baron Iwasaki does not admit the contention that the lack of a sense of responsibility and the indifference to moral restraints displayed by leading Jayanese business-men are due to deficient education. He holds that the men now occupying prominent positions have all received an Occidental education and that they should be competent to make a better record. Neither does he admit that they are in any way hampered by external conditions. If the free pursuit of selfish ends be an evidence of liberty, then the Japanese people have a full measure of liberty. England is justly said to be the home of personal liberty. But England is eminently a country where responsibility, public obligations, the duty of not subserving everything to selfish interests, and the importance of integrity and morality are fully recognised. The present aim of the Japanese should be to take the English for their examples.

NEW YEAR'S NUMBERS OF JAPANESE JOURNALS.

The Tokyo journals publish as usual voluminous issues to mark the New Year. The numbers of pages of the various journals are as follows:—*Jiji Shimpo*, 52; *Kokumin Shimbun*, 32; *Asahi Shimbun*, 16; *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, 40; *Nippon*, 20; *Yomiuri*, 16; *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, 20; *Niroku Shimpo*, 12; *Chuo Shimbun*, 14; *Miyako Shimbun*, 12; and *Hochi Shimbun*, 12.

Accompanying these issues are pictures various in kind and quality. The most amusing is that of the *Nippon*—a broad sheet containing a series of comic caricatures representing the present condition of society. Conspicuous among the caricatures is a fierce-looking orator denouncing from the rostrum of the Lower House the unpatriotic offences of officialdom, but, at the same time, holding out his non-rhetorical hand to receive a parcel of bank-notes. Another commoner type of parliamentary representative figures with a hundred *yen* note tied over his mouth as a gag. There is a two-headed statesman, the heads being those of Marquis Ito and Count Okuma; there is a Christian propagandist preaching to the backs of an audience; there is a crowd divided into lean kine who respect "public morality" and fat kine who disregard such bagatelles; there is a portrait of Marquis Yamagata saying Buddhist prayers in his villa, the *Murin-an*; there is a cartoon showing how a rustic member of the Diet travels home after the dissolution with his foreign boots in his hand, straw sandals on his feet, and his very agricultural wife by his side; and there are many other quaint fancies. Altogether this series of cartoons is one of the most diverting we have seen.

The *Nippon's* picture is relieved by a few light tints and the name of the caricaturist is not given, though he deserves prominent notice. The *Jiji Shimpo*, on the other hand, presents to its readers a beautiful oleograph in the style of the Western School. It represents a girl feeding rabbits, and the artist is Mr. Yamamoto Hosui, who has already gained a high reputation. Unquestionably it is an admirable production, both technically and artistically.

Beisai, a son of the celebrated Kubota Beisen, is the *Kokumin's* artist. He gives us a picture of a particularly engaging young lady of the *Genroku* era, dressed in the style of Matabei's unforgettable beauties, and having for crest on her sleeves and back the *Keso-bumi* (love-letter) of that epicurean age. She is making with her fingers a shape which, cast in shadow on a wall under a plum spray, takes the form of a hare, 1903 being the year of the hare in the sexagenary cycle. This is a pretty conception and perfectly congruous in every detail.

The *Asahi Shimbun* gives its readers a picture by Goshun. It is in the pure style of Old Japan—a carp swimming in blue water over which hangs a bough of pine. Goshun has a fine touch, delicate and withal strong. The original of this picture must be a treasure.

The *Chuo's* artist has attempted to copy an Okyo drawing of a rabbit. The result is not happy. Okyo never did himself the injustice that this copy does him.

For the *Miyako Shimbun's* picture we can say little except in the matter of technique. The subject is a carp springing upwards, but it is a carp that seems to be made of paper not of bones and flesh. The grasses underneath are well drawn and coloured, but Mr. Terasaki Kogyo can do a great deal better than this.

The *Jinmin* lays before its subscribers a *sugoroku* sheet of pictures having a connexion, more or less remote, with the hare of the cycle. They are children's pictures: that is all that need be said.

The *Nichi Nichi* is eminently practical. It publishes an excellent map of Tokyo, showing the improvements now in progress, the railways projected or in operation, and many other useful details. This map will be a boon to the people of the city.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* publishes its annual tables containing statistics relating to trade and finance. These tables do the highest credit to the industry and enterprise of the *Shogyo*. They do not possess the unique value once belonging to them, inasmuch as the financial annuals now issued by the Finance Department satisfy a part of the want which used to be so clamant before the *Shogyo* commenced its publications. But the latter include matter which does not find a place in the former, and they have moreover the advantage of being up to date. There are no less than 31 tables in six sections, the headings of the sections being:—I. Currency and the Money Market. II. Prices and Wages. III Foreign Trade. IV. Agriculture, Commerce and Industry. V. National Finance VI Miscellaneous.

These tables constitute a forcible reminder of Japan's progress, not merely on account of the facts they set forth, but also because of the evidence they furnish as to the growth of statistical intelligence.

DRESS REFORM IN CHINA.

It is alleged by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent that the question of dress reform has entered the field of practical issues in the Chinese capital. The Empress Dowager has required some of the Court ladies to don foreign costume. But we hear nothing about the result of the experiment, nor are we even told whether the fair ones who were compelled to be *corporea vilia* for the experiment, became their habiliments or were disfigured by them. China is following Japan's example with much zeal, and she consults her best interests in doing so. But we hope, with as much earnestness as it is possible to feel in such a case, that this country's sumptuary regulations will not furnish a model to her neighbour. The costume of a Chinese female is not pretty. A woman must have a veritably "willowy" figure, the most graceful of necks and the most delightfully sloping shoulders to be a thing of beauty when a loose tunic, not confined at all at the waist, and a baggy pair of trousers drawn in at the ankle, are her main articles of costume. But it is a magnificently practical costume, warm, comfortable, not subjecting the body to any unwholesome constraint, and excellently adapted to facile movement. Why should it be replaced by the extravagant and unpractical garments of the Western woman? Japanese ladies, with rare exceptions, have declined to make the change which, for an evil moment fifteen years ago, seemed imminent. But the Court yielded to the impulse of that ultra-radical era, and

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yielded, we fear, irrevocably, so that Japanese ladies now labour under the extraordinary disability of not being able to present themselves before their own Sovereign unless they are wearing foreign costume. The mere statement of the fact is enough to demonstrate its absurdity, and we have to remember too that ninety-nine out of every hundred ladies attending the Court never dream of donning low-necked frocks and painful corsets on any occasion except the rare instances of their attendance. It may even mean that the clothes which they specially procure for the purpose in 1902, let us say, and which remain in a camphored wardrobe until 1903, are then found to be out of fashion and must be replaced, at heavy expense, by another suit equally liable to brief service and compulsory rejection. However, the economical question is of altogether secondary importance. What seems really anomalous is that a Japanese lady should be required to don European costume for the purpose of attending the Court of her own country.

CHINESE NEWS.

Monday, Jan. 5.

The remnant of the German garrison was withdrawn from Shanghai on the 3rd instant, the commanding officers going north with the troops.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai says that Mr. H. Lehmann, of Messrs. Arnhold Karberg and Company, committed suicide on the 31st ultimo, by shooting himself with a pistol. No details are added.

It is stated from Peking that the investigations conducted by Viceroy Yuan show a deficit of over 4 million *yen* in the accounts of the State telegraphs, and that the Empress Dowager, much incensed by this intelligence, as well as by the Viceroy's report that the accounts are in great disorder, has declared that Taotai Shêng shall not be permitted to have any further control of the management.

Ku Fong-ki has advised that an educational department should be organized in Peking for the purpose of effecting uniformity in the educational affairs of China, and further that a medical college should be established as a braneh of the Peking University.

Rumour says that Chang Chih-tung is to be summoned to Peking where he will be appointed head of two commissions, one to superintend the mercantile affairs of the empire, the other to investigate a reform of the finances. There is certainly much need of the latter, but as to the former we do not feel so confident.

It is reported that Sir Robert Hart, having been consulted about Russia's demands in the matter of the Liaotung customs, replied that if Russia's proposed custom house at Dalny were on the same lines as those of the German custom house at Kiao-chou, there would be no objection. But if Russia asked, as she did, for complete control not only at that point but all along her Manchurian railway, then, even apart from the obviously objectionable nature of such an *imperium in imperio*, it was evident that other Powers would be justified in seeking similar privileges with regard to the railways for which they have obtained concessions in China proper. Prince Ching, having been approached by the Representatives of Great Britain and Japan on this subject, denied that any such programme as that attributed to Russia is on the *tapis*.

Lieut.-General Miles and Mrs. Miles were entertained by the Emperor of China at luncheon on the 28th ultimo, and left Peking on the 30th.

A telegram from London to the *Asahi Shimbun* alleges that Russia has required the Chinese Government to abstain from employing Japanese officers as military instructors, and that Japan having entered a protest on the ground that she occupies towards China a position carrying with it the same rights and privileges as those enjoyed by any other Power, is receiving the support of the British Government.

Mr. Wang, inspector of Chinese students in Japan, has arrived in Nagasaki, accompanied by a Secretary and another official whose functions we do not clearly understand, and by 14 students, 10 from Yunnan, 2 from Chili and 2 from Kiangsu. Mr. Wang is a comparatively young man—only 43. He says that his arrival will be followed by that of many students.

Serious attention is paid in Shanghai to the rumours recently circulated that Tung Fuh-hsiang is making preparation for rebellion in Kangsu. The *N.-C. Herald* treats the matter gravely, and its leading columns in two consecutive issues have a tone almost alarmist. Tung's purpose, according to report, is to obtain the Throne for Prince Tuan's son, who was made Heir Apparent by the Empress-Dowager three years ago, and was deprived of that position after a brief interval. It is intended, runs the story, to give to this youth the title of Tung Hsū, and he is said to have been already proclaimed at Ting-yuen-ying, the capital of the Alashan Mongols. Four thousand Imperial troops recently disbanded in Kansu are reported to have gone over to Tung Fuh-hsiang, with all their arms and equipment, and supplies of military materials have been flowing into the province for some time. It is further alleged that Yung Lu is privy to the whole affair, but inasmuch as Yung Lu was recently represented as intriguing to have his own son-in-law proclaimed heir to the Throne, his surreptitious support of Tung's designs on behalf of Tuan's son would be mysterious. The gravamen of the thing lies in the facts that Tung and Tuan were in avowed sympathy with the Boxers two years ago; that they are proscribed and banished men; that their only hope of recovering power lies in rebellion, and that the restoration of Tuan's son to the rank of which he has been deprived would be a natural step in their conspiracy. Our Shanghai contemporary alleges that news of impending trouble has reached the British consul at Hankow, and that he has advised British subjects to hold themselves in readiness for evacuating the implicated districts at a moment's notice. The two great Viceroys who preserved order in the Yangtse Valley during the crises of 1900 are no longer at their posts, Liu Kun-yi having died and Chang Chih-tung not having been restored to his old position after his removal from Nanking. Tuan Fang, now Acting Viceroy at Wuchang, Chang's former post, is the man who gets the credit of having ignored Peking's alleged orders for the extermination of foreigners in 1900, and Wei Kuang-tao, the new Viceroy of the Liang-kuang, enjoys a high reputation. But these men are not Liu and Chang. The quality of their competence to keep the great valley tranquil in the event of another Boxer uprising is naturally regarded with doubt.

Says the *China Mail*:—

A savage affray occurred at Quarry Bay, Hongkong, on Dec. 21st in the course of which one man was killed and several seriously wounded. The fight arose out of a trifling incident. An Indian watchman on duty at the Quarry Bay Shipbuilding Yard, observed a Chinese woman leaving the premises in a manner which suggested theft. He stopped her and took her basket from her, the woman protesting her innocence. She ran to her mother, and the latter took her to the district's police station, where the assault and capture of the basket was reported to Inspector Robertson. That officer went to the yard to investigate the affair, but when he arrived at the gate a shocking spectacle was unfolded to him. On the ground lay eight bodies, one dead, the others almost lifeless. The dead man's skull was battered in, blood was smeared all about the place, and bars and sticks were lying about in a way which told of a hurriedly arranged fight and as sudden a flight. The seven survivors of the assault told its story, when restoratives had been administered. It appears that when the girl ran away shouting about the loss of her basket, her cries attracted several hundred Chinese who rushed to avenge her. Seven Indians came to the aid of their compatriot, but they could do little against the numerous band of their assailants who made use of the material lying about in the yard as weapons. The watchman was killed within a very few minutes. He was badly beaten on the skull when his assailants succeeded in knocking him down. The others were also felled and left for dead by the irate Chinese. Inspector Robertson had the wounded men removed to the hospital, where three of them lie in a rather precarious condition.

No arrests had been made when the last mail left Hongkong.

This incident has again directed attention to the fact that the employment of Sikhs to discharge the duties of constables and watchmen in Hongkong is calculated to provoke a spirit of animosity among the Chinese. But practical deference can not be paid to that prejudice. The Sikhs were first imported in the days of Sir Richard McDonnell, when experience had proved that with only Chinese *lukongs* it was wholly impossible to assert the force of law and order, and to convert the colony from a hot-bed of piratical intrigues into a decent English territory. No administration is likely to risk the experiment of reverting to the old regimen. The only feasible way of preventing incidents like that at Quarry Bay would seem to be an increase of the Sikh force or the supply of fire-arms to those now on duty.

Tuesday, Jan. 6.

Wei Kuang-tao, the new Viceroy of the Liang-kiang, is said to be modelling his policy on the lines indicated by his predecessor, Liu Kun-yi. Working in consultation with Chang Chih-tung and Yuan Shih-kai, he is about to organize the Kiangsu troops on Western models, employing Japanese officers to train them, and he is also making arrangements for establishing a naval school at a convenient place on the Yangtse, where also there will presumably be Japanese instructors. Police affairs too are occupying his attention, and he contemplates sending commercial inspectors to the principal marts of the world. Rumour further attributes to him the intention of establishing an emigration bureau to supervise and safeguard the interests of his countrymen settling in foreign lands.

The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* states that he has been informed by a well-known authority that the statement that Sir Ernest Satow, the British Minister to China, left Peking for England on six months' leave of absence scarcely represents the facts, his Excellency having been summoned home by the Foreign Office

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for the purposes of a conference which is likely to have most important consequences. "It seems, indeed," the correspondent adds, "that we shall speedily witness the development of a much more vigorous policy in China than that to which we have been accustomed of late years, and that British commercial claims will in especial be pressed forward." We (*Japan Mail*) attach small importance to this sensational paragraph.

Wednesday, Jan. 7.

China, if the telegrams may be trusted, has once more developed a strong back at the instance of England and Japan. The occasion is the Dalny customs incident. Our readers know that this affair has occupied attention for some time, Russia being desirous of obtaining in Manchuria a degree of customs control not reconcilable with the exercise of full sovereignty by China. That is delicate ground, for it directly affects the operation of the treaties between foreign Powers and the Middle Kingdom. The former would naturally object to any transfer of duty-levying authority from the convention-bound and easily constrained hands of China to the independent and autocratic possession of Russia. We shall not be surprised to hear, by and by, that the nature of Russia's proposal has been considerably exaggerated by rumour, and that its ostensible motive is purely administrative expediency. Be that as it may, however, England and Japan are credited with having shown strong opposition, and at their instance the Peking Government is said to have intimated that consent can not possibly be given to Russia's project, and that if she insists on establishing a custom house under her own control in Dalny, the Chinese authorities will establish another on their own account outside the limits of the concession. The matter has not passed beyond that stage, so far as we are aware. It is a little surprising, perhaps, that nothing is heard of the United States in this context, for America has hitherto shown herself keenly interested in the fate of Manchuria as an important element of the open-door problem—important especially from an American point of view.

It is reported to the *Asahi* from Peking that Taotai Shêng puts the cost of purchasing the telegraphs at 5,400,000 taels, whereas the estimate of Viceroy Yuan is 2,400,000 taels. The shares of the Telegraph Company have fallen from 180 taels to 70, yet they find no buyers among the Chinese: foreigners alone purchase them.

Friday, Jan. 9.

We learn from American newspapers that Mr. Poultney Bigelow, addressing the Bavarian Geographical Society at Munich on December 11th, took for his theme Asian politics and commerce. He advocated making Shanghai a republic free from consular or other official meddling. He said that what was good in Shanghai was due to the energy of self-governing merchants, principally Americans and British, who for fifty years had taken care of themselves and built up a seaport appropriately called the "New York of the Far East." Some of the Chinese territory, he added, should be annexed to the city. The merchants of the East, Mr. Bigelow said, needed nothing but liberty.

California ranks sixth as an onion-producing State, according to the census reports, having 2,207 acres that yielded 514,859 bushels, worth $296,671. New York takes first place, with an acreage of 6,033, producing 2,177,271 bushels.

BRITISH SHIPPING.

In the Far East it seems as though foreign shipping, especially German, were driving British shipping off seas where the latter used once to be prominent. But statistics show that, on the whole, Great Britain is not only holding her own but is getting a larger share of the world's mercantile marine. In 1870 the British empire had 34·4 per cent. of the world's shipping and in 1901 the figure was 40 per cent. The actual figures, considering steamers only, are that whereas the United Kingdom had 1,112,934 tons in 1870, it had 7,617,793 tons in 1901. In other words, the tonnage increased nearly seven-fold. No other country except Germany and Japan has any comparable record. Thus the United States of America, which had 1,075,095 tons in 1870, grew to 2,920,953 in 1901, a nearly three-fold increase. Germany, of which so much has been said and written, justifies the attention she has attracted, for whereas her merchant steamers aggregated only 81,994 tons in 1870, they totalled 1,347,875 tons in 1901, a growth of over 16 times. Japan's rate of expansion was also remarkable, namely 13½ times, or from 40,000 tons in 1870 to 543,258 tons in 1901. Japan was 8th on the list in 1870 and she now stands 4th:—

TONNAGE OF STEAM MERCANTILE MARINES IN 1901.

	Tons.
United Kingdom	7,617,793
United States	2,920,953
Germany	1,347,875
Spain	679,392
Japan	543,258
France	527,551
Norway	524,600
Italy	376,844
Russia	364,361
Netherlands	208,430
Australasia	256,220
Austria	234,024
Canada	182,832

We need scarcely observe that rates of growth can not be justly compared without considering the relative bulk of the figures to which they apply. A growth of seven hundred per cent. in the case of a fleet of 1,112,934 tons indicates progress much more remarkable than a growth of sixteen hundred per cent. in the case of a fleet of 81,994 tons.

The growth of Great Britain's ship-building industry is equally remarkable. The following figures appear in a recent issue of *Commercial Intelligence*:—

TONNAGE BUILT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

	For Home and Colonies.	For Foreigners.	Total.
1880.....	403,841	69,055	472,896
1885.....	405,386	35,626	441,012
1890.....	652,013	160,625	812,638
1895.....	519,622	128,012	647,634
1900.....	736,906	207,361	944,267
1901.....	775,681	207,452	983,133

It would be highly interesting in this context to examine the subsidies and bounties paid by each country for the encouragement of maritime enterprise and ship-building. But the figures immediately available refer to France only. In 1892 she gave 7,200,000 francs to encourage navigation and 2 millions to encourage ship-building, a total of 9,200,000 francs. In 1901 she gave 19 millions for navigation and 9,900,000 francs for ship-building, or a total of 28.9 millions. Her outlays under these headings have increased steadily during the past ten years. That is true, indeed, of nearly all her subsidies: in 1892 they aggregated 22 millions of francs; in 1901, the total was 46½ millions.

SUGAR REFINING IN JAPAN.

There was a time, not very long ago, when the enterprise of suger refining in Japan seemed to promise rosy results, but facts have not verified forecasts, and in irresponsible circles talk is now heard of a combination among refiners—a sort of trust, in fact. But want of combination is not the difficulty. The sugar question is another example of artificial conditions resulting from bounties. France pays to her sugar-producers a bounty which, directly and indirectly, amounts to 4/9 per cwt.; Germany pays 1/9 and Austria 1/5. Advantage has been taken of these conditions—especially of the surtax or excess of taxation imposed by continental States of Europe on foreign sugars as compared with domestic—to create rings, cartels and trusts by which producers are enabled to sell in a dear home market and a cheap foreign one. It results that whereas in England sugar may be bought for 2½d. per lb., the same article costs 8d. on the continent of Europe. It is impossible for either West-Indian refiners or Japanese refiners to struggle against such a state of affairs. If the convention signed last March by representatives of Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway and Sweden, obtains ratification, this unnatural state of things will soon be terminated. "By Article I. of the Convention,"—we quote from correspondence in the columns of *Commercial Intelligence*—"from Sept. 1st 1903, all direct or indirect bounties by which the producers or the exporters of sugar might benefit are abolished, and the parties agree not to establish bounties of such a kind while the Convention is in force. This article applies to all direct bounties, whether granted to export or to production, to all exemptions from taxation of part of the manufactured output whether total or partial, and to all advantages whatever, including any surtax in excess of a maximum rate fixed by Article III. By Article IV., on sugars imported from bounty-giving countries a special countervailing duty is to be imposed by the parties, apparently even as against strangers to the Convention, which must not be less than the bounty granted in the country of origin. By Article V. cane and beet sugars are not to be subjected to different rates.

THE DIET.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* accords the distinction of doubled-leaded capitals to an announcement that the Diet will be opened on the 1st or 2nd of May. There is one quarter in which these political commotions will be seriously felt, though the fact has not yet been publicly noticed. We refer to the Osaka Exhibition. The Exhibition opens on the 1st of March, which is the very day when the general elections will be held, and it is precisely in the closing days of April and the early days of May that people would have flocked to Osaka had no abnormal obstacle presented itself. But throughout April the leading party politicians and their supporters will necessarily be drawn to Tokyo, on which city the nation's attention also will be so keenly concentrated that the Exhibition must sink to a place of secondary importance. And in May the Diet's session will probably prove a storm centre. It is a pity for the country's sake that these sentimental squabbles can not be avoided.

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THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

The dimensions of this affair threaten to be interminable. No less than fifty-one persons have now been arrested. Among a recent batch were Mr. Mizobe Korechika, Governor of Tochigi, and Mr. Sonoyama Yu, formerly Governor of Miyazaki prefecture and one of the parliamentary representatives of Shimane. The question upon every one's lips is where will this scandal end. Will it stop at governors of prefectures?

Since the above was written the school inspectors of Miyazaki and Okinawa prefectures, the principal of the Miye Normal School, and Mr. Ito Tokuzo, a former member of the Representatives, have all been added to the band of men under arrest, who now number fifty-six. It is rumoured that the Governor of Toyama, who has just been released from his post, is also implicated, and people talk of the Emperor having sanctioned the apprehension of several personages placed so high that a special permit is needed for laying hands on them. Of course the newspapers are exaggerating all these events. That may be taken for granted. But nothing can minimize the fact that 56 persons are in prison and that among them are several men of prominent standing privately and officially.

The arrests now number 60. Warrants were issued for 62, but one has died and one escaped. It is expected that the trial will now commence, and that as the accused persons are all men of tolerably good social standing, the *sekifu* procedure will be adopted, that is to say, there will be no actual imprisonment pending conviction.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that Baron Kikuchi is thinking of resigning the portfolio of Education in consequence of the text book scandal, and that if he puts his idea into practice Baron Utsumi, Minister of State for Home Affairs, will follow his example. It is difficult for outsiders to understand how either of these Ministers can be held personally responsible for such an abuse, but the chain of responsibility is often extended by sentiment to a strange length in Japan. Baron Kikuchi is universally recognised, by foreigners at all events, as one of the most competent Ministers of Education that Japan has ever possessed, and it would be extremely regrettable for the country's sake that he should be sacrificed on account of abuses arising out of a system that had the sanction of all his predecessors and has been generally regarded, up to this moment, as the best that could be devised.

We stated in a recent issue that the arrests in connexion with this matter had been concluded, and that the total was 62. Apparently that was a false estimate. The arrests continue. They have now reached the number of 66, and the three principal cities as well as seventeen prefectures are involved. Ibaraki is the latest district drawn within the net. The accused persons range from governors of prefectures and members of the Diet to inspectors of education, principals of schools and book-sellers.

The Minister of Education has been interviewed by a representative of the *Jiji Shimpo*. His Excellency says that long before he came into office there had been talk of these text-book abuses, and that from the moment of taking the portfolio of education he endeavoured to lay hands on the culprits. The greatest difficulty was experienced, however, in obtaining proofs, and the only person against whom clear evidence could be adduced was Mr. Murakami, the School Inspector of Miye prefecture. Of course what is really desirable is to cut off the source of error rather than to punish those that err. About that there has been much discussion. Concerning the *Jiji Shimpo's* suggestion that instead of requiring a whole prefecture to adopt the same books for its schools, each school should be left to choose its own books, thus multiplying the areas of choice so as to render corruption more difficult, and reducing the pecuniary effect of each choice so as to offer less inducement for dishonesty, the Minister, while not denying that such a method presents some advantages, is nevertheless of the opinion that the best and safest plan is to deprive the prefectural educational authorities of all right of choice, and to reduce the whole matter to the decision of the Department of Education. No less than twenty millions of volumes yearly are needed by the ordinary schools in the section of morality alone. Already the manuscripts of these works have been prepared in the Department, and the task of compiling similar readers for the higher schools is in progress. It had been intended to ask the Diet for an appropriation of 3,000 *yen* yearly on account of a committee of compilation consisting of five persons, but the dissolution of the Diet has defeated that purpose. The Minister expresses the greatest regret that such corruption should exist. He advocates the most stringent inquiry, but he strongly deprecates the tendency displayed by the public to pronounce all the accused persons guilty before they have been tried. Of course Baron Kikuchi denies the extravagent rumour that he is about to resign his portfolio on account of this scandal. The newspapers giving evidently delighted currency to that rumour seem to forget that if the theory they implicitly advocate were put into practice, every Minister of State would shrink from exposing abuses that come under his notice. The attitude of journals like the *Nippon*, the *Niroku Shimpo*, the *Jimmin* and others, reminds us of the Chinese official custom which makes a householder responsible if a vagrant expires on his premises or under his charitable care, and thus effectually dries up the spring of human mercy and condemns sick destitutes to perish untended and unsheltered.

A strange embarrassment which appears likely to result from the text-book scandal is that if the regulations be enforced, nearly all the schools in the empire will presently find themselves without text-books. The school-year commences in April, and it is laid down that should any irregularity be discovered in connexion with a text-book, the use of the work must cease at the end of the school-year during which the discovery is made. Evidently, therefore, a large number of books will be thrown out of use at the close of March, and the question is, what shall take their place. The Educational Department has nothing ready for such an emergency, and unless some special measure be devised, the country's education will be brought to a temporary standstill. That is what Tokyo newspapers assert, at any rate, but it is possible, and indeed probable, that they over-estimate the situation. Nevertheless arrests of suspected persons continue, five more having been added to the total last reported, and it really does seem as though the dimensions of the scandal would exceed all expectations originally formed.

Mr. Okuda, formerly chief of the Legislative Bureau, makes some interesting statements to an interviewer from the *Chuo Shimbun*. He says that when he was in office the Authorities discovered that a certain book-seller had offered 50 *sen* per page to an official histriographer for manuscript suitable to make a historical reader. Such a price suggested bribery, and the authorities arrested the official. That is surely a suggestive story. Is there any European or American author who would consent to compile history for an honorarium of a shilling per page of manuscript. A page of Japanese manuscript contains for text-book uses about 250 characters representing, probably, 150 English words. Thus the rate is seen to be some 6/6 a thousand words, which is about one-tenth of what would be paid by a European publisher to an author of the most moderate competence. Yet such a rate is considered excessive in Japan, if Mr. Okuda be rightly reported. We do not think that he is rightly reported, for it is within our own knowledge that the rate mentioned may be counted normal.

Another point made by Mr. Okuda is that if the duty of franking text-books were assumed wholly by the Educational Department, the present evil would present itself in a new form: book-sellers and printers would be prepared to disburse large sums for the privilege of selling or printing the officially chosen readers. In other words, instead of corruption among school inspectors and local officials, there would be corruption among officials of the Department itself. Surely that is a groundless fear? If the Department undertook such a function, it would naturally do its own printing and its own distribution, without any recourse to job-printers or book-sellers. The large dimensions of the enterprise would demand a special organization, and the profits would justify such organization, for by charging a fraction of the over-cost price now exacted by the book-sellers, the Department would reap large gains, which might be devoted to the interests of education. What is happening now is that the members of a book-sellers' trust are growing wealthy at the expense of students all over the empire, and that officials are extensively corrupted. It will appear to most thinking persons that there devolves upon the Educational Authorities the duty of providing text-books at the lowest possible prices to the school-going section of the population. Attendance at school is compulsory in this empire. The expenses that have to be borne by parents are very small, it is true, but they are nevertheless severely felt by hundreds of thousands of families. An important item of those expenses is the purchase of text-books. Does it not appear that if any legitimate method of cheapening the cost of such books offers, the Authorities should avail themselves of it; and does it not further appear that when tradesmen find their account in forming trusts and giving bribes on a wholesale scale in order to control the sale of text-books or secure the privilege of selling them, the parents of school-going children are the persons upon whom the loss ultimately devolves? Evidently the remedy for this abuse is that the Education Department should become its own printer, its own publisher, and its own book-seller. The danger of corruption would then be reduced to a minimum, for writers of text-books would be the only persons

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interested pecuniarily, and writers of text-books could not gain from the adoption of their works anything over and above the honorarium publicly offered by the Authorities.

It need scarcely be said that this incident is producing displays of hysterical writing such as are unfortunately only too common in Japan. One of the flagrant evils of the time is that newspapers nominally respectable lend their columns for the ventilation of personal animosities, and thus, whenever occasion offers, the public is treated to unseemly exhibitions of rancour and selfish abuse. Nothing of any importance is undertaken in Japan, nothing of any consequence is practically contemplated, without the undertaker or the projector finding his programme condemned or his reputation attacked by private enemies in the columns of some journal. The *Nippon* is conspicuous in the present instance for a crusade against the Minister of State for Education. It insists that the Minister should resign, and by vehement denunciations in which no trace of sound reasoning can be detected: it seeks to show that Baron Kikuchi is totally lacking in the sense of responsibility because he does not immediately surrender his portfolio. Will the *Nippon* permit us to say, as unconcerned on-lookers and as units of the nation which our contemporary credits with a notable sense of responsibility, that this outcry against Baron Kikuchi seems wholly extravagant in the eyes of Englishmen, and that the absence of any sense of responsibility is on the side of the *Nippon* itself and not on that of the Minister of State of Education. One might as well say that in England the Attorney-General ought to resign because a Jack the Ripper appeared upon the scene.

THE ENCYCLOPÆDIA DINNER.

On the 21st of November a dinner was given at the Hotel Cecil to celebrate the completion of the supplementary volumes of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace presiding. The list of those present fills half a column of *The Times* and comprises the names of many men eminent in every branch of politics, science and literature, from the Prime Minister downwards. The supplementary volumes are eleven in number, nine being devoted to bringing up to date the information contained in the original edition, one to maps, and one to an index covering the whole 35 volumes of the original work and the supplement. Considering the dimensions of the supplement it has been suggested that a wiser and more thorough-going plan would have been to bring out a new edition altogether. In some respects that would certainly have been more convenient, but the question is, are there in the whole world any publishers that would have undertaken the task. We think not. The expense of such an enterprise is enormous. It cost two hundred thousand pounds to produce the ninth edition, and the supplement is understood to have involved an outlay of a hundred thousand. Publishers are not prepared to face such figures. It is only *The Times* that can do so. And we may add that it is only Anglo-Saxondom which can afford to have an encyclopedia up to the standard of this great work. The United Kingdom alone could not afford it. Had the British market only been open to the publishers of the ninth edition they would have incurred a heavy loss. But the United States came to the rescue. America had not at that time joined the international copyright union, and very quickly the enterprising publishers of New York brought out a pirated edition of the big book, selling it for twelve pounds against the thirty-seven pounds demanded for the work in London. In spite of that obstacle, large sales of the original work were effected in the United States; so large that for every copy sold in the United Kingdom four were sold in the United States. Thus the enterprise paid ultimately. What would have been a loss had the British market alone been accessible, became profitable through recourse to the American market, and Anglo-Saxondom came into possession of a work which no other branch of the human family could attempt to produce without either State aid or some large exercise of philanthropic generosity. In China where there is a population of 400 millions all reading the same books, it is only under the auspices of the throne, and that too the throne occupied by a monarch like Kanghsi, that encyclopedias of comparable dimensions are produced. It will thus be seen that critics who complain about the embodiment of the most modern information in a supplementary form, and insist that the whole work should have been recast, have not given due thought to the enormous difficulties and costliness of such an undertaking. With the aid of the new index—upon the compilation of which three hundred graduates of Oxford and Cambridge were employed by *The Times*—there will not be the least embarrassment in consulting the original volumes and the supplementary as a whole. The ninth edition, as it stands, is good enough for all ordinary purposes, and the publishers, by adopting the supplementary plan, are able to offer the 35 volumes at less than three-quarters of the price charged for the original 25, and at about one half of the price that would probably have had to be charged for a wholly new edition. We subjoin a leading article from *The Times* on the dinner at the Hotel Cecil:—

The dinner which was given yesterday at the Hotel Cecil to celebrate the completion of the supplementary volumes of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" was, first of all, a tribute to the immense and unbroken progress of human knowledge during the lifetime of this generation. The brilliant gathering over which Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace presided, and at which the Prime Minister was one among many distinguished and representative guests, stands out in striking contrast with the modest beginnings of this great intellectual undertaking nearly a century and a half ago. The "Encyclopædia Britannica" which appeared in Edinburgh in 1768, was very modest in its form and its pretensions. It came out, originally, in a complete form in three quarto volumes of some 2,700 pages, while, in its present issue, thirty-five volumes, embracing close on 30,000 pages, represent the view that is now possible, at the opening of the twentieth century, of the state of our knowledge of the past history of the race, of the conditions of the world in which we live, and of the development of thought and sentiment among the people who stand in the front rank of progress. In these days, the divisions of creeds and parties, keen as they are, are dominated by the feeling that the pursuit of truth should stand in the mind of every man of intelligence above the prejudices and prepossessions of sectarian and political controversies. Lord Avebury reminded the gathering at the Hotel Cecil yesterday that there was room for changes and advances in the field of science not less striking and fruitful than those of the past, to which Sir Donald Wallace pointed with just pride in proposing the toast of the evening. The commanding claims of scientific progress have, to a large extent, thrown political and even religious disputes into the background. The Prime Minister was not only present yesterday at the "Encyclopædia Britannica" dinner, but he was conjoined, as he said, by a quite unusual experience, when his health was proposed, with a representative of the Opposition in the person of Mr. Bryce. This toast was entrusted, moreover, by another happy innovation, to the Speaker of the House of Commons, who occupies a position of impartiality that is without parallel in the legislative Assemblies of the civilized world.

Mr. Balfour and Mr. Bryce are not only able to meet on friendly terms on the neutral ground of literature and science, but they rejoice to recognize the fact that, from different points of view, they are working for the same high and noble objects. In our public life, happily, we may exclude the notion that policy, right or wrong, prevents men of knowledge and culture from joining together in the heartiest social intercourse or from cooperating in the work of enlarging the sphere of human enlightenment and of stimulating the imagination of the masses by acquaintance with the great scientific and literary achievements of present and past ages. Our political leaders are eager to show that they have a keen and intelligent interest in letters and science. The best of them are capable of discussing literary and scientific questions without revealing the fact that they are mere amateurs. But as Mr. Balfour acknowledged, this happy condition of things is passing away. The wide extension of what is to be known has already hampered the command of knowledge by the ordinary cultivated man. As Mr. Balfour suggested, in the future it will be more and more difficult for anybody, except a specialist, to say anything about any subject, while the specialist will have very little chance of knowing anything outside his own department. This narrowing tendency is inevitable, since knowledge is not only enlarged in its area—as any one can see who compares the "Encyclopædia Britannica" of the present day with earlier issues of the same great work, even without going back to the original in the middle of the eighteenth century—but is so microscopically specialized that each small part of it represents the labours, not of a lifetime only, but of many lives. There is something sad in this which quells the pride of human intellect. The mass of accumulated learning and reasoning which is stored up for the use of the present and of coming generations in the thirty-five volumes of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" in its latest form, where the inquiring mind may have access to the highest results of modern thought and research, is something before which the average man stands aghast. He knows it is beyond his grasp, though he can dip into it with delight.

There is something impressive, at the same time in an undertaking which has its roots in the past and which has followed so faithfully the progress of scientific thought and of the scholarly command of learning. All the English-speaking peoples have taken their share in the production of this monumental work, and it is to be regretted that circumstances prevented Dr. Arthur Hadley, the distinguished President of Yale, from being present last night to represent the American contributors to the volumes for which he is jointly responsible as editor with Sir Donald Wallace and Mr. Hugh Chisholm. The list of the contributors who were able to accept the invitation of Sir Donald Wallace is sufficient to show that the supplementary volumes of the Encyclopædia have been kept up to the highest mark of modern progress in science, research, and criticism. In what temper this great task has been carried through, how impartial it has been, how free from sectional and party bitterness, how admirable in its large and generous treatment of controversial subjects, the speeches delivered last night, at the Hotel Cecil, bear the most emphatic testimony. Some eminent persons were absent whose help was welcome and whose presence, if they had not been engaged elsewhere, would have added to the charm and the completeness of the gathering. Mr. Morley, for instance, would perhaps have been more at home at such an intellectual and non-party feast than he was when he was employed at the National Liberal Club in pumping up partisan oratory, and in predicting that the energy, firmness, and determination—to which, it should be said, he paid his tribute manfully—that was shown by the country during the war, would be turned henceforward to the strengthening of Radicalism in domestic politics.

KOREA.

It is again reported in Korea that the Imperial Household Department has arranged a loan of 2 million *yen* from Messrs. Ginsberg, giving as security the customs dues of the three southern provinces. We have often pointed out that under the Conventions existing between Japan and Russia, such transactions are not possible,

We reported in a recent issue that the Foreign Representatives in Seoul had sent a *note identique* to the Foreign Office, demanding some definite reply to the land question and threatening to absent themselves from the New Year's celebrations unless their demands were complied with. It

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is now stated that, in consideration of an official promise to answer at an early date, the Representatives duly complied with the New Year formalities.

There are conflicting reports about Li Yong-ik. The *Asahi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent alleges that the Emperor has recalled him from Port Arthur. But the *Jiji's* correspondent affirms that everything has been settled; that in answer to the representations of the Japanese Minister, the Emperor replied that Li's restoration to the post of director of the imperial estates bureau had been decided by His Majesty without any suggestion whatever from without, and that there was no idea of making any concessions to Russia in consideration of her action; which reply being supplemented by disavowals of all interested motives on Russia's part, the complication has been finally settled. We incline to believe that the *Jiji's* version is correct.

In deference to the request of Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Seoul, the Korean Government has agreed, first, to appoint a Minister Plenipotentiary instead of a Chargé d'Affaires in Tokyo; secondly, to put an end to the illegal dues levied on merchandise travelling by the Nak-dong-gang; and thirdly, to remove the interdict issued against sight notes of the First Bank of Japan.

There seems to be a great deal of talk about the loan supposed to have been made to Korea through the agency of the Ginsburgs. The Korean Authorities have denied it, and the Russian Representative has denied it. But the public are not satisfied. Rumour insists that the transaction has been privately concluded. Probably the whole thing will prove to be a mere bogey.

It is stated that the long pending question of the Seoul electric railway has been settled and that it is to be sold to a Belgian syndicate. The representative of the latter is said to have arrived in the Korean capital. It will be remembered that this railway is heavily in debt to an American firm which supplied the materials and constructed the road. Doubtless the Belgian syndicate is to pay off the debt.

Li Yong-ik is expected to return soon from Liaotung. Apparently he will not consummate his rice-purchasing mission. Port Arthur can scarcely be said to lie on the route to Annam from Chemulpo.

THE SILVER PROBLEM.

The question of silver is attracting much attention in the United States. America now has the Philippines on her hands, and the inconvenience of having one part of her territory on a silver basis is forcibly brought home to her. The fact is that with silver at less than 47 cents an ounce, a point has been reached which is within a very few cents of the cost of production at mines worked for the sake of silver alone. Mines where silver is a by-product, gold, lead or copper being the principal ore extracted, have still a considerable margin, but the purely silver mines are on the verge of compulsory closure. Of course, not miners alone would be affected by closure: it would spell disaster for others also, not even the railways escaping. In New York financiers hold the view which is very palpable to every one out here, namely, that the chief causes of the slump are the unloading of large sums by China to pay her indemnity, the prospective closing of the Mexican and Straits Settlements' mints to the white metal, and the adoption of the gold standard by Siam. In short China, which in ordinary times is a big purchaser of silver, has suddenly become a seller, and countries which have hitherto refrained from the mania of silver-demonetization, are now irrevocably infected. Every one must have observed that whenever a slump of the white metal occurs there are wise folks who, declining to admit the efficiency of palpable factors, assign same recondite reason known only to the deeply initiated. Generally the chosen reason is that some big holders of the white metal are secretly unloading; a pleasant theory since it embodies a prospect of reaction when the unloading ceases. Such a reason was assigned in the present case at the outset, but we hear nothing more of it now. People are content to found their calculation on obviously powerful causes apparent to all. In truth the silver situation has features to which few observers pay close attention. One of them is that, included in the huge reserve held by the Treasury of the United States—a reserve of over 1,300 million dollars—there is a sum of over 500 million dollars in silver, which, were it placed on the market, would not fetch 200 millions. In short, the Secretary of the Treasury gives to the assets an account value which exceeds the market value by 300 millions of dollars, or 600 millions of *yen*. America is perfectly competent to do such things if they suit her convenience. A recent writer shrewdly remarked that with such credit as she possesses, she might as well have brass baggage-checks in her Treasury as silver dollars. But the fact that she does carry such a huge store of silver adds new significance to the slump that is now going on.

THE PEST.

On the morning of the 1st instant another case of true pest occurred at the Honjo factory, and there were 9 doubtful cases reported. Since that time there have not been any fresh seizures but one case has ended fatally and two of the doubtful cases have been identified as true pest. Happily the disease has thus far been confined to the limits of the factory.

One fresh case of true pest is reported in Tokyo and there are 3 new doubtful cases. The total up to date is 11, five of which have ended fatally. There is as yet no appearance of the malady extending beyond the confines of the factory where it first broke out.

There have been four new cases of suspected pest, and one of the cases that was under observation has been pronounced true pest.

There have been three new patients among the Honjo employees, but it is not announced whether they are attacked by true pest. Meanwhile the inhabitants of the Azabu district of Tokyo are fighting strenuously against an intention on the part of the Authorities to move three hundred of the Honjo employees to Hiro, and segregate them in a building near Takanawa. Twenty-three were moved a few days ago, and already two cases of suspected pest have occurred among them, so that the indignation of the Azabu inhabitants is becoming intense, and in deference to it the Authorities are said to have abandoned their intention and decided to confine their measures to the Honjo district. It appears that the separate buildings at Honjo available for the two thousand employees under observation measure only 600 *tsubo*. The consequent crowding is excessive, and of course sanitation becomes correspondingly difficult. Under these circumstances recourse was had to the Hiro Hospital, which lies in the very opposite quarter of Tokyo. It is now thought that the authorities will run up a structure on the island of Tsukishima. The catching of rats is prompted by promises of large prizes to be gained by lot.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE CAR.

We read in the *Jiji Shimpo* that among the sights in the procession on Lord Mayor's Day was a car representing the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The design was taken from the *Jiji Shimpo's* Coronation Supplement. It represented Britannia and Yamamoto Hime, as two fair women, standing with clasped hands, and looking down on China and Korea depicted as children, the idea of the artist being to show the allies as guardians of the Middle Kingdom and of the Peninsular Empire. We gather from the *Jiji Shimpo's* London correspondence that this display evoked vociferous demonstrations of approval from the British crowd, and that altogether the part assigned to Japan in the festival was regarded with extreme satisfaction by the Japanese in London and by the friends of Japan there. Something of the distinguished place given to this country is attributed to the good offices of Mr. W. F. Mitchell, the head of whose firm has the honour of being London's chief civic dignitary this year. Mr. Mitchell is now in England. His long residence in Japan and his friendship with the Japanese doubtless induced him to press upon the Lord Mayor Japan's claim to special attention. Our Tokyo contemporary's correspondent attaches no little importance to the fact that Viscount Hayashi was selected to reply to the toast of the Foreign Ministers, and it can not be denied that this distinction was very marked in view of the fact that Japan's Representative thus took precedence of men much higher than himself in diplomatic rank. The speech of the Lord Mayor in proposing the health of the Foreign Ministers and coupling with it Viscount Hayashi's name, and the speech of Viscount Hayashi in reply have already been reproduced in these columns.

POWERFUL TYPES OF NEW WAR-SHIPS.

We observe that the Thames Ironworks Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Limited, of Blackwall, London, have just received an order from the British Admiralty for a new first-class armoured cruiser, a sister ship to the one just ordered to be laid down at Pembroke Dockyard, of an intermediate size between the *Drake* and the *Monmouth* classes. Her displacement will be about 13,500 tons, as compared with 14,100 tons and 9,800 tons, respectively, of the others. With regard to armament, she will be much superior to the *Drake*. The speed of the ship under favourable circumstances is anticipated to exceed 26 knots and she is to be completed in 28 months. These two ships when finished will surpass Lord Goschen's mighty cruisers of the *Drake* class, and will undoubtedly be the most powerful cruisers in the world, if not absolutely the fastest.

The new first-class battleship *Duncan*, built and engined by the Thames Ironworks Shipbuilding and Engineering Company,

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returned to Chatham on November 4th, after three weeks' absence at sea, during which she successfully underwent an exhaustive series of steam trials. A mean speed—under natural draught—of 19.11 knots per hour was registered. This is the highest speed attained by any other vessel or her class, and it is naturally regarded with much satisfaction in naval circles.

The *Cornwallis*, sister ship to the *Duncan*, also built and engined by the same Company, is about to undergo her steam trials prior to being handed over to the Admiralty officials. It is anticipated that she may even exceed the speed attained by the *Duncan*.

THE NEW AMERICAN MINISTER.

The Washington *Despatch* publishes the following :—

Lloyd Griscom of Philadelphia, at present United States Minister to Persia, has been selected by President Roosevelt as Minister to Japan to succeed Mr. Buck, who recently died in the Mikado's empire. Mr. Griscom will be succeeded at Teheran by Richmond Pearson of North Carolina, at present Consul General at the Persian capital and formerly a Representative in Congress from Ohio.

Lloyd Carpenter Griscom, the new Minister to Japan, is a son of Clement A. Griscom, President of the International Navigation Company, and was born in Philadelphia on November 4, 1872. His early education was received in private schools in Philadelphia and in Geneva and Paris. He entered the University of Pennsylvania in 1887 and was graduated from that institution in the class of 1891. Two years were then devoted to the study of law in the university law school, and in 1893 he was appointed one of the secretaries to the Embassy in London under Thomas F. Bayard, retaining that position until 1895.

Mr. Griscom then returned to this country and, in the winter of 1895-96, took a trip to Central America with Somers Somerset, the son of Lady Henry Somerset of England, and Richard Harding Davis, the adventure figuring largely in the latter's novel, "Three Gringoes in Central America." In 1896, Mr. Griscom was admitted to the bar in New York City and during the next year served as an Assistant District Attorney under William M. K. Olcott. From this position he retired on account of failing health and passed more than a year at his ranch in Arizona.

On the outbreak of the war with Spain Mr. Griscom was commissioned a captain of volunteers and made an aide-de-camp on the staff of Major General Wade.

In March 1899, Mr. Griscom resigned from the army and went abroad for his health, and while in Europe was appointed Secretary of Legation under Minister Oscar S. Straus at Constantinople. In June, 1901, Mr. Straus having been succeeded by John G. A. Leishman as Minister at Constantinople, Mr. Griscom was appointed Minister to Persia, to succeed Herbert W. Bowen who had been transferred to Venezuela.

On November 2, 1901, Mr. Griscom was married at St. Margaret's Church, Wesminister, London, to Miss Elizabeth Duer Bronson, a daughter of the late Mr. Frederic Bronson of New York.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There is talk of selling the Wakamatsu Foundry to a private firm. Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro is spoken of as the buyer. Mr. Yasuda, well known as the founder of the *Kyosai Seimei Hoken Kaisha* (Mutual Life Insurance Company) and of the Yasuda Bank, is one of Japan's principal capitalists. Our readers doubtless remember that he was in treaty, a few months ago, with the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung for the purchase of the latter's manufacturing enterprises at Wu-chang. We can not tell whether there is any truth in the rumour of his purchase of the Wakamatsu Foundry. The transaction would undoubtedly relieve the Government of some embarrassment, but of course a very heavy sacrifice would have to be made. No private company could afford to pay for the factory more than a small fraction of the twenty and odd millions it has cost.

"I have lived in Japan for twenty-six years, and have come to regard that country as home," said Mr. Pors, of Yokohama, in a recent conversation with a Washington interviewer. He added :—"There used to be tremendous profit in most every kind of exporting business in the Orient, but owing to the keen competition that prevails nowadays, there isn't the revenue of the old days. Times are fairly good in Japan now, though we have passed through a time of considerable depression. The silk trade is showing a very healthy growth, and the volume of silk exports is constantly on the increase. I do not believe that the alliance between England and Japan makes the least difference in international trade relations. In other words, American and German houses get just as much business as they did prior to the adoption of the alliance, though in the matter of government contracts, such as the building of war vessels, no doubt the preference would be given to England."

A strike of post-men at the central post office in Tokyo took place on the morning of the 3rd instant. The men are said to have been discontented with the New Year's presents given to them at the close of 1902. They found these gifts altogether inadequate in view of their usually scanty emoluments. Several of them went on a carouse and returned to their quarters in a boisterous mood by way of protest. Being reprimanded by their superiors, they defiantly replied that such a peccadillo should not be seriously considered at this festive season. That, however, was only a pretext for stopping work, which they did so soon as the more turbulent roisterers had been handed over to the police. The result was that a delay of 4 hours occurred in the distribution of the Tokyo mails.

Tokyo journals publish paragraphs about the new palace now in course of construction for the Prince Imperial in the Akasaka Park. The palace is to have a steel frame by way of security against earthquakes and, for the rest, it will be built of granite. Its area—that is to say, the area of the foreign-style edifice—is from 1700 to 1800 *tsubo*, and the style is modern, though in designing the interior decorations the architect has had recourse to mediæval French and Moorish fashions. There is also to be a Japanese building but it has not yet been commenced, though the foreign building has been carried as far as the lower-window-sill course. Mr. Katayama, the chief architect, will pay another visit to Europe and America for purposes of investigation, setting out on the 10th of the month. He will spend a considerable time in Paris.

The *Official Gazette* publishes another long list of rewards in connexion with the North-China affair. We have not counted the names accurately, but there seem to be about 1,500. The largest reward in this batch goes to Mr. Ishii, Secretary of the Foreign Office, who receives 1,800 *yen*.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States has accustomed us to big figures, but those which deal with the business done by the Society last year (1902) must surely be record ones. The local office of the Society in Yokohama has received these figures in a telegram from the Head Office. Of course they are preliminary to the detailed balance sheet. The new business written during the year amounts, we learn, to gold $275,000,000, the outstanding assurance being gold $1,290,000,000. The assets have increased to gold $360,000,000 and the surplus has now reached the enormous sum of gold $75,000,000. Such figures are very suggestive.

The Princess Imperial is said to be again *enceinte*, and her confinement is expected next July.

A curious illustration was recently afforded of the working of German laws which require manufacturers to provide for or against sickness among their work-people. An employer of labour is virtually compelled to insure his hands against illness, and if he fails to do so, he has to pay their sick expenses out of his own pocket. The illustrative case is this :—"A tailor recently engaged a tailoress who fell ill a few days after her engagement, and, unfortunately for him, before she had been enrolled on the register of the local sick fund. It was then, of course, too late to register the girl, so that the employer was obliged to provide medical nud nursing attendance at his own expense, which was considerable, as her illness, which terminated in death, lasted some weeks. Had the girl contracted a cold, through the draughtiness of a workroom, or been laid low by some fever or another through no fault of her own? Oh, no! She had, as a matter of fact, brought about her illness by swallowing a poisonous medicine with a certain object which I need not particularly detail. British manufacturers who sometimes deplore their burdens should not forget this strange but true anecdote."

Mr. Clay MacCauley's many friends in Japan will be glad to have a message from him at this season of the year in the shape of the following beautiful lines which he contributes to *The Independent* for December 4th :—

Oh! were I blind I still should know
The splendid sun were shining :
His warmth would, through the unseen glow,
Fill eyes for vision pining.
And were I deaf, I still should feel
Elysian music round me :
In soundless ears would yet be real
The thrill that once had found me.
So, were I dumb, 'twould matter not
That words could ne'er be spoken :
For soul to soul can voice its thought
Though silence be unbroken.

There has been observable of late in England a strong tendency to recognise how useful and necessary Great Britain and France are to one another, and the French also are happily developing a consciousness of the the same kind. The following extract from a recent issue of *The Times* will illustrate this :—

M. Jean Finot, editor of the *Revue des Revues* and a clear-sighted writer, extracts from whose previous article on France and England were published in your columns, now publishes a second article, from which I quote a passage so opportune and practical that it will produce a great impression on every mind sincerely interested in French international relations. He says :—

"Great Britain deserves the name of the richest and most important of French colonies. France is so bound up with her fate that the disappearance of England's economic power would cause her incalculable mischief. Our total exports in 1901 were only 4,155,000,000f. of which England took 1,264,000,000f., or more than 30 per cent. of all the merchandise which we cast on the world's market. But even of more importance is the fact that the amount of English purchases in France is constantly growing. From 1,032,000,000ft. in 1869 it rose to 1,132,000,000f. in 1897, to 1,238,000,000f. in 1899, and to 2,264,000,000f. in 1901, thus showing an increase of 232,000,000f., or over 22 per cent., in five years. Now the purchases from the mother country of all the French colonies, including Algeria, 259,000,000f., and Tunis, about 34,000,000f., together those scattered all over the world about 183,000,000f. did not amount in 1900 to more that 476,000,000f.

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Besides this colossal amount of purchases, the English yearly spread considerable sums in France. The money left in our country by Englishmen visiting Paris or their favourite resorts is commonly estimated at 500,000,000f., thus making 1,800,000,000f. as the formidable total yearly paid by England to France."

One effect of subsidies and protective tariffs is that manufactured goods are quoted at cheaper rates for purposes of export than for sale at home. German iron and steel, for example, being in weak demand for domestic use, are offered in England and America at cost prices, sales that cover expenses, even though they leave no profits, being an alternative more agreeable than the closing of factories. America has met this situation by deciding that German exporters of steel and iron must pay duties on prices charged in the German domestic market not on quotations for the American market, and it is said that many German furnaces have had to be extinguished in consequence. These happenings furnish a striking commentary on the fallacy of protection, which practically decrees that in the interests of protected industries, the public shall pay prices much higher than producers would be satisfied to receive under normal conditions. America herself, though her customs authorities contrive, as above stated, to deprive the American people of opportunities to obtain cheap foreign goods, manages to subject the English manufacturer to embarrassing competition by the reflex action of her own protective system. For after her manufacturers have made sufficient profits by sales in the home markets, they send their remaining stocks to England, where they can afford to sell them at even less than cost price. England has no tariff to guard her against that kind of competition. She has only to console herself with the thought that the ill wind which injures her producers blows good for her consumers.

We may soon expect to see in the Far East the floating exhibition planned by the "Commercial Oriental Expedition Company." The White Star Steamship *Oregon* (2,335 tons) is to be used for the purpose, and we read that she is to visit China, Japan, the Philippines, Australia, South Africa and other markets, "with a view to assisting the development of trade between those countries and the United States. The voyage will extend over six months, the lower deck of the vessel being converted into a series of sample rooms, each exhibitor being charged £400 for floor space sufficient to show about a couple of tons of samples. Each firm exhibiting will have one or more representatives on board, and agents of American houses at the various ports of call will be duly advised of the dates of arrival, and the manner in which they may best assist in furthering the objects of the expedition. Special attention will be given to South African and Australasian requirements, especially in connection with pastoral, agricultural, and mining appliances. Americans in Australia express their conviction that the trip will prove the means of securing a considerable amount of fresh trade to the United States."

The usual ceremony took place in the Imperial Palace on the morning of the 5th instant, to mark the commencement of official business in the New Year. The Emperor gave audience to the Princes of the Blood, the leading nobles, the Ministers of State and the Foreign Representatives, an assemblage of 352 personages. After receiving the Princes the Sovereign proceeded to the Throne Room, where the whole company assembled. His Majesty spoke a few words of welcome which were translated into French by Baron Sannomiya. His Excellency Count Katsura replied on behalf of the Cabinet and His Excellency Baron d'Anethan, as Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, performed a similar office on behalf of himself and his colleagues, Baron Sannomiya again acting as interpreter. Subsequently the distinguished company had the honour of lunching with the Emperor. Marquis Ito did not attend, but Marquis Yamagata was present.

The Spanish Representative in Tokyo will be surprised to discover that he has suddenly become possessed of a wife and daughter and that the two ladies were recently annoyed by a drunken soldier who wanted to shake hands with them. M. de Barrera having been a resident of Tokyo for many years, Japanese journals and the Yokohama English newspaper which reproduces their tale might reasonably have been expected to be better informed, but, as we have often had occasion to observe, Yokohama is a long way from Tokyo.

Hawaii has at length been brought within the circle of reasonably rapid communication. Hitherto in sending a message to Honolulu it has been necessary to wire in the first place to San Francisco, and thence make use of the post, the total time required being about a fortnight. But a cable having been laid between Hawaii and San Francisco, there is now electric communication right through. The *Fiji Shimpo* has received a message within 13 hours of the time of its despatch from Honolulu. It is expected that the cable will be laid from Hawaii to Manila by next July.

The Emperor has been pleased to confer the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure on Mr. Janson, formerly in the service of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and the Fifth Order of the Rising Sun on Professor Gulick of the Kyoto University.

The *Official Gazette* announces that Dr. Ishigami Toru, head of the Osaka Vaccine Lymph Laboratory, has discovered the germ of small-pox. Dr. Ishigami, who is a pupil of Dr. Kitasato, has been engaged in this investigation since 1893, with intermissions. In 1894 he gave up the work owing to pressure of official duties, but having been appointed, in 1896, a teacher in the Naval College, he obtained access to the necessary instruments, and resumed his efforts, changing his line of inquiry. Another interruption occurred from a similar cause, and not until 1898, when he was appointed head of the Osaka Vaccine Lymph Laboratory, could he devote himself again to study. Two years later he found a microscopic green bacillus in the pus of the disease, and subsequent experiments showed him that this animalcule is not only the prime cause of small-pox, but also that associated with it is another bacillus which is extensively present in skin diseases of animals and human beings. He separated the two and succeeded in cultivating them so as to obtain clear proof that one is the germ of small-pox. He has prepared an accurate account of his investigations and their result, appending a drawing of the bacillus.

The *Fiji Shimpo's* method of celebrating the New Year on this occasion was to assemble a thousand children of the Tokyo poor and give them a day's enjoyment, including juggling feats, top-spinning, music, dancing, feasting and all kinds of amusements. Hitherto the *Fiji* had organized pic-nics, but this entertainment, given in the building of the Kabuki Theatre, seems to have been better suited to the season and was in every respect a marked success. It lasted from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., and it doubtless constituted a red-letter day in the lives of the little ones.

EDUCATION IN AMERICA.

Professor F. de Martens, who fills the chair of international law in the University of St. Petersburg, and who was proposed as umpire in the house-tax question, visited the Yale Bicentary Celebration in 1902 as representative of the Russian Universities. He makes the following remarks about education in America :—

All that I saw and heard of the American system of national education has left on me a favourable and lasting impression. The method of instruction is characterized by a marked simplicity and heartiness. The relations between teachers and scholars are not formal, but rather friendly and intimate. The teachers avail themselves of every opportunity and chance of making their pupils ocularly acquainted with the objects of surrounding life and with the manifestations of nature. The pupils in class during lesson time often put questions to the teacher, enter into discussion with him, ask for explanations and defend their own opinions. Such discussions scarcely ever transgress the limits of respect due to the teacher, who always has the means of checking a pupil should he forget himself and his position. Any collision between a teacher and his pupils is of rare occurrence, not from any fear of threatening punishment, but owing to the simplicity and cordiality of mutual relations. An American teacher is not only the teacher but the trusted and sincere friend of his pupils. He is interested in their life, their ambitions and their trend of thought. Not only in the class-rooms, but also in their walks, in their school games and in their school solemnities, the teachers are at one with their pupils, seek their familiar intercourse and try to learn their individual character.

There is another not less characteristic trait in American school life—a close feeling between the school and the family. I never found on the part of American parents the slightest trace of distrust or enmity toward their children's school. On the contrary, the parents praise, appreciate and like their school, take a lively concern and, together with society at large, are keenly interested in its prosperity and successes. Long and minute accounts of any school ceremony, as, for instance its matches, theatrical representations, literary debates, or hops, are willingly inserted in the columns of the local paper; for all school festivities are looked on as public celebrations.

This fortunate state of things guarantees the union of the two forces, the school and the family, and insures the attainment of the ideal end of education, the harmonious development of the mental and physical faculties of youth. In this respect American mothers render a great and priceless service. Inasmuch as the fathers have all their time occupied in business affairs and in the struggle for existence, the mothers devote themselves with untiring zeal to the culture and education of their children. They very often accompany them to school, are present at the lessons and habitually consult with the teachers as to their children's capacities.

I am firmly convinced that it is to the existence of this uninterrupted friendly bond between the family and the school we must attribute the vast superiority of the American school. A like community of active interest between school and family is not to be found in any part of the European continent. But it is impossible to doubt that only by the united forces of the school and family can we hope to reach the high aim of education and culture which should be one and the same for all civilized peoples.

Turning to higher education, we find nothing in the Old World equalling the lavish way in which the Americans have treated their universities, colleges, libraries and laboratories. Some of the American universities are fabulously rich. The fact is still more striking to visitors from our side of the ocean when we see in one and the same city several completely independent universities.

If the life of a professor at an American university is a happy and pleasant one, the life of the students is organised after a perfect and almost ideal scheme. The framework in which the life of the American students is fashioned is so attractive that involuntarily it excites a feeling of envy in all those who are only too well acquainted with student life in the Old World, and the more so because its outward features

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are in thorough harmony and accordance with its inner and essential nature.

I was frequently struck during my stay in America with the fact that the educated and intelligent classes interest themselves very little in the politics of their country. Every one is occupied with his own private affairs, and politics are regarded as forming the special province of professional politicians. We can, therefore, easily understand that American students take far less interest in the political questions of the day than we might otherwise have expected. Student and university interests cover so wide a ground and are so engrossing that there remain but little time or even desire to occupy one's self with political squabbles.

Every European who is at all acquainted with the history of the American universities must have been struck with its two characteristic features; firstly, the astonishing generosity with which Americans constantly come forward to advance the cause of national education, and, secondly, the equally astonishing liberality with which the doors of their schools and universities are thrown open to every class of society. Several writers have of late even in America itself, thought fit to denounce these acts of extraordinary munificence and have attributed this colossal generosity on the part of American millionaires in aiding the development of university culture to motives of vanity and self-interest. For my own part I am firmly convinced that accusations of this kind can with more propriety be brought against European millionaires, who are lavishly rewarded for their liberality by titles and orders of distinction. But Rockefeller, Carnegie or Stanford have nothing of this kind to expect.

The American universities mainly win our sympathy by the friendly relations they have created and maintained between professors and students. If the professors form a "social aristocracy" among the people of America, the students are without doubt the beloved children of the whole people. In America all alike are interested in the fate of their universities and in the prosperity of the university youths.

OFFICIAL CHANGES.

Mr. K. Okada, of the Governor's Secretariat, Kanagawa Kencho, courteously sends us the following note:—

I have to report to you an official promotion and new appointments in this prefecture, the news of which I believe will be received with a feeling of congratulation amongst many foreign friends of these gentlemen:

Mr. TAKASUKE RINOIYE (Secretary of this prefecture), appointed Governor of Toyama Prefecture.

Mr. KUWABARA (Inspector of Education in this prefecture), appointed Secretary of Kagawa Prefecture.

Mr. SAKAYA (Councillor of this prefecture), appointed Secretary of Shiga Prefecture.

Mr. TOMEGORŌ TANIGUCHI (Secretary of Fukuoka prefecture), appointed to succeed Mr. Rinoiye.

Mr. TOYOSUKE HATA (Councillor of Chiba prefecture), appointed to succeed Mr. Sakaya.

Mr. Rinoiye will leave on the 5th at one o'clock for his new post, but his family will remain here until the time when he proceeds to Tokyo to attend the Governors' meeting, which is expected to be held in the capital about the middle of this month.

CUSTOMS APPEALS.

Three decisions by the Minister of Finance with regard to appeals by foreign firms in Yokohama in connection with the imposition of Custom duties on imported articles appear in the *Official Gazette*. The first deals with the appeal of Mr. R. Schuffner, No. 25, Yamashita-cho. as to the imposition of duties on a kind of woolen cloth imported by him. The petition is rejected.

The second refers to an appeal concerning the imposition of duties on a socket for use in electric lighting, brought by Mr. E. Eddison, reprsenting the firm of Messrs. L. J. Healing & Co., No. 74, Yamashita-cho. This petition is also rejected.

The third refers to an appeal relating to the imposition of duty on blankets, and is lodged by Mr. H. Heller, representing Messrs. Heller Bros., No. 176, Yamashitacho. The appeal in this case is upheld.

U.S. NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

Considerable interest will doubtless have been awakened in Europe as well as in America by the manœuvres of the U.S. fleets in the Caribbean Sea, which have just been brought to a close. The operations reproduced such conditions as might be supposed to prevail should a state of war exist between the United States and one of the European Powers, the particular question to be solved being whether a weak squadron could, in the face of a strong squadron, seize and fortify a base on the island of Porto Rico. The whole east and north coast of the island from Mayaguez on the east to Culebra island on the west was set open for this purpose.

We may premise that the Blue or U.S. squadron, which was under the command of Rear Admiral Higginson, was very much the stronger of the two forces employed. To determine the strength of the opposing squadrons the authorities gave each battle-ship the value of 20 points; a heavily protected cruiser, 8 points; a small protected cruiser, 5 points, a gunboat, 3 points, and a torpedo boat or tender, 1 point each. On this basis it was estimated that the Blue squadron was worth 126 points. The White, or hostile, squadron was commanded by Rear-Admirals Sumner and Crowninshield, combined under the former, of the value of 66 points. The duty of this squadron, as we have said, was to secure a base.

The official plan of operations read thus:—

"In the afternoon of December 5 the Blue fleet learn that one of the scouts sights the White fleet on December 2, in latitude 115 degrees north, longitude 45 west, a position about 900 miles to the eastward of Barbadoes.

"The White fleet represents an advanced detachment of an enemy, whose object is to secure a base in Porto Rican waters, between and including Mayaguez on the west and Great Harbour, Culebra, on the east; also to mine the main ship channel of the port before 6 p.m., December 10, at which time the problem ends.

"A—If it enters one port selected and has worked one hour in laying mines before the arrival of a Blue force fifty per cent. greater than its own, it wins.

"B—If it enters the port and completes the mining of the channel before the arrival of a Blue force double its own, it wins.

"White loses if intercepted by a superior Blue force at sea or in less than one hour after it enters the port.

"The Blue force to win must (with a superior force) meet a White fleet at sea or within one hour after it has anchored in the port selected.

"(B) If the White force has been at anchor more than an hour but not long enough to plant all its mines, the Blue force must be fifty per cent. greater than the White."

Of the cruising movements of the Blue squadron practically nothing had been made public when the mail left, but it will be interesting to learn how such a numerically strong force was unable to protect against a weak hostile squadron less than two hundred miles of coast. For the defence proved quite futile. Leaving the neighbourhood of Trinidad on the morning of Dec. 4th (according to a report by the U.S. Consul there) the enemy arrived on the Porto Rican coast early in the morning of Dec. 9th without having been intercepted, or apparently even sighted by the Blue cruisers, and he accomplished his part without molestation. The following telegram dated Mayaguez, Dec. 9th gives details:—

A notable victory was achieved this morning by Admiral Sumner, in command of the White squadron, with the *Iowa*, *Illinois*, *Albany* and *Chicago*. He captured Mayaguez without resistance at 6.24 o'clock this morning and immediately mined the harbour. The *Nashville* and *Eagle* subsequently entered the channel and reported that the *Atlanta* and the *San Francisco* had last been seen off Ponce and that perhaps they had been overtaken.

When entering the Mona passage at 2 o'clock this morning the squadron stopped for a short time. No Blue scouts were sighted until dawn. The *Olympia*, *Cincinnati*, *Detroit* and *Montgomery* were seen. These vessels had been scouting on the north shore of Porto Rico. It is remarkable that they failed to sight the White squadron, especially as the night was clear and there was half a moon until 1 o'clock.

All preparations for mining the harbour had been made when the four vesseis of the White squadron dropped their anchors in Mayaguez harbour at 6.24 this morning. The last vessel to anchor was the *Chicago*. Boats were lowered at once, and the mining of the channel was finished in thirty-four minutes.

The *San Francisco* and the *Atlanta* arrived here this afternoon, thus completing Admiral Sumner's squadron and making his victory greater even than it was this morning. To-night Admiral Sumner officially notified the squadron that the problem had come to an end. During the evening eleven vessels of the Blue squadron were sighted, but they did not approach the port.

FIRES.

Fire broke out shortly after one o'clock on the morning of January 2nd in two dwelling-houses occupied by Chinese at No. 130 Yamashitacho. The Satsumacho and Police Brigades turned out and soon four streams from the hydrants and one from the steamer were playing on the flames. The buildings were two-storied, brick-faced, tile and plaster, tile roofed, each divided into eight rooms. By the exertions of the firemen the fire was confined to its place of origin. Supt. Morgin expresses the opinion that it broke out simultaneously in the two structures.

Another fire occurred in a waste paper shop occupied by Hosaka Torakichi at Wakatakecho, Ichome, Yokohama, at one o'clock on the 3rd inst. Thirteen houses were destroyed and four damaged. The cause was accidental.

NEW FIRE ALARMS.

Henceforth alarms for Fires will be given from the Satsumacho Fire Brigade's Iron Tower as follows:—

Bell rung for 3 minutes in succession for Government Buildings.

4 Bells for 10 minutes, within Yamashitacho.

2 Bells for 10 minutes, outside Yamashitacho, viz:—Motomachi to Ishikawa Sanchome; Kangai, the opposite side of the O-okagawa, *i.e.* Yoshihamacho, Matsukagecho Itchome, Kotobukicho Itchome, Ogicho Itchome and Okinacho Itchome; Kannai, *i.e.* from Sakaicho to Kaigan Itchome and Minatocho Itchome.

3 Bells for 10 minutes, within Yamatecho.

1 Bell for 5 minutes, for fires beyond the above limits, *i.e.* the rest of Yokohama.

N. MORGIN,
Superintendent.

Yokohama, 5th January, 1903.

LADIES' HOCKEY CLUB.

A game of hockey was played on the Y.C. & A.C. ground on Thursday afternoon beginning at 3 o'clock. The play was not of such a high order as that of the previous Friday, and the game ended in a draw, each side securing 5 goals. But it was agreed to continue the play till one more goal was scored, and then F. O. Stuart did the necessary, making a win to the Whites by 6 goals to 5. The Whites were captained by Mrs. A. W. Read and the Reds by Miss E. Kilby, and formed up as follows:—

"WHITES."

Goal.—Momban.
Backs—Miss Dodds, H. C. Goodban.
Half Backs.—Miss Bailey, H. Y. Irwine, Mrs. A. W. Read (Capt).
Forwards.—M. Marshall, K. Dodds, Miss Kilby, F. O. Stuart.

"REDS."

Goal.—Momban.
Backs.—W. E. L. Sweet, A. W. Read.
Half Backs.—Miss Ross, Miss Abenheim, Mrs. Hayward.
Forwards.—S. Ford, W. S. Moss, Miss S. Kilby (Capt.), F. Balden.
Referee.—H. W. Kilby.

The usual Club game will be played on Wednesday next at 3.30 p.m. sharp, when it is hoped a good number of members will put in an appearance.

The winter in North America is very severe. There was a foot deep of snow in New Jersey in the first week of December. The wolves of Mexico and New Mexico have descended from the mountains and are preying upon sheep in the valleys.

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SERIOUS ACCIDENT.

We regret to report a *jinrikisha* accident on the evening of Saturday which has resulted in rather severe consequences to Mr. Geo. A. Adam, Manager of the Oriental Hotel in Kobe. Mr. Adam, who had been spending a few days in Yokohama, was proceeding to the station in order to catch the evening train for Kobe. Suddenly, when near the station his *jinrikisha* came into violent collision with an omnibus and he was thrown out, falling heavily upon his left shoulder. Fortunately several friends had accompanied him to see him off, so that Dr. Koch was speedily summoned and Mr. Adam, who was greatly shaken, was brought to his brother's residence at No. 10. It was found that his left shoulder was dislocated. After some trouble this was put right and the patient is in as satisfactory a state as could be expected.

Mr. G. A. Adam, who, we are glad to learn, is recovering from the effects of his severe fall, will be able to leave Yokohama for Kobe this evening. His many friends in both communities wish him a brief and successful convalescence.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

A heavy train on the Lake Shore Railroad was recently run from Elkhart to Chicago, a distance of 101 miles, in 100 minutes.

A legal definition of what is noon is sought in an interesting suit now in the courts of Kentucky. Fire was discovered in a Louisville building at 11.45 a.m., standard time. The insurance policies expired at noon of that day. The insurance companies' claim is that solar time, seventeen minutes earlier, should govern, and that therefore the policies had lapsed.

The Postmaster-General of the United States, in his annual report, recommends a two-cent (one penny) rate of postage between the United States and Great Britain, France and Germany. He mentions that the representatives of the foreign commercial bodies now visiting the States in connection with the inauguration of the New York Chamber of Commerce building are strongly in favour of the change.

The big tree recently described by the *Scientific American* as the largest in the world is outdone by another which has just been reported from Fresno. This newly found tree measured six feet from the ground, is 154 feet and 8 inches in circumference, from which it follows that it is about 50 feet in diameter. Fortunately the tree stands on the Government reserve and will therefore be spared the attack of the insatiable axe.

The Methodists of the United States, and especially those who were friends of the late Bishop William Taylor, who recently died in California, will be asked to assist in the work of raising a $2,000,000 memorial fund for him. The movement has been started by the Board of Trustees of Taylor University, India, and their idea is to have the memorial take the form of a building on the university campus.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society has announced to the clerical force that the society will forthwith insure the life of each employee for $1,000, and keep the policy in force so long as he remains in the employment of the society. One-half the amount of the insurance is to be paid at the employee's death to his wife or family, or any designated beneficiary, the other half to go into a fund, to be used by the officers for pensions, or in other ways to provide for living employees who have grown old or infirm in the service of the society. Over 600 persons are affected.

Lake Superior traffic passing through the "Soo" canal for the season up to November 1 reached 30,931,213 net tons, a gain of over 25 per cent. on the early movement last year. More than two-thirds of the freight this year—21,524,409 tons—was iron ore. Unless navigation should close at an unusually early date, which does not now seem probable, the freight movement for the season will reach a total of 35,000,000 tons, while the iron-ore shipments will be not far from 25,000,000 tons, or more than 70 per cent. of the total.

The first dog to receive benefit from an insurance company lives in Colorado. This distinguished canine won his reward by barking at a red light in Boulder county, which caused his master to awake and save a train from being wrecked at a burning bridge. President Frank Trumbull of the Colorado and Southern received a letter from Frankland Du'Bois of New York soon after the occurrence. The letter was accompanied by a cheque for $25. Now it happens that a $25 cheque will buy a very large collar, while it was a very small dog that did the barking.—*New York Times.*

The U. S. battleship *Texas*, which left the Portsmouth Navy Yard in November returned on the 30th of that month from her trial trip to the Capes in a disabled condition having met with a serious accident which threatened the lives of one-half of her crew. The guns in the turrets, upon discharging, broke the recoils and shattered their foundations. A terrific shock to the battleship followed. Water pipes, steam pipes and other apparatus were crushed, while the mixed water and glycerine with which the recoils were filled flooded the rooms of the turrets. No one was hurt, but men from the ship described it as a miracle that one-half of the crew were not killed.

The Smithsonian Institution has published a new edition of Dr. Langley's "Experiments in Acrodynamics," first printed 11 years ago. In summing up, Dr. Langley speaks of the prospects for the future somewhat as follows: Since that time, he says he has demonstrated that mechanical flight is possible by actually performing it with steel flying machines nearly a thousand times heavier than air, driven by steam. These machines weighed from 30 to 40 pounds and flew from half to three-quarters of a mile at speeds varying from 20 to 30 miles per hour, It is believed by Dr. Langley that the time is now very near when human beings will be transported at high velocities, though perhaps at first under exceptional conditions, such as are demanded in the arts of war rather than of peace.

The gold coinage of the United States is entering almost entirely into storage, according to the Director of the Mint, who says in his annual report that the U.S. Treasury now holds about $500,000,000 of coined gold, which he thinks is more than will be called for in a generation to come. Moreover, practically all the current coinage is being deposited in the Treasury in exchange for certificates. For domestic circulation the American people evidently prefer the Treasury certificates, and when gold is required for export, as is well known, it is wanted in bars. The situation leads to the suggestion that certificates might well be issued against bars, a result which might be arrived at by some modification of existing statutes. The report shows that the mint is feeling the pressure of the demand for coins of small denominations, reflected in the recent report of Treasurer Roberts. The coinage of the year has, it appears never been exceeded as regards the number of pieces struck, but the value fell from $136,349,781 in the fiscal year 1901 to $94,526,678 in the fiscal year ending June 30 last.

The United States postal revenues continue to expand at a marked rate. The total receipts of the Post Office Department from all sources for the last fiscal year amounted to $121,848,047. This means that there was an increase of over $10,000,000 over the revenues of the preceding year, and, notwithstanding a large increase in expenditures, the deficit for the year amounted to only $2,937,649, or nearly $1,000,000 less than the deficit for the preceding year. For the current fiscal year and that immediately succeeding larger deficits are expected, Of course, the Postmaster General does not view deficits with any apprehension whatever. Indeed, it is well known to be the policy of the U.S. government, whenever the postal receipts exceed or even approach the expenditures, to extend postal facilities and cheapen the cost of the service to the public. The deficits of to-day represent a very much smaller percentage of the revenue than those of thirty years ago, when the revenue was less than a fifth of what it is to-day, and they would be swallowed up in any year were it not for extensions of the service, remarks *Bradstreets*. Attention is directed by the Postmaster General to one very striking fact illustrating the magnitude of postal growth in the United States. It is this, that the increase in postal receipts last year was greater by $1,698,786 than the entire receipts of the service in the year 1860. A truly remarkable advance is indicated by that comparison.

According to a Washington telegram the U.S. State Department, in preparing to present to King Oscar, the arbitrator of the dispute between the United States and England on the one side, and Germany on the other, growing out of the Samoan troubles of 1899, the second phase of the case, finds itself in a peculiar position. The recent decision of King Oscar touched only the principle involved, namely, the liability of the United States and Great Britain for damages sustained by foreigners as a result of the joint naval operations. That having been decided against the United States and Great Britain and in favour of Germany, the next step is to prepare and to submit to the arbitrator detailed statements of the individual losses. By the terms of the arbitration treaty, each country concerned undertook to look after the claims of its own citizens. Thus it appears, in the case of the United States, that the Government is in the peculiar position of presenting to the arbitrator for payment the claims of a number of American citizens, after it had, through elaborate argument, presented to the arbitrator by special counsel specifically denied liability for any such claims.

All the signs of the times are favourable for a remarkable development in the manufacturing industries in the neighbourhood of San Francisoc bay at an early day. The San Francisco *Chronicle* report the breaking of the ground for the foundation of a large steel and wire works in East Oakland. Since then it has been given out that an immense iron and copper smelting plant is to be erected shortly on the Alameda side of Oakland harbour opposite to the site of the steel works. It is in the air, also, that a number of manufactories are to follow the construction of the San Joaquin & Terminal Railroad, to which a franchise has just been granted to enter Oakland on the south side. Great activity in the same line of development is visible in the neighbourhood of Point Richmond. It is understood that several important manufactories are to be established there as soon as the pipe line of the Standard Oil Company is completed from the Kern county oil fields. The company has a tract of 160 acres at the point, and it is proposed to manufacture a great variety of useful products which are obtainable from the crude petroleum drawn from the Kern river wells. This activity in manufacturing development is the direct result of the cheap fuel which the oil fields of California are now contributing. Added to this is the recognition by manufacturers that a splendid field exists for all kinds of manufacturing and a ready market is at hand for their products. The bay shore furnishes them with a suitable location, ship and car coming together there just as all manufacturers desire they should do.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

The area sown to indigo in India this year is placed at 491,854 acres, against 716,990 acres in 1901.

Mr. Bennett Burleigh, the indefatigable war correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, is now in Somaliland.

It is notified that from the 1st January all silver and copper coins in India will bear the likeness of King Edward VII.

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The last day of the recent military sports at Treviso was marked by a new "record." Lieut. Trissino says the *Popolo Romano*, on his horse "Blaque," performed what is described as the longest jump ever made on horseback. The length was 25ft. 7in.

The *Spectator*, in an article on the Commonwealth of Australia, states that a salary of £10,000 and one house is ample for the Governor-General. The journal adds that it would be well if he received a hint to live as a gentleman and not as a financial prince.

Ghent, with a population of less than 200,000, has more than 100 breweries. Despite this competition, American enterprise has entered the field with a plant capable of producing 264,000 to 316,800 gallons of lager beer annually. The object in starting the brewery was to furnish Belgium with prime lager beer, as it is claimed that there is much variation in the local product, while that imported from Germany is not always stable, particularly during the summer months.

The modern child is apt to be so aggressively modern that one is relieved to hear from the reported interview of an importer that in respect of toys, at any rate, the child is unchangeably conservative. "The beginning and the end of the toy world," he said, "for the girl is the doll and its accessories, and for the boy the stuffed, unbreakable animals, the wheeled traffic, and the sets of games. The Noah's Ark will never die out as long as children are children, and the doll's house will always be a thing of joy."

An Odessa telegram despatched on Nov. 19th states: Messrs. Mantacheff's loading station, in which their tank wagons are filled, has been burning since yesterday evening. Six large reservoirs, each holding 50,000 poods of petroleum, and five smaller ones are burning, besides the company's offices, engine-room, and workmen's dwellings. Six tank wagons have already been burnt out. The station is not insured, and the damage done up to the present is estimated at one million roubles.

The Prince line steamer *Tartar Prince*, Captain MacFarland, New York, November 10, and St. Vincent, November 23, for Port Natal, was burned at sea on November 25. The crew and passengers were saved by the steamer *Argyll*, bound for Algoa Bay. The crew afterward was transferred to the liner *Goth*, Table Bay for Southampton, while the passengers proceeded to their destination on the *Argyll*. The *Tartar Prince* was a steel screw steamship of 3,375 tons gross. She was owned by the Prince line of Newcastle, and was built in 1895.

There is a great future for peat as a fuel. The most productive area for it is the north of Germany and the adjoining parts of Denmark and Holland. In Friesland there are bogs 1,500 square miles in extent, and Germany has more fuel in peat than in coal. *Engineering* says that a square mile of bog 10ft. deep contains peat equal in heating power to over 330,000 tons of coal. Ireland has a million acres of large bogs from 10ft. to 30ft. deep. It is now proposed to use peat fuel for electric power stations in Germany. Great attention is being also paid to the question in Sweden, Norway, and Canada.

The average person would as soon think of eating an oyster in June as of discussing the sea serpent outside the silly season. Yet here he is, back again amongst us in all his glory, only rather more so, says an exchange. This time he has been sighted by Mr. A. H. Raymer, second officer of the steamer *Fort Salisbury*. With eyes like masthead lights, phosphorescent fins, 600 feet of body, tapering from 30 feet to 5 feet in breadth, snorting and stinking, this huge monster, *ingens*, *informe*, &c., slowly sank, &c. Without casting any doubt on the good faith of the second officer, who, doubtless, saw, or thought he saw what he says he saw, this is not a good time to fish for sea serpents.

Berlin is stated to be organising, for the unveiling of the Wagner monument, a musical festival intended to eclipse anything of the kind ever before attempted. The festivities, as sketched by the *Lokalanzeiger* are to last eight days, and are to be marked by a series of Wagner operas more magnificently staged than even at Bayreuth. Nearly all the nations and famous bands of the world will be represented. Strauss and his Viennese Orchestra; Dvorak and his Slavonians from Prague, Massenet and the Philharmonic from Paris, Sousa and his band from Washington, are only a few of the great bands expected. Invitations extend to Oriental countries. The German Government is interesting itself.

Nature and art, as Pope tells us, are always the same. But occasionally artists are caught tripping, after the manner of Appelles, to whom the cobbler could teach a thing or two about sandals. Something of the same kind has happened to Roty's design of "The Sower," which appears on the new French stamps. A Paris correspondent states that somebody has pointed out that the sower is sowing against the wind, which no husbandman would do. Still worse, she has the right arm drawn back, while the right leg is advanced, which is against all the rules of rustic workmanship, the cardinal law of the sower's art being that arm and leg must move in unison. As the design will probably be called in, philatelists will perhaps take the hint.

The subsidy granted to her merchant marine by France has had the effect of building up a fleet which is becoming a serious competitor in ocean carrying, although the French are not a maritime or sea-loving race. The Liverpool *Journal of Commerce* records that the French bounty-fed ships are fast distancing British sailing craft in competition for the lucrative trade of Japan, which the English and a few American ships have for many years controlled. These vessels had a monopoly of the refined oil trade with Japan until about 18 months ago, the product being carried at never less than 25 cents a case. The French have broken into the trade and are now carrying oil at 16 cents a case, at which price the British and American ships would lose money.

According to an article in *Man*, babies in Pendjeh have the back of the head flattened artificially by their mothers, and as another mark of beauty their noses sharpened, and a dimple formed on their chin. The head is flattened by making the child sleep with it on the hard soil, or inside an earthenware pot. Each day the mother presses the nose with her fingers to make it long and pointed, and indents the chin with a stem. In some cases the lips are straightened by means of bands. In America, as is well-known, the Chinooks flatten the forehead, and a dimple on the chin according to the old song, was considered a good feature, as would appear from Campbell's "West Highland Tales." Different peoples esteem different traits of beauty, as may be seen from their old literature and customs of deformation. Individuals also admire different kinds of beauty. Absolute beauty, though it may exist, is not clearly defined as yet. Perhaps the type of Grecian art at its best comes nearest it.

The Hon. Charles Algernon Parsons, F.R.S., to whom the Royal Society has awarded its Rumford medal "for the successful application of his invention of the steam turbine to industrial purposes, and in navigation," is a brother of the Earl of Rosse and a son of the builder of the famous Birr telescope. When Mr. Parsons built the *Turbinia*, in 1896, she was the first vessel to be propelled by the steam turbine. She was, of course, a great success, and was followed by the *Viper* and the *Cobra*; both of these destroyers were lost last year. At the present time there is only one turbine-engined war-vessel in the world. This is H.M.S. *Velox*, and she has the distinction of being the fastest war-ship in the world. Two turbine passenger steamers have been built and three high-speed turbine yachts, whilst next year will witness the running of the first cross-Channel turbine passenger steamer. Mr. Parsons wants to build a turbine liner that will cross the Atlantic in four days.

At the annual sale of raw sealskins, which was held in London on November 18th, the offerings of the Alaska sealskins, that is, those which come from the Pribilov islands, and represent the highest grade of sealskins, advanced 22½ per cent. over last year's figures. About 22,000 of these skins were offered; almost precisely the same quantity as last year, one-half of that offering being the remainder of the 1901 catch, and the balance represents one-half of the 1902 catch. That leaves 11,000 Alaska skins of this year's collection which will not be offered for sale until the winter of 1902. These are now in London, where they remain in cold storage until ready to be disposed of. While the quantity was the same as last year, the demand was greater, causing the advance through more spirited bidding. The prices ranged about $18 to $20, according to quality. There were also 17,000 Northwest coast seals and a nominal quantity of less costly grades of sealskins offered at the sale, all of which advanced in prices in proportion to the new quotations ruling for the Alaskas.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

According to Mr. G. W. Smalley, in *McClure's Magazine* for November, Mr. John Morley is to receive for his Life of Gladstone not less than £10,000.

Capt. Alfred Mahan, U.S.N., retired, has been elected an honorary life member of the Royal United Service Institution in acknowledgement of his valuable contributions to the literature of the British Navy.

The Coronation Durbar at Delhi is to have its official historian in Mr. Stephen Wheeler, who wrote a biography of the late Amir of Afghanistan. But Mr. Wheeler's book is not likely to be the only one; for *Punch* is sending out Mr. Owen Seaman and Mr. E. T. Reed.

"The Smoke of Her Burning" is the title of a new book dealing with certain aspects of the present position of the Church of England and the need of reform. The point of view is that of a patriotic Churchman. The volume will be published immediately by Mr. Grant Richards.

The Rev. A. Robertson, D.D., Venice, author of "The Bible Saint Mark," "Fra Paolo Sarpi," &c., has in the press a new book, entitled "The Roman Catholic Church in Italy." The author treats his subject not from a doctrinal or a ceremonial point of view, but from that of its influence on individual and national character and life.

Writing of English literary affairs, in "La Revue," M. Jean Jussieu asks, "if in ten, fifteen, or twenty years we shall be talking about Rudyard Kipling, Hall Caine, Conan Doyle, Marie Corelli, George Moore, George Gissing, Anthony Hope, Mrs. Humphry Ward, Sarah Grant (*sic*), Stanley Weyman, "de Crockett," Marion Crawford, Christie Murray, and "de Norris?"

In dictating his memoirs, Mr. Kruger used the "I" up to the stage when he became President, and after that "We." The Continental editions of his book read so for the present, but in the English issue the "I" appears all through. Mr. Kruger sanctioned this change when it was suggested to him by his English publisher as being preferable.

At a recent sale of rare books, Messrs. Hodgson and Co., at their rooms in Chancery Lane, realised £74 for a leaf on which Charles Lamb had written three poems—two of them by himself, and signed "C. Lamb." A presentation copy to his daughter of Wordsworth's miscellaneous poems, in four volumes, fetched £20. Some lines by Southey, in pencil, are on one of the fly-leaves.

A pamphlet containing an Order in Council with reference to precautions against plague, dated London, 1603, and inscribed on the title page with the signature "William Shakespeare," was recently discovered on the shelves of the Cathedral Library at Canterbury. This pamphlet

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had been missing from the British Museum for many years, and it has now been restored. The signature is one of the many Shakespearean forgeries of W. H. Ireland.

In view of the late session, and the desirability of giving a complete record of the proceedings with regard to the Education Bill and other important matters, the Proprietors, of "Hazell's Annual" have decided to publish the 1903 edition on January 20th, and not, as in previous years, early in December. This alteration of date will enable the Annual's "double-distilled extract" of the news and events of the year, at home and abroad, to cover the whole year ending December 31st, 1902.

It is remarkable how very considerably the sales of a book are assisted by rare references in Parliament. When Lord Salisbury, some little time ago, alluded in the House of Lords to Sir Herbert Maxwell's book on "Wellington" the result was to set the whole world reading that interesting volume. Any praise from an unexpected quarter seems to influence the sale of a book; people who are wholly unaffected by the expressed opinion of literary experts immediately begin talking about it when it is mentioned by a well-known public man.

Regarding the Krüger Memoirs, which have just appeared, the *Spectator* says:—These Memoirs where dictated by Mr. Krüger to his private secretary, Mr. Bredell, and to Mr. Piet Grobler, who handed their notes to the Rev. Dr. Schowalter. The last cross-questioned the ex-President upon points that required further elucidation. The result has been excellently rendered into English by Mr. Teixeira de Mattos. But the multiplicity of hands has taken the story very far away from the Taal in which it was spoken, and, as in the case of the Amir Abdurrahman's Memoirs, we are puzzled as to how much exactly of the author remains.

Dr. Murakami, of Tokyo, has left England on his way home, says the *Athenæum*, much delighted with the results of his three years' search in the archives of the Continent and England for material illustrating the early relations between those places and Japan. His late visit to Seville, Simancas, and Madrid gave him some very valuable documents, including one detailed account of the Japanese Court and country in 1609 by a Spaniard who was then wrecked on the coast and had to remain in the islands for a year before he could get home. Several early Japanese letters to Europeans were also found by Dr. Murakami. He hopes to print his report to his Government in English as well as in Japanese.

An old climbing controversy is revived in Dr. Norman Collie's new book on the Himalayas The question at issue is: Does the record for high altitudes belong to the men who climbed Aconcagua or to Mr. W. W. Graham, who claimed to have ascended Kabru in the eighties? Kabru is unquestionably higher than Aconcagua—its height is, in fact, according to the trigonometers, above 34,000 ft.—and the only doubt is whether Mr. Graham did not misread the map. Sir Martin Conway and Mr. Douglas Freshfield have both insisted that he did, basing their view on his denial of all symptoms of mountain sickness. Dr. Norman Collie, whose authority is scarcely less than theirs, now steps into the arena, and is equally positive on the other side, preferring strong topographical reasons for his faith. The claims of record-holders being thus impugned, the argument will doubtless be pursued in Alpine circles with a noise like that of one of last summer's avalanches.

Miss Estelle Davenport Adam's book, "This Life and the Next," will appeal to many people. In her preface the compiler says:—"It has especially been sought to record, where obtainable, the writers' latest comments upon Life as they had known it and Death as it presented itself to their imagination." A few days before his death Daudet said:—

When I look at life I do not find it banal, and just because it is notbanal it interests me, and I observe it, and I like to put it in my books. I adore life because it is beautiful, because it is full of poetry and mystery, of seduction and fascination.

Robert Buchanan, who was often in revolt against things as they were, could write thus with sincere conviction:—

I dream'd when I began
I was not born to die,
And in my dream I ran
From shining sky to sky;
And still, now life grows cold
And I am grey and wan,
That infant's Dream I hold,
And end as I began.

Finally we quote this passage from one of R. L. S.'s letters:—

Life is not all Beer and Skittles. The inherent tragedy of things works itself out from white to black and blacker, and the poor things of the day look ruefully on. Does it shake my cast-iron faith? I cannot say it does. I believe in an ultimate decency of things; ay, and if I woke in hell, should still believe it.

If auction prices may be accepted as a measure of public esteem, De Quincey was quite wrong when he affirmed that the works of Charles Lamb were destined to be for ever unpopular. No feature in recent sales is more noteworthy than the prices paid for the "editions principes" of rare pieces from the pen of Charles Lamb. What is now deemed to be his first publication, antedating by two years the "Tales From Shakespeare" of 1807, until recently so accounted, has fetched £240, against the issue price of a shilling. "The Essays of Ella," 1823, published at nine shillings and sixpence, presented to John Clare, the Northamptonshire poet, made the record of £88, against four guineas for a copy in the original state sold eight years ago. 'The Works" of 1818, published at twelve shillings, fetched £69. "The Famous Prince Dorus," dated 1811, issued at one shilling and sixpence, sold for £62; "Miss Leicester's School," 1809, for £35, and "Tales from Shakespeare," published for eight shillings, went for £25 10s Yet another Lamb record was established at Puttick's salesroom the other day, when the first London edition of "Rosamund Gray," dated 1798, in half calf, sold for £51. This romance, whose scene is laid in the village of Widford, near the Blakesmoor, in Hertfordshire, referred to in his essays, was published at two shillings and sixpence. The highest price ever paid in London before seems to have been £30, given in 1899.

THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XVIII.

The work of Ieyasu.—His policy with regard to the Mikado, to Hideyori, to the *daimyo*, and to foreigners.—Commercial relations of Japan with the Spaniards, the Dutch, and the English.—Extension of Japanese commerce.—Decline of the Portuguese.—The affair of "La Madre de Dios."—Intrigues of the Dutch and the Spaniards.—Annexation of the Riukiu islands.—Attempt on Formosa.

Without wishing to detract from the greatness of Ieyasu, undoubtedly the cleverest statesman of Japan, one must nevertheless confess that many writers, Japanese and foreign, delight in exaggerating the importance of his work, whether they attribute to him the unification of Japan, or salute his reign and that of his dynasty as an epoch of happiness, until that time unknown in Japan. It suffices to recall the labours, first of Nobunaga, and then of Hideyoshi, to find that Japan had already been completely pacified before the appearance of Ieyasu. A popular caricature indicates the part which each of these three men had taken in the unification of the country. It shows them making *mochi* (1). Nobunaga, discharging the most laborious part of the work, grinds the rice; Hideyoshi kneads the paste; and Ieyasu eats the *mochi*.

Thus in all things chance served Ieyasu admirably. Besides, he knew how to bide his time till the fruit was ripe, and fell of itself from the tree. This extraordinary patience, sustained by an unconquerable energy, enabled him to surmount all difficulties. In this respect he was much superior to his two predecessors. A popular epigram depicts with marvellous truth the characters of these three celebrated men. Nobunaga, absolute, wishing to be obeyed on the very instant, accustomed to break like glass anyone who resisted his will, expresses himself in these terms: If the nightingale does not sing, kill him! Hideyoshi, a little less violent, speaks thus: If the nightingale does not sing, make him sing. Ieyasu, with a patience and a calm, which were proof against everything, contented himself with saying: If the nightingale does not sing, I will wait till he sings.

As to the reign of Ieyasu and his descendants, a reign which lasted more than two centuries and a half, it marks, in effect, an epoch of peace and tranquillity to which Japan had been little accustomed. But apart from this advantage,—if, however, the complete annihilation of all personal initiative can be regarded as an advantage—the policy of Ieyasu was too egoistical, too exclusive, placing, as it did, the interests of his family above those of the nation. Neither Ieyasu, nor any of his descendants can be regarded as benefactors of a people, whom they isolated from the entire world, in order that they might better rule them despotically.

A slight glance at the policy followed by the Tokugawa is sufficient to convince anyone that their private interests came before those of the entire nation. First of all, towards the Mikado, the legitimate ruler of Japan, their conduct was of the most arbitrary description. In 1612, Ieyasu, learning by his spies that the Court of Kyoto was not very satisfied at the easy unembarrased manner, in which he disposed of Japan, sent Hidetada thither with a formidable army, deposed the Emperor Go-Yozei, and placed on the throne Go-Mino, a boy of sixteen, whom he obliged to marry Kazuko, Hidetada's daughter. In 1630, Iemitsu, the second successor of Ieyasu, not yet being quite reassured as to the disposition of the Imperial Court, obliged the Emperor Go-Mino to cede the throne to his daughter Myosho Tenno, a child of scarcely seven years of age, and who as a relative of the Tokugawa, was entirely under their influence. But the highest point was reached by the famous regulation, that Ieyasu issued in 1615, and caused to be posted up at Kyoto, in the very Emperor's palace. It would be too long to quote in detail the seventeen paragraphs of this regulation(2); suffice to say that Ieyasu therein declares himself the arbiter of Japan, and that the Mikado, being a god, ought not to trouble himself about earthly things, nor issue from his palace, his heaven, even to make the pilgrimage to Ise, as his ancestors had been in the habit of doing. Then, in order to completely isolate the Mikado, this regulation prohibited any *daimyo*, no matter who, from visiting the Imperial Palace of Kyoto, even if the Mikado invited them. The *daimyo* of the south were even forbidden to pass through Kyoto on their journey to Yedo, without having first demanded and obtained the authorization of the Shogun. Finally, the right of conferring titles of nobility, a rare privilege which the Mikado had at all times freely enjoyed, was partly taken from them by this same regulation, in the sense that henceforth every nomination would have to be approved hy the Shogun.

Towards his pupil Hideyori, Ieyasu acted like a cat, which amuses itself with a mouse before killing it. He had decided to destroy him, and only awaited a favourable occasion to get rid of this inconvenient child. It must be confessed that he set to work with extreme discretion. Here again his wonderful patience made him take the road conducting the most surely to his end. He knew that the memory of the Taiko was still too fresh, to permit him to, all at once, overthrow his son Hideyori. Conformably with the desire of the late Taiko, Ieyasu had given his granddaughter in marriage to Hideyori, when he was eleven years of age, and his bride seven (1603).

On the other hand, Ieyasu was not ignorant of the plots that were hatched in the Osaka castle. He knew that this fortress was the rendezvous of all the malcontents shipwrecked by the disaster of Sekigahara. Nor was he ignorant of the fact that Yodogimi, Hideyori's mother, attributed

(1) Cakes made of rice-flour.

(2) Genwa-rei ju shichi jo.

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to him the worst intentions and received his advances with extreme distrust. He had besides more than one opportunity of convincing himself of this. Thus, when in 1611, he had, on the occasion of a voyage to Kyoto, expressed the desire of receiving a visit from Hideyori, Yodogimi was very unwilling to let the latter leave the fortress of Osaka. It was only on the intervention of Asano and of Kato, both swearing that they would die sooner than abandon the child, that she decided to let him go. When they brought back Hideyori that evening to his mother, the latter was almost dead with anxiety. The child, however, had escaped all danger, whilst Kato, earning what he had sown, paid this tardy act of devotion with his life. The cakes that had been placed before them, during the interview with Ieyasu, contained poison. Asano, while pretending to eat them, caused them to disappear inside the sleeves of his coat; but Kato less prudent, ate them and thus absorbed one of these slow poisons, which only produce their effect some time after. He had still time to return to Kumamoto, where he died soon after. To the great consternation of his *kerai* his body had become black as coal. Thus ended Konishi's irreconcilable rival. But, whilst the name of Konishi was doomed to contempt, that of Kato was transmitted to posterity as one of the greatest in the history of Japan. The bonzes, of whom he had always been an ardent disciple, and their greatest benefactor, exalted his memory to the point of making him a god. Not only has his tomb at Kumamoto become a celebrated place of pilgrimage, but numerous temples are dedicated to him, even in Tokyo. Tadahiro, Kato's son, succeeded his father, but in 1632, he was dispossessed, and on his death, the family became extinct.

What reassured Ieyasu in connection with the plots at Osaka, was that the imprudences of the malcontents would surely furnish him, sooner or later, with a plausible pretext for crushing the whole party, and condemning Hideyori for disturbing the tranquillity of the country. While waiting for such an occasion, he saw with considerable satisfaction that Hideyori and his mother foolishly wasted on temples and statues the riches that the Taiko had heaped up in the fortress of Osaka.

Towards the *daimyo*, Ieyasu acted as an absolute master. To begin with, he obliged them all to construct residences at Yedo and to remain there, some six months in the year, others one year out of every two. When they absented themselves from Yedo, they had to leave there, as hostages, their wives and children. Thus it was that the *daimyo*, formerly so proud of their independence, became the submissive servants of the Tokugawa. The latter, observing this great submission, went one step farther. They proceeded to introduce their numerous daughters, granddaughters and nieces into the best families, and to rule them completely by these means; for even a female descendant of the Shogun should be obeyed by everyone, even by her husband. Among the Christian *daimyo*, the Arima, Hachisuka, Kyogoku, Tsugaru, Gamo, Asano, Kuroda and Hosokawa were thus connected with the family of the Shoguns. If to this is added the fact that the number of the Shoguns' children sometimes attained unheard of proportions.—Ienari, the eleventh of the Tokugawa, had fifty of them—it will easily be understood that, at the time of the restoration in 1868, nearly all Japan could claim kinship with the Shogun.

As to the foreigners, Ieyasu did all he could to attract them to his country, for therein he saw the only means of acquiring riches, of which he was very fond. The privileges, hitherto granted to the Portuguese, were extended equally to merchants of other nationalities, especially to the Spaniards. Ieyasu even expressly begged the latter to initiate the Japanese merchants into commerce with foreign countries, and to conduct their ships to Mexico.(3) But as the Spaniards showed little eagerness to extend their relations with Japanese merchants, with whose want of probity they had already become acquainted in the Philippines, they permitted only four Japanese vessels to trade with these isles. Ieyasu then wishing to gain the Spaniards by generosity, permitted in 1609, either merchants or Religious to take up their residence anywhere in Japan, and to freely follow their occupations.(4) As he desired, besides, that some fifty Spanish engineers might come to Japan to exploit the gold mines of Izu and Sado, he had at the beginning of his administration, charged Father Jerome, a Franciscan, to obtain for him this favour of the Governor of the Philippines. A *herai* of Ieyasu, carrying a letter of recommendation from Father Jerome, made a voyage to Manila with this single object in view(5). These negotiations not having come to any conclusion, Ieyasu, or rather his son Hidetada returned to the attack several times. Still in 1612, Hidetada made use of Father Sotelo to resume the negotiations with the King of Spain. But the Spaniards, then fully occupied in their numerous colonies, did not seem particularly eager to accept these offers. Later on, when they seemed disposed to take the Japanese seriously, they insisted on conditions such as the Shogun could not subscribe to.(6) The Shoguns did their best, however, to efface all memory, first of the pillage of the "San Felipe" (1596), and then of the affair of the "Santo Espirito" (1602), in which the captain, Lope de Uloa, delayed by contrary winds on the coasts of Tosa, had to have recourse to force to preserve his ship from the rapacity of the Japanese.(7) Ieyasu and Hidedata permitted the Spaniards to take soundings in the ports and along the coasts of Japan, in order to avoid other shipwrecks, which would expose Spanish vessels to be pillaged by the Japanese.(8) Despite these advances, the Spaniards remained distrustful, and never engaged in any important business transactions with Japan.

On the other hand, the Dutch soon disputed with the Portuguese for the latter's position. In 1600, one of their ships, "De Liefde" going to the Moluccas, was shipwrecked on the coast of Bungo, whence Ieyasu caused the vessel and its crew to be conveyed to Uraga (Sagami). Accused by the Portuguese of being pirates, the Dutch were at first treated with great severity, but the pilot Adams, an Englishman by birth, knew so well how to gain the good graces of Ieyasu, that he became absolutely necessary to him. Adams was in fact very useful to Ieyasu, who was then occupied in extending the commerce of Japan; for being very clever in constructing ships, he was able to make for Ieyasu the vessels necessary for this project. Moreover, he pointed out to him that dealings with the Dutch Company, which then possessed forty ships with more than 5,000 sailors, would give more extension to the commerce of Japan, than the Portuguese would be able to do. From this moment the cause of the Dutch was gained. Adams, while all the time constructing ships, became a sort of intermediary between Ieyasu and the foreign merchants, whether the latter were Dutch, English, or even Spanish.

It was especially the interests of the English that Adams sought to serve. When, in 1613, they arrived for the first time in Japan, it was owing to the intervention of Adams that John Saris, captain of the English ship, had an audience of Ieyasu at Sumpu, and that he was granted permission to establish factories in different places.

Goto Sumiharu, daimyo of the Goto islands, was one of the first to enter into relations with the English. He went in person to visit them at Hirado, in order to invite them to come and carry on commerce in his islands(9).

Thanks to this reception made to foreigners, Japan had, at that time, relations with all the countries of the Far East, and even with Mexico. In all circumstances, Ieyasu exhibited himself as the protector of the new-comers to such an extent that, when in 1613, Domingo Francisco, a Spanish envoy, came from Manila to demand the extradition of the Spaniards and Portuguese, who had come to Japan without the permission of the King of Spain, Ieyasu refused to accede to his request, declaring that Japan was a free country, and that no one could be forced to leave it.(10)

All this commerce of Japan with foreign countries was carried on, at first, through the Portuguese, Spaniards and Dutch. But in a short time, the Japanese merchants, employees in the service of the Europeans, acquired a sufficient knowledge of the foreign manner of conducting business, as to be able to carry on business for themselves(11). They established companies, generally under the patronage of the *daimyo*, built ships on the European model, and visited the most distant countries. The love of gain also induced a great number of Japanese of all conditions to emigrate, and thus it is that there were Japanese settlements in all the countries of the Far East. Several *daimyo*, such as Shimazu, Nabeshima, Kato, Matsura, Hosokawa, Goto and Arima built merchant vessels on their own account, and traded with Siam, Cambodia and the Indies. Among these commercial *daimyo*, those of Arima were the most enterprising. In 1606 they had already sent a ship to Cambodia and Ieyasu, who had authorized them to make this voyage, had entrusted them with the commission of buying him perfumes with a sum of 5,000 gold pieces, which he had paid over to them before their departure from Japan. On its homeward voyage, this ship took refuge in the port of Macao, in order to avoid a tempest. Several other Japanese vessels happened to be there at the same time, and the sailors, condemned to forced idleness, finished by delivering themselves to regrettable excesses on the inhabitants of this town. The result was that a quarrel, degenerating into a veritable battle, took place, between the Japanese and the Portuguese. On both sides there were wounded and even dead. Pessoa, the Governor of the place, had recourse to armed force to repress these disturbances and, in his anger, he would have slaughtered all the Japanese, had not the Bishop of Macao intervened in their favour. Pessoa would not, however, yield unless on condition that the Japanese signed a document, in which they admitted that they were the authors of this row.(12) The Japanese signed the document and were then allowed to return to Japan. But, scarcely had they reached Nagasaki, when they lodged a complaint with Hasegawa Sahioe, who had just been appointed Governor of that town, accusing the Portuguese, especially Pessoa, of the greatest injustice towards them. This is why, when in 1609, Pessoa conducted himself the great royal ship "La Madre de Dios" to Nagasaki, Ieyasu ordered Arima to seize Pessoa and his vessel. Arima proceeded to Nagasaki, at the head of 1,200 men, in order to carry these orders into execution. After a desperate struggle, lasting three days, Pessoa, seeing that he was lost, determined to make a great number of Japanese share in his destruction, and accordingly blew up his ship by applying a light to the powder.

If before this event, Portuguese commerce had been already declining—for during two years no vessel of this nation had come to Japan—the desperate deed of Pessoa gave it a mortal blow. Besides, the Dutch did their best to hasten its complete fall. They had already supplanted the Portuguese at Hirado, and established there their principal factory. Afterwards they had recourse to all manner of intrigues to drive their rivals entirely from Japan.

Need it be added that the Spaniards, though at that time ruled by the same king as the Portuguese, rejoiced inwardly at the reverses of the latter. Whilst Pessoa was struggling with the Japanese at Nagasaki, Rodrigo de Vivero, Governor of the Philippines, happened to be in Japan, being engaged in concluding very advantageous treaties with Ieyasu. Among other things, Vivero promised Ie-

(3) Shogyoshi, p. 374.

(4) Shogyoshi p. 377 and 383. Pagès p. 178.
(5) Pagès Annexe p 1.
(6) Pagès 203.
(7) Pagès p. 55.
(8) Pagès p. 203, and Annexe p. 2.
(9) Pagès p. 248 note 3.

(10) Pagès, p. 249.
(11) Pagès Annexe p. 164.
(12) Pagès p. 166-167. Towards the same epoch, the Japanese excited also troubles in the Philippines, where they numbered nearly 15,000. The Governor ordered the destruction of the quarter inhabited by the seditions, and would have had them massacred, had not the Religious interceded for the guilty.

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yasu that the Spaniards could furnish him with three times more merchandize than the Portuguese had ever done(13). It is difficult to say to what extent these words influenced Ieyasu; we know, however, that from this moment the latter ordered all the Portuguese at Nagasaki to be massacred, and the Jesuits, for the most part of the same nationality, to be expelled from Japan. On the other hand, he granted full liberty to the Spanish Religious, who had come from the Philippines. Vivero received from Ieyasu the greatest marks of benevolence. The latter offered him one of the vessels just built by Adams, in order to continue his voyage to Mexico, presented him with 4,000 ducats for the armament of this vessel, and authorized him to sell the ship, when he came at the end of his voyage, and to send back the price of it in Spanish merchandize. Moreover, Hidetada, whom Vivero went to see at Yedo, remitted to him letters and magnificent presents for the King of Spain.(14)

Finally Ieyasu, carrying out one of the last desires of the Taiko, ordered Shimazu to invade the Riukiu islands, till that time dependent on China, and to render them tributary to Japan. Shimazu proceeded thither at once, and took possession of them, in the year 1609.

After this conquest, the island of Formosa excited the cupidity of Ieyasu. He sent thither a few ships to sound the ground. But the natives gave the Japanese a very rough reception, and killed several of them. The latter had to retire, bringing with them several prisoners as the sum of their triumph. Later on, in 1615, John Murayama, son of the Governor of Nagasaki, was authorized by Ieyasu to proceed to Formosa with an army of nearly 4,000 men, in order to take possession of the island.(15) The expedition ended disasterously. A formidable tempest cast Murayama on the coast of the Riukiu, whence he had to return to Japan. A second enterprise was hardly a greater success, the unfortunate captain being this time shipwrecked on the Chinese coast.(16)

Was it in these checks that the misfortune of the Murayama family originated? Or were they disgraced for having embezzled the funds of the Nagasaki custom-office? The fact is that the Governor and three of his sons were executed, in 1619, for having displeased the Shogun(17). The cause of this displeasure was not, however, the Christian religion, as some writers pretend; for John Murayama and nearly all his family had apostatized several years before their death.(18)

FOOTBALL.

SIX-A-SIDE CONTEST.

The Sixes played on Thursday between teams captained by O. Strome and H. W. Kilby, resulted in a win for the latter by one goal to *nil*. J. Drummond, in Strome's team, was absent and Ford took his place. The goal was scored in the first half. Kilby played a good game and Powys in goal saved well.

Mr. J. H. Bathgate acted as referee and Messrs. A. W. Read and W. S. Moss as linesmen.

LAW CASE.

HAYANO v. DEARING.

In the Yokohama District Court judgment in the suit brought by Mr. Hayano Yonejiro against Mr. J. L. Dearing, No. 75, Bluff, was given, in default, in favour of the defendant on Thursday. This case was a claim for *yen* 424 70 for damage alleged to have been done to the plaintiff's premises through the negligence of the defendant. The case first came on for hearing on the 21st October last year, when the plaintiff did not appear and judgment was given for the defendant. Against this the plaintiff protested, but again he did not put in an appearance. Decision was given in his absence.

(13) Charlevoix, livre XII.
(14) Pagès, p. 187.
(15) Shogyoshi p. 432-543.
(16) Pagès p. 415, votes 2 and 3.
(17) Pagès, p. 415-416.
(18) Pagès 386.

SUICIDE OF MR. LEHMANN OF SHANGHAI.

Mr. H. Lehmann, the head in Shanghai of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., was found lying on his bed on the morning of December 31st by his boy, with a revolver bullet through his head and a revolver grasped in his right hand. He was quite dead, the bullet having entered the right temple traversed the skull coming out by the left temple, after which it struck the wall of the bedroom, flattened and rebounded to the middle of the floor, where the police afterwards picked it up. The sad affair occurred at Mr. Lehmann's residence, No. 112 Bubbling Well Road. Deceased had retired to rest in his usual good health and, according to custom, his boy had gone in to call him just before daylight in order that he might be in time for his usual morning ride. On deceased's dressing table was found a short memorandum, in German, from deceased to Mr. Lembke, but it in no way had connection with the sad event. Mr. Lehmann was frequently troubled with asthma, and it is supposed that he had an attack that night, for many ends of cigarettes such as he used to smoke when troubled with this complaint were found in the room. He had only recently returned from a holiday in Europe.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

"My Religious Life" is the title of an address delivered to the Students of the Takanawa Buddhist University by Mr. Uchimura Kanzō, whose intense earnestness, sincerity and moral courage render his reported speeches and his writings popular among a large number of readers, Christian and non-Christian. It is a sign of the growing liberality of the times that a Buddhist University should invite a leading Christian writer and lecturer to address its students. Here is the gist of Mr. Uchimura's speech:—You and I have this in common that we are steadfast believers in religion and this of itself is no loose bond. I am not one of those who advocate a union of Buddhism and Christianity. This, even if it could be effected, would benefit neither Buddhists nor Christians. More is to be gained by the followers of each sect acting conscientiously up to their convictions. No angry controversy should be carried on between them. They should respect each other as sincere followers of what they believe to be true in religion. In connection with this I call to mind the words of Nissatsu, of the Ikegami Hommonji (Nichiren sect), when on one occasion he was asked to lecture against Christianity he replied indignantly:—"Do you think that because people disagree with us in religion that therefore they are to be denounced? Belief in religion is no easy matter.* We should be glad to know that people believe in religion of any kind." These are indeed fine sentiments. It is related of a Canadian Christian pastor connected with the Tōyō Eiwa Gakkō at Azabu that when going by the Zōjōji in Shiba Sannai he is in the habit of removing his hat and politely bowing. When on one occasion he was asked why he did this, he replied, "I am a Christian pastor, but I perceive that in this temple there are brethren of mine engaged in devout worship, to show my deep respect for these people I removed my hat and bowed." Both the above-named professors of religion were real gentlemen. . . . Let me relate to you some of my experiences as a Christian. My ancestors made their reputation by being good shots with muskets. At the time of the Shimabara disturbances members of my family killed a good many Christians, and on account of this attained to the rank of *samurai*. The anti-Christian feeling in my family was very strong. So that when I had made up my mind that Christianity was true and determined to adopt it, the opposition I encountered was very formidable. I seemed to be flying in the face of my ancestors. At that time I made a resolve that while accepting Christianity I would not follow the numerous western customs which have attached themselves to it. To many of these customs I had the greatest objection. In order to insure absolute independence, I have always set my face against receiving a single cent from foreign mission boards and have refused to join any of the foreign sects which have agents here. This has made me unpopular with a number of foreigners and also with many of my fellow-countrymen. While holding the above named sentiments, I was neither understood by my fellow-Christians nor by the world at large. The former said that, while professing to believe in Christianity, I was at heart an ardent rationalist and anti-foreign, and the latter held the opinion that I was paid by foreiguers to preach Christianity. Misunderstood by the world and the church alike, I have persevered for a quarter of a century, always maintaining that Christianity is not an affair of ceremony, but an affair of the heart. To such ceremonies as baptism and the Lord's Supper I attach no importance whatever. To have Christ in the heart, this is to be a Christian, ceremony or no ceremony. I have found it hard to make a living, because I am not one of those who for the sake of peace, quietness and worldly gain is ever ready to conceal his belief. My outspokenness naturally creates hostility and men are loth to employ me. By most of my fellow-Christians I am regarded as a black sheep and so I get no help from them. Some little time ago I started a magazine called *Seisho no Kenkyū* (Investigation of the Bible) and by the proceeds of the sale have managed to live. This periodical has a good circulation among Buddhists, and as for Christians, they purchase and read it on the sly, and many of them may be heard proclaiming from the pulpit theories which they have borrowed from me. My magazine has found favour in quarters where I least expected it would and many have been the letters of thanks which I have received concerning it. Not long ago one came from a Buddhist temple in Mikawa, in which the writer observed that one of the great advantages of my way of defending the Christian scriptures was that the same arguments might be applied to Buddhism. Instead of regarding this as a drawback to my method of exposition, I took it as a very strong recommendation. . . . . In reading foreign books many have been the doubts as to the truth of Christianity which have arisen in my mind and time and again I have been on the point of rejecting the religion altogether; but I have struggled against these doubts and in the end have attained peace of mind. If asked what is the greatest enemy of the religion in which we each believe, let not Buddhists say Christianity or Christians say Buddhism. We ought to be ashamed of holding any such opinion. But we both have enemies, and perhaps those whose enmity is not fully perceived are our most dangerous foes. There are those who say that they cannot determine whether religion be true or false, but it serves the purpose of enlightening the ignorant and therefore it is to be retained. There was a sage in Mita who for over 20 years openly confessed that what he considered to be unsuitable as food for himself he thought good enough for ignorant old men and women. Yet during the whole of this time few indeed were the Buddhists or the Christians who protested against the adoption of such a view. I can imagine nothing more dishonouring to religion than the theory that it is only designed for the weak-minded and the uneducated. And to tell people that we don't know whether religion is true or false, but that it is good for them and so they had better believe in it seems to me a hateful course to pursue. Any person who wishes others to believe in religion must himself believe that it is true. Dr. Inoue Enryō is reported to have said that he did not know which was to be preferred, as a religion, Christianity or Buddhism, but that undoubtedly the latter was better fitted to preserve Japanese nationality and therefore he recommended his fellow-countrymen to keep to it. To talk thus seems to me to lower the value of Buddhism. Surely Shaka had nobler objects in

* The original is, *Isshōgai no chi wo sosoida mono de nakereba shinkō wa dekinu* (Unless one puts one's very life-blood into the effort [to attain it] belief is impossible).—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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view than the preservation of mere nationality, and Buddhism need not rely on any such plea in order to insure acceptance from mankind. The doctrine of universal brotherhood which Shaka preached, if steadfastly believed in, is all the recommendation the religion needs.

* * *

An article in the *Nikonjin*, entitled "How to deal with Religion," gives expression to the following sentiments:—It seems quite certain that religion no longer finds the favour in the world at large that it used to do. Men are too absorbed in the affairs of this life to stop to think about the next. What men call religious development is no other than retrogression. It is maintained by some that the various phases though which religion has passed, from the days when the worship of stocks and stones was almost universal to the present time when the conception of God is permeated with high class philosophic thought, have all been steps of progress and improvement and that, coming to Christianity, Protestantism is on improvement on Roman Catholicism, and Unitarianism and broad-churchism are improvements an orthodox Christianity, that, in fact, the more religion has been associated with philosophy, literature and science the stronger it has become, for this is what the development theory actually implies. To us this is an entire misconception of true religion. What is called religious evolution is no other than the history of the destruction of religion (*Hikkyō shūkyō no shinkwa wa shūkyō no horobi no rekishi nari*) Martin Luther is called a great benefactor of mankind, but regarded from a religious point of view he set the ball of destruction rolling. The principles which he introduced have led to ■ free handling of religion that has in many cases resulted in the most dire consequences. The historians, the logicians, the philosophers, the critics, the scientists, even the politicians, have all felt at liberty to say what they pleased on a subject in which free inquiry was supposed to be a merit, with the result that to-day religion is so mixed up with foreign elements on the presence of which it is more or less dependent that in most minds it has no independent position whatever. It is the adulteration of religion which has been proceeding so long that accounts for its present effete condition. If asked to name the greatest evils which religion has caused in the world, we would say they are two. (1) The obscuration of truth. (2) The encouragement of non-productiveness and idleness. (1) It is supposed that religion holds the key that alone can unlock man's nature, but it has proved itself quite incapable of changing man's nature and its expositions of the principles and laws of the universe have tended to obscure the truth (*Shinri no hikari wo kakusu mono nari*). (2) It is responsible for the existence of an enormous number of idlers in the world. It is a question whether it would not be better for this country and for religion as well if the thousands of priests who dawdle away their lives were compelled to work and if the office of the priesthood were altogether abolished. But if this reform be considered too radical at the present time, certainly some limit ought to be set by the Government to the amount of idleness allowed. The granting of special allowances to priests in the form of *kanjin* or *fuse* by the Government should be discontinued. It is not to maintain idlers that hard-working people pay taxes. And it is an outrage that men who profess to be followers of Shaka and who live on charity should be swelling about in gold-brocade. Our Meiji Cabinets have entirely failed in their management of religion. Under the garb of impartiality they allow the most immoral sects (the Remmon-kyō and Tenri-kyō) to pollute society as much as they please.* Though nominally connected with Shintō, these sects are in no sense religious and have no claim to be sanctioned any longer. Though we do not think that reform should stop with their abolition by any means. Some persons will say that if native religions are to be dealt with so severely as we recommend by the Government, Christianity will benefit thereby and that there will be danger of a disturbance of the peace. All such fears are chimerical. In Japan's case there is nothing whatever to be apprehended from the introduction of any amount of foreign teaching.

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The *Niroku Shimpō* and some other papers having made a big fuss over what is alleged to be the immorality of school girls, various religious organs comment on this topic. In order to show how far the reports circulated are considered trustworthy we extract a few passages from leading magazines.

The *Chūo Kōron* (Buddhist) says:—We place little confidence in the charges brought against school girls as a class by some of the newspapers. The few instances cited by the *Niroku Shimpō* are quite insufficient to support the case which that paper tries to make out. We believe that as a class school girls are no worse than other girls. One of the chief reasons of the outcry against them is the fact that the new style of female education is repugnant to persons with conservative instincts. It is to be noted too that the dominance of the male in this country alone is sufficient to explain the indifference with which a general newspaper attack on female chastity is received.

The *Kirisutokyō Shūhō* (Christian Weekly News) says:—It is cause for congratulation that the alleged corruption of school girls is acknowledged not to extend to our Christian Schools to any extent.* But we shall do well not to be over-confident of our immunity from evils which exist in other schools. No one but the actual near relations of the girls should be allowed to visit them at the schools.

The *Rikugō Zasshi* says:—We recognise that the conduct of school girls of late has been outrageous. But we entirely disapprove of the measures taken by the Mombushō and the remedies proposed by the public for the reform of the evil. The Mombushō seems to be of opinion that immorality can be stopped by insisting on the school girls' residing in boarding houses that are under strict superintendence. But, with girls as weak as our Japanese girls are, this remedy will prove quite ineffectual. The prevailing abuse has been caused by the abandonment of the old Confucian practice of separating the sexes on every occasion possible, say some, and the only cure for this is to revert to the old state of things and keep the sexes apart. But this is equivalent to saying that we had better abandon the Constitution in favour of the old form of government. The only way of preventing the evil complained of is to reform the hearts of the persons concerned both male and female. Till this is done mere external restrictions will never insure chastity in school girls.

The *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) says:—The corruption among school girls is no new topic. The Japanese school girl is after all a very weak creature which does not need much temptation in order to go astray. Her natural instincts predispose her to yield to evil solicitations, and in some cases the very raising of her status to an equality with man has had an evil effect.

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpō* says that Dr. Hatoyama is of opinion that Christianity is needed in Japan as a preventative against perjury in Courts of Law. Dr. Hatoyama is represented as having spoken in the following manner:—My experience as a barrister has convinced me that perjury is much more frequent with us than with foreigners, because our people only speak the truth in as far as the law compels them, but Christians when they kiss the Bible and swear that they will speak "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth" fear that they will be punished by God if they do otherwise.† It is purposed to make the penalty for perjury heavier than it is at present, but no legal punishment threatened can possibly effect as much as religious belief of the right kind can do. † Where Christianity is universally believed in men appeal to God for judgment. Human judges may err, but God cannot err. But if men were content to wait for the decisions of the Almighty, I fear there would be little use for barristers. ‡ To say that religion is only for fools is outrageous. There are many scholars and great men who believe in religion. The long and short of it is that what is wanted is superiority of character. But it would be quite untrue to say that this superiority of character is confined to religious devotees. On the contrary, there are a number of people possessing a large amount of religious knowledge whose characters we cannot admire. There is nothing to be compared to character, and character ought to a great extent to be moulded in the home. I am in favour of allowing children the greatest freedom in the choice of a religion. My children have been attending Church and Sunday-school, and one of them a short time ago asked for leave to be baptized. I told him I had no objection; though he need not think that baptism would make any change in his character. . . . I know nothing of Buddhist teaching, but it strikes me that our Buddhism is mere ceremony and nothing more, and that it does nothing to reform society generally. Christianity, though professed by so few people, seems to me have more life in it than anything else that is taught in this country, and hence I expect great things from it.

* * *

The *Fukuin Sōshi* has collected and published in English five lectures delivered in the Dōshisha Theological College. The subject and speakers were as follows:—"God the Father," by the Rev. T. Harada; "The Self Consciousness of Jesus," by the Rev. S. L. Gulick; "The Church's Consciousness of Jesus," by Dr. Learned; "The Holy Spirit," by the Rev. T. Miyagawa, and "How to think about the Trinity," by Dr. Geo. E. Albrecht. In Mr. Harada's lecture there is one interesting quotation from the writings of Kaibara Ekiken in which he speaks of Heaven and Earth, by which Mr. Harada thinks he meant God, as the father and mother of mankind. The passage referred to is worth transcribing here for reference and comparison with the teaching of Christ. *Oyoso ten wa hito no hajime nari; fubo wa hito no moto nari; hito wa Tenchi wo motte dai* (大) *fubo to shi; fubo wo motte shō* (小) *Tenchi to su. Tenchi, fubo, sono on hitoshi; yuye ni Tenchi ni tsukayete jin* (仁) *wo okonau koto fubo ni tsukayete kō* (孝) *wo okonau ga gotoku subeshi.*

* * *

Not long ago the *Nippon Shimbun* had a leading article entitled *Bohi Haishin no Setsu*, which advocated the abolition of the practice of erecting grave-stones and other monuments of the dead. The article sets out by referring to the sacredness of the cemetery in Japanese eyes and to the universal desire to show respect for ancestors and relations by erecting tombstones and the like, but it goes on to show how the exigencies of the time and the increase of population in large towns have rendered a change of custom in this matter an absolute necessity. Though for a long time, says the writer we are quoting, there was a strong prejudice against cremation, specially in the case

* It is reported that the Home Department at last after years of public agitation on the subject, has in contemplation the entire suppression of immoral sects, and that a notification to this intent will shortly be promulgated.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* The words used are *Kono fuhai ga warera no Kirisutokyō shugi no gakkō ni sukunaki koto wo kansha suru* &c., as though there were some cases of immorality even in Christian schools.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† We fear that English and American lawyers could tell a very different tale, were they to give their experience in dealing with professing Christians. It seems to us to be the almost universal practice of Japanese to attribute far more sanctity and integrity to the majority of professing Christians than we know them to possess. Hence the frequent shocks caused by a visit to England or America, and the surprise at the doings of the Christian soldiers in China in 1900.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† It may be well to observe that the practice of calling God to witness that the truth was spoken was common among Japanese *samurai* in olden times who, when they took an oath, used the words *Yumiya, Hachiman, shōran are* ("May Hachiman, the god of war, take special note of this. [*Lit.* see plainly])." —(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

‡ This remark suggests that there is a vein of irony in some Dr. Hatoyama's observations and that we must not take them too seriously.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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of earnest Confucianists, its convenience has been gradually recognised generally. With the abolition of burial after the old fashion the need for tombstones as memorials no longer exists. In modern times in a large number of cases death occurs away from home, and then the remains are cremated and a little dust or even a lock of hair only is sent to the family graveyard in the country. For sanitary reasons it is desirable that cremation should become universal, and as regards monuments it is quite certain that no town where the population is increasing rapidly can afford space for costly monuments of large dimensions. As for a large number of the tombs found in Tōkyō graveyards, the persons who erected them have long since left the city or are dead, and the graves are entirely uncared for. Quite eight-tenths of the Tōkyō graves are of this class. It is high time that the public put a stop to a senseless waste of ground. Burial should be stopped. Cremation should become universal and the ashes of the dead should be deposited in *kotsudō* (shrines where the bones of the dead are preserved), where also memorial tablets should be placed. Those who wished to worship their ancestors could go there and do so without expense, ceremony or trouble. Every 20 or 30 years the bones should be solemnly conveyed to the sea and ceremoniously committed to the waves. This ceremony might be called the *Kotsu-nagashi* (The bone throwing-away.) So would the dead be cleansed of all impurities and enter the ocean of an endless life (*Muryo-jukai*). "Tombstones are senseless things. Let all readers who approve of my sentiments put the following clause into their wills, 'Let no tombstone be erected for me.'"

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In the *Chuō-Koron* we find the report of an address delivered to Buddhists by Mr. Tokutomi Iichirō, the Editor of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, entitled *Musekisha no Shūkyō-kan* (The Religious Views of Persons not connected with any religious sect), of which the following is the substance:—Among my friends there are a great many people who believe in Christianity and yet who are not attached to any sect. I purpose stating for your information the views of this class of persons.* Religion brings peace of mind to individuals and conduces to harmony and fellow-feeling in society generally. Those who say that with the progress of the world the necesssity for religion diminishes are mistaken. The greatest minds need religion most, as was evinced by the lives of Cromwell and Gladstone. The bigger the ship the stronger must be the anchor; and there is no anchor like religion. The more active and pushing do men become the more do they need the tranquillizing influence of religion. When I say that religion is necessary I do not mean by religion simply its ancient outward form, but I refer to its unchanging spiritual essence. What is more important than anything else in religion is a man's personal belief.

If a man is sure of this he need not trouble to defend himself against others. If he is uncertain whether he himself needs religion or as to whether he can continue to hold to it, he is of little use from a religious point of view and may as well cut off his connection with religion altogether. Of religious controversy, of attacks on the beliefs of other people, I disapprove. Let a man hold to his own convictions and be satisfied that they are his own, neither pleading in favour of them nor attacking those who hold different opinions. (*Benkai sezu, kogeki sezu, jiko no shinzuru tokoro ni yorite doko made mo jiko no tachiba wo akiraka ni suru koto nari*). Let him make it plain to the world what is the position which his personal convictions lead him to take. Many people instead of asking whether a thing is true or false, talk about its being old or new, Oriental or Occidental, as though things could be correctly appraised in this fashion. In Japan things new and things Western are supposed to be infinitely superior to things old and things Eastern. A man need only ask what suits himself. Religion is a personal affair and subjective truth in the teaching accepted is all that need be sought for. The great question is what is true to each individual. . . . . There is great talk among you Buddhists of reforming your religion. Well, reform is good enough in its way and there is much in the world that needs reforming, but when we talk about reforming religion we have to bear in mind that we may pull down more than is desirable. We have a proverb which says, *Kemushi wo yaite, iye wo yaku* (In burning a caterpillar to set fire to the house). If once, actuated by personal dislike of this doctrine or that, people begin to remove portions of the great structure known as Buddhism, is there not a danger that the whole building will be thereby weakened and subsequently give way? We must beware of separating religion from its historical associations; for in them consists a large part of its influence over the minds of men. Of the enormous strength of these associations I was particularly convinced when I visited Westminster Abbey. It seemed to me as though the whole power of the Church of England centred in that shrine, not that I mean to imply by this that its destruction would involve the fall of the Church of England. Religion is not history; it is something different, but it is one of those things that needs history in the background in order to deeply affect the minds of men. Hence to attempt to get rid of the historical associations which have attached themselves to a creed would be an extremely foolish policy. English Protestantism is part of English history and hence no other form of religion is likely to be adopted by the nation. St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey have in the past been intimately connected with the great deeds and great thoughts of England's warriors, statesmen and writers. . . . . Learning is undoubtedly needed for the proper study of religion, but a religion that is the mere product of reason and inference from scientific truth can never obtain a hold on men's minds. Religion must rest on faith and cannot be founded on reasoning. What is believed in, though not irrational, is certainly supra-rational. It is as Mr. Balfour asserts in his "Foundations of Belief," "The foundation of religious belief is not reason, but authority." It seems to me that if a man begins to seek religious peace of mind by arguing about religion, he will never get it at all. The way to do is to get the peace of mind first and then employ one's reasoning faculties in fortifying the position attained. Those who say there is no need for religion belong to the class of persons who maintain that religious peace of mind is only to be attained by reasoning.

The report of the address is to be continued in the next number of the *Chūō Kōron*.

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In the *Tōkyō Maishū Shinshi* (Nos. 1004-1008), Mr. Ukita Kazutani has been discoursing on the connection of Christianity with sociological questions. The following short epitome of his observations will indicate the line he takes. Almost all our writers on sociological questions treat them as economic or political questions, but to me they are also moral and religious questions. Think of the society into which Christ was born. The Jews were subject to the yoke of Rome, not only physically but mentally. That the son of a carpenter should be able to set up an authority which should subsequently supersede that of Imperial Rome seemed next to impossible. What were the weapons he employed against the overpowering physical forces of Rome? He taught that men were free to believe what they pleased. He taught the doctrine of universal love. With the civil power he was careful not to connect himself in any way. The things of Cæsar and the things of God were by Him kept quite separate. His influence was largely due to the fact that he refused to be drawn into the whirlpool of politics. He set up a Kingdom outside that of Rome which all the power of Rome failed to overthrow. We need to follow his example in this country to-day. There are two things that Christians must do if they would reform the masses. (1) They must labour to spread knowledge. (2) They must preach the doctrine of universal love. With general enlightenment and universal fellow-feeling such questions as the relation of labour to capital and the distress caused by excessive competition will right themselves. One of the chief objects of Christianity is to unite men together, to put an end to their jealousies and their envy and to establish a state of wide-spread cordiality. Until this is done none of the 101 remedies proposed by economists will ever create a feeling of satisfaction among people generally.

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In answering the question "Is it a fact that we are growing morally worse?" the Tōkyō *Maishū Shinshi* quotes Dr. Greene's reply in "Mission News" to Miss Bacon's assertion that profligacy is growing in Japan among men. In that reply Dr. Green gives the following figures relative to the percentage of divorces to the total annual number of marriages, thus:—

A. D. 1883	37.6	A. D. 1893	32.6
1884	38.2	1894	31.9
1885	45.0	1895	31.4
1886	37.4	1896	23.1
1887	31.3	1897	33.9
Making an average of	37.9.	Making an average of	30.6.

In 1885, owing to the poor yield of grain the year before, the marriages were unusually few; but in 1896, owing to the preceding prosperous year, the marriages were numerous and the divorces consequently comparatively few. If these two exceptional years be omitted, it will be found that the average of the divorces which took place during the first five years is 36.1 against 32.5 for the later period. The *Maishū Shinshi*, from which we take these particulars, proceeds to observe that from the time of the operation of the new Civil Code in 1898 the number of divorces showed a still further marked decrease, the average for that year being 21.8 and that for the following year 22.3. There is no object in making things out to be worse than they are, says this organ. Along with other kinds of progress that we are improving in morality, and religion, is a thing that can be proved by statistics, so that there is nothing to call for such pessimistics utterances as are frequently to be found in our journals.

* * *

L'Abbe E. Ligneul has recently added to the long list of books produced by his ever busy pen two pamphlets called *Fukuin no Mon* and *Gakkai no Ijin*. The first covers 65 pages and is evidently designed to be a simple handbook or introduction to the Four Gospels. The work is divided into 14 chapters, with the following headings, I. General Remarks on the Bible. II. The importance of the Gospels and the rank they occupy in the Bible. III. The meaning of the term Gospel. IV. The Circumstances under which the Gospels were compiled. V. The special functions filled by each Gospel and their harmony with each other. VI. The originals of the Gospels and Translations. VII. Proofs of the Divine origin of the Gospel. VIII. The Revelation which the Gospels contain and their sacredness. IX. Spurious Gospels. X. The Gospels and the Criticism of Logicians. XI. The Connection of the Gospels with Conscience and Literature. XII. The nature and conduct of Christ. XIII. Christ's Teaching XIV. The Gospels and Learning.

The *Gakkai Ijin*, a shorter work, aims at showing that the leading great writers of Europe in the past have not been materialists, as are so many modern Japanese. On the last page of this little work M. Ligneul says that in modern Japan the word scholar has almost become synonymous with materialist. This no doubt proceeds to a considerable degree from lack of extensive knowledge, says M. Ligneul, but as a check to those who are inclined to be over boastful "The Great Men of the Learned World" is now given to the Japanese public.

The books are tastefully got up and the style in which they are written is a model of lucidity and expressiveness. Both the author and the translator are to be congratulated on the quality of the extensive series of works they have given the Japanese public.

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The *Bukkyō* has an article entitled "Three Questions connected with the Purification of the

* We may take it for granted that Mr. Tokutomi himself belongs to this section of Christians and that the opinions to which he gives utterance are endorsed by him.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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Religious World," which we have only space to notice briefly. The three questions referred to are, (1) The enlightenment of the priests. (2) Educational reform; and (3) The abolition or amalgamation of temples. The following represents the tenor of the remarks on these topics. Buddhists are by no means asleep. They have their eyes open, but they have not sufficient knowledge to teach them how to act. Earnestness without knowledge is of little use. The world has got to think that the word *bozu* is another word for a fool. It is on account of there being so many priests, about 100,000 in all, that as a class they have received such a bad name. There are no doubt as many intelligent and educated Buddhist priests as there are Christian pastors, but their numbers are insufficient to win a reputation for the whole priesthood. The great majority of the priests are idle and ignorant and say that as they are supported by the temples they serve they have no incentive to study. If they could be deprived of this independent means of support and be placed so that their incomes depended on their knowledge, there would be a great change. The Government should certainly look into the subject of education as carried on by Buddhists generally. With the exception of a few leading sects there is practically no instruction given that is worthy of the name of education. And yet the young men who receive their training in the existing ill-conducted schools are appointed to the charge of temples We urge on the Home Department the necessity of enforcing a regulation that was promulgated some time ago to the effect that no person should be licensed as a priest unless he has reached a higher standard than that attained by a graduate of an Ordinary Middle School. Strict examinations should be conducted by the authorities. Then there must be a great diminution of temples. They are far too numerous for the needs of the people. With fewer and richer temples and an educated priesthood the hopes and aspirations of the many thousands of earnest souls within the Buddhist pale would be on a fair way to realization.

THE VENEZUELAN EMBROGLIO.

The American papers just to hand contain pages upon pages of matter relating to the proceedings of the European Powers with regard to Venezuela. We have already reported the seizure of the Venezuelan "fleet" consisting of four unseaworthy craft, of which three were sunk and one was spared on the French Consul representing that it was the property of one of his nationals. Following upon that came the embarkation of the German and British Consuls at La Guayra. On Dec. 13th the Germans and British bombarded the fort at Puerto Cabello. We quote the following, dated Puerto Cabello, Dec. 13th:—

The British cruiser *Charybdis* and the German cruiser *Vineta* bombarded the fortress here at 5 o'clock this afternoon and quickly silenced it. The bombardment lasted for forty-five minutes. The fortress is composed of Fort Solano and the Castle Libertador. After the firing ceased the *Charybdis* sent marines to occupy the castle. The fortress was almost demolished. It is probable that only a few persons were injured by the shelling. The commander of Castle Libertador has been taken prisoner. The cruisers are still here.

At 7 o'clock this morning the *Charybdis* and the *Vineta* arrived here searching for Venezuelan gunboats. The two cruisers sent their boats into the inner port, but finding no gunboats the boats returned. The captain of the British merchant steamer *Topaz*, which was seized by the mob last Wednesday, then visited the British Commodore on board the *Charybdis* and lodged a protest against the violation of his ship. The British captain returned an hour later with a detachment of fifty marines, who took charge of the *Topaz*. The populace was greatly excited at this incident and raised the cry "To arms!" but there was no disorder.

The British Commodore then sent a message to the authorities at Puerto Cabello demanding immediate satisfaction for the action of the mob in having hauled down the British flag from the Custom-house, saying that if satisfaction was not forthcoming in two hours at 5 o'clock the fortress and the Custom-house would be bombarded. On the receipt of this demand the authorities sent a message to President Castro asking for instructions.

A committee of the merchants of Puerto Cabello then approached the American Consul here, petitioning him to intervene. The Consul accepted this mission and visited the cruisers, but he could obtain no alteration in the decision of the allies.

At 4.44 o'clock a reply was received from President Castro, who authorized the chief official here to give the British Commodore ample satisfaction. Before this answer could be communicated to the American Consul the hour stipulated for the reply arrived. The cruisers immediately opened fire on the fortress. The fire was returned from Fort Solano and Castle Libertador, but the Venezuelan guns were soon silenced. While the firing continued there was intense excitement in this port. Every house in town was closed.

Another telegram of the same date from Caracas said:—A note from the commanders of the allied fleet which the Venezuelan Government refused to receive yesterday at La Guayra, was sent to-day to United States Minister Bowen at Caracas and forwarded by him to the proper Government officials here. The note which is in the name of Great Britain and Germany, requests all Venezuelan ships after the lapse of five days to refrain from sailing from the port of La Guayra until the present difficulties are over.

The question what right Great Britain and Germany have to coerce Venezuela without declaring a blockade is being asked on all sides here.

"El Mocho" Hernandez and certain other revolutionary leaders left Maracaibo to-day for Curacao on their way to Caracas. Hernandez is probably the most popular of the revolutionary leaders. President Castro has kept him imprisoned at Maracaibo for several years past.

A later despatch from La Guayra (Dec. 15th) showed that soon after the cessation of the bombardment at Puerto Cabello a landing party was sent ashore, consisting of marines and sailors from the *Charybdis*. After taking whatever portable property that was of value in the Solano fortress and Castle Liberator they mined the castle structure by placing heavy charges of dynamite in the under-ground cells and passages. The dynamite was exploded and the castle was blown to pieces. The marine battalion then set fire to the ruins of the castle and fort, all adjacent buildings and whatever had survived the shelling and dynamite explosion. Leaving the fire to burn they returned aboard the British cruiser.

While the British marines were at work with dynamite and fire there was most intense excitement among the Venezuelans, who feared the hostile demonstration might not content itself with the obliteration of the shore defenses and surrounding property, but while the war ships kept their guns turned upon the town, the natives were too thoroughly cowed to venture upon expostulation much less any attempt at resistance.

In the meantime a debate took place in the House of Commons. At the outset Viscount Cranbourne denied that the British commander was responsible for the sinking of the Venezuelan ships. Later he said that Great Britain has to perform police duty among the nations and had to prevent Venezuela from breaking the law of nations. The United States took the sensible view that Great Britain's insistence that Venezuela should meet her engagements was not an infraction of the Monroe doctrine. "No country has been more anxious than Great Britain," said Lord Cranborne, "to assist the American Government in maintaining that doctrine." (This remark, we read, was greeted with cheers but it is to be noted that the press on the following day expressed disapproval of the statement as to Britain's performance of police duty among the nations.) Continuing the Under Foreign Secretary said the British Government had displayed great forbearance and that it was only after Venezuela had been thrice summoned to do right that the Government had been driven to strong measures to secure the safety, liberty and property of British subjects in Venezuela and that in the execution of these measures the Government desired to pursue the same course of moderation. Lord Cranborne said also that the blockade would be carried out with every regard for the interests of neutrals.

The proposal to establish a blockade created much discussion at Washington. A dispatch dated Dec. 15th, which was apparently based on official information, said:—

But it is now probable that the United States will break its attitude of inactivity in the event that an attempt is made to enforce the "peaceful blockade" toward an American ship. While the allies were considering the ways and means of bringing Venezuela to terms and a blockade of this character had been decided upon, the German Government informed the United States that when the blockade was established it would turn back all shipping, though no effort would be made to seize the ships.

The United States Government made no response to this statement at the time (last year), not feeling called upon to do so before presentation of an actual case. But now that the blockade is sought to be established Secretary Hay has informed the German Government that American ships should not be interfered with in their trading except in the prohibition applied to all shipping, and, further, the note indicates a disapproval of stoppage at all. In so doing the State Department is following a precedent, for during the effort of the Powers to establish a "peaceful blockade" of Crete, in 1898, Secretary Sherman formally recorded a refusal to be bound by it.

It happened that no American ship had occasion to enter a Cretan port during the brief period of time the blockade was in force, so the issue was not made then, but in the present case, with regular lines of American steamers entering Venezuelan ports at short intervals, a test case may soon follow. It is within the legal right of the allies to close these ports, but probably this can be accomplished without a protest on our part only after formal declaration of war.

On the 15th also Lord Lansdowne announced in the House of Lords that a proposal had come through the United States Government that the claims against Venezuela should be submitted to arbitration which proposal was under consideration by the British Government.

Italy's participation in the blockade was intimated on this date.

President Castro's offer to arbitrate, submitted through the U.S. Government, was regarded in London as very vague and unsatisfactory, no guarantee being given and the Washington Government refusing to guarantee Venezuela. The British press showed some dissatisfaction with the agreement with Germany in this matter and a Berlin dispatch of Dec. 16th said:—

The newspapers here today print long dispatches indicating that British public opinion is against the partnership with Germany in connection with the coertion of Venezuela, and the papers are evincing a certain amount of pique. They suggest that Germany would have done better to act alone, and say the German Government must think twice on a future occasion before agreeing to act with Great Britain.

On the 17th leading citizens of Caracas addressed a note to President Castro pointing out the impotence of the country to offer resistance and asking him to sue for peace through Mr. Bowen, the U.S. Minister. In the House of Commons on the same date further information was given, the most important being Mr. Balfour's statement that war existed. We extract the following:—

"If the seizure of Venezuelan gunboats does not result as we all hope, it will be necessary to proceed to a blockade."

In the speech in the House of Commons to-day, during which Premier Balfour made the above statement, he conveyed the impression of possible, though as yet unnecessary, further hostilities, but that also arbitration on some basis might be accepted.

Immediately after having spoken these words, the Premier said that in the event of a blockade no difference would be made between the ships of neutral powers, who would not be consulted. He then ridiculed the idea of a peaceful blockade. When he said: "I think it quite likely that the United States Government would not think there is such a thing as a pacific blockade, and I personally take the same view that evidently a blockade does involve a state of war," the House expressed its approbation.

Throughout the discussion the tenor of questions and answers showed regard for the views of the United States. Mr. Balfour assured the House that the papers in the Venezuelan matter were in course of being prepared as rapidly as possible, and, answering a question by Sir William Vernon Harcourt, he said they would include the communications with reference to Venezuela that had passed between his majesty's Government and the United States. Sir William Vernon Harcourt asked this question "so we may know how we stand with reference to the Government of the United States." Balfour said that the blockade would be carried out with as little inconvenience to neutrals as possible. Nothing definite has occurred with reference to the arbitration proposal since his previous announcement. The Premier also said the operations were reluctantly undertaken not to collect debts, but after a long and patient delay to recover compensation for assaults on British subjects and the seizure of

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British vessels. He believed that the Germans also had claims besides the financial one.

Mr. Healy, Irish Nationalist, asked if the United States assented to a blockade which would exclude United States vessels. Mr. Balfour replied:—"Neutrals are not consulted when you are in a state of war with a third party."

"Is war declared?" asked Healy.

The Premier replied: "Does the honorable member suppose that without a state of war you can take vessels and have a blockade?"

Latest telegrams are of date Dec. 18th and they agreed in saying that the blockade would begin on Dec. 20th at 3 p.m. On the former date also it was definitely stated that Mr. Bowen had been appointed by President Castro to effect a settlement.

CANADIAN FLOUR IN JAPAN.

The following portions of a circular issued by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa on December 3rd shows that considerable interest has been awakened in Canada with reference to the Osaka Exhibition:—

No kingdom on the face of the earth, in either ancient or modern times, has forged ahead more rapidly than Japan, not only in civilization in its commonly accepted sense but industrially in its fullest commercial meaning.

During the last fiscal year, Japan exported to the United Kingdom copper, curios, drugs, jute, silk (raw and manufactured), and straw plaits to the value of $1,494,764, while during the same period her imports from the old country in alkali, arms, carriages, cotton yarn, cotton goods, machinery, metals, ships, and ship machinery, and woollens reached the value of $8,649,101. During the same period Canada exported to Japan only $188,683 worth of goods, while she imported therefrom materials to the value of $1,620,868. But this is in process of change.

Four years ago the Hon. Mr. Nosse, now Consul-General for Japan in British North America, with headquarters at Montreal, was despatched to Canada by his Government for the purpose of advocating the Federal Government disallowance of certain legislation passed by the Province of British Columbia prohibiting the admission of Japanese into Canada. Mr. Nosse's successful intervention was followed by the natural desire on the part of his Government to cultivate international trading relations between Canada and Japan, and the latest outcome of his diplomatic mission has been the decision of the Hon. Sydney Fisher, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture, to co-operate with the Government of Japan in furthering the success of an international Exhibition to be held in 1903 in the kingdom of the Mikado, by the furnishing of a section illustrative of almost everything grown or produced in Canada. Mr. William Hutchison, Exhibition Commissioner of the Canadian Government, will be in charge, and one of the main features of the Canadian exhibits will be the making on the spot of bread from Canadian flour, by Mr. Jameson, an Ottawan expert baker, who is calculated to prove an expert demonstrator.

Canadian flour of the sort that will be exhibited contains by actual analysis about one-tenth more of albumenoids than the best quality of Hungarian flour; and the albumenoids or gluten being more tenacious yield a dough which rises better and holds its position in the baked loaf. When this is seen the demonstration in Japan will be followed as elsewhere by a demand for Canadian flour in that country far in excess of the paltry $8,410 worth exported last year.

From Canadian flour bakers can make not only the best quality of bread but likewise the largest quantity per barrel. Three independent tests made by first-class bakers with strong Canadian flour have given the following results. Each using 100 pounds of flour, they obtained respectively 146, 152, and 151 pounds of bread.

Adulteration of Canadian flour by Indian corn flour, or any cheaper inferior substances is entirely unknown, and for sweetness, whiteness, and strength this flour is unsurpassed.

In the matter of the exports of wheat, flour, cheese, butter, apples, lumber of all kinds, fish products, carriages, raw and manufactured cottons and woollens, Canada is Japan's natural next-door neighbour, controlling the whole "red line" route from east to west, and from the motherland to the furthest confines of the Pacific. Less than three weeks will transfer cargo from the Atlantic board to Yokohama wharf, and the Canadian Government system of cold storage both on the railway cars and on the steamships, renders the transportation of such perishable articles as butter, cheese, fruits, and meats as safe and as easy as the carrying of the roughest imperishable lumber.

Whatever Japan requires in the way of imports Canada is prepared to supply on the most mutually advantageous terms; and when Canada comes to the assistance of Japan with a brotherly readiness as has been the case, the least that Japan can do is to reciprocate by bestowing her commercial patronage where she has not sought in vain for fraternal acknowledgment. She knocked at the door of this Dominion and it was instantly opened wide for her reception; we have on sale what she requires, and Japan will now have an opportunity of practically manifesting her appreciation of our generosity by placing her orders where she did not hesitate to place her application of favours.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WEI-HAI-WEI.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of the 1st inst., *à propos* of a paragraph in the *N.-C. Daily News*, you made reference to my recently-published book as a "History of Wei-hai-wei." That is a dignity to which it cannot aspire. In fact, I fear it must be confessed that, previous to 1895, Wei-hai-wei had no history at all beyond

"The short and simple annals of the poor,"

and these, though of world-wide incidence, are not the stuff of which histories are made. The most the book can claim to be is a descriptive account—the first, I believe, which has appeared in print—of the territory leased to Great Britain in 1898, and such as to appeal to the visitor and to those who take an interest in the newest of our Far Eastern Dependencies. The only portions of it which are in any degree historical are the brief review of the struggle for the harbour in the China-Japanese War, and the sketch of the career of that remarkable military force, the 1st Chinese Regiment.

If the little volume called for an apology, it would be the astonishing ignorance displayed with respect to Wei-hai-wei both at home and abroad—of which some utterances in Parliament were not the least glaring instances.

I am, etc., Chas. E. BRUCE-MITFORD.

Yokohama, January 2nd, 1903.

THE LEPERS' HOME.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the name of the committee of The Lepers Home, Meguro, Tokyo, I wish to acknowledge though your paper, the response to an appeal during Christmas week, on behalf of our afflicted brothers and sisters in the I-hai-en.

The following sums were received:—Mr. C. Jungh-ann, *yen* 100; Friends in Nagoya, through Rev. Mr. McAlpine, *yen* 20; *Jiji Shimpo*, through S. Fukuzawa, *yen* 10; also many small gifts from interested friends toward the Christmas treat, in which thirty-six patients were able to participate and assemble together in one room, decorated with beautiful pot plants, that they had tended for long months for this occasion. The chapel was tastefully decorated with mottoes and flags made with benumbed hands; a beautiful programme was prepared by the inmates, and carried out with dignity and solemnity, after which the tree produced a useful gift to each one, and a basket of home-made candy, for each. The gratitude expressed by look, and word, far more than repaid our little effort. Will you give this a place among your items and thus give us a chance to express our gratitude to those who have helped in this good and worthy charity; any one desiring to assist may do so through your paper, and greatly oblige,

Yours sincerely, MRS. J. K. McCAULEY.

17, Tsukiji, January 7th, 1903.

THE OLDEST POEMS IN THE WORLD.

By W. St. Chad Boscawen.

In studying the history and civilisation of ancient nations no class of material is more valuable than the poems and ballads current among the people. From these folksongs we gain many valuable glimpses of the innermost life of the people, of quaint beliefs and strange customs. The popular songs are especially valuable for the study of the Latin literature, for they form the older substratum upon which the national epics were based. How valuable would be some fragments of the pre-Homeric ballads, if perchance they should be recovered. Such are as yet undiscovered; but the British Museum has just acquired some clay tablets, broken and worn, which contain what must be undoubtedly regarded as portions of the oldest poems in the world. The great literary age of Chaldea was during the period of the Arabian dynasty, in the latter part of the third millennium before our era. It was one of the most wonderful ages the monuments have restored to us, especially during the reign of Khammurabi, the great founder of the Babylonian empire. This mighty monarch, almost unknown to us a few years ago, now stands out as almost the greatest Oriental monarch known. There is now on exhibition in Paris an inscription of more than two thousand lines which contains the code of laws which he drew up for his people, relating to almost every possible affair in life. Money-lending, employment of labour, theft, crimes of various classes, prevention of and compensation for fire, are all dealt with in this oldest known code of laws; which became the basis not only of Babylonian law, but of the whole of the nations of Western Asia, at least two thousand years before the Christian era.

Not only was it an age when the foundations of empire were laid, but it was also a great literary epoch. These Arab rulers of Babylon exhibited the same fondness for literature that their successors, many long centuries after, the Khalifs of Baghdad, displayed in the days of the "Arabian Nights." The various local legends of the old schools of Ur, Erech, Eridu, were collected together and woven into cycles or epic poems, such as the "Story of Gilgames or Nimrod," or the "Creation Epic." Valuble as those classical compositions are, still greater importance attaches itself to any fragments of older compositions. The tablets which the Museum has acquired, and of which Mr. King has published the facsimiles, are probably some two centuries older than the age of Khammurabi, dating therefore about B. C. 2400; but the songs which they contain are probably to be assigned to a much more remote age. The writing of the tablets is very archaic, corresponding to the style of the revenue tablets exhibited in the Babylonian room at the British Museum. The first poem originally consisted of eight columns, but only considerable portions of the first and last are preserved. Fortunately we have the opening lines:—

I will sing the song of the Lady of the Gods!
Attend, O leader, give ear, O warrior!
The song of the goddess Mama is better than honey or wine.
It is sweeter than honey or wine.
It is sweeter than fresh-gathered fruits,
It is brighter than pure cream,
It is sweeter than fresh gathered fruits.

Here we have a fragment that recalls at once some of the simpler fragments of Hebrew poetry "Sweeter than honey and the honeycomb" (Psl. xix., 10) or the Song of Solomon (2, 3) "his fruit was sweet to my taste," while the praise of wine "which maketh glad the heart of God and man" was sung thus, as centuries after it called forth the praises of Omar Khaiamaud Hafiz.

This little fragment is redolent of the pleasant life of Chaldea, "the land of milk and honey, or corn and wine and oil," as it is called by its poets. It is unfortunate that so much of this poem is lost, and only the conclusion remains. This portion relates, or appear to relate, to the terrible flood from the Tigris which each year destroyed the land; which established destruction and misery, and each year poured out an inundation. This appears to have been caused by the anger of the god Lili—but the Goddess Istar intercedes, a dam is built across the Tigris with copper bolts, which saves the threatened city. The second poem also deals with the same theme, and the conclusion is fairly connected. It reads:—

He drew near to his father . . . . by a glorious name he proclaimed him.
The life of all men is from thee.
My command upon the circle of the deep I pour out;
All habitations within thee are afflicted.
In a moment the lord of thy shrine will be overthrown.
Affliction to thy house I appoint;
My command will establish its word,
For I have filled thee with death.

This rendering is only tentative, as some of the words are obscure. The conclusion is very fine:—

Thou wilt hear his prayer;
With Fertility thou wilt endow his land;
Each year thou wilt decide his destiny;
His land shall kiss his feet.

These curious fragments have a crude style, especially in the frequent repetitions, so commmon in Arab poetry, which marks their antiquity.

Another poetic fragment describes the birth of the god Isum, where we are told the goddess Ninzu gave birth to Isum—and in the gutter she left him. This seems an episode of little importance, but when we recognise the fact that "Isum" the burner was the "fever god" it seems that the Chaldeans had learned the fact that it was from the gutters and drains that fevers came. Isum was the god of infectious diseases, and is called the street traverser; and he was the faithful servant and companion of the plague god Dibbara. No doubt this third mutilated fragment related to some epidemic

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which visited the land. Another curious legend of considerable length, and of an early date is given in this volume of texts issued by the Trustees. It relates to the theft by the god Zu (the wise one), the Chaldean Prometheus, of the tablets of Destiny. These tablets of Destiny the god Bel wore on his breast, and they gave him the power to foretell the destinies of gods and men. They are no doubt the origin of the breastplate of the High Priest of the Hebrew ritual and of the divination of the Urim and Thummin. The new fragments of this legend show also that the theft of fire also was associated with this god, as in the Greek legend. Students of folklore will find rich material in these broken clay books, containing the songs of the world's childhood, which have come from beneath the dust of ages to charm our ears once more.—*The Globe.*

DE WET'S BOOK.

A London telegram of Nov. 30th said:—"Had not so many of our burghers proved false to their own colors, England, as the great Bismarck foretold, would have found her grave in South Africa." That is the keynote of General de Wet's book, entitled "Three Years' War," published by Archibald Constable & Co. in London and dedicated by the Boer General "To my fellow subjects of the British empire."

It is perhaps the most remarkable book by the most remarkable leader that any recent war has produced. The concise, simply told tale of the extraordinary campaign is marked throughout with the stamp of truth. The baldness of the narrative only serves to bring into strong relief the fiery passages.

In thus taking the public into his confidence De Wet loses nothing of the glamour with which his exploits in the field surround him. In criticising he spares no one; Boer and Briton come equally under the lash. De Wet declares that, whatever the English people may have to say in discredit of General Buller, he had to operate against stronger positions than any other British General. Throughout the work the Boer General has but slight praise for Lord Roberts and little more for Lord Kitchener, General Knox is almost the only British General who seems to have struck De Wet as a commander with real military genius.

Of "Tommy Atkins" he has many kindly words and he declares: "The British were far from being bad shots."

The comparative immunity of the Boers from harm, De Wet constantly and most fervently attributes to the interposition of God. "If any reader," he says "is eager to know how it was I kept out of the enemy's hands, I can instantly answer, although I may not be understood, that I ascribed it to nothing else than this—it was not God's will that I should fall into the enemy's hands. Let those who rejoice at my miraculous escapes give all the praise to God."

Nevertheless, the book teems with accounts of military and other stratagems by which De Wet outwitted his pursuers. Frequently he recounts cases of desertion and panic among his own men to whom his entreaties and "sjamboking" were all of no avail. De Wet pays a tribute to General Cronje for his bravery, but declares he lost at Paardeburg only on account of his fatal obstinacy and determination not to leave the laager, as he was advised to do by General Botha and by the writer himself.

Regarding his own forces, De Wet writes: It was far easier to fight against the great English army than against treachery among my own people, and an iron will was required to fight against both. Once, if only our orders had been carried out a little more strictly, and if only the most elementary rules of strategy had been observed in our efforts to break the British lines of communication, Lord Roberts and his thousands of troops would have found themselves shut up in Pretoria, where they would have perished of hunger. It was not the skill of their commander in chief that saved them."

Of the blockhouses, De Wet is frankly contemptuous. "The blockhouses policy," he says, "might equally well have been called the policy of the blockhead."

The writer emphatically defends the right to blow up railroad lines and trains as the usage of war, and he declares he never missed an opportunity to do so. The so-called war against women and the misuse of the white flag by the British is denounced by the Boer General, who says: That such direct and indirect murders have been committed against defenceless women and children is a thing I should have staked my head could never have happened in a war waged by the civilized English nation, and yet it happened."

His last word is an injunction to his fellow-countrymen to be loyal to the new Government. "Loyalty," he says, "pays best in the end, and loyalty alone is worthy of a nation which has shed its blood for freedom."

THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL NAME.

At the last general convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, held in San Francisco, a "joint committee on the change of name of the church" was appointed to "endeavour to ascertain as far as possible the mind of church people in general" concerning the subject of a proposed change of name. This subject has been discussed in church circles for some time past, and the diocese of Albany has already voted, in diocesan convention, in favour of a new name. The Bishop of Albany, however, is himself opposed to such a change, and in an address at the convention declared:

"The old name, spite of its one-sidedness as stating only part of the church's office, and its imperfection as having only one of the four notes of the church, may well stand at the head of the Ratification and in our legislative terminology. The Episcopal Church is, after all, only another way of saying the Apostolic Church. The word Protestant has outlived and survived its original application, which nobody thinks of now; and in itself it is a good word, as meaning witnessing *for* the truth. Where it has its other significance, as witnessing against error, and especially against Roman error, there never was a time, it seems to me, when we could so ill afford to lose the meaning of the word as a characteristic of the church. . . . In spite of its suggestions of tautology, of limitation, of modernness, and of incompleteness, it is all rich with reverent memories, and has gathered to itself, for these one hundred and thirteen years, not barnacles that hinder its progress, but rather signal-flags of venerated names and various devices which attest and adorn its progress in the more than century since the ratification of the Book of Common Prayer."

The Milwaukee *Living Church*, which has been a consistent advocate of the name "Catholic" in place of "Protestant Episcopal," takes direct issue with this argument, as does the New York *Churchman*. Says the latter paper:—

"The words 'Protestant Episcopal' are conservative only in a bad sense. They point backward only, not forward. They impose upon our generation the limitations of a bygone period of church history. That period was fraught with trying experiences, its events point severe lessons for our guidance, but nothing in this past experience requires us to hold to that view of Christian work and Christian theory which is represented by the words of our legal title."

The New York *Independent* also approves the proposed change. The word "Protestant," it remarks, is "not irenic, but polemic"; and "if we must have denominations, we want in the names something positive, not negative." It continues:—

"Of course such a name as 'The Church,' or 'The American Church,' can be taken, and will be favoured by those who prefer to call themselves churchmen rather than Episcopalians. . . . But if the Episcopal Church in this country is to lay claim to a special and peculiar right to be, or to represent, the church of this country, it is time for it to begin to do something for church unity It is a grand church, especially in our cities. It has great wealth, and it is using it nobly in its organized missions and charities. That it is now taking the lead in our cities there can be no question. Its system of bishops is spectacular and attractive; but still more valuable is its college of clergy in a single church. It has the money to support a number of clergy and other parish workers in a church; and it is becoming, where it has not already become, the dominating religious force in the city. But it has worked excludingly. It admits no fellowship. To be sure it formulated some years ago its four conditions of unity, but they were interpreted to exclude everybody. Other denominations here and abroad enter into federations; they form corporate unions, or at least try to; but never the Episcopalians. Union is in the air; it is the watchword of the church; why can not the Episcopalians take part in it? Why can not they at least bring back the Reformed Episcopal church, and unite with the Moravian Church, and then try to see what little compromise of method would be necessary for union with the great Methodist bodies which also elect their bishops for life? That would be a magnificent achievement for church unity, and would well-nigh dominate the nation, giving strength if not full control in both city and country. Such a union ought to delight all Christian hearts; but the union with the smaller bodies ought not to be delayed. And meanwhile the present most hopeful movement for federation of all evangelical churches should have the immediate accession of Episcopal support."—*The Literary Digest.*

THE MOST HEAVILY-ARMED CRUISER IN THE WORLD.

We have time and again urged the importance of augmenting the gun power of our cruisers, in view especially of the increasing resisting power of modern armour, says *Engineering*, and all who have studied the subject will be glad to note that Mr. Philip Watts, the new Director of Naval Construction, has signalised his accession to office by making a radical departure in the design of first-class cruisers, which confers, among other advantages, an important addition to the power, as well as calibre, of the primary armament. The fitting of six 27-ton and ten 6-in. quick-firing guns makes the *Duke of Edinburgh* the most formidable cruiser yet constructed, so far as gun power is concerned. Hitherto, our larger ships have only had two 9.2-in. guns—one for bow and the other for stern-chasing. But in some of the cruisers of Continental Powers there has been a greater disposition to increase the number of larger weapons, even in some cases at the expense of the secondary armament. France, in her new 12,550-ton 22-knot cruisers of the *Victor Hugo* class, is fitting four 7.6 in. and sixteen 6.4 in. quick-firers. The United States, in the cruisers of last year's programme (the *California* class), arranged for four 8-in. and fourteen 6-in. guns, while in the later ships now being designed, it has been decided to place four 10-in. and sixteen 6-in. guns. Italy, in the ships of the *Francesco Ferrucio* class, adopts one 10-in., two 8-in., and fourteen 6-in. guns, while Germany, in the *Ersatz* cruisers of 9,050 tons, has fitted four 8.2-in. and ten 5.9-in. guns. It will thus be seen that most of the Powers have, even in their smaller cruisers, more quickly recognised the importance of two or four heavy guns to defeat the modern armour of opposing cruisers than has been the case in Great Britain, excepting in vessels of 12,000 tons or over, which, again, have only two 9.2-in. guns. Perhaps the best way to indicate the relative power of this new cruiser, as compared with her predecessors, is to record the weight of shot which may be fired in a minute, accepting for all guns the same standard, although it may be safely accepted that the later cruisers are likely to attain greater rapidity of fire, as well as higher ballistics, in view of the steady advance in ordnance practice, especially if, as is probable, armour-piercing shell is adopted with the use of a nitro-cellulose powder, which greatly increases the velocity and the energy. The use of both elements in other countries is so universal, and the improvements resulting so great, that the change must come sooner rather than later. The recent trials of capped shot and shell at the Eskmeals range demonstrated that the 6-in. and 7.5 in. guns were superior to 6-in. platers, even when fired at an angle, while nitro-cellulose has increased the ballistics of guns by 10 per cent. as compared with cordite, so that the figures which we give in the appended table may, in reality, show a greater advantage for the modern ship.

FIRE OF PRIMARY ARMAMENT PER MINUTE.

	lb.	lb.	lb.	foot-tons.
Duke of Edinburgh (13,500 tons)	24 at	380=	9,120 and	441,600
	80 ,,	100=	8,000 ,,	387,200
	104		17,120 ,,	828,800
Drake (14,100 tons)	8 at	380=	3,040 ,,	147,200
	128 ,,	100=	12,800 ,,	619,520
	126		15,840 ,,	766,720
Devonshire (10,400 tons)	10 at	200=	2,000 ,,	101,200
	80 ,,	100=	8,000 ,,	387,200
	90		10,000	488,400
Kent (9800 tons)...	112 at	100=	11,200 ,,	542,080

It will be seen that although the displacement tonnage of the *Duke of Edinburgh* is less than that of the *Drake*, being 13,500 tons, as compared with 14,100 tons, there is an increase in the weight of shot which may be fired per minute, of from 15,840 lb. to 17,120 lb., and in the total collective muzzle energy from 766,720 to 828,800 foot-tons. These satisfactory offensive and defensive qualities have not been attained at the expense of speed. It is anticipated that at full power this ship will steam 22½ knots.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

THE ROYAL SCANDAL.

London, January 1.

The King of Saxony has created a Court consisting of seven judges to try the conjugal differences between the Crown Prince and Princess.

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The Crown Prince has entered a petition for divorce.

EUROPEANS MURDERED IN NEW GUINEA.

Two European Inspectors have been brutally murdered by natives in New Guinea. Other murders are feared.

THE MOROCCO TROUBLES.

London, January 2.

The semi-official papers of Germany, France, Italy and Spain, while betraying much uneasiness about affairs in Morocco, wherein all jealousies centre, hope that no cause for foreign intervention will arise.

LADY CURZON HONOURED.

The Durbar honours include Lady Curzon who has had conferred on her the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal for public services in India.

MR. AND MRS. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain have left Pietersmaritzburg.

BRITISH REVENUE.

The British revenue for the last quarter of the year shows an increase of £181,023.

THE U.S. AND THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

The United States has decided to accept the second installment of the Chinese indemnity on a silver basis.

THE DURBAR AT DELHI.

London, January 3.

King Edward was proclaimed Emperor of India at Delhi amidst a stupendous scene of magnificence and pomp. 15,000 (probably 1½ millions.—ED. *J.M.*) persons were present and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain and party are visiting the battlefields of South Africa. They only drove to the foot of Hlangwane Hill and returned to Colenso. Thence they proceeded to Ladysmith.

THE DURBAR.

The British newspapers dwell on the profound and wide-reaching significance of the Durbar, and say that Lord Curzon is to be most heartily congratulated on the success of his colossal project.

PACIFIC CABLE.

The San Francisco-Honolulu section of the American-Pacific cable has been completed.

THE REBELLION IN MOROCCO.

The leader of the Morocco rebels declares that he is fighting in order to enthrone Muley Mahommed, the Sultan's elder brother, who was imprisoned at the Sultan's accession.

Lack of provisions has compelled the rebels to raise the siege of Fez.

THE DURBAR.

London, January 4.

Lord Curzon, speaking at a state banquet at Delhi dwell upon the stirring spectacle presented by the Durbar and upon the consolidation and pacification of India under British rule. He pointed to the peaceful and amicable relations existing between India and all the Powers of the East as evidenced by the presence there of the representative of the great allied empire of Japan and of those from Siam, Afghanistan and others.

MR. CHAMBLRLAIN AT SPIONKOP.

Mr. Chamberlain has visited Spionkop.

VENEZUELA.

Later.

The blockaders yesterday seized all the Venezuelan vessels in the inner harbour of Puerto Cabello. They occupied the wharves during the operations. Hitherto forty vessels have been captured.

MOROCCO.

A letter from the Sultan, dated Dec. 24th, was read in the Mosque at Tangier. He admitted his defeat but promised to punish the rebels soon.

It is stated that Muley Mahomed left Fez on Dec. 25th, commanding the Sultan's army, to attack the rebels.

[The above was very obscure in the original.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE CHAMBERLAIN TOUR.

London, January 5.

When Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain arrived at Charlestown Lord Milner joined the train, the meeting of the two statesmen being most cordial. Mr. Chamberlain left the train at Volkspruit and held an informal reception in the waiting-room of the station. Prominent Boers were presented and cordially shook hands.

VENEZUELA.

The Germans have seized the Custom-house at Puerto Cabello.

VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS.

Three volcanoes in Nicaragua and five in Chile are in active eruption.

THE MOROCCO EMBROGLIO.

London, January 6.

The Sultan of Morocco has astutely effected a public reconciliation with his brother and has appointed him Governor of Fez.

VENEZUELA.

It is reported from New York that President Castro is in a desperate plight. He has an empty treasury; is approaching the insurgents, and has abdicated or is about to abdicate.

A LIBERAL VICTORY.

Later.

At the Newmarket election the Liberal candidate, Mr. C. B. Gray, was returned by 4414 votes, the Unionist candidate, Mr. Bradley, polling only 3907. The Liberals throughout the kingdom are jubilant over this victory, which taken in conjunction with the fixed basis of bye-elections they regard as an incontestible demonstration of the Government's growing unpopularity.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

Sir Thomas Sutherland has been appointed Vice-President of the Suez Canal Board.

GERMAN ESTIMATES.

The German naval estimates show a net increase of three million marks, and the army estimates a decrease of five million marks.

THE GARTER FOR THE SHAH.

London, January 7.

Viscount Downe has been appointed head of the mission which takes to Persia the insignia of the Garter to be conferred on the Shah.

WEST AUSTRALIA.

Admiral Bedford has been appointed Governor of West Australia.

[Viscount Downe is the 8th of his line and is Colonel of the 10th Hussars. He served in South Africa and was twice mentioned in despatches.

Vice-Admiral Sir F. G. D. Bedford has had a distinguished career. He commanded the *Shah* in her engagement with the *Huascar* in 1877.—ED. *J. M.*]

THE DARDANELLES.

London, January 7.

The British Embassy at Constantinople has presented to the Sublime Porte a formal protest against the passage of four Russian destroyers through the Dardanelles in September, declaring that it is a violation of international treaties, and claiming, if an occasion arises, the same privilege for British men-of-war.

CENTRAL ASIAN AFFAIRS.

London, January 8.

The *Novoe Vremya*, commenting on Major MacMahon's mission to Seistan, declares that private disputes between Persians and Afghans do not concern England.

Russia cannot unmoved witness the dispatch of such a mission.

THE CHAMBERLAINS AT PRETORIA.

Sir Arthur Lawley gave a garden party at Pretoria in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain. Lord Milner was present, as also were Generals Cronje, Botha, and Delarey, but General De Wet was absent.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE FRENCH NAVY.

Saigon, December 31.

A decree of the President of the Republic modifies the decrees of the 1st and the 23rd of April, 1902, on the organization of the French naval forces in the Atlantic and on the seas of the Far East. The report which precedes the decree nevertheless affirms the utility of keeping the Reserve Division of Saigon united to the Far Eastern Naval Force under a single commander.

MOROCCO.

The rebellious tribes of Morocco have beaten the Sultan, who is besieged in Fez. No international complication is to be foreseen, England and France being desirous of maintaining the *status quo* even in the event of the Sultan being dethroned.

Saigon, January 4.

Several war-vessels are ready to set out for Morocco at the first signal.

MOROCCO.

Saigon, January 5.

A telegram from Algiers says that three companies of riflemen have set out from Clemsen for Lalla-marnia, and a company of Zouaves for Seldon, and that two other companies are ready to set out.

A telegram from Tangiers says that the pretender, Bu Hamara, is too weak at present to attack Fez. He is trying to rally the neighbouring tribes.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

In 96 elections for the Senate, there have been returned 7 conservatives, 25 progressists, 18 republicans, 36 radicals and 10 socialists. The Ministry has gained 11 seats.

MOROCCO.

Bu-Hamara is abandoned by his partizans. All danger of a siege at Fez has disappeared.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

THE AMERICAN PACIFIC CABLE.

Japanese Vice-Consulate,
Honolulu, January 6, 1903.

The submarine cable between San Francisco and Hawaii has been opened for the transmission of messages.

(FROM THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

THE SITUATION IN MOROCCO.

London, December 31.

Telegrams received here confirm the gravity of the situation in Morocco. The Sultan has announced that he is prepared to die in defence of Fez.

The Moors are confident that Great Britain cannot refuse to give armed assistance to the Sultan if necessary, as they consider that the responsibility for the rebellion rests with Great

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Britain and is a consequence of the fostering of European ideas and the introduction of Christians into the Moorish Court.

GERMANY'S POLICY IN CHINA.

London, January 2.

Dr. Morrison, the *Times* correspondent at Peking, in a retrospect of the political affairs of China, trenchantly criticises Germany's diplomatic duplicity as regards the sphere of influence in the Yangtse Valley.

THE AMERICAN PACIFIC CABLE.

The first messages on the American Pacific cable were exchanged between Honolulu and San Francisco yesterday.

ILLNESS OF THE KING OF SAXONY.

London, January 4.

It is reported that the King of Saxony is critically ill.

THE VENEZUELAN TROUBLE.

A telegram from Caracas states that the revolutionists are marching on Caracas.

The Powers have captured forty Venezuelan vessels, which have been towed to Port au-Spain.

The arbitration negotiations are proceeding.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

London, January 5.

The *Novoe Vremia* publishes an article from its correspondent in Manchuria which states that, instead of leaving the country, it seems as if the Russians had just begun to settle in Manchuria in earnest.

The correspondent says that no Russian there doubts there is a brilliant future for his countrymen, and adds that they intend to construct a branch railway to Kirin.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS.

The French Senatorial elections have resulted in a Ministerial gain of eleven.

GERMAN NAVY ESTIMATES.

London, January 6.

The German Navy estimates provide for a recurring expenditure amounting to 93½ million marks, and a non-recurring expenditure of 104 million marks for shipbuilding and armaments.

The demand in connection with Kiaochau shows an increase of 18,722 marks.

RUSSIA AND THE DARDANELLES.

Great Britain has addressed a protest to the Porte against the passage of four Russian destroyers through the Dardanelles.

The Russian Government maintains that they were unarmed vessels flying the commercial flag and cannot be regarded as warships.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

THE TROUBLE IN MOROCCO.

London, December 31.

The Powers have decided to maintain the *status quo* in Morocco. The rebels have laid siege to Fez and cut off the water supply. The surrender of the Sultan of Morocco is believed inevitable.

THE VENEZUELAN REVOLUTION.

President Castro has triumphantly returned to the capital, and declares that the revolutionists are dispersed.

THE DURBAR AT DELHI.

London, January 1.

King Edward was proclaimed Emperor of India at Delhi to-day. Over 15,000 persons participated in the celebration. Lord Curzon, the Viceroy, read an Imperial Speech expressing the Emperor's thanks for the services rendered by India to Great Britain and announcing that the position of the Indian princes would be maintained. Lord Curzon further announced that an exemption from interest for three years would be made on the Public Bonds issued by the provinces under the administration of Indian princes, and a general amnesty has also been declared whereby 16,000 convicts have been placed at liberty.

THE REVOLUTION IN MOROCCO.

London, January 3.

The supply of provisions having run short at Fex, the Sultan of Morocco will probably remove his capital to Rabbatt. The rebels have formed their camps at Hijargad (?), and their object is to place Mulai Mahomed, the elder brother of the reigning Sultan, on the Throne.

Italy is acting jointly with France and Great Britain in the matter. The Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs has signified the intention of Italy to occupy Tripoli. Four French war-vessels in Toulon are making preparations for departure, and four British war-ships have left Malta in order to strengthen the garrison at Gibraltar.

THE DURBAR AT DELHI.

The city of Delhi was illuminated last night.

JAPANESE BONDS.

Japanese 5 per cent. new Bonds have gone up by £1.

THE SOMALILAND CAMPAIGN.

Abyssinians are acting jointly with Englishmen in the campaign in Somaliland.

VENEZUELA.

London, January 5.

According to advices received from the American Minister, Mr. Bowen, the situation of President Castro is very precarious. The Army is without pay, the treasury is empty, and a financial crisis is imminent, the Bank of Venezuela having stopped payment. After a victory at Guayaquil (?) the insurgent army is now marching on Caracas.

MOROCCO.

The Sultan has succeeded in winning over to his side the native Chiefs by appointing his elder brother, Muley Mahomed, to the position of Governor-General of Fez.

DEATH OF A GREAT SCHOLAR.

Professor Laffechi has died at Paris.

HEAVY SNOW IN KOREA.

Chemulpo, January 6.

Snow began to fall in Chemulpo, at the end of last month; it is now one foot in depth and continues to fall. The district of Gunzan is one mass of snow.

SPANISH PREMIER DEAD.

London, January 6.

The Spanish Premier, Senor Sagasta, has died and the funeral will take place at Madrid to-day.

SPECIAL AMBASSADOR TO PERSIA.

England is despatching a special ambassador to Persia to present the Order of the Garter to the Shah.

ECONOMICAL SITUATION IN TIENTSIN.

Shanghai, January 7.

Owing to the exertions of Viceroy Yuan-shih-kai, the economical situation is improving in Tientsin.

SHANGHAI MARKET.

Cotton threads and fabrics have changed hands to a considerable extent and the Shanghai market is improving but Japanese threads have fared badly and transactions therein are being retarded.

TAIKO-BOSEKI AND THE MITSUI BUSSAN.

The Taiko-Boseki (Spinning Company) has changed hands and will now be managed by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE.

Berlin, January 5.

The Crown Prince is to start on a tour through Italy, Egypt, Aden and Constantinople in the coming Spring.

KING OF SAXONY.

The King of Saxony is recovering from his illness.

THE SPANISH EX-PREMIER.

The Ex-Premier of Spain, Senor Sagasta, is dead.

GERMANY'S NAVAL ESTIMATES.

For the coming financial year, it is expected that there will be an increase of 115 officers in the German Navy, while the cost of construction of several new war-ships has been arranged in the budget.

GERMAN NAVAL BUDGET.

London, January 6.

Germany is to disburse 93,500,000 marks in ordinary expenditures and 104,000,000 marks in extraordinary expenditures, to be applied to the construction and armament of new warships. The budget for Kiao-chou will be increased by 18,722 marks over that of last year.

THE DARDANELLES.

A few months ago four Russian torpedo-boat destroyers passed through the Dardanelles and England filed with the Turkish Government a protest. Russia has defended herself by answering that the war-ships were denuded of arms and flew the merchant flag and therefore can not be called men-of-war. The news of the protest is only now divulged.

VENEZUELA.

The sailing boats that were captured at Puerto Cabello number 15.

Caracas is in a state of financial distress. The specie reserve is exhausted. The Bank of Venezuela has shut its doors.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

VENEZUELA.

London, December 25.

Three rebel armies totalling 7,200 men are nearing Caracas. President Castro is starting to oppose them.

An American steamer which sailed prior to the blockade has been allowed to enter La Guayra and was given a time limit to discharge her cargo. The allies refused an extension of time, and she was compelled to leave only partly discharged.

SOMALILAND.

It is understood that the force landing at Obbia from Berbera is only intended to prepare the base of operations. It is improbable that the general advance will take place before April. Italy does not participate in the expedition, although several Italian naval and military officers are attached to it.

MINING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Several hundred Indians started work to-day in the Koffyfontein mine in Orangia. This experiment, first of the kind, is watched with much interest in South African mining circles.

SLAVERY AT ZANZIBAR.

London, December 26.

The Bluebook dealing with slavery at Zanzibar contains a dispatch from Lord Lansdowne to Sir C. N. E. Eliot, K.C.M.G., H.M.'s Agent and Consul-General at Zanzibar, approving the action of Mr. B. S. Cave, C.B., H.M.'s Consul at Zanzibar, in reference to the Labour question.

PHYSICAL MILITARY INSTRUCTION OF YOUNG ENGLAND.

The Duke of Devonshire states in a letter to Lord Charles Beresford that the Board of Education is considering how far it is possible to carry out Lord Charles Beresford's proposal to make physical military instruction compulsory in all schools supported by the public, though many of his suggestions can only be dealt with by the War Office.

Lord Charles Beresford says that he intends to press the matter further.

NAVAL REFORM.

London, December 27.

A new naval scheme has been promulgated, the cardinal feature of which is the homogeneous training of executive, engineer, and marine officers, with the view of creating a body of young officers equally available on mobilisation for war for all general duties in the fleet.

It is expected that this scheme will beneficially aid recruiting as it opens a way to commissions for men from the lower deck, and increases the chances of promotion.

The scheme has been cordially welcomed by the general public.

THE QUEEN'S DINNER.

London, December 28.

The Queen's dinner to the widows and orphans of the London soldiers and sailors who died in the war in South Africa was given yesterday. There were 1,800 guests, whose fares were paid for them, and they were cheered by a very kind message from the Queen.

DEATH OF THE BISHOP OF ST. ALBANS.

London, December 29.

The Right Rev. John Wogan Festing, D.D., Bishop of St. Albans, is dead, aged 65.

[Dr. Festing was a Prebendary of St. Paul's when he was appointed the second Bishop of St Albans on the resignation of Dr Claughton in May, 1890.]

VENEZUELA.

London, December 31.

After three days' battle, the troops under President Castros have occupied Barquirimeto, hitherto held by the revolutionists.

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DROUGHT AND CANNIBALISM IN NEW GUINEA.

A disastrous drought has caused the natives of New Guinea to resort to cannibalism. Thousands are starving or endeavouring to subsist on roots. Twenty-five natives have been killed in a tribal fight.

SOMALILAND.

Colonel Alexander Nelson Rochfort, C.B., lately Commanding Royal Artillery, South Africa, has gone to Abyssinia to join the Abyssinian force which is to co-operate with the British expedition against the Mad Mullah.

WHY NOT A FRANCO-ENGLISH UNION?

Any effort on the part of a French publicist to stem the tide of ill-will which ebbs and flows like an undertow between France and England is always worthy of note. Every right-minded person, therefore, will thank the *Times* Paris correspondent for drawing attention to the remarkable study of the relations between these two countries which M. Finot, the editor of the *Revue*, is to publish in the two numbers for November. M. Finot (we learn) begins by rejecting the unscientific phrase "Latin races," for he considers it established that the French and English nations have for the most part ethnographically the same origin, and he holds that it has been owing to their reciprocal influence that they have individually attained political self-consciousness and worked out national salvation. In a word, profoundly convinced of their unwitting solidarity down the ages, he undertakes to show his readers, first, what England owes to France, and, secondly, what France owes to England. With regard to England's indebtedness to France, he says that the influence of the Norman conquest is so imperishable that whatever the reciprocal hatreds of the two countries and their mutual wars, both bear the ineffaceable imprint of having lived, suffered, and thought in common. The French conquerors inculcated in the conquered people its first notions of its civilising mission and of patriotism. French culture, French thought, and the French tongue completly overlaid the texture, as it were, of the Saxon soul, so that finally, under the influence of the French language and by the absorption of its riches, the idiom of Shakespeare and Byron "gained not only a rigorous precision, but also, owing to the imposing wealth of its vocabulary, incomparable beauties of expression." Again, England owes to France her cult of liberty, for if William the Conqueror had not curtailed the independence of his vassals they would not have had to ally themselves with the people against the King, and the British soul would not have had inculcated into it those aspirations towards justice, liberty, and fair play which were less easily cultivated in France, where the central authority secured and maintained greater independence and power. M. Finot insists, with perhaps less reason, on the decisive influence of Montaigne upon Shakespeare, but the constant indebtedness of English literature to France later on is, of course, a commonplace of criticism. Now what does France owe to England? The advantage—owing to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes and the enforced residence in England of so many keen-witted Frenchmen—of having English ideas of liberty and English Parliamentarism interpreted to her. In fact, M. Finot considers that British thought was the really efficient cause of the French Revolution. But these considerations are merely preliminary to his discussion of what he calls the tacit solidarity of the two countries during our own time. England pays France annually nearly 1,800,000,000f., and the products which France sells to England are such as she would find difficulty in selling elsewhere. How happens it then that, in spite of the solidarity of interests due to common origin and to reciprocal services, there should be so much mutual distrust? As a matter of fact, M. Finat thinks that this distrust is purely superficial, and that in the depths of the Franco-English conscience, as he calls it, there is in reality a feeling of goodwill preventing the outbreak of positive hostilities, notwithstanding the fire-eating journals on both sides of the Channel. One thing that he says cannot be contested—namely, that during the Boer War, France was, after all, less aggressive than the other Continental Powers, and the caricatures published there, if compared with those published elsewhere, would show how far less deep-seated was French acrimony. Moreover, on either side of the Channel there has always been a party in favour of a closer *rapprochment* between the two Powers. M. Finot's conclusion is that in presence of the "American peril," a European federation is bound to come, but that meanwhile, England being the Power most menaced by the United States, a "Franco-English Union" would be the precursor of peace and of the progress of the world. M. Finot believes in the utility of an Anglo-French *rapprochement* as a means to an end. England suffers at present at the thought that she is detested by all the world, but she is at the same time almost at the end of her resources, and is at a crisis in her career. She needs a friend, and for M. Finot France is the natural friend. The utility of such a *rapprochement* for France is immense, but the project should captivate her imagination chiefly as the harbinger of the resuscitation of these altrustic sentiments, which are, after all, essentially French.—*Public Opinion.*

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 1	F. Jan. 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian 2	F. Jan. 9
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Tremont 3	F. Jan. 9
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 4	M. Jan. 12
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Duke of Fife 5	W. Jan. 14
Europe	M. M. Co.	Caledonien 6	W. Jan. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 7	Th Jan. 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. Jan. 17
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Darmstadt	Sa. Jan. 17
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. Jan. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 8	Th Jan. 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	M Jan. 26
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	W Jan. 28
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th Jan. 29

1 Left Kobe on the 9th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 31st ult.
3 Left Kobe on the 9th inst.
4 Left Vancouver on the 29th ult.
5 Left Tacoma, Wash., on the 25th ult.
6 Left Shanghai on the 6th inst.
7 Left San Francisco on the 17th ult.
8 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Princess Irene	Sa. Jan. 10
Europe, &c.	N. Y. K.	Hingo Maru	Sa. Jan. 10
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. Jan. 10
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. Jan. 10
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Tremont	Sa. Jan 10
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M Jan. 12
Seattle, Wash.	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu. Jan 13
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	Th Jan 15
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hers Saikio	Th Jan. 15
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Duke of Fife	Th Jan. 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	F. Jan. 16
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. Jan. 17
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu Jan. 20
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F Jan. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	F. Jan 23
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W Jan. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. Jan. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa Jan. 31

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 2nd Jan., —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, J. W. Ekstrand, 1st Jan.,—Seattle, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Wm. F. Craven, 2nd Jan.,—Portland Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,340, Graglietto, 1st Jan., —Triste, Mails and General.—Austrian Lloyd S.S. & Co.

Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 1st Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, L. Bevan, 7th Jan., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 4th Jan.,—Kobe, 3rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 5th Jan.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 5th Jan.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4,148, H. L. Allen, 6th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General. Butterfield & Swire.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 6th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, K. Yamamoto, 6th Jan.,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 6th Jan.,—Kobe, 5th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, C. Christiansen, 7th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,894, De La Lande, 7th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, S. Watanabe, 7th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shantung, British steamer, 2,806, I. Quail, 8th Jan., —Saigon, Rice.—Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Laos, French steamer, 2,331, Flandin, 1st Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 1st Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 3rd Jan., —San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, J. W. Ekstrand, 4th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, K. Homma, 4th Jan.,—Yokkaichi via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 4th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 458, S. Kawano, 4th Jan.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, C. F. Lockstone, 5th Jan.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, Bahle, 6th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 6th Jan.,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Wm. E. Craven, 6th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, L. Bevan, 6th Jan., —London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, S. Muramatsu, 6th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, S. Kawamura, 7th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 7th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, K. Sakai, 7th Jan.,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 8th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 8th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. L. F. Duhain, Mrs. Henry Taylor, Miss H. Boxall, Mr. B. Ormerod, Mr. J. H. Ormerod, Mr. Alex. Milne, Mr. I. Efron, Mrs. B. Young, Mr. William B. French, Mrs. A. Forrest, Mr. A. Hirrahein, Mr. A. Benecke, Mr. R. Hilberg, and Mr. Loo Kow Kee, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. L. C. Leonard, U.S.N., Mr. H. L. McBride, Mr. Geo. Compere, Compte de Saint Sauveur, Dr. R. J. Marshall, Mr. F. P. Ball, and Mr. W. Hopkins, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Princess Irene*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. Henry Bennent, Mr. and Mrs. Thiel, Dr. Matthiolins, Dr. A. Haberer, Mr. and Mrs. L. Urban, Mr. G. R. L. van Goor, Mr. G. Weinmann, Mr. Hemprich, Mr. Stanley Raby, Dr. van der Heyden, Mr. Robsien, Mrs. Kishi, Mr. Johann Schorghubers, Mr. Tomohiko Mayeshima, Mr. G. Degert, Dr. S. Higuchi, Mr. Tomotsu Fujimura, Mr. Arimoto, Mr. Y. Sakai, Mr. C. Asai, Miss K. Uchida, Miss H. Onuki, Mr. Y. Tani, Mr. W. L. Richardson, Mr. B. Kesormall, and Mr. D. Dayoran, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, from Sydney via ports:—Sir M. McEacharn, Lady McEacharn, Miss A. Dewar, Mr. D. B. Fullarton, Mr. J. W. Ryland, Mr. Scoff, Miss Johnstone, Mr. A. Roek, Colonel M. Oshigami, Mr. N. Nakayama, Mr. M. Yamada, Masters Nakayama (3), Mr. and Mrs. Ng Chik Woon, Mrs. Ah Lee, and Master Chik Woon, in cabin; Miss K. Anzai, Mr. Leung Ki Ching, Mrs. Ah Yan, Mr. S. Yamada, and Mr. H. Nakayama, in second class; 13 Japanese, and 7 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. J. Coffee, Mr. N. de Zmeiff, Mr. H. P. Frisch, Miss Emily Curtis, Mrs. M. Kasai and maid, Mrs. H. Yoshioka and 3 children, Rev. A. D. Woodworth, Mr. K. Yamada, and Miss E. Alexander, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Count F. Prat, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Miss A. J. Clark, Miss I. E. Clark, Mrs. M. Seely, Mr. Jas. Downey, Mrs. Jas. Downey, Mr. F. W. Bryan, and Mrs. F. W. Bryan, in cabin.

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DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Laos*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. A. Scott, Mr. V. Blad and native servant, Mrs. Blad, Consul-General Ritter, Baron and Baroness de Ropp, Mr. C. L. Chaw, Mrs. Chaw and child, Mr. Fioravanti, Count and Countess E. de Miramon, Mr. Wong Chun Lin, Mrs. Cheong and child, Mr. G. Leblanc, Mr. Marcus Liffert, Mr. W. Lynn, and Mr. Voisin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. Bilger, Mr. E. M. Bowie, Miss Claire Bowie, Miss Julia Callender, Mrs. C. A. Clivio, Miss E. Clivio, Mr. J. Cooper, Mrs. Cooper, Miss E. Dixon, Mr. E. D. Dunlop, Mrs. E. D. Dunlop, Mr. W. B. Fairfield, Mr. T. Thos. Fortune, Mr. P. Friedrichsen, Mrs. Garcow, Mrs. J. Hathway, Rev. W. V. Johnson, Mrs. W. V. Johnson, Mr. F. M. Kendall, Mrs. F. M. Kendall, Master B. Kendall, Mr. Geo. Lanping, Mr. J. M. Lucy, Mr. L. Marthoud, Mr. F. J. Maxey, Mrs. F. J. Maxey, Mr. H. Rinne, Mrs. H. Rinne, Miss Janie Samuel, Mr. Leon San Tong, and Mr. A. L. Tuske, in cabin; 246 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. P. Ball, Mr. Oscar Buchholz, Mr. Jacques Catz, Mr. Geo. Gompers, Mr. I. Efron, Mr. W. B. French, Mr. J. W. Harding, Lieut. W. Hopkins, U.S.M.C., Lieut. Jno. C. Leonard, U.S.N., Mrs. Jno. C. Leonard, Dr. R. J. Marshall, Mr. H. H. McBride, Mr. W. H. Peech, Mrs. W. H. Peech, infant and nurse, Miss M. Powell, Comte de Saint-Sauveur, Mr. B. Sievert, Mr. F. B. Smart, Miss C. E. Smart, and Mrs. Henry Taylor, in cabin.

Per Austrian steamer *Silesia*, for Trieste via ports:—His Ex. von Ambro, Austro-Hung. Minister, wife, four children and suite, and Consul Max Kutschera, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Canton*, for London via ports:—Mr. Charles H. James, Mr. Thomas Harper, and Mr. Frederick W. Woollen, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. W. Bryan, Mrs. F. W. Bryan, Miss A. J. Clark, Miss I. E. Clark, Mr. Jas. Downey, Mrs. Jas. Downey, Mrs. T. S. Fisher, Mrs. C. Mayers and amah, Count F. Prat, Mrs. M. Seely, and Miss E. Talcott, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste silk shipped steamer per *Laos*:—

	Raw.				Waste.		
	Marseilles Opticn.	Milan.	Lyon.	Russia.	Marseilles	Italy.	Shanghai.
Bavier & Co.	36	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bernardin & Co.	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	—	16	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	10	—	—	—	35	—	—
Jewett & Bent	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
Longin & Co.	—	—	58	—	—	—	—
Ulysse Pila & Co.	—	—	99	83	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co.	53	—	79	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	48	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli	—	—	16	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	73	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	30	—	—
	162	—	312	—	128	—	—

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Indrasamha*, for Portland, Or.:

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkang	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kobe	—	1,478	—	—	550	2,028
Yokohama	224	866	—	—	—	1,090
Total	224	2,344	—	—	550	3,118

SILK.

	New York.	Easton.		Total.
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	136	44	—	180
Total	136	44	—	180

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Owing to cases of plague among the operatives in the Tokyo Gassed Yarn Spinning Mill work has been suspended by the municipal authorities. Prices have consequently hardened and importers are benefiting by the increased demand.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	per yard. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	per yard.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	per piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	per bale.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28 32,-Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150 00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

The market is quiet; no business is reported.

	per picul.
Round and square ¾ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market is unchanged.

American	$2.72
Russian	2.65
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is firm.

	per picul.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 7.50
White Refined	8.80 to 10.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a large business in Raw Silk, settlements for the week approaching 5,000 piculs. It is doubtful whether all this is for export or whether some transactions have not been done for speculation on the local market. The immediate effect has been to make holders very firm and all prices are advanced to the rates given below.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,100 to 1,120
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,100 to 1,120
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,030 to 1,040
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	1,060 to 1,070
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,030 to 1,040
Re-reels—No. 2	1,000 to 1,010
Re-reels—No. 3	970 to 980
Kakedas—Extra	1,020 to 1,030
Kakedas—No. 1	1,000 to 1,005
Kakedas—No. 1½	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 2	930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2½	900 to 910

WASTE SILK.

Waste Silk prices have hardened in sympathy with the sister market, and while there is not so much activity as on the Raw Silk side, transactions have been concluded on the basis of quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	170 to 180
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	150 to 155
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	110 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	65 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

The market is closed. Settlements to date amount to 179,726 piculs against 191,315 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	46 & upward
Choice	43 to 45
Finest	41 to 42
Fine	36 to 40
Good Medium	33 to 35
Medium	30 to 32
Good Common	27 to 29
Common	23 to 26

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 8.

No change in silver from London nor in sterling quotations from China and local rates remain steady but firm all round.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/16 @ ⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/0 3/8 @ 7/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 15/16 @ 1
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅜
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	259
— Private 4 months' sight	265
— — 6 months' sight	266
Hongkong—Bank sight	82⅜%dis.*
— Private 10 days' sight	24½%dis.*
Shanghai—Bank sight	93½*
— Private 10 days' sight	95½*
India—Bank sight	154
— Private 30 days' sight	157
America—Bank sight	50 @ ⅛
— Private 30 days' sigh	51
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅜
Germany—Bank sight	210½
— Private 4 months' sight	215½ @ 16
Bar Silver (London)	22 1/16

* Nominal.

TOKUMIVA.

Authorized Broker of Tokio Stock Exchange. Share and Stock Broker: Official Closing Quotations of Tokyo Stock Exchange.

Yokohama, January 8.

Yesterday's total transactions were 7,650 shares.

Morning. Jan.	Feb.	Shares.	Afternoon. Jan.	Feb.
—	78.50	Nippon Railway	77.70	78.20
—	23.90	Nippon R'way, 3rd	—	—
60.80	—	Sanyo Railway	60.90	61.50
49.20	49.70	Kansai Railway	49.55	49.95
60.95	61.50	Kiushiu Railway	60.80	61.35
82.55	83.20	Tanko Railway	82.50	83.25
40.35	40.80	Tanko R'way, new	—	40.80
—	26.00	Tobu Railway	25.50	—
58.70	—	Sobu Railway	—	59.90
—	—	Boso Railway	8.70	—
26.40	27.00	Narita Railway	26.70	27.00
—	—	Narita R'way, new	9.50	—
21.50	22.00	Kioto Railway	21.90	21.20
19.80	20.10	Hokuyetsu Railway	—	20.00
—	—	Hankaku Railway	—	—
114.50	115.50	Tokio Electric Car	114.90	116.30
73.80	74.40	Tokio Ele. Car, new	73.90	74.50
—	—	Tokio Electric Ra'y	35.50	35.80
—	—	Kei-hin Electric Car	—	—
84.00	84.80	Nippon Yusen	83.90	84.70
33.90	34.20	Toyo Kisen	33.65	34.10
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—
—	—	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	—	27.00
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
—	83.30	Tokio Gas Co.	82.50	83.45
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new	—	—
66.50	67.20	Tokio Electric Light	66.70	67.40
42.70	—	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	—
—	39.70	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	—	39.45
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new	—	—
—	—	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
165.10	166.90	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	164.60	166.30

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Yokohama, January 8.

RICE QUOTATIONS, PER TEN KOKU.

MORNING.

	January.	February.	March.
1st Meeting.....	139.10	140.50	142.55
2nd Meeting	139.20	140.75	142.20
3rd Meeting	139.15	140.70	142.10
4th Meeting	139.20	140.70	142.20
5th Meeting	—	—	—

AFTERNOON.

	January.	February.	March.
1st Meeting.....	139.30	140.75	142.30
2nd Meeting	139.25	140.70	142.50
3rd Meeting	139.30	140.80	142.50
4th Meeting	139.50	141.15	142.65

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, January 8.

Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, buyers offer *yen* 70. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 55. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted. Engine and Iron Works, sellers at *yen* 115. Kirin Breweries sellers at *yen* 135.

	YEN.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	115	Sellers.
Grand Hotel	250	Sales.
Club Hotel.....	75	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel	70	Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.....	55	Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	135	Sellers.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 1903.

MARRIAGE.

At No. 178, Yamate-cho, Yokohama, on Jan. 14th, by the Rev. E. S. Booth, M.A., SAMUEL HENRY, only son of the late Moritz Montague Kuhn, to SOPHIA, daughter of Louis Dewette, Esq., all of Yokohama. No cards.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Nagano Rice Exchange decided on the 14th inst. to dissolve.

THE *Niroku Shimbun* was suspended on the 11th inst. by the authorities.

MR. HIRADO SEIHACHI, formerly member of the Kanagawa City Assembly, died on the 9th inst.

COLONEL SHIODA is reported to have decided to study for three years in Russia at his own expense.

A TELEGRAM received by the *Asahi* from Wakamatsu, Aizu, dated January 11th, states that heavy snow fell during the previous night and by morning was three feet in depth. The trains on the Ganyetsu Railway have suspended running.

THE new railway line between Kokubu and Yokokawa on the Kagoshima Railway was opened on the 15th inst.

MR. MORIHIRO ICHIHARA was formally appointed Mayor of Yokohama on Friday in succession to the late Mr. Umeda.

THE Emperor is reported to have ordered a deer shoot for the Foreign Diplomatic Corps to take place at Nikko about 20th Feb.

MR. TAKATA KOHEI, father of Prof. Takata Sanaye, died at his residence Sekiguchi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, on the 13th inst.

THE traffic between Hosorogi and Taishoji on the Hokuriku Railway was re-opened on the 12th. This line was suspended owing to a landslip some days ago.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN ARDAGH, LL.D., K.C.I.E., C.B., has been nominated British member in the Permanent Court of The Hague *vice* the late Lord Pauncefote.

THE despatch of Indian troops to Somaliland is estimated at £20,000, and the monthly recurring expense is £2,000. These charges will be borne by the Home Government.

SOME very old tumuli have been found at Isogo near the Sugita tunnel. The entrance is 9 ft. high and the depth 12 ft. Ten old swords, some bones, and several pots were found inside.

SATO TAKATADA, living at Shimmeicho, Kanazawa, has been arrested on a charge of attempting to extort money from Mr. Sato Kisaburo, Chief Police Inspector, Yamate Police, on the 10th inst.

IT is estimated that the claims advanced against the Venezuela Republic by foreign Powers aggregate about 25,000,000 dollars (£5,000,000), including 15,000,000 dollars claimed by Germany.

THE Japanese steamer *Hokuko Maru* belonging to Mr. Hattori Hanzayemon, Hakodate, ran on a sand bank, at the entrance to Sakata harbour, on the morning of the 14th inst. The crews and cargo were saved.

BOTH petitions in the Hartopp divorce case, which caused such a sensation in London during December, have been dismissed, neither husband or wife succeeding in proving their charges against one another.

IN a quarrel that took place in a gardener's house at Tajima-cho, Azabu, Tokyo, on Jan. 14th one gambler cut another in the neck with a short sword. He fled but was subsequently arrested. The injured man died the same afternoon.

A BOY named Shoichiro (13), son of Ikeda Tomiji, living at Ishikawa Nakamura, Yokohama, accidentally shot another boy named Matsudo Toichiro's in the left eye on the afternoon of the 10th inst. The lads were shooting birds with an air-gun.

MR. M. ICHIHARA, the new Mayor of Yokohama, attended at the City Office on the morning of the 12th inst. and took over business from Mr. Saito Matsuzo, assistant mayor. He visited (accompanied by Marquis Nembrini Gonzaga) all the Foreign Consulates in Yokohama the following day.

A WORKMAN named Kawai Shin, employed at the Kuroiso Railway Engine works, was shot with a Murata rifle by a comrade named Yabuki Kyusaku on the evening of the 12th inst. After the deed the latter went to a house of ill-fame and shot a woman named Kogiku, afterwards shooting himself. The cause was a love affair.

A WELL-KNOWN railway thief named Higuchi Kikutaro, of Hyogo, and a woman named Shibata Saku, living at Kanagawa-machi, Yokohama, were arrested by the Isezakicho police on the 10th inst. and charged with having stolen several rolls of silk valued at *yen* 650 from Yokohama station on the 7th inst. The goods were sold to a receiver.

AT the meeting of the Singapore Legislative Council on 19th ult., H.E. the Governor announced that he had concluded with His Highness the Sultan of Johore arrangements for the construction of the last link of the railway which would connect the Singapore end of the Colony with the other. It is therefore only a question of time now to complete the Malayan Peninsula Grand Trunk line.

THE German Emperor, in inaugurating a hall of fame at Gorlitz in November said that the present generation was less sensible to its obligation to continue the unification of the Fatherland than was its predecessor. The freedom of the individual, the Emperor said, was conditional on that freedom being subordinated to the good of the whole. He wished the German people freedom of thought and freedom of religion, but he did not wish them freedom to govern badly.

AT a recent meeting in Paris the Academie des Science morales et politiques, M. Motono, Japanese Minister in Paris, was present when M. Louis Renault read a paper by Chev. Descamps on the first tribunal of arbitration at The Hague. The meeting was interesting inasmuch as MM. Renault and Motono are the arbitrators under this tribunal for the House-Tax Question in Japan.

M. WITTE, Minister of Finance, has returned to St. Petersburg from Livadia, where he made a short stay on his return from his tour of inspection in the Far East. The Vienna *Neue Freie Presse* St. Petersburg correspondent says that M. Witte is extremely dissatisfied with the result of his inspection of the railway. He found the state of things worse than anything told him in St. Petersburg, and lists of officials who are to be dismissed have been made out.

IT is stated that Rear-Admiral Philip H. Cooper has been designated by the Secretary of the U.S. Navy to succeed Admiral Frank Wildes on the Asiatic Station. He will leave at once. Rear-Admiral Philip H. Cooper is the junior rear-admiral of the Navy, having been recently appointed from captain. Previous to his promotion he was in command of the forces of the Navy in Samoa. Admiral Wildes, whom he succeeds, has left Cavite, having been examined and condemned by a medical board as unfit for active service. He will be retired upon his arrival in the United States.

RECENT dividends declared by Japanese banks and companies are as follow:—Tokai Ginko, 10 per cent; Nippon Bashi Ginko, 5 per cent.; Fukoku-Ginko, 7.5 per cent.; Twenty-Seventh Bank, 8.5 per cent.; Shiba Ginko, 11 per cent.; Hokkaido Shogyo Ginko, 6 per cent.; Hachoji Seventy-Eighth Bank, 8 per cent; Tsuchiura Fifth Bank, 10 per cent.; Shinano Shogyo Ginko, 10 per cent.; Tokyo Copper and Iron Company 7.6 per cent.; Yokohama Soda Ginko, 6 per cent.; Yokohama Warehousing Company, 16 per cent.; Warehousing Bank, 8 per cent.; Savings Bank, 8 per cent.; Yokohama Transport Company, 20 per cent., and Mitsubishi Ginko, 10 per cent.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Monday, Jan. 12.

Lu Hai-kwan is said to have advised the Throne that although France is the home of jurisprudence, the Japanese codes appear to be most suitable to the conditions of the Far East, and China ought therefore to engage a Japanese subject as adviser in matters of law.

The state purchase of telegraphs in China is evidently found difficult of achievement. Official opinion is said to be ranging itself on the side of Prince Ching in opposition. Even for military purposes the present system is considered better. Had not the purchase been already ordered by Imperial decree, the project would probably be abandoned.

The Chinese Government contemplates the despatch of several high officials to the Osaka Exhibition.

The Foreign Ministers, with the exception of the United States Representative, are pressing China strongly for payment of the indemnity balance that has accrued from the fall of silver. The Chinese Government apparently clings to the hope that some concession will be made to it in this matter, but the Representatives being unable to do anything in view of the financial arrangements already concluded in Europe, the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires is said to have urged Prince Ching, at a friendly interview, that it would be for China's advantage to comply as quickly as possible.

There are many rumours that Prince Ching may come to Osaka at the time of the Exhibition, but it is uncertain whether his official duties will allow him to absent himself from Peking.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* Tientsin correspondent says that Viceroy Yuan is earnestly endeavouring to bring about the withdrawal of the foreign garrisons from that city, and that England and Japan are disposed to consent. Germany, however, is thought unlikely to agree to anything of the kind.

Three hundred houses were destroyed by fire in Tientsin during the night of the 8th instant. It is impossible to identify the exact locality of the fire, as the telegraphic names are obscure, but apparently the place was in the immediate vicinity of the Japanese settlement, which, however, escaped unscathed.

Tuesday, Jan. 13.

An Imperial Decree has been issued in Peking, directing Prince Ching (junior) to proceed to Japan in connexion with the Osaka Exhibition, and ordering that he be accompanied by Mr. Na Tung. The latter is the official who visited Japan as the bearer of China's expressions of regret for the death of Mr. Sugiyama. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent, who sends news of this decree, adds that in consideration of the embarrassment felt by China owing to the instability of her medium of exchange, Mr. Na Tung has been instructed to make careful inquiry into the steps taken by Japan to place her currency on a gold basis, and into the results of the measure.

Wednesday, Jan. 14.

Telegrams from Peking indicate that there is some dissatisfaction with the organization and management of the University, and also that the Empress Dowager is disposed to direct very close attention to the educational and military enterprises of Viceroy Yuan.

The celebrated—or notorious—Li Lieng-ying is said to be urging Yung Lu to take steps for bringing large contributions to the Imperial strong-box for the purpose of celebrating the birth-day of the Empress Dowager. That is a matter that China will do well to handle delicately. It will not do to make displays of domestic extravagance while she is appealing to foreign countries *in formâ pauperis*.

A telegram from Shanghai dated the 12th instant announces that a land-slip occurred at Nanking, apparently on the 11th instant, causing much destruction of property and killing 200 Chinese. A store-house belonging to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, in which goods to the value of 500,000 *yen* were packed, was carried away by the crumbling bank. We infer that the ground which gave way was on the edge of the river.

The arrears of payment resulting from silver depreciation now amount to over 3½ million *yen* and the Chinese Authorities declare that they have no means of obtaining the money. They claim that the arrangements originally made to meet the installments of the Indemnity were based on the hypothesis of an invariable amount, and that there is no marginal income whatsoever. Mr. Na Tung, according to the *Asahi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, visited all the Foreign Representatives a few days ago to urge the expediency of accepting payment in silver at the rate of exchange ruling when the Protocol was signed. But the Representatives, especially those of Germany and France, declined to listen to any such proposal, and professed inability to appreciate China's embarrassment in the face of so small a sum. Therefore the Peking Government suggested that the customs dues should be payable in gold, but to that England took conspicuous exception, her contention being that the tariff had already been largely raised to facilitate payment of the Indemnity, and that no fresh burden could reasonably be imposed on the country's foreign commerce. It goes without saying that the foreign merchants at the Treaty Ports are radically opposed to the idea of gold duties.

Thursday, Jan. 15.

It is alleged by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent that the Empress Dowager has signified to Prince Ching her desire that fourteen of the princes should travel in Europe, America and Japan. That will involve a considerable outlay, but the money will be well spent. It is pleasant to see that China's impecuniosity does not distress her seriously except when the payment of indemnities comes on the *tapis*.

We read in the *Asahi's* Peking correspondence that there has been an impressive service in Peking on the occasion of the completion of the monument to Baron von Ketteler.

The Taotai of Shanghai has addressed an urgent appeal to the Throne that steps should at once be taken to hasten the payment of Indemnity funds by Viceroys and Governors. The arrears now amount to over six million taels.

It is reported that Russia has abandoned her project of taking under her own control the business of the customs at Dalny. She is willing that the matter should be in China's hands, but she expresses a desire that the inspector of customs should not be an Englishman. Under these circumstances it is thought not improbable that Sir Robert Hart may appoint a Japanese. We give this apocryhal story for what it may be worth.

MARQUIS ITO.

Speaking to some visitors of exceptional importance on the 11th instant, Marquis Ito is represented as having denied emphatically that, in the recent crisis, he allowed himself to be carried on the shoulders of his followers. On the contrary, it appears that the agreement of the two Parties to confer with the Cabinet as to the possibility of compromise, was at the instance, of the Marquis, and that Mr. Oishi Masami would have opposed it if he could. Another fact brought out by Marquis Ito's statements was that his relations with Marquis Yamagata have not been at all disturbed. Marquis Yamagata fully understood from his conversation with Marquis Ito in Kyoto that a collision between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai* was inevitable unless the former modified its financial policy.

As to the accusation that the *Seiyu-kai* had merely denounced the Cabinet's method of finding funds without suggesting any alternative, Marquis Ito affirmed that his own speeches and other indications furnished a perfectly clear idea of what the Party proposed. It was claimed by the Cabinet, he said, that in bringing forward the land-tax bill and discussing it before the Budget, the *Seiyu-kai* leaders had evinced a determination to provoke a collision. But surely no such contention could hold ground. That matter could have been arranged in whatever way the Government pleased. When the Cabinet found that precedence was about to be given to the land-tax bill, it could have temporarily withdrawn the bill with the intention of re-submitting it at a convenient time. The regulation of procedure was entirely within Ministerial control.

Marquis Ito had no objection to any historical parallels that might be drawn between the present crisis and incidents of the past. But he desired it to be remembered that there is a new factor to be considered now—the wish of the people. That is a force which the Constitution has called into being, and it is conceivable that to suspend the operation of the Constitution altogether might be preferable to certain measures taken in its presence. (Presumably Marquis Ito here referred to punitory dissolutions, but his language seems to have been purposely vague).

It is very interesting to note in this content a letter addressed by Mr. Taguchi Ukichi to the people of Tokyo. Mr. Taguchi puts his finger with absolute accuracy, as it seems to us, on the salient points in the history of the political contest. The first rift within the lute was made when, at a conference of the *Meiji* Statesmen in the presence of the Emperor, Marquis Ito, without consulting any of his colleagues, recommended the Sovereign to entrust the administration to Counts Itagaki and Okuma in 1898. Marquis Yamagata was entirely opposed to that step, and his opposition gathered force from the fact that his views had not been consulted. Within a few months the Okuma-Itagaki Cabinet fell. Marquis Ito was then in China. A telegram recalled him at once. But before he reached Japan, a new Cabinet had been organized under Marquis Yamagata, the line of cleavage being thus deepened. Then followed the organization of the *Seiyu-kai* under Marquis Ito's leader-

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ship. Immediately, almost before the new Party had taken definite shape, Marquis Yamagata resigned, and Marquis Ito, much against his will, had to accept a responsibility for which he was not prepared. Here was a new cause of mutual dissatisfaction. Thereafter, when Marquis Ito made certain financial proposals, he encountered opposition at the hands of Marquis Yamagata's adherents in the House of Peers. He resigned, and it devolved upon Count Katsura to take hold of the "floating wine cup" which none of the elder statesmen was willing to grasp. Count Katsura's Cabinet was composed mainly of elements unfriendly to Marquis Ito. There were no evidences of goodwill in this transfer of power. And now a situation has arisen in which Marquis Ito figures as an opponent of continuing the land tax which he himself laboured conspicuously to impose. Failure to induce the Lower House to agree to an increase of the land tax was one of the chief embarrassments of a former Ito Cabinet. It was partly because of that failure that Marquis Ito sought to obtain fuller representation for the commercial and industrial classes by means of a reformed system of election, which went into force last summer. Yet this same Marquis Ito now declares a continuance of the land tax to be unseasonable. Count Okuma may maintain that view. With him it is chiefly a handle for attacking the Oligarchs. But Marquis Ito can not consistently maintain it. Before the war with China the conflict between the Diet and the Cabinet was on simple issues. The war reconciled them, but now the iron of dissension has struck deeper. The parties make the communes the pivot of their opposition; the oligarchs have their basis in the House of Peers. It is to be apprehended that the fight will deepen and that dissolutions will be numerous.

The remainder of Mr. Taguchi's letter is devoted to proving that the men of the cities, the representatives of industrial and commercial interests, are confronted by the agricultural classes, who, by force of numbers, seek to shift their own legitimate fiscal burdens to the shoulders of the merchants and the manufacturers. The battle must be fought with clear perception of the issues at stake.

ILLICIT COINING IN OSAKA.

Extensive operations of illegal coining have been discovered by the Osaka police. The coiners were two charcoal merchants, Sakai and Hashimoto. They caused a cellar to be built under the charcoal storeroom in Sakai's shop, and there four men were constantly employed in the operation of striking nickels for the Korean market. By some unexplained means the police obtained intelligence of the affair. A detective, disguised as a merchant, proceeded to the place and concluded a bargain for a quantity of the nickels. In the consequent raid quite a large quantity of coins were found. The method pursued by the confederates was to pack the nickels in straw bags with charcoal above and below. Bags containing twenty thousand nickels were discovered on the premises, and further search disclosed the fact that a hundred and sixty thousand had been similarly packed and deposited in the charcoal stores of other merchants, who appear to have been innocent of any collusion. These coiners worked on a pretty considerable scale.

COUNT ITAGAKI ON THE SITUATION.

The Japanese public, and in a lesser degree the foreign public also, are interested in the views held by Count Itagaki at this juncture, for in addition to long political experience which gives him a special title to be heard, his comparatively neutral attitude throughout the recent complications makes him a valuable witness. He now speaks through the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*, and his conclusion, briefly summarized, is, that the trouble has its origin, first, in a disposition on one side to defer too much to the military, and, secondly, in a tendency on the other to curry favour with the agricultural classes. These propensities, aggravated by a mutual want of respect on the part of the Opposition and the Government, produced the crisis. Count Itagaki is doubtful of three things. He doubts whether Marquis Ito, Count Katsura and Count Okuma really believe in the urgent necessity of naval increment. He doubts whether Count Okuma and Marquis Ito really believe in the inexpediency of continuing the increased rate of land tax. He doubts whether the party leaders really believe that the payment of the tax distresses the people. Originally the programme of naval development was based on the calculation that Japan must have a navy equal to the combined French and Russian Squadrons in the Far East. In obedience to that conviction, the Liberals (*Jiyu-to*) memorialized the Government, urging that the Navy should be raised to 150,000 tons. That idea gave rise to an outcry at the time. People declared that such a figure was quite excessive. Now, however, Japan has 250,000 tons. On the other hand, if the Russian and French ships *en route* for the East be included, Russia has 160,000 tons and France 80,000, so that their united squadrons are not so strong as Japan's. Moreover, England is Japan's ally, and when England's squadron and Japan's fleet are joined, no foe can stand against them. Besides, Japan is not under any real necessity to have a force equal to that of two countries. It is enough if she can make head against one, and since Russia has only 160,000 tons while Japan has 250,000, the necessary condition is amply fulfilled. There are critics who hold that it would be a disgrace to Japan to rely on the aid of any other Power; that she should have strength to stand entirely alone. That is unreasoning sentiment. The Anglo-Japanese alliance was concluded precisely with the idea of mutual aid. It is an alliance of a country powerful on shore with a country powerful on sea. In return for the use of Japan's military strength, England gives the use of her naval strength to Japan. Nothing could be more rational. As for the contention sometimes heard that England might fail to implement her contract; might shrink from her obligations at the moment of crisis—suppose that such should occur. Would it not then remain simply for Japan to act on the defensive? She could keep her fleet under the shelter of her fortifications, and could defy any enemy to land on her shores. Are there any two European Powers that could seriously contemplate such a stupendous enterprise as the carrying of troops across thousands of miles and the landing of them in a country where half a million of men stand ready to receive them? This, then, seems to be a time when Japan would act more wisely in developing her resources than in increasing her Navy. Count Itagaki takes care to explain that he is not radically opposed to naval increment. The immediately imperative necessity of the step is what he denies. Even a child knows that a country can not fight without money, and there is no occasion to discuss Japan's condition in that respect. It is a pity that the political parties declared themselves in favour of naval increment without full discussion of the question. That was where they showed their desire to curry favour with the military. Count Itagaki then passes to discuss the land tax from a theoretical point of view. His arguments in that context need not be reproduced, being merely replicas of well known economical doctrines. His conclusion is that recourse to the land tax is not to be generally condemned, but, on the other hand, he unequivocally condemns the continuance of the increased rate, because it was originally fixed for a definite term of 5 years, and if such a pledge can not be implemented, what guarantee have the people that any promise will be kept? As for the claim, however, that this tax over-burdens the people, the truth is that the only sufferers are the small farmers. The land proprietors do not suffer at all. They pretend that they do, and it is to conciliate them that the politicians make this outcry. It need scarcely be said that Count Itagaki utterly refuses to admit the sufficiency of administrative reforms which produce a saving of only 400,000 *yen*. If there be urgent need of naval increment, then assuredly there must be sweeping economies in other directions in order to procure funds.

Count Itagaki concludes these observations by urging that Japan should now approach the Powers with a proposal for the recovery of her complete tariff economy. In other words, he advocates abolition of the conventional tariffs and their replacement by national tariffs. He thinks that as the Powers have learned the value of Japan's friendship, they would readily agree to her free exercise of privileges which they themselves enjoy, and he scoffs at the notion that Japan would abuse those privileges in such a manner as to injure her foreign trade. The negotiations, he believes, could be concluded, or their hopelessness could be determined, by October next, and he suggests that a special session of the Diet should then be held. If the recovery of tariff autonomy had been accomplished, the Diet would merely have to sanction the appropriation of the accruing funds to purposes of naval increment. If the negotiations had failed, then recourse might be had to the tax on sugar.

Concerning railway extension, Count Itagaki unreservedly condemns anything like a conservative policy. He is all for the development of means of communication. The way to make burdens seem light, he declares, is to increase the ability to bear them, and that is what railways eminently accomplish.

THE PROGRESSISTS.

The General Committee of the Progressists have issued a report on the proceedings of the 17th session of the Diet. They set out by insisting that the petty administrative reforms effected by the Government do not go to the root of the matter at all, and are powerless to effect what is really wanted, namely, uniformity of executive methods. The work of reform was entrusted to juniors (*sokuryo*), who naturally failed to accomplish anything radical, and, in fact, the whole performance was another example of one of the flagrant abuses of the era, government by juniors. The great

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object of reform being to bring about uniformity and cōoperation, it is evident that administrative reorganization must go hand in hand with financial amendment, whereas, as things stand, the Departments all pull different ways and compete with one another to obtain large appropriations, each seeking to push the particular enterprises that fall within its province. The inevitable result is growth of expenditures and increase of the official personnel.

There have been several increases of taxation since the war with China, and the Government nevertheless complains of difficulty in making ends meet. The Progressists' Committee fail altogether to appreciate the difficulty. It appears to them that nothing is necessary except good management. In proof of this assertion they adduce figures showing the ordinary revenues and the ordinary expenditures in each year since the war :—

Year.	Ordinary Revenue.	Ordinary Expenditure.	Surplus.
1896	104,204,501	100,712,816	4,191,685
1897	124,232,964	107,695,127	16,527,837
1898	132,869,336	119,072,144	13,997,192
1899	177,328,528	137,590,418	39,738,110
1900	192,170,078	149,598,226	42,571,852
1901	201,752,362	160,363,383	41,388,779
1902	226,114,613	177,596,966	48,517,647
1903 (estimate)..	232,580,224	180,964,603	51,615,621

Looking at this table, it is apparent that the ordinary revenue has increased in a much larger ratio than the ordinary expenditure. In fact the surplus is more than twelve times greater now than it was eight years ago. Such figures can not possibly be reconciled with the contention that the finances were out of order. The real source of trouble is the Government's reckless carelessness (*kubaku soman*). New enterprise after new enterprise is undertaken before those already in progress have been carried to completion. In the Budget of next year, for example, there is included a total of 78 million *yen* for new works independent of naval increment. These works include railway expansions, riparian improvements and irrigation undertakings which are undoubtedly useful. But order must be taken in such matters if there is to be anything like financial stability. The Government claim to have placed the finances upon a sound basis by selling 50 million *yen* worth of bonds abroad. There could be nothing more misleading. The customs returns for the past few years show these figures :—

	Inflow of Specie. Yen.	Excess of Imports of commodities. Yen.
1896	66,720,000	53,820,000
1897	157,860,000	56,160,000
1898	148,300,000	111,740,000

It is thus apparent that the greater the inflow of specie from abroad through abnormal channels, the greater also is the excess of the import of commodities, and the greater the corresponding embarrassment of the Bank of Japan. Thus, in view of the large demand caused by the unfavourable balance of trade, the Bank of Japan had to raise its rate of daily interest to 2.7 *sen* in July, 1900, and the consequences were disastrous to commercial and industrial development. Just, however, when the exceptional inflow of specie had almost ceased, when the balance of trade had been restored within a few millions, when the Bank's daily rate had fallen to 1.9 *sen*, and when enterprise was beginning to revive, the Government again made arrangements for bringing in a quantity of foreign capital.

As for the land-tax question, it need scarcely be said that the Progressists recall their own determined opposition to the increase of the tax in 1899, and that they accuse the Government of a breach of faith towards the nation in asking for a continuance of the tax beyond the five-year period. The Cabinet claims that the people are unanimously favourable to naval increment and that the agricultural classes find no difficulty in paying the land tax. The truth is that the highest burden imposed upon the land in foreign countries is 25.5 per cent. of the net produce, whereas the burden in Japan is 50 per cent., a figure that recalls the exactions of feudal times. Statistics show that the indebtedness of the agricultural classes increases year by year. Thus the sums borrowed on the security of land stand thus :—

	Yen.
1896	153,294,016
1897	176,349,364
1898	203,653,794
1899	194,024,714
1900	212,119,840
1901	233 194,380

These figures can not be reconciled with the idea that the farmers are not suffering.

As to naval increment, the Government asks the Diet to vote for the continuance of the land tax from 1904, pretexting that the proceeds must be devoted to naval increment. But the sums to be appropriated for naval increment stand thus :—

	Approximate.
1903-4	2,687,682
1904-5	6,601,077
1905-6	8,987,563
1906-7	10,970,136
1907-8	12,844,136
1908-9	12,301,351
1909-10	13,151,814
1910-11	14,713,708
1911-12	14,736,592
1912-13	9,558,587
Total.....	114,999,880

Now the fact is that from next year there will be a steady increase of continuing expenditures and that it will aggregate 27 millions by the year 1906-7 whereafter the decrease will average from 1 to 3 millions annually. Moreover, there are other available surpluses, and the truth is that, according to the showing of the Government itself, the proceeds of the increased land tax would not be needed for naval increment until the year 1907. If, then, administrative reform were undertaken in an earnest spirit, there could be no difficulty whatever in providing all the funds required for the national defences.

The report concludes by vigorously condemning the Government for dissolving a House in which the Opposition commanded 300 votes out of 376, and for proposing a compromise that involved various retrenchments in the face of a previous declaration that no retrenchments were possible.

MATTERS POLITICAL.

After all the talk of the Opposition journals about the Government's project of issuing an ordinance which would enable the police to make things very hot for opposition candidates in the elections, there are now many doubts whether any ordinance will be issued at all. It is a case parallel to the indictment for bribery and corruption. The sweeping charges preferred against the Ministry during the days of suspension were found, after all, to be the travail of a mountain, and the same fate seems to be in store for the Ordinance agitation.

Mr. Kato Takaaki makes the point that to dissolve the House of Representatives prior to the passing of an objectionable vote is thoroughly unconstitutional. It is true that Marquis Ito once took such a step. But the occasion was radically different. Marquis Ito dissolved the House to prevent it from adopting a resolution which the world would have regarded as anti-foreign and which would certainly have impaired the country's relations with Western Powers. No such reason existed for the precipitate action of the Katsura Cabinet. There would have been plenty of time to dissolve the House after it had voted on the land-tax bill.

Mr. Kato further ridicules Mr. Taguchi's contention that the representatives of the agricultural classes are endeavouring to shift this own legitimate burdens to the shoulders of the manufacturers and the merchants. Does Mr. Taguchi intend to assert that the tabacco tax, the income tax and the *sake* tax are not paid by the rustic population as well as by the urban? As a matter of fact, the farmers are greater drinkers of *sake* than the citizens, and since they drink cheap *sake*, the tax falls more heavily upon them, for the worse the quality of the *sake* the greater the tax imposed on it proportionately. It is all very well to allege that the agricultural classes are not unable to bear the burden laid on them. But is that a sufficient reason for laying such a burden? Can any administration be right in straining the tax-payer's back to the neighbourhood of breaking point? Such procedure might be justifiable in time of national emergency, but if Mr. Taguchi advocates it as a normal method, his economical erudition seems to be of little value. So says Mr. Kato.

GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

In our issue of the 13th instant we published an interesting letter signed "American." The writer dealt with Anglo-German relations, especially in the matter of the Dardanelles question. His great point was that the tone of the English press when discussing the joint action of England and Germany towards Venezuela, had been so hostile and so bitter as to cause deep resentment in Germany, and to create a feeling that Germany could not rely on British support in any vital emergency. We quote a portion of "American's" letter :—

> Now in order to understand the Dardanelles question, the attitude of the press, in connection with the Venezuela affair cannot be passed unnoticed. When it became known that Germany and Great Britain had agreed upon joint action against Venezuela, the news was indeed very favourably received by the German press—allowing for a few exceptions as usual—and the joint action, it seemed, might possibly be the means of re-establishing again a more friendly relation between these two great nations. I need not tell you how the English press has been treating this "joint action" affair; how unkindly some of the leading papers criticised their own Government for having come to an agreement with Germany in this matter, and how offensive the tone of the press has been toward Germany in the midst of their joint action in Venezuela. It might be difficult to find a parallel. In Germany all this has been carefully noted and many of the offensive paragraphs have been reproduced. It has created deep resentment and some of the papers who at first approved the joint-action-agreement now regret it. Some of the latest papers from Germany say that one must suppose that the English press voices public opinion in England, and the British Government must allow itself to be largely guided by public opinion; with the best intentions it would not be possible for the Government to withstand the pressure very long. They consequently conclude, that in consequence of this unfriendly sentiment Germany could not safely rely upon British support in case vital interests were at stake. In view of this Venezuela experience, is it so very surprising if Germany declines to "join" in the Dardanelles affair? If she did she would, of course, offend Russia with no assurance that she could in turn depend on Great Britain in case of need.

This letter is dated the 12th instant. The writer speaks with confident explicitness of

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the offensive tone of the British press towards Germany" in the midst of their joint action in Venezuela"; of the reproduction in German journals of these hostile criticisms; of the effect upon German opinion, and of the new breach thus created between the two nations, a breach which he sincerely regrets. He writes all this as though it were matter of history and he observes, *en passant*, "I need not tell you" how the English press has been behaving. But the trouble with us is that we can not find justification for these very sweeping assertions. The joint action of England and Germany against Venezuela may be said to have commenced actively on the 9th of December. Up to that time the press of the two countries had scarcely noticed the matter. Now the latest detailed news we have is dated December 19th and comes *viâ* America. The only indication we can discover of the events described by our correspondent is contained in a Berlin despatch dated December 6th. It says:—

The newspapers to-day print long dispatches indicating that British public opinion is against the partnership with Germeny in connection with the coercion of Venezuela, and the papers are evincing a certain amount of pique. They suggest that Germany would have done better to act alone, and say the German Government must think twice on a future occasion before agreeing to act with Great Britain.

It thus appears that British public opinion was against partnership with Germany to coerce Venezuela and that German journals showed "a certain amount of pique" in consequence. Is it upon these things that our correspondent "American" bases his very severe condemnation of the British press? We see no evidence here of "the offensive tone" for which "it might be difficult to find a parallel."

Another dispatch to American journals dated at Berlin on the 14th of December says:—

The newspapers which have been absorbed for weeks over the political broils in the Reichstag now editorialize lengthily on the Venezuelan situation. They generally treat President Castro's proceedings lightly and ridicule the disproportion of officers in the Venezuelan army to men. The papers which treat the subject more seriously say that no matter how unpleasant the Venezuelan business is growing, it must be seen through, for it would be impossible otherwise for Germany to protect her concerns in that country. *It is added that without Great Britain's participation the game would not have been worth the risk of incurring the ill-will of the United States.* All the newspapapers having government leanings carefully bring out the fact that thanks are due to the United States for its resolute protection, through Minister Bowen, of German and British subjects at Caracas. Throughout the official press there appear inspired reaffirmations of the statement that Germany does not intend the slightest infringement of the Monroe doctrine as defined by the State Department at Washington.

We have italicized a sentence in the above paragraph. The whole account seems to show that up to the 14th of December German journals had not complained at all of the temper of the English nation. On the 15th or 16th they began to show "a certain amount of pique." Moreover, we can say with certainty that up to the 11th of December, by which time the joint action of the two Powers had borne active fruit and had been duly considered by the British nation, the leading English papers did not say one offensive word against Germany in connexion with the union. The British Foreign Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons on the 12th of December, had said:—"I am glad to say that in Venezuelan waters at this moment German and British warships and sailors are acting side by side in enforcing the just demands of these two Powers."

What seems to have suggested some criticism of the alliance was the following:—

The Liberal leader, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, then voiced his strong dissatisfaction with Lord Cranborne's speech. He complained of the lack of information about the German and British claims, which he declared, seemed to be on different footings. *The speaker said he was an advocate of the best possible feeling between the two countries*, but that in this matter Great Britain seemed to be bound hand and foot to Germany. "We could do nothing with regard to our claims," continued the Liberal leader, "unless the Germans are perfectly satisfied with the settlement of their claims. Such an agreement is contrary to the country's interests."

Here again we have italicized some words worthy of attention. They show that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman—whom, by the way, we should regret to see regarded as an exponent of the best British opinion—was very careful to dissociate his criticism of the alliance from any general objection to cō-operation with Germany. His view was that England's hands were tied by the alliance in a manner which might prevent her from settling the dispute in a manner otherwise satisfactory. And we have not the least doubt that any English papers which condemned the alliance, did so from that perfectly legitimate point of view. The harsh character of Germany's proceeding in sinking Venezuelan ships may have suggested to England that partnership had its dangers, but where are there any proofs of all the terrible things that our correspondent "American" alleges? Where did he obtain his information and his materials? We do not question his accuracy but we plead not only our own ignorance of the vehement polemic that has taken place, but also our failure to find evidence of it in any of our exchanges or in any telegraphic news up to December 19th. We therefore venture to ask "American" to be more explicit. He has preferred a very grave charge against the British press, and we have a right to ask that the accusation be either substantiated or withdrawn.

KOREA.

The *Asahi's* London correspondent says that Mr. Waeber has been instructed to accomplish three things: first, that the Korean Crown Prince shall visit St. Petersburg; secondly, that Mr. Alexieff shall be appointed adviser to the Emperor of Korea; and thirdly that the right of laying telegraph lines in the north of Korea shall be granted to Russia.

A later telegram corrects the above. It indicates that M. Waeber himself is seeking the position of adviser to the Korean Government. That does not sound very credible, and we are inclined to doubt the correctness of the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondence.

It appears that Li Yong-ik is to return to Seoul with flying colours. On landing at Chemulpo he is to be received by a guard of honour. We can not clearly follow the various rumours and counter-rumours circulated with reference to Russian, Japanese and Korean doings in this matter. Mr. Li has at all events succeeded in becoming the cynosure of much observation. The history of Korean politics shows that the atmosphere of Seoul generally become fatal to men who make themselves too conspicuous. Li's guard of honour is suggestive.

According to Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Seoul, who has been speaking frankly to a member of a Tokyo newspaper's staff, Li Yong-ik's political proclivities are not at all what rumour represents them to be. He has been persistently described by Japanese correspondents as anti-Japanese and pro-Russian, though why the two dispositions should be necessarily existent there is no reason other than the rivalry of Russia and Japan in Korea. But Mr. Hayashi explicity acquits Li of any such bias. He even depicts the Korean politician as pro-Japanese. It was through Li, we learn, that Mr. Kato Masuo received his appointment as adviser to the Korean Government. Li, appreciating Mr. Kato's exceptional attainments, suggested the advisability of securing his services, and loyally cooperated to remove or avert obstacles. Japanese journals recently alleged that a loan of 3 million *yen* which was to have been made by Japan to Korea, did not mature in consequence of Mr. Hayashi having imprudently made a confidant of Li, who disclosed the whole matter to Russia and thus created opposition. So remote is that version from the truth that Mr. Hayashi is able to ridicule it. The fact is that Korea asked for the money and that Mr. Hayashi discountenanced the idea. Speaking generally, Mr. Hayashi believes in a policy of non-interference. The diplomatic failures hitherto made in Seoul have been attributable, he thinks, to the unwisdom of Ministers who engaged in enterprises where their Governments were not prepared to follow them.

THE NEW PRIMATE.

The appointment of the Right Reverend Randall Thomas Davidson, Prelate of the Garter, Clerk of the Royal Closet and Bishop of Winchester, as Primate of All England in succession to the late Archbishop Temple, comes as no surprise to those who have watched the career of the reverend divine. He became intimately connected with the British Court upon his appointment to the Deanery of Windsor in 1883 by the late Queen Victoria, and from that time onward it was seen that high honours lay before him. Dr. Davidson is the son of Mr. Henry Davidson, Muirhouse, Edinburgh, and Henrietta, daughter of Mr. John Swinton, Kimmerghame. He was born in 1848, and educated at Hafrow and at Trinity College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. in 1871, and M.A. in 1875. Owing to a gunshot accident in 1866, he was for several years incapacitated from active work, and during his Oxford career he spent much time out of England. Ordained in 1874 to the curacy of Dartford, in Kent, he was appointed, in 1877, Chaplain and Private Secretary to Dr. Tait, Archbishop of Canterbury. This position he held until the Archbishop's death in December, 1882. On him devolved, in large measure, the arrangements connected with the great Lambeth Conference of 100 Bishops in 1878. During those years, he contributed articles on various historical and ecclesiastical subjects to the *Contemporary Review*, *Macmillan's Magazine*, and other periodicals. Bishop Lightfoot of Durham appointed him Examining Chaplain in 1880, and in 1882 he became sub-almoner and honorary Chaplain to the Queen, and one of the six preachers of Canterbury Cathedral. Archbishop Benson, on succeeding to the Primacy, retained Mr. Davidson's services as Resident Chaplain and Private Secretary, and after holding that office for six months, he was, in June, 1883, appointed by the Queen to the deanery of Windsor, and became also Resident Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen, and Registrar of the Order of the

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Garter. In the same year he received from the University of St. Andrews the honorary degree of D.D. In 1884 he became a trustee of the British Museum, in the management of which he takes an active part. In 1887 he was elected by the Masters of Eton College as their representative on the governing body of the School. This post he held until 1896. He is also a member of the governing bodies of Charterhouse School, Wellington College, and the Royal Holloway College for Woman. In 1888 Dr. Davidson acted as Hon. Secretary to the third Lambeth Conference, attended by 145 Bishops from all parts of the world, and a few months after the conclusion of its sessions he published, through the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, a volume containing a History of these Conferences from their commencement, together with all the official and other documents connected with them. In 1891 he published, in conjunction with Canon Benham, the biography of his father-in-law, Archbishop Tait, whose daughter, Miss Edith Tait, he had married in 1878. In April, 1891, Dr. Davidson was consecrated Bishop of Rochester, and in the same year he became, in succession to Bishop Philpott, Clerk of the Closet to the Queen. On the death of Bishop Thorold, in July, 1896, Bishop Davidson was nominated to the See of Winchester. At the request of Archbishop Benson (who, however, died before the Conference assembled) he undertook the duties of chief Episcopal Secretary to the fourth Lambeth Conference of Bishops, which meet in July 1897. He edited the official Reports of its proceedings.

ALARMIST RUMOURS IN CHINA.

After the events of the last year of the nineteenth century, no one can be so rash as to treat with complete indifference alarmist rumours circulated by the Shanghai press, especially when the *N.-C. Daily News* assumes responsibility for them. Had the warnings of that journal been treated seriously, the Boxer outrages would not have taken the world by surprise. Therefore although we ourselves find difficulty in imagining that the lesson of 1900 has already begun to lose its deterrent effect for the Chinese, we are bound to note that our Shanghai contemporary lends its leading columns to assertions which, if they be even partially true, may well inspire apprehension. The gist of them is that measures are in progress to contrive a wholesale extermination of foreigners throughout China, and that the inspirer and director of the project is Yung Lu, who is called "the real ruler of China." That the plot of 1900 failed to accomplish its object is said to have been due to reluctance on the part of local civil officials to carry out the sanguinary orders transmitted to them from Peking. Therefore the recipients of the orders on the next occasion will be the local military authorities who may be expected to act not to reason. Meanwhile strenuous efforts are said to be made by Yung Lu and Viceroy Yuan to collect, train and arm forces sufficient to guarantee Peking against attack and to render the invasion of China practically impossible. If would appear therefore that Yuan is in the conspiracy, and so also are Tung Fuh-hsiang and Prince Tuan. The persons responsible for these stories go so far as to suggest that the Chinese Government's project of buying up the telegraphs points to the time when messages will be sent over the wires in absolute secrecy ordering the work of massacre to begin. The Shanghai journal guards itself against vouching for the truth of these rumours, but it does not exhibit the least disposition to discredit them, and it concludes its article by asking "are we yet walking over treacherous ashes under which the fires are still burning?"

In order to believe the new story we have to suppose that China has deliberately determined to defy the whole world. Is there in history any instance of such insanity on the part of a State? Some people, who preferred epigram to truth, made a habit of saying, in 1900, that China, having yielded incontinently to a German menace backed by three or four ships and a few hundreds of men in 1898, deliberately threw her gauntlet in the world's face in 1900. That is not what happened. It was the world that threw its gauntlet in China's face. And we can not believe that with the experiences of that incident fresh in her memory, China is gravely preparing for an act of unqualified madness to-day. She knows well that even though she possessed five millions of perfectly trained and fully equipped troops, she would still lie at the mercy of foreign Powers so long as she does not possess a navy. Why suppose her fit only for a straight waiscoat when her records show that she is by no means deficient in common sense and sagacity?

DR. VON HOLLEBEN.

The Holleben incident becomes more perplexing by the light of the news that this able German diplomatist has left Washington without bidding farewell to the President. Dr. von Holleben is accused of some want of tact. But as we knew him in Japan he was a man of the greatest tact, and since Reuter has not vouchsafed explicit information about the particular solecism committed, we are wholly at a loss to form any intelligent conjecture. Probably the incident will be interpreted by some onlookers as an evidence of the anti-German feeling that is growing up in America. We can not so interpret it. When the sentiment of one nation becomes so antipathetic to another that the latter's Ambassador leaves his post without taking leave of the former's ruler to whom he is accredited, things must have moved perilously near the brink of war. Of course there is nothing of that nature in this case. The Americans do seem, indeed, to be displeased with Germany. They did not like her conduct at the Philippines; they did not like her sinking of the *Crête-à-Pierrot* in Gonaives Bay, their idea being that the Carribean Sea is a district where police duty should be done by the United States single-handed; they do not like her "world-policy" and its contingencies, and they do not like her tariff methods. These dislikes, however, are all too general to be translated into a specifically unfriendly act like the rupture of relations with the Representative of a foreign State. It appears evident that Dr. von Holleben has unhappily given some accidental cause of offence. We are heartily sorry; sorry for the effect such an incident must exercise on the career of an eminently able official who had previously been a *persona gratissima* in Washington, and sorry because this affair, happening so soon after Mr. White's withdrawal from Berlin and just when the Venezuelan question has created some fresh prejudices against Germany, may widen the growing breach between Teuton and Anglo-Saxon.

DIVORCE IN JAPAN.

In our last "Monthly Summary of the Religious Press," we noted that Dr. Greene, replying to Miss Bacon's assertion that profligacy is growing in Japan among men, quotes statistics to show that the average yearly number of divorces in the five-year period ended 1887 was 37·9, whereas in the five-year period 1893-7, it fell to 30·6. Of course any assertion with reference to a matter such as the growth or diminution of profligacy among the men of a nation must always be accepted with the greatest reserve. Probably in nine hundred and ninety cases out of every thousand, such assertions are based solely on the personal experiences of the individual making them. If each of us confined his association and his observation solely to the necessarily small circle in which the lives of ordinary men move, we should detect little change of conditions except such as age brings with it. As years whiten a man's head, his point of view undergoes alteration, and scarcely ever is any one of us so fortunate as to preserve his youthful enthusiasms and beliefs against the shock of widening experiences. Very often it happens that what is merely the expansion of one's own horizon is mistaken for a radical alteration is the objects that fall within its scope. We think the world is growing worse simply because a larger area of its corruptness becomes visible to our eyes. It is possible, of course, that Japanese men may be growing more profligate, but before anything of the kind is admitted, we must know the bases of the allegation. If it be founded on statistics showing that crime of all kinds is increasing, that greater quantities of ardent spirits are consumed, that the *demi monde* is more numerously peopled, that bribery and corruption are becoming more prevalent, and that illegitimate births are on the increase, then indeed we have solid grounds for a confident inference. But as to a general, unsupported allegation that profligracy among Japanese men is growing, no thoughtful person will consent to believe it for a moment. Dr. Greene's figures on the other side of the account, too, though they may have some significance, should not be interpreted as similar figures in Anglo-Saxondom would be interpreted. Divorce in Japan is a wholly different thing from divorce in England, for example. In England, the vast majority of divorces are due to alleged criminal conduct on the part of either husband or wife. The basis of application to the law courts is almost invariably uniform. In Japan, on the contrary, criminal conduct of that kind scarcely ever enters into the question. It is altogether exceptional. Incompatibility of disposition, dissatisfaction on the man's part with the woman's methods of housekeeping or of working, resentment on the woman's side against the man's exactions or habits—these are the causes of divorce in the great majority of cases. Folks come together as a matter of mutual convenience and fall apart to correct mutual inconvenience. Comfort and expediency are the supreme arbiters, not morality and virtue. One must hesitate, therefore, before drawing from divorce statistics in Japan any hard-and-fast inferences as to moral conditions. No one, of course, is more familiar with all this than Dr. Greene, but a majority of Miss Bacon's deservedly wide audience are probably strangers to the special nature of Japanese customs.

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THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

The Prefect of Miyagi Prefecture, Mr. Munakata, was arrested on the 8th instant in connexion with the text-book scandal. He had been deprived of office on the 7th, and ordered to come to Tokyo, on reaching which city he found himself at once in the hands of the police. Two other arrests have also been made, that of a member of the Nara Council and that of a school-inspector of Yamaguchi prefecture. Tokyo newspapers allege that the number of arrests will ultimately reach five hundred or even a thousand.

Discussion continues and grows warmer with reference to the remedy that ought to be employed. The *Jiji Shimpo* stands forward as a resolute and uncompromising opponent of the project that the choice of text-books should be made by the State and that the business of printing, publishing and distributing them should be entrusted to the Educational Department. It is plain that dishonest practices such as those now creating so much scandal, would thereby become impossible—though even that good result seems to over-tax the *Jiji's* credulity—; but, on the other hand, the Educational Department would thus be in a position to completely control the nature of the instruction given to the youth of the nation. It could model all the boys and girls after one pattern, and the *Jiji* has no confidence whatever in the excellence of the pattern selected. It recalls the propagandism of Confucian philosophy that resulted from official interference in 1881-2, and it hints that, even now, there are hanging in the Department of Education conservative cobwebs which would be likely to entangle any system elaborated there. Our contemporary's conclusion is that the probable evils of an official monopoly would outweigh the possible abuses incidental to competition.

Is that argument characterized by the *Jiji's* usual perspicacity? Apart from the question whether Japan is really so unfortunate as to be caught between the devil of corruption and the deep blue sea of official bigotry, there is the obvious reflection that the tone of the text-books selected by the State would depend upon the character of the committee selecting them. We fail to see the slightest difficulty in such a choice of committee-men as would avert all the dangers contemplated by our contemporary. The composition of the committee might be made the subject of legislation such as to guarantee that Japan's most trustworthy educationists and publicists would be included, and thereafter nothing would be necessary except to invite competitive compilation of text-books for submission to the committee and for examination by it, the authors, of course, receiving simply a due honorarium for their efforts. It appears to us that such a method would secure to the nation not only the best intellect available for preparing these works and the most trustworthy judgment in selecting them, but also full protection against abuses like those now agitating the country.

Tokyo newspapers are disposed to attach importance to the fact that out of seventy-one arrests hitherto made in connexion with the text-book scandal, nine of the accused are graduates of the Imperial University and fourteen are graduates of High Normal Schools. They say that the numbers ought to be different if the proper ratio were preserved; for since only 3 University graduates take service in schools against 7 Normal-School graduates, there ought to be 21 of the latter among the apprehended persons for 9 of the former. There is a disposition to infer from the figures some inferiority of University morals, but the argument will not commend itself to thoughtful persons.

The arrests in connexion with the text-book scandal now aggregate ninety-one. Tokyo newspapers begin to speak wildly of the number reaching three figures if not four, and of the turn of big men being now imminent. This may be regarded as hysterical talk, though it must be admitted that the dimensions of the scandal have exceeded all expectatation.

The future method of dealing with text-books awaits a final decision of the Cabinet, but rumour alleges that the Ministers of the Crown have virtually agreed as to the advisability of taking the matter entirely under official control.

THE PEST.

The two persons supposed to have been attacked by pest in the Hiro Hospital, whither 23 of the Honjo employees had been transferred, were pronounced on the 7th to be suffering from cold only, but on the 8th one of them developed very suspicious symptoms and they were placed again under observation. It has been decided not to transfer any more of the employees to Hiro. Meanwhile another case of apparent pest is announced from Honjo.

One of the two persons that were attacked by a doubtful disease after the transfer of 23 of the Honjo hands to the Hiro Hospital, was found to be suffering from true plague, and was carried back to Honjo during the night of the 8th instant. The other patient is recovering, but it is alleged that of the remaining 21 inmates of the Hospital, only 12 are in really robust health: the condition of all the others inspires uneasiness. There is much excitement about this matter among the inhabitants of of the Azabu district. They claim that the pest has been deliberately imported into their midst by blundering officials, and they demand that all the inmates of the Hiro Hospital be removed, and that the Hospital buildings be burned to the ground.

Meanwhile there has been another case of apparent pest in the Honjo district—a doctor who was attending the patients—, and there has been a death among the latter. The total number of seizures in Honjo up to the 9th instant was 13, and 7 cases had ended fatally.

One of the cases that were under observation has been declared true pest, but there are no new patients at the Honjo factory. Dr. Yokota, who was attacked while attending the sick people in the Honjo Hospital, is said to be much better, and it is suggested that his malady is not true pest. He has been visited by several physicians, among them Dr. Scriba from whom he received instruction in the University.

Up to the present the number of rats killed in Tokyo since the alarm of pest is 20,726, of which 187 were found dead.

There have not been any new cases of pest since the last report. It is now stated, however, that Dr. Yokota, who was stated to be doing well, is attacked by true pest. His malady seems to have shown some peculiar and perplexing symptoms which rendered a diagnosis difficult. Dr. Yokota was not one of the physicians told off to attend the pest patients in the ordinary routine. He assumed duty at the Hospital in the interests of medical science. Much sympathy appears to be felt with him, especially us he was married only six months ago. The Tokyo Municipality have made a grant of 500 *yen* on account of his medical expenses.

The Emperor sent a Chamberlain on the 12th instant to inquire for the pest patients.

On the 12th and 13th instant there were three new cases of suspected pest in the Honjo factory.

Dr. Yokota is not yet out of danger. Some kind of operation has been performed on his eyes by Dr. Scriba, but his medical attendants are still uncertain about the issue. The Governor of Tokyo is said to have recommended Dr. Yokota for some mark of Imperial favour.

It was contemplated by the authorities to suspend the wrestling at Yekoin, but the idea has been abandoned, temporarily at all events.

A good deal of alarm has been caused in Tokyo by the discovery of dead rats in two places outside the precincts of the Honjo Spinning factory. Fifteen rats were found in a rag store in Narihira-cho and one in a house in Taihei-cho. Both of these places are within the Honjo district. Some of the Narihira-cho rats had died several days before they were discovered. Examination showed the pest bacillus in three of the carcases. It is alleged that the wife of Yonekichi, the rag merchant, died a short time ago of a malady closely resembling pest, though no suspicions were excited at the time. The rag store is immediately outside the spinning factory's gate, but whatever be the proximity of the two places there is no disguising the alarming fact that the pest has travelled beyond the limits of the factory. The Tokyo authorities are taking vigorous steps and it is hoped that they may succeed in arresting the further progress of the disease.

Dr. Yokota's condition has become much worse. His recovery is now considered very doubtful.

The citizens of Azabu and Shiba are pressing vehemently for the destruction of the Hiro Hospital by fire. It seems likely that they will succeed.

THE BIBLE IN CHINESE.

Bishop Schereschewsky has just finished his great work, a translation of the Bible in Wenli. This is by no means the first Chinese rendering of the Holy Scriptures. The early Roman Catholic missionaries translated the greater part of the New Testament into Chinese, and although they do not appear to have published the translation, it is certain that large portions of the Epistles and Gospels were inserted in the prayer-books printed for congregational use. At the beginning of the 19th century, when Dr. Morrison accepted the mandate of the London Missionary Society to equip himself for service in China, the two aids that he had for acquiring the Chinese language were a Harmony of the Gospels and the Pauline Epistles translated into that language by some missionary, and a Latin and Chinese dictionary, the former discovered in the British Museum, the latter in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society. Dr. Morrison had been only three years in China when he published the Acts of the Apostles in Chinese, following it, two years later, with the gospel of St. Luke, and after

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yet another interval of two years, bringing the time to 1814, he published the whole of the New Testament in Chinese. It would certainly be deemed a work of presumption if any one now-a-days undertook to compress into the brief space of seven years the task of acquiring the Chinese language and employing it for translating the New Testament. But at the beginning of last century pious men had to carry such enterprises to completion within a comparatively brief term. When Morrison and Milne were able to place the whole Bible before the Chinese public at the close of 1818, the New Testament of 1814 had undergone many modifications which their improved knowledge of the language indicated as necessary. Yet Medhurst relates that a literary graduate, after perusing a part of the Epistles, told Liang Afah, the first Chinese ordained to the Protestant Ministry, that without explanatory notes the book would be an object of ridicule. We do not know certainly how many years Bishop Schereschewshy has devoted to this great work, but rumour says twenty, during the whole of which time he has been a cripple, unable to stand upright or to move from one room to another without assistance. It is probable that the unremitting labour devoted to translating the Bible has been the sole solace of his life of suffering, and the book thus passes into the hands of the public consecrated by a rare record. As to the quality of the work we do not venture to express any opinion. Bishop Scheres-chewsky's well attested scholarship places him beyond the reach of criticism other than that of the profoundest students. Probably it is not within the compass of human achievement to respect the sanctity with which the Alpha and the Omega of the Bible are invested by Christian reverence and, at the same time, to transmute the text into a foreign language without doing any violence to the latter's graces. That is one of the almost insuperable difficulties of Christian propagandism in a country like China or Japan, and we have often been inclined to doubt whether a better result would not be attained by training people to read the Sacred Book in an European tongue than by introducing them to a mutilated version of it in their own language. Dr. Schereschewsky's translation has been made from the Hebrew and the Greek. It will doubtless remain the standard work for many generations, and its completion must be a source of deep satisfaction to himself and to the American Episcopal Church, as it is of congratulation to Christians in general. We may add that the type is large and distinct, that copious marginal references have been added, and that printer and binder have done their parts in a thoroughly satisfactory manner.

THE ORIGIN OF THE JAPANESE.

An idiosyncracy of the human mind is to attribute the origin of every nation to some district other than the place where it is found residing. The historian seems to be mastered by an imperative conviction that the ancestors of every people were nomadic. Perhaps they were, but when one comes to inspect the problem closely it looks as perplexing as eternity was to the negro who imagined the foundations of the world to be rocks "all the way down." One curious point about the theory is that, for some inexplicable reason, the aboriginal home of a race can scarcely ever be discovered, and by some inconceivable process the journeyings of the race to its ultimate home are altogether obscure. We do not know, for example, whence the Chinese came or how they got to China, though their comparatively modern movement along the valley of the Yellow River can be traced with more or less accuracy. Neither do we know whence the Japanese came, though the transit of one section of them from Izumo to Yamato is partially indicated by groups of dolmens. A new Daniel has now come to judgment, however, in the person of Mr. Moriss Jessup who recently visited the mountainous interior of the Arctic regions, and is said to have found there evidences of a connection between the inhabitants and the Japanese, and to have found also tribes whose language, legends and customs resembled those of the North American Indians. This is a bewildering suggestion. Did the American Indians, then, migrate originally from the north of Siberia, and did the Japanese have their origin in the same inhospitable region? And why should it be supposed that these Arctic tribes have been fixtures since the grey dawn of time whereas offshoots from them became adventurous nomads?

THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN" AND FOREIGN INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has recourse to the device of merely recommending us to read its articles more attentively before undertaking to defend the Equitable and other foreign insurance societies against its attacks. We have no occasion to read them more attentively. The accusations preferred by the *Hochi* were perfectly clear and unmistakable. It alleged the probability of a situation which would prove highly embarrassing to Japanese insurers; a situation created by the deliberate withdrawal of all responsible foreign agencies from Japan, so that Japanese policies could not be collected, and wrongs suffered by their holders could not be redressed, without reference to tribunals thousands of miles away administering unknown laws. It alleged many other things also, and the unmistakable intention of its writing was to throw the operations of foreign companies into complete discredit, and to deter the Japanese from having recourse to them. Fair criticism is never objectionable. We could not discover any desire to be fair on the part of the *Hochi's* critic, and we therefore denounced his writing in well deserved terms.

NOT THE LATE CAPTAIN CONNER.

We are happy to be able to say that the news recently received of Captain George Conner's death turns out altogether baseless. The following letter, dated at San Francisco, December 13th, has been placed at our disposed :—

> Either on the *Doric* or somewhere in Japan some one told me that George Conner was a "dying man." Well, I wish you could have seen him walk into the Palace the other night. He and some neighbour at San Jose had been to the Races, had their dinner, and were about to take the train home. George said he had stood to win $ 60,000, on the last race, having been luckier earlier in the day and "winding up with a "plunge" and long odds, but
>
> the
> horse
> didn't
> win.
>
> As to his health, well, I remember him 20 odd years back and I really see no change. I think he is still wearing the same black hat.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On the 8th instant the New Year's Review of the Tokyo garrison took place on the Aoyama Parade Ground. For three years this function had been prevented by inclement weather, but the sky on Thursday was bright, there was complete absence of the high wind so common at this season and the temperature resembled that of early November. These things contributed to draw together a large assemblage of persons. All the foreign Chefs de Mission were present and were received by the Emperor, whose pavilion stood in the neighbourhood of the Imperial Standard. The troops reviewed were those of the Guards Division and the First Division, aggregating about fourteen thousand, and the parade was under the command of Lieut.-General Baron Kuroki.

The returns of the Bank of Japan show a result very unusual at this time of year. Drafts made upon the Bank at the close of December by various banking institutions throughout the country, in anticipation of the New Year's demands, necessitated an issue of notes aggregating four million *yen* in excess of the legal figure. But it appears that these notes were not required by the people, for immediately after the New Year they began to flow back to the Bank's coffers, and it has now a margin of note-issuing power to the extent of 12 million *yen*. The total issue of convertible notes is now 212 millions and the specie reserve amounts to 109 millions.

The Department of Communications announces that from the 9th instant telegrams may be despatched to Hawaii. The charge is 4.88 *yen* per word *viâ* Vladivostock, and 5.68 *yen viâ* Shanghai.

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a London telegram saying that the German estimates for next year contain appropriations for a legation in Seoul, a second Vice-Consul in Shanghai, a Consul-General in Singapore, a Consul in Saigon, and new consulates in Hankow, Canton and Nanking.

The German Minister of Finance has asked parliamentary permission to issue bonds to the amount of 219,921,739 marks.

England is quite divided in opinion about the sugar bounty question. The difficulty is that although, according to the true principles of free trade, all bounties should be abolished, the consumers of sugar in England are considerably benefited by the bounty system on the Continent of Europe. In fact this is one of the only instances on record where the United Kingdom derives an advantage from the protective policy of its commercial rivals. The population of the Kingdom—42½ millions—consume an average of 90lbs. of sugar per head every year. A rise of one half-penny in the pound means, therefore, that the British nation would have to pay for its sugar eight millions sterling more than it pays at present. To whom would this money go? One of the great pleas advanced by the English advocates of the Sugar Convention is that unless the bounties be abolished, the sugar-planters of the West Indies, who are British subjects, will be ruined. But at present the West Indian export of sugar is only 46,000 tons. Suppose that it were doubled. Then a rise of half-a-penny per lb. would put four hundred thousand pounds sterling into the pockets of these producers, to accomplish which result the people of the United Kingdom would have to pay eight millions. It is

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certainly a rather one-sided showing. The British Government would have been better advised, apparently, had it not signed the Sugar Convention. Yet many of the advocates of free trade find it hard to admit the propriety of even profiting by the heresy of foreign protection.

Gradually the cartoonists of the Occident are beginning to show some unanimity in their manner of delineating Japan. They have their universally recognised types of John Bull, Brother Jonathan, Jean Jacques, and so on, but hitherto they have shown a great deal of vacillation over their Japanese type. Now, however, they have got it, apparently. It is to be "Miss Jap"; a lady with long sleeves, and voluminous girdle, big wooden clogs and a nondescript coiffure. She has come to stay we imagine. Even the *Koung Pao* of Peking adopts her for a recent picture of England and Japan clasping hands to girdle the globe, and inviting Brother Jonathan to join in the game.

The local Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has received the following telegram from his Head Office :—

Subject to audit the Bank dividend for the half-year ending 31st ulto. will probably be £1 10/-

Bonus in addition to the Dividend 10/-, $750,000 to be added to Reserve Fund, $1,425,000 to be carried forward to the next half-year.

Mr. and Mrs. Parrish entertained a large party at dinner in the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, on the 14th instant, and subsequently gave a ball in the chief salon. The affair was eminently successful, dancing being kept up vigorously until 2 o'clock in the morning.

THE HOLY ORTHODOX CHURCH IN SENDAI.

On Wednesday, January 7th, at 9 a.m. the faithful of this Church assembled at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy by their priest and pastor, the Reverend Father Peter Sasagawa Sadakichi, assisted by the deacon, Rev. Brother Titus Kanō Ichizō. The music was very good indeed, no instrument but the God-given organ of the human voice being used. The words are printed in *kata kana* and are very easy for the *ketojin* to follow if he have a friend to point out the places. There are people who do not feel quite at home unless they have a book in their hands, and can follow with the eye what they hear with the ear; they are generally people under western church influence; the eastern church folk are old fashioned enough to get along without books, because they know the service; it is written on the tables of their heart.

They observe in prayer the positions indicated in the Bible; standing, kneeling, and falling flat on their faces. Those people who shout "the Bible and the Bible only, the religion of Protestants" would do well to watch the Holy Orthodox and see how closely they follow the pattern shown unto the leader of the chosen people in the mount of God, and the worship of Heaven as revealed in the vision of S. John the Evangelist.

Little children are suffered to come unto Jesus in the sacrament of His presence on the Feast of the Nativity especially; it was interesting to see old gray-bearded men near the border of the river, and mothers bowed with the weight of years of work and worship, bringing the little ones to sup with their Lord.

After the mass comes the ceremony common to east and west of kissing the feet of the Crucified and the hand of the spiritual father.

Then pieces of the bread from the one loaf from which the triangular pyramids for the communicants were cut, are given to the *constantes*, and the service is concluded by the benediction of the spiritual father. This is the usual procedure. On Wednesday the whole congregation then left the church and proceeded to a meeting house in the same compound, where the Christmas revels were to be held.

Even in the midst of mirth there was a holy influence shed upon all through the hymns, and the loving words of their pastor in opening the meeting. The programme included speeches by the heads of the Young Men's Society, the Woman's Guild, the little children each in turn spoke of the joyous season, although one youngster, overcome by shyness, took refuge sobbing in his mother's arms.

There was a very stately and pleasing dance by the young ladies of the parish, and then came tea and cakes; the tea was sweetened and was a little darker in colour than what we usually get. What was somewhat remarkable and certainly interesting was a recitation, or rather a triologue in the English language, that was explained for us in the vulgar tongue before being rendered, so that we knew what was coming. It was the old favourite *Kodama*, first introduced to the outside world by the Reverend Arthur Lloyd, M.A., *quondam* Professor of Latin and History in the *Keiyogijuku Dai Gakko*, Tokyo, under the shade of the Sage of Mita. The words and action were well rendered by the three students, showing that they had entered into not only the spirit but the understanding of the text. Their names are T. H. Kanamori, D. T. Takahashi and A. Goto. We shall hear from them later in the Imperial University and elsewhere. No other foreign language was heard, but a book in the Russian language describing, and with photogravures reproducing, the beauties of the Cathedral at Kiev was passed from hand to hand and admired very much, as it had been before in the Holy Orthodox Church in San Francisco, and whenever it had been shown. At every assembly of the Holy Orthodox faithful most fervent prayers are offered for the Bishop, the Right Reverend Father Nicolai, and we are thankful that they are answered. The Holy Orthodox Church in Japan is the one body that is most markedly a native institution. The clergy as well as the people are all Japanese. Even the one foreign-born Bishop has been here so long, and being, according to the Eastern discipline a celibate, has given his whole heart and soul and body so fully to the conversion of this people that he has himself been more than half converted to them, thus following the Divine Lord Our Great High Priest who can be touched with the feeling of our infirmities. In addition to the clergy the following persons participated in the entertainment: Precentor John Okamoto Ichitaro, Vestry Peter Ishizawa Tei, Titus Kannari Hisataro, Andrew Yasagawa Seikichi, Yagi Genzo, Niichima Isami, Gregory Doge Hiromu, Date Chitomu; Woman's Auxiliary :—Mesdames Harifu Machi, Tamura, Dariga Shijiki Chiru and Nakagawa Chiru.—*Communicated.*

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society held in Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening proved very interesting and attracted a large attendance. The lecturer was the Rev. George Wallace, of Tokyo, who told in an interesting manner of a visit paid by him to the volcano of Kilauea some years ago. His description of this wonderful burning fiery furnace was enlivened with much quiet humour and at the close he was awarded a hearty round of applause. Following the lecture came some lantern slides illustrative of various of the principal beauty spots in and around Honolulu, prominent buildings, and scenes in the streets together with a few coloured views of the crater of Kilauea. The second part of the programme opened with a brilliant pianoforte duet, a March (*Gade*) by Mrs. O. A. Poole and Mrs. N. W. McIvor. Then Mrs. James Walter gave a charming rendering of d'Hardelot's "Amorita" and won a deserved encore. A violin solo from "Lucia di Lammermoor" (Donizetti) by Mr. Jewett also pleased so well that the audience recalled the performer and he kindly acceded to the request with another dainty composition. Mrs. O. A. Poole's reading from Burrow's "Exhilarations of the Road" was very acceptable though it dealt with a phase of American life which passed away, we imagine, with the advent of the bicycle. After this Mrs. James Walter, kindly taking the place of Miss Whitney, who was down for a pianoforte solo but was unable to be present, brought a delightful evening to a close with a truly exquisite rendering of "Let me Dream," the violin obligato being played by Mr. Jewett. Seldom have we heard Mrs. Walter to better effect than on Friday evening and had not the storm, which set in about ten o'clock, made people anxious about the possibility of getting *jinrikisha*, she would undoubtedly have been asked for another song.

The next meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society takes place at Van Schaick on Friday, January 23rd, when the entire programme will be taken from the works of Shakespeare. The President will give a few historical notes on the Plays to be presented and then scenes from "Henry VIII."; "As you like it"; "Twelfth Night," and "Julius Cæsar," will be given in which the various parts will be sustained by Mr. N. G. Maitland, Mr. G. G. Brady, Miss Ross, Miss Schereschewsky, Mr. G. L. Read, Mr. E. Eddison, and Mr. E. W. Kilby. The music will be supplied by Mrs. Irwine, Miss Leach, Mrs. A Bellamy Brown, Mr. Atkinson and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

FIRES.

There have been two fires in Tokyo, one destructive the other trivial, and both are attributed to defects in electric-lighting apparatus. They occurred in printing offices. By the first conflagration the premises of Mr. Kobayashi, in Kojimachi, were destroyed, and the second occurred at Mr. Hotta's shop in the Kyobashi district. In the former case action has been commenced against the Electric Light Company for 32,000 *yen*. In the latter, two alarms of fire were given on consecutive nights. The first, though attributed at the outset to an escape of electricity, was subsequently laid at the door of the Gas Company in consequence of the discovery of a defective gas-pipe. But when the second occurred on the following night and when it was clearly traced to a spot near the joint of an electric wire, the responsibility shifted from the shoulders of the Gas Company to those of the Electric folk. These events are causing much anxiety in Tokyo, as well they may if they are rightly reported.

A conflagration occurred at Kawajiri, Togagori, Ibaraki Prefecture, on the morning of the 8th inst. Over two hundred houses were destroyed.

Fire broke out in a house occupied by Ishida Umegoro, at Hadano-machi, Kanagawa prefecture, early on the morning of the 8th instant. Fifteen houses were reduced to ashes.

A lacquer worker named Sasanuma Yasamatsu, living at Onoecho Nichome, Yokohama, has been arrested by the Isezakicho police on a charge of setting fire to a house of a former employer at Hagoromocho on the 7th inst.

Fire broke out in a house occupied by Chinese at No. 129, Yokohama, at 1 a.m. on the 14th. The night patrol discovered the outbreak and the Fire Brigade were soon playing three streams of water from the hydrants upon the burning building. The damage done was slight. Mr. Morgin, the Foreign Superintendent of the Brigade, reports: "I discovered the seat of the fire between two partitions under the staircase, which looked very suspicious."

Fire broke out at Nibukawa-mura, Yechigori Matsuyama, on the night of the 15th inst. Fourteen buildings were destroyed, including a primary school.

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THE DARDANELLES QUESTION.

IT appears that the Dardanelles question is likely to drive another nail in the coffin of Anglo-German friendship. The telegrams say that Germany has informed the Russian Government that she does not participate in any British remonstrances with regard to the Straits, as the problem does not concern her. Of course it is perfectly right that Germany should carefully avoid all complications where her interests are not touched directly or indirectly. Her position in Europe is very difficult; so difficult that to purchase Russian good-will she must make sacrifices which can not but be irksome to her. She has steadily pursued a policy of conciliation towards St. Petersburg ever since the present EMPEROR came to the throne, and doubtless it is her wisest policy. But as Englishmen we fail to see why such a policy should not be followed without any prejudice whatever to Anglo-German relations. There is no apparent reason why the German Government should not show towards Great Britain something at least of the deference it habitually and conspicuously shows towards Russia. Unfortunately no evidences of any such inclination can be detected in Berlin. So far as the KAISER's personal action is concerned, HIS MAJESTY takes much pains to convince the English of his amity. But his friendly endeavours must lose much of their force in English eyes if his Ministers continue to show marked indifference to British sentiment. There is no valid fault to be found with the principle that each nation should strictly limit its interferences to the sphere of its own interests. That, however, is not by any means the apparent basis of Germany's procedure. She is avowedly obedient to the aspirations of a "world policy," and the point is that in obeying her aspirations she takes no visible trouble to consider British rights or British sentiment, whereas she treats the rights and sentiments of other nations with the utmost deference. We can not easily forget the affair of the Shanghai garrison. We can not forget that whereas throughout the whole course of the North-China complication England's co-operation with Germany was of the most loyal character,—more loyal than that of any other Power with one exception,—Germany deliberately threw England over when it suited German convenience to do so, and negotiated independently with China behind England's back and to England's detriment. Had any tangible gain been likely to accrue to Germany from such procedure, there would be proportionate excuse. But the advantage she hoped to secure remains undemonstrated. No one has even attempted to demonstrate it. Her procedure continues to wear the unpleasant aspect of wanton indifference to British good-will. And a similar remark seems applicable in a lesser degree to the Dardanelles incident. England does not ask for German assistance in defending her interests or asserting her rights in any part of the world. But she may reasonably expect that there shall be no superfluous displays of German unfriendliness. So far as we can see, the assurance now said to have been offered by Germany to Russia was quite a work of supererogation. The Berlin statesmen might have maintained a strictly neutral attitude without giving the slightest offence to St. Petersburg. But they have gone out of their way to promise Russia that she may confidently reckon on absence of any opposition from Berlin though she violate the provisions of a treaty which Great Britain is interested in maintaining. That appears to us to indicate that Germany's indifference to England's friendship can not be wholly referred to her anxiety about Russia's enmity. There may still be ground for hope that this *welt-politik* will at some time begin to be pursued without such marked contrasts between its roughnesses to England and its amenities towards other Powers. But tenaciously as we cling to the hope, we find it growing inevitably fainter.

THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN" AND FOREIGN INSURANCE OFFICES.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* lends its editorial columns to an attack upon the Equitable Insurance Company and foreign life insurance companies in general. We need scarcely observe that our contemporary prefaces its assault by declaring its own absolute impartiality. "We have no objection whatsoever," it says, "to the establishment of foreign insurance companies in Japan." That is a praiseworthy sentiment, but we are compelled to say that our contemporary's writing can not be reconciled with such liberality. There is some justice in its complaint that inconvenience results from the nature of the Equitable's organization. Owing to the fact that the head office of the Far-Eastern branch is in Shanghai, applicants for insurance have to wait until their papers, including the result of the medical examination, are approved in Shanghai, and it is said to have sometimes happened that an expert decision submitted from this side has been modified, in an apparently arbitrary manner, at headquarters. But all that will be corrected. It was inevitable that before organizing a full service for Japan the Equitable should discover by actual experiment whether warrant offered for such a step. The result of the trials thus far made is to justify a special arrangement, and we understand that the head office for Japan will henceforth be in Yokohama, so that there will no longer be any occasion for referring applications or claims to officers stationed beyond the seas. In these matters the *Hochi's* criticisms are not devoid of justice. But the same credit can not possibly attach to our contemporary's chimera that the Equitable, so soon as it has issued in Japan a number of policies sufficient to satisfy it, will close all its local branches and limit its organization to principal offices in Yokohama and Kobe, which offices also will be obliged to submit claims for approval in America before satisfying them. When that time comes, says the *Hochi*, the Japanese policy-holder will be in a sorry plight, for he can not gain direct access to the Company's headquarters and he will find much difficulty and incur much expense in appealing to the laws of a foreign country. Now in this matter the *Hochi Shimbun* exposes itself to the charge of unreservedly opening its columns for the dishonest furtherance of private interests. Of course there are among Japanese life insurance offices not a few that would gladly see the curtain fall finally upon the stage of all foreign enterprise in Japan. That is natural and in no sense blameworthy. But these rivals of the Equitable and of other American or European offices have no right to resort to deceptive and mendacious weapons. It is distinctly deceptive and mendacious to argue, as our Tokyo contemporary argues. For Japan also has such things as laws. Before a foreign insurance company can commence business in Japan. it has to comply with the requirements of Japanese law in every respect, and in the event of any claim against it, the appeal would be to Japanese tribunals. Ignorant people may be misled by the *Hochi's* reasoning, but is the *Hochi* itself misled? We can not believe that its intelligence is so sadly defective. Nor should it have been betrayed into pretending to entertain an apprehension that after foreign life insurance companies have issued all the policies they desire to issue in Japan, they will deliberately remove the machinery essential in the interests of policy-holders, and will condemn the latter to seek the implementing of their rights by virtually impossible processes. Does the *Hochi Shimbun* seriously imagine that European and American insurance companies of world-wide reputation and directed by men of the highest business standing, would resort to such chicanery? Is that the estimate it has formed of the commercial morality of the Occident? Certainly Japan's experience of foreigners' methods does not afford any ground for these injurious suggestions, neither can the *Hochi* escape the imputation of knowing nothing at all about the laws of its own country if it imagines that such irregularities could be practised under them with impunity. Fair competition is all very well. No one complains of that, especially no Englishman nor any American. But such weapons as the *Hochi Shimbun* uses are discreditable and dishonourable.

IN TIME OF EMERGENCY.

ALTHOUGH Count ITAGAKI is not at this moment a political leader, he is certainly a leader of thought, and his utterances must always be interpreted as representing an important section of the Japanese nation. We invite special attention, therefore, to his recent journalistic essay in so far as it deals with the question of contingencies

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incidental to a disturbance of Far-Eastern peace. Count ITAGAKI evidently places great reliance on the Anglo-Japanese alliance. He regards the combined fleets of Japan and England as unconquerable by any force likely to be ranged in hostile line against them. Most people will be disposed to endorse that view. But since it is obvious that Japan must not permanently depend for her national safety on the assistance of any other Power, Count ITAGAKI feels constrained to consider the possibility that England may fall away from the allianoe, leaving Japan to defend herself single-handed against a combination of European States. It is scarcely necessary to analyse the reasons that might be responsible for such a result. Count ITAGAKI appears disposed to narrow them to the hypothesis of a breach of faith on the part of Great Britain; an hypothesis which, as Englishmen, we may be pardoned for declining to discuss. But of whatever nature the preliminaries might be, it is plain that Japan's duty requires her to consider the issue of self-defence as an independent problem. The solution that Count ITAGAKI appears to offer is that the fleet could then take refuge under the shelter of her fortifications, and that she might quietly "hold the fort," defying any Power or combination of Powers to undertake the stupendous task of invading her territories. It is because of the extremely perilous character of such a doctrine that we approach the subject. We call it an extremely perilous doctrine, first, as calculated to mislead unthinking persons, and secondly, as being itself thoughtless. To a great many Japanese the idea must appear very comfortable and reassuring that, in the face of overwhelming naval odds, this country might safely and contentedly betake itself to a policy of pure defense; might withdraw its fleet from the high seas and confidently await an attack on shore. But what does that involve? Does it not plainly involve the absolute abandonment of all unfortified positions to hostile attack, and the surrender of the whole mercantile marine to an enemy's mercy? If Japan adopted such a policy, the corresponding policy of her assailants would be inevitable. They would simply seal her squadrons in whatever ports the latter had taken refuge, and they would then devote their extra strength to harrying her coasts and destroying her shipping. Not a city could sleep peacefully beyond the range of coast-defence guns and not a merchant steamer flying the Rising Sun flag could traverse the ocean in security. Of course there are immense obstacles to be overcome before any combination of Powers could find themselves in position to subject Japan to such pressure. But they are not obstacles of Japan's creation, and she is precluded from attaching cardinal importance to them in any scheme of independent self defense. The plain fact is that in the contingency supposed by Count ITAGAKI, and following the lines of strategy complacently, mapped out by him, Japan's coast would be exposed to disastrous attack by foreign warships, her mercantile fleet, if not annihilated, would be unable to leave her ports, and the whole course of her foreign commerce would be interrupted. If that be a state of affairs which she can afford to contemplate without acute apprehension, then she may rest satisfied with her present fleet. But we presume that she has many statesmen and soldiers who appreciate the extreme fallacy of any such doctrine. Between the present time and the year 1907, when the period of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance expires, world-disturbing incidents may occur, and the conditions that made the alliance desirable to England in 1902, may then be radically altered. No one can undertake to deny the possibility, if not the probability, of such issues, for we live in times when harvests of great events are quickly sowed and quickly reaped. But in 1907 the foreign fleets in Far-Eastern waters may be of a strength very different from their present force. In 1907 Germany for example, will have at her command 38 battle-ships, 14 armoured cruisers and 38 unarmoured cruisers. Other Powers will have developed their naval might in a lesser but still formidable degree. And Japan, if she defers her naval expansion programme for five years, will then find herself confronted by potential foes quite strong enough to condemn her to Count ITAGAKI'S strategy. It is a hard necessity to which her modern career has subjected her, but it is an inevitable necessity. There can be no such thing as pausing to take breath. She must either step out of the race or hold her place in it at whatever outlay of effort. If she resigns herself to the possibility of not being able to defend her shores and her harbours effectively against foreign attack, then, perhaps, she may rest as she is for a few years. But we doubt whether many Japanese can be induced to swallow calmly Count ITAGAKI'S prescription.

THE GARTER AND THE SHAH.

WE are not surprised that the *Jiji Shimpo* gives expression to a feeling which we ourselves know to be widely entertained in Tokyo at all events; the feeling that when the British Government decided to present the Garter to the SHAH of Persia, although the Order had not yet been offered to the EMPEROR of Japan, there was a very marked departure from the principles of courtesy and tact. It has always been understood that the Garter is given to Sovereigns of Christian countries only, and so long as no departure was made from that rule, Japan's case could not have become disagreeably exceptional. But Persia is not a Christian country, and when the Garter is given to the Persian Sovereign, strong political reasons must be supposed to exist. What political reasons, however, could be stronger than those existing in the case of Japan who is England's ally and who has pledged herself to walk hand-in-hand with England for the preservation of the peace of the Orient? Possibly some explanation of this discrimination may be sought in the fact that the SHAH of Persia has visited England whereas the EMPEROR of Japan has not. But, unless we are greatly misinformed, that is not the reason hitherto assigned by the British Government itself for withholding the Garter from Oriental Sovereigns, and at any rate it does seem that the KING of England, having received from his Japanese ally the highest Order which the latter had to offer, should not have disregarded the obligation of reciprocity in the absence of any genuinely disabling impediment. The *Jiji Shimpo's* article is not written in a complaining spirit. It is addressed, rather, to allay the natural sentiment of surprise and chagrin that the event must have roused in the bosoms of many Japanese. The friendship of Japan and England is not to be disturbed by matters so trifling as stars and ribbands, and the *Jiji Shimpo's* efforts have been uniformly directed to fostering that friendship. Still our contemporary is evidently perplexed.

It may be confidently assumed that this incident is the result of some confusion of conceptions in Downing Street. The responsible British officials are uncertain whether the Garter is limited to Christian Sovereigns or to Sovereigns that have visited Europe. The sooner the convention is definitely settled the better. What we sincerely regret is that Japan should be obliged to contribute involuntarily to the settlement. Much preferable would it have been in the eyes of Englishmen that the new departure had been a discrimination in Japan's favour rather than in her disfavour, for it can not be denied that the potential claims of the SHAH bear no comparison with the positive claims of the MIKADO.

DANGEROUS MISCONCEPTIONS.

IT must have struck every one following the course of political discussions and newspaper comments in Japan that all public comparisons of naval forces in Far-Eastern waters are made on the basis of tonnage only. Leading publicists seem altogether content when they find that the mere displacement of the Japanese Navy exceeds the displacement of some other potentially hostile squadron or combination of squadrons. No method of calculation could be more misleading. Relative displacements afford no real index of the respective fighting powers of two squadrons, as every naval officer knows well. It can not be expected, of course, that the man in the street should be accurately posted in such subjects. But it may reasonably be expected that statesmen and party leaders whose voices virtually mould public opinion, should seek professional advice before they make themselves responsible for statements which, if tacitly accepted by the nation, may prove irrevocably disastrous. Our readers will at once recall the fact

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that Count ITAGAKI recently associated himself conspicuously with the tonnage fallacy, but we do not wish to distinguish Count ITAGAKI above other Japanese statesmen in this matter, for not one of them has hitherto displayed the slightest disposition to query the accuracy of displacement comparisons. Just for the purpose of illustrating the grossly misleading nature of such calculations, let us set down here a few figures which have direct interest, since they relate to vessels now actually on the station :—

EXAMPLE OF COMPARISON BY DISPLACEMENTS.

British Ships.	Displacement. Tons.	Date of launch.
Amphitrite	11,000	1898
Argonaut	11,000	1898
Totals 2 ships	22,000	
Franco-Russian Vessels.	**Displacement. Tons.**	**Date of launch.**
Kleber	7,700	1902
Bayan	7,800	1900
Askold	6,800	1900
Totals 3 ships	22,300	

Here we have two squadrons of practically the same tonnage, and doubtless Japanese publicists, *more suo*, would conclude that each represented similar fighting force. But if we look a little closer, that delusion is soon corrected. For whereas the official speed of the two British vessels is 20·75 knots, and their combined armanents are thirty-two 6-in. guns, the official speeds of the three Franco-Russian vessels are 21 knots, 21 knots and 23 knots, respectively, and their combined armanent is two 8-inch guns, twenty-eight 6-inch, four 4-inch, and thirty-two 3-inch. Thus, for fighting purposes, the advantage is heavily on the Franco-Russian side so far as these two squadrons are concerned, though the difference of displacement is insignificant.

Now without going into details as to speeds and armaments, it will be useful to set down the names of the Anglo-Japanese and the Franco-Russian war-ships already on this station, on their way out or under orders to come, classifying them as any naval officer would classify them with regard to their fighting values :—

BATTLE-SHIPS.

Anglo-Japanese.	Displacement. Tons.	Franco-Russian.	Displacement. Tons.
Glory	12,950	*Peresvyet*	12,764
Albion	12,950	*Petropaulovsk* ..	10,960
Ocean	12,950	*Poltava*	10,960
Goliath	12,950	*Sevastopol*	10,960
Mikasa	15,200	*Retvizan*	12,700
Hatsuse	15,200	*Pobyeda*	12,674
Asahi	15,200	*Ossliabya*	12,674
Shikishima	14,850		
Fuji	12,450		
Yashima	12,300		
Total-10 Ships	137,050	7 Ships	83,692

FIRST-CLASS ARMOURED CRUISERS.

Anglo-Japanese.	Displacement. tons.	Franco-Russian.	Displacement. tons.
Cressy	12,000	*Montcalm*	9,516
Iwate	9,750	*Kleber*	7,700
Izumo	9,750	*Gromoboi*	12,364
Azuma	9,436	*Rossia*	12,200
Yakumo	9,850	*Rurik*	10,933
Tokiwa	9,700	*Bayan*	7,800
Asama	9,700	*Askold*	6,800
Totals, 7 ships..	70,186	7 ships	67,313

FIRST-CLASS PROTECTED CRUISERS.

English.	Displacement. Tons.	Franco-Russian.	Displacement. Tons.
Argonaut	11,000	*D'Entrecasteaux* ...	8,014
Amphitrite	11,000	*Chateau Renault* ...	8,018
Blenheim	9,000	*J. de la Graviere* ...	5,500
Totals, 3 ships ..	31,000	*Varyag*	6,500
		Aurora	6,630
		Pallada	6,731
		Diana	6,630
		Totals, 7 ships ...	49,023

We do not here consider smaller craft, but it may be stated that of these the Anglo-Japanese alliance has a considerable preponderance.

The net result of the above analysis is that, with regard to first-class material for fighting purposes, the Anglo-Japanese allies have 20 ships of a total displacement of 238,236 tons, and the Franco-Russian allies have 21 ships of 200,026 tons. There is no serious preponderance on the side of the Anglo-Japanese.

Now let us compare the first-class fighting strength of Japan alone with that of the Franco-Russian alliance. It will be seen that of battle-ships the Japanese have 6 with a total displacement of 85,250 tons, against 7 Franco-Russian, with a displacement of 83,692 tons ; of first-class armoured cruisers the Japanese have 6 with a displacement of 58,186 tons, against 6 Franco-Russian with a displacement of 67,313 tons ; and of first-class protected cruisers the Japanese have none, against 7 Franco-Russian with a displacement of 49,025 tons.

The final result is that, at this moment, if Japan were deprived of the advantages of her alliance, she would be found to possess, of first-class fighting material, 12 ships with an aggregate tonnage of 155,436 tons, against 21 Franco-Russian ships with a total displacement of 200,028 tons.

We invite the attention of patriotic Japanese to these figures, and we would ask men like Count ITAGAKI whether they discharge their responsibility towards the nation when they tell the Japanese people that they already possess a navy much stronger than the combined squadrons of any two other Powers, England excepted, and when they advocate a policy of delay, in the matter of building ships. Three years are needed to build a line-of-battle ship. Already, the dissolution of the Lower House means at least a year's delay in undertaking any programme of naval expansion, and by the time that parliamentary sanction can be obtained, two years of the Anglo-Japanese-alliance period will have expired. There may be among Japanese statesmen some so blind or so careless of their country's safety that they can calmly contemplate a condition of dependence upon England's aid to save this empire from possible disaster. To such men and to publicists of less immediate responsibility, we commend the above figures, advising them to lose not a moment in abandoning the fallacy that naval strength is a question of mere displacement. The Anglo-Japanese alliance is an excellent thing for Japan, but she must not forget that by entering into such a union she has shown her hand to the world, and that from the moment she steps out of the union, she can not look for sympathy from those whom by her own choice, she deliberately placed in the other camp.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

Owing to the heavy rains of Friday night the Cricket ground on Saturday morning was found to be in a swampy condition and the Captain of Football, with a wish to save the turf, wisely determined to put off the six-a-side competition arranged for the afternoon. The Ladies Hockey Club, however, played their match in the morning.

The second game of "Sixes" was played in the tiffin hour on Tuesday between teams Captained by W. S. Moss and A. W. Read and resulted in a win for W. S. Moss by three goals to none. Throughout the game Moss' side pressed hard and only at rare intervals were their backs called on to save. K. van R. Smith played a brilliant game for the winners and scored all three goals, all in the first half. But for the strong defensive game of W. J. White and Marques, who substituted Irwine, for the losers the score would probably have been considerably greater.

Very few spectators turned out to witness the six-aside football match on Wednesday. Play should have started at 12.15 p.m., but it was nearly one o'clock ere the game could begin and even then Stuart had to play as a substitute for Irwine in Read's team. The game was fast but Read had it all in his favour and his side won by four goals to one, of which Stuart kicked two and Read two. Gillon scored the only goal for H. W. Kilby's team.

The six-aside match on Thursday was between O. Strome and W. S. Moss, and after a fast game resulted in a draw, each side scoring a goal.

THE WANDERER.

My own folk, my own folk, have I come home at last
To see the purple on the hills and break my heart's long fast ?
My own hills, how wide you are and free !
There's all the magic in the world lies 'neath your mountains three.
My own land, my own land, how could I seek afar
For all the heartsome, wind-sweet cheer that blows where hill-winds are ?
My own denes, my own denes, that nestle to the breast
Of Mighty Mother, drinking deep of strength and joy and rest :
My own denes, my own denes, ah ! who shall sound your praise,
And tell the tinkling of your brooks, the pride of primrose ways ?
My own skies, my own skies, you witch me as of old,
With flame of crimson, dusk of blue, grace of your spendthrift gold.
My own moors, my own moors, you still are thrall to none,
Save wind and water, sky and star, storm and the lusty sun.
My own folk, my own folk, oh, bid the Wanderer bide
Where hearts are true, and men are leal, and strength is one with pride

HALLIWELL SUTCLIFFE.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

The Municipality of Geneva has granted permission to a number of Spanish literary and political men to erect a monument in that city of Michael Servetus, the Spanish theologian, who was burnt as a Unitarian heretic by order of the magistrates of Geneva at the instigation of John Calvin. The monument is to be unveiled next October on the 350th anniversary of the burning.

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The news that M. Achille, the great Parisian bookseller, has been the victim of a burglary calls up literary memories. M. Achille used to preside over Calmann-Levy's Librairie Nouvelle, at the time when that shop was the favourite resort of the wits and men of letters of the period. Here used to foregather writers so various as Heine, Alexandre Dumas, Jules Verne, Edmond de Goncourt, Flaubert, and Aurélien Scholl, who always made a point of turning up on the eve of a duel to prove that he was not nervous. None of them, it is said, ever thought of buying a book except Dumas, and he always discovered that he had no money in his pocket and could not pay for it.

The death of Mrs. Greenleaf, Longfellow's sister, recalls a curious story of provincial reviewing which is not yet forgotten in the North of England. Some evil-minded person, who suspected that the reviewing on a northern contemporary was not very carefully done, sent in a few years ago Longfellow's "Evangeline," as a new work, and in that guise it was solemnly dissected and criticised, while the author was gently patted on the back as a young writer of some promise, who should be encouraged to persevere. If the object was to create a sensation, it was certainly attained, but for years it was decidedly unsafe to mention "Evangeline" in the presence of anyone connected with the paper in question.

Virgin soil is hard to find in literature and scholarship, but an important work on an interesting period of early European and Asiatic history will soon be published by Mr. Edward Arnold. "The House of Seleucus," by Mr. Edwyn Robert Bevan, author of the recently-published translation of "Prometheus Vinctus," takes up the story of the Greco-Macedonian rule in the East after the death of Alexander the Great at the point where the average student's knowledge ceases, and deals exhaustively with the history of the dynasty founded by Seleucus, and the great Asiatic Empire for which Alexander's generals contended. It is believed that there is no modern book, even in German, which covers this ground.

Cripplegate, in famous London city, which recently honoured Milton and Defoe, furnishes a felicitous illustration of what philologists term "false analogy." The name has nothing to do with cripples, but represents the old "crepel geat," or covered way, by which the Saxon burghers manned the City wall without exposing their portly persons as dreadfully obvious targets for the missiles of besieging Norsemen. This is no mere fanciful conjecture of the present learned rector, for a considerable section of the ancient "crepel geat" was unearthed a few months ago during some excavations in the churchyard. City nomenclature is singularly rich in similar examples of false analogy, among the most notable being Grace-church, which is in reality Grass-church, and marks the site of the mediæval hay-market.

The trustees of Lake Forest University, Illinois, are offering a prize of $6,000 for the best book illustrating, "from science or any department of knowledge, and demonstrating the origin and authority of the Christian Scriptures." The prize is "open to scientific men, Christian philosophers and historians of all nations." Manuscripts are to be typewritten in triplicate and presented on or before June 1, 1905. No limit is placed on the length of the book. The prize comes out of the trust fund created by the late Mr. William Bross of Chicago and placed with the trustees of the Lake Forest University in 1897 as a memorial of his son, Nathaniel, who died in 1856, and dedicated to the reconciliation of science and religion. Mr. William Bross was Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois from 1866 to 1870.

The city of Aberdeen has just subscribed fifty guineas as a testimonial to Mr. John Mackintosh, LL.D., the Scottish historian, the contributor of the volume on Scotland in the Story of the Nations Series. Dr. Mackintosh is a living example of the dictum "nil mortalibus arduum est," and his knowledge and experiences belong to the extensive and peculiar category: Born at Banff the year after the passing of the Reform Bill, he has been a shoemaker, policeman, and stationer. Rare as these instances of self-help are, they are not confined to the northern bank of the Tweed, for quite recently there passed away at an early age, a surgeon of promise, practising within a few yards of *The Globe* office, in London, who had been brought up as a blacksmith in one of the Government yards.

A very handsome little booklet has been made of "The Elegy of Faith," a study of Tennyson's "In Memoriam," by Rev. William Nader of San Francisco. Mr. Rader considers this great devotional poem by Tennyson under four aspects: First, as a world poem which sums up the doubts and hopes and consolations of one who grieves for a loved one; then as a lament of love, as a theological discussion of the immortality and destiny of man, and finally, as a monument of optimistic faith. In regards to the preacher's claim that "In Memoriam" is in the same class as "Job" and "Faust," we think it can scarcely be maintained. In fact the poem does not appeal forcibly to those not of English blood. We have ample proof of this in Taine's slighting remarks that Tennyson reminds him of a smug churchman with a cambric handkerchief to his eyes. The beauty of the imagery and the genuine feeling revealed were lost on the French critic, who was repelled by what he regarded as the artificiality of this expression of grief.

The recent unveiling of the Balzac statue gives topical interest to a story of the great novelist's methods of work. He sent one day in a hurry for Théophile Gautier, and explained to him that he had undertaken to deliver a five-act drama on the following morning, and that not a line of it was written. "You will have to postpone the reading for six weeks," said Gautier. "Not a bit of it," replied Balzac. "We must have it ready in time because I want the money. So this is my plan. You will write the first act. I have three other men here to do the second, third, and fourth. I will write the fifth myself. An act is only 500 lines. You can easily do that if you sit up all night." So Balzac hurriedly told the story of his play and the five men set to work, and finished punctually. The drama produced in these extraordinary circumstances was "Vautrin."

An American minor poet describes a literary epidemic not unknown in England:—

Lady met a brigand,
Captive she was took;
People raised a ransom—
Goin' to write a book.

Lovesick girl got jilted,
Sought a distant nook;
Brooded on her troubles—
Goin' to write a book.

Man, he thought he'd travel,
Took a flying look
At some foreign countries—
Goin' to write a book.

Millionaire an' pauper,
Valet, maid, an' cook,
Everybody's got it—
Goin' to write a book.

Three hundred and two years ago there was published in Latin a work entitled "William Gilbert of Colchester, Physician of London, on the Magnet, Magnetic Bodies, and on the Great Magnet, the Earth." Its author was a contemporary of Shakespeare. He practiced the experimental method before Bacon wrote about it; his methods and discoveries excited the sneers of Bacon, the praises of Gallileo and Kepler. This Gilbert, who was Queen Elizabeth's physician, founded the science of magnetism and laid down some of the elementary principles of electricity, and, what is even more remarkable, he demonstrated "that the globe of the earth is magnetic and a magnet." Professor Silvanus Thompson has translated and the Gilbert Club republished the famous work "De Magnete." Three centuries after his time its author is appreciated!

A third edition has just been issued of "A Budget of Anecdotes. Collected and arranged by Mr. George Seton, Advocate" (Chapman and Hall). Many of the stories relate to the "North Countree," where, in spite of a silly general belief to the contrary, there is very much genuine wit and humour. Here is an example of Scottish caution:—

A Blairgowrie man had married a native of Kirkcaldy. Some years later, when the woman was dying, she said to her husband, "John, I've been a good wife to you, and I want you to do me a favour." "Weel, 'oman, what is it?" "Weel, John, it's jist this, that ye'll bury me among my ain folk at Kirkcaldy." "Hoots, 'oman, it canna be; I tell you it canna be." "Weel, John, if ye dinna tak' me to Kirkcaldy I'll haunt ye; my speerit ill haunt ye." "Aweel, if it comes to that, 'oman, I'll hae to do it; but I'll try ye in Blairgowrie first."

Of the 500 who sat down at the Hotel Cecil to the "Encyclopædia Britannica" dinner, there was only one Fruitarian present! Dr. Josiah Oldfield, of Harley-street, who contributed the article on "Vegetarianism" to the Encyclopædia, was consistent in his practice with his theories, and the *chef* of the hotel provided him with the following menu:—

Soupe Maigre
Macaroni au Gratin
Asparagus
New Potatoes (several ways)
Young Carrots
French Beans
Grilled Mushrooms
Salad
Apple Charlotte
Pineapple Ice
Dessert

A majority of the Congregation of the University of Oxford have rejected a proposal to abolish Greek at Responsions, and the *Morning Post* ponderously accuses them of declining to recognise the twentieth century. They need not have fussed. Responsions (vulgarly Smalls) is a contemptible examination demanding a couple of books of Euclid, simple equations, a simple paragraph to render into Latin and half-a-dozen easy sentences to put into Greek. A man may drop his Greek altogether when he has slipped through, and generally does. Yet he must be the better for the training in memory and discernment given by boyhood's efforts to grapple with the inflections of languages that were not so slovenly as our own. The books to be prepared are short and not difficult. Greek is no intolerable burden, and if it be forgotten afterwards, what matter? There is great use in forgotten knowledge, as the weeds that spring up between the farmer's first and second ploughing and are ploughed into the ground have not lived in vain but do their part in fertilising the field.

In a recent issue of the *Sphere*, C.K.S. does a good office by printing the following lines by Mr. John Masefield, a young writer whose name is new to us:—

When the last sea is sailed, and the last shallow charted,
When the last field is reaped, and the last harvest stored,
When the last fire is out, and the last guest departed,
Grant the last prayer that I shall pray: Be good to me, O Lord.

And let me pass in a night at sea, a night of storm and thunder;
In the loud crying of the wind through rope; and sail, and spar,
Send me a ninth great peaceful wave to whelm and roll me under,
To the cold tunnyfishes' home, where the drowned galleons are.

And in the dim green quiet place, far out of sight and hearing,
Grant I may hear at whiles the wash and thrash of the sea foam
About the fine keen bows of the stately clipper steering
Towards the bright northern star and the fair ports of home.

When I was a lad it was all the vogue to call any one who was "a little bit eccentric" or "unlike other people" a "cure," short for "curiosity," says a writer in *Notes and Queries*. Nobody ever hears the word now; it is always "muggins" or "mug." Again, during the days of John Leech

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a fashionably dressed man was described as a "swell;" nowadays it is usually a "masher" or a "toff." "Other times, other manners." The word "swell" I cannot trace further back than "Tom and Jerry," but in that talented work Pierce Egan uses the word as one commonly taken for granted at the period. With regards to "Johnnie" (short for "Johnny Raw"), we have it on the authority of Barrere and Leland that the word originated at Sandhurst, where the "olsters" used to ask contemptuously, "Any more Johnnies?" Nowadays it is applied indiscriminately to any male biped, just as "bloke," "chap," "cove," "joker," "Chollie," etc. At the latter end of 1864 a slang word came somewhat into fashion in London to designate a smartly dressed young fellow in a "top hat"—"muller," or "muller-cut-down." It did not have a very long run as a street cant, but it was always meant, while it lasted, to be decidedly derogatory to the dignity of young men thus derided.

A correspondent of the *Academy* who is an assistant librarian at one of the largest of London public libraries writes as follows:—"We have in our reference department a goodly number of theological works, including many Biblical dictionaries and concordances, though, as a rule, the frequenters of our institution are not of a particularly religious turn of mind. This being so I have been not a little surprised during the past few days at the unusual demand for 'A Bible Dictionary, please.' Had the applicants been attired in clerical garb I should not have been quite so astonished, but somehow their appearance did not appeal to me as particularly saintly or scholastic. Indeed I was acquainted with most of them, by sight, that is, and knew them to belong to that class of regular 'loungers' who, under the pretence of looking for a situation, spend their days in the perusal of the illustrated papers. Could it be possible, I wondered, that some great religious revival had taken place in W—? At length, however, when a great burly navy demanded a 'Bible Directory' I began to grow suspicious. Dim recollections came back to me of certain hideous posters which had tormented my eyes as I passed through the streets, and as these reminiscences took shape, I caught up a popular magazine and glanced through the advertisements. The mystery was quickly solved and I found that all unknown to me a 'grand new religious weekly,' intended—so that advertisement ran—for Sunday reading, had been launched upon a triumphant course of publication a week before. Among the announcements stood out in large type the particulars of a 'great Scriptural competition for £100. Truly the publishers of such ournals know how to attract the multitude."

A PLAUSIBLE CHARACTER.

Attention is called by the *Kobe Herald* to a gentleman designating himself Count Leon of Rothenkirchen, who is described as of distinguished appearance, tall (over six feet high), between thirty-five and forty years of age apparently. He wears a moustache but is otherwise clean shaven. He represents himself as a Consul-General of Russia for China, Japan and Korea and he has what appear to be "perfect papers with Russian official stamps, etc.," and something that looks like a certificate of the Government. He is "got up" faultlessly, with military buttons on his shoulders, astrakhan cap, fur-lined boots, etc., the whole attire suggesting a man of affluence. His method of proceeding has been to call upon residents at various ports and offer them the position of Russian Consular Agent, producing a number of forms for which he requires money. In one case he obtained *yen* 100. The Russian Legation it is said know nothing of him.

A telegram in the *Jiji* announces the arrest of this gentleman.

Sir Claude MacDonald will give an entertainment at the Legation on the evening of the 19th inst. Marquis Ito and nineteen other gentlemen have received invitations.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

A recent examination of school children in Chicago brought to light the astonishing fact that upward of 10,000 pupils of the schools could not tell the difference between a rose and a violet, and did not know the names of dandelions and buttercups when they saw them.

New York has been astonished by the richness of the equipments of the gambling house recently broken into and raided by the police. It is said the principal staircase is of Italian marble and must have cost at least $25,000, while one of the doors is of hardwood, beautifully carved, brought from a Castilian palace of the sixteenth century and valued at $20,000.

The banking power of the United States is now estimated at about double that of the United Kingdom. The Controller of the U.S. Treasury puts that of the United States at about $12,435,000,000 in round numbers, while the London *Chronicle* in June last estimated that of the United Kingdom at $6,030,000,000. The aggregate banking power of the world is estimated at $27,045,000,000, so nearly one-half is to be credited to America.

The foundation of the Carnegie public library at Aurora, Ill., which stands upon soft ground, rests on 142 concrete piles which have been very ingeniously constructed. A collapsible and expansive steel core is expanded and driven into the ground to a solid bottom, like an ordinary wooden pile. It is then collapsed by withdrawing a key inlaid between the two longitudinal sections, which allows it to be easily withdrawn. The hole is then filled with concrete, making an imperishable pile.

President Harper of the University of Chicago at the convocation exercises in December announced the gift by Mr. John D. Rockefeller of another million dollars to the institution. Gifts from other sources also were announced, swelling the total of donations to $1,526,000. President Harper advocated the pensioning of retired professors and officers of the university, but said that the details of the plan would have to be considered further before any steps in that direction could be taken.

The House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds recently reported favourably on the bill appropriating $7,000,000 to purchase a site for a Court of Justice building for the accommodation of the Supreme Court of the United States, the Department of Justice, National Law Library and international tribunals. The committee also reported the bill which has passed the Senate carrying $2,500,000 for the construction of a Department of Agriculture building, but cut the limit to $1,500,000.

A test has just been made on a section of the ocean cable between Cienfuegos and Santiago, Cuba, to determine the question of durability of an Indiarubber coated submarine cable. The line was manufactured in 1873 and laid in 1881. The section tested was picked up in 1350 fathoms of water and was found to be in perfect electrical condition, the copper conductor not having suffered during its twenty years' submergence from the attacks of any sulphur in the rubber coating.

Within the walls of a log hut located formerly in what is known as Stony Battery, a few miles from here, in Franklin county, says a Mercersburg correspondent of the *Philadelphia Press*, was born, on April 23, 1791, the boy who became the fifteenth President of the United States—James Buchanan. A few years ago the people of Mercersburg saw fit to preserve this relic, and with that object in view the hut was removed for a couple of miles from its original site to its present place, at the edge of town. Since then local interest in the little structure has died away. It was rented not long since to a coloured family, and to-day, save for their occasional ministrations, receives neither care nor repair.

Poor cooking and untidy housekeeping was the underlying cause of the severing of the marital bonds of 400 couples in Chicago last year, according to Mr. Ernest P. Bicknell, General Superintendent of the Chicago Bureau of Charities. This statement was made by Mr. Bicknell before a gathering of students at the University of Chicago. The four hundred cases to which he referred were those that actually came under his notice in the pursuance of his official duties. Lax methods of housekeeping on the part of a woman formed the cause in each instance, he said for their desertion by husbands. The wife would then apply for a divorce on the ground of desertion, though primarily she was responsible for the trouble. Each of the 400 cases came to Mr. Bicknell's notice through the deserted wives' application to the Bureau of Charities for assistance.

The President has appointed Brigadier-General Commandant Charles Heywood of the Marine Corps, a Major-General. General Heywood succeeded Colonel C. G. McCauley, retired for age, as commandant of the corps in 1891. He was born in Waterville, Me., October 3, 1839, and entered the Marine Corps as a Second Lieutenant early in 1858, and at once saw active service during the Staten island quarantine riots. Then he went on active service to Africa and Nicaragua, and the outbreak of the Civil War found him on the *Cumberland*, a First Lieutenant. In November, 1861, he was made a Captain. In March, 1862, occurred the famous naval battle of Hampton Roads, during which the Confederate armourclad *Merrimac* destroyed the *Cumberlnad* with her iron prow, the good ship going down with colours flying and her crew at their posts, firing their guns as the water rolled over her. Heywood, with the marines, had fought the after guns, and nine of his men had been killed. Captain Heywood was especially commended for his gallantry on this occasion. At Mobile bay, he again distinguished himself and won the approval of Admiral Farragut. Since the war he has been several times promoted.

General William Booth, head of the Salvation Army and author of "In Darkest England," expresses the following gloomy views regarding Chicago and New York:—"Chicago and New York are the two wickedest cities in the world. They are swamped in vice and pleasure, and the churches are powerless to stem the tide of sin. They are growing worse and worse. Neither Chicago nor New York has any hypocritical pretensions of being good," he said. "They tolerate vice without blushing. The Sabbath they desecrate and little more than one-tenth of the people attend the churches. A great wave of an engulfing ocean of pleasure, recreation, ease and idleness is drowning out the good and dampening the consciences of men and women. In the fullness of wealth they are forgetting the dangers that beset their homes, their children and themselves. Vice stalks through the streets. In both New York and Chicago its flagrance is unchecked. The young men and young women of the higher order of society are growing up in luxury and idleness. Is vice centralized in these cities? It is not, it is widespread. It is found in the sections where the wealthy live and hovers over nearly the entire area of each metropolis. Wickedness has spread to the fashionable sections of the cities and once there has not been driven out. Instead of being combatted, it was at first tolerated and now it is abetted."

PROSPEROUS CANADA.

Evidence of the wonderful prosperity of Canada is accumulating from all sides. The six millions of population of Canada have bank deposits of $450,000,000, the amount showing an increase of $200,000,000 in five years. Reuter's Montreal correspondent reports that the money in circulation amounts to $65,900,000, as compared with $57,900,000 a year ago. At the recent meeting of the Canadian Bankers' Association there was an interesting discussion on the necessity of an increase in bank currency.

Further evidence of the prosperity of the country and at the same time of the need for more

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railway accomodation is afforded by the block of wheat on the Canadian Pacific Railway. There is a deficiency of locomotive power, although the supply of cars has been fairly good. One of the directors is said to have stated :

I would not hesitate to say that the districts crossed by the Canadian Pacific have far outgrown the condition of a single railway system. The road should be double-tracked from Fort William right through to Calgary if the enormous crop is to be handled in anything like a proper manner. The sooner this is done the better it will be for the railway and the country. Had there been anything like sufficient railway accommodation the amount of grain marketed already would have certainly reached 35,000,000 bushels, while the records of the two big Canadian lines show that up to the present time not quite 20,000,000 bushels have been carried out.

The idea of an amalgamation of interests between the Grand Trunk and the Canadian Pacific is seriously entertained in commercial circles in Canada.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Nagahama Morizo, Secretary to the Finance Department, has been appointed to a post in the Yokohama Specie Bank.

The following appointment has been made at the Admiralty :—Staff-Surgeon J. A. Moon, to the *Glory*, for the Yokohama Sick Quarters, to date December 9th.

The news has reached Hongkong of the death in England of Mr. Sangster, who was for so many years organist of St. John's Cathedral and Acting Registrar of the Supreme Court. His demise is much regretted.

A very slight shock of earthquake was felt in Shanghai on January 6th. It was sufficient to stop the astronomical clock at the Sicawei Observatory at 6h. 2m. 2s. a.m., but the *N.-C. Daily News* has not heard of any serious damage being done.

Shortly after two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon several Chinamen entered the Chinese School known as the Daido Gakko in Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, and created a disturbance. Four Chinese were arrested by the Kagacho police in the sequel of the fight. Two men were injured. The cause was a faction dispute.

The London School of Tropical Medicine has issued a report on the sleeping sickness, which is now devastating Uganda. Though it was discovered only a few years ago, it is computed that the disease has already killed from 20,000 persons and is spreading to new areas with increasing virulence. Its extension to the north will be of the greatest menace to Egypt.

The Pope, in his extreme age and seclusion, can still extended his sympathies to the sports of youth. He has just presented to the Rowing Club of Rome a beautiful four-oared canoe, most handsomely decorated. The *Popolo Romano* states that the boat was sent to the Pope, on the occasion of his jubilee, and was exhibited at the Vatican. It has been presented to the Rowing Club as an expression of the Pope's satisfaction at recent successes won by the club in the regattas of Turin and Naples.

Some anxiety was being felt as to the steamer *Pleiades* which came into Yokohama at 4 p.m. on Sunday. The vessel which belongs to the Boston Steamship and Towboat Companies and has a net tonnage of 2,752, left Tacoma for this port on Dec. 4th and was thus making 38 days of what should be at the outside a 20 days trip. The cause of her delay appears to have been bad coal in consequence of which she had to put into Dutch Harbour in the Aleutians where she spent a week replenishing her bunkers. She experienced no bad weather and all on board are well.

The translation of a letter sent by the Prime Minister of Uganda to the King and Regents of that country describing his reception by King Edward has been made public. The Envoy writes :—"What I saw in that house was all of gold, every pillar was covered with gold, and the ceiling too. The King was most kind to greet me as he did, as if I were a great man like one of his friends. In appearance he is like Sensalire, but Sensalire is taller. And the servants who wait on him in his house put white dye on their hair and look like old men, and when you see them you think they are old men. They also have coats of gold."

A correspondent in Mokpo, Korea, says that Chinese vagabond soldiers in Mu-san, in the extreme north, have been committing such depredations that 300 tiger-hunters have been enlisted and armed by the Government to exterminate them.

"Awake thou that sleepeth! Beware what shall happen in the silent night!" This in red ink, in a hand evidently disguised, and signed with a capital letter "H"—the initial of the receiver — transfixed with a neatly drawn dagger, is not a comfortable sort of communication to get delivered at one's door just as one is turning in for the night, says the *N.-C. Daily News*. Such a letter was, however, left at the residence in Shanghai these holidays of a gentleman, who believed up to that moment he had no enemy in the whole wide world. Moreover it was pretty generally known that a serious case of sickness was in the house, so that it was hardly the time and place for a practical joke. At the present the mystery awaits solution.

A correspondent of the *Nagasaki Press* writes :—

Sir,—When reading the interesting article on "Some Ancient Lighthouses" it occurred to me that probably very few people now living know who built the first modern lighthouse in Japan.

The first lighthouse in Japan (on modern lines) was built through Mr. T. B. Glover by his engineer Mr. T. Waters, on Satanomisaki, the most southerly point of Satsuma. This was followed sometime after by a lighthouse on Kwannonsaki built by the French engineers who constructed the Yokosuka Docks.

Japan since then has made rapid strides—indeed jumps—not only in lighthouse building, but in everything else, and I am quite sure that when the true history of this country is written Mr. Glover will, or ought to, be credited with no small share in Japan's present position in the world.

There is considerable excitement in the Upper Pun U district, writes the Canton correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph*. It will be remembered that some weeks ago the steamer *Ventnor* ran on a rock shortly after leaving New Zealand and sank. Several lives were lost. Among these were five or six Chinese returning to China. The chief cargo of the ship was dead men's bones. There were the bones of 470 Chinese on board. These remains had been carefully preserved and after suitable ceremonies were taken aboard the *Ventnor*. Insurance was effected to the amount of £5,000. All these bones went down with the ships. News of the disaster has reached the friends of the deceased and there is great lamentation over the loss. One man immediately after the wreck offered $25,000 for the recovery of one coffin. This coffin contained the body of one of the richest Chinese in New Zealand. None of the bones have been recovered.

The N.Y.K. European line *Sanuki Maru* arrived at Kobe on the 9th inst. two days overdue. The vessel has had on the whole a rather rough passage out from London, which port was left in fog and mist and wintry weather. Before the Thames was left behind, reports the *Kobe Chronicle*, the ship in a thick mist grounded, and was for twelve hours on the mud. No further obstacle to progress was met with until the Bay of Biscay was reached. Here the *Sanuki* met the worst weather of the voyage and was "hove-to" for twenty-four hours, being thirty-six hours overdue at the next port. Thence to Hongkong the passage was good, but more rough weather was encountered after leaving the southern port, though no particular damage was done. However, another twelve hours was added to the vessel's time overdue. During the blow coming up from Hongkong a particularly heavy piece of cargo shifted. This was a huge piece of iron, part of a machine, and nearly two tons in weight. It was stowed between decks, and wedged as carefully as possible to prevent slipping. The pitching and rolling of the ship, however, loosened the wedges, and the dead-weight was shifted right on to the hatch, the surprising thing being that its great weight did not cause it to break through.

The legal profession of Hongkong has lost an able member in the person of Mr. Francis Oswald Edlin, barrister-at-law, who died at the Peak Hospital on January 2nd inst., at noon and was buried in the Happy Valley the next afternoon. The circumstances attending Mr. Edlin's death are peculiarly sad. Coming to Hongkong with a fine record of service in other parts of the Empire, he was regarded as a welcome acquisition to the circle of advocates practising there, and admitted to the Bar on Saturday, 15th ult., the Attorney-General, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, introducing him to the Chief Justice, Sir W. Meigh Goodman. On the same day he went to the Peak Hospital suffering from abscess of the liver, and succumbed to the disease on Friday, after undergoing an operation. The deceased gentleman was the son of Sir Peter Edlin, for many years Chief Magistrate at the Old Bailey, in London, and was admitted a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Judicature in March, 1882, being called to the Bar, Middle Temple, in 1890. Going abroad, he held the appointments of Queen's Advocate of Lagos and Attorney-General of Fiji. For eight months he was Acting Chief Justice of Lagos and subsequently, shortly after his arrival in Fiji, acted as Chief Justice. During the time Mr. Edlin was in Lagos he was appointed by Sir Henry McCallum, K.C.M.G. (the present Governor of Natal), Chairman of a Commission to enquire into the trade of the Colony, and on one occasion he administered the Government of Lagos as Deputy for the Governor. Mr. Edlin also held the appointment of District Commissioner of the Gold Coast and was Crown Prosecutor on two occasions and Acting Puisne Judge.—*Daily Press*

Comment is being made in certain quarters because Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge has declined the £50 prize offered by the Navy League for the encouragement of gunnery. One of our contemporaries commenting on this expresses its opinion that the Admiral was absolutely right in the course he took. Competition for such a prize between different ships in a squadron would inevitably result in the concentration of the best shots in each ship into a "crack" gun's crew; it would lead to constant practice by one man—the petty officer Grounds of the moment—and to the neglect of that general average of efficient training which is what we require. No comparison can be made with the Bisley system, even if that were ideal, because rifle shooting is the affair of the individual, each member of a team depending on his own success, whereas in naval gunnery it is a question of the combined excellence of the crew. Furthermore, there is no security that the best shot in practice would be the best shot in action. The steady man with iron nerve will make the ideal captain of a turret or gun. It must not be supposed that because we are against the policy of accepting prizes from the outside we therefore support the view that all offer of material advantages to the gunners is undesirable. The Admiralty may well increase the amount of the prize money given. Competition in the same ship is healthy, and competition between different ships in the same squadron is healthy; but if the competition is to be a squadron competition, you must make the ship the unit, not the gun's crew; and if the competition is to be for the individual ship, you must make the gun's crew and not the single person the unit.

Messrs J. A. Sullivan & Co., Stock and Share-brokers of Shanghai, in their retrospect of local stocks and shares for 1902, say :—

The disastrous result of 1902 closes with an all round depreciation of nearly Tls. 4,000,000, the principal losses occurring in Docks and Indo-Chinas. The violent fluctuations of our market caused disaster and ruin to many in the summer, although we have now recovered somewhat from the evil effects. The

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highest point that Farnham-Boyds touched in public favour was in the middle of June, when Tls. 265 cash was quoted, but in consequence of a lower dividend being declared than was anticipated, the value slumped until a sale at Tls. 158 was announced—the lowest point recorded. Indo-Chinas for the same reasons tumbled during the year from Tls. 105 to Tls, 58, but manipulations of the market, in anticipation by sanguine speculators of an interim dividend, caused the value to rise again, in the autumn, to Tls. 75, but only to fall after disappointment of cherished hopes, equally rapidly to to-day's value, Tls. 62. The ups and downs of Lankats were even more violent, because of its speculative nature. The highest point reached in the Spring shows, Tls, 350, but the rapid fall by irregular gradations is markedly shown and September gives the lowest price recorded, viz., Tls. 220. Since then for various reasons they steadily mounted to Tls. 357½, the high water mark for the year, but quickly receded, owing to the difficulty of financing, to to-day's value, Tls. 320. These three stocks are the indicators of our misfortune in having suffered so badly during 1902 whilst the wild speculation induced by the ever changing quotations caused many to repent at leisure. The suspicion and distrust engendered by failures in the summer reacted on sounder stocks and induced unnecessary depreciation in their value. Hongkong and Shanghai Banks receded from $645, January's value, to $587½ in April and varying fluctuations are recorded until to-day we close firm at $662½. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharfs also show vagaries in rates, running down from Tls. 300 to Tls. 270 but only to climb steadily up to to-day's quotation Tls. 312½. The capitalization of all stocks as tabulated is valued at Tls. 82,000,000, the market value of which is roughly Tls. 158,000,000, and although the percentage of total loss sustained during the year comes to barely 2½ per cent. its effect was so widespread that we have to characterize this market as becoming dangerous by its ever increasing speculative tendency.

BANK OF JAPAN.

Banking Account.

On Saturday, January 10th:—

Dr.	Yen.
Share capital fully paid up	30,000,000
Reserve fund and other liabilities to shareholders...	19,699,996
Amount of convertible notes issued ...	211,036,544
Government deposits	14,767,873
General deposits	12,159,596
Exchange liability	20,267
Total	287,684,278
Cr.	
Discount notes...	24,232,102
Foreign discount notes	12,991,217
Treasury loan to Government	22,000,000
Temporary „ „	28,000,000
General loans	34,748,129
Exchange liability	4,251,496
Government bonds	49,737,295
Property	2,716,187
Bullion and Specie	108,962,848
Total	287,684,278

Issue Account.

Daily average during past week :—

Amount of convertible notes	214,214,617
Bullion and Specie :—	
Gold	107,785,498
Silver	400,000
Total	108,185,498
Securities :—	
Government bonds	27,340,914
Finance Department notes	7,463,400
Government notes	50,000,000
Security notes	3,044,336
Commercial notes	18,207,469
Total	106,056,119

These accounts, compared with those of the previous week, show:—

Specie Reserve :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold	—	247,943
Silver	—	600,060
General loans	—	1,269,982
Government deposits...	—	1,548,257
General deposits...	7,872,419.	—

REWARDS OF GENTLEMANLY SPORT.

The *Nagasaki Press* prints the following verses :—

Exhibit A., a stadium,
Where youths, inadequately dressed,
A loaded cestus on each fist,
Pounded each other's face and chest,
They called that boxing. Then, perhaps,
They'd run a thousand yards or so.
They jumped. They wrestled, no holds barred.
They did the twelve-pounded discus throw.
And for a prize the victor wore
Two laurel sprigs, or maybe three,
For this was gentlemanly sport
In seven twenty-four B. C.

Exhibit B., a tilting yard,
Where men in courtly manners versed
Disguised themselves as ironclads,
And ran each other down, head first.
To push Sir John Doe from his horse
Each gentle knight his best assayed,
Such was the object of the game,
And strenuously was it played.
He of the stoutest lance might win
His lady's glove, or scarf, or shoe.
For this was gentlemanly sport,
In fourteen hundred twenty-two.

Exhibit C., a drawing-room,
Where wild-eyed men in evening clothes,
Tap fiercely at a small white ball
And, missing, mutter gentle oaths.
Racquets the size of coffee spoons,
A table and a three-inch net,
Fair maidens by to watch the play,
And there you have a ping-pong set.
Medals, for this, and silver cups
We feel are but the victor's due,
For this is gentlemanly sport
Of A. D. nineteen hundred two.

LAW CASES.

DOERING v. KANNHANSER.

The action brought by Mr. J. G. Doering against a former employee came up on Thursday in the Yokohama Court before Judge Kato. The plaintiff claimed *yen* 10,244 and an injunction to prohibit the defendant from working for any one other than the plaintiff. Plaintiff's counsel stated that the defendant entered into an agreement with the plaintiff, through a representative in Hamburg, Germany. He was according to this agreement to get *yen* 150 per month the first year, *yen* 160 the second year, *yen* 175 the third year, and *yen* 190 the fourth year. There was a condition providing that he should not work upon his own account, or for any one other than the plaintiff in the business for which he was employed, that is, the construction and repairing of musical instruments. After some time, the defendant and plaintiff disagreed, and the defendant left the plaintiff and obtained employment in another firm. The defendant alleged that he was not properly treated and that he left with plaintiff's consent.

The case was adjourned.

OKAYAMA GINKO v. OSAKA RICE EXCHANGE.

The suit instituted by the Okayama Ginko against the Osaka Dojima Rice Exchange, which resulted in the defeat of the Bank at the Osaka Chiho Saibansho last year, has now been carried to the Osaka Court of Appeal, says the *Kobe Herald*. Messrs. Nakamura Saburo, Wakabayashi Osamu, Nakayama Hiroshi, Iriye Buichiro have been appointed to represent the appellant. The Bank claims the surrender of 22,350 *koku* of unpolished rice or its cost, which amounts to *yen* 256,850.00. The suit is said to be the most important ever brought before the Court. *Yen* 790.50 were required for stamps alone.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL, SAMUEL & CO.

On Thursday in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho was resumed the hearing of the action brought by Mr. Hioki, Bankruptcy Administration of the firm of Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., against Mr. E. C. Davis, of Samuel, Samuel & Co., to recover *yen* 225,250, which it is alleged Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. put up as their share in the Formosa Camphor Monopoly.

A long argument ensued between the barrister concerned and Mr. Hioki as to whether Mr. Davis acted in his own name or on behalf of the firm when conducting business in connection with the Camphor Monopoly, and Mr. Akiyama, for defendant, refused to accept various documents presented by Mr. Hioki: Mr. Akiyama also contended that the case should be judged in accordance with the precedents of English law.

The Court decided that an expert in English law should be called and adjourned the case until the 3rd February.

THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

Chapter XIX.

Death of Kuroda Yoshitaka and of his brother Soyemon.—Apostacy of Kuroda Nagamasa and of Mori Takamasa.—Fall of Maeda Munetoshi and of Tsutsui Sadatsugu.—Apostacy of Goto, of Omura and of Arima Naozumi.—Tragic end of Arima Harunobu.—Hosokawa persecutes the Christians.—Constancy of Kagayama.—Shimazu becomes hostile.—Death of Mancio Ito.

If, from the preceding chapters, the march of the Christian Church, headed by a great number of the noblest of Japan, might be compared with a triumphal march carrying away the whole nation, henceforth, alas! these joyous accords will little by little change into the sad accents of a funeral march, which at last will end abruptly in a heart-rending clamour of affliction.

If, on one side, the great number of conversions and the fervour of the neophytes filled the Religious with joy, the future did not on that account appear to them less sombre. They knew perfectly well that Ieyasu's tolerance was only apparent, and that, if he seemed indifferent with regard to the conversion of the common people, he was anything but indifferent to the conversion of the *daimyo* and *samurai* of high rank. It was, in effect, with extreme displeasure that Ieyasu saw the latter declare themselves Christians, and he did not fail to make them feel his displeasure. So long, however, as he felt that the convictions of several of the *daimyo* were not to be shaken, he waited patiently, knowing besides that, once death would have rid him of the most fervent, he would soon be able to reason with the others.

In this connection the Christian religion sustained an irreparable loss in the death of Kuroda Yoshitaka. Continually in Ieyasu's company, at Fushimi, he never ceased to commend the Religious to the latter's good-will. But, in 1603, death carried him off to the grief of all the Christians. Before closing his eyes, Yoshitaka had ordered his son Nagamasa to have his body transported to Hakata, and buried in the new church there, towards the building of which he had contributed 1,000 gold pieces. The solemn obsequies which the Religious celebrated on that occasion, tightened for an instant the bonds which attached Nagamasa to the Christian Religion. He became more intimate with the Religious, invited them to his meals, and helped them when they were in want(19). But, strange to say, while professing himself a Christian, and inducing his vassals to receive baptism, he invited at the same time the bonzes to recite prayers for his deceased father. Did he wish thereby to conciliate himself the affection of his Buddhist subjects? Or did he want to please Ieyasu, and publicly show the esteem he had for Buddhism? This lack of serious convictions was to have fatal results. Nagamasa soon changed completely his conduct with regard to the Christians. He first ordered Akashi Kamon to quit his domains with all his *samurai*. Then, he also expelled the Religious and destroyed the church erected at Hakata, in memory of his father(20).

So long, however, as Michael Soyemon, the paternal uncle of Nagamasa, remained alive, the latter did not dare to apostatize entirely. This uncle, a fervent Christian, did not fail to remind his nephew of his father's piety, as well as of his last will to see the Christian religion protected by his descendants. When Michael died, in 1609, in his castle of Najima, the Christians of all the

(19) Pagès, p. 103.
(20) Tre lettere de gli anni 1603, 1604, 1605.

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province wept(21). And not without reason, for henceforth the edifice, raised with so much trouble, fell little by little into decay, until the storm came to sweep away every vestige of it. In vain Paul Kuroda Nagato-no-kami, Michael's son, tried to lead Nagamasa to better sentiments. Libertinage had already stifled the voice of conscience, and all was useless. Nagamasa even became openly hostile and threatened Paul with disgrace. The latter remained immovable to menaces as well as to promises. Even his marriage with a daughter of Nagamasa could not induce him to abandon his religion.

Another *daimyo*, who yielded to the pressure of Ieyasu, was Mori Takamasa of Saeki. After having publicly apostatized, he became, however, ashamed of having allowed himself to be thus intimidated, and retracted a little after. (1606) To show his good-will to the Religious, he even had several churches built on his estate(22). But this was only an expedient for stifling his remorse. Mori soon lost the faith, and thus suffered for his too great complaisance with regard to Ieyasu.

Maeda Munetoshi, the enthusiastic *daimyo* of Kameyama, who had refused, on the occasion of his father's funeral (1602), to participate in the Buddhist ceremonies, had relaxed from his fervour, and fallen into the gravest disorders. In spite of this deplorable fall, however, he retained the faith and even certain religious practices. One of his *kerai* having accused him before Ieyasu of still practising the foreign religion, Maeda caused the informer to be put to death; then fearing the result of such a step, he exhibited signs of madness. Ieyasu deposed him, but spared his life (1608). Maeda returned then to his former sentiments and lived a Christian life (23)

The same year (1608), Tsutsui Sadatsugu, *daimyo* of Ueno (Iga), was also deposed. He had remained absolutely heedless to the exhortations of Ieyasu, who endeavoured to make him abandon Christianity. Displeased at this unexpected resistance, Ieyasu seized the first pretext to confiscate this *daimyo's* domains. On the accusation of his *kerai* Matsukura Shigemasa, Tsutsui was deposed and exiled to Matsuyama (Iyo), where he could meditate at leisure on his *kerai's* lack of loyalty. Matsukura, who afterwards took an important part in the destruction of Christianity, was amply rewarded for his treason: he ended by becoming *daimyo* of Shimabara, the last stronghold of the Christian religion.

Goto Sumiharu, the young *daimyo* of the Goto isles, had, since his return from Korea, shown the greatest zeal for the Christian religion which his uncle had persecuted for more than twenty years. Still in 1605, Sumiharu had received the Religious with all marks of respect, and had lodged them in his own house. But a little while after, on the occasion of a voyage to Yedo, he suddenly changed his conduct, and became a persecutor. By one turn of hand, Ieyasu had made him a fervent adept of Buddha.(24)

At the same time, the Church of Japan lost another of its pillars, in the person of Omura Yoshisaki, son and successor of the ardent Sumitada. Yoshisaki had from his infancy exhibited an extraordinary faith and constancy. Retained as hostage with his two brothers by Ryuzoji, in 1583, he had courageously declared that he would prefer to die sooner than commit the smallest infidelity against his faith. Later on, in 1597, when the Taiko caused the 26 martyrs to be crucified, Yoshisaki had profited by a voyage, he had made from Korea to Japan, by going with his whole family to publicly render testimony to the martyrs, in visiting at Nagasaki the scene of their crucifixion, and claiming their corpses. Then, in 1603, he had on the occasion of a visit, which the Bishop had paid to Omura, edified this large congregation by receiving communion with more than 2,000 of the faithful, at the Bishop's mass. After the ceremony he had invited an immense number of Christians to a feast, during which his eldest son and the children of the greatest *kerai* were to act as servants (25). Yoshisaki who, by his piety, his mortifications and the purity of his life, had edified even the Buddhist, all at once abandoned the Christian religion, and plunged himself into all the excesses of libertinage.

What were the causes of this sudden change, and of this deplorable fall? The annals of the Religious give several reasons. Yoshisaki became at first angry with the Jesuits, when, in 1604, Ieyasu took from him the suburbs of Nagasaki, in order to include them in the shogunal property. The *daimyo*, injured in his rights, bestowed all his displeasure upon Father Rodriguez, whom the Jesuits, on account of his cleverness in the Japanese language, had placed, at first near the Taiko, then near Ieyasu, in order to act as interpreter between these two rulers and the foreigners. Yoshisaki suspected Rodriguez of having advised Ieyasu to put the suburbs under the same Governor as the town of Nagasaki. Or at least, he reproached the Jesuit for not having warned him of this misfortune, when, through his acquaintances, he knew what was going to happen.

The annals then say that the evil insinuations of Thomas Araki, a native priest, contributed not a little to bring about Omura's apostacy. Thomas Araki, who after having studied in Europe, received holy orders at Rome, travelled a little everywhere and been presented and shown in all possible occasions; this so much adulated young man, with whom Bellarmin himself had liked to recite the breviary, had returned to Japan with a blind hatred for everything European. Already at Macao he warned the Japanese, who happened to be living there, of the hostile intentions of the Spaniards, intentions of which, he said, he had discovered the secret during his sojourn at Madrid Placed with Omura, and discontented doubtless with the modest part he played in the Government of the Church, he never ceased to accuse the foreigners and especially the Religious of meditating the conquest of Japan. Owing to the excessive distrust of all Japanese, Omura by and by allowed himself to be influenced by Araki, and finally came to hate as enemies those whom, till then, he had honoured as the envoys of Heaven.

These reasons may have exercised a certain power over Omura. Nevertheless they would not have led him to apostatize, if other influences had not already undermined the young *daimyo's* faith. It had not escaped Omura, any more than the other Christian *daimyo*, that Ieyasu, while leaving the Religious and the common people free, regarded with a very unfriendly eye the *daimyo* and even the *samurai*, who professed the foreign religion, and made every effort to ruin them. Now, before such a prospect Omura began to reflect, and concluded that a daimyate was well worth apostatizing for. Consequently he ordered the Religious to leave his dominions, called from the province of Higo the bonzes, whom Kato Kyomasa had recommended to him, converted the churches into pagodas, and took several wives. All this was done so rapidly that people asked themselves if Yoshisaki had not gone mad. In vain did his sister Marina, a very pious virgin, who spent her life in the performance of good works, recall to him the memory of their father Sumitada, and the recommendations he had addressed to them on his death-bed; in vain did his son, Bartholemew Sumiyori, oppose the impious orders of his father: all was useless, Yoshisaki persisted in his blindness.

Strangely enough, however, while declaring himself the protector of the Buddhist religion, Yoshisaki would never put foot in a pagoda, and always professed to regard the Christian religion as true, while declaring it contrary, however, to the pleasures of the world. To crown these contradictions, he sent all his bastards to his sister Marina, asking her to bring them up in the Christian religion. Some time after, Yoshisaki ceded his territory to his son Sumiyori, and surrendered himself without restraint to every vice.

Omura's fall was followed by another, which did still more harm to Christianity; that of his relative Michael Arima Naozumi, son and successor of Protasius Harunobu.(26) The Arima had always shown themselves the greatest benefactors of the Religious. A short time before this misfortune, while transferring their residence from Arima to Shimabara, they had abandoned the castle of Arima (Hara) to the Religious who established there their seminary and their college. Naozumi himself had an hospital constructed there, destined to receive the infirm poor of his domains. But what was still more to be praised in the Arima, was the fact that they knew how to distinguish the religious from the political question, and refrained from sacrificing their faith to the resentment they felt against the Portuguese. Thus, their misunderstandings with Pessoa had in no degree chilled their fervour. After the latter's tragic death, Harunobu even resolved to mitigate the consequences of this regrettable affair. Accompanied by his son Naozumi, he went immediately with this object in view to Sumpu, where he implored Ieyasu not to confound the Portuguese preachers with the Portuguese merchants. It was again, at the instance of Arima that Ieyasu revoked his orders relative to the massacre of the Portuguese of Nagasaki, and to the punishment of the Jesuits. As the latter had lost their revenues for the next two years, in the disaster of "La Madre de Dios," Arima provided for their needs.

Ieyasu had granted all these demands with extraordinary good nature; and, praising the courage and the devotion of Arima, he promised him moreover a manifest token of his esteem. Arima was already congratulating himself on the prospect of seeing his estates augmented when, some months after these events, Ieyasu announced to him his intention of giving his great-granddaughter in marriage to Arima's son, Naozumi. The clever Ieyasu knew perfectly well that the Arima would not dare to refuse this honour and that in accepting it, they would break, by the very fact, with the Christian religion, of which they were the devoted champions. In effect, Naozumi, already married to Martha, niece of Konishi Yukinaga, by whom he had children, found himself obliged to repudiate his lawful wife, and to make room for the new spouse.(27) The latter, who had already, by her detestable character, caused the death of her first husband, exercised in her quality of descendant of the Shogun, such authority in Arima's family, that the feeble Naozumi soon became the slave of her least caprice. A fanatical Buddhist, she held all that was Christian in abhorence, and declared, from her arrival, war without respite against this religion. Following exactly the line of conduct that Ieyasu had traced for her, she succeeded in making her husband abandon his religion, in expelling the Religious, and in recalling the bonzes. Soon the domains of Arima, lately the refuge of the Religious and of the Christians, who were persecuted in other localities became closed to such people. Once started on this fatal incline, the unfortunate Naozumi let himself roll to the bottom, and even went so far as to betray his own father.

The latter had secretly taken measures to recover possession of the principality of Isahaya, which Hideyoshi had formerly taken from him and given to Nabeshima. To this end, Harunobu had bought the good service of Paul Daihachi, secretary of Honda Kozuke-no-kami, a most influent personage of Ieyasu's court at Sumpu. Daihachi, however, instead of forwarding the cause of his client, contended himself with receiving large sums of money, and sending from time to time the most promising news. Naozumi, desiring to get rid of his father, profited by this occasion for making him fall into disgrace, and denounced him to Ieyasu. The suspicious old Shogun, accustomed to regard the slightest intrigue of the *daimyo* as a crime of lèse-majesté, dispossessed Arima Harunobu, and sent him into exile, in the province of Kai (1612).(28) Naozumi inherited the domains of his father, but agitated unceasingly by ambition and fear, he was not content. Learning that his father was taking steps to justify himself, he disclosed this new endeavour to Ieyasu, who pro-

(21) Pagès, p. 20, 65.
(22) Pagès, p. 134.
(23) Pagès p. 186 note.
(24) Tre lettere, p. 163.

(25) Tre lettere, p. 46.

(26) Also called John, after his confirmation name.
(27) Scarcely 20 years of age, Martha retired to the neighbourhood of Nagasaki and died there in complete destitution.

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nounced sentence of death on Harunobu and his two sons by a second wife.

At the time he was exiled, Harunobu had already felt the hand of God in his chastisement and, confessing his cowardice in the matter of his son's divorce, the origin of all his misfortunes, he returned to his former sentiments. Submitting himself entirely to the will of God, he refused to perform *harakiri*, as Ieyasu had ordered him. He wrote a long letter to his son Naozumi, conjuring him to return to the faith he had abandoned in so cowardly a manner. Then, prostrating himself before his crucifix, he confessed his sins aloud and demanded pardon of God and men for the scandals he had given. One of his *kerai* rendered him the last service of cutting off his head with one blow of his sword. Justa, Harunobu's wife, who had by her courage and piety sustained her husband during all these trials, took his head between her hands, regarded it fixedly for a long time without betraying the least emotion, then returning to her own apartments, gave full course to her grief. On the same day, she had her hair cut and remained for three years near her husband's tomb, mourning in the strictest seclusion(29).

After his father's death, Naozumi surrendered himself without any restraint to the evil councils of his wife. After having caused his two young brothers, the issue of Harunobu's marriage with Justa, to be put to death, he ordered all his subordinates to renounce the Christian religion. Those who proved refractory were deprived of their goods and sent into exile; several of the most fervent were condemned to death and executed. The fear of seeing his domains depopulated was alone able to put a check to his fanaticism. But this respite caused Ieyasu to suspect him. Hasegawa Sahioe, Governor of Nagasaki, and at the same time charged with the duty of keeping an eye on Naozumi, constantly accused him to Iyeyasu of not acting with energy enough against the Christians. It was then that Naozumi understood his position to be untenable in his daimyate, and that he wrote to Ieyasu that he could no longer live in the midst of the irreconciliable enemies of the tutelary gods of the country, that he prayed him in consequence to transfer him to another domain. He had hoped that the ostentation of his zeal towards the gods of the country would procure him a daimyate more important than that of Arima, but he was mistaken; for, the daimyate that his ancestors had occupied during several centuries, was in effect taken from him, while he got in exchange only the inferior domain of Nobeoka in the province of Hiuga (1614). The greater number of his *kerai* then abandoned him, and instead of following him to his new daimyate they preferred, some to enter the service of another master, others to exchange the profession of arms for that of hunter, fisher, or farmer. Meanwhile Hasegawa, who was at least as great a fanatic as Naozumi, ruled the peninsula of Shimabara.

In the domain of Hosokawa Tadaoki hostility against the Christian religion, nay, even persecution of it, soon broke out. As long as Father Cespedes, for whom Hosokawa had always testified great veneration, remained alive, the Christians were not subject to the vexations from which so many, in other daimyates, were already suffering. But, when Father Cespedes died in 1611, Hosokawa suddenly changed. He declared that he no longer wished either Religious, or churches, or Christians in his states. Strangely enough, he even objected to the burial of Father Cespedes at Kokura. Neither Hosokawa's mother, nor his children shared, however, this spirit of intolerance. Mary, his mother, even constituted herself the protectress of the Christians. Tadatoshi, the eldest son of Hosokawa, whose residence was at Nakatsu, offered the Religious every facility for visiting the Christians of this locality. He would even have permitted them to reside there, if the orders of his father had not been imperative. The eldest daughter of Hosokawa did the same at Usuki (Bungo), where she had been married to Inaba Kazumichi. She died there in 1615, at the age of twenty-seven. As to the second daughter of Hosokawa, who had been married to the Kuge Karasumaru Mitsukata, it is not known if, after the example of her elder sister, she persevered to the end in the Christian faith; the annals of the Hosokawa family only indicate that she died at the age of sixty-one.

After having banished the Religious and destroyed the churches, Hosokawa proceeded to exile the Christians from his domains. Kagayama Hayato, the most fervent among them, and at the same time one of the principal *kerai* of Hosokawa, escaped at first this cruel fate, thanks to the high position he occupied. Charged with the task of supervising the works that Hosokawa had to execute at the castle of Yedo, Kagayama, continually in touch with the Shogun Hidetada, had declared to the latter that this Christian faith was dearer to him than all earthly goods. Agatha his wife, his daughter, his son-in-law Ogasawara Yosaburo who had remained in Bungo; Louisa his sister and her husband Ichi-no-Kami, governor of the residence of the Hosokawa at Nagasaki, all wrote to Kagayama that they shared his religious sentiments, and were ready to die sooner than abandon the faith. In fact, they kept it to the end.

Shimazu had also allowed himself to be intimidated by Ieyasu; he banished from his domains the Dominicans, whom he himself had invited some years before. He exiled besides Diego Konishi, son of James Wakasa, and several Christians whose presence in his states might have led Ieyasu to suspect him, or rather would have made him an object of suspicion to the numerous bonzes, whom Ieyasu kept as spies near the *daimyo* of Kagoshima. On the other hand his son Iehisa protected the Christians.

James Chujiro, the lord of Eguchi and a relative of the *daimyo*, even went so far as to conceal the Religious in his house and exhorted the Christians to perseverance.

Finally, just at the moment when the Church of Japan had most need of solid support, death came to carry off Ito Mancio, chief of the Embassy formerly sent to Gregory XIII. Having joined the Society of Jesus, after his return to Japan, Mancio persevered in it till his death, which came at the age of forty-three (1611).

With him diasppeared still another Christian *daimyo* family; that of the Ito; for, from this moment, the annals speak no more of the representatives of this family, who must have apostatized like so many others.

(28) He was confided to the care of Torii Naritsugu, *daimyo* of Yamura (Kai).

(29) Pagès, p. 208, 209.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A SOCIAL CABLE CODE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you permit me, through your columns, to inform the large number of private persons who wish to communicate with friends at home or elsewhere over-sea that the Directors of the Associated Eastern Telegraph Companies are now able to place the occassional sender of social or domestic telegrams, to a great extent, on an equality with regular senders, who by means of special Codes can and do transmit their telegrams at an actual cost of about a twentieth of what would be the charge for the number of plain words sent, if uncoded.

My Directors have felt for some time past that in this respect private senders suffer under some grievance. It frequently happens that at some crisis, when they may wish to telegraph, they or their friends have no agreed Code, and that the amount which they have to pay for an uncoded message, presses heavily on them.

I may, perhaps, mention that I drew attention to this matter in a speech made to the Shareholders of the Eastern Telegraph Company, on the 17th July, 1901. The arrangements have necessarily occupied some considerable time, but my Companies have now arranged, through Mr. R.T. Atkinson, of Salisbury House, London Wall, London, E. C., to bring out a Social Code, a copy of which will be placed in each of the Offices of the Associated Companies, in towns at home and abroad in which they are permitted to deal directly wlth the public, and the Officers of the Companies have been instructed to afford the senders and receivers assistance in coding and decoding their telegrams.

I would also point out that at all Stations where the Associated Companies come into direct contact with the public, receivers of telegrams are able to register their names and addresses free of charge, and that to take full advantage of the new Code, this should be done, as the address is often an expensive part of a cablegram.

It may be hoped that as time goes on, the Governments at home, in India and in our Colonies, will afford similar facilities at their principal Offices, but pending this, I may point out that the sender of a message could usually telegraph it by the ordinary landline to some friend in a town in which the Associated Companies have an Office, and his friend could there code it at the Office of the Company.

I think when the new system comes to be understood private senders of messages will be able to telegraph to Great Britain at a rate of about 1s. 6d. per word, when their message is coded, and a public want will be met.

I am, sir, your obedient Servant.

I. WOLFE BARRY.

Electra House, Moorgate,
London, E. C., November 28th, 1902.

A QUESTION OF COURTESY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In an estimable publication widely circulated in this empire I find the following:—

被 { 私ハ舊教徒デ有リマス
　 { 私ハ新教徒デアリマス

A. { アイアムエ ローマ ンカスト I am a Romanist
　 { アイアムエ プロテスタン I am a Protestant

Q. Is this polite?

A. These people call their Church Roman Catholic, and in conversation shorten it to Catholic. It is not polite to nickname them.

Q. Is this true?

A. The Roman Church does not include all the Kyu Kyo 舊教 There is the Holy Orthodox 正教 and the 聖公會 The translation is incomplete.

Even those people who are willing to be called Protestants object to the new definitions in 1870 A.D. and 1854 A.D. of the Roman See, more strongly than to anything that is old. "The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch." There are two large and growing bodies of the followers of our Lord who refuse any names but that of "Disciples" or "Christians," appealing to the most primitive antiquity.

Are they Shin Kyo (新教)? They are very active and successful *pro tempore*. Let them speak out and tell us where they stand.

However, the answer printed above may clear the air a little, for I have found in sounding the mind of the masses that they believe that the Kyu Kyo follow the New Testament. There is something to be said for this view also, but I spare you.

CHAN-CHAN-BOZU.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Apropos your leader in the *Japan Mail* of the 10th instant, entitled "The Dardanelles Question," you express the opinion that this question, "is likely to drive another nail in the coffin of Anglo-German friendship." With your kind permission I should like to say that notwithstanding your obvious endeavour to be fair to both sides—something myself and others have observed with no little satisfaction whenever you wrote on this subject—you seem to leave one very important factor unnoticed, namely the English press. With a few notable exceptions the tone of the English press is extremely bitter towards Germany. True, it had good cause to object and resent the very unfriendly attitude of a large portion of the German press during the South African war. But has not the English press been paying that back with compound interest during the past two years or more? Now in order to understand the Dardanelles question, the attitude of the press, in connection with the Venezueia affair cannot be passed unnoticed. When it became known that Germany and Great Britain had agreed upon joint action against Venezuela, the news was indeed very favourably received by the German press—allowing for a few exceptions as usual—and the joint action, it seemed, might possibly be the means of re-establishing again a more friendly relation between these two great nations. I need not tell you how the English press has been treating this "Joint action" affair; how unkind some of the leading papers criticised their own Government for having come to an agreement with Germany in this matter, and how offensive the tone of the press has been toward Germany in the midst of their joint action in Venezuela. It might be difficult to find a parallel. In Germany all this has been carefully noted and many of the offensive paragraphs have been reproduced. It has created deep resentment and some of

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the papers who at first approved the joint-action-agreement now regret it. Some of the latest papers from Germany say that one must suppose that the English press voices public opinion in England, and the British Government must allow itself to be largely guided by public opinion; with the best intentions it would not be possible for the Government to withstand the pressure very long. They consequently conclude, that in consequence of this unfriendly sentiment Germany could not safely rely upon British support in case vital interests were at stake. In view of this Venezuela experience, is it so very surprising if Germany declines to "join" in the Dardanelles affair? If she did she would, of course, offend Russia with no assurance that she could in turn depend on Great Britain in case of need. The whole thing is most regrettable, for these two splendid nations ought to join hands. As an outsider who is in the position, however, to read both sides, and who entertains the highest regard for both countries, your correspondent is of opinion that the press of both nations has furnished its full share of material, boards and nails, for the "coffin of Anglo-German friendship."

Yours truly, AMERICAN.

Tokyo, January 12, 1903.

FOREIGN POPULATION OF YOKOHAMA.

The Police Department of Kanagawa Prefecture has compiled a census of the foreign population of Yokohama, classified according to the different nationalities, as follows:—

	Male.	Female.
British	676	413
Americans	331	196
Germans	205	65
French	108	47
Russians	14	8
Italians	17	5
Portuguese	53	36
Dutch	26	21
Belgians	8	1
Danes	21	5
Swiss	54	28
Austro-Hungarians	29	9
Swedes and Norwegians	19	4
Spaniards	27	3
Greeks	2	—
Turks	7	3
Peruvians	2	—
Chilians	1	—
Afghans	1	—
Koreans	1	—
Chinese	2,800	1,000
No Nationality	1	—
	4,403	1,844

LADIES BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

COMMITTEE.

President Mrs. Eldridge, Vice-President Mrs. Dodds, Hon. Treasurer Mrs. Baker, Hon. Secretary, Mrs. F. S. James, Managers Mrs. Bonar, Mrs. Abegg, Mrs. Merriman, Mrs. Gielen, Mrs. Isaacs, Mrs. Field, Hon. Secretary, Tokio, Mrs. Wood.

Your Committee lay before you with much pleasure the 30th Annual Report of this Association. The amount of money received during the year 1902, including the balances brought forward from 1901, is *yen* 4,026.32. The amount expended in relieving cases of necessity was *yen* 2,489.41, which leaves a balance of *yen* 1,536.91 to be carried forward. Although this balance may seem large, still in a cosmopolitan community such as this is, in which constant changes occur and where all in want, irrespective of creed or nationality, are helped, large and sudden calls may at any time be made upon the funds of the Association, and Members are therefore earnestly solicited to increase if possible their subscriptions. All donations will be most gratefully received. All cases requiring assistance are thoroughly investigatsd by Members of the Committee and help is then accorded to the extent thought necessary. The sincere thanks of the Ladies' Benevolent Accociation are tendered to all kind friends who have sent donations, and to the King's Daughters' Circle for their annual contribution towards the maintenance of a destitute sick woman at the General Hospital; also to the Editor of the *Japan Herald* for printing last year's Report at a reduced rate. Contributions of clothing will be thankfully received by the President. An account of the work done by the Ladies' Benevolent Association during the past year will be seen by the Hon. Treasurer's Report on the next page.

I. A. JAMES, Hon. Secretary.

Yokohama, January 17th, 1903.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1902.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

DR.	Yen.	
Paid to General Hospital, account bedridden woman for one year	580.00	
Paid to General Hospital, on account American woman	22.50	
Paid board for one year for a deserted European child	141.50	
Paid schooling for one year for a European child	93.49	
Paid to assist an American woman	20.00	
Paid to assist poor Swede	25.01	
Paid to assist poor American woman	37.90	
Paid to assist poor Englishman for one year.	240.00	
Paid to assist poor German	105.00	
Paid to assist a poor Englishman	35.00	
Paid board for one year for deserted French child	123.00	
Paid to assist poor sick Chinese woman	24.00	
Paid part passage of Portuguese to Honolulu	80.00	
Paid to assist an English girl	10.50	
Paid 2nd class passage for sick American woman to Vancouver	291.65	
Paid to assist poor American woman	30.00	
Paid Schooling for three poor English girls.	18.00	
Paid passage for Swiss subject to San Francisco	164.85	
Paid printing, postage and stationary	23.30	
Disbursements for year 1902 out of A. T. account	423.71	
		2,489.41
To Balance of Society's Funds Represented by Balance at Bank	1,475.07	
Cash in hand	6.34	
Payment in advance for January 1903 to General Hospital	55.50	1,536.91
		4,025.32

CR.	Yen.	
By balance amount of deposit account A. T.		531.43
Brought forward from 1901		1,320.82
Received in subscriptions 1902		1,557.80
Received in donations 1902		511.00
Interest on Current Account to 30th June, 1902	58.85	
Interest on Current Account to 31st December, 1902	64.52	105.27
		4,026.32
By balance Society's funds		1,536.91

LADIES' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION "G" FUND.

DR.	Yen.	
To 11 monthly payments of *yen* 16 each		160.00
Balance		3,838.88
		3,998.88

CR.	Yen.	
Balance Fund received 6th March, 1902	3,942.73	
Less Legal expenses	100.00	
		3,842.73
Interest to 30th June at 5 per cent. p/a		60.38
Interest to 31st December		95.77
		3,998.88
By balance L.B.A. "G" Fund		3,838.88

ALICE BAKER, Hon. Treasurer.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

GERMANY & THE DARDANELLES.

London, January 8.

It is stated in Berlin that Germany recently informed Russia that she does not participate in any British representations regarding the Dardanelles question, wherein she is not concerned. It is rumoured that this action followed an enquiry addressed to her by Great Britain. The newspapers resent this, especially in view of the co-operation of the two Powers in Venezuela.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Representative meetings of the Dutch, the first held in Pretoria since the war, have discussed the addresses to be presented to Mr. Chamberlain. Botha and Schalkburger deprecated any acrimonious tone in the discussion and pleaded conciliation and urged the necessity of strengthening the hands of the new government.

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

London, January 9.

The Tsar's representative to the Korean jubilee celebration conveys an invitation to the Crown Prince to visit the Russian Court.

THE DARDANELLES.

It is believed that Austria and Italy will follow the example of Britain on the question of warships passing the Dardanelles, but that Germany and France will hold aloof.

TRADE RETURNS.

British trade returns for 1902 show that the imports had increased in value by seventy millions sterling and the exports by three and a half millions as compared with 1901.

THE NEW PRIMATE.

Later.

The Bishop of Winchester has been appointed to the See of Canterbury.

SOMALILAND.

Bluejackets from the *Perseus* and *Pomona*, with the Punjab Mounted Infantry and African Rifles, are constructing a landing stage and forts at Obbiat.

[The remainder of this message has had to be omitted owing to the inefficient working of the telephone.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE BRITISH COURT.

London, January 9.

King Edward and Queen Alexandra will cruise in the Mediterranean early in March, on board the Royal Yacht *Victoria and Albert*.

London, January 10.

Mr. Chamberlain, replying to an address presented by the Boer leaders, said that he would have been pleased had it contained besides demands some recognition of what the British Government had already done. The exiled burghers would not be allowed to return unless they accepted the terms of peace. As to the burghers in Europe they should prove their loyalty by accounting for the money which they had taken to Europe.

A STRANGE RUMOUR.

Later.

All the Bourses were affected by an extraordinary rumour of attempts on the lives of Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Milner at Johannesburg, but subsequently recovered on official denials that there was serious illness, but it also depressed South Africans.

(This telegram is obscure.—ED. *J.M.*)

VENEZUELA.

It seems probable that the arbitration of the Venezuela question before The Hague Tribunal will be abandoned and the dispute settled by a conference held at Washington.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

London, January 11.

General Botha, giving an account of the Boer Generals' European Mission, at a meeting of Boers held in Pretoria, stated that the Mission yielded a hundred thousand pounds. Mr. Chamberlain in the course of his reply to the Boer address on Thursday contrasted this with the amount which the British Government is devoting to the Boers, and which, when the war claims, repatriation expenses and compensations are paid will range between ten and fifteen million pounds.

RECALL OF A GERMAN AMBASSADOR.

Later.

Dr. Holleben, German Ambassador to Washington, has suddenly applied for sick leave. It is generally assumed that he has been recalled, presumably for supposed want

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of tact. Baron Sternburg, ex-Consul-General at Calcutta, who is a *persona grata* of President Roosevelt's, has been appointed *Chargé d'Affaires*, and it is believed that he will be Dr. Holleben's successor.

MOROCCO,

The Moorish Pretender has resumed the offensive.

ATTACK ON THE KING OF SPAIN.

London, January 12.

While the King of Spain was returning from church on Saturday evening, in Madrid, a man fired a revolver at the second carriage in the cortège. No one was injured. The man was a Spaniard named Sento. He was reported to be insane. He has declared that he wanted to kill the Grand Chamberlain not the King.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Marconi's system of wireless telegraphy, between Europe and America, will probably be opened to the public on the 20th of this month.

VENEZUELA.

London, January 13.

Mr. Bowen, United States Minister to Venezuela, has sailed for Washington.

THE BOER LEADERS.

The Boer leaders, after hearing Mr. Chamberlain's speech, advised their followers to accept the situation and not to make useless demands but to cooperate with the Government.

THE DARDANELLES.

The Government of Turkey has not yet replied to the British protest regarding the passage of the Dardanelles by Russian torpedo-boat destroyers.

MOROCCO.

The missionary ladies at Fez have retired to Tangier. The latest news from Fez foreshadows serious developments. The pretender is reported to have awakened from his lethargy and to be marching on the town of Fez. He is summoning his followers from the surrounding tribes.

DR. VON HOLLEBEN.

Dr. von Holleben has departed from Washington without bidding farewell to the President.

THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER.

London, January 14.

The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour is confined to his house by a feverish cold.

THE BALKANS.

The *Novoe Vremya* states that Austria and Russia have agreed to demand reforms in Macedonia, including the establishment of financial control over the collection of taxes, the payment of officials and troops, and the control of the gendarmerie by the appointment of Belgian, Dutch and Swiss officers.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S MISSION.

London, January 14.

The discussions between Mr. Chamberlain and the leading men in Johannesburg promise to have a successful issue.

It is generally stated that the Imperial Government have guaranteed loans for reproductive works amounting to thirty million pounds sterling, the Transvaal's war contribution for the same purpose being of a similar amount spread over three years.

MR. BALFOUR.

A slight rise in Mr. Balfour's temperature necessitates his confinement to bed.

SOUTH AFRICA.

London, January 15.

Mr. Chamberlain and the leaders of the mining community have agreed upon a contribution of thirty millions. Furthermore the mining industry gives a guarantee for the Imperial loan of thirty millions for reproductive works in the Transvaal and Orangia.

COAL FAMINE IN AMERICA.

Later.

The coal famine in America is causing severe distress. Several towns of Illinois have forcibly seized carloads of coal passing through. Numerous deaths from freezing are reported.

RUSSIA ON THE AMUR.

It is reported that a Russian flotilla of 25 vessels has been formed to protect the navigation of the Amur and Ussuri against Chinese pirates; to watch the Manchurian bank of the river, and to effect speedy mobilization in the event of war.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, January 9.

It is announced from Madrid that Sagasta is dead.

A telegram from Washington says that the German, English and Italian ships continue the blockade of the Venezuelan coasts. It is affirmed that Germany and Great Britain are favourable to a conference with a view to arbitration.

VENEZUELA.

Saigon, January 11.

Venezuela has accepted the proposals of the Powers.

MOROCCO.

Bou Hamara has resumed the offensive against Fez. He has re-established his camp at Ehlillas (?) 20 kilometres from Fez.

ATTACK ON THE KING OF SPAIN.

It is telegraphed from Madrid that a man named Teito fired a shot from a pistol at a member of the royal cortège when returning from church. No one was hit. Teito was arrested. He is a demented person with homicidal mania.

SIAM.

Bangkok, December 12.

The Japanese Consul in Bangkok reports that on the 4th of December Mr. Nicholson, Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Singapore, and on the 9th of the same month Mr. Fraser, Manager of the Chartered Bank in Singapore, arrived in Bangkok and immediately held a conference with their colleagues on the subject of Siam's adoption of the gold standard, the result being that they agreed to undertake the business of exchange at once, selling sovereigns for 20 ticals and buying them for 19 ticals 16 atts. They declined, however, to withdraw their demand for compensation on the part of the Siamese Government. Otherwise, however, the Government has succeeded at every point.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

GOLD STANDARD IN SIAM.

With regard to the adoption of the gold standard by Siam, there is almost a panic among the banks. The managers of the branches of the three principal banks have presented to the Government heavy demands for losses resulting from the change, and are urging the various foreign Representatives to make a diplomatic question of the matter. Some of the Representatives have sought instructions from their Governments, but the result is not yet known. Several conferences have taken place between the bankers and the financial officials, and it has been agreed that the opinions of banks' head offices shall be sought on the subject of the Governments' proposal to change the proposed rate of exchange temporarily from 17 ticals per £1 to 20 ticals. Great depression of trade has been caused by these incidents.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

WINTRY WEATHER.

Chemulpo, January 8.

The steamer *Keiho* arrived here last night from Chemulpo. The Daido-ko being now ice-bound, the route to Chemulpo is closed.

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, January 8.

The three interested Powers have proposed to the United States that the blockade be raised on condition that Venezuela gives preliminary assurances of good-faith.

Friendly relations, however, are not likely to be resumed in the near future.

MOROCCO.

The French and Spanish press are espousing the cause of the insurgents, while the English press favours the young Sultan.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE.

His Highness the Crown Prince Wilhelm is to start on a trip to Russia lasting from the 17th to the 22nd. He is said to be about to contract marriage with Princess Alice, daughter of the late Duke of Albany, and sister of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha.

THE INDIAN DURBAR.

Delhi, January 7.

A grand ball was given in the old Mogul palace last night, bringing the Durbar celebrations to a close. General Oku and his suite will start for Peshawur on the 11th inst.

THE DARDANELLES AFFAIR.

London, January 7.

Many English newspapers are denouncing Lord Lansdowne for his inactivity, including the London *Times*, anent the passing of the Dardanelles by Russian men-of-war. Germany is taking an attitude of neutrality and German papers compare this act of Russia with the English actions in Persia and think that Germany is beyond the sphere of influence in either case.

VENEZUELA.

President Castro declares that he has won a victory at Guateel (?). Italy is participating in the blockade of the coast.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

Peking, January 8.

The Manchuria correspondent of the *Novoe Vremya* scouts the notion that the Russian army is evacuating Manchuria and says that Russia is planting herself there on a firmer basis than before.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN SOMALILAND.

The Somaliland expedition is advancing with wireless telegraphic apparatus.

INCREASE OF SALARY.

Yung Lu and others have proposed an increase of salaries for Government officials, which is being considered.

TAKING OVER TELEGRAPHS.

As to the taking over of the telegraphs by the Government, the Tsung-li Yamen is at a loss. An Imperial Edict, however, has been already issued to the effect and it must somehow be executed, with due consideration to the interests of all parties. It is now being considered seriously.

DEATH OF LORD PIRBRIGHT.

London, January 9.

Lord Pirbright is dead.

[*Who's Who* says:—Pirbright, 1st Baron (*cr.* 1895). Rt. Hon. Henry de Worms, P.C., D.L., J.P., F.R.S.; Commissioner for the Patriotic Fund; *b.* 1840; Baron of Austrian Empire, The Lodge, Egham, *m.* Henrietta, *d.* of Samuel Moses Samuel, London; *m.* 2nd, Sarah, *d.* of Sir Benjamin Samuel Philips, 1887. *Educ.*: King's Coll. London (Fellow 1863). Barr. Inner Temple, 1863; M.P. (C.) Greenwich, 1880-85; Liverpool (E. Toxteth), 1885-95;

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Parliamentary Secretary to Board for Trade, 1885-86, 188 -88-88; Under-Secretary for Colonies, 1888-92; British Plenipotentiary and President of Conference on Sugar Bounties, 1888. *Publication*: England's Policy in the East; The Earth and its Mechanism; The Anglo-Hungarian Empire; Memoirs of Count Beust, etc. *Heir*: none.]

VENEZUELA.

Venezuela has at last accepted the conditions imposed by the Powers. Minister Bowen will start for Washington to-morrow. The blockade of the coast line yet continues.

THE DELHI DURBAR.

London, January 10.

The Coronation at Delhi is now ended. General Kitchener inspected 30,000 soldiers at the grand military review.

VENEZUELA.

The Venezuela affair will be decided at Washington, and not at the Hague Arbitration Court. President Castro has delegated to the American Minister, Mr. Bowen, full powers of settlement.

SPANISH KING SHOT AT.

London, January 11.

On his way home to the Palace, Madrid, the King was shot at by a Nihilist with a revolver. The shot failed, however, to hit any one and was embedded in the carriage of the Lord Chamberlain. The man was immediately arrested.

GERMAN BUDGET.

The extraordinary expenses in the German budget are due to a national loan which amounts to £11,000,000.

MOROCCO.

A regular siege has been resumed around Fez, the insurgent camps are about 20 kilometres from Fez.

DISASTER IN NANKING.

Shanghai, January 12.

A part of the river bank of Nanking has broken down, causing 200 deaths. A godown belonging to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire was swept away. The godown contained 50,000 taels worth of goods.

THE SPANISH OUTRAGE.

London, January 12.

The name of the man who fired at the Royal cortège is said to be Feeto (?). He is considered to be a madman. He was prevented from firing a second shot by the policeman in attendance.

MOROCCO.

The defeated Sultan is now retreating to Labat. The Powers are negotiating for intervention.

EAST AFRICA.

A battle is threatening in Somaliland.

(FROM THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

London, January 8.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that M. Waeber, the Russian Minister at Seoul, has been instructed to induce the Korean Government to send the Crown Prince and a large suite to visit the Tsar; secondly, to prevail on the Korean Government to appoint M. Alexieff as the Emperor's chief adviser; and, thirdly, to secure the erection of a telegraph line through northern Korea, connecting with the Russian system.

THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

London, Jan. 9.

The *New York Post* states on unquestionable authority that Mr. Hay, the U. S. Secretary of State, has made a strong declaration in support of China's contention that 400 million Haikwan taels is all she can pay without serious financial difficulties.

The United States, says the *Post*, intends to accept payment on that basis.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

London, January 12.

The French Budget Committee reports that it is unnecessary to raise a loan of forty-four million francs, and recommends reducing the expenditure by thirty-seven and a half millions and increasing the estimated receipts by twenty-two and a half millions.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Robinson, President of the South African Bank, has declared it to be a serious delusion for the Imperial Government to imagine that it can govern any portion of South Africa from London.

RUSSIA'S VOLUNTEER FLEET.

London, January 13.

The Odessa correspondent of the *Times*, referring to the detention in the Black Sea for nearly a year of four of the largest and fastest of the Volunteer Fleet of cruisers, states that the Volunteer Fleet authorities recently entered into negotiations with a foreign shipping concern with a view to placing the vessels on a foreign line.

The negotiations have now been abruptly broken off, and the names of the vessels appear in the list of sailings for the Far East published yesterday.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 1	F. Jan. 16
Seattle, Wash.	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru 2	F. Jan. 16
Hongkong	P. M. Co	China 3	Sa. Jan. 17
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Darmstadt 4	Sa. Jan. 17
Europe	M. M. Co	Salazie 5	W Jan 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of China 6	Th. Jan. 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 7	Th. Jan. 22
Hongkong	O. & O. Co	Doric	M. Jan. 26
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Tu. Jan. 27
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	W. Jan. 28
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 8	Th. Jan. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Feb. 2
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	Su. Feb. 8
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of Japan	M Feb. 9

1 Left San Francisco on the 17th ult.
2 Left Seattle, Wash. on the 30th ult.
3 Left Nagasaki on the 14th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 15th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst.
6 Left Hongkong on the 14th inst.
7 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.
8 Left San Francisco on the 10th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa Jan. 17
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	Sa. Jan. 17
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. Jan. 17
America	P. M. Co.	China	Tu Jan. 20
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th Jan. 22
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of China	F. Jan. 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	F. Jan 23
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Darmstadt	Sa. Jan. 24
Europe, Vc.	N. Y. K.	Tamba Maru	Sa. Jan. 24
Seattle, Wash.	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru	Tu. Jan. 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W Jan 28
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Olympia	W. Jan 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th Jan 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa Jan. 31
America	T. K. K	Nippon Maru	W. Feb. 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	M Feb. 9
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	M Feb. 10

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ningchow, British steamer, 4,879, James Riley, 9th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 8th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 9th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Harry Mowatt, 10th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tremont, American steamer, 5,195, T. W. Garlick, 10th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 9th Jan., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 10th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 3rd Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 11th Jan.,—Kobe, 9th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Hugo, British steamer, 2,290, Stabb, 11th Jan., —Norfolk, Va. via Suez Canal, Coal.—Captain.

Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, Purrington, 11th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., and Dutch Harbour, 4th Dec., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Carlo VI. (11 guns). Austrian cruiser, 6,250, Captain Dredger, 11th Jan.,—Kobe.

Tydeus, British steamer, 4,800, M. H. F. Jackson, 12th Jan.,—Yokosuka, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 12th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 11th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 12th Jan.,—Vancouver, B.C., 29th Dec., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,593, S. Nagata, 12th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Argo, Norwegian steamer, 878, W. Melberg, 12th Jan.,—Shanghai, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Shawmut, American steamer, 6,195, Wm. Smith, 13th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 24th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, C. H. Burch, 13th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 11th Jan., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, R. A. Peters, 13th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 12th Jan., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,093, Remes, 13th Jan., —Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 12th Jan., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 458, S. Kawano, 13th Jan.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 14th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 12th Jan., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Indradeo, British steamer, 3,457, Wm. Easterbrook, 14th Jan.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 12th Jan., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Herbert W. Bee, 15th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 13th Jan., General.—Cornes & Co.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. S. Cox, 15th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 25th Dec., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4,148, H. L. Allen, 9th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Prinzess Irene, German steamer, 6,686, G. Dannemann, 10th Jan.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,870, F. Davies, 10th Jan.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 10th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Harry Mowatt, 10th Jan.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Tremont, American steamer, 6,195, T. W. Garlich, 10th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 12th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Ningchow, British steamer, 4,879, James Riley, 12th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Tydeus, British steamer, 4,800, M. H. F. Jackson, 13th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shantung, British steamer, 1,835, I. Quail, 13th Jan., —Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Butteroeld & Swire.

Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, Purrington, 14th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 14th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer 2,035, J. Nagao, 14th Jan.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 15th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shawmut, American steamer, 6,195, Wm. Smith, 15th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 8th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 8th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, I. Shimidzu, 9th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, Y. Tamuke, 9th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 10th Jan.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 10th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, M. J. Curnow, 10th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 11th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 13th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 13th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, J. Noma, 14th Jan.,—Yokkaichi via Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 14th Jan.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 14th Jan.,—Moji and Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nakajima, 15th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports :—Com. Barry, U.S.N., Major L. F. Griffith, U.S.A., Mr. W. M. Finley, Mr. W. Anderson, Mr. B. C. Moseley, Mr. McEnenay. Mr. C. Zapowski, Mr. C. McClary, Mr. H. E. Price, Mr. P. Lukzer, Mr. Chee Hang, and Mr. Chin Fa, in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mrs. E. Harrison, Mr. Paul Taylor Brown, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr. R. E. Lewis, Mrs. R. E. Lewis, Mr. Brackett Lewis, Mr. Neil Lewis, Bishop Galloway, Mr. Chin Jue, Mr. F. F. Morris, Mr. Lee Toma, Dr. Wright, Mr. W. Courtney, Miss R. J. Dothard, Mr. H. H. Mantell, Miss L. Moon, Mr. H. M. Ayres, Mrs. Galloway, Mr. B. Fletcher, Mr. F. H. Socorca, Mr. H. C. McCleer, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Morning, Mr. Philip Lewis, Mr. C. E. Gachers, Miss Marian Lewis, Miss Alice Lewis, Mr. J. Fotheringham, Mr. Fang Chong, and Mr. H. Johns, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Satkio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. Neil, Miss C. B. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Coningham, Miss Coningham, Mrs. Neil, Master Neil, Mr. and Mrs. Kenmure and child, and Mr. Fukuchi, in cabin ; Mr. E. Little, Mrs. Sum-Lie, Mrs. Chang-See, Mr. A. Dorffer, and Mr. Nojiri, in second class ; 14 Japanese, 36 Chinese, and 1 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. K. Katsube, Mr. G. Kinoshita, Mr. T. Fujita, Mr. C. H. Thorn, Mr. J. L. Kimmins, Mr. S. Yokoyama, Mr. I. Yatsui, and 1 Chinese, in cabin ; Mr. N. Takaoka, Mr. Y. Tsutsumi, Mr. D. Inouye, Mr. Chan Mak Am, Mr. Ma Saw Fing, and 2 Chinese, in second class ; 10 Japanese, and 4 Chinese, in steerage. In Transit :—Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Shanks and 3 children, and Mr. Reading, in cabin ; 31 Japanese, 46 Chinese, and 1 European, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. W. Araki, Mr. S. Anderson, Mr. R. L. Billings, Rev. F. A. Cassidy, Mrs. Cassidy, Miss Cassidy, Miss Jessie Cassidy, Mr. D. A. Cameron, Mr. R. Hargraves, Mrs. Hargraves, Mr. L. J. Healing, Mr. M. H. Hay, Mr. Wm. Hutchinson, Mr. J. Haney, Mrs. Haney, Miss Haney, Miss Haney, Mr. W. M. Jamieson, Mr. H. C. Knowelon, Mr. K. Kinomi, Mr. E. Mast, Mrs. Mast, Mr. E. Mast, Jr., Mr. F. H. Page, Major Pereria, Mr. John Shearer, Jr., Mr. J. Shimidzu, and Mrs. Agnes P. White, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, from Marseilles via ports :—Mr. R. P. Montague, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Prinzess Irene*, for Europe via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. Fawkner, Mr. E. L. van Nierop, Mr. A. L. Lock, Mr. R. Ehlers, Mr. W. Grautoff, Mr. Bobsien and native servant, Mr. P. Schramm, Mr. J. T. Hamilton and native servant, Mr. Cheng Hen Cho and native servant, Mr. Hart Buck, Mr. A. S. Anton, Mr. C. A. Petley, Mr. Elliot Snow, Mr. G. Weinmann, Mr. and Mrs. Ludwig Urban, Dr. Lewin, Mr. and Mrs. Matwejeff, Mr. J. C. Parker, Mr. J. Schorghuter, Mr. T. Kamiya, Mr. Fritz Mueller, Rev. and Mrs. W. Andrews, Miss Andrews, Master N. Nettleship, Mrs. Christine Schwanck, and Mr. I. Kompolthy, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. H. M. Ayres, Mr. I. Asaoka and servant, Dr. Borzine, Mr. P. Taylor Brown, Mr. H. Burnham, Mr. Carr-Gomm, Mrs. Carr-Gomm, Mr. M. C. Carr-Gomm, Mr. W. Courtney, Mr. J. H. Craven, Miss I. Alice Dewar, Mr. J. Fotheringham, Mr. C. E. Gaches, Bishop C. H. Galloway, Mrs. C. B. Galloway, Mrs. Harrison, Dr. O. Ikeda, Mr. A. Israel, Mr. R. E. Lewis, Mrs. R. E. Lewis and maid, Miss Alice Lewis, Master Brackett Lewis, Miss Mariam Lewis, Master Neil Lewis, Master Philip Lewis, Mr. H. C. McCleer, Mrs. S. Michaels, Mr. C. A. Moering, Mrs. C. A. Moering, Mrs. H. H. Montell, Miss L. Moon, Mr. N. Niki, Mr. Edward Regout, Mr. Karl Schutze, Mr. Lee Toma, Mr. W. B. Vanderlip, Mrs. W. B. Vanderlip, Dr. C. Vering, and Dr. Weight, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Bingo Maru*, for London via ports :—Mr. H. W. Lea, Mr. K. Hida, Mr. S. Nishikori, Mr. and Mrs. J. Mertinho Marques, Mr. N. C. Mallick, Mr. T. Katayama, Mr. N. Yamamoto, Mr. and Mrs. H. Koike, Mr. L. R. Ellson, and Mr. K. Itakura, in cabin ; Mr. and Mrs. T. Yamanouchi, Mr. Wm. Kerr, Mr. Go Wa, Mr. T. Adair, Mr. M. A. R. Nomazier, Mr. T. Yokoyama, Mr. T. Hishita, Mr. Y. Nakajima, Miss T. Urada, Mr. H. Nakayama, and Mr. J. Tawara, in second class ; 15, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Vancouver :—Mrs. A. M. Clay, and Mr. Alex. W. Waters, in cabin ; Mr. F. H. Sargent, Mr. B. Cunningham, Mr. E. J. Drummond, Mr. R. H. Goldberg, Mr. L. Ponillaude, and Mrs. L. Ponillaude and daughter, in second class ; 69 Chinese, and 2 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mr. C. H. Porritt, Mrs. Ritter, Mr. J. W. Ryland, Mr. J. M. Kinseley, Mr. Geo. D. Morgan, and Mr. Hsu Chao and son, in cabin ; 2, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satkio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. Kenmure and child, Mr. Bazes Dropper, Mrs. G. Mills, Mrs. H. Tamenari, Mr. N. Nagaoka, and Mr. H. Muneshige, in cabin ; Mrs. How and 8 children, Mr. S. Ohya, and Mrs. Sawa Landers, in second class ; 43, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Prinzess Irene* :—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen.	Moscow.	Milan.	Marseilles	Trieste.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co..	21	36	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ed. L. van Nierop..	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Longin & Co.	—	51	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.....	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co..	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	—
Dell'Oro & Co. ...	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—
Total.....	137	108	15	—	—	13	45	—
	206				58			

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Vancouver :—

	TEA.					
From.	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong .	1,830	—	—	824	—	2,624
Foochow ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai ...	838	—	—	—	—	838
Kobe	256	8	—	—	—	264
Yokohama..	1,622	—	—	—	—	1,622
Total...	4,516	8	—	824	—	5,348

	SILK.			
From.	New York.	South	Manchester.	Total. Bales.
Hongkong & Canton...	70	.....	—	 70
Shanghai	314	.....	—	 314
Yokohama	628	.....	16	 644
Total	1,012	.....	16	 1,028

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a fair business passing and prices are still firm.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

The market is still quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅜ inch and upward...	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron...	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅛ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

No change to report.

American	$2.72
Russian	2.65
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market continues firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila...	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang...	6.70 to 7.50
White Refined...	8.80 to 10.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Very large business doing of late, but now it seems drooping. Stocks abundant, prices firm. We do not expect to see any serious fall in prices for some time.

QUOTATIONS.		
Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y.	1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—Extra, Fine...		—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse		1,085 to 1,095
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		1,040 to —
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine		1,085 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine...		1,010 to 1,020
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse		—
Common—Coarse		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—No. 1		1,080 to —
Re-reels—No. 1½		1,050 to —
Re-reels—No. 2		1,100 to 1,020
Re-reels—No. 3		980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra		1,020 to 1,035
Kakedas—No. 1		1,005 to 1,010
Kakedas—No. 1½...		970 to 975
Kakedas—No. 2		940 to 945
Kakedas—No. 2½...		900 to 910

WASTE SILK.

Supplies falling short. A few transactions. Prices continue to harden.

QUOTATIONS.	
Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	125 to 130
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

The market is closed.

QUOTATIONS.	
Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

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A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, January 15.

Kirin Breweries sales at *yen* 130. Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sales at *yen* 110. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, buyers at *yen* 70. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 50. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

Raub Mines local buyers at $8.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	110 Sales.
Grand Hotel	250 Sales.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.	50 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	130 Buyers.
C. Nickel & Co.	28.50 Sales.

Telephone No. 328.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 15.

London silver and China sterling quotations remain the same but local rates have further declined $\frac{1}{16}$ all round.

London—Bank T.T.	2 05⅝
— — Bills on demand	2 05⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2 07⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2 13/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/13¼
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	264
— — 6 months' sight	265
Hongkong—Bank sight	77⅛
— Private 10 days' sight	75⅛
Shanghai—Bank sight	93⅜
— Private 10 days' sight	95⅛
India—Bank sight	153¾
— Private 30 days' sight	156⅛
America—Bank sight	50
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
Germany—Bank sight	209½
— Private 4 months' sight	214½
Bar Silver (London)	22 1/16

BOVRIL AT THE FRONT.

Bovril has played such a conspicuous part in South Africa that it forms no inconsiderable feature of the story. The *Lancet* has had frequent references to Bovril in the reports of the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Nearly every newspaper correspondent has had to refer to Bovril to make his story complete Rudyard Kipling and Baden-Powell have written their Bovril stories. Over 500 British hospitals and similar public institutions use and prescribe Bovril, not beef tea, but Bovril.

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August 16th, 1902. 13.

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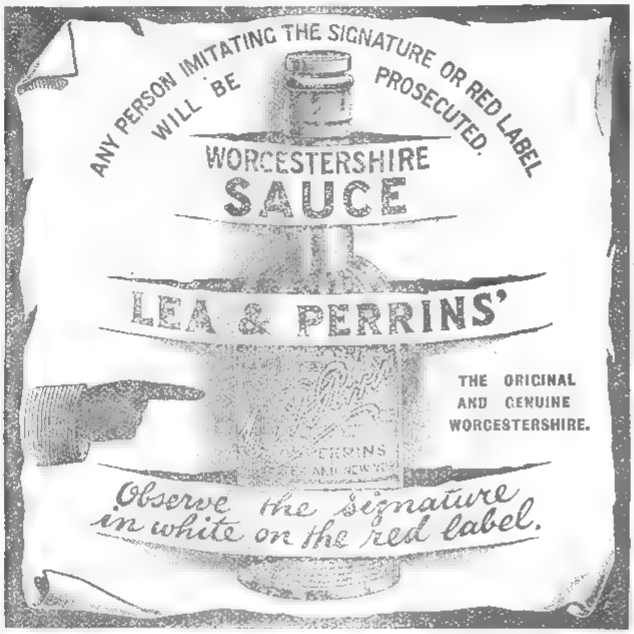

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 1903.

BIRTHS.

At Nagasaki, on the 18th instant, the wife of MARCUS MESS, of a Son.

On Monday, 19th January, the wife of E. B. CLARKE, of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

CHINA New Year's Day this year falls on Thursday, the 29th inst.

THE Crown Princess left Shimbashi for Numazu on the morning of the 18th inst.

THE death is reported at Shanghai of Captain F. F. Carozzi, a well-known mercantile marine officer.

THE Empress has presented 120 rolls of cotton cloth and *yen* 30 to the sick in the Red Cross Hospital.

AN old man named Baba Kyuemon, living at Meikaku-maru Hikigori, Saitama Prefecture, was attacked by a highwayman at Kamei-maru on the afternoon of the 19th inst. The robber got away with *yen* 74.

SEVERAL Japanese shops in Yokohama have been "let in" lately, being paid in counterfeit 50 *sen* silver pieces.

THE funeral of Count Otani Koson, Lord Abbot of the Nishi Hongwanji, will take place on the 7th February.

SIX jail officials and other persons in Nagoya were arrested by the police on the 20th inst. charged with blackmailing.

A VIOLENT shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama on Thursday evening at twenty-four minutes past seven o'clock.

MR. TAGUCHI BEISAKU, the caricaturist, died at his residence, Sakuragawacho, Shiba, Tokyo, early on the morning of the 18th inst.

A MAN named Onoye Isuke, living at Sangamura, Minami Tsugaru-gori, Aomori, murdered his father with an axe on the 15th inst.

MASAKI GENTAOR and a woman named Kofuji committed suicide together at Kita Yokocho, Hiromaye, on the night of the 19th inst.

A TELEGRAM received by the *Asahi* from Saga, dated January 13th, states that an outbreak of cholera occurred at Karatsu and six cases were fatal.

ANOTHER cave has been found at Byobuga-ura, Isogo, Yokohama. The excavators have found many ancient quartz balls, pottery, and pieces of swords.

THE U.S. transport *Sherman* with two-and-a half million gold dollars on board, ran on an uncharted reef on her way to Manila and stove in her bows.

THE German steamer *Hermann Mensell*, which left Hongkong for Karatsu in ballast on the 2nd, put back on the 7th seriously damaged by striking Lamyit Island.

Two bales of raw silk, valued at *yen* 2,100, were stolen from the M. M. steamer *Indus* on her last voyage homewards. The theft was discovered at Marseilles.

THE Emperor presented a set of silver vases to Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, on the 20th inst., in recognition of his eminent services in Formosa.

A WELL-KNOWN actor named Bando Zecho died in a hotel at Hamamatsucho, Tokyo, on the afternoon of the 15th inst. He last played in July at the Yokohama Hagoromo Theatre.

IN honour of the fact that Thursday was the anniversary of the Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King Edward VII., the men-of-war in the harbour dressed ship and saluted.

A *sampan* with over sixty Japanese blue-jackets on board, on her way from Yokosuka to the parade ground, capsized on the 14th inst. One man was drowned but the rest were rescued.

A FISHING boat with eight men belonging to Osada-mura, Abegori, Shizuoka Prefecture, was working at Uranose, Izu, on the night of the 16th inst. when it capsized. Three men were drowned.

YOSHINO UHEIJI, employed in the village office at Tsurujima-mura, Asaguchigori, Okayama prefecture, was arrested by the Isezakicho Police, in a hotel known as the Horaiyu, Kaigandori, Yokohama, on the 17th inst. He stole *yen* 1,000 of official money and induced a woman to come with him to Yokohama. Here he attempted to escape to a foreign country, but was found by the police in time. He had *yen* 686.20 in his purse when arrested.

A THIEF named Inoue Tokutaro, of Shizuoka, was arrested by the Police on the 14th inst. on a charge of having stolen property valued at over *yen* 2,000 belonging to a firm at Honjo, and others.

IT has been decided, said a Tientsin dispatch on Jan. 9th, that Mr. Poulsen's telegraph line between Peking and Tientsin will be bought up by Yuan Shih-kai and Prince Su, for the sum of 120,000 dollars.

A FACTION fight occurred in Uyeno Park the other day, the combatants being incited thereto by the actions of a headman of the local Traders' Guild, who is accused of being short in the Guild's funds.

THE funeral of Chang Chong, a tailor at No. 106 was the occasion of a long procession which passed along Main Street on Thursday headed by a band playing Chopin's Marche Funebre and other appropriate airs.

GOVERNOR TAFT, of the Philippines Commission, has been appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court bench, and his successor on the Commission will be Mr. W. W. Rockhill, at present chief of the Bureau of American Republics.

MRS. TAKAYAMA MITSUKO (62), for many years head nurse in the service of the Red Cross Society, died in Tokyo on the 21st inst. She had received many medals from foreign Governments as well as from the Emperor of Japan.

A MAN named Misaki Kinosuke a cousin of Mr. Misaki Kamenosuke, living with his uncle at Haramachi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, committed suicide with a small sword on the morning of the 15th inst. He is believed to have been insane.

A WOMAN named Harashima Ishii (35) living at Kotamba Nishi Tatagori, Tokyo, was arrested by the Aome police on the 18th inst., and charged with killing her servant, Asai Kume (18), on the 10th inst. She threw the body in the Tamagawa.

A MAN named Inouye Yeitaro, living at Suyeyshicho Nichome, Yokohama, was arrested by police in a house at Yokosuka on the afternoon of the 18th inst. He had broken into several houses of naval officers at Yokosuka since September last, stealing many articles.

AN Indian constable in Hongkong, having quarrelled with a comrade, shot the man just as he was going out on patrol duty, then took to the hills and began "sniping." A strong party of police went in search of the madman but he committed suicide before they could secure him.

AN American named William Wilson is alleged to have stolen some official moneys at Manila and decamped to Japan *viâ* Shanghai. He was last heard of, after leaving the *Shinano Maru* at Nagasaki, as travelling on the Sanyo Railway. The Manila police have asked the Yokohama authorities to detain the man if possible.

AN attempted murder occurred at Fukutomicho, Yokohama, on the night of the 18th inst. A man named Mori Masakichi cut with a kitchen knife his former wife's mother, Takasaki Shun (52), her son Naotaro (23) and her second daughter Mura (19) They were sent to Yokohama Hospital at once. The old women is not expected to recover. The man afterwards committed suicide with the same knife, cutting his throat. The cause of the sad affair was a family quarrel.

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THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNORS.

Friday, Jan. 16.

Public attention is fixed at present on the meeting of local governors in Tokyo, which went into session on the 15th instant. Count Katsura delivered an address. It has not yet been reported in full but its alleged substance is given by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The Prime Minister spoke, in the first instance, of the necessity of introducing financial reforms in the communes and setting some limits to the large and constantly growing expenditures of the localities. Passing, then, to the subject of the general elections which are to take place in March, he expressed the Government's satisfaction with the conduct of the local authorities on the occasion of the general elections last July, and he urged that a strictly fair and neutral attitude should be maintained, free from either indulgence or severity. Alluding to the dissolution of the Diet, he expressed the views of the Government in very strong terms. Japan had gained her present position among the nations by steady adherence to the great policy inaugurated at the Restoration. To keep that position and to still further improve it, the same policy must be unflinchingly followed. It was wholly out of the question that there should be any delay in carrying out the national defences. No statesmen could neglect that responsibility in the presence of the conditions now existing in the Far East, and the plain duty of the nation was to unite to a man for the purpose of satisfying the needs of the time. The Cabinet, recognising its responsibility, had submitted to the Diet a programme providing at once for the defence of the country and for the development of its material resources, two objects which must be pursued simultaneously. But the majority in the House of Representatives, though doubtless they had no intention of checking the nation's progress, and though they necessarily endorsed the country's plainly evinced desire for naval increment, refused, on the one hand, to approve of the Ministry's plan for obtaining the necessary funds, and failed, on the other, to indicate any definite alternative plan. The Government had done everything in its power to avoid collision with the House, but unfortunately its efforts had failed. Doubtless the nation at large understood and appreciated the Cabinet's motives, but the Premier trusted that the local Governors would spare no pains to make the matter clear.

It need scarcely be said that opposition journals find even in the above a basis for violently attacking the Government. The *Hochi Shimbun*, for example, under the double-leaded heading *Hirikken-teki sengen tenka dairan no cho* (unconstitutional manifesto; beginning of national confusion), attacks the Cabinet in the wildest manner on the ground that when the Premier asks the Governors to assist in explaining the Ministry's views to the people, he deliberately undertakes to enlist the services of officials for electioneering purposes. We confess that when we peruse the writings of journals like the *Hochi*, the *Nippon* and so forth at this crisis, we feel doubts as to the peaceful consummation of parliamentary government in Japan. But, after all, the average newspaper in these enlightened days has fallen to the rank of a mere tool for goading public agitation, and happily it has so far over-shot the mark that its potentialities for mischief are becoming more and more limited.

Saturday, Jan. 17.

The text, as now published, of the speech delivered by Count Katsura to the Local Governors on the 16th instant, shows that the precis given in advance by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and translated in these columns, was substantially correct. It shows also that the perturbed outcry raised by certain political agitators with regard to the Government's rumoured intention of interfering in the elections, had no basis of fact and was merely a device to discredit the Ministry. In the eyes of foreign onlookers nothing is more remarkable than the fact that the conservative officials in Japan take no steps to enlist popular sympathy in their favour. It can not be doubted that among the people, especially among the commercial and industrial classes whose interests suffer substantially from the present instability of the administration, there are many who entertain opinions opposed to the immediate establishment of party government. Nothing could be more correct and natural than that these persons should be approached, that they should be placed in exact possession of the Government's views and that they should be invited to send to Tokyo representatives instructed to give effect to their policy. But little if anything of that kind is done. Let the Ministry stretch out even a finger in the direction of the elections and immediately there arises an indignant hubbub from the Opposition and its organs, as though to promulgate the views regarded by the statesmen in power as essential to the nation's welfare were an abuse of official authority and an unpardonable offence. Certainly such intolerance seems strange on the part of politicians advocating party cabinets and professing to take their models from England, for in England the public regard it as essential and reasonable that the party which actually holds the reins of office should appeal to the constituencies with the same degree of vigour as that shown by the party seeking to get them into its hands. There has not yet been any general election during tenure of office by party politicians, but there will be, one of these days, and we shall then be curious to see how the men in power follow the precedents they are now vehemently prescribing for the Ministry of to-day.

Count Katsura took pains to make it quite clear that the Government will unflinchingly maintain its policy of naval expansion and that it considers the completion of the national defences a measure of cardinal importance. His Excellency alluded in brief yet cogent terms to the unbending attitude of the Opposition politicians, to their irrevocable determination not to make any concessions of any kind in the cause of practical harmony, and to the willingenss of the Ministry to meet them half-way on the route to compromise. That, briefly, stated, is the platform on which the Katsura Cabinet takes its stand *coram populo*. The principal planks are sufficiently solid; first, that liberal progress in all directions has been the fundamental policy of *Meiji* government since the beginning; secondly, that to render progress secure, the national defences must be completed; thirdly, that simultaneously with the unproductive effort demanded by the latter aim, productive development must be vigorously encouraged; fourthly, that naval increment is inevitable under the conditions of the era; and, fifthly, that the funds necessary for naval increment shall be provided from a source secure, as far as security is humanly responsible, against financial vicissitudes or political disturbances.

Sunday, Jan. 18.

The meeting of Local Governors is evidently not destined to produce anything very striking. It has been addressed by various Ministers, and has thus become an instrument for making known to the country the views of the Cabinet. The Minister of State for Finance spoke after the Prime Minister. His speech reached to some length, but we can not find that it contained anything new. He gave to his hearers a very clear intimation that the Government is determined to pursue the policy announced to the Diet, namely, to insist on naval expansion, to obtain revenue for the purpose from a source that will be as far as possible independent of vicissitudes, to push all enterprises tending to healthy development of the country's resources, and to introduce reforms wherever there is room for reform in the administrative machinery. All this is already familiar to the public, so that the value of Baron Sone's speech consists in the assurance it affords that the Cabinet does not entertain the intention frequently attributed to it in political circles, namely, the intention of resigning office on the eve of the Diet's next session.

The Minister of State for Home Affairs being too unwell to attend in person, an address from him was read by a secretary. His Excellency dwelt chiefly upon three points, namely the coming elections, the state of local finance and the text-book scandal. As to the elections, he announced the Government's adherence to the policy pursued by it on the last occasion, but without preferring any definite charge he hinted plainly that there had been on the part of some officials a failure to maintain an attitude of strict neutrality, and on the part of some candidates a tendency to resort to corrupt practices. He therefore urged the Governors to exercise the most vigilant supervision with the intention of averting the smallest abuse of official authority. In the matter of local finance Baron Utsumi seemed satisfied that reforms were in successful progress, and with reference to the text-book scandal he confined himself to expressions of regret and warning.

The Minister of State for Education reverted to his previously announced conviction that improvement is essential in the teaching of foreign languages at Middle Schools. We may mention in this context, that Baron Kikuchi recently indicated the particulars of this reform. His Excellency is persuaded that English can not be properly taught except by Englishmen, and that, consequently, the services of the latter must be more largely employed at the Middle Schools. To obtain funds for that purpose, as well as for the purpose of increasing the emoluments of Japanese teachers who are underpaid at present, the Baron proposes to raise the school fees of middle-school students from 1.20 *yen* per month to 2 *yen*. A fund of some dimensions would thus be obtained. Baron Kikuchi did not state the amount, but we observe from recent statistics that the total number of students attending Middle Schools is 68,885, so that, if each paid an additional sum of 80 *sen per mensem*, the resulting fund would be 55,108 *yen* monthly. There are at present —or there were at the time of issue of the last official report, namely, 1899—190 Middle Schools, and at 30 of them foreign teachers are employed; a number which shows a tendency to steady increase, having risen gradually year by year from 12 in 1895 to 30 in 1899. The aggregate sum of 55,108

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yen divided among 190 schools gives 290 *yen* per school, approximately, which would more than suffice for the employment of a foreign teacher of language, independently of the fact that 30 schools are already supplied.

Reverting to Baron Kikuchi's speech at the meeting, we find that he alluded to the reform of the educational system in general as a matter under debate. He also mentioned the question of school buildings, about which there was recently some discussion, certain critics having affirmen that the communes, bound by the rules of the Educational Department, are obliged to erect school buildings of such magnitude that the cost is crippling. The Minister explained that if such incidents had occurred, the fact must be attributed to misconception of the spirit of the rules, which, being based solely on sanitary conditions, might be modified in accordance with the circumstances of the locality. The communal authorities had failed, occasionally, to appreciate the latitude given to them in that respect, but steps had now been taken to better inform them of the elasticity of the rules.

Concerning the text-book scandal, Baron Kikuchi made the interesting announcement that the Government had decided to adopt the system of State compilation in the matter of text-books for elementary schools. With regard to Middle Schools and High Schools there would be no change of system: text-books would have to receive the approval of the Governor of the prefecture and subsequently of the principal of the school adopting them, and it was hoped that these officials would discharge their duty carefully and conscientiously.

MATTERS POLITICAL.

Monday, Jan. 19.

It is alleged that the general Committees of the two parties, at their last meeting, engaged in an animated discussion about the Prime Minister's recommendation to the local governors that they should endeavour to make the Ministry's views clear to the people. The Committees appear to have discovered in these words a plan of official interference in the elections, and they are disposed to denounce the Prime Minister's procedure as unconstitutional It would be an error, probably, to construe the conduct and utterances of party politicians at the present juncture as clear indications of a well-considered policy. The atmosphere is highly charged with electricity, and disturbances result from extremely petty causes. The Committees are understood to admit that the Prime Minister himself would be perfectly justified in stumping the country for the purpose of propagating his views. In short they admit that such a course would be quite legitimate on the part of any member of the administration whose tenure of office depends upon the life of the Cabinet. But they emphatically deny the propriety of a local Governor attempting to make known the Ministry's programme. There is, of course, much to be said in favour of the Committees' contention, though we can not forget in its context that the very men who advance it have shown an unequivocal disposition to regard provincial governorships as offices to which party politicians may conveniently be appointed. But there is all the difference in the world between a local official constituting himself a political propagandist and a local official who, on ordinary and legitimate occasions, endeavours to make clear to the people the views of the administration. In the latter sense an official need not even advocate the views he expounds. He is at liberty to controvert them privately if he pleases. But truly we fail to see why, in the interests of good order and political education, he should not endeavour to promote an intelligent perception of the principles underlying the Ministry's procedure.

Tuesday, Jan. 20.

From an interview granted by Marquis Ito to a representative of the *Chuo Shimbun* the fact is plainly established that His Excellency's disagreement with the present Cabinet is not based on such a petty question as the continuance or non-continuance of the increased rate of land tax, but that it results from general disapproval of the Ministry's programme of expenditure. The Marquis does not at all admit the necessity of the works on account of which the Diet is asked for appropriations. These works are represented as essential to the material progress of the country, but on careful examination they are found to be by no means essential. Thus the plain issue which the country has to consider is whether it will allow itself to be plunged in perpetually increasing outlays or whether it will regulate its affairs on a basis of moderation and wise economy. There can be little doubt how the electorates will answer that question whatever efforts the Government may make to influence their decision.

It can not be denied that, from the point of view of on-lookers, the country has pushed forward at a rate which outstrips practical considerations and that in some directions there has been superfluous expenditure. The Kure dock-yard, for exampie, is on a scale fitted for the building of line-of-battle ships, and yet there is no apparent prospect of its being required to construct vessels of more than the paltriest dimensions, for many years at all events. Perhaps the extravagance here apparent is attributable to the fiasco at the Wakamatsu Foundry. Had the latter been a success, there might have been adequate, or partially adequate, employment for the dockyard. But as things stand, the Foundry, having cost over 20 millions, is still in a state of incompetency, and the magnitude of the dockyard in comparison with the work it has to perform is as though one undertook to break a filbert with a sledge hammer. Further, there is beginning to be heard among experts a very unequivocal opinion that the coast fortifications undertaken by the Government are out of all proportion to the needs of the country. Should the evil day arrive when the Japanese fleet is shattered, and the littoral seas are dominated by a foreign foe, these magnificent and costly fortifications might partially vindicate their existence. But the immunity of the empire's shores from attack depends primarily on the efficiency of the Navy, and it can scarcely be doubted that some of the many millions devoted to coast fortification might be advantageously diverted to the expansion of the Navy.

Continuing his remarks, Marquis Ito thinks it necessary, though to us it seems wholly superfluous, to remonstrate against the notion current in some quarters that his criticism of the Cabinet's course is prompted by a desire to grasp the reins of power. Those that pretend to believe anything of the sort show great meanness, and that those do honestly believe it must be singularly ignorant. There are actually folks so credulous that they credit the story of a new Cabinet having been constructed at the dinner in Mr. Kato Takaaki's house when Marquis Ito and Count Okuma were present. Such talk is the veriest moonshine. Marquis Ito has no motive except the good of the country. If in the procedure of any administration he detects acts which seem opposed to the nation's interests, it is his duty, and he will never hesitate, to protest against such acts. But as for attacking a Ministry merely with the view of supplanting it, the notion is altogether ridiculous.

The Government, Marquis Ito continues, seem to think that the economical situation is favourable, but facts do not bear out that view. Statistics show that the cotton-spinning factories paid a very poor dividend last year and the same is true of coal mines. (We may observe here that whereas the import of raw cotton in 1902 aggregated 70 million *yen*, in round numbers, the sale of yarns to China produced only 15 millions). Moreover, money is everywhere lying idle in the banks, and though this latter fact, accompanied as it is by a fall in the rate of interest, appears to be welcomed by some people and counted a sign of prosperity, it really indicates precisely the opposite state of affairs, for it shows that enterprise is dormant and that people find no way of employing money profitably. In short, the economical situation, whatever optimists may allege, is eminently unsatisfactory, and nothing could be less expedient than to indulge in large national expenditures at such a time. Marquis Ito rejoices to observe that his ideas as to the necessity of retrenchment are beginning to obtain practical vogue in the communes, as is evinced by a saving of 250,000 *yen* in the Shizuoka local budget and another of 60,000 in the Kochi budget. He hopes that these things may be regarded as indications of a more prudent and temperate mood on the part of the people in general, for certainly the course pursued by the nation during the past six years has not been marked by foresight or moderation.

Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Two Sections of the Administration of the Progressists, the Legal Section and the Economic Section, have passed a resolution to the effect that Baron Sone, Minister of State for Finance, seems to have abused his official position by canvassing Japanese capitalists in the interest of the Tokyo Electric Railway Company. The Sections have accordingly appointed a Committee to investigate the matter, and have also determined to open negotiations with the *Seiyu-kai* in order that both Parties may combine to attack the Minister. On the Committee we find the names of such men as Dr. Hatoyama, Mr. Hiraoka and Mr. Kurosu. The crime laid to Baron Sone's charge is not clearly defined in the resolution of the Progressists. Their indictment takes the general form that His Excellency made use of his official position in his own private interests. But the *Hochi Shimbun* has been vehemently ventilating this matter in issue after issue of its remarkable colums, and from them we learn Baron Sone's offense, as alleged by his assailants, namely, that he visited Baron Iwasaki and urged him to buy shares in the Electric Company, alleging that the Mitsu had done so, and that he similarly urged the Mitsui alleging that Baron Iwasaki had done so.

Evidently there is a species of delirium in

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the air of Japan at present. We are not aware that history contains a single precedent, or anything resembling a precedent, for this action on the part of the Progressists. It is hysteria of the acutest character. They can not possibly prove the charge they formulate, and it is, for the rest, a charge with which they have about as much legitimate right to meddle as they have to spend the Progressists' funds on brewing *sake* out of moonshine. We are astounded that a man like Dr. Hatoyama should allow his name to be associated with such silliness. That is to say, assuming the case to be as formulated by the *Hochi Shimbun*, which has the reputation of being a Progressist organ.

Marquis Ito continues his statements to the editor of the *Chuo Shimbun*. The gist of what he says in this second communication is that considering the state of the country's foreign affairs no danger threatens in the immediate future. This may therefore be called a commercial era; an era when every effort should be made to develop material resources. Increased taxation does not provide funds for a pressing emergency. That can be accomplished only by an issue of bonds. But in order that an issue of bonds may be successful, the people must have competence to purchase them, and what has now to be done is to develop that competence. Concerning that general purpose Marquis Ito declares that he, Marquis Yamagata and Count Matsukata are all unanimous. All have the same goal but each seeks to reach it by different routes. The question then becomes, what is the true route. Marquis Ito sees it in refraining from increased taxation, economizing administrative expenses and restraining outflows of specie. He doubts whether the present Cabinet has any definitely fixed purpose in view, and he condemns the policy of rebates pursued in order to gain the consent of the Diet.

Thursday, Jan. 22.

Count Matsukata addressed a meeting of the Osaka bankers on the 19th instant. He dwelt much on the importance of fostering the credit of banks, and adduced from the story of foreign banks incidents illustrating the great attention paid to this point in Europe and America. The Count also alluded with pardonable pride to the adoption of the gold standard by Japan, and said that the present was a very good time for estimating the advantages resulting from that measure. Undoubtedly Japanese merchants may be thankful that they have not to deal with a currency subject to such fluctuations as silver underwent recently, but of course there is no gain without some loss. Exporters of yarns to China during 1902 must have suffered severely from the fact that Japan is a gold country.

Count Matsukata concluded his speech by a renewed exhortation to save money. He has been preaching for many years to educate a spirit of effective economy among the Japanese, and doubtless some success has attended his efforts. Of course it is not possible to analyse with accuracy the factors that have operated to promote deposits in banks. The institution of banking did not, until comparatively recent years, attain in Japan such a position as to encourage confidence. Still it is sufficiently remarkable that the deposits in the ordinary banks should have grown from a little over a million *yen* in 1881 to nearly 515 millions at the close of 1901. That, however, is not to be counted a proof of the growth of a spirit of effective economy: it is rather an evidence of the development of trade and industry. We must turn to the savings banks for testimony on the former point, and it has to be confessed that the Savings-bank records are not strikingly satisfactory. Including the postal banks, the total money lodged at the close of 1901 was 72 million *yen* whereas it had been 74 millions in 1900. In 1899, however, the aggregate was only 68½ millions and in 1898 it was 52½ millions. If the post-office banks offered greater attractions the record would probably be different, for it is observable that the savings deposited in these banks have remained almost stationary during the past seven years. They aggregated 29 millions in 1898 and 28 millions in 1901. From our own experience we can affirm that the methods of these banks are not at all calculated to encourage depositors.

THE PARTIES AND THE CONSTITUENCIES.

The standing committee of the *Seiyu-kai* has issued a circular to the constituencies with regard to the Prime Minister's speech to the local governors. In this document much stress is laid on Count Katsura's suggestion that he hoped the local governors would assist in making known the Government's policy to the people. If, says the Committee, any attempt is made by the governor of a prefecture to demonstrate to the people under his jurisdiction that the Government was in the right and the House of Representatives in the wrong with regard to the questions recently under discussion, such action will be grossly unconstitutional and the local branch of the *Seiyu-kai* cognizant of the affair should take steps to investigate it thoroughly, and should report the facts to the head office of the Party.

The circular goes on to say that there have been instances in the past of local officials who, acting under secret instructions from the Government, abused their position in various ways to interfere in the elections. It is not improbable that this kind of partiality may be largely shown at the pending elections. If any evidences of it present themselves, the local branches of the Party are advised to make full investigations and report the circumstances accurately. It is further alleged that the police have sometimes adopted the device of inquiring from an elector the name of the candidate for whom he proposed to vote, and subsequently reporting his name to the authorities. That also is severely denounced as an unwarrantable method of interfering with freedom of election.

It is very satisfactory to on-lookers to recognise that party politicians, as represented by the *Seiyu-kai* committee, have acquired an enlightened view of election exigencies. Not so many years ago, when the new law of elections was under discussion, we recall very vividly that the then leaders of the *Kensei-to*, which forms the nucleus of the present *Seiyu-kai*, fought hard in the Diet for the system of closed ballots; a system under which the nature of the ballot cast by every voter would be accurately known. At that time they hoped to retain methods which would have enabled them to supervise and indirectly or directly coerce the voters, and had not Marquis Ito vigorously intervened, the new law would have been disfigured by that pernicious provision. But now the members of the *Seiyn-kai* committee are strenuous advocates of absolute secrecy at the polls. That is a great step of progress.

A circular issued by the Progressists is framed on the same lines. It must be confessed that Count Katsura showed some lack of prudence when he made his recommendation to the prefectural governors, but on the other side of the account stands the fact that the general elections conducted last July under the auspices of the Katsura Cabinet were the very first elections in Japan which did not give rise to vehement complaints of official interference. Count Okuma himself has publicly borne witness to that fact. It seems not unreasonable to hope that similar impartiality will be shown next March, and to us the impression conveyed by these circulars is that much ado is being made about a very small matter.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* wants to know what is unconstitutional in the Cabinet making known its views to the people. To that journal the action of the political parties seems much more unconstitutional, for they have combined to carry everything by overwhelming force and they are adopting every means of closing the mouths of their adversaries. Why should not the Government take steps to convey to the people an intelligent perception of the policy it deems essential in the interests of the State? Is it not rather its duty to promulgate that policy?

Probably practical people will ask what the prefectural governors can do of an unconstitutional nature. Suppose they invite local politicians to dinner and give them a post-prandial epitome of the Government's convictions; or suppose they even attend meetings and deliver explanations from the platform, would that be unconstitutional? The result, it seems to us, would be merely to promulgate a better general understanding of the issues at stake. An unconstitutional element would not be introduced until some official attempt was made to coerce votes. Nevertheless experience has shown that the most prudent and beneficent programme for officials is to stand severely aloof from such affairs. In Japan a Cabinet adopting the policy of independence must necessarily find itself at a great disadvantage *vis-à-vis* the constituencies, for the platform and the press are practically monopolized by the parties from which such a Cabinet stands aloof. Nothing remains for it then except to propagate its views through official channels, and if it deems such propagandism imperatively necessary in the interests of the empire, there can not be much hesitation. The root of the whole matter is party cabinets and non-party cabinets. The advocates of party cabinets have their own standards of action but what is "constitutional" in their eyes may wear precisely the opposite aspect in the eyes of those that interpret the constitution differently.

THE SERPOLLET SYSTEM.

Most of our readers remember, doubtless, that strenuous efforts were made a few years ago to bring the Serpollet system of locomotion to the favourable notice of the Tokyo folks, then engaged in planning their still embryonic electric railways. The basic principle of the system is that steam power, generated by burning petroleum, set in motion a traction apparatus placed in front of a car. Thus the overhead

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wires of the trolley system are dispensed with, and so is the power-generating station. Success did not attend the efforts of those that endeavoured to introduce the invention into Tokyo. The specimen car shown by them was too heavy, was exhibited under difficult conditions, and was defective in some respects. But since then improvements have been effected, and on the 18th of next June a Serpollet train of three automobile carriages is to start from Paris at 8.50 a.m. reaching Dijon at noon and travelling at a normal speed of 100 kilomèters (62 miles) an hour. The Serpollet carriage is of exactly the same size and weight—including the traction apparatus—as the present corridor carriage on the Paris-Dijon line. Thus its use dispenses with that of the locomotive and tender weighing 110 tons. The Gardner and Serpollet firm has won two out of the three competitions for the Rothschild Cup. They took place at Nice in 1901 and 1902, and the Serpollet automobile covered on the first occasion 62 miles per hour and on the second 75 miles. The competition must be won again to gain the cup, and on the third occasion the firm expects to make from 87 to 93 miles.

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES.

On the whole, the Select Committee appointed in England to consider and report upon the question of steamship companies, does not attach much importance to State aid as a factor in the development of foreign—that is to say, non-British—mercantile marines. The witnesses examined by the Committee urged, in the main, that what is wanted in England is the removal of unfair working conditions and restrictions. Subsidies might be essential, of course, where it is desirable that there should be specially rapid communication on routes important to the State, or that services should be maintained under circumstances where ordinary commerce is not yet able to furnish sufficient support. A case falling under the latter category is that of a line of British steamers to East Africa. England has paid for the Uganda Railway, but she declines to assist a line of steamers, and present appearances indicate that the railway will become the feeder of vessels subsidized by the German Government. Apart from subsidies, however, German steamers enjoy important advantages. They have large exemptions from customs dues on everything needed by a ship; and the goods to be exported in them are carried by the railways at rates which often represent a difference of a pound a ton compared with English rates. This subtle form of protection does not involve any direct drain from the Imperial Exchequer. It is a tax upon the people on the one hand and it probably pays the railways on the other. But what the Committee chiefly condemn are the discriminations made in favour of foreign vessels trading in British ports. The Board of Trade has certain strict regulations as to the amount of cargo carried by a ship, the complement of hands on board and the quality of the food supplied to them. These regulations are not enforced against vessels flying a foreign flag, nor are such vessels obliged to pay light dues. It naturally results that transfers of British ships to foreign flags are continuous. The experts summoned to give evidence before the Committee insisted strenuously that if foreign vessels are allowed to compete with British vessels in British ports, the same observance of British regulations must be required of all alike.

The Committee's report points also to the expediency of closing the coastwise trade of the British empire to all but British ships. That is a most tempting programme. *The Times*, says of it:—

Most other nations exclude British ships from their coasting trade, which includes all voyages from port to port under the same Government, even when the ports are so far apart as New York and San Francisco. But we allow anybody and everybody to enter our coasting trade, without the Board of Trade restrictions placed upon our own ships. The result is that in our own home waters goods for our own home consumption are triumphantly distributed by foreign ships while our own may be lying idle. The committee recommend that we should take measures to protect our coasting trade against this one-sided competition, not only in home waters, but throughout the Empire. If it is coasting trade from San Francisco to New York, it is coasting trade from London to Melbourne. There is no coasting trade in the world to hold a candle to that of the British Empire, and we have the same right to keep it for ourselves that other people have to keep theirs. We fully admit that there are serious difficulties in the way of carrying out any policy of the kind. But it must be remembered that this is not merely a commercial question. If we are in earnest about binding the Empire together, there is nothing more truly Imperial than the practical recognition of unity on the ocean, which is our connecting link.

An extraordinary vista is opened up by this proposal. Its effect upon foreign vessels in Far-Eastern waters would be momentous, for no steamer flying a non-British flag could enter Hongkong, for example, from Singapore, or could touch at more than one British port *en route* from Europe to China or Japan. That would be indeed a revolution.

MISS BACON AND DR. GREENE.

We alluded in a recent issue to some remarks attributed to Dr. W. C. Greene by Mr. Kozaki. It appeared, according to the latter, that Dr. Greene had adduced divorce statistics as evidence in rebuttal of Miss Bacon's statement that profligacy was increasing in Japan, whereas what Dr. Greene actually wrote is now found to be this:—

While intensely interested in the life of Old Japan as it has been revealed to her in books and the descriptions of her friends, Miss Bacon has a warm sympathy with the new life and has given with unselfish devotion no little time and strength in its behalf.

There are, however, a few statements in her book which appear unduly strong, if they are not positively mistaken. For example, referring to the frequency of divorces, she says:—

"There is no doubt that men have run to excesses of all sorts, and divorces have been much more frequent of late years." While trustworthy divorce statistics are not available prior to 1883, from that date forward a gradual decline in the percentage of divorces as compared with marriages is recorded. The percentages for the ten years 1883-7 and 1893-7 are as follows:—

	Per cent.		Per cent.
1883	37.6	1893	32.6
1884	38.2	1894	31.3
1885	45.	1895	31.4
1886	37.4	1896	23.1
1887	31.3	1897	33.9
Average,	37.9	Average,	30.6

As the year 1885 was abnormal, the number of marriages being unusually small, owing apparently to a poor harvest in the preceding year, it would be only fair to omit it in making up the average. This would bring the figures down to 36.1 per cent. for the first five years. On the other hand, the year 1896 was an extraordinary year for marriages, so that, though the number of divorces did not change materially, the percentage was very low. Hence this year, too, should be omitted, making the average 32.5 per cent., thus showing a decline in fifteen years of 3.6 per cent. in the number of divorces. There is no satisfactory evidence that previous to 1883 the percentage was lower. To the writer, it seems probable that whatever other evils have been incident to this transition period, a weakening of the marriage tie has not been one of them.

The new Civil Codes came into operation in 1898 and its effect upon divorces is seen in the lowering of the rate for that year to 21.8. The following year it was 22.3 per cent. The returns for 1900 are not published. This code as Miss Bacon points out has already done great good, but still further legislation is needed to give reasonable permanence to the marriage relation.

It is thus seen that Dr. Greene did not touch the subject of general profligacy at all. He merely queried the accuracy of Miss Bacon's allegation that divorces are more frequent now than formerly.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

At present the hereditary members of the House of Peers, namely, the Princes and Marquises, receive no salary, but all members of lower rank have a stipend of two thousand *yen* annually. Viscount Soga, who shares with Viscounts Tani and Torio the reputation of being the most energetic member of the Upper Chamber, insists that the Peers should not receive any emoluments at all. His contention partakes of the nature of a platitude. The Peers are under a special obligation to serve in the legislature, and their dignity is compromised when they consent to be paid for doing their duty. Why are the peers under a special obligation? Viscount Soga evidently considers that since they already owe to the State not only their titles but also the means of supporting them, they ought to give their services gratis. That, it appears to us, is an argument which, if it be admitted, strikes at the root of the institution of nobility. Besides, the assumption that the Peers of Japan have means sufficient to support their titles is surely erroneous. The great majority of them are notoriously poor, and the salary attached to membership of the House probably saves many a peer from something very like indigence. Whether members of the Legislature should be paid at all is another question, but to make a discrimination against the Peers alone would be unjust and harsh. Probably Viscount Soga is swayed by a reflection which must bring the blood to the face of many a member of the Japanese Diet from time to time, namely, that while insisting upon the reduction of poorly paid officials' salaries and while refusing to grant a paltry increase of the stipends of judicial officers whose emoluments are shamefully inadequate, the Houses raised their own salaries 250 per cent.—raised them to 2,000 *yen* for three months' service, which is a rate of pay higher than that received by a Minister of State. There are on record few instances of such flagrant divergence between profession and practice.

Viscount Soga further advises that the Imperially nominated members of the House should sit, not for life, but for a limited term of years; that the number of the elected nobles should be reduced, and that the system of representation for highest taxpayers should be abolished. As to Imperial nominees, he thinks that though qualified at the time of appointment, they may soon fall behind the times, and that, if they do not become thus disqualified, they can be re-nominated. But the true reason probably is that these members are generally found voting on the Government's side. Concerning the elected peers, the Viscount observes that there is one representative for every five nobles in the various orders, which seems to him quite an excessive proportion, (though in England, as he fails to notice, all the peers of certain orders have seats in the House); and concerning the representatives of

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highest tax-payers, his sole argument is that great inequality exists in the qualifications of electors, for while payment of taxes amounting to 300 *yen* annually constitutes a highest tax-payer in Miyazaki prefecture—that is to say, while the prefecture has only 15 men paying as much as 300 *yen* each—, a man must pay several thousands to be similarly qualified in Niigata prefecture. There is evidently a future for "reform bills" in Japan, though we do not think that Viscount Soga has made out a very strong case.

FRENCH VIEWS OF JAPAN.

Questions Diplomatiques et Coloniales is a magazine which claims to be seriously regarded and, so far as we know, the claim is admitted in many quarters. Looking over some of its recent numbers, we have made one or two extracts which afford interesting evidence of the views entertained by some French publicists about Japan :—

The Government of Japan, having failed to obtain monetary assistance abroad, reverted to the system of "bleeding at the four veins"; that is to say, to the system of issuing short-term treasury bills at 7 per cent. interest. It was a case of squeezing an orange whose juice had long been exhausted. The first issues were taken up with much difficulty; those that followed had to be accepted by the Bank of Japan. It was at this moment (December, 1901) that the Government, completely cornered, sought to improve its credit by opening political negotiations with London and signing the alliance. This event was intended to enable the Authorities to draw from the interior of the country whatever small modicum of gold remained there, pending the arrival of the beneficent manna of English capital under a form more or less disguised.

The writer then explains briefly the difficulties that the Katsura Cabinet had to encounter on the eve of the 1901-2 session of the Diet, after which he takes up his parable thus :—

General Katsura, discouraged for a moment, recovered quickly and gave proofs of ability and energy. Two main perils had to be immediately confronted: the Russian peril, exaggerated by Progressist cries, and the financial peril, much more real. For the moment the former could not be forcibly opposed in default of preparation and of money. It was necessary to employ a ruse, to make use of the pacific manœuvre of the Alliance, the Anglo-Japanese bluff. Three persons sufficed for this task, facilitated as it was by Sir Claude MacDonald, English Minister in Tokyo, namely, Mr. Komura, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Hayashi, Minister Plenipotentiary in London, and Marquis Ito.* * * While the discussion of the budget proceeded, diplomacy multiplied itself, and on the 11th of February, that is to say, two months after the failure of the attempt to raise money in New York, General Katsura solemnly proclaimed to the Diet the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The Japanese press covered the ministry with flowers, but most of the journals recognised that the *pour-parlers* had been commenced by the Ito Cabinet and that the Marquis had personally carried the work through. * * * The numerous partizans of an *entente* with Russia were profoundly disappointed by the event. * * * There exists in Japan a strong current of opinion in favour of an Anglo-Russian alliance. It is regrettable that the Government did not follow this current and that the St. Petersburg Cabinet did not encourage it. * * * Pending a desirable reaction in the ideas of the Japanese, they are becoming more and more infatuated with England. That has even become *bon ton*, and one would expose oneself to be lynched by the crowd did one abstain from crying *God Save the King* in the noisy torch-light processions which circulate between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the British Legation. Everyone is surprised even that the Russian and French escutcheons have been still respected. * * * The Japanese, already proud by nature, are swelling day by day. The people, the students look with an evil eye on all non-English residents. Japanese self sufficiency is redoubled by an extraordinary imitation of British arrogance. The Government takes account of the danger of popular excitement and struggles to restore calm. But it may be unsuccessful. People no longer cry aloud *To Port Arthur*, but they mutter it in undertones. * * * Yesterday it was Marquis Ito, to-day it is Count Matsukata who travels officially in England to sound the high English bank, to study closely the economic organization of the great ally and to undertake finally in the financial domain that which the doyen has realized in the political.

These utterances are now somewhat antiquated. But they are worthy of being recalled as showing the nature of the information occasionally supplied to France about Japanese affairs.

CHINESE NEWS.

Tuesday, Jan. 20.

The consecration of the Ketteler monument took place in Peking on the 18th instant—according to the *Jiji Shimpo's* telegrams—and was attended by Prince Ching as well as by many other high Chinese officials. It is stated that the ceremony did not lack any of the solemnities contemplated by the drafters of the Protocol.

The Vicery of Min-chieh has been impeached by the censors, it is said, in connexion with a grant of mining privileges to a French syndicate in Fuh-kien, and Viceroy Chang Cheh-tung has been ordered to investigate the matter.

No settlement of the Indemnity question has yet been made. It is now thought possible that England's suggestion as to paying in silver during a period of 10 years will ultimately be adopted.

The Russian Court at Port Arthur has just pronounced sentence upon certain Japanese subjects implicated in a fatal assault upon a coolie, Usui Rihachi. Referring to this, the *Asahi Shimbun* justly calls it a practical demonstration that Russia claims jurisdiction over the subjects and citizens of all foreign States within the area leased by her from China, a claim which can not readily be admitted.

Wednesday, Jan. 21.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has consulted the Authorities about the report that a Russian judicial tribunal has assumed jurisdiction over Japanese subjects in Port Arthur. It need scarcely be said that the legality of such assumption is emphatically denied in Japan, and that the Authorities are only awaiting a full report before taking up the matter officially. Russia's 99-years' lease of Port Arthur has not deprived China of her sovereign rights there, and so long as she retains them, extraterritorial juridiction is reserved to Japan.

Thursday, Jan. 22.

A Chinese by name Song Ju-kin is said to have obtained assistance from German capitalists for the purpose of carrying on mining operations in the neighbourhood of Jehol. The German Minister in Peking, according to the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent, brought strong pressure to bear upon the Foreign Office in order to obtain this concession, from which we conclude that the Chinaman is only a figure-head and that a German syndicate is the party really interested.

An official of the Board of Records is reported to have impeached Chang Chih-tung in connexion with the loan of ten million taels contracted by the Viceroy. Such impeachments in China de not appear to possess much greater force than an article in a leading newspaper would possess in England, but when they become so frequent as those recently directed again Chang, it may be assumed that their subject is losing power and popularity.

Friday, Jan. 23.

Again the Chinese Government is said to have renewed its proposal that the customs duties should be paid in gold. There is not the smallest likelihood, we imagine, of the proposition being accepted by the Powers, though it has sufficient justice to commend itself for careful consideration, at all events. The foreign merchant deems himself already sufficiently aggrieved by the high tariff, and the fact that events over which he has no control are furnishing a slight remedy for the hardship, doubtless inspires a kind of vindictive satisfaction in his bosom.

A party of Boxers are said to have shown themselves at Lu-cheng in Chili. The district magistrate proceeded to disperse them, but as he encountered opposition, he has applied to the Viceroy to send troops for the purpose.

In connexion with Boxers the following paragraph from the *N.-C. Daily News'* "Notes on Chinese Affairs" merits perusal:

From all accounts which reach us from Peking, it appears to be the general conviction amongst the Empress Dowager and her Ministers that the surest method to get at the good will of the foreigner is through the stomach of the male and tea drinking aud presents to the female. By means of dinners and tea parties the mandarins at Court feel that they can easily throw dust into the eyes of foreigners, and accompanied by a judicious affectation of cordiality and mouthing of friendly platitudes, the foreigner can be cajoled into a hypnotic slumber and become oblivious to all that is going on under his nose. Hence social amenities are to be the order of the day in Peking during the Chinese New year festivities, as this is "the way to do it"—so the Empress Dowager and her Ministers say with a knowing smile to each other. It is now stated that the Grand Secretaries Yung Lu and Wang Wên-shao—the first head of the Manchus, and the second the present leader of the Chinese of the old school at Court—are making preparations for entertaining the Ministers of the Foreign Legations and their respective staffs and families at a number of recherché banquets, while Prince Ching and Su are going to do the same on a scale of appropriate magnificence. The Empress Dowager, also, is going to give a banquet or two to the ladies of the Foreign Legations, but her Majesty's main feature of entertainment this year will be "tea parties" at Eho Park Palace on a grand scale where those who participate will be asked to take back with them golden keepsakes as "trifling souvenirs" of such occasions. Foreign ladies were caressed in this way just before the Boxer outbreak in 1900, and so in proportion to the grandeur of the entertainment in 1903, will be the size and gravity of another outbreak in the near future. So far is this round of entertainments to be copied that even minor lights in the Court circle such as Chang Yen-mao and Hu Yü-fên may probably "entertain" also, though perhaps the aim of the latter may be merely for the sake of a good time only.

It can not but be regarded as remarkable that a journal of the *N.-C. Daily News'* standing lends its columns for the publication of such matter. The shocking gracelessness of the sentiments expressed is bad enough, for what could possibly be ruder than to publicly declare that the social amenities practised by the Court of a country towards foreigners are not inspired by any spirit of friendship or courtesy, but that they are prompted by a sinister desire to lull the suspicions of the stranger in the gates, and thus to render him a ready victim for an outbreak of murderous atrocity? That is certainly impolite enough to merit the epithet "brutal." But the important question is the probable effect of such writing on the Chinese. Many of them must be assumed to read the columns of the leading Shanghai journal, and if any of us take the trouble to imagine himself receiving information of such a character from a foreign journal published in his own country, he should be able to sympathise with the indignation the Chinese must feel. After all it must count for something in any fair analysis of their modern history that

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their claim to be treated with the consideration due to ordinary human beings is so often ignored.

The Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce recently met to consider the question of China's currency, but it was decided not to convene the Chamber for purposes of discussion. An unusual reason for that decision was given by the chairman of the Committee. He said, in effect, that a meeting of the Chamber, instead of producing any well-considered scheme, would probably lead to nothing better than a desultory discussion which might do more harm than good. No doubt the chairman's experience had taught him to anticipate something of that kind, but we shall be surprised if the people of Hongkong tacitly endorse his view. So far as concerns a well-considered scheme or proposal for dealing with a question of such immense difficulty, there would be some extravagance in expecting anything of the kind from a meeting of business men who had not devoted exhaustive study to the subject. But much value must surely attach to a definite expression of the Chamber's opinion as to whether the adoption of the gold standard by China is essential or desirable at the present juncture. Without formulating any curative prescription, the Chamber could at least declare its estimate of the magnitude of the evil and its views as to the necessity of immediate treatment. That would be very useful, it seems to us. The reason assigned for inaction suggests a perfunctory spirit, which certainly seems inconsistent with the magnitude of the problem.

KOREA.

Li Yong-ik returned to Korea on the 14th instant by a Russian man-of-war from Port Arthur and proceeded at once to Seoul.

It is reported that Li Yong-ik has recovered all his power, and that this restitution is likely to be the cause of some further commotion. But the truth is that journalistic rumours from Söul about Li Yong-ik and his political connexions have lost all credit, and when, in the face of Mr. Hayashi's recent statements, we are invited to believe that Li's recovery of authority has provoked official remonstrance from the Japanese representative, we must be permitted to express doubts.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* alleges that Mr. Waeber's appointment as adviser of the Korean Court is almost an accomplished fact, and that the question of a loan to the Korean Government by the Russo-Chinese Bank is also approaching settlement.

The Court in Seoul is said to have relieved its pressing need of money for the approaching coronation ceremony by obtaining an advance payment of 150,000 *yen* from the American Mining Company of Unsan. This is a mere forestallment of revenue.

A brief telegram has been received in Tokyo to the effect that a Japanese railway labourer has been killed at Kupo in Kyongsando. Nothing is stated as to the cause or the time.

Heavy snow-falls are reported from Korea, and the people, regarding such weather as a presage of a fine harvest, are much elated. Probably this snow will find its way to Japan soon.

It was recently announced that the Korean Government had conceded three points to Japan; first, that no embargo should be placed on the circulation of notes issued by the First Bank; secondly, that excessive duties should no longer be imposed on trade by the Nakdong river, and thirdly that a Minister plenipotentiary should be appointed to represent Korea in Tokyo. A telegram to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alleges that Korea has now receded from the two first of these promises, in consequence of a representation made by Li Yong-ik to the Throne.

What is the true complexion of Li Yong-ik's politics, we wonder. Some authorities, who should know well, say that he is pro-Japanese. But all the correspondents of Tokyo journals assign to him pro-Russian proclivities. Supposing the former analysis to have been correct, we must fall back upon the supposition that Li changed his skin during the period of his rustication at Port Arthur. But is it likely that Russia would have employed a war-ship to save a Japanese partizan from his enemies?

Confirmation comes from the *Jiji Shimpo's* Söul correspondent of the rumour that Li Yong-ik, since his return to Korea, has been throwing all his influence into the anti-Japanese scale. It is stated that he succeeded in enlisting the cöoperation of Pak Yong-hwa, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, and that they succeeded in inducing the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chyo Pyong-sik, to withdraw permission for the circulation of notes issued by the First Bank and to re-impose the Nak-dong duties which had been a subject of complaint. Li Yong-ik seems to have successfully thrown dust into the eyes of either one party or the other, unless the re-iterated rumours of his doings are strangely inaccurate.

Japan newspaper correspondents continue to telegraph from Seoul to the effect that Li Yong-ik's influence, since his return to Korea, has been exercised in a manner detrimental to Japan's interests, and that he has contrived, by the aid of Pak Yong-hwa, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs—not of Home Affairs, as erroneously stated in our last issue—to bring about a repeal of the order sanctioning the circulation of the First Bank's convertible notes, and also to procure re-imposition of the objectionable duties levied on trade in the Nak-dong river. But it appears that neither at the head-quarters of the Bank in Tokyo nor yet at the Foreign Office has any intelligence been received of these alleged doings, and the reasonable inference is that rumour is playing its usual tricks. It would immensely promote the cause of peace if the correspondents in Seoul could be induced to desist from perpetually classing all incidents under one of the two headings, "pro-Russian" and "pro-Japanese." They are steadily, though perhaps inadvertently, educating among their countrymen a belief that there prevails in Korea a perennial struggle between the two Powers, and of course the inference that such a state of affairs must ultimately end in an open rupture is inevitable.

Another rumour from Korea is that Russia is seeking to induce the Seoul Government to send students to her schools and colleges. This, with unwonted reserve, is given as a "report," so that possibly it may have more truth than the confident canards habitually set flying.

THE PEST.

We regret to have to record the death of Dr. Yokota. His symptoms became alarming from the 14th instant and he expired on the forenoon of the 15th. The Emperor bestowed on him the Sixth Order of the Rising Sun just before his decease. The Tokyo Municipality has sent to his relatives a sum of 2,240 *yen*, in recognition of his devotion. Dr. Yokota was a very young man. He graduated from the Imperial University in 1901, with exceptional honours.

There have been no fresh cases of pest, but the agitation in favour of burning the factory at Honjo as well as the hospital at Hiro is growing in force.

There have not been any fresh cases of pest, and the medical authorities seem to be persuaded that all danger of its spreading is now averted. The men who had been placed in the Hiro Hospital were released on the 18th instant. As for the remaining inmates of the factory at Honjo, they have all been removed to a new building specially erected for their accommodation.

Although there has been no new case of pest in Tokyo, and although the medical authorities are of the opinion that the disease has been effectually checked, much uneasiness is still felt owing to the occasional discovery of dead rats which show the presence of the bacillus. Mr. Oura, Chief of Police, has proposed that an area measuring 2,400 yards every way shall be enclosed with a zinc fence, and thus completely severed from communication with the rest of the city. But the City Council shrinks from such an extensive measure. It would mean the segregation of an area of 1,200 acres, in which many thousands of houses would be included, and the expense would be very heavy. The matter is still under debate.

The total number of cases of true pest from the outbreak of the disease has been eleven, of which eight ended fatally. There were three cases resembling pest, two of which resulted in death, and there are eleven patients under observation. Thus the total deaths have been nine. Should it prove that the authorities have succeeded in checking the malady at this point, they will certainly deserve much credit. Forty-nine bacillus-infested rats have been found.

The Tokyo Municipality has decided to adopt the suggestion of the Chief of Police namely, that an area of 300 acres—not 1200 as stated in our last issue—shall be surrounded with a zinc fence, having its base sunk to a depth of 4 feet in the ground. The number of houses included will be 1,934, and the number of inhabitants 7,864. There will be 12 gates with 4 policemen at each, but the passage of people to and fro will not be restricted. The purpose of the measure is to confine the rats only. It is expected that they can not escape when thus surrounded, and steps will be taken to exterminate them completely.

There have not been any fresh cases of pest.

There have not been any new cases of pest, but a fresh alarm has resulted from the discovery of carcasses of bacillus-infested rats in a house 20 *cho* removed from the scene of the original outbreak. This will probably induce the municipality to pause in the prosecution of its scheme for enclosing a space measuring ten *cho* every way, and destroying all the rats found inside it. Apparently the whole Honjo district would

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have to be enclosed, and that, of course, is out of the question.

Dr. Yokota's funeral took place on the 20th instant. It was conducted under the anspices of the Tokyo University and attended by about two thousand persons. Sixteen funeral orations were delivered. A further sum of a thousand *yen* was contributed to the funeral expenses by the Tokyo Municipality, but as the expenses were defrayed by the University, that money goes, of course, to the family of the deceased. Professor Yamakawa, President of the University, declared in his oration that the deceased has won for himself a permanent place in the nation's memory by dying, and Dr. Kitazato compared the death to that of a brave soldier fighting for his country. A representative of the University students spoke also in most feeling terms, and reminded his fellow-students that the same fate might be in store for any one of them to-morrow and that they must all be prepared to meet it stoutly. Dr. Scriba spoke in German. He said that Dr. Kubota's conduct had been a star-like example to the world, and that his devotion to the cause of humanity had been as that of a pillar to the building it supports. His name would long remain and his memory would lead others along the noble path of duty.

There are no new cases of pest, but bacillus-infested rats continue to be found at a considerable distance from the original centre of infection.

M. DE BLOWITZ.

The well known correspondent of *The Times* in Paris M. de Blowitz, is dead. We take the following account of his career from *Men and Women of the Times*:—

Blowitz, Henri Georges Stephane Adolphe Opper de, *Times* correspondent in Paris, was born of Jewish stock at the château of Blowitz, Pilsen, Bohemia, on Dec. 28, 1825. By a decree of May 6, 1860, he was permitted to assume the present form of his name, which in France and Germany implies noble rank. He was engaged for some time in the invention of a machine for wool-carding by steam. On Oct. 5, 1870, he was naturalised as a Frenchman, having for many years been employed as a teacher of German at various French lycées, especially that of Tours (1850), and as a literary and political journalist. In the latter capacity he wrote for the *Gazette du Midi*, and sent a weekly letter to the Lyons journal, *La Décentralisation*. He revealed the history of Ismail Pasha's special train which caused De Lessep's defeat in the elections of 1869. After the war of 1870 he gave M. Thiers his warmest support, and was of the greatest assistance to General Espivent de la Villeboisnet in his efforts to suppress the Commune at Marseilles by being in communication with Thiers at Versailles by a private wire from a house belonging to his wife, when other communications had been cut by the Communards. At the General's request he was decorated with the Legion of Honour in June, 1871. In July of the same year he became temporary correspondent to the *Times*, and three years later was appointed their chief Paris representative. He inaugurated constant telegraphic communication, and obtained the concession of a special wire from 6 P.M. till 3 A.M. for his paper. In 1875 he revealed the plans of the German military party for a second invasion of France, and sent the whole of the Berlin Treaty to the *Times* before it was signed. His communications to the *Times* have often been of European importance. He was one of the originators of what is now known as the "interview," and Thiers, Gambetta, Prince Bismarck, the Marquis Tseng, Jules Ferry, Leo XIII., Prince Lobanoff, and the late Sultan at various times made use of him in his capacity of interviewer in order informally to gauge public opinion, or to influence it in their own favour. M. de Blowitz was promoted to be an officer of the Legion of Honour on July 30, 1878. Besides of late years writing almost daily for the *Times*, he published "Feuilles Volantes," 1858; a comedy entitled "Midi à Quatorze Heures," "Le Mariage Royal d'Espagne," 1878, and several other political pamphlets. He married in 1865 Anne Amélie Arrand d'Aquel.

Mr. Fukai Seigo publishes in the *Kokumin Shimbun* some notes about the late M. Blowitz. It appears that Count Matsukata, whom Mr. Fukai accompanied to Europe last June, received a letter of introduction from Mr. Chirol to M. Blowitz. This led to a meeting, from which M. Blowitz seemed to derive much satisfaction. The celebrated correspondent said that he had formerly been on terms of intimacy with the Japanese Legation in Paris and he trusted that now relations would be placed on their old footing, for he claimed to be a sincere admirer of Japan's modern progress. His own health appeared to have become impaired. He complained of its condition, and further stated that his eye-sight had greatly deteriorated during recent years. He showed to Mr. Fukai a telegram he had just received from the British Court in answer to a message sent by him congratulating King Edward on the termination of the South-African war. It did not seem that he made a mere boast of this probably unprecedented interchange of communications between a great Sovereign and a newspaper correspondent, but he related the incident as an interesting fact, and he added the detail that his own message had been despatched at 2 p.m. and that the reply had come at six o'clock the same afternoon. M. Blowitz said a good deal about Japanese progress, but his remarks did not contain anything original except a recommendation that Japan should not be surprised at her own rapid assimilation of the best features of Western civilization, but that she should treat it as a matter of course, and should cultivate the conviction that no barrier other than a geographical one separated her from Europe. To that end she ought to educate her people in the use of foreign languages, and to promote personal intercourse between them and foreigners, in accordance with the good example set by Marquis Ito in 1901 and by Count Matsukata in 1902. As to Far-Eastern politics, M. Blowitz regarded Korea as the storm centre. It was difficult, he said, to create an independent state out of materials unsuited to independence, and even though the task were completed in appearance, there would be so many aspirants for the honour of acting as Korea's protector that a collision could scarcely be avoided.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* accompanies these notes with a reproduction of a photograph of M. Blowitz and a facsimile of a portion of a letter addressed by him apparently to Mr. Fukai.

THE EMPEROR AND KING EDWARD.

The portrait of himself sent by King Edward to the Sovereign of Japan and presented to the latter by his Britannic Majesty's Representative in Tokyo on the 22nd instant, was a miniature in an oval frame. Its longer diameter measured about three inches and the picture was surrounded with brilliants, so that it made a very handsome object. This act of courtesy is understood to have been conceived by King Edward himself on the occasion of the Coronation. It had been arranged that no orders or decorations should be given to foreign envoys or potentates in connexion with that ceremony, but the King seems to have desired to convey a special mark of friendly sentiment to his ally the Emperor of Japan, and a portrait of himself appeared to be a suitable token. It may occur to our readers that a somewhat lengthy interval separated the actual presentation and the Coronation, but there are certain formalities to be complied with in these matters, and we may assume that the portrait itself required some time for preparation. The King's autograph letter is understood to have been couched in warm terms, and the Emperor, who showed much pleasure on receiving the souvenir, acknowledged it with frank expressions of appreciation.

CERTAIN TRACES OF EVOLUTION NOTICED IN JAPANESE ART.

The above is the somewhat portentous title of a paper read by Mr. Walter L. Behrens before the Japan Society at its fifty-first ordinary meeting. It is a disappointing paper in one sense, for the so-called "evolution" is a very trivial matter, namely, the supposed development of the *netsuke* from a seal form to the various shapes familiar to collectors. Mr. Behrens—who certainly deserves redict for stating his theories with all modesty and without the least trace of dogmatism—thinks that "before the *netsuke* came into use *quâ netsuke* it was a seal," and that "we may therefore look for its origin to a period vastly antecedent to its use as a toggle." We are obliged to confess that this assertion perplexes us. How can the *netsuke* have had any existence before it was a *netsuke*? The term *netsuke* indicates the use to which the object is applied, and no such term can have preceded that special use. What Mr. Behrens means, we take it, is that when the idea of suspending the *inro* from the girdle by means of a toggle first presented itself to the Japanese, they did not proceed to carve special shapes of toggles, but they simply bored holes in already existing seals and made them serve the required purpose, giving to them the name *netsuke* when so used. This theory Mr. Behrens works out with considerable ingenuity, explaining by its aid certain peculiar forms of *netsuke*, which, however, are quite differently explicable. Now as to this theory of seals and *netsuke* we quote a paragraph from the volume on Japanese applied art in the Oriental series now being published in Boston:—"Foreign influence in the beginning of the 18th century, seems to have temporarily checked the development of Japanese fancy in this branch of art, for it became fashionable to use the handles of Chinese seals, and sometimes the whole seal, as a *netsuke*. The Japanese, when they obey their own instincts, are seldom guilty of a solecism. They would not have appended a seal to a tobacco-pouch as a proper adjunct. But if the fact be recalled that the *inro* was originally a receptacle for a seal and for a little box of vermilion-ink paste, it is easy to understand how Chinese seals came to be regarded as appropriate toggles for the *inro*, and how their employment in that capacity was extended to the tobacco-pouch."

THE ABBOT OF HONGWAN-JI.

The death is announced of Count Otani Koson, Lord Abbot of Nishi Hongwan-ji and Chief of the great Shin Sect. He expired on the 16th instant at 3.27 p.m. in his fifty-fourth year, the cause of death being Bright's disease. This Count Otani is not the Prelate whose name has been so much dragged through the mire in connexion with the affairs of the other Hongwan-ji, namely, Count Otani Koyei, of Higashi Hongwan-ji. The deceased prelate

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succeeded to the post of Lord Abbot in December, 1871, being the twenty-first member of his family who had occupied the position in hereditary succession. He received his patent of nobility in the year 1896, and at the time of his death he held the rank of Second of the Second Grade. He will be succeeded by his son, Count Otani Kozui, who is now travelling in India.

THE PHILIPPINES.

Secretary Root in his annual report draws a very gloomy picture of the state of affairs in the Philippines. Considering that the President of the United States recently represented the islands as enjoying "a greater measure of prosperity and of happiness than the Filipinos have ever hitherto known in all their dark and checkered history," Secretary Root's account is disappointing, though the things he relates are probably an inevitable outcome of the unceasing strife in these islands for the past six years:—

"The rinderpest has destroyed about 90 per cent. of all the people's carabaos, leaving them without draft animals to till their land and aid in the ordinary work of farms and village life. Carabaos have increased in price from $20 to $200 (Mexican). The Eastern disease known as 'surra' has killed and is killing the native and American horses, further crippling transportation. The rice crop has been reduced to 25 per cent. of the ordinary crop. Last year in the Visayan islands and this year in Luzon a plague of locusts has come upon the land, destroying much of the remaining 25 per cent. of the rice crop. A drought in China and the fall in the price of silver have raised the price of rice from $4 to $7 a picul. The commission has been obliged to go out of the islands and use insular funds to buy over 40,000,000 pounds of rice to save the people from perishing by famine.

"Cholera has raged and is raging throughout the islands. The ignorance of the people and their unwillingness to submit to sanitary regulations have made it almost impossible to check the ravages of the disease, which, it is estimated, will claim not less than 100,000 victims. The decline in the price of silver has carried Mexican dollars down from a ratio of 2 to 1 in gold to a ratio of over 2½ to 1, and this has borne heavily on the commercial interests and on the wage-earners.

"The insular government has in 10 months lost over $1,000,000 gold by the decline in silver because it was operating on a silver basis, and this has changed the surplus of revenue into a deficit at the very time when the other causes mentioned have caused an extraordinary demand for the use of the revenue for the relief of the people.

"Agriculture is prostrated. Commerce is hampered and discouraged. All the political parties in the Philippines urgently demand a change of the present currency standard. Some relief would be afforded by opening a profitable market in the United States to the products of the islands. Still greater relief would be afforded by delivering the business of the islands from the disastrous effects of the decline in the price of silver and the fluctuations in exchange, and putting it upon the substantial basis of the old standard currency which exists in the United States, where we wish them to do their business."

THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

Our readers are probably weary of this affair and we have therefore refrained from daily allusions to it. But it must not be supposed that the trouble is diminishing. Within the past two days there have been two additional arrests, bringing the total number to 113 thus far. Among the latest persons incriminated is the Secretary of Kyoto prefecture, and it is alleged that the Emperor's permission to effect three other arrests has been sought, the inference suggested being that persons of high standing are implicated.

Mr. Ebara Soroku, speaking through the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*, strongly opposes the Government's intention of undertaking the compilation of text-books. Mr. Ebara's position is easily understood: he does not think that there should be forced upon the youth of the nation a code of morals shaped in strict accordance with any official pattern. He makes the point that there is no fault to be found with the text-books themselves now in use. Nothing is blameworthy except the manner of putting them into use. Briefly speaking, his plea is for the free exercise of compiling ability and discriminating choice.

Tokyo journals say that "eight dozen" arrests have now been made in connexion with the text-book scandal.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Chuo Shimbun* states that Baron Utsumi is very seriously ill. He is now lying at his Kamakura villa, and it is alleged that during the past few days his symptoms—lung trouble—have developed rapidly and that the probability of his being able to resume his duties at the Home Office is small. The *Chuo* speaks of Mr. Oura, Chief of Police, as Baron Utsumi's successor, but adds that as Mr. Oura may decline to accept the portfolio, it will possibly be held by some other member of the Cabinet in temporary conjunction with his own office.

It has been pointed out to us that a statement in our editorial columns on the 8th instant is calculated to mislead. We said that "Japanese ladies now labour under the extraordinary disability of not being able to present themselves before their own Sovereign unless they are wearing foreign costume." It would be inferred from such an assertion that foreign costume is the only dress permissible for lady's wear at the Japanese Court. But, as a matter of fact, there is a Japanese Court costume which any lady may wear in the Palace if she pleases. It is the "crimson-trousers" costume. The ordinary costume of ceremony for ladies in Japan is a dark dress with white neck-piece and the wearer's crest embroidered or woven on the back. Such a costume is not permitted at Court: a lady must appear in long crimson trousers which trail behind the feet to a distance of about a yard. What we intended to convey was that the Japanese costume prescribed for wear at Court is of such a nature as to be virtually impossible for ladies not specially habituated to it, and the result is that ninety-nine per cent. of all the Japanese ladies attending the Palace functions wear foreign costume, which does not present any of the difficulties of the crimson trousers. That is what seems to us regrettable and anomalous. The Court costume of her own country should not be so unwearable that a Japanese lady prefers to adopt foreign habiliments.

Greatly as wireless telegraphy appeals to our sense of the wonderful it is rivalled if not outdone, in that respect by the inventions of Pino, another Italian, who has designed a submarine salvage boat capable of working at a depth of 150 metres, and probably capable of descending successfully to much greater depths, and who has also designed a hydroscope which enables one "to see clearly and distinctly any object in the water down to the bed of the sea and practically at any depth, and to take clear photographs of anything thus discerned." This hydroscope was tested recently in the Mediterranean with extraordinary success, the alleged result being that the whole of a volume of 15,000 cubic metres was so brilliantly illuminated as to be brought within the field of ordinary vision. Dr. Iberti, writing in the *Contemporary Review*, comments thus on the possibilities suggested by these inventions:—

One hundred and eighty ships are sunk on an average every month of the year, and go down with all their cargoes to the bottom of the sea. Who can tell the value of all the precious artistic objects lying on the sea-bottom, for example, those statues—the masterpieces of great sculptors—which were wrested away from Athens and sunk during the Pompeian wars—as we are told by Livy—and which Signor Pino has just been urged by the Greek government to recover? We can hardly realize the value of the Persian fleet wrecked in the Dardanelles, of the ships sunk in the Egyptian waters during the Napoleonic wars, of the Spanish steamer foundered in the Bahia de Vigo, and of thousands of other ill-fated ships. In order to get a very faint idea of the enormous importance of Signor Pino's invention, it may suffice to recall to mind the wreck of the great transatlantic steamer *Bourgogne*, which caused a loss of twenty-four million francs and contained sixteen million francs in zinc; the steamer sunk off the coast of Holland with gold to the value of twenty-seven million francs; the ship wrecked during the North American war with five million dollars in treasure: the vessel dashed to pieces in the Straits of Magellan with ingots to the value of 625 million francs; the armored ship *Victoria* sunk in the waters of Tripoli with a large treasure in gold and modern ordnance; the warship *Black Prince*, wrecked during the Crimean war in the Bay of Balaclava with (according to the most reliable historians) forty million francs in money, etc."

In Tokyo journals we find a casual paragraph to the effect that a private of the Guards tried to commit suicide a few nights ago by throwing himself into the moat, but that he was dragged out by the united exertions of passers-by and gendarmes. What is the history of this man, we wonder. Not the observation of prejudiced foreigners but the experience of unbiassed Japanese indicates that the life of the conscript in Japan is often made terribly hard for him by the cruelty and intolerance of non-commissioned and even commissioned officers. When a country is so unfortunate as to be compelled to resort to conscription, it is only reasonably prudent that every endeavour should be made to ease the lot of the conscript and to mitigate the hardships he is compelled to suffer. Perhaps that principle is obeyed in some districts of the Japanese empire; but assuredly it is disobeyed in others, most flagrantly disobeyed, and if occasionally a youth on the threshold of life, to whom the world should seem full of hope and promise, seeks refuge in death from the misery inflicted on him by heartless superiors in barracks, the crime must not be attributed to his want of patience.

With reference to the severance of connexion between the Russo-Chinese Bank and its Chinese Manager, Mr. Yuan, the *Shogyo Shimpo* observes that Mr. Yuan had shown himself a man of very exceptional enterprise, and that his ideas of the limits of banking operations were more than ordinarily elastic. The Tokyo journal thinks that his loss will be severely felt by the Bank.

It is said that an extension of the time originally fixed for preparing a statement of the anti-house-tax claim has been agreed upon, in deference to the desire of the Anglo-German-French representatives. No wonder that ordinary folks discovered ample room for discussing this question if official experts find a whole year too short to prepare a statement of their arguments against the tax.

Referring to a controversy in our correspondence columns wherein one writer sought to represent the Venezuelan imbroglio in the light of a bridge which might have served to bring England and Germany together,

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and which was so regarded by the Germans, whereas the unfriendly attitude of the British press impaired the opportunity, we desire to call attention to the utterances of the *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten*, which, writing on the 12th of December, said:—"Even people who are not particularly well disposed to England may freely recognise that in this case our combined action with that country comes at a good time and serves a good purpose. If we Germans had intervened alone in Venezuela by force of arms and had thus brought on ourselves the ill-will of others, the risk would not have been worth the price." It is not easy to detect in such writing any hint that the combined action of the two Powers was regarded in Germany as a route to reconciliation. Germany had everything to gain by joint procedure, but what had England to gain? When the news of the combination first reached Japan by telegraph, we expressed a hope that the memory of the times when England and Germany stood shoulder to shoulder in the cause of Europe would be recalled by their cöoperation in Venezuela, but it remains to be shown that a similar sentiment found expression in the German press.

The comet for which we all looked, generally without success, in October and November, was the Perrine. It made its appearance in the constellation of Perseus and travelled thence through the constellations of the zenith to the Serpent. Its minimum distance—55 millions of kilometres (34 millions of miles)—from the earth was on the 10th of October. It travelled with great rapidity, placing nearly 46 millions of miles between itself and the earth in twenty days and its volume was about ten thousand times that of our globe.

The Uganda Railway has resembled the Wakamatsu Foundry. The first estimates passed by the House of Commons for the construction of the line amounted to three millions sterling, or say 30 millions of *yen*, whereas the expenditure has now grown to £5,550,000, or over fifty-five millions of *yen*. Never was a line built more frankly for political reasons. The freight returns do not nearly cover the working expenses, to say nothing of interest on money sunk, and it will be long before such equilibrium is established. But when the House of Commons murmured a little in its session on the 11th of December, Lord Cranborne stilled all opposition by explaining that the Foreign Office had commenced work without waiting for a complete survey inasmuch as "our control and sovereignty had to be established over the country as quickly as possible. At least two other Powers had been competitors for the possession of Uganda." Moreover, it was necessary to construct the line rapidly so that we might gain access to the upper waters of the Nile. "If the work had been entrusted to contractors, its progress would have been slower and valuable time would have been lost." Assuredly the total amount of money spent by England in South Africa is unparalleled. The latest programme involves another sum of 65 millions sterling.

Dr. Sven (or, as English historians used to write it, Sweyn) Hedin, the great Swedish explorer, gave a most interesting address recently before the Royal Geographical Society in London. After mentioning some Chinese manuscripts of the fourth century which he had discovered, and which are still quite intelligible to Chinese scholars, he proceeded to describe his travels in Thibet. He made two determined efforts to reach Lhassa, but was stopped on each occasion by armed men sent by the Lamas, who, though they treated him kindly under instructions from the Dalai Lama, made it quite clear to him that if he pressed on he would be put to death. "It is entirely unnecessary," proclaims the Chief Lama, "that Europeans should enter Thibet to spy out the land." Dr. Sven Hedin gives a frightful account of the climate, which killed some of his followers, the cold in that lofty region being almost unendurable. He himself would have perished but that he took the precaution to sit perfectly still on his horse through an entire night. It is, however, to be noted that the native Mongolians do not appear to suffer in this way, and it is possible that Dr. Sven Hedin and his followers were more out of condition than he imagined. It is probable, remarks a London contemporary, that the kindness of the Dalai Lama was dictated by standing orders from Pekin, where the policy of the Government is to keep Europeans out of Thibet; but to avoid, if possible, giving an excuse for an armed expedition from India to avenge innocent travellers.

The Japanese residents of Tientsin having represented, through their Consul, that they are much embarrassed during the winter months owing to want of means of communication, no merchant-steamer visiting the port while the river is frozen, the Japanese Government has announced that facilities will henceforth be given for travelling by vessels employed officially. Moji will be the port of embarkation in Japan, and accurate instructions are issued for the guidance of intending travellers.

The *Panther*, which is reported in the telegrams to have been constrained by various causes to abandon the intention of forcing an entrance to the Gulf of Maracaibo, is a gunboat of 977 tons, 1,300 horse-power indicated, and 13.5 knots speed. She carries a very light armament, consisting of eight 3.4 in. (8.7 centimentres) 15-pdrs., six 2 pdrs., and a couple of machine guns. She was built at Danzig in 1901.

The fire has not yet been extinguished at the Urushino colliery, where an explosion occurred on the morning of the 17th instant. Up to noon on the 19th the flames were still raging and it became necessary to seal all apertures. There can no longer be any doubt that 64 working people have perished. It is stated that the origin of the fire was a dynamite cartridge, but there is no exact explanation of the reason for the cartridge's explosion. All the persons at work in the mine when the accident occurred appear to have been killed. It is one of the most destructive calamities that have ever occurred in connexion with mining in Japan.

The Official Year Book of New Zealand for 1902 is crammed with interesting statistics showing the gradual progress which this lovely dependency of the British Crown is making, though the figures relating to the public debt are far from satisfactory. The population of the islands in 1901 was 787,657, showing an increase in fifteen years of 198,271; the Maoris number 43,193, showing an increase of more than 3,000 in five years, and being almost the same as in 1878. The figures indicate a difficulty in counting, but it is clear that the race is not diminishing. The public debt is £52,966,447. The Income-tax produces £179,000; as it stands at sixpence in the pound: one penny produces only £30,000. Incomes of £300 and under are exempt, and all incomes are liable to this deduction. On the other hand, incomes above £1,000 pay one shilling in the pound. The Revenue is £5,582,503; not quite a third of this comes from railways. The cost of the railways was £18,170,722, and the net income, after paying working expenses, £622,349, or £3 8s. 6d. per cent.

The *Spectator* cannot help wondering what the Pharaohs would have thought of the Assouan dam, which has just been completed and dedicated to public use. Imagine, our contemporary goes on to say, what we should think if we were told that ages hence an Icelander would repair the dykes of the Thames, and by a system of reservoirs preserve in the river the depth of water which is becoming necessary for trade. The incident is hardly more strange, especially as any one of the later Pharaohs would probably have been able to pass a clear opinion upon the work of Sir Benjamin Baker. One of the very few points upon which the early world had some scientific knowledge was the value of hydraulics. We are learned folk, but it is doubtful if we comprehend the storage of water, the method, and the use better than the earliest people of whom we have any record. We shall have to supply our great cities more carefully by and by, for the water in Great Britain is shrinking, while the population multiplies, and the engineers who supply our need will probably obtain their most valuable hints from the mighty tank-builders of Ceylon.

The Osaka Court of Appeal has reversed the judgment of the lower tribunal in the case of Carl Gunter, who was originally sentenced to a month's imprisonment with labour for shooting a coolie through the arm. Gunter, it will be remembered, had driven a number of coolies out of the enclosure of a godown which was under his charge, and finding that the coolies disregarded his orders, he drew a revolver with the idea of intimidating them. But it does not appear that Japanese coolies are cowed by a revolver, though the sight of such a weapon generally suffices to produce a stampede in other lands. They seized billets of wood and pressed upon Gunter, who, in his alarm, discharged the revolver and wounded one of the men. The tribunal of first instance before which the case came, decided that the discharge of the revolver could not be excused and Gunter was accordingly sentenced to imprisonment. But the Osaka Appeal Court took the view that the revolver had been used in a moment of great excitement, that Gunter had not aimed at the coolies and that the evidence went to acquit him of any intent to injure. His sentence was therefore commuted to a fine of 100 *yen*. This result has doubtless caused satisfaction in Kobe, where the lower tribunal's judgment was adversely criticised.

The *Daily Mail* of London has had a severe rap over the knuckles, and well it deserves it. The following letter to *The Times* will explain the matter:—

SIR,—Will you permit me through your columns to correct a misstatement with regard to the Cobden Club which has been deliberately circulated by a London morning paper, published at a halfpenny and somewhat notorious for the novelty of its journalistic methods? This misstatement has been copied, doubtless in good faith, even by reputable papers.

The editor of the paper in question applied to me recently for a list of the members of the Cobden Club. It was at once supplied. In the list a distinction was clearly drawn between members and honorary members. Ignoring this distinction, the editor picked out the names of a large number of honorary members, who are also foreigners, and published them

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on November 26 as a proof that the Cobden Club was a foreign organisation.

The Cobden Club is in no way ashamed of its foreign members. It is proud of them. Many of them are men of great distinction, and all have been elected for their services to the cause of Free Trade in their own countries. But, while the Club warmly welcomes these gentlemen as honorary members, they neither contribute to its funds nor control its policy.

All this was clearly explained to the editor by letter from myself, and through his own representatives sent to me in search of "copy."

No withdrawal or apology was made by the editor. On December 3, and again on December 5 and on December 6, he repeated the false suggestion that the Cobden Club was a foreign organisation.

In view of these facts I hope you will be able to find room for this letter. Unless honest journals will help to expose such proceedings as these, the public has no protection against an editor who, in order to create prejudice, knowingly and persistently publishes malignant lies.

Yours obediently,

HAROLD COX
(Secretary of the Cobden Club),

6, Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.

His many friends in Japan will be glad to learn that Mr. Lewis Moore, Rt. Worshipful District Grand Master of English Freemasons in North China, has taken a turn for the better, and the doctors are now hopeful of his recovery. Indeed, it now appears that the amputation of his leg was an unnecessary operation. Fortunately the wound is healing splendidly, though Mr. Moore will be a cripple for life.

On the 22nd instant the final round of the Mixed Doubles in the Tokyo Lawn Tennis Tournament was played, resulting in victory for Miss Ruth Squire and Count Hirosawa. Their opponents were Miss Squire and Mr. Kabayama, who ceded 39 points out of 90 up. The game was keenly contested and the score finally stood at 90 for the winners and 86 for the losers. This concludes the tournament, the ladies' singles having been won by Miss Squire and the men's singles by Mr. Takagi.

Allusion has already been made in these columns to the fact that some uneasiness is felt by the Osaka people in view of the opening of the Exhibition and the general elections taking place on the same day. It has now been decided that the official opening by the Emperor shall be postponed until April 1st, though the Exhibition will be opened to the public on the date originally fixed, namely, March 1st.

A telegram from Bombay, reported from Osaka to the *Shogyo Shimpo*, says that the cotton-spinners of Bombay have determined to throw increased strength into their competition with Japan in the Chinese market. They have made arrangements to have their yarns carried from Bombay to Shanghai for 11 rupees 12 annas per ton, whereas the charge hitherto has been 13½ rupees.

ENGLISH VERSUS AMERICAN MACHINERY IN CHINA.

In the early part of last year an announcement under the above heading went the rounds of the English and Colonial newspaper press bearing upon the unjustifiable practice of a section of the English Press of constantly belauding, at every opportunity, the American manufacturer and his methods, to the detriment of the British manufacturer, and an instance was then given to illustrate the ability of the Britisher in one branch of industry at least to hold his own, and to beat his American rivals. The instance was that of a large Flour Mill contract secured in China by an old firm of English milling engineers in competition with American makers, in which case the English firm was better both in price and time for delivery. We now learn that the whole plant was delivered within the time specified, ten weeks; and that the proprietors were so pleased with the results obtained in working the mill, that they have placed the contract for another similar mill, also for North China, with the same English firm, viz:—Messrs. E. R. & F. Turner, Ltd., of Ipswich.

In the meantime the same firm has scored again in the same market over their American rivals, having recently secured a complete flour mill contract for another firm of Chinese millers,—in the competition for which the American was beaten on all counts.

In the face of examples such as the above perhaps some of our friends of the English Press, who have shown such readiness to advertise the excellence of our competitors, and to decry our own manufactures, will begin to realise that there may be a reverse to their picture.—(*Communicated*).

FIRES.

A destructive fire occurred at Yaitzu in Shizuoka prefecture on the 16th instant. Over six hundred houses are said to have been burned, together with many fishing boats and much gear.

Fire broke out in a branch paper mill of the Senju Paper Mill, Tokyo, at Kokura on the 15th inst. The building was totally destroyed.

Fire, caused by a stove-pipe being too near woodwork, broke out at 8 a.m. on Friday in a Chinese (Tong Chong's) kitchen at No. 51, Yamashitacho. The firemen were promptly in action and with one branch from a hydrant settled the whole business in a few minutes. The damage was slight.

The fire caused by an explosion of fire-damp at Uruno Coal Mine was not extinguished until the 19th. Sixty-four workmen are supposed to have met their deaths in the mine.

Fire broke out at Imakoji, Utsunomiya, on the afternoon of the 20th inst. Fourteen houses were destroyed and two men were hurt.

The Emperor and Empress have contributed *yen* 500 towards the relief of sufferers by the conflagration which broke out in Yayezu-machi, Shizuoka prefecture, on the 16th inst.

RECEPTION IN SENDAI.

On Saturday evening, January 17th, 1903, a very pleasant social function took place in Sendai, when the Reverend Dr. and Mrs. Schneder "received" the guests of the three young couples who were the Christmas gifts of the American Brethren to the mission work in Sendai.

The Rev. H. K. Miller, of Yamagata, was the Master of Ceremonies, and showed his usual good humour, wit and *savoir faire*.

The programme was as follows:—

1. Welcome Greetings on behalf of the Reformed Mission by the Rev. Allen K. Faust.
2. Music, Cornet, J. M. Stick.
3. Welcome Greeting on behalf of other missionary bodies by a Priest of the Church.
4. Music, Mrs. Cleveland and J. M. Stick.
5. Response by the Rev. Prof. Paul Lambert Gerhard, J. M. Stick and H. H. Cook.
6. Refreshments.
7. Sage advice on the study of Japanese by the Rev. J. H. De Forest.
8. Vocal Quartette, Misses Cleveland and Schneder.

The entire American colony was present, or represented, and went home full of good wishes and hopes for the future health, wealth and prosperity of the once little, but now big, German band of Sendai.

YOKOHAMA CHRISTIAN BLIND SCHOOL.

This little work was inaugurated in 1891 by the late Mrs. Draper, who had become very much interested in the blind, whom she frequently met on the street, and desired to do something to brighten their darkened lives.

It is not an asylum for this afflicted class but simply a day school with a course in reading and writing, according to the "point" system invented by Braille, and in other general studies. The *koto* and organ are also taught, and special instruction given in massage and acupuncture, as the latter branches form the one means of livelihood for most of the blind. It has been hoped to add some other form of industrial training so as to be of more practical help, but nothing suitable or practicable has yet been found.

There are but three or four children in attendance, the remainder of the fourteen pupils being young men and women most of whom ply their trade as massageurs in the afternoon and evening and attend school in the morning.

With the exception of some portions of the Bible which can be obtained in the point letters, the pupils make all their own books, writing with their machines at the dictation of the teacher. The item of expense for the special paper they must use is no small burden to most of them, poor as they are. Because of this poverty the payment of even a nominal tuition fee has not been insisted on up to this time.

It is estimated that at least one hundred have learned to read and write during the existence of the school, though none have yet graduated from the full course that was marked out three years ago. A simple apparatus to aid in teaching arithmetic has lately been obtained and has proved of great help. A few raised maps were also recently secured and have been of great interest; a globe of good size on the same plan would be of especial value to the school.

Twice during the past four years the school has been burned out, losing most of its limited equipment, and now until more suitable quarters are found it is occupying the lower rooms of the church in Horaicho. Fifteen months ago, the increased expenses having proved too heavy a burden, the discontinuance of the work was seriously considered but, providentially, some friends just then showed their interest by generous contributions, and thus encouraged the school has been continued to the present. While distinctively a Christian enterprise it is not a mission school but a purely private undertaking.

A financial statement for the year 1902 is appended. The expenses have been as follows:—

Teacher	Yen	414.00
Rent and Janitor		89.00
Musical Instruction		17.00
Miscellaneoes		36.10
Total		556.10

Toward this there has been the following assistance from outside:—

Union Church and Sunday School, (Including proceeds of Lantern Exhibition)	Yen.	38.51
Contributions from Friends		112.86
Proceeds of articles sold		120.46
Total		271.83

List of Contributors to Blind School Funds.

	Yen.
"A Friend"; Yokohama	25.00
Queen Esther Circle; Penn Yan, N.Y.	20.00
Mrs. Hollowell, Penn Yan, N.Y.	10.00
Mrs. J. Easter, Clifton Springs, N.Y.	9.90
Mrs. W. Post, Olean, N.Y.	2.00
"A Friend." Urbana, Illn.	3.96
Rev. C. Bishop, Tokyo	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Backus, Franklin, N.Y.	20.00
No. 262 Bluff, Daily offerings at Household Worship	9.00
Mrs. Van Petten, Yokohama	1.00
Rev. B. Chappell, Tokyo	5.00
Rev. W. T. Austen, Yokohama	5.00
Total	112.86

The receipt of these gifts is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

GIDEON F. DRAPER.

No. 222 Bluff, Yokohama.

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THE POLICING OF THE AMUR.

THE Amur has naturally played a great part in the political history of the Far East. MURAVIEFF'S remarkable foresight in pursuing his plan for the navigation of the river; the resulting addition of the whole of Siberia to the Russian empire; the potent influence that the new route produced upon the fortunes of the war of 1855, as especially seen in the Anglo-French repulse at Petropavlofsk; the discovery made by Nevlskoy at Saghalien; Sir CHARLES ELLIOTT'S imaginary blockade of ZAVOIKO'S squadron in De Castries Bay—all these incidents form pages of an almost romantically interesting chapter of history. And now we learn from Reuter's telegrams that a squadron of 25 vessels is to be formed to protect the navigation of the big river against Chinese pirates and to guard the Manchurian bank, that is to say the southern or Chinese bank. There can be no doubt that this is a very necessary measure. The quality of the "good order" maintained by the Chinese Authorities in the regions washed by the waters of the Amur throughout its long course is of an exceedingly apocryphal character, and it is evident that if Russia is to properly discharge her duty of protecting life and property in Siberia she must take some steps to guarantee the river against piratical raids from the Chinese bank. A squadron of 25 vessels will certainly not be too large for the purpose, but of course this measure of organization will be construed by alarmists as another evidence of Russian resolve to make firm her footing on the confines of Manchuria. Probably she does entertain such a resolve, but no sinister design can properly be read into the policing of the Amur, which is a perfectly natural and legitimate precaution.

JAPANESE PROGRESS.

IT is becoming quite difficult to see ho Japan's progress is to continue in the presence of the men that have now obtained access to the public ear through the columns of the press, and in the presence of the remnants of a benighted prejudice that every association with foreigners for business purposes is fraught with the gravest peril to the Japanese. We observe in the *Hochi Shimbun* of the 16th instant an article purporting to deal with the affairs of the Tokyo Electric Railway Company, but in reality prompted by the purpose of dragging Baron SONE'S name through the mire as a "seller of his country." It would be unequivocal waste of time to enter into any discussion with a newspaper so hysterically reckless in its utterances as the *Hochi Shimbun*, but we detect in its writing one interesting feature which deserves a word of comment. The *Hochi* alludes to foreign possession of shares in Japanese enterprises as an event of the most destructive nature. It does not even take the trouble to demonstrate why Japan should stand in fearful seclusion from other nations, shivering at the smallest contact with their capitalists or men of business and clinging desperately to the contents of her poorly filled pockets lest, in adding largely to their contents, she should make some small addition to the profits of those that would fain see her rich and help her to become so. There is no attempt on the part of the *Hochi* to expose any reasons for this wonderful and humiliating belief. It does not endeavour to show its countrymen why they should entertain such an extremely humble opinion of their own abilities; why they should regard themselves as little better than half-witted weaklings, who must stand fearfully aloof from the great world of action and competition, where they would be swallowed up and obliterated if they attempted to act the part that all other nationals fearlessly assume. The *Hochi* obviously takes for granted the existence of terrified anti-foreign prejudice among a section of its countrymen, and believes that they will unreasoningly join it in a hue and cry against any Japanese statesman or publicist endowed with an average measure of cosmopolitan courage. That assumption on the part of our contemporary is disquieting. If the persons it appeals to exist in any considerable number, we do not see how Japan is ever to emerge from financial insignificance.

PARLIAMENT AND POLITICS IN JAPAN.

IT is impossible to withhold all sympathy from those that advocate the descent of Ministers themselves to the hustings instead of the employment of local officials as their representatives. There is an element, a very palpable element, of unpractical incongruity in the working of the Japanese Constitution. The Ministers of the Crown and the Government Delegates are entitled to address the House of Representatives whenever they please, and the House is entitled to question them with regard to the subjects of their addresses. As a matter of fact they do make use of this Constitutional privilege. But their manner of using it is immeasurably removed from anything like active participation in debate. In the whole record of Japanese parliamentary procedure there are not half-a-dozen instances of a Minister of State making from the rostrum direct reference to the arguments of a member. The speeches of the leaders of the Administration and of their Delegates are strictly explanatory. Never, as in the British House of Commons, does an official step out of the high atmosphere of authority and enter the arena of free discussion. Probably the purpose of those that framed the Constitution so as to encourage and suggest that attitude of aloofness was the better maintenance of official dignity. But the result altogether defeated their aim, for the House soon learned to find exquisite pleasure in pulling down the official deities from their pedestals and "heckling" them unmercifully, so that again and again the nation has been treated to the unedifying spectacle of a Minister of the Crown harrassed, bullied and ridiculed by the Dicks, Toms and Harries of the Lower House, his lofty reticence perverted into an opportunity for insulting him, and his *de-haut-en-bas* platitudes dismissed with scornful sarcasm. No system could have proved less efficacious as a means of fortifying the majesty of officialdom, and if the *Meiji* statesmen have retained public esteem in spite of the undignified part assigned to them in the parliamentary farce, it is because nothing could wholly obscure the brilliancy of their solid achievements. One of these days it will be discovered that the practical experience of England can not be materially varied in Japan, and that officialdom can no longer stand aloof from the debates of an assembly which constitutes its court of appeal in the last resort. So too of the elections. The same aloofness is there practised with the same mischievous results. At every general election and in all the meetings of local political organizations the people are taught by Opposition orators to despise their rulers, to regard the Ministers of the Crown as corrupt oligarchs, to take a perverted and one-sided view of the Cabinet's policy, to think that the burden of taxation is indefinitely increased through administrative ineptitude, and to believe that the empire's prestige suffers perpetually from the mismanagement of those responsible for guarding it. On the other side no voice is raised. With splendid consistence the Confucian doctrine is practised:—make the people obey; do not teach them why they ought to obey. Here again a different perception of national needs will become operative some day or other, and we shall see the exponents of Ministerial policy go down to the hustings, promulgate an intelligent understanding of their programme, and seek to educate the judicial faculty among the people instead of leaving them to be led into the path of perpetual partizanship.

FOREIGN CAPITAL FOR JAPAN.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun* may congratulate themselves on having created a very false impression of the temper prevailing among their countrymen. Last month the *Mainichi* inaugurated a campaign against the introduction of foreign capital if it involved business partnerships with foreigners, and the *Hochi Shimbun*, subsequently taking up the subject, devoted a considerable part of its space, day after day, to fomenting an agitation against association with the masterful foreigner. We have not, hitherto alluded to this matter in detail because our experience is that the intrusion of foreign journals into such disputes tends only to embitter them. The common sense of the Japanese people themselves may be trusted to discern the truth ultimately and to act in accordance with its dictates. In view, however, of the great vehemence exhibited by the *Hochi*, and in view of its adroit appeal to that pecu-

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liar kind of patriotism illustrated in the modern growth of national exclusiveness, we imagined that this new delusion woud. obtain some vogue and that no strenuous opposition would be immediately developed In that forecast we were mistaken. The *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* have both stepped into the breach, and have condemned in unqualified terms the narrow-minded timidity which would keep Japanese business-men secluded like glass dolls from all contact with the outer world. Of course underlying the writings of the *Mainichi Shimbun* and the *Hochi Shimbun*—neither of which can by any stretch of courtesy be called a leading exponent of public opinion—there are political and private motives which fully account for the strangely bigoted line they take. We have no concern with motives, however, further than to note their existence as evidence that the theory advanced by these journals does not rest on a basis of sincere conviction. They may in truth be as pusillanimous as they represent themselves to be. They may really believe that their countrymen are not competent to associate with foreigners in business enterprise, and that the result of association would be the final transfer of the whole enterprise to foreign possession. They may be honestly persuaded that what has been hitherto achieved by Japan is no evidence of her ability, and that she alone among the nations of the world must shut herself off from the cöoperation of foreign capital and foreign experience. Nevertheless we prefer to believe that even the editors of the *Hochi* and the *Mainichi* have more confidence in their countrymen's qualities than such shrinking timidity would suggest, and that they have been betrayed by a political or private vertigo into the enunciation of a doctrine as contemptible as it is mischievous. Certainly it is rather to such a paper as the *Asahi* that we should look for a true exposition of intelligent Japanese opinion, and when he find the independent *Asahi*, in company with the *Yomiuri*—which for political reasons might be expected to adopt a different tone—when we find these two journals ridiculing the craven nervousness of the *Hochi* and the *Mainichi*, we can not be in any doubt us to what view leaders of thought in Japan really take. If any Japanese business-men imagine that the foreigner would act the part assigned to him by the *Mainichi* and *Hochi*, it is simply because such Japanese ignore the first principle of business success, the principle that both sides must reap reasonable benefit. No experienced foreigner ignores that principle, nor is there any experienced foreigner sufficiently deluded to imagine that he could step into this country and carry on an important enterprise in defiance of Japanese public opinion and in defiance of Japanese opposition. Whatever he does here must be done with Japanese cö-operation and on terms of equality with the Japanese. It would indeed be a miserable outlook if Japan were now to retire into her shell, and to admit that after all her brave efforts, after all her highly creditable achievements, and after having attained such a rank among nations as to enter into partnership with Great Britain, her people are still unfit to work hand-in-hand with the foreigner for the development of their own country's resources, and in consequence of that unfitness must practise in business affairs the seclusion which once made Japan a byword among the nations. Our faith in the Japanese and in their destiny is too strong to be reconciled with any belief in a mood of such suicidal cowardice.

THE SEAMEN'S MISSION.

The annual report of the Seamen's Mission at Yokohama has been handed to us by Rev. W. T. Austen for publication. We make the following extracts:—

It is with a deep sense of thankfulness that we look back upon the year 1902. The year has been marked by more liberal contributions having been received in aid of the work, than in any previous year in the history of the Mission. Several new names have been added to our list of local subscribers, and no less a sum than five hundred and eighteen *yen* was received in free-will offerings from the officers and seamen who have benefitted by our ministrations. Early in the year the generous sum of one hundred *yen* was sent to us by Madame Iswolsky, the wife of the Ex-Russian Minister to Japan, together with the letter given below. Another welcome donation of fifty *yen* was received from a Director of "The British and Foreign Sailor's Society" London, who was on a business trip to Japan, and who was greatly pleased with what he saw of our work. Towards the end of the year we were very much gratified at receiving as a free gift to the Mission from Mr. James Walter, a pair of large framed pictures of His gracious Majesty King Edward VII., and Queen Alexandra in their coronation robes. The same kind friend of the Mission has also promised a companion picture of the President of the United States. This timely gift was most appropriate, as King Edward is the Patron of our parent Mission, and an Admiral of the Fleet. Another generous act ought not to go unmentioned. When in the month of June some much needed repairs were made to the "Gleaner," the whole of the cost, viz:—308 *yen*, was kindly defrayed by a resident (whose name we are not permitted to divulge), as a mark of his appreciation of our work for sailors during the more than twenty years that he has resided in Yokohama. In May last the Rev. A. R Morris very kindly accepted the position of Hon. Treasurer of the Mission, which fact will we trust be much appreciated by our many subscribers and friends. As in former years, at the Christmas season, a number of lady residents kindly furnished us with funds to provide our annual dinner and Christmas tree for the sailors in port, which passed off very successfully, and sixty-four gifts from the tree were distributed among the sailor patients in the hospitals. The forty-two Seamen present at the dinner also each received a suitable gift in memory of their Christmas at Yokohama. The daily visitation of the ships in harbour and outside the breakwater has been vigorously carried on, more than 2,500 visits having been paid to merchant ships and warships during the year. Literature has been freely distributed, and many "words in season" have been spoken by the Chaplain and the Japanese Scripture Reader who have been always well received both on the ships and in the hospitals. The Chaplain has been accompanied by more that four-hundred seamen during the year in excursions to Tokyo for a day's sight-seeing, which has helped in keeping the men out of the many temptations that meet them in the saloons and brothels of Yokohama. On one occasion he enjoyed the privilege of taking a party of thirty petty officers and seamen on a three days trip to Miyanoshita, Hakone, and Atami, which they all greatly enjoyed. The Reading and Recreation Rooms have been well used by seamen of many nationalities who greatly appreciate the privileges of such an Institution in a foreign port.

The Chaplain avails himself of the present opportunity to tender his warm thanks to the subscribers to the various funds whose names appear below, also to the proprietors of the local newspapers for free copies of their daily issues, and to the "Church Missionary Society," "Religious Tract Society," "China Inland Missions to Seamen," "The American Seamen's Friend Society." Miss Agnes Weston, Miss Charlotte Mason, Mrs. D. Knight, Mrs. D. Jackson, Mrs. Wheeler, the proprietors of the *Japan Times*, and *Kobe Herald*, for magazines and newsregularly contributed, and to Mr. P. E. Fred. Stone for again auditing the accounts.

(Signed) W. T. AUSTEN, Chaplain.

STATISTICS FOR 1902.—53 visits to men of war, 2489 to merchant ships, 377 to sailors' homes, 51 to seamen's boarding houses, 175 to hospitals. 27 services afloat, 143 in Institute, 33 in hospitals 4 administrations of the Lord's Supper on shore, 38 lantern meetings and concerts held, 40 Bible classes, 8 temperance meetings. 6148 attendances at the Institute for reading, games, &c., 683 at services afloat, 1431 at services in mission chapel, 278 at services in hospital, 25 at the Lord's Supper on shore, 863 at lantern meetings and concerts, 99 at temperance meetings, 2,358 at Bible classes. 2087 carried by the mission launch "Gleaner."

Circulated 237 bags or parcels of reading, sold 112 copies of Holy Scriptures, enrolled 1 Mission Helper, officiated at 6 funerals, and 1 baptism.

LÉGATION IMÉPERIALE DE RUSSIE.

Tokyo, Feb. 6th, 1902.

DEAR SIR,—My recent appeal in favour of a Sailors Home at Nagasaki having met with universal and generous support, I would like it to benefit also in some measure the similar chartiable work in Yokohama, and beg to send you herewith, from the proceeds of my Concert on Saturday last, 100 *yen* for the Seamen's Mission which you so ably direct.

Believe me, dear sir, Yours very truly,

MARGUERITE H. ISWOLSKY.

We have not space to reproduce the various accounts in detail, but give the following Summary of them:—

Funds.	Balance from 1901. In Hand.	Deficit	Receipts in 1902.	Total.
Reading Room	50	—	1,620.69	1,621.10
Steam Launch	2.09	—	1,865.21	1,867.30
Dormitory	63	—	259.20	259.83
Refreshment Room.	4.44	—	—	4.44
Christmas Entertainment	6.50	—	65.00	71.50
	14.16	—	3,810.01	3,824.17

Funds.	Balance to 1903. In Hand	Deficit.	Expended in 1902.	Total.
Reading Room	224.22	—	1,396.88	1,621.10
Steam Launch	112.52	—	1,754.78	1,867.30
Dormitory	6.70	—	253.30	259.83
Refreshment Room.	—	4	4.44	4.44
Christmas Entertainment	6.50	—	65.00	71.50
	349.94	4	3.474.40	3,824.17

(Signed) A. R. MORRIS, Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, January 7th, 1903.

TRADE, THEY CALL IT!

Mr. Mason, the American Consul in Berlin, has sent to his Government a report throwing a vivid and highly instructive light upon the export-forcing tactics of German cartels. We make but a few excerpts, but amply sufficient to illustrate the trading methods flourishing within protected Germany. Mr. Mason begins by calling attention to the enormous disproportion between the growth of the population and the expansion of production in Germany from 1872-1900, showing, for instance, that, whereas the former increased by some 36 per cent., the production of coal and raw iron respectively amounted to as high as 260 per cent. and 330 per cent. Up to the early part of 1901 the foreign markets satisfactorily absorbed Germany's overplus, and then they failed. Whereupon the Germans set to work to force them. Compared with the first six months of 1900, the iron and steel exports for a like period of 1902 doubled, while the value rose only 27.7 per cent. a striking proof of the lowness of export prices.

HOW IT IS WORKED.

In order to enable manufacturers to sell abroad at a "loss," representatives of the coal and iron industries met not long ago in Cologne, and founded an Association for paying exporters bonuses on foreign orders, calculated on the difference between home prices and those quoted to the foreign buyers. The Association is

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"bossed" by Messrs. Schroedter and Ottmann, who have erected in Cologne an "Export Clearing-House," where the bonus accounts are settled quarterly. Thus the cartels forced the home consumer to pay what is taken off foreign quotations.

SOME DIFFERENCES.

A recent action at law threw up some interesting evidence on the wide differences between the prices charged to the two classes of buyers. Just a couple or so of instances :—

	Foreign orders.	Home orders.
Coke Cartel	1·97 dols. per ton (coke for blast-furnace firing to Austria)	4·04 dols. per ton
Steel Girders Cartel	21·98 dols. per ton	28·50 dols. per ton
Steel Rail Syndicate.	7·14 dols. per ton less on foreign quotations	—
Steel Wire Syndicate.	10 dols. (less on foreign quotations)	—

O jam satis !

—*Commercial Intelligence.*

THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

Chapter XX.

Ieyasu publishes an edict banishing the Religious and prohibiting the Christian religion.—The text of this edict.—The different causes of the edict : calumnies of the Dutch and of William Adams. —Ieyasu's increasing fervour in Buddhism, the unhappy intrigues of Arima, followed by the exile of all Christians from Ieyasu's court ; the imprudences of some Christians ; the conduct of Father Sotelo.—The character of Date Masamune ; his embassy sent to Europe.

The principal columns of the Christian religion thus fallen, and the others much shaken, Ieyasu no longer hesitated to strike the blow that he had long been meditating, and which he had postponed only for reasons of policy. On the 27 of January, 1614, he published an edict ordering the *daimyo* to send all the Christian preachers, foreign and Japanese, to Nagasaki, whence they would be transported to Manila or Macao. He ordered at the same time the destruction of all the churches and assembly halls of the Christians, and commanded that the latter should be compelled to renounce, without delay, the foreign religion. This edict was the signal for the bloody persecution which resulted in the destruction of the Church of Japan, and in the isolation of this country from the rest of the world.

The reading of this edict will be a little difficult, nay, even, incomprehensible for the reader, who is a novice in the Buddhist doctrine. Nevertheless, as Ieyasu's state of mind reveals itself completely therein, it may not be inopportune to cast a glance at it. It runs as follows :—

"The Positive Principle is the father, the Negative Principle the mother by whom man is begotten, and with his birth the Three Powers are complete.

"Japan from the commencement was the country of the gods. The unfathomableness of the Positive and Negative Principles is called god, and who shall refuse reverence and honour to the essence of all that is holy and spiritual ? Man owes his existence entirely to the workings of the positive aud negative, in his five members and in the six sources of perception, in his uprising and sitting down, in moving and in being still, he is not independent of god for a single moment. The divinity is sought for elsewhere ; everywhere man is provided with a divinity, and contains a complete divinity within himself. This is the form which divinity takes.

"Japan is called the land of Buddha and not without reason. It is written :—This is the country where the divine brightness reappears ; this is the native land of the sun. The lotus of the law says :—The power by which Buddhas save the world, resides in their perfect omniscience, whereby they make happy all living beings ; wherefore they make manifest immeasurable divine power.—This is a golden saying, a miraculous passage. God and Buddha differ in name, but their meaning is one, just as if the two halves of a tally be placed together. The priests and laymen of antiquity, by the divine aid, sailed over the ocean and visited the far-off land of China in search of the law of Buddha, and the doctrines of the principles of benevolence ; unwearyedly they bore hither the esoteric and exoteric books. Since that time the doctrine has been handed down from teacher to teacher in unbroken succession, and the glory of the Buddhist law has been far greater than in other lands. This exemplifies the truth that the law of Buddha gradually travels eastwards.

"But the Christian band have come to Japan, not only sending their merchant vessels to exchange commodities, but also longing to disseminate an evil law, to overthrow right doctrine, so that they may change the government of the country, and obtain possession of the land. This is the germ of great disaster and must be crushed.

"Japan is the country of gods and Buddha ; it honours gods and reveres Buddha. The principles of benevolence and right-doing are held to be of prime importance and the law of good and evil is so ascertained that if there be any offenders, they are liable, according to the gravity of their crime, to the five punishments of branding, nose-slitting, cutting of the feet, castration and death. In the Book of Etiquette it is said :—The degrees of mourning are many, and the appropriate dresses are five ; crimes are many and the appropriate punishments are five. If there be one suspected of crime, let the gods bear witness. By oath shall be determined the offence and its punishment, and the distinction between guilty and innocent shall not err by a hair's breath. Criminals of every degree are detested by Buddha, god, the trinity of precious ones, mankind, heaven and all living beings. The overflowings of accumulated wickedness shall not escape ; whether by crucifixion or burning in the furnace ; punishment shall be meted out, for this is the way of encouraging the good and chastising the evil. Though one may desire to keep down evil, it accumulates with ease ; though one may desire to advance in good, it is difficult to hold by ; and thus a watch must be kept. In the present life it is so, and in the next not even all the Buddhas past, present and to come, can save from the reproaches of the king of hell, nor can the successive generations of our ancestors succour us. Fear and tremble !

"The faction of the *Pateren* rebel against this dispensation ; they disbelieve in the way of the gods, and blaspheme the true law, violate right doing and injure the good. If they see a condemned fellow they run to him with joy, bow to him and do him reverence. This they say is the essence of their belief. If this is not an evil law, what is it ? They truly are the enemies of the gods and of Buddha. If this be not speedily prohibited, the safety of the state will assuredly be hereafter imperilled ; and if those who are charged with ordering its affairs do not put a stop to the evil, they will expose themselves to heaven's rebuke.

"These must be instantly swept out, so that not an inch of soil remains to them in Japan on which to plant their feet, and if they refuse to obey this command they shall suffer the penalty. We have been blessed by the commission of heaven to be lord in Japan, and we have wielded power over this realm for years past. Abroad we have manifested the perfection of the five cardinal virtues, while at home we have returned to the doctrine of the scriptures. For these reasons the country prospers, the people enjoy peace. The scripture says :—If the present life be peaceful and tranquil, there will be a good place in that to come. Confucius also has said :—Body, hair and skin we have received from our parents ; not to injure them is the beginning of filial piety. To preserve one's body is to revere the gods. Quickly cast out the evil law, and spread our true law more and more ; for the way of the gods and the law of Buddha to prosper, in spite of the degeneracy of these latter days, is a mark of a good ruler. Let heaven and the four seas hear this and obey."

In the 12th month of the 18th year of Kei-cho(30).

(30) Translation of Sir Ernest Satow. Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, Vol. VI p. 46.

The causes which provoked this excessive measure, are much discussed, and they differ according to the authors who have treated on this question.

Ieyasu, whose testimony might be of some importance, is rather explicit about the reasons that determined him to publish this edict ; in its text itself he states them clearly. He sees dangerous foes in the foreign preachers, *who long to disseminate an evil law, to overthrow right doctrine, so that they may change the government of the country, and obtain possession of the land.*

The Japanese historians attributed this dread of Ieyasu to the calumnies and intrigues of the Dutch. In fact, these latter, having been accused by the Spaniards as rebels against their lawful sovereign, the King of Spain, and as pirates bringing to Japan only goods they had stolen from the Portuguese and the Chinese(31), revenged themselves by accusing the Spaniards and the Portuguese of plotting with the Religious and their converts to overthrow the Japanese Government(32). Already, in 1611, when the Dutch brought a latter, which Maurice of Nassau had addressed to Ieyasu, they changed its meaning, in translating it, in such a way that it took the form of a direct denunciation of the plots contrived by the Spanish and Portuguese merchants, with the Religious and the Japanese converts(33).

The annals of the Religious also mention the calumnies of the Dutch, and especially the role which the Englishman Adams played in these accusations. In a letter which Bishop de Cerqueira wrote, in 1612, to Philip III., he complains of the injustice with which this man pursued the Christian preachers(34). It was he who unceasingly repeated to the Shogun the imprudent words, formerly uttered by the captain of the *San Felipe*. It was he also who denounced the Religious of being the vanguard of the Spanish army, and who accused of the most hostile intentions the Spaniards, then occupied in making soundings in various ports of Japan. He even engaged directly the Shogun to banish these obnoxious Religious, showing him on a map of the world the different countries, from which even Christian princes had expelled them.

The annals of the Religious do not confine themselves to this cause only ; they notice several others, of less importance perhaps, but not less evident(35). In the first place, the constantly increasing devotion of Ieyasu for the Buddhist doctrine had necessarily to end in an explosion against Christianity. Some modern authors wrongly imagine that Ieyasu, very sceptical in religious matters, only drew nearer to the bonzes because his policy counselled this measure. Ieyasu had always been a fervent Buddhist, and, in proportion as he advanced in age, he increased his religious practices. Still the simple *daimyo* of Okazaki, he carried invocations to Buddha on his banners and even on his garments. When, in 1890, he transferred his residence to Yedo, he contracted a close friendship with the bonze Genyo-Son-o, whom he heaped with presents and favours. Among other things, he accorded the privilege, to him and to his successors, of remaining in his palanquin till he reached the reception hall, each time he paid a visit to the palace, a privilege which even the greatest *daimyo* did not enjoy. Then he had constructed for this same bonze the Shiba temple, or Zojoji, which became from that time the temple of the ancestors of the Tokugawa. In fine, after his retirement to Sumpu, Ieyasu lived continually surrounded by bonzes, who exhorted him unceasingly to re-establish Buddhism in its former splendour, giving him to understand that, by this means, he would gain the heart of all Buddhists, and thus strengthen the power of his family. Besides, the very tenor of Ieyasu's edict, its unctuous style, its superabundance of Buddhist quotations, making the whole resemble rather the sermon of

(31) Pagès, Annexe, p. 162.
(32) History of the Empire of Japan, p. 308.
(33) Vertreibung der Portugiesen, by Dr. Riess, p. 41.
(34) Pagès, Annexe, p. 101.
(35) Lettera annua del 1614. Relatione dei 45 martiri. Pagès, Annexe, p. 111.

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a bonze than the decree of a ruler, are sufficient proofs of the extent to which the master of Japan was penetrated with the doctrine of Buddha.

Being thus a devotee of Buddha, Ieyasu necessarily considered the antagonistic Christian religion as an evil doctrine, and consequently concluded that its followers could only be depraved people. Unfortunately the behaviour of several Christians came to confirm this conviction. At first, the intrigue which Arima, the elder of the Christian *daimyo*, carried on with Paul Daihachi, another Christian, so greatly angered Ieyasu that he swore to extirpate the whole sect. After the severe punishment of Arima, he had Daihachi publicly executed with his son, who was also implicated in the same affair.(36) Then, he signified to all the Christians, in his personal service, that they had to renounce their religion or to go into exile. It was in this connexion that fourteen of Ieyasu's own *kerai* preferred disgrace and exile to infidelity to their faith.(37) Among these *kerai* were Diego Ogasawara Gonnojo, who was barely 24 years of age. It was he who had helped the Religious to instal themselves at Sumpu, and to construct a church there. As he had categorically refused to apostatize, he was deprived of his post and forced to retire with his family into an isolated village, and support himself there by the work of his hands. Then Hara Mondo, the captain of Ieyasu's arquebusiers, and twelve other *samurai* of rank, whose names are not known, had also to leave Sumpu and go into exile. Even the women were not spared. The three Christian ladies attached to the palace of Ieyasu were exiled at first to the Oshima isle (Izu), and thence transferred to Niijima. Whilst Lucia and Clare were left in this last-mentioned isle, Julia Ota, who was considered to be particularly dangerous, was transported to Kotsujima, an islet completely lost in the middle of the sea. It was from this place that Julia wrote to the Religious to tell them how much she had suffered for the faith, and to ask of them books of piety from which she might draw some consolation(38).

The heroic constancy of these Christians, the facility with which they renounced their employments, their goods, and even their life, instead of convincing Ieyasu of their sincerity, rendered him more and more distrustful of them. By an inexplicable aberration, he suspected behind this attachment to the foreign religion motives that could not be avowed, and he consequently regarded the Christians as fanatics, more redoubtable than all the enemies he had had till that time to combat. Therefore, when, some time after that, he learned that the Christians of Arima had even gone so far as to venerate the corpses of several martyrs, executed for their faith, his indignation burst its bounds(39).

Certainly, one understands the enthusiasm of the Christians, and their veneration for the martyrs, but, what was really regrettable was the indiscrimination with which they rendered these honours to all their co-religionists condemned to death, whether they were worthy of such honours or not. Thus, they venerated as a martyr a Christian of Nagasaki, who was crucified, in 1613, for having bought ingots of silver, that had not yet been stamped with the government stamp. This fact was reported to Ieyasu, who from this moment concluded that all the Christians were malefactors (40).

Another reason, which led Ieyasu to launch this edict, were the foolish enterprises, which Father Sotelo, a Franciscan, then carried out. This Religious, a very zealous and at the same time a very credulous man, had imagined that, in forwarding the commercial relations of the Japanese with the Spaniards, he would gain the affection of the Japanese, and thus convert the whole country. To this end, he had, to the great anger of the Spaniards of Manila, given his preference to the Mexicans, who although of the same nation, were their rivals. As just then (June, 1611), Sebastian Vizcaino, envoy of the Viceroy of Mexico, had brought back the Japanese who, in the preceding year, accompanied Rodrigo de Vivero to Mexico, Sotelo thought the moment favourable for his enterprise. Seeing that Vizcaino had been loaded with honours at Sumpu as well as at Yedo, and that the Shogun had authorized him to take soundings everywhere he liked, Sotelo invited him to come to Sendai, where this Religious was then enjoying much credit with Date Masamune, *daimyo* of that place. Vizcaino, after a festival given in his honour, began to sound the coast of Date's dominions, business in which he was assisted by Sotelo It was also with Vizcaino that Sotelo elaborated the plan to conduct a Japanese embassy to Mexico and to Europe.

Recoiling before no difficulty, Sotelo made a first attempt with the Shogun Hidetada himself. The latter, very desirous of increasing his commerce with the Mexicans, willingly gave Sotelo his assistance. He at once had fitted out a ship, and entrusted Sotelo with a letter for the King of Spain. On the third October, 1612, Sotelo, accompanied by a numerous suite of Japanese, left the port of Uraga. But, the next night, a tempest threw him on a rock, where he had to leave his ship very badly damaged.

Greatly alarmed at Sotelo's extravagances, his superiors, the Franciscans of Nagasaki, sent him letter after letter conjuring him to give up such dangerous enterprises. They demonstrated him also how ungrateful was his behaviour towards the Spaniards of Manila, who not only have always been the protectors of the Franciscans, but from whom they also received their livelihood. All was in vain. Sotelo, convinced that he alone saw clear in this matter, consoled himself for his mishap, by opening an oratory in Asakusa, then only a poor village near Yedo and generally frequented by the lepers. But Hidetada, furious on account of Sotelo's failure and also of the Arima affair, condemned this Religious to death, along with twenty-seven of his converts. However, on the intercession of Date, Sotelo's life was spared. And as this *daimyo* promised him his assistance in all his undertakings, Sotelo went with him to Sendai (41).

It is very difficult to form a just idea of Date's character. The writings of several Religious praise his affability towards the Christian preachers. Some of the Religious, a little too credulous, make even a fervent catechumen of him, who only dreamt of converting all his subjects. Date, indeed, played so well his part as protector of the Christian missionaries, that several authors, foreign and Japanese, have doubted if he were not a Christian himself. However, without any temerity, one can affirm that Date was not a convert, and that he had never even entertained the intention of becoming one. The fine protestations he adressed to the town of Sevilla, the native place of Sotelo, to the King of Spain, and to the Pope, were only agreeable phrases, which the crafty *daimyo* judged necessary in order to attain his object (42).

In this connection it may be asked what were exactly the favours that Date solicited of the King of Spain and of the Pope. Did he only seek to establish commercial relations with the Spaniards, or, entertaining more ambitious views, did he seek to conclude an alliance with the King of Spain? Without speaking of the extraordinary submissiveness with which, in his letter, he implores the protection of the King of Spain and offers him his services, another occurrence, that took place at this epoch, may authorize this last supposition.

It is certain that Tadateru, Date's son-in-law and sixth son of Ieyasu, was dissatisfied with the daimyate of Takata (Echigo), which had fallen to him. It is also a fact that Tadateru did not at all conceal the antipathy he, for this reason, felt for his father Ieyasu and his brother Hidetada. He would willingly have overthrown the latter, in order to occupy his place. Date who, for personal reasons, was not exactly content with the two first Tokugawa, would doubtless have seen with pleasure his son-in-law raised to the dignity of Shogun. It is not known, however, what part Date took in a plot formed, with that object, by several *daimyo*. Nevertheless, the fact that he had, at that time, sent a solemn embassy to the King of Spain, necessarily furnished Ieyasu with food for reflection.

This embassy of Date, confided to a Religious, was in fact an unexpected event at this critical moment. Sotelo and Hasekura Rokuyemon, Date's *kerai*, were the chiefs of it, and some sixty *samurai* formed their suite. Starting from Tsuki-no-ura towards the end of October 1613, in one of Date's ships, they reached the port of Acapulco the 25th of January 1614. From thence the whole party composed of 180 Japanese, sailors and merchants included, went to Mexico by land. The Viceroy received them with honours, and sixty-eight of them were solemnly baptized in the church of St. Francis. On the 10th of June they embarked at San Juan de Ulua (Vera Cruz), touched at La Habana the 23rd of July, and arrived the 5th of October at San Lucar in Andalusia. The town of Sevilla gave them a splendid reception, and the King of Spain treated them at Madrid as his own guests, kindness which the Pope, Paul V., showed them also at Rome(43).

Such are the principal reasons, which the annals of the Religious give for the issue of Ieyasu's edict. It may be that all of them more or less contributed to this end. However, they never could have had such an effect, had it not been for Ieyasu's unreasonable fear of the foreigner. This inexplicable defect, which had already driven the Taiko to regrettable excesses, made Ieyasu and his successors commit faults more regrettable still. The expulsion of all the foreigners and the complete closing of Japan were the final results of it.

By way of excuse, the historians pretend that the political interests of Japan obliged Ieyasu and his descendants to have recourse to these extreme measures. The situation of Japan to-day being in every respect analogous to that of yore, one is hence led to conclude that the peace and happiness of this country require the expulsion of all the foreigners, the annihilation of all its improvements, and its complete isolation from the civilized world.

(36) Pagès, p. 208.
(37) Pagès, p. 207, 228.
(38) Pagès, p. 229.
(39) Pagès, Annexe, p. 111.
(40) Pagès, Annexe, p. 111.
(41) Pagès, p. 239-242.
(42) Pagès, Annexe p. 121, 132, 135.
(43) Pagès, p. 300-301.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Thomas J. Sharkey, the private detective, who was convicted of manslaughter in the second degree for having killed Mr. Nicholas Fish, the banker, on September 27th, has been sentenced to imprisonment in the State Prison, New York, for ten years.

In future, there will be three American admirals on the Asiatic station—Admiral R. D. Evans being chief, with Admirals Cooper and Stirling as his juniors. Admiral Evans will be relieved in March by Admiral Barker, two numbers above him in rank and until recently commandant of the New York Navy Yard.

Harvard's catalogue in December showed a total of 4,261 students in the university, 120 more than a year ago and the largest number in any American institution of learning. Counting Radcliffe College and the Summer school, the total number of persons enrolled during 1902 was 5,206.

The electrical bureau of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, New York, reports that during the last quarter 164 fires in the United States were traceable to electrical origin. These entailed a loss of $153,000. But there were 124 other conflagrations suspected to be due to the same cause, which created a total loss of $1,600,000.

The two houses of the Vermont Legislature are at cross purposes. The House has passed a bill abolishing capital punishment which it is understood the Senate will reject, and the Senate has passed a bill prohibiting members of the Legislature accepting free railway passes, which the House proposes to kill.

Mr. William L. Elkins, the Philadelphia capitalist, has given $500,000 for the erection in

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Philadelphia of a home for orphan girls, daughters of the Free Masons of Pennsylvania. The institution, which is to be known as the Home for Orphan Girls of Masons, will be under the charge of the officers and board of managers of the Masonic Home of Pennsylvania.

A decade ago there was not a bank in New York that had a capital of more than $3,000,000. To have a larger capital was then thought to be a disadvantage. But time has changed such views. Within the past ten years the capitalization of four fiscal institutions, the National City Bank, the Bank of Commerce, First National Bank and the Western National Bank of the United States, has increased about $45,000,000, so that now their combined capital reaches $55,000,000.

The annual report of General Longstreet, Commissioner of Railroads, says that of the railroad companies which have received Government subsidies in bonds all have settled their indebtedness with the Government except the Central Branch Railway Company, the successor of the Central Branch Union Pacific Railway Company. The report of the bond-aided and land-grant roads shows an increase of $20,000,000 in net earning over those for 1901. There was an increase of over $45,000,000 in gross earnings and of $27,000,000 in expenses.

While the third-rail electric system has been successfully in use in Chicago for several years without being interrupted by any climatic condition, the first sleet storm which came along in New York after the introduction of the electrically charged third-rail there completely blocked traffic. The people of the metropolis are now making unpleasant comparisons and inquiring how an electric system can be a complete success in the severer climate of Chicago and break down in the metropolis when subjected to the first climatic test.

The new reform in the interior fittings of war vessels is to furnish them with fireproof furniture The U.S. cruiser *Baltimore* is the first to be so equipped. All the furniture on board will be made of thin steel, the seams of which will be so closely welded that they will not show. Fireproofing the wood fittings and furnishings of the wardroom of the U.S. cruiser *Brooklyn* saved that vessel at the sea battle of Santiago when a Spanish shell exploded in it, as there was very little in the room that was combustible. It is assumed that metal furniture will be still safer than fireproofed woodwork.

A familiar figure seen around the Chicago and Alton depôt at Joliet, Ill., is the oldest newsboy in the United States. Orsamus Page has been selling newspapers in Joliet since the World's Fair in 1893, never missing a single day or failing to meet the early trains. Page was born in 1806, being 93 years of age, and retains his vigour to such an extent that he is able to rise every morning at 4 o'clock and deliver thirty or forty papers before the early train arrives. Mr. Page comes from long-lived stock, his father dying at 89, his mother at 68, while his grandfather lived to be 102 and his grandmother 105.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Mr. Andrew Carnegie is five days older than Mark Twain. They both reached their sixty-third year in November. The London *Chronicle* referred to their birthdays by making some characteristic quotations. Concerning Mr. Carnegie the *Chronicle* made this selection from Charles Lamb: "How they speak of the thousand thumbs that have turned their pages with delight!—of the lone seamstress, whom they may have cheered after her long day's needle-toil . . . when she has snatched an hour, ill-spared from sleep . . . in spelling out their enchanting contents. Who would have them a whit less soiled?" And concerning Mr. Clemens these quotations were made: "I have for the most part been aired abroad."—Shakespeare. "The most daring and skilful of pilots."—Ibsen. "Tell me, oh tell me, what kind of thing is wit, Thou who master art of it?"—Cowley; and "From the crown of his head to the sole of his foot he is all mirth."—Shakespeare.

Chairman McLeod, of the Western Passenger Association, in a table regarding immigration for the year ending June 30, 1902, shows where a total of over 700,000 immigrants went, and it appears that of this number the state of New York got 203,824 and Pennsylvania 139,000. Of the states in the middle west Illinois led with 45,845, and in the far west California drew the most, 15,093. Contrary to general impression, by far the greater majority of immigrants locate in the east. In addition to the states mentioned, those receiving large numbers of immigrants were: Connecticut, 16,835; Massachusetts, 50,939; Ohio, 25,900; Michigan, 14,000; Minnesota, 13,000: Colorado, 4,000; Maryland, 3,000; Washington, 5,000; Wisconsin, 9,000; North Dakota, 4,000, and Lousiana, 5,000. Of the total number landed 2,937 have professions, 79,768 are skilled workmen, 422,379 are classed as miscellaneous, and 153,149, including women and children, have no occupations. The statistics show that there is an increasing percentage coming into the United States from Austria-Hungary and Italy, including Sardinia and Corsica, showing increases of 58,000 and 42,000 respectively over last year, The importance of the immigration problem to the railroads is shown in statistics prepared by Chairman McLeod, showing the fares paid last year by those people to American railroads and the prospective fares that may be expected from those who come during the next twelve months. These figures show that to the lines in the western immigrant bureau the revenue from the immigrants amount to nearly $1,000,000 annually.

The export trade of the United States for November, remarks *Bradstreets*, failed to justify earlier optimistic predictions, and the showing, when compared with the same month of recently preceding yeafs, is poor, beyond any doubt. The total exports, $125,043,181, were 13 per cent. smaller than those of October, 8 per cent. less than in November one or two years ago, 4 per cent. less than in November, 1898, and only 1 per cent. larger than in November, 1899. No one class of exports was responsible for the decrease, breadstuffs, cattle, provisions, cotton, mineral oils and miscellaneous exports all contributing more or less to the decline. In fact, the exports of these products in November were smaller, not only than those of October, but also less than in any preceding November for three years past, with the exception of cotton, the shipments of which were larger than in November, 1899. As for the eleven months, the exports this year of breadstuffs and cattle are the poorest for six years past, the provisions shipments the poorest for five years, and cotton and petroleum the poorest for three years, with the result that the grand total of exports for the elapsed portion of the calendar year aggregate only $1,212 532,093, a decrease of 8.7 per cent. from last year and of 8.8 per cent. from 1900. Compared with 1899 and the year back of that, however, gains are shown, the increase over three years ago being 5 per cent. Even if the exports in December equal those of last year, which is unlikely, although corn exports are picking up, the total export trade of the year will not equal $1,350,900,000, a sum 8 per cent. less than last year, and the total is likely to be little more than $1,340,000,000, against a possible import of $950,000,000, a total trade of $2,290,000,000, against the $2,345,919,485 of 1901 and of $2,307.095,827 in 1900. It, of course, is to be remembered that these figures largely represent conditions such as short crop yields and high prices originating in the year 1901 and now mostly past and gone.

The big twentieth century fund of the Methodist Episcopal Church of America is now fully subscribed. It amounts to $20,000,000, and was called for three years ago to test the devotion of pastors and laity of the denomination at the opening of the new century. The announcement is made by Rev. E. M. Mills, Corresponding Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Thankoffering Fund, who is completing the final report on the subscriptions in cash and pledges, which was to be published on New Year's day. Mr. Mills says more than $500,000 for educational purposes had been received within the past two months, and that the money is still pouring into the fund, though every dollar of the vast sum has already been raised. He said the raising of this fund was a record breaker in church fund raising in modern times. The huge figures with which Dr. Mills' report deals tell an interesting story. For instance, there has been raised for educational purposes $7,850,758. Of this amount Dr. Mills says $600,000 has come within forty-five days. Eighty-six Methodist Episcopal universities, colleges, theological seminaries, schools and academies are beneficiaries. Dr. Mills makes the public apportionment of the major part of the $500,000 recently raised. It will increase the endowment of these schools as follows:

	From	To
Cornell College, Iowa	$281,000	$350,000
University of Southern Cal.	190,000	250,000
Boston University	130,000	200,000
Morningside College, Sioux City, Ia	62,000	136,000
Baker University	60,000	110,000
University of the Pacific	41,000	100,000
Dickinson College	51,000	65,000
Illinois Wesleyan University	40,000	50,000
Williamette University	13,100	31,000
Bishop Thoburn's Indian School.	—	100,000

"The figures mean," said Dr. Mills, "that the Methodist Episcopal church has gathered in three years more for its schools than it gathered for the same purpose during the first 100 years of its history. The thank-offering movement has more than doubled all the capital which the Methodist Episcopal church hitherto had invested in charities and philanthropy."

LITERARY GOSSIP.

"The Adventures of Harry Revel" is the title of Mr. Quiller Couch's forthcoming novel. English publishers, by the way, are complaining that the new novels are not being as well bought and read as they might be. This wail is not heard from the American publishers.

Mr. Hamlin Garland is in New York, where he will remain all winter. He is at work on a series of short stories for *Harper's Weekly* which deal with the American Indian in his human and domestic aspect, written from an intimate point of view. The first story appeared in the Christmas number of *Harper's Weekly*.

We cut the following from the *Westminster Gazette*:—

"Misther Dooley," says a New York correspondent, was married yesterday, he says, to Miss Margaret Abbott, says he, of Boston. "Mr. Dooley," he says, was the creator of Mr. Peter F. Dunne, says he, and it was Mr. Dunne, he says, who received messages of congratchula-shun from Mr. Anthony Hope, Sir A. Conan Doyle, Mr. Justin McCarthy, Sir Henry Irving, and many other celebrities.

"Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" continues on its successful way. December was the eighth consecutive month in which it had appeared on the *Bookman's* list of the six best-selling books of the month. The Century Company recently declined the offer of a large dealer to purchase 20,000 copies of "Mrs. Wiggs" at a price slightly better than the usual rate in lots of 5000. It is said, in the trade, to be an unusual declination.

The Court of Edinburgh University is making a very wise use of Sir Conan Doyle's gift of £1,000 from the profits on the sale of his "History of the South African War." It proposes to offer a bursary of the annual value of £40 to the best South African student of the year, whether of Dutch or British birth. Sir Conan Doyle attached no restriction to his gift save the bursar should hail from South Africa.

Mr. William Le Queux has nearly finished the translation of the Duke of the Abruzzi's great work upon his Polar Expedition, which Messrs. Hutchinson will shortly publish. The book (which will be issued in sumptuous style, fully illustrated) will be of great interest in view of the fact that the expedition got further north than Nansen. In Italy 5,000 copies have already been

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subscribed before publication, and the work in addition is being translated into English, French, German, Dutch, Polish, and Russian. There is a rumour that it will also be printed in Japanese, but we have not been able to authenticate this.

"John Inglesant" is one of the few novels of our time which has actively and effectively survived. It is not a book built for popularity, although the facts that about 80,000 copies have been sold, and an *edition de luxe* has just been issued, would seem to indicate a certain amount of popularity. Yet the ordinary circulating library reader would hardly care for "John Inglesant"; it is too delicate, too subtle, for the taste of the people who read for mere sensation. It is difficult to believe that the Italian scenes in the book were written by a man who had never been to Italy; certain chapters seem full of personal observation, and the atmosphere is faultless. Mr. Shorthouse has not written much, but one of his books at least is not likely to be forgotten.

The subscriptions collected by the League for Human Rights towards the cost of the projected "Zola Monument" amount to nearly 52,000 francs. But the French Society of Authors, although Zola was their president, will not contribute to this particular memorial. They take the ground that the League for Human Rights has hitherto been known as a political association, whereas the Society of Authors is pledged by its statues, to be non-political. "There are many thousands in France," contends the latter Society, "who are eager to partake in the erection of a monument to Zola as a great man of letters, but cannot contribute towards his glorification as a politician."

With the punctuality and directness of an alarum clock, the *Academy* has put its annual question—"What are the two books which during the past year you have read with most interest and pleasure?" As usual, the answers are various and amusing. There is a touch of pathos in Mr. Herbert Spencer's reply: "I have not read any new books this year." Professor Skeat imparts a different tone into the same answer: "None. I have quite enough to do to read the old ones." Mr. Pett Ridge is, by way of being in the same galley. His response is: "I have only published one book this year." Mr. Theodore Watts-Dunton is another thrifty reader. His reading has been chiefly among old books, but he has a strong word of praise for "Love and the Soul Hunters." Mr. W. B. Yeats, rather unkindly, says that but for a few works sent to him by young authors, he would not have read any book published this year, except Lady Gregory's "Cuchullain of Muirthelme." On the other hand, Mr. Yeats is "entirely certain of the immortality of this book." In which opinion he goes farther than Mr. Arthur Symons, who, however, thinks it "the most important book published in 1902." On the whole, one is rather struck by the modest achievements in reading of well-known writers. Mr. H. G. Wells, however, has relaxed a mind intent on "Mankind in the Making," and other abstrusenesses of the future, by enjoying no fewer than seven novels, ranging from Mr. James's "The Wings of the Dove" to Mr. W. W. Jacob's "The Monkey's Paw." Mr. Thomas Hardy names only one book—Margaret L. Wood's "The Princess of Hanover."

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A sharp shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama on Sunday morning about three minutes past nine o'clock.

It is reported that on Friday afternoon last while Mrs. Bengen, residing at No. 126, Bluff, was walking near No. 203, Bluff, a man who came from the opposite direction, snatched from her hand a card-case she was carrying. The matter was at once reported to the Bluff Police.

The new floating pontoon at the English Hatoba, for the use of passengers and others and the landing piers at the Customs compound should remove all complaints which were so loud six months ago. The authorities are to be complimented on the neatness and serviceability of the work.

It is understood that the Judges who will form the Court to hear the case of "Colonel" Lynch at his forthcoming trial at Bar for treason will be the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Wills, and Mr. Justice Channell.

Admiral Keppel, who first visited Singapore on Sept. 5, 1832, is again a resident of the Colony, having come out once more at the age of 94 to escape the cold weather in England. His is a remarkable record.

Two coolies named Kondo Riyemon and Kato Sakichi were arrested by the Asakusa Police on the 21st inst. Three Chinese acrobats are now performing in Asakusa and the coolies during the performance started in to beat and knock the Chinese about.

An entertainment will be given at the German Legation on the evening of the 29th instant. Baron Katsura, Prime Minister, Baron Tanaka, Minister of the Household, and several high Foreign and Japanese officials have received invitations.

Yokohama will probably be visited by Pollard's Opera Company about the beginning of June. The Company has dropped the word "Juvenile" from its title, from which we infer that the members who delighted the Far East as Liliputians some years ago have now got into long frocks.

The Chinese cruiser *Tungchi*, of the Pei-yang Squadron, has recently been cruising around Lung men, ten miles from Chefoo, to see if the place would be suitable for a naval station for the Pei-yang Squadron, says a Shanghai paper. But she found the harbour too shallow and Commodore Yeh is now trying to discover a more promising location.

The French Secretary of Legation, Baron Corvisart drove in a carriage from Shimbashi station on the afternoon of the 15th inst. On the way two drunken coolies threw a stone at the carriage. The stone struck the Baron's coat but he was not injured. The coolies were arrested at once.

A collision occurred between the *Sumidagawa Maru*, a small launch belonging to the Matsushita Forwarding Agency, and a *sampan* with five men and women on board early on the morning of the 14th inst. at the new hatoba, Yokohama. The latter was capsized but all were rescued by the harbour police.

The death occurred on Nov. 26th at Majorca, Spain, of Mr. James Davison, an old Yokohama resident. It may be interesting to note, says a London paper, that his death occurred on the anniversary of the big fire in Yokohama in 1866, at which he was present. Mr. Davison, who had resided mainly abroad of recent years, was on a visit to London about a month ago, being welcomed by several of his old Japan friends.

Mr. J. H. O'Dowd, the editor of *Sport and Gossip*, and for several years connected with the editorial department of the *North-China Daily News*, left Shanghai for home by the P. and O. steamer *Bombay* on the 3rd inst. He was then seemingly in the best of health. On the voyage southward, however, he caught cold and pneumonia supervening Mr. O'Dowd died between Hongkong and Singapore.

It is understood that Mr. A. R. Firth, of the British Consular Service, has been transferred to Manila as Acting Vice-Consul. Mr. Firth has been in the Yokohama Consulate for about two years and has made himself very popular both officially and socially by his unfailing courtesy and his genial disposition. He left by the *City of Peking* and his many friends will wish him success and health in his future career. Mr. Gordon, of the Legation in Tokyo, takes Mr. Firth's place in Yokohama.

Dissensions appear to have arisen among the members of the Hongkong Parsee Cricket Club, and one of their number, Mr. R. D. Vania, a former President, has found it necessary to publish in pamphlet form what he calls a "short history" of the club. It shows that the members of the organization do not scruple to use warm language to one another but it is difficult from the maze of correspondence to gather the rights or wrongs of the case. Mr. Vania, on his own showing, seems to have been rather harshly treated.

We acknowledge receipt of the fifteenth annual report of the Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese for the year ended September 30th, 1902. It is highly interesting to look over these pages and note the progress achieved by the workers of the society and specially gratifying to see that high Chinese officials give support in no halting fashion to their labours. Among the subscriptions is one of $3000 from H. E. Chang Chi-tung, Viceroy, Wuchang. The pamphlet contains excellent photographs of the Viceroys Chang Chi-tung, Yuen Shi-kai and Tsen Chun-hsuen, and of Prince Soo, superintendent of Police and Streets in Peking.

The *Bureau Veritas Monthly List*, published on the last of December, of wrecks and casualties recorded in October last, announces that 57 sailing vessels were reported as totally lost; 22 by stranding, 1 by collision, 1 by fire; while 6 foundered, 3 were abandoned, 19 were condemned, and 5 were missing. No less than 190 sailing vessels were damaged; 44 by stranding, 47 by collision, 6 by fire, 39 by leaks, and 54 by stress of weather. The steamers totally lost were 21; 8 by stranding, 5 by collision, 6 by fire; while 1 foundered, and 1 was condemned. The steamers damaged were 279; 101 by stranding, 89 by collision, 9 by fire, 5 by leaks, 11 by stress of weather; while 64 reported injury to their engines or boilers.

Mr. Duncan McNeill, who has many friends in Yokohama, writes to the *North China Daily News*:—

Sir,—Last night my house was robbed for the second time in three weeks and the fifth time in three months. Of course I do not complain, since it is clearly for the general good that such predatory operations should be confined within the narrowest possible limits. But I wish to point out that before long my house will be stripped bare, and the centre of business will of necessity be shifted elsewhere. I would therefore suggest to my fellow-residents that they should devote their energies during the short period at their disposal to the suppression of the present paid police force and the establishment of an amateur organisation on the line of the Fire Brigade. The existence of a body of amateur police would be perfectly compatible with such measure of protection as we now enjoy, and the rivalry between police and firemen would no doubt afford a considerable stimulus to the life of our Settlement.

THE VENEZUELAN EMBROGLIO.

We continue our summary of news relating to the Venezuelan affair, drawing for this purpose on Canadian papers brought by the last *Empress* mail. As already stated, it was intimated on Dec. 18th that the blockade would begin on the 20th, but on the latter date notice was received at Washington from London that it would take effect from the 25th.

Meantime the joint action of Britain and Germany continued to be discussed. A London dispatch of the 20th said: "Lord Charles Beresford has just returned from a visit to Germany. In a letter published in the *Times* this morning, he expresses the opinion that a great number of Germans disapprove of the Anglo-German agreement in the Venezuelan matter, and says he thinks it would have been much better had the two nations acted independently."

On the previous day there had been published a semi-official statement in the *North German Gazette* saying:—

"A local paper has published a cablegram from New York stating: "The greatest excitement prevails here. The entire press holds Germany to be responsible for the present situation. Germany is attacked in hostile articles, while Great Britain is praised. The newspapers insist that Germany intends to acquire colonies in Venezuela and Brazil."

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"We have noticed similar telegrams in English papers," says the *Gazette*, "and if these statements are representative of the feeling in the United States with even approximate correctness, we have sincerely to deplore that the American press shows itself accessible to wholly unfounded suspicions of German policy. The Government of the United States long ago was categorically informed that Germany is seeking nothing in Venezuela, beyond satisfaction for just claims and compensation. The Anglo-German co-operation is based upon the similarity of the interests affected, and only wilful prejudice could detect a difference in the proceedings of the two countries. The course of events will demonstrate that the intentions of the German Government are far from adventurous motives."

There was a great deal of discussion about the arbitration proposal, which we need not reproduce as in most cases the speculations and rumours of one day were discredited and contradicted not later than the next. Despite the statement cited above that the blockade would begin on the 25th the following telegram was sent from Caraccas on Dec. 20th :—"Notification that the blockade of Venezuelan ports by the Allied Powers will be made effective to-day, was transmitted to the Venezuelan Government this morning, by the British Consul at La Guayra. The announcement was not expected, and caused a commercial panic. The rate of exchange jumped five points."

A Washington dispatch of Dec. 20th said :—

President Roosevelt has proposed to the Allied Powers that the Venezuelan dispute be submitted to arbitration at The Hague tribunal. The Powers have replied with a counter-proposal that President Roosevelt himself arbitrate the issues.

These were the developments overnight in the Venezuelan matter, and they seen to justify the prediction that the critical point had been passed.

President Roosevelt does not wish to act as arbitrator in this dispute, for as such, it is felt here, he would be at once judge, jury and constable, and would be under the moral obligation to execute his own judgment. The President feels that a reference to The Hague tribunal would vastly strengthen the cause of arbitration. Still, rather than see the present dispute proceed to extremes, it is probable that the President will reluctantly assume the duties of arbitrator.

From London it was telegraphed on Dec. 22nd :—Provided the guarantee question can be satisfactorily settled, the London papers agree this morning in desiring President Roosevelt to accept the office of arbitrator. They fear that if the matter is referred to The Hague, Venezuela probably will ignore the award. At the same time the President's reluctance to accept the office is perfectly well understood, and his motives are respected. The hope is generally expressed that a pacific settlement will be reached, thus avoiding the necessity of sending to Venezuelan waters the large fleet which could alone render the blockade really effective.

On December 21st, in the name of Venezuela President Castro signed the acceptance of the appointment of President Roosevelt to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulty. The blockade was then in full force and daily captures of Venezuelan vessels were recorded. The revolutionists were reported to be planning a march on Caraccas and President Castro's position was declared to be perilous.

On Dec. 25th President Castro telegraphed from La Victoria his acceptance of the proposal to submit all pending questions to the arbitration of The Hague Tribunal, subject to certain conditions, which include cessation of the blockade, and the return to Venezuela of the fleet seized by the Allied Powers.

President Castro's acceptance has been transmitted to the Washington Government, from which the proposal emanated.

A strong plea was put in for arbitration by Baron Destournelles de Constant who wrote the French Foreign Minister, M. Delcassé, notifying him that the writer will interpellate the Government on the re-assembling of the Chamber, concerning the disregard of Article 27 of The Hague Convention, shown by the Allied Powers in coercing Venezuela.

In his letter Baron Destournelles strongly supports the contention of the United States, that the Venezuelan trouble should be referred to The Hague Court. After pointing out that the present is just the contingency contemplated by Article 27, the writer says :

"The conflict exists between Venezuela and several of the signatories to The Hague Convention, and the formal obligation that France and the other Powers signed, is not only being ignored, but we observe a systematic interdiction of The Hague Court of Arbitration by the European governments. Explanation has become necessary. It cannot be objected by the Allied Powers that Venezuela took no part in the conference, and as she is asking for arbitration, occasion exists for reminding the Powers of the obligations they signed and ratified.

Nor can the reply be made that states, unlike individuals, are free not to observe their engagements, and that moral obligations exist only for individuals or for the weak, as this point of view is precisely contrary to the principle that The Hague Conference sought to secure."

Finally notes were presented to the Powers interested on Dec. 27th in which President Roosevelt declined to act as arbitrator and suggested that the matter should be referred to The Hague tribunal. On this subject the following London telegram of Dec. 27th may be quoted :—

Except by the opponents of the Government, who view it as a virtual defeat, and as discrediting the Ministry, the latest phase of the Venezuelan trouble has been welcomed very lukewarmly. Arbitration by President Roosevelt had been anticipated as so desirable an issue from a difficult business, that his decision, which is regarded as final, has caused keen disappointment. It is foreseen that even if satisfactory conditions for the submission of the disputes to The Hague Court can be arranged, this method will entail endless and wearisome details, with no assurance that at the end President Castro will still be in power, or Venezuela in the mood to abide by the decision of the Hague. In short, that element of guarantee which would have accompanied President Roosevelt's acceptance of the office of arbitrator is now lacking. All the same it is readily admitted that from the American point of view, President Roosevelt has acted wisely in declining to act.

The foregoing represents the general drift of newspaper comment this morning. The only paper which really welcomes the decision to refer the Venezuelan matter to The Hague, is the *Daily News* which sees a chance of making arbitration once more a reputable theory. Paying a tribute to the coolness of President Roosevelt and the correct attitude of the United States during this "sorry business," the *Daily News* says :—"The Venezuelan crisis has done much to enchance Mr. Roosevelt's reputation and to bring to home Englishmen the essential friendliness of the American people."

The *Daily Mail*, in an item upon the Government, says :—"This ends, perhaps, the most inglorious episode in which Great Britain has engaged of recent years."

LAW CASES.

SIMON, EVERS & Co. v. YAMADA.

In the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kato, on Jan. 20th, the hearing took place of a claim for damages for failure to take delivery, brought by Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co., No. 25, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, against Mr. Yamada Sukekichi, of Sakae-cho. It was stated for the plaintiff that the amonnt claimed was *yen* 4,966.657, being balance of account on a contract for the delivery of sugar.

The case was adjourned.

CHINSHIRO v. FINDLAY, RICHARDSON & Co.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Jan. 21st, before Judge Kano, Messrs. Chinshiro, Shimada, Onoye-cho Nichome, Yokohama, sued Findlay Richardson & Co. claiming from them the recovery of a cheque for *yen* 163,80 and *yen* 418.50 damages.

The assistant judge had been changed and the plaintiffs and defendants repeated their cases.

Mr. Seki said that the cheque received from the plaintiffs was a part of the "hand money" of *yen* 300, but was not the price of the indigo. The plaintiffs asked for only one box of indigo, but the defendants did not send it, because the defendants had not contracted to sell them only one box. Of course, defendents would not break their contract.

Mr. Fujiwara said that the defendants had consented to send plaintiffs one box, part of 31 boxes of indigo contracted for, and they received *yen* 163.80 as the price of the one box of indigo, but they did not send the plaintiffs the one box. And besides, they had not satisfied the contract. Judgment will be given on the 23rd inst.

TABEI v. SALE & CO.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Thursday before Judge Kato Mr. Yoshibei Tabei, Otamachi Ichome, Yokohama, sued Messrs. Sale & Co., No. 176, Yamashitacho, claiming the delivery of 4 boxes, containing 120 *tan* of British flannel or their value *yen* 179,179. The case was adjourned.

THE INDIGO CASE.

Judgment was given the other day in Tokyo Appeal Court in the suit instituted by Mr. C.M. Bhesania against the P. & O. Steam Navigation Co. This suit, which was a claim arising from an alleged shortage in certain cargo imprted from Calcutta by a P. & O. steamer, first came on for hearing in the Yokohama District Court where, on the 8th July last year, judgment was given for the defendants. An appeal was subsequently lodged, and the Appeal Caurt has now quashed the judgment of the lower Court.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN KOBE HARBOUR.

A sad disaster occurred in Kobe harbour on Jan. 19th, says the *Kobe Herald* of that date. The N.Y.K. steamers *Yokohama Maru* and *Genkai Maru* are undergoing repairs at the hands of the Kawasaki Co., and a large number of machanics and other workmen are sent on board these vessels every day. To-day a number of these men were to be transhipped from the former to the latter, and the yard steam launch *Hayabusa* was sent out this morning at 11 to take them over from the *Yokohama Maru*. These men got on board the launch all right and were close to the stern of the *Genkai Maru* at noon, when a strong gust of wind from the north-west swept over the harbour and catching the craft broadside on, capsized her, the boat going down in a few minutes. The number of men taken on board is not positively known yet. The captain of the *Hayabusa* says he was careful not to take the usual number because the weather was threatening and stormy. Some of the men swam to the *Genkai Maru* and some were rescued by the crew, while others were rescued by launches and sampans. It was thought by the crew of the launch that all were saved, but it was discovered after a roll call at the yard that twenty-four men were missing. A number of boats with drag nets have been sent out from the yard to search for the missing men and the Water Police launches are also busy searching, as it is hoped that some of the missing men found safety on some of the vessels in harbour. One body was recovered at about 3 o'clock and taken to the yard, where a post-mortem examination was held by the authorities. Mr. Akutagawa, Public Procurator of the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, and Mr. Shimosaka, Chief of the Water Police, were at the yard and examined the captain and crew of the *Hayabusa*.

It was pitiable to see the crowd of women and children at the Company's main gate when news of the disaster became known. Some were enquiring for their husbands, others for fathers. The faces of all wore expressions of intense anxiety. The yard authorities did their utmost to reassure the poor folk and we can only hope that the loss of life will not prove so serious as supposed. The *Hayabusa* was built in August 1896. Her tonnage was 9.02 registered. She was in charge of Kushioka Kamekichi, besides whom there was a crew of three men on board.

FIGHT WITH A PYTHON ON A BRITISH STEAMER.

The following New York telegram is from the London *Express* :—Captain Golding, of the British steamer *Afridi*, which has just arrived from Singapore and Shanghai with a cargo of tea and wild animals relates a very exciting adventure which occurred during the voyage. At Singapore a python and a Bengal tiger were taken on board. All went well until the second night out from port, when the python knocked the top off its box and made its way into a wooden structure on the bridge deck, where the other animals were kept. The screams of the birds and beasts attracted Captain Golding's attention, and by the light of the moon he could see the python gliding hither and thither and hear its rustling movement. Accompanied by the mate holding a powerful lantern, Captain Golding, armed with an axe, tackled the deadly reptile. While the mate flashed the lantern in the python's face to divert its attention Captain Golding slashed with his axe, almost severing its body. Hissing and coiling ready to spring on his assailants the python was again foiled by the flash of the mate's lantern, and Captain Golding rendered it helpless with three terriffic blows. Among the other animals on board were a Japanese bear, a tapir, an anoa, a monitor lizard, a bamboo rat, a Java peacock, and a lot of monkeys.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the *Kyōiku Kōhō* Mr. Ukita Kazutami writes at great length on "The mental characteristics and the responsibilities of educationists." The following is the substance of what he has to say on this topic. There are three qualifications which persons engaged in education should certainly possess. (1) They should be imbued with a strong conservative spirit. (2) They should be animated by a spirit of progress and activity. (3) They should be actuated by public spirit and act in union with other members of society. (1) There is no word which has such an evil sound in the ears of modern Japanese as the word "conservative." No political party likes to be described as the conservative party. In England it is quite different. There conservatism is regarded as a merit rather than a drawback, and yet there is no country in Europe more advanced than England. That school-teachers should be conservative in spirit seems to me to need no lengthy demonstration, for their teaching deals principally with what is of value in the past history of the world. In order to produce fine types of character in their pupils they must be ever holding up for imitation the noble deeds of men who lived in bygone days. In recent years the tendency in the schools has been to get rid of old text-books and introduce newly compiled ones as much as possible—the theory being that success is to be obtained more quickly by this means. But there is nothing gained and much lost by trying to hurry matters where character development is concerned. I am reminded in this connection of the wise counsel of Tokugawa Ieyasu:—*Hito no issei wa omo ni wo oite tōki ni yuku ga gotoshi. Isogubekarazu, okotarubekarazu.*" Man's life is like going a long journey with a heavy burden on the back. We must not hurry, neither must we loiter." (2) It would seem as though conservatism and the spirit of progress were incompatible with each other, but in reality in State affairs as in social matters they work very well together. One acts as a check on the other. Mere progressiveness is apt to become too destructive and to make away with the wheat along with the chaff. In a teacher it is necessary that the mind should be active and ever on the look-out for new ideas and improved methods. (3) The lack of public spirit among school-teachers is conspicuous. They seem to think that they are under no obligation to see that their pupils observe the laws of the land. The law against the smoking practised by young boys is ineffective because the majority of school teachers do not attempt to enforce it, as they are under an obligation to do. There is among our teachers a great want of intelligent interest in the questions of the day, in social reform and the like. Hence they contribute little towards general progress. They are school teachers and nothing more, living in a little clique of their own and hardly known outside the schools where they teach. The fact is that as a nation we have not yet emerged from the feudal stage and the people's doings, ideas, needs and progress are matters of little concern to those to whom officialdom is the highest state of human existence. In the West there are crowds of men who have made a reputation for themselves outside official circles, and a man is not necessarily highly esteemed because he happens to be in Government service. A man attracts attention if he is talented whatever may be his rank or social position. It is said that even Marquis Itō failed to recognise this when on a visit to Europe last year. He was asked casually by the German Emperor how the genius Tanaka Shōhei was getting on, and was at a loss what to answer, but had to confess that, knowing nothing of music, Tanaka's talent and even his name as a musician were unknown to him. So what failed to bring Tanaka to notice here among his own people had attracted the attention of a European emperor. In this country talent is too apt to lie buried; unless a man happens to take to politics. Our people think far more of Ministers of State than is thought of them in Western Countries. With us to become a Minister is deemed a greater achievement than to figure as a great scientist, philosopher or writer. Our views on the relative value of things are much mistaken. True conceptions of human life and human affairs if possessed by school-teachers might easily be imparted to their pupils. If, for instance, the duties of members of the Diet and of the people who elect them were understood by school instructors and dwelt upon by them, gradually a political atmosphere which does not exist to-day would be created. The indifference of the teaching faculty to the outside world in this country is much to be regretted.

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In the *Keiōgijuku Gakuhō* Mr. Kamada Eikichi, the President of the Keiōgijuku, writes on the necessity of Japan's giving more attention to the training of her diplomats. When I was in London, says Mr. Kamada, I visited Professor Douglas and found him lecturing to his students on the *Yeh* (易). I asked him why he did this, and he replied that as most of his students were expecting to join the diplomatic service in China it was most important that they should understand a book which counted for so much in Chinese thought as the *Yeh*. This gives the keynote of the whole management of her diplomatic service by England. She goes on the principle that in the case of each diplomat special local knowledge is required in order to make him a thorough success, and scholarship in the languages and literatures of the countries to which their representatives are accredited is encouraged by the English Government. Professor Douglas knows more about China and the Chinese than any living Englishman* and, like so many Englishmen, his studies began when he was in the diplomatic service. The same may be said of Sir Ernest Satow and Mr. F. V. Dickins, the biographer of Sir Harry Parkes, who spent 12 years in Japan in the early days of the *Meiji* era. Such studies as are carried on by England's diplomatic servants in the various countries of the world go far to make her servants popular in these countries, and it is for this reason that as far as possible changes of diplomats from one country to another are avoided by the English Government. There are several European countries that to a certain extent follow the same principle. But the practice adopted by France of constantly changing her diplomats—a habit that owes its origin to the innate antipathy of the French people to long residence in foreign countries—cannot be condemned too strongly. It is a mistaken policy on France's part to act thus. But Japan goes even further than France in the way she shifts the members of her consular and diplomatic service from one country to another. It is high time that we took a leaf out of England's book in this matter.

* * *

In a magazine which treats exclusively of marine affairs called the *Kaiji* (海事) *Zasshi*, the writer of a leading article lately published deplores the general lack of interest in shipping and maritime affairs. Japan, says this writer, can only be said to have just shown her face beyond her coast line. The interest taken in maritime enterprises by the different nations is shown by the amount of their shipping compared to the size of the population of each country. Based upon this criterion, the following statistics were published some time ago. With the object of showing how far behind we are, says the *Kaiji Zasshi*, we append them here. The figures given concern steamers only. Tons per 1,000 inhabitants: Norway, 821; England, 326; Denmark, 283; Sweden, 127; Holland, 104; Germany, 50; America, 43; France, 35; Japan, 12. Taking the recorded savings of the members of various nationalities as an indication of the amount of thrift possessed by each, the following figures are instructive. Average amount of money annually saved by the inhabitants of the countries named below: Denmark, 165 *yen* per person; Switzerland 124 *yen*. Germany, 74. Norway, 67. Belgium, 66. America, 64. England, 46. Italy, 44. France, 41. Russia, 5. Japan, 1. The article concludes with a vigorous appeal to the Japanese "to give up the narrow-mindedness and exclusiveness of islanders, to cease vain boasting as to progress made, to desist from petty internal disputes, and to change conservatism and satisfaction with the past for an energetic progressive policy."

* * *

In a recent number of the *Taiyō* Viscount Watanabe, who, it will be remembered, was Minister of Finance in the last Itō Cabinet and whose opinions were one of the causes of the fall of the Ministry, has published his views on the general political outlook under the title *Sekai Seisaku* (*Welt politik*). Much of what he says is too general and abstract to be of any special interest, but in certain parts of the article there are indications that the Viscount's visit to Europe has had the effect of changing his views on things economic very considerably. In explaining the term now so popular in Germany he says that it is no other than imperialism or what is sometimes called a colonial policy. It doubtless includes a good many things, such as the protection of commerce by special tariffs and subsidies, the development of industry, and territorial expansion where this is possible. One thing is certain, proceeds the Viscount, Japan must adopt this policy and strain every nerve not to be left behind in the new race on which the great nations have entered. An Austrian foreign minister, with no little insight, once remarked that in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries religion was the chief subject of contention; in the eighteenth century political freedom and popular government were striven for among the leading nations of Europe; the nineteenth century was the age of race competition; the twentieth century will be the age of commercial and industrial competition. All the Powers are preparing for this. Germany when she entered on her new life as a nation only possessed 150 ships. She now has 1,390. The tonnage has increased from 82,000 tons, at the time of the federation of the States, to 1,347,000 tons. America has changed her Monroe policy and acquired Hawaii and the Philippine Islands.* England has gone back on the free-trade policy which for more than 100† years she has followed and is talking of a great Imperial zollverein, that is, of one form of protection. Russia is extending her railways in various parts at enormous expense in order to insure the further development of her commerce and industry. What is Japan doing towards maintaining her own in the economic strife of the nations?

It will be remembered that before the Viscount went to Europe he maintained that Japan was going ahead too fast. He was in favour of postponing the completion even of the enterprises on which she had embarked. The policy he then advocated was a passive policy. He has now turned around, says the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and practically eaten his own words. This journal goes on to observe that there are in Japan to-day equally wonderful changes in views; for whereas

* This statement is lacking in caution. If a choice is to be made, perhaps most people would say that Dr. Giles, the Professor of Chinese at Cambridge, is the greatest living Chinese scholar among Englishmen. But it is quite unnecessary to decide the question of the comparative greatness of two such experts as Doctors Douglas and Giles.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* Many Americans maintain that it is not correct to say that the Monroe policy was changed, as it was directed against the acquisition of new territory on the American continent by European nations, and laid down no restrictions as to the expansion of the United States. But the general impression in Europe for a long time was that in return for the observance of the Monroe doctrine by European powers, America would pursue a policy of non-interference in European politics, which policy she did actually pursue till the Spanish complication arose. It would be perhaps more correct to say that America has changed her foreign policy rather than that she has changed the Monroe policy, as Viscount Watanabe represents.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† This is, of course, a mistake. Free Trade may be said to have originated with the repeal of the old corn laws in 1846.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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when in power the leading member of the *Seiyūkai* were strongly in favour of an active policy and fell out with Viscount Watanabe because he suggested the adoption of a passive one, in their opposition to the Katsura Cabinet the *Seiyūkai* leaders now argue in favour of a passive policy. That the man who contended not so many months ago that Japan was in danger of financial ruin because she was going ahead so fast, should now say to her "go ahead faster," is a transformation exhibited by our modern political kaleidoscope which merits special attention.

* * *

In the *Taiyō* Mr. Abe Isoo discusses the Government Bill relating to the control of factories and workshops of various kinds. A draft of this bill was published last November and public opinion thereon was freely expressed in the press. The following is the gist of what Mr. Abe has to say on the subject. (1) In Art. I. it is stated that the provisions of the Bill are to apply only to workshops that employ over 30 hands. Why this limit? In the rules drawn up four years ago the limit was 50. Having reduced it to 30, in order to meet the cases of small workshops, which abound in Japan, it would be better to make over 5 the limit. In Switzerland the limit is 25. In many other Western countries there is no limit as to numbers fixed. (2) In Art. IV. the employment of children under 11 years of age is interdicted. This is an improvement on the rules of 1898, when 10 years was the limit. In France, England, Russia, America, Spain and Denmark it is 11. In Germany, 12; in Austria, Sweden, Holland and Belgium, 13 and in Switzerland, 14. At the international workingmen's conference held in Berlin in 1890, a resolution was passed to the effect that no child under 13 years of age should be employed in a workshop. Perhaps the limit now fixed by our Government suits our present circumstances and more cannot be expected for a while. (3) Art. V. limits the hours of employment according to age. Boys and girls under 16 and girls over 16 may not be employed between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. This we take to apply only to day factories. There are night factories like the spinning factories where the employment of young boys and girls is allowed by the Bill. Of this we cannot approve. It cannot be said that on the whole the provisions of the Bill as to the number of hours during which young people may be employed are satisfactory. The hours are limited to 12 for boys and girls under 16 and for girls over 16, but this regulation is not to be enforced for another 10 years; in the meantime 14 or 15 hours and in case of pressure of business even more are allowed by the Bill. This is outrageous. Public opinion in foreign oountries is all tending towards making the working day consist of 8 hours only, and there is little doubt that eventually this will be the limit. At present France fixes the limit for adults at 12 hours; Switzerland at 10; England's limit is not clearly defined, but it may be said to be 10 or 11. (4) The holidays provided for in the Bill are only two in the month—quite inadequate, as it seems to me, but perhaps it is as much as we can expect at present. (5) The arrangements made for compensation in case of accidents and for maintaining sick men and women for a fixed time are on the whole satisfactory, but the Bill does not seem to distinguish between accidents caused by the negligence of the workmen and accidents proceeding from other causes.

According to statistics lately collected by the Government, the number of hands employed in workships where some kind of machinery driven by motor power (*gendōryoku*) is used number 280,291. Among these 92,500 are boys of over 14 years and 3,680 boys under that age. The girls over 14 number 162,473 and under 14, 1,421,638. In workshops where no motor power is employed for driving machines, the boys over 14 number 19,347 and those under that age, 2,837. The girls over 14 amount to 37,473 and those under that age, to 8,078.

The *Taiyō* publishes some interesting particulars relating to Count Ōkuma's Waseda School, of which the following is a brief summary. When, 20 years ago Count Ōkuma founded his technical school at the then hamlet of Waseda, he was strongly suspected of having as his object the training of anti-Government politicians, but what he had in view was something quite different. He was of opinion that in the Government institutions sufficient freedom of inquiry and liberty to follow various methods of study were not enjoyed and he perceived that it was most desirable to make learning entirely independent of state aid or patronage. So in the year 1882 the school was opened. The first graduates consisted of 8 Law students and 4 Political Science students. Since that time more than 2,800 students have graduated from the school. In order to be in a position to start the University, the capital of the institution was last year raised to 250,000 *yen*. The great prosperity of the school is largely owing to the labours of three noted teachers, Doctors Tsubouchi Yūzō, Takata Sanae and Amano Tameyuki. A short account of the lives of these three scholars and writers should prove of interest to readers, says the *Taiyō*. (1) Dr. Takata Sanae. Entering the University in 1878, he graduated from the Literary College in 1882 and at once was employed as a teacher at the Waseda School, where for 20 years his labours have been incessant. The arrangement of the curriculum of the school, the management of its finances, the choice of books for the library, translation and the superintendence of the printing press, which during a series of years has been pouring forth bulky volumes of translations, have formed only a portion of Dr. Takata's multifarious occupations, for during the period under review he has been the editor of a newspaper, a member of the Diet and has filled high offices in the Education and Foreign Departments. He has during the whole of this time been the life and soul of the institution. In educational matters his views are thoroughly sound, and he aims at the development of character in students beyond everything. (2) Dr. Amano Tameyuki graduated at the University at the same time as Dr. Takata. Though a literary graduate, Political Economy is his special subject and for many years he has lectured at the Waseda School on this branch of learning. He is one of the best informed of our political economists, as has repeatedly been shown by his public speeches on this subject and by his debates in the Diet. While a follower of Mill, he is by no means an extreme free-trader. One of his great objects in teaching is to show how theories should be applied to practical life. He lectures without notes or books. In speech he is fluent and always lucid, and he gives his hearers the impression that his mind is quite made up on the various topics which he discusses. (3) Dr. Tsubouchi Yūzō entered the University at the same time as the two men mentioned above, but failed in one of his examinations owing to inadequate preparation. At this period of his life he was devoted to fiction and spent much time in reading novels, so he was a year late in graduating. His powers, however, were recognised by his fellow-students at the University. Even while there he used to compose novelettes for the newspapers. His noted book *Shosei Kishitsu* (The Student's Character), though not published till after his graduation, was composed, it is said, at the University. He became connected with the Waseda School in its early days, and when the Literary Department of the School was established in 1889 he took charge of it. He was for some years the editor of the *Waseda Bungaku*. In order to give himself more exclusively to educational work he gave up writing to a considerable extent some years ago. In late years ethics has been his special province of study.

The Waseda School is characterised by practicality and common sense, but has never aimed at depth of learning. One of its chief objects is to create men with well balanced moral qualities. If, concludes the *Taiyō*, the distinctive characteristics of the three great props of the institution were to be named, we should say that Dr. Takata's strong point is his intelligence, Dr. Amano's his extensive knowledge, and Dr. Tsubouchi's his highly developed feeling and taste in things literary and psychical.

* * *

In the *Keisei*, under the title "Three great Educationists of the Meiji Era" Mr. Matsumura draws attention to the influence wielded by Fukuzawa, Itagaki and Niijima. Mr. Fukuzawa's visit to America and Europe convinced him that Japan would imperil her very existence as an independent power unless she gave her earnest attention to commerce and industry and took steps for developing the resources of the country. When he returned to Japan, though hitherto a member of the warrior class, Mr. Fukuzawa threw away his sword and denounced the life ordinarily led by the *samurai* in no measured terms. The *samurai* were idle consumers of the food accumulated by the hard labour of other men—they were *komemushi* (rice-weevils). Their boasted loyalty to their superiors and their readiness to throw away their lives for their sake on the slightest pretence were all founded on a misconception of the relative importance of things. In the present age there was no special merit attached to the sacrifices made by warriors who aimed to figure as disciples of Kusunoki Masashige. Times had changed and hence the death of a Masashige was just the same as the death of an ordinary domestic servant. And so Mr. Fukuzawa spent his life in preaching the importance of thorough practicality, of business pursuits—in creating a new standard of merit. Count Itagaki's study of Western civilisation convinced him that its success depended largely on the part taken by the people of each country in government. To him it seemed that representative government and general progress were closely allied to each other. He determined to spend his life in endeavouring to make plebeians self-respecting, independent and jealous of their rights as citizens. In this to a certain extent he has succeeded. To Mr. Niijima it appeared that Christianity was the basis of Western civilisation and so on his return from America he started the Dōshisha and sent forth from it a number of highly trained Christian young men. It seems to us, proceeds Mr. Matsumura, that the work accomplished by this trio altogether surpasses that accomplished by the three politicians Itō, Ōkuma and Inoue.* But the three men who effected so much in the development of the nation each had a conspicuous defect. In Mr. Fukuzawa's case, he preached money-making so much to the exclusion of everything else that many of his disciples grew up to think more highly of business success than of personal character. With the *samurai's* sword Mr. Fukuzawa threw away the *samurai's* soul. In his old age he seems to have realized this and hence his numerous discourses on morality and the development of character and his *Kasegaman* articles † in the *Jiji Shimpō*. Mr. Niijima was a spiritualist and stood up nobly for the superiority of mind to matter. He was opposed to utilitarianism and advocated the setting up of higher ideals than those preached by Mr. Fukuzawa, but in the management of the business of his mission he was most deficient. He made far too much use of foreign money. He himself received the status of a foreign missionary and he allowed the Dōshisha financial affairs to get into such a mess that soon after his death there was talk of applying to a Court of Law in order to settle disputes about the property. And as for Count Itagaki, though in its earlier years the party that he founded did much to enlighten men's minds, it has long since ceased to exercise any important influence on political affairs. The Count's own life and ideals are excellent, but the party which he founded—well, we hardly care to speak about it (*Kore wo iu ni shinobizu*). If the merits of the three above-named men were combined, we should have something like perfection.

In another article in the same magazine Mr.

* Mr. Matsumura seems to overlook the fact that in the cause of education Count Ōkuma has done far more than Count Itagaki. In the opinion of not a few Japanese Count Ōkuma has been more successful as an educationist than as a political leader.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† Reproduced in these columns at the time of their publication.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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Matsumura under the title "The Training of Public Speakers" draws attention to the position occupied by public speaking in this country as compared with other modes of expressing thought. Here is the substance of Mr. Matsumura's article on this topic. We see no reason why people should not be able to make a living by public speaking in Japan as in the West. The Japanese, though accustomed to pay for ideas given to them in writing, are as a rule not disposed to pay for the privilege of hearing a good speech. We think that the practice of charging for admission to places where public speaking is going on should be encouraged. Japanese prejudice against the practice should be disregarded. When Mr. Fukazawa began to charge fees for teaching in the early days of the *Meiji* era, there was a great outcry against the innovation. Learning was too sacred a thing to be sold. A scholar should consider it beneath him to turn his knowledge into an article of merchandise, and so on. But now school fees are universal. When a Methodist bishop, whose name we think was Newman, was in Tōkyō a little time ago, he was asked to deliver a lecture on the life of General Grant. In reply he observed that the lecture asked for had often been given in America, but never for less than $300. This remark was quite proper. The custom of making people pay for the privilege of hearing orators speak is almost universal in America, being sanctioned even by such men as Emerson and Henry Ward Beecher. But the Tōkyō people evidently expect lectures to be delivered gratis. If, however, a charge is to be made for entrance to places of public assembly some steps should be taken to insure efficiency in the speakers. Training in the art of public speaking should at once be begun among us.

* * *

The following works have been recently issued. The *Taiwan-shi* (志) by Mr. Ino Yoshimori, one of the Formosa Governor-General's staff. This work, consisting of two volumes and selling at 1 *yen* 60 *sen*, is a history of Formosa and treats of the geography, the nomenclature, the language and customs of the country and many other subects connected with the island. It is illustrated throughout and professes to be a thoroughly trustworthy book of reference. It is published by the Bungaku-sha, Honchō, Nihon-bashi, Tōkyō.

The *Tokugawa Sambyakunen-shi*, by Mr. Osada Gūtoku, gives a history of the Tokugawa times during 300 years. It covers no less than 2,800 pages and sells at 10 *yen* a copy at the Shōkabō, Odemma-chō, Nihonbashi-ku, Tōkyō. It furnishes an account of the leading warriors, statesmen, writers and scholars of the period under review.

The *Hōritsu Jiten* is a work that is to consist of 6 volumes, being compiled by Mr. Ueno Sadamasa, Barrister-at-Law. It will explain some 13,000 legal terms. Only Vol. I. has as yet appeared. The price of the whole work, which may now be ordered, is 3 *yen* 20 *sen*.

* * *

To the New Year's number of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō contributes an article on Japanese literature of which the following is a brief summary. Though at one time Japanese literature seemed to be about to develop new life, early expectations have not been realized and at the present time one can find little that is gratifying in the state of our literature. As a nation we are not as yet given to hard thinking. Ideas do not get hold of us as they do of certain western writers. I will pass in brief review the chief branches of literature. (1) *Ordinary prose writing.*—In recent years there has undoubtedly been great development in prose compositions, but there is still room for great improvement. There are only a few writers whose style is worthy of admiration. (2) *New Style verses.*—Though this class of poetry supplied a felt want when first resorted to and though new style verses have to a large extent supplanted the archaic style of poem, yet for want of great thoughts to inspire the pen the art of composing these verses seems to languish and the outlook for this class of literature is anything but encouraging. (3) *Drama.*—Though a few good plays have been written the writers have received little encouragement from the managers of theatres. Japanese plays are exclusively confined to representing what is pitiable or what is cruel. One wearies of appeals to the same sort of feelings over and over again. It is much to be regretted that there should be no means of getting an entirely new class of drama put on the stage. (4) *Fiction.*—Though in some quarters this type of writing has become most popular, it cannot be commended, owing to the way in which it panders to the baser passions of mankind. Our novels are marked by the absence of great thoughts. Though the style of certain novelists is taking, there is not sufficient variety in the ideas expressed to sustain the interest of readers for any length of time. . . . . On the whole, then, literature may be said to be in rather a bad way. We need more culture. We need writers who take an interest in art, religion, philosophy, ethics and science. In these modern days no literature that is not permeated with ideas that are derived from high culture is worthy of high commendation. For the development of our literature it is most important that our writers should believe in some kind of religion. Furthermore, they should be able to read with ease foreign works. How many of our authors are there that can do this? There are some writers who have a minute acquaintance with Chinese and Japanese literature, but have no knowledge of Western literature; and there are others who have studied Western literature to some purpose, but who are quite unable to give full expression in their own language to the thoughts they have derived from others. How is it possible under these circumstances that our literature can develop itself in a normal manner? What I desire to see is more attention on the part of writers to human emotion and a deeper study of nature. By the human emotions I am not referring principally to the relations of the sexes to each other, but to the varied feelings to which we human beings are subject. . . . Our writers would do well to travel more than they now do and to learn how to observe the great changes which are taking place. . . . These is a lack of devotion to literature on the part of many men who have real literary talent. They are easily diverted to other pursuits and pens that once produced glowing words which moved not a few hearts have been laid aside. Our writers are soon discouraged. Hard to find in this country is the man who is determined to give his whole life to literature and to make a success of it.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Not more than two decades ago Shakespeare was supposed to spell bankruptcy for theatrical managers in England. This was before the era of the Benson Shakespearian Companies and the magnificent revivals initiated by Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum Theatre in London. Nowadays a good Shakespearian Company can always be sure of a full house both in London and the provinces; and in the United States also, if in the hands of competent players, the poet's works prove to be "a drawing card." Such was the experience of the Yokohama Literary Society last evening. The programme was entirely devoted to Shakespeare, and, to judge by the amount of applause bestowed, each and every item was hugely appreciated. That Mr. Brady would make a superb *Cardinal Wolsey* and a heroic *Marcus Brutus* was only to be expected, but we think that he really surpassed expectations in both characters. His impersonation of the great Churchman was as fine a piece of acting as we have ever seen; while it can truly be said of his *Brutus* that he was indeed "the noblest Roman of them all." Mr. Maitland as *Cromwell* was also excellent, and as *Orlando* very convincing, but it was as *Cassius*, we think, that he pleased best. As *Rosalind* Miss Ross was particularly enchanting, and her study of Shakespeare's bewitching heroine is to be highly commended. Miss Schereschewsky doubled the parts of *Viola* and *Olivia*, but she made a decided hit, differentiating the characters sharply and bringing out the varying moods of both in a manner that carried conviction. The minor characters ably supported their leaders, Mr. Eddison both as *Duke of Norfolk* and *Jacques* adequately suiting his actions to his words; while Mr. G. L. Read and Mr. E. W. Kilby deserve praise for their conscientious work.

The music with which the dramatic selections were interspersed was in capable hands and each performer was warmly applauded for his or her share in a most delightful and successful evening.

Mr. A. Bellamy Brown, the President, was in the chair, and in the course of his remarks said:—The works of Shakespeare have a perennial interest for everyone who can read or speak the English tongue and so the committee of the Yokohama Literary Society make no apology for again devoting a whole evening to selections from scenes in his plays together with a rendering of three or four of his immortal songs. In some respects we are rather lucky in that the scenes to be presented will be placed before our audience very much after the style in which they were played in Shakespeare's day. Instead of Elizabethan costumes, however, our players to-night will be in modern attire, but the stage on which they will "strut their little hour" will be as devoid of scenery, foot-lights, and properties as was the stage of the Globe theatre at Southwark whereon Shakespeare, after leaving his boyhood's home, "played many parts" before reaching affluence and renown. As you know, the earliest theatres in England, after the era of Miracle and Morality Plays, were usually inn-yards and the galleries that surrounded the ancient hostelries gave the first idea of the subsequent buildings; while even in Shakespeare's days when regular theatres had begun to spring up the pit was indifferently called the pit or the yard, showing the nature of its first beginnings. The Globe theatre, so inseparably associated with Shakespeare, was opened in 1594. It was only thatched in over the stage, the audience in the pit being uncovered, at the mercy of the elements, and without seats; for the "groundlings" were little considered in those days; while the aristocratic portion of the audience had boxes or rooms actually opening on to the stage, so that during the performances the young "men of quality," encroaching on their privileges, would sit about and block the stage, much to the inconvenience of the actors. Crude attempts were certainly made to provide scenery, but these were on a very limited scale. When a tragedy was represented the stage was draped in black. Hence the opening line in one of the acts of "Henry VI.":—

"Hung be the heavens with black."

A small dais or low staging, too, would be put up at the back of the stage to represent a wall, or eke a balcony, to enable little *Prince Arthur* in "King John" to "enter on the wall"; or *Juliet* to lean over to whisper her fervent vows to *Romeo*. A board inscribed "This is a wood," etc., would sometimes be hung up at the side to assist the imagination of the audience and help them to realise the scene which the players were endeavouring to depict; but beyond this nothing was attempted. It remained for a later age to summon the aid of the stage-carpenter to mount the scenes as we now expect them to be mounted when we visit the theatre at home. In Shakespeare's day, too, and for a long time after the women's parts were played by boys, which will explain the readiness of his heroines to slip into doublet and hose. These lads were choristers of St. Paul's Cathedral (known as the children of St. Paul's) and the choristers of the Chapel Royal (known as the Children of the Revels). The lads sometimes took all the parts in a play and so popular did they become that at one time Shakespeare and his company of adult actors had actually to leave London and "star" the provinces because they could get no audience in London to listen to them; and so it came about that the great tragedy of *Hamlet* was first acted in public before the University of Cambridge. Actresses came in after the Restoration of Charles II., and the first of Eve's daughters to tread the English boards were Anne and Beck Marshall, two very beautiful women,

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whose father was a well known Presbyterian divine. Pepys notes in his Diary that he first saw women acting on the stage on Jan. 3rd, 1661, in the play of "Beggar's Bush," by Beaumont and Fletcher, the theatre being in Vere Street.

No attempt was made in Shakespeare's day to provide appropriate costumes for the players and even till long past David Garrick's time it was not unusual to have *Julius Cæsar* played with men and women attired in the bag-wigs and hoop-skirts of the period. Indeed, when Garrick was remonstrated with for playing *Macbeth* in the ordinary costume of the day, he replied that he dare not bring a kilt upon the stage as Prince Charles Edward had so recently paid a flying visit to Derby!

It is strange how little we really know of the personal idiosyncracies of the man Shakespeare, or what kind of an actor he was. That he thoroughly understood the art is proved by his address to the players in "Hamlet;" and we know that he played the *Ghost* in that play; that he was also the original *Know' ell* in "Every Man in his Humour," and was in the first caste of "Sejanus"—both well-known plays by Ben Jonson:—furthermore his brother has left it on record that "Will played *Adam* in 'As You Like It,' besides some kingly parts." That Shakespeare was not a "leading actor," as we understand the term, seems evident, but he must have been an intelligent and careful player, studious of the subtleties and resources of his art, keenly sensitive to artistic quality in voice, intonation, gesture and reading, else could he not have written the plays he did.

Our first scene this evening is taken from "King Henry the VIII.," one of the last pieces of writing that came from the poet's prolific pen, its date being 1613, about three years before his all too early death. The play is not wholly his, however. The general opinion of the critics—including Lord Tennyson, Mr. James Russell Lowell, Mr. Spedding, Professor Furnivall, etc.—is that Shakespeare outlined the play, intending to build up a grand historical spectacle based on modern history, having as its central idea the ever pregnant lesson of the changing fortunes of men while pointing out in no uncertain manner the only sure trust we have in this world—the eternal verity of God. But the massive intellect was growing tired, like *Portia* his "little body was aweary of this great world," and half way through he must have turned the manuscript over to John Fletcher, who completed the play. It seems hard to deprive Shakespeare of the magnificent speeches put in the mouth of *Wolsey*, but there can be little doubt that the great playwright's part finishes where the *King* leaves the stage in the scene we are about to enact. But Fletcher has done his part well. His work betrays the overpowering influence of the subtler craftsman, and so we are enabled to see *Henry VIII.* in the play, placed as the centre of a gorgeous group, the embodiment of earthly fortune, by whose smile or frown earthly prosperity is gained or lost. Scene after scene shows the rise and fall of human fortunes as of waves of the great sea, and each fall—*Buckingham's, Katherine's, Wolsey's*—leads to the same thought:

> Farewell
> The hopes of Court! My hopes in heaven do dwell.

The play, as Professor Morley tritely observes, is as true as any sermon could be to the text, "Man walketh in a vain shadow, and disquieteth himself in vain; he heapeth up riches, and cannot tell who shall gather them. And now, Lord, what is my hope: truly my hope is even in Thee." The Hebrew Psalmist and the English Dramatist, though separated by long centuries, testify to the same great truth which history is always recording upon the tablets of the human race—Vanity of vanities, all is vanity. The play was first presented on June 29th, 1613, and incidentally led to the destruction of the Globe theatre. An eyewitness of the occurrence, old Wotton, writes:—"Now King Henry making a Masque at the Cardinal Woolsey's house, and certain canons being shot off at his entry, some of the paper or other stuff wherewith one of them was stopped did light on the thatch where being thought at first but an idle smoak, and their eyes more attentive to the show, it kindled inwardly, and ran round like a train, consuming within less than an hour the whole house to the very grounds. This was the fatal period of that virtuous fabrique; wherein yet nothing did perish but wood, straw and a few forsaken cloaks. Only one man had his breaches set on fire, that would perhaps have broyled him, if he had not by the benefit of a provident wit put out with bottle ale."

It is a quick transition to our second scene, which is taken from "As You Like It"—the sweetest and happiest of Shakespeare's comedies, as Professor Dowden enthusiastically describes it. The play was written in 1600 and takes us back to the old Robin Hood spirit of England when men loved the wild woodland life for the restful joys to be found therein. This may be considered the masterpiece of Shakespeare's pastoral dramas. As Mr. Mabie succinctly puts it in his analysis of Shakespeare's writings, the poet was still in the sunlight, but the shadows which were to lead to his divine tragedies were approaching; his mood was still gay and his spirits bouyant, but the one was touched with premonitions of sadness and the other tempered by a deepening sense of the complexity of life and its mystery of good and evil. The Forest of Arden, which figures so prominently in the play, was the leafy Warwickshire whose sylvan charms in the neighbourhood of Stratford-upon-Avon remain to this day, and the poet describes it faithfully and lovingly, and enables us by many dainty touches of detail and description to realise the happy out-of-door freedom of pastoral life led by the old Duke and his banished court. I need not outline the plot: I feel sure all present must know it as well as their alphabet. But a word or two may be pardoned regarding the characters. *Rosalind* and *Orlando* are the successors of a long line of pastoral lovers who flourish in Elizabethan literature, but they alone among their kind really live. In *Rosalind* purity, passion, and freedom are harmonized in one of the most enchanting women in literature. In her speech love finds a new language, which is continually saved from extravagance by its vivacity and humour. In *Audrey* and *Corin* the passion of the leading characters is gently parodied: in *Touchstone* the melancholy humour of *Jacques* is set out in more effective relief. But *Jacques'* sadness is touched with a not unkindly irony, though we must not take him too seriously. Keen critics indeed see in him a foreshadowing of the greater *Hamlet*, for through the whole play there runs a vein of seriousness, despite the clear rippling laughter of *Rosalind*, which, mingling with the poetic loveliness of the setting, gives "As You Like It" a deep and searching beauty.

Another charming Comedy, "Twelfth Night; or What You Will," next claims our attention. It was presented in the noble hall of the Middle Temple in London either in February or during the Christmas Season of 1601. "At our feast," writes John Manningham, a member of the Middle Temple, "We had a play called 'Twelfth Night, or What you will.' Much like the 'Comedy of Errors,' or 'Menæchime" in Plautus; but most like and near to that in Italian called 'Inganni.' A good practise in it," continues the gossipy diarist, "to make the Steward believe his lady widowe was in love with him, by counterfeiting as from his lady in general terms, telling him what she liked best in him and prescribing his gesture in smiling, his apparel, etc., and then when he came to practice making him believe they took him to be mad." The great lesson taught by the play is that "sweet are the uses of adversity," for all the lovers eventually get free from the toils of trouble and arrive at the haven where they would be. *Viola* is the true heroine of the play and one is glad that in the end she wins her *Duke*, though he is made of less exquisite stuff than she. I have no doubt though, that as a husband he was more satisfactory than a lover and said the prettiest, sweetest things imaginable to the wife who had once pled his cause for him (as we shall see to-night) with another woman, only to meet with a rebuff.

In the year which saw "Twelfth Night" produced, the tragedy of "Julius Cæsar" was written. The play is not misnamed. Although *Cæsar* dies at the beginning of the dramatic movement his spirit dominates it to the very end. At every turn he confronts the conspirators in the new order which he personified and of which, as Mr. Mabie points out, he was the organizing genius. *Cassius* dies with this recognition on his lips:—

> Cæsar, thou art revenged,
> Even with the sword that killèd thee.

And when *Brutus* looks on the face of the dead *Cassius* he too bears testimony to a spirit which was more potent than the arms of *Octavius* and *Antony*:—

> O Julius Cæsar, thou are mighty yet!
> Thy spirit walks abroad and turns our swords
> In our own proper entrails.

This new order in the Roman world personified by *Cæsar*, is the shaping force of the tragedy. *Octavius* represents it without fully understanding it, and *Brutus* and *Cassius* array themselves against it without recognizing that they are contending with the inevitable and irresistible. *Brutus* is one of the noblest and most consistent of Shakespearian creations; a man far above all self-seeking and capable of the loftiest patriotism; in whose whole bearing, as in his deepest nature, virtue wears its noblest aspect. He is an idealist with a touch of the doctrinaire; his purposes are of the highest but the means he employs to give those purposes effect are utterly inadequate; in a lofty spirit he embarks on an enterprise doomed to failure by the very temper and pressure of the age. "Julius Cæsar" is the tragedy of the conflict between a great nature denied the sense of reality and the world-spirit. Under the burden of setting right his time, he, like *Hamlet*, unfit to bear that burden, sinks and dies by his own hand; and in his fall he carries down to "Pluto's dark, dank realm" his noble wife, the high-souled *Portia*.

The songs which will be sung to-night need no introduction from me: they are among the sweetest in the language and have been given exquisite settings. The three Dances which introduce our programme were composed by Mr. Edward German for Sir Henry Irving's famous revival of "King Henry VIII." at the Lyceum Theatre in January, 1892. They consist of a Morris Dance, a Shepherd's Dance, and a Torch Dance. I shall conclude these all too inadequate notes by quoting some verses by Mr. T. B. Aldrich which appeared some years ago in the *Century*:—

> The folk who lived in Shakespeare's day
> And saw that gentle figure pass
> By London Bridge—his frequent way—
> They little knew what man he was!
>
> The pointed beard, the courteous mien,
> The equal port to high and low,
> All this they saw or might have seen—
> But not the light beyond the brow!
>
> The doublet's modest gray or brown,
> The slender sword hilt's plain device,
> What sign had these for prince or clown?
> Few turned, or none, to scan him twice.
>
> Yet 'twas the King of England's Kings!
> The rest with all their pomps and trains
> Are mouldered, half-remembered things—
> 'Tis he alone that lives and reigns.

The full programme follows:—

INTRODUCTORY NOTES, HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE.
The President.

Piano Duo....."Three Dances" .....German.
(Composed for Sir Henry Irving's production of "Henry VIII.")

Mrs. A. Bellamy Brown and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

Scene....."The Fall of Cardinal Wolsey.
Selection from Act. 3, Scene ii., "King Henry VIII."
(Ante-Chamber to the King Apartment.)
Characters.

King Henry VIII.....Mr. G. L. Read.
Duke of Norfolk .....Mr. E. Eddison.
Duke of Suffolk } .....Mr. E. W. Kilby.
Earl of Surrey } .....
Cromwell .....Mr. N. G. Maitland.
Cardinal Wolsey .....Mr. G. G. Brady.

Songs...(a) "Where the Bee sucks".....Dr. Arne.
(Ariel's Song in "The Tempest.")
(b) "Sigh no more Ladies"..R. L. S. Stevens.
(Balthazar Song in "Much Ado about Nothing.")
Mrs. E. C. Irwine.

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Scene.." Rosalind's Second Meeting with Orlando."

Selection from Act 3, Scene iii., " As You Like it."

(The Forest of Arden.)

Characters.

Rosalind (disguised as a boy) ...Miss Ross.
Orlando .....Mr. N. G. Maitland.
Jaques .....Mr. E. Eddison.

Song..." Blow, blow thou Winter's Wind "...Sargeant.

(Amien's Song in " As You Like It.")

Mr. A. Henry Atkinson.

Scene..... " Love's Messenger."

Selection from Act 1, Scene v., " Twelfth Night, or What you will."

(A Room in Olivia's House.)

Characters.

Viola (disguised as a page } Miss Scbereschewsky.
Olivia ..... }

Vocal Duo....." I know a bank ".....Horn

(Oberon's Speech in " Midsummer Night's Dream, originally composed in 1823 for a set of songs for the fairy scene in " The Merry Wives of Windsor.")

Mrs. E. C. Irwine and Miss E. Burdett Leach.

Scene.....Selection from " Julius Caesar."

(1) Act 1, Scene ii., Rome. A public place.

(2) Act 4, Scene iii., Within the tent of Brutus, in Camp near Sardis,

Characters.

Marcus Brutus.....Mr. G. G. Brady.
Cassius.....Mr. N. G. Maitland.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of the 15th instant you favour me with a reply to my letter of the 12th instant, from which it appears that you find ■ difficult to understand how I could be in possession of information from the German press with regard to the joint action of England and Germany in Venezuela. You say that "the joint action of England and Germany against Venezuela may be said to have commenced actively on the 9th of December," and that "the latest detailed news we have is dated December 19th and comes *via* America." Then, after quoting the information you have on the subject, you say, "Where are there any proofs of all the terrible things our correspondent 'American' alleges? Where did he obtain his information and his materials?" In conclusion you kindly ask me to be more explicit and that the "grave charges be either substantiated or withdrawn."

If, during the South African war, I should have had occasion to write to a German paper my impressions regarding the unfriendly attitude of the German press toward England, I might have said equally "terrible things," but if the editor of that paper had challenged me to either "substantiate or withdraw" what I had said, I possibly might have been obliged to take the latter course, for the simple reason that I am not in the habit of preserving such things, and could therefore, perhaps, not lay my hands on any specific unfriendly statement. The same is true with regard to what I said in my letter to you, in a general way, about the attitude of the English press. I had no thought of wanting to reveal anything new, but rather stated what I supposed was generally known. Possibly I did not read correctly, and that statements which I read, off and on, in the English press, which seemed very unfriendly toward Germany, were not at all intended to be so; and that the German reproductions of such articles and comments thereon, and the resentment which some of them called forth were all a mistake. The impression it had made upon me, and many others, was in keeping with what I wrote you on the 12th instant. Our impression may be at fault, and if so, I for one, stand ready to be corrected. Not only that, I should be happy to find that I was altogether mistaken. If it is a mistake, however, to believe, as I did, that the English press is unfriendly toward Germany, then I fail to understand why the very gentleman whom you quote, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, should have deemed it necessary, but a few weeks ago, to denounce, in very severe terms, the unfriendly attitude of a portion of the English press toward Germany. This, however, by the way. I disclaim any intention of doing an injustice to the British press, which for years has been kindly disposed and friendly ■ my own country and for which I entertain a very high regard.

What seems to perplex you in my letter, above all else, is that I should have any information from the German press on or before the 12th instant with regard to the Venezuela matter. In reply to this I can only say, that a day or two before the 12th I received a paper from Berlin called *Das Echo*, dated December 4th, which has considerable information on the subject, and it quotes from other papers on the same subject, but unfortunately does not give the dates of issue of these papers, but they must have been printed, of course, before the 4th of December. Among the papers quoted is the *Berliner Morgen Post*, which under the heading of "Deutsch-englische Folten-Aktion gegen Venezuela" gives a detailed account of the situation and approvingly speaks of the nature and object of the joint action. In the same issue is an article from the *Münchener Neueste Nachrichten* which especially dwells on the attitude of the English press, at this time. It names three papers that are friendly toward Germany, as exceptions to the rule, and after going into some details the *Nachrichten* comes to the following conclusion:—"We have to reckon with the fact that an overwhelming portion of public opinion in England, charged if not with deep-seated enmity, yet certainly is with greatest distrust against Germany's intentions, especially her 'latest' intentions; that were it possible, she would infinitely prefer joint action with Russia or France to any joint action with Germany; that the time is absolutely past in which Germany was regarded as a 'natural' ally, with whom one could at most only have family-friction, and that to-day one is rather disposed to see in Germany a 'natural' enemy. It is all the more necessary to take account of this fact in a country, like England, where the deep current of public opinion, like the present, must sooner or later determine the policy of the Government."

Yours truly, AMERICAN.

Tokyo, January 16th, 1903.

(We are content to let the matter rest there. That newspapers do not by any means serve to promote international unity we deplore, and have often deplored, but truly we fail to see that the English press has erred so greatly in the present instance.—Ed. *J. M.*)

A WORD FOR THE ENGLISH PRESS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In a letter signed "American" published in your columns on the 13th inst. a very one-sided account of Anglo-German relations is given. "American" seems surprised that the English people, which the English press represents, are not clapping their hands with joy because a small naval Power like Germany has shown her willingness to take part in a naval action in conjunction with England, and takes it for granted that Germany's attitude on this occasion is prompted by friendliness of feeling towards England. How very simple your correspondent must be to make these assumptions the basis of a lecture to the English press. In the China war German soldiers were fighting side by side with English soldiers, but this did not prevent German politicians a few months later from trying to steal a march on England in a most mean fashion. In the Venezuelan affair a great naval power like England certainly needs no ally. In as far as the two Powers act together so far will Germany profit thereby. Supposing that Germany had acted independently and the affair had led to a big complication in which powerful fleets belonging to other countries or to one other country even had taken part, where would Germany have been then? The view of the English press is that the arrangement, like the Yangste affair two years ago, is a one-sided business in which Germany gets all the benefit. The English people are expected by your unsophisticated correspondent to be so kind as to smile on their German cousins for being considerate enough to benefit themselves at England's expense. The action of the German Government in the Venezuelan affair is no indication of the diminution of German Anglophobia. Germany's hatred of England is, as everybody knows, caused by deep-seated jealousy. When two individuals want the same thing it is very hard for them to be generous to each other. England has tried hard to act generously to Germany, but Germany makes no pretence at reciprocation. In fact, she goes out of her way to make it plain that she prefers to keep England at arms' length. That being her political game, let her play it for another decade or two and see what will happen. There is no Power in Europe that has more to fear from isolation in the midst of antagonistic alliances than Germany. In making an enemy of Great Britain she thinks herself to be on the way to conciliate a foe that she hopes never to have to fight. The English nation feels that it is undignified on our part to make overtures of any kind to people who for over two years could give themselves to the basest and meanest kind of slander that was ever penned. In private life, when one man thinks another man of his acquaintance capable of mean, or dishonourable conduct, friendship between the two men is impossible. It would seem as though the feeling of repugnancy to Germany in England is at present so strong that no Government wishing to remain in power would venture to propose any kind of further political entanglement with that country. It will take years to alter this feeling and they must be years of friendly action on Germany's part. Experience teaches one to expect much less generosity in the dealings of nations with each other than is found among the majority of individuals in whose society it is the good fortune of most of us to mix. Union and harmony depend on the possession of moral qualities that are conspicuously lacking in the majority of units that go to make a nation. Pettiness, meanness and bitter envy are far more common among whole masses of human beings than the opposite qualities so much extolled in moral treatises and high-class fiction. It is no use talking about "ought to join hands." Constituted as the majority of Englishmen and Germans are, can they? Their ideals are at variance.

I am, yours, etc., AN ENGLISHMAN.

January 14th, 1903.

[We print this letter as we printed that to which it replies, but we deprecate the strong expressions of the writer, and we believe that Germany and England have so much in common as to justify a hope that they will yet again walk hand in hand as they did in the old days of European storm and stress.—Ed. *J. M.*]

JAPAN'S TEA TRADE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—According to the Japanese papers, Mr. Otani, Chairman of the Central Tea Guild, has nominated two gentlemen, to act as delegates to petition the Government for the continuation of the Tea Subsidy which expires this year.

This subsidy was granted for seven years, and amounts to *yen* 70,000 annually, and was granted by the Government for the purpose of expanding and increasing the consumption of Japan Tea abroad.

During the seven years this amount of money has been received by the guild, the export of Japan tea has *decreased* by over twelve million pounds, the export in 1896-7, amounting to 48,734,000 pounds, whereas for the season ending 1902, the export reached only 36,000,000 pounds. The efficacy of the subsidy for the expansion of the Tea Trade, therefore, is not very apparent.

As a matter of fact, it is well-known to the foreign tea trade, that this money has not been used for the purpose for which it was intended by the Government, or only to an infinitesimal extent. The greater part is paid by the guild directly to private Japanese tea firms as an assistance in enabling them to compete with their foreign rivals, and is thus a distinct violation of the existing treaties with Foreign countries.

The use, or rather abuse, of this grant by the Tea Guild is a scandal to the tea trade, and the Government would do well, before allowing a fresh subsidy, to make searching enquiries into the methods of the Tea Guild, as to the disposal of the four hundred and fifty thousand *yen* that have passed through its hands during the past seven years.

Yours, etc., TEA MERCHANT.

Yokohama, 20th January, 1903.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I notice in to-day's *Japan Times* a summary of Terms of Tender for Railway Material for the Siamese Government, in which there is an important difference with the terms usually adopted by the Japanese Government and Railways, viz, examination of the Works as the material is made, instead of on arrival abroad. The Inspection here, after the freight, shipping expenses and duty are added to the cost, is a great drawback and an incalculable item, as in some instances at least, large quantities of material have been thrown on importers' hands for the most trivial reasons or for no real reason at all. This risk is so well appreciated by both manufacturers and merchants that many of the best of them decline to quote, whilst those who do, have to add an appreciable margin for the risk of rejection by unknown and at times unskilled examiners. Buyers therefore are at a disadvantage against purchasers where inspection takes place at the factory.

In this connection it will be interesting to know how many tenders will be put in for the 700 tons of water pipes required by the Tokyo City Office, after previous experience of their methods of examination.

Yours faithfully, IMPORTER

Yokohama, January 20, 1903.

LAUNCH AT KOBE.

The *Heijo Maru*, a steamer which has been built at Kawasaki Dockyard to the order of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, was successfully launched at Kobe on the 15th inst.

The ceremony was performed in the presence of a large number of spectators, by Miss Nakahashi, a young lady of about eleven years of age, the daughter of the President of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. A

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reserved platform was erected for the reception of specially invited guests, and among those who witnessed the launching ceremony from this platform were the President of the Osaka Sosen Kaisha, Count and Countess Matsukata, with prominent officials of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha and Kawasaki Dockyard, including the Vice-President, Mr. Kawasaki.

At twenty minutes past four gangs of coolies on either side began to knock away the supports underneath the *Heijo Maru*, and punctually at half-past four Miss Nakahashi pulled a cord which at the same time broke the bottle of wine on the prow of the ship and opened the globe of confetti, the coloured paper spreading itself out to the breeze as the vessel gracefully took the water. This was a very pretty sight, despite the smoke from neighbouring steamers and the gloominess of the afternoon.

Afterwards, according to the *Kobe Chronicle*, from which the above is taken, quite a lively scene took place in connexion with the throwing of *mochi* from the platform, and a policeman seems to have been unceremoniously hustled in the scramble for pieces of the stuff.

The dimensions of the *Heijo Maru* are as follows;—Length, 212ft.; breadth, 31ft. 6in.; depth, 20ft.: draught 14ft.; while she has a displacement of 1,860 tons, and a speed of 12 knots. The vessel is intended for the Korean trade.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

COAL FAMINE IN AMERICA.

London, January 15.

The coal famine in America is causing severe distress. Several towns of Illinois have forcibly seized carloads of coal passing through. Numerous deaths from freezing are reported.

RUSSIA ON THE AMUR.

It is reported that a Russian flotilla of 25 vessels has been formed to protect the navigation of the Amur and Ussuri against Chinese pirates; to watch the Manchurian bank of the river, and to effect speedy mobilization in the event of war.

THE AMERICAN COAL FAMINE.

London, January 16.

The American Congress passed in a single sitting a bill suspending the duty on imported coal far one year.

CHINESE AND THE RAND.

The papers unanimously protest against the suggested importation of Chinese into the Rand, some condemning the proposal outright others expressing serious misgivings.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE.

The Crown Prince of Germany has started for St. Petersburg on a visit to the Tsar.

PARISIAN POLITICS.

M. Jaures, Socialist, has been elected Vice-President of the Chamber. This is regarded as significant of the strong position the socialists are attaining in France.

THE TURKESTAN EARTHQUAKES.

7,000 perished in the recent earthquake at Andijan. The damage to property is 15,000,000 roubles.

Shocks continue.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, ALDERSHOT, DESTROYED.

London, January 17.

Government House at Aldershot, General French's official residence, was totally burned on the evening of January 15.

AMERICAN LINER OVERDUE.

The American liner *St. Louis* is four days overdue at New York. All the incoming steamers report stormy passages.

FRANCE AND THE RED SEA LITTORAL.

France has decided to send a naval force on the occasion of the opening of the Jibutil-Harrar Railway and the Emperor Menelik is expected to attend the celebration.

RUSSIA AND THE DARDANELLES.

One Russian torpedo boat passed through the Dardanelles on Tuesday.

BRITISH ARMY APPOINTMENTS.

Lieut.-General Sir Francis W. Grenfell has been appointed to command the Fourth Army Corps, and Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke will be the new Governor of Malta.

CHAMBERLAIN IN JOHANNESBURG.

London, January 18.

Mr. Chamberlain yesterday visited the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. He had a tremendous reception.

In a speech from the rostrum he said he was a child in financial matters but he had heard that the report of his assassination had depressed the Paris and Berlin markets. He thought those should be the last places where such news would cause depression.

THE "ST. LOUIS."

The American liner *St. Louis* passed Nantucket last evening.

CZECHS TROUBLE AUSTRIA.

Later.

The Austrian Reichsrath adjourned at five in the evening after a 54 hours' sitting caused by the obstruction of the Czechs. The tactics of the latter are imperilling the passage of the Austro-Hungarian Arrangement, for which the approval of the Austrian Parliament is requisite.

SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS.

London, January 19.

At a public banquet at Johannesburg, Mr, Chamberlain said that he must consider the interests of the Dutch as well as the interests of the British. He intends to submit to the Imperial Parliament a bill guaranteeing a loan of 35 millions sterling on the security of the assets of the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony. The loan will be used for clearing the debts of the Transvaal and for public works in both colonies.

As soon as this loan is issued another loan of 30 millions will be issued, to which the Orange Colony will not contribute. The second loan will be on the security of the Transvaal.

U.S. NAVAL AUGMENTATION.

The Naval Committee of the House of Representatives at Washington has recommended the construction of three new battleships and one cruiser.

SOUTH AFRICA.

London, January 20.

There is a strong feeling in Johannesburg in favour of expending the war contribution on warships.

THE "PANTHER" IN ACTION.

The German cruiser *Panther* attempted to force an entrance to the Gulf of Maracaibo. She fired on the fortress of San Carlos and the latter replied, forcing the *Panther* to retire.

THE MINES' CONTRIBUTION.

The newspapers agree that although the mines might have furnished a larger contribution without crippling them, it is most important, as regards the future of the Transvaal that their contribution should be voluntary and should be furnished with goodwill.

M. DE BLOWITZ DEAD.

M. de Blowitz, the correspondent of *The Times* in Paris, is dead.

THE "PANTHER" AFFAIR.

London, January 21.

The Venezuelans says that the *Panther* tried to enter Lake Maracaibo for the purpose of capturing the warship *Miranda*. It is feared that the incident will imperil the negotiations between the powers and Venezuela.

FEZ.

The British Vice-Consul has been stoned in the streets of Fez after dusk. His assailants were noted and arrested; they were bad characters and were duly punished. The incident is unimportant.

MARCONI GREETINGS.

His Majesty the King and President Roosevelt yesterday exchanged cordial Marconi messages, the first transmitted between the United States and Great Britain.

Marconi himself operated at Willfleet, Massachusetts, the distance being to Cornwall 3000 miles.

THE VENEZUELA AFFAIR.

Mr. Bowen, U.S. Minister to Venezuela, has arrived at Washington.

GERMANY AND THE DARDANELLES.

London, January 22.

Count von Bülow, speaking in the Reichstag and referring to Russian torpedo-boat destroyers passing the Dardanelles, said it was impossible to except (? expect) from Germany in Eastern affairs anything but impartial and quiet neutrality, in which there would be nothing hostile towards any of the powers, any more than towards those concerned at present.

COLONEL LYNCH.

The trial of Colonel Lynch began yesterday before Justices Wills and Channell. He pleaded not guilty. It is expected that the case will last several days.

THE DARDANELLES.

A second Russian torpedo-boat destroyer has passed the Dardanelles.

HUNGARY AND THE SUGAR CONVENTION.

The Hungarian Parliament has ratified the Sugar Convention,

(Received at the Legation of France.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, January 17.

The Parliamentary Commission appointed to examine the Franco-Siamese Treaty has asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs to communicate the documents annexed to the Treaty. The Commission will hold its next sitting on Wednesday.

Interpellated on the question of the Congregations, the Prime Minister, M. Combes, maintained the rights and duties of the State, and obtained a vote of confidence by 313 to 211.

There is no change in the Morocco situation.

FRENCH NEWS.

Washington, January 20.

The Bill for the compensation of persons whose property was destroyed in connexion with the sanitary arrangements in Hawaii, passed the House of Representatives on the 14th instant without alteration. It had passed the Senate in 1902.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, January 21.

M. de Blowitz is dead.

The Chamber is discussing the Budget. M. P. Deschanel has re-entered the field of politics with a grand discourse on the necessity of a union of all the democrats. M. d'Estournelles de Constant criticises the state of armed peace which produces deficits in all the European budgets.

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It is reported from Caraccas that the I.G.S. *Panther*, seeking to enter Maracaibo Lake, was fired on by the fort. She replied, but, being struck by two projectiles gave up the attempt.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

JAPANESE EMIGRANTS TO HAWAII.

The Consul at Honolulu telegraphs that among the Japanese immigrants who arrived in Hawaii by the *Gaelic*, 42 were found to be suffering from a contagious eye-disease.

(These immigrants will of course be returned to Japan, and emigration companies are recommended to pay attention to this point in future.)

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

APPALLING DISASTER AT KOBE.

Kobe, January 20.

Early yesterday afternoon a launch from the Kawasaki dockyard, with workmen from the *Yokohama Maru* bound for the *Genkai Maru*, capsized near the latter owing to the squally weather. Twenty-two men are missing and it is feared that all on board were drowned.

To-day's news is even worse than anticipated. So far 28 bodies have been recovered.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

VENEZUELA.

London, January 15.

The Venezuelan Government is imposing heavy taxes on the merchants of Caracas.

MOROCCO.

The people who had taken refuge at Fez have now arrived at the coast.

London, January 17.

The Sultan of Morocco has been enabled to regain his influence by the arrival of reinforcements and war material.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF GERMANY.

The Crown Prince of Germany went to St. Petersburg, but was unable to see the Czar, the latter being indisposed. Prince Michael, welcomed the German Prince on behalf of the Czar.

LORD ROSEBERY AND THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Lord Rosebery in the course of a speech commented on the action of the Government with regard to the North China trouble.

THE DARDANELLES.

Russia, neglecting the protest offered by England, caused a torpedo-boat destroyer pass through the Dardanelles again on Tuesday night.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, January 19.

Mr. Chamberlain's proposals for the finances of South Africa, made public at Johannesburg, have been enthusiastically received. Capitalists have proposed to subscribe for the public bonds to be floated.

DISTURBANCE IN ODESSA.

London, January 20.

A serious outbreak has taken place among the immates of the Odessa Prison. Two soldiers, who went to the scene to quell it, were killed.

VENEZUELA.

President Castro has promised U. S. Minister Bowen that he will pledge the custom-houses as security for the due liquidation of his obligations to the Powers.

(FROM THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

TRADE RIVALRY.

London, January 21.

Sir Marcus Samuel, the Lord Mayor, presided at the 79th anniversary of the Birkbeck Institute.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, who presented the prizes, said the country which would rank high must prove the superiority of its work and products. His Government had never failed to impress this on the Japanese.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE COAL FAMINE IN THE UNITED STATES.

London, January 16.

Over sixty steamers have been chartered since Christmas to convey British coal to the United States.

NEW GRAND VIZIER FOR TURKEY.

Ferid Pasha, President of the recently appointed Macedonia Reform Commission, has been appointed Grand Vizier of Turkey.

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

DR. VON HOLLEBEN.

Berlin, January 15.

It was expected that the sudden departure of the German Ambassador in Washington, Dr. von Holleben, whom the adversaries of Germany have tried so often to put aside during the last years, would give cause to the most unlikely statements and calumnies at those places where Germany is disliked. His substitute, Baron Speck von Sternburg, has taken the opportunity of an interview, to reject in the most emphatic way the false statements about Dr. von Holleben's return to Germany, and to assert that the Ambassador was only granted leave, for which he was obliged to ask, on account of his health.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date
Hongkong	O. & O. Co	Doric 1	M. Jan. 26
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia 2	Tu. Jan. 27
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 3	Th. Jan. 29
Seattle, Wash.	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru 4	F. Jan. 30
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa. Jan. 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. Feb. 2
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	M. Feb. 2
Europe	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	Tu Feb. 3
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co	Tacoma	Su. Feb. 8
America	P. M. Co.	Korea 5	Su. Feb. 8
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of Japan	M. Feb. 9
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Th Feb. 12
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Feb. 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Emp. of India	Th. Feb. 19

1 Left Shanghai on the 21st inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst
3 Left San Francisco on the 10th inst.
4 Left Seattle, Wash. on the 13th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 16th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer	Date
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Darmstadt	Sa. Jan. 24
Europe, &c.	N. Y. K.	Tamba Maru	Sa. Jan. 24
Seattle, Wash.	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru	Tu Jan. 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W Jan 28
Tacoma, Wash.	N. P. Co.	Olympia	W Jan 28
Europe, via S'hai	M. M. Co	Salazie	Th Jan. 29
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakusan Maru	Th Jan. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa Jan. 31
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	M Feb. 2
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Feb. 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	M. Feb 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of Japan	M Feb 9
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	M Feb 9
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. Feb 14
America	P. M. Co	City of Peking	Sa Feb. 14
Hongkong	O. & O. Co	Gaelic	Tu Feb. 17
Canada, &c.	C. P. R. Co.	Emp. of India	F Feb 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 16th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 10th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer. 1,433, I. Higo, 16th Jan.,—Kobe, 14th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 17th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 27th Dec., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, D. E. Friele, 17th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 17th Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 17th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 30th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, Y. Tamuke, 17th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 17th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, S. Muramatsu, 17th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 18th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 17th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,568, T. Sakai, 18th Jan.,—Kobe, 17th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amphitrite (16 guns), British cruiser, 11,000, Captain C. Windham, 19th Jan.,—Wei-hai-wei.

Prosper, Norwegian steamer, 898, Christiansen, 20th Jan.,—Hongkong, General.—Simon Evers & Co.

Chun Sang, British steamer, 1,418, Arthur, 20th Jan.,—Saigon, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 20th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 19th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 20th Jan.,—Kobe, 18th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wuerzburg, German steamer, 3,246, von Binzer, 21st Jan.,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 17th Jan., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Bulysses, British tank steamer, 3,958, T. G. Scott, 21st Jan.,—Batoum via ports, and Kobe, 19th Jan., Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 21st Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 20th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 21st Jan.,—Yokkaichi via Tsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fazilka, British steamer, 2,698, D. Campbell, 21st Jan.,—Madras via ports, and Manila, 13th Jan., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Darmstadt, German steamer, 3,161, G. Meiners, 22nd Jan.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, 21st Jan., Mails & General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 22nd Jan.,—Kobe, 20th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Frank E. Beadnell, 22nd Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 3rd Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 22nd Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 21st Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 22nd Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 21st Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. S. Cox, 16th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 16th Jan.,—Yokkaichi via Tzu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 16th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 16th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Argo, Norwegian steamer, 878, W. Melberg, 16th Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,093, Remes, 17th Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Herbert W. Bee, 17th Jan.,—Moji via Wada Point, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,950, C. H. Burch, 17th Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 17th Jan.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 18th Jan.,—Hongkong via Kobe, Nagasaki and Manila, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 18th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 18th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 18th Jan.,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. Yagi, 18th Jan.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 19th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 19th Jan.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Hunter, 19th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, A. R. Peters, 20th Jan.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

China, American steamer, 2,422, D. E. Friele, 20th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,763, W. Townsend, 21st Jan.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 22nd Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 22nd Jan.,—Yokkaichi via Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 22nd Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. R. D. P. Fontebor, Mr. K. Satow, Paymaster R. G. Mathden, Mr. A. H. Windette, Dr. A. Berger, and Capt. Julius Rath, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. J. E. Smith, in cabin. For Manila:—Mr. C. H. Burrett, Mr. R. Ebey, Mrs. J. H. Grufkins, Mr. J. Howe, Capt. Wm. Johnson, Mr. L. C. Rhein, Miss E. Williams, and Mr. J. F. Wood, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. V. A. Flower, Mr. Leo Friede, Mr. J. H. Grufkins, Mr. R. H. La Parte, Capt. G. P. Philip, Mr. J. J. Spieker, Mr. J. W. Spieker, Mrs. J. J. Spieker, Miss G. A. Spieker, and Mr. Chong Din Sang, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. W. Douglas, Capt. J. Eaton, Mrs. H. A. C. Bonal, Mr. Emile Schmidt, Miss Marie Kingser, Mrs. McDermid and son, Mr. Dorothy McDermid, and Mr. Archibald McDermid, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mrs. M. A. Jewett, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rear-Admiral Wilde, U.S.N., Lieut. P. Andrews, U.S.N., Capt. P. W. West, U.S.A., Major G. D. Deshon, U.S.A., Capt. H. Sparrenberger, U.S.A., Mrs. W. H. Potts, Miss Enid Potts, Miss Muriel Potts, Mr. E. J. Martin, Mrs. H. B. Lett, Mr. Geo. Harrison, Mr. H. E. Wasserman, Mrs. P. Andrews, Mr. Jean Andrews, Miss MacDonald, Mr. Otto Shoenewerk, Dr. Wendel, Mr. J. E. Rollins, Mrs. J. E. Rollins, Mr. G. J. Kavanaugh, Mr. L. Clark, Mr. C. H. Best, and Dr. Thornicraft, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. H. M. Lente, Mr. Jas. Lassman, and Mr. and Mrs. S. Humes, in second class; 30 Japanese, and 14 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Fazilka*, from Madras via ports:—Mr. E. Christie, Mr. J. C. Rudge, Mr. W. S. Creces, Mr. F. X. Sambert, Mr. J. M. Krauss, Mr. R. G. Accobo, Mr. J. F. Fugate, Miss Mary Krauss and Mr. S. A. Miller, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Darmstadt*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. Andrew Kerr, Mr. von Janson, His Ex. and Mrs. von Janson, Mr. F. Gilbert, Mr. W. Falck, and Miss M. Korff, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Com. G. L. Dyer, Mr. F. Vorwerk, Mr. P. Kamp, Mr. Max Hartl, Mr. W. J. Karnes, Mr. E. F. Baxter, and Mr. Y. Kuramoto, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. F. C. Cooper, Mrs. F. C. Cooper, Mrs. Wm. Guild and child, Mr. L. G. Emory, Mr. A. E. Jessup, and Mr. J. M. Lachlan, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. T. W. Burkholder, Mrs. T. W. Burkholder, Mr. W. E. Crossman, Mr. P. L. Flanigan, Dr. D. W. Rulison, Mr. R. M. McWade, Mrs. R. M. McWade, and Miss May McWade, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Weil infant and amah, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Mr. Upton, Miss M. Sharp, Mr. G. Sale, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Marshall, in cabin; 2, in intermediate. For Vancouver:—Mrs. H. A. Hanigan, Mr. E. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bush and servant, Mr. Paul Crompton, and Mr. A. W. Graland, in cabin; 183, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Addis, Mr. Addis, Mr. Otto Meyer, Mr. Louis Freel, Mr. H. F. Charley, Mr. E. Scott, Mrs. Gibbens, Mr. I. Matsumura, and 3 Chinese, in cabin; Mr. G. Dillunti, Mr. and Mrs. M. Shill, Mr. Grenberg, and Mr. H. Nozaki, in second class; 26, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. A. Woolley, Mr. Schopflocher, Mr. Raoni Masselin and valet, Rev. C. B. Moseley, Mr. Nigg, Mr. A. Hara, Mr. C. Giannettini, Mr. B. Le Cont d'Ernouville, Mr. C. Leo, Mr. G. W. L. Mannett, in cabin; 8, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Capt. S. Ishikawa, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Bickerton Brindley, Mr. A. F. White, Mr. Jameson, Mrs. H. R. Lee, Mr. C. F. Garry, Mr. S. Herbert Morton, Mr. J. M. Wilshire, and Mr. R. C. Wilshire, in cabin; Mr. S. Matsuda, Mrs. S. Hiroi, Mrs. I. Yebisawa, Mr. K. Watanabe, and Mr. S. Shearer, in second class; 6, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. Arai and servant, Mr. C. H. Barrett, Mr. A. J. Coffee, Mr. R. Ebey, Mr. A. R. Firth, Mr. J. H. Grufkins, Mrs. J. H. Grufkins, Com. U. R. Harris, U.S.N., Mr. I. H. Howe, Capt. Wm. Johnson, Rev. J. P. Moore, Capt. G. P. Phillip, Mr. L. C. Ehein, Mr. Din Chan Sing, Mr. J. E. Smith, Miss E. Williams, and Mr. J. E. Wood, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. S. Ach, Lieut. P. Andrews, Mrs. P. Andrews and child, Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. W. F. Barnes, Com. E. B. Barry, U.S.N., Mr. A. A. Brandt, Mr. C. H. Best, Baron F. Chazal, Mr. F. Lewis Clark and valet, Mrs. F. Lewis Clark, Mr. D. Clark, Mr. W. D. Cronin, Mrs. W. D. Cronin, Major G. D. Deshon, U.S.A., Mr. Jos. Ely, Mrs. Wm. Gross, Mr. B. Gundell, Mr. Geo. Harrison, Mrs. Geo. Harrison, Miss Ella J. Hewett, Mr. M. A. Jewett, Mr. G. J. Kavanaugh, Mrs. H. B. Lett, Mr. E. J. Martin, Miss McDonald, Mr. L. Mottet, Mr. Oscar Nessler, Mr. J. H. Ormerod, Mr. R. Omerod, Mrs. W. Hutton Potts, Miss Enid Potts, Miss Muriel Potts, Paymaster S. Rhodes, U.S.N., Mr. J. E. Rollins, Mrs. J. E. Rollins, Mr. Otto Schoenewerk, Capt. F. Sparrenberger, U.S.A., Mr. W. Swan, Dr. T. C. Thornicraft, Mr. H. E. Wessarman, Dr. Wendell, Capt. P. W. West, U.S.A., and Rear-Admiral F. Wilds, U.S.N., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Manila*, for London via ports:—Mr. O. Nachtigall, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste silk shipped per steamer *Caledonien*:

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles, Option.	Milan.	Lyon.	Russia.	Marseilles	Italy.	Shanghai.	
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	92	—	—	—	35	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	133	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulysse Pila & Co.	—	—	73	—	163	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	97	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co.	—	—	302	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—
Tata & Co.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	119	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	58	—	—	—
	325	—	432	—	395	—	—	—

Per British steamer *Manila*, for London via ports:—Raw silk for Europe, 3 bales; Waste silk for Europe 345 bales.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma:—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong	339	—	—	—	—	339
Shanghai	—	229	—	—	—	229
Yokohama	—	267	—	—	—	267
Total	339	496	—	—	—	835

SILK.

	New York.	South	Manchester.	Total Bales.
Hongkong	10	.....	—	.....	10
Shanghai	—	.....	—	.....	—
Yokohama	214	.....	—	.....	214
Total	224	.....	—	.....	224

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is some demand and a fair business is passing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8½ lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

There has been quite a brisk business, sales of Iron and Mild Steel Bars being specially large.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1¼ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market has an upward tendency.

American	$2.72
Russian	2.67
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is firm with a brisk demand.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 7.50
White Refined	8.80 to 10.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

During the week the market has been quiet and sellers are inclined to make concessions, but demand from consuming centres is small. No. 1 Re-reels have been bought a trifle above quotations; all Re-reels are scarce and higher prices for these may prevail.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,085 to 1,095
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,040 to —
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,085 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,010 to 1,020
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	1,080 to —
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,050 to —
Re-reels—No. 2	1,100 to 1,020
Re-reels—No. 3	980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra	1,020 to 1,035
Kakedas—No. 1	1,005 to 1,010
Kakedas—No. 1½	970 to 975
Kakedas—No. 2	940 to 945
Kakedas—No. 2½	900 to 910

WASTE SILK.

The market is firm, with some transactions reported in the lower grades.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	135 to 140
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	125 to 130
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

The market is closed.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

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A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, January 22.

Kirin Breweries sales at *yen* 130. Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sales at *yen* 110. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, buyers at *yen* 70. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 50. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	110 Sales.
Grand Hotel	250 Sales.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.	50 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	130 Buyers.
C. Nickel & Co.	28½ Buyers.

Telephone No. 323

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 22.

London silver and China sterling quotations again unchanged but local rates have been further reduced $\frac{1}{16}$ and close for the mail per steamer *Empress of China* as under.

London—Bank T.T.	2 0½
— — Bills on demand	2 0 15/16
— — 4 months' sight	2 0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257
— Private 4 months' sight	262½ @ 2
— — 6 months' sight	263½ @ 4
Hongkong—Bank sight	77*
— Private 10 days' sight	75½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	94*
— Private 10 days' sight	95½*
India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	155⅛
America—Bank sight	49⅞
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅜
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	213¼ @ 14
Bar Silver (London)	21¾

* Nominal.

BOVRIL ISN'T DEAR,

in fact, value for value, it is one of the cheapest drinks, and one of the most economical foods that can be obtained. A cup of hot Bovril costs less than a drink of whisky, and while giving a more genuine and lasting warmth than the latter, contains, in addition, the nutritive principles of beef worth many times its cost.

Old fashioned beef teas and meet extracts, whether known as such, or disguised under more pretentious modern names contain none of the NUTRITIVE properties of beef. Baron Liebig himself admitted this fact; there is not a doctor to-day disputes it. Used as a nourishment Meat Extract is probably the most expensive article one can buy. Bovril one of the cheapest.

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Speedy Cure Treatment.

Bathe the affected parts with Hot Water and Cuticura Soap, to cleanse the surface of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura Ointment freely, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take Cuticura Resolvent Pills, to cool and cleanse the blood. A single set is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, scaly, pimply humours, eczemas, rashes, irritations, and chafings, with loss of hair, when all else fails.

The agonizing itching and burning of the skin, as in eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair and crusting of the scalp, as in scalled head; the facial disfigurement, as in pimples and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants and the anxiety of worn-out parents, as in milk crust, tetter, and salt rheum,—all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them. Such are the CUTICURA remedies, the purest, sweetest, most speedy and economical curatives for the skin, scalp, and blood ever compounded. Mothers are their warmest friends.

Millions of Women Use Cuticura Soap

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations of women, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves, as well as for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

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Yokohama, December 19th, 1902. 1y.

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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Russian flagship *Petropavlovsk* left Nagasaki for Yokohama on the 28th inst.

SINCE his arrival in Singapore, Admiral Sir Harry Keppel has not been in good health.

THE Sevententh National Bank of Fukuoka is reported to have closed till the 15th Feb.

BARON KODAMA, Governor-General of Formosa, left Shimonoseki for his post on the 26th inst.

MR. UCHIDA YASUYA, Japanese Minister to China, will leave Japan for his post early next month.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Tenryu Maru* ran on a sand bank off Minatogawa, Kobe, on the evening of the 25th inst. She has since been towed off.

ON the 24th inst. a landslip occurred at Handa-yama and six houses were buried. No lives were lost.

A TOBACCO dealer, Mizutani Kisaburo, Matsukagecho, Yokohama, received a one *yen* counterfeit note on the 27th inst.

THE body of a young woman was washed ashore at the beach of Tomioka on the 27th inst. There are suspicions of foul play.

THE Emperor, it is reported, will send two representatives to the funeral of Lord Abbot Count Otani Koson, which takes place on the 7th Feb.

MR. NAKAMURA MOTOO, Member of the House of Peers, died at the Red Cross Hospital, Tokyo, on the 24th inst. The funeral took place on the 28th.

NINE new cases of cholera were reported at Mizushima-mura, Karatsu, on the 28th inst. and four proved fatal. The usual precautions have been taken.

H.E. SUFU, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, has received a first-class medal from the King of Italy. It was handed to him by the Consul on the 27th inst.

A THIEF entered a house occupied by Aoyagi Katsu at Harukimachi, Kanagawa, Yokohama, on the 25th inst. and stole two pistols and several other articles.

A WOMAN named Iwazaki Nao, living at Okinacho Sanchome, Yokohama, hanged herself in her house early on the morning of the 25th inst. She had been long ill with consumption.

THE *China Times* states that Lieut. von Salzmann left Tientsin on the 4th inst. on an Australian horse to ride to Khokand on his way to Berlin by land. He took with him one mafoo and two ponies.

A MAN named Oda Shokichi of Hyogo was arrested by the Shiba police on the night of the 25th inst. on a charge of having stolen 5 *kwamme* of copper tiles from the roof of the Tokugawa Shogun's memorial temple at Shiba.

THE Siamese Royal yacht *Maha Chakrkri*, with H.R.H. the Crown Prince of Siam on board, left Hongkong on Jan. 22nd for Bangkok. As she steamed out of the harbour, accompanied by several steam-launches, a salute was fired by the warships in the anchorage.

JAPANESE papers tell a curious story about the arrest of a man who had drawn a cart to the Onomichi station of the Sanyo Railway and on whose person counterfeit 5 *sen* coins were found. In a secret place the police found 1,500 false pieces and later, having examined, the man they found 97,300. The captain of a ship in the harbour being arrested confessed that they were bought in Osaka at 5 *rin* each and transported by him.

A SECOND Lieutenant in the army, Kamomiya Kyuya, living at Fukuyamacho, Hiroshima Prefecture, and six other men were arrested on the 25th inst. charged with stealing over *yen* 7,000 at Hiroshima. They obtained the money, it appears, by alleging that they had gold bars and other loot from China hidden at Hiroshima and Yamaguchi.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha pleasure steamer *Kagawa Maru*, to be used for the accommodation of visitors to the Osaka Exhibition in excursions in the Inland sea, was launched at the Kawasaki Dockyard, Kobe, on the 26th inst. Her sister ship *Kehime Maru* will be launched in a few days.

A ROOM boy named Shimoda Heiji, living at Tamura-machi, Shiba, Tokyo, and employed at the Imperial Hotel, was arrested by the police on the 27th inst. on a charge of having stolen a cash box containing *yen* 165 and an English gold coin, value *yen* 25, belonging to an Italian guest, between the 14th to 23rd inst.

SUZUKI SEISUKE a rice-seller, living at Isecho Sanchome, Yokohama, found a rat a few days ago and took it to the authorities, receiving five *sen*. Bacteria of pest were found in this rat on the 24th inst, and several police constables and city officers have now fenced in the rice shop and the adjacent houses. They found six dead rats and two live ones.

Two explosions of fire-damp have taken place at Fukuoka. One was in a coal mine belonging to the Naval Department at Sakurabara, Kasuga-gori, on the 24th inst. Six workmen were injured. The second arose from a fall of debris and the breaking of a lamp at the Hora coal mine at Kurate-gori on the 25th inst. Four men were injured.

MR. MORIHIKO ICHIHARA, the new Mayor of Yokohama, entertained the foreign Consuls and their staffs to dinner at the Grand Hotel on Wednesday evening. The toast of the Emperor and the health of the new Mayor were proposed in happily phrased speeches by Mr. E. C. Bellows, the U.S. Consul-General. The foreign consuls entertain the Mayor on the 10th February.

A MAN named Okamura Mitsuji, living at Shichikencho, Shiba, Tokyo, was arrested by the metropolitan police some days ago. He was employed as an accountant in the special building section of the Messrs. Mitsui & Co., Osaka branch, and is alleged to have stolen *yen* 3,200 between Feb., 1898 and Dec. 1900, in combination with another man named Tominaga Hatsushika, M.P. for Shizuoka, and employed as a chief steward of the Mitsui building section.

MOST of the men at the helm in Venezuela, says a London paper, have come under special notice at some time or other. Admiral Douglas has not fought side by side with Germany as an ally before; but he has helped to build up the strength of the ally Lord Lansdowne has found in the East. The Admiralty, having found him helpful in instructing the Channel Fleet in the use of torpedoes 30 years ago, "lent" him to Japan. There, for two years, Admiral Douglas directed the Japanese Naval College, and on coming away had the satisfaction of receiving the personal thanks of the Emperor for his services. Commander Eustace, of the *Alert*, was engaged last year in China, and mentioned in despatches by General Gaselee.

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Saturday, Jan. 24.

In an interesting article the *Japan Times* writes as though the fact that opposition to the principle of party cabinets in this country were a misfortune. Many people will find difficulty in endorsing that view. Marquis Ito himself, whose association with a political party, followed as he is by a large number of capable men, has given to the *Seiyu-kai* a place in public esteem that it could have scarcely attained otherwise—Marquis Ito himself has always denied that the party-cabinet system can be logically read into the text of the Constitution. We may take it for granted, however, that like the majority of intelligent observers His Excellency has long appreciated and foreseen the inevitable issue of the constitutional institutions which he was so largely instrumental in procuring for the nation, and that his apparent opposition to party cabinets was prompted solely by perception of their dangers if introduced prematurely. And it is from that point of view that we fail to see any thing regrettable in the existence of a conservative element advocating Imperial Cabinets and acting generally as a drag on the very rapidly rotating wheels of Japanese progress. If Japan could leap at once to the practice of party government as it now exists in England, there would not be much objection. But England is the only monarchical country where such a system has been brought into accord with practical and economical methods of administration, and there is nothing to be more feared on Japan's account than precipitancy in this matter. Is it not reasonable, therefore, to welcome the organization of a conservative party which will exert its strength in the cause of prudent delay? There is necessarily the proviso that in the pending contest fanatical passions shall not be raised to destructive heat, but that is a mere incident of the struggle.

Gradually the importunate laments of the *Hochi Shimbun* have attracted the attention of other Tokyo journalists. Altogether six newspapers have now spoken editorially. They are the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Hochi Shimbun*, the *Asahi Shimbun*, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Nioku Shimpo*. The *Mainichi Shimbun* started the agitation. The motives generally assigned to it are easily appreciated. They were first, the well known enmity of its editor towards the principal Japanese promoter of the introduction of foreign capital in connexion with the electric railway scheme; and, secondly a desire to promote the interests of the Horse Tram Company which was seeking to absorb the Electric Railway Company, and which therefore objected to the latter's obtaining foreign capital. We do not ourselves attribute any disingenuous purpose to the *Mainichi*, but we are constrained to note that it is edited by a prominent Christian, and that bigoted anti-foreign ideas would not have been looked for in such a quarter. As for the *Hochi Shimbun*, it has entirely defeated its own purpose, first by the intemperance of its language and secondly by the obviously vindictive character of its persistence. Had a terrible national calamity been impending, more continuous and more agitated attention could not have been devoted to it than the *Hochi* devoted, in issue after issue, to the simple economical question whether foreigners should be allowed to cooperate with Japanese subjects on equal terms for the development of domestic industries, a question which the whole civilized world long ago answered emphatically in the affirmative. The *Hochi*, by its excessive vehemence and tiresome iteration, has fatally discredited its own cause. As for the other four journals mentioned above, they are absolutely unanimous in uncompromising denunciation of the *Hochi's* craven conservatism. They see plainly that unless Japan is to retire shivering into her shell like a timorous snail at the first touch of a foreign object, she must be prepared to abide by the inevitable results of her own progressive policy and by the liberal provisions of her own laws and treaties, and she must also be prepared to boldly accept the assistance without which her development must be a very slow and tedious process. Out of six journals, then, four are unequivocally in favour of the introduction of foreign capital and of the admission of foreign partners to Japanese enterprises, and two are opposed. Can there be any doubt as to the real trend of Japanese intelligent opinion?

Monday, Jan. 26.

The value of combined agitation is pretty well understood in Japan. Parties are formed readily by men that have views to ventilate, and public attention is arrested by combined manifestoes which, coming from individuals, would receive no notice. The newspapers in Tokyo opposed to the Government have an organization which enables them to speak with united voice, and they have now used it to arraign the Cabinet by means of a document clever as to phraseology and strong as to marshalling of indictments. But there is nothing novel. The signatories merely declare that the Government has broken its promises about administrative and financial reform; that it seeks to continued a tax after the expiration of the period legally fixed for its imposition; that it declares the farmers to be prosperous whereas they are known to be indigent; that it projects expenditures up to the full limits of the State's resources whereas economies should be practised; that it dissolved the Lower House without waiting for a vote, and so on, all these accusations being already familiar to the public though they acquire a newly formidable aspect by being thus paraded *en masse*. Doubtless this action on the part of the Tokyo editors will not be without its influence on the constituencies. The Government and its allies have a hard battle to fight; especially hard since their opponents monopolise the ear of the public, whereas the advocates of Imperial cabinets are almost without machinery for ventilating their views.

While this document will appear to most persons to be a perfectly legitimate exposition of political views, it has one regrettable feature, namely, that the text-book scandal is dragged in as though the responsibility for that disgraceful affair rested on the present Cabinet, and that the wild and unwarrantable charges preferred by the *Hochi Shimbun* against Baron Sone are also mentioned, vaguely, it is true, but nevertheless in such a manner as to suggest plainly that the signatories of the manifesto credit them. Such incidents are a serious shock to those that would fain dismiss the vapourings of second-class journals as utterances not approved by respectable men, and would attribute their appearance in newspaper columns to defective organization or superintendence rather than to perverted morality. Until the *Hochi Shimbun's* accusations are proved conclusively, no body of politicians have any more right to assume their truth and to employ them for campaigning purposes, than they have to pick the pocket of the man they vilipend. This is such an elementary principle of justice that its neglect by the Tokyo editors astounds us. Further, although all will endorse their condemnation of the text-book affair, it is impossible to lay the blame for it wholly or even mainly on the Government's shoulders. This era of corruption through which Japan is now passing, can not be said to have had its origin in the faults of the *Meiji* statesmen. It entered its acute phase under parliamentary institutions, and though the progress of the malady may be difficult to trace exactly, there cannot be much doubt about the factors that have chiefly contributed to its growth. Political parties, we should imagine, ought to be the last persons to identify themselves with any pretence of clean-handedness.

On the 23rd instant Marquis Ito proceeded to the Palace and was received in audience by the Emperor, who had a long conversation with the distinguished statesman. It need scarcely be said that during the few days of Marquis Ito's stay in the capital he was visited by numerous persons of distinction. But inasmuch as visits were exchanged between Marquis Ito and Count Katsura, and inasmuch as Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata and Count Inouye came together at a meeting with regard to affairs of the Mori family, and inasmuch as Count Inouye also called upon Count Katsura, the tongue of rumour has found ample material to construct various tales. One of them is that a coalition between the two Marquises is imminent, and that it will lead to the reconstruction of a part of the Cabinet, involving the admission of two or three *Seiyu-kai* representatives. But there are not wanting publicists who strenuously deny that the position has undergone any change, who insist that Marquis Ito stands as firm as ever, and who declare that all the inter-changes of visits which took place during his sojourn in Tokyo had no political significance whatever. We do not profess qualifications to offer any conjecture.

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes an analysis of the House of Peers from the point of view of political affinities. Briefly speaking, the politicians in the House are divided into six sections with a total strength of 209. Among them, 129 are supporters of Marquis Yamagata, 52 are supposed to lean to Count Okuma, and 28 are followers of Marquis Ito. But no analysis of the remaining 102 is attempted. They are classed as "independent," though they obviously constitute a powerful body.

It should be explained that by "followers of Marquis Yamagata" are meant men that advocate the system of Imperial cabinets. Of these the House of Peers is undoubtedly the stronghold.

Thursday, Jan. 29.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio addressed a meeting of the *Seiyu-kai's* partizans on the 25th instant, and took for his subject the last dissolution of the Lower House. There had been 17 sessions of the Diet, he said, and 4 dissolutions. The country was now on the eve of the eighth general election. That was not a very favourable record. But the great trouble was that the House suffered dissolution for doing its duty towards the constituencies. It discharged the responsibilities imposed upon it by the nation, and dissolution was the reward of its pains. Then Mr. Ozaki went on to demonstrate the impropriety of dissolving the last House, and the

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still greater impropriety of dissolving the next, should such an act be contemplated. His lecture was interesting, but what vitiated it was the assumption everywhere underlying the speaker's argument, namely, that constitutional government in Japan has reached the same stage as constitutional government in Europe. Mr. Ozaki speaks always as though a Japanese Cabinet, like an English Cabinet, were merely a committee of the Lower House. It will probably become such a committee in the course of time, but the day has not yet come, and a publicist of Mr. Ozaki's great ability should recognise the fact.

Friday, Jan. 30.

The Minister of State for Justice addressed an instruction to the Public Procurators at their meeting on the 28th instant. His Excellency directed that the control of the pending election should be in general on the lines followed last year, namely, lines of the strictest impartiality and minimum interference. With regard to certain points the Minister's directions were explicit. He said that the degree of police supervision ought to be made as uniform as possible in every constituency. Differences in that respect had been remarked in the elections last July and such differences, always reprehensible, were likely to be construed as evidence of partiality. Further, in the treatment of offenses against the Law of Elections, it had been noticed that whereas some offenders were promptly brought up for trial and their cases dealt with instantaneously, there had been delay in other instances. The Minister recommended that in all such matters preliminary examinations should be shortened as much as might be. Again, actions ought not to be instituted if possible, after an election had been decided. Violations of law should by dealt with at once and while the evidence was fresh. With regard to canvassers, the police on previous occasions had shown a disposition to take notice of petty misdemeanours, but it should rather be their aim to collect important proofs, and not to allow any serious offender to escape the meshes of the net of the law. Particular attention should be paid to preventing bribery or corrupt practices, and undue severity should not be shown towards insignificant offenders.

The Governor of Tokyo also has issued an instruction in much the same sense to the urban officials. Altogether there is not as yet the smallest indication of any intention on the part of the Government to interfere much or little at the coming elections. If there be any reality in the wholesale abuse of power which, according to Opposition journals, is contemplated by the Ministry, we must assume the existence of some secret arrangements with which all local and police officials will be wholly unconnected and which they will have been bound by explicit instructions to prevent. It probably matters very little to the clamouring journals that their predictions are proving so egregiously mistaken.

There is renewed commotion in political circles at the centre of Japanese liberalism, Tosa. Outsiders can not be greatly interested in the subjects of dispute, since no important principle is at stake. It will therefore be enough to say that one side demands more numerous representation for the outlying districts than the other is disposed to concede, and that there is also a controversy about restoring to the ranks of the Party the politicians expelled last June. Count Itagaki and Mr. Kataoka have worked strenuously to compose these difficulties, but they have been unsuccessful, and a final rupture is said to have taken place. Special interest is imparted to this matter by the fact that the recalcitrant electors of Tosa returned Mr. Kato Takaaki as their representative last year, and that Count Itagaki took great umbrage on account of Mr. Kato's consent to sit.

But this year Mr. Kato seems to have no idea of either accepting or seeking the suffrages of the Tosa electors. The Yokohama constituency, much to their credit, appear resolved to elect him, and they are said to have chosen for their other candidate Mr. Okuda, formerly chief of the Legislative Bureau, who resigned his position on the eve of the Diet's assembly last year. Mr. Okuda was said to have mapped out a scheme of administrative reform which would have enriched the Treasury by 10 million *yen*, but the Government deemed his proposals too drastic and he resigned rather than consent to any smaller measure. Mr. Kato and he are believed to be not unwilling to represent Yokohama should the electors be unanimously desirous of returning them, and such unanimity appears to have been attained with the exception of the section supporting Mr. Shimada Saburo. Mr. Shimada has represented Yokohama in every Diet since the Constitution went into force. It is not proposed now to set him aside. He is offered in Miye prefecture the seat now held by Mr. Oishi Masami, who, in turn, would obtain the suffrages of the Tosa electors. But Mr. Shimada is said to be determined to hold his old ground, and thus a contest is imminent.

MR. MEGATA'S HOBBY.

At a meeting of the Oriental Society on the 25th instant, Mr. Megata delivered an address on his favourite subject, namely, the advisability of establishing free ports in Japan, for which purpose he designates Kobe and Nagasaki as specially suitable. Incidentally he mentioned that the growth of the area under cultivation in Japan had not been hitherto of such a character as to suggest that the country has much to hope from agricultural pursuits. The figures given by Mr. Megata were :—

Period.	Area under cultivation in acres.
End of ninth century	2,075,000
Thirteenth century	2,350,000
Fifteenth century	4,625,000
Beginning of 18th century	7,425 000
1901	15,175,000

Of course it will occur to any reader that statistics relating to periods many hundreds of years ago must be accepted with much reserve. But in view of the system of taxation pursued in Japan from time immemorial, figures relating to arable land are certainly worthy of exceptional credence. The "beginning of the 18th century" in the above table is the Kyoho era—which commenced in 1716. It would thus seem that in about two hundred years the area of the arable land throughout the whole country doubled, approximately, whereas the population must have quadrupled, at the very lowest calculation. Moreover, it is universally believed that the consumption of rice per head of population is much larger now than it was at the beginning of the 18th century. These are curious facts. What became of all the rice two hundred years ago?

THE NILE DAM AT ASSOUAN.

The Nile Dam at Assouan promises to be one of the wonders of the world, not indeed from an engineering point of view, but rather from an economical. It is not what can be rightly called a stupendous work, especially in a land that can boast the Pyramids. Mr. Fayant's description of the difficulties of construction gives a succinct idea :—

> We had no idea of the difficulties we were to meet. We were greatly hampered in the work at the beginning because of the uncertainties of the river bed. We had to crush one turbulent channel after another to enable our thousands of workmen to go down into the bed of the river to excavate for the foundations. This work had to be done at High Nile to enable us to begin excavating as soon as the Nile subsided. In closing a channel we first threw ton after ton of granite blocks into the cataract, and then we pitched in trainloads of rock, trucks and all. Gradually the rubble mound rose above the surface of the water. After the flood had subsided we banked this rock wall with many thousand bags of sand. What a task we had to get those bags! We used eight millions, and we had to search all Europe for them. When the floods rose again we anxiously watched the excavation ditch protected by these walls of rock and sand bags. We had a score of great pumps ready to draw out the water should it rush in, but so well had our sudds been constructed that two pumps were as many as we needed.

That is interesting enough. But the great point is that whereas the work cost only 2½ millions sterling, it is expected to increase the agricultural earning power of Egypt by more than that amount annually, and to add eighty millions sterling to the national wealth. Such figures are very striking. If they are correct they place this dam at the head of all the economical enterprises in history.

THE OSAKA BRANCH OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The new building for the uses of the Bank of Japan's Osaka branch has been finished, and was opened for public inspection on the 24th instant. It is said to be a very imposing edifice, the main building covering 758 *tsubo*, the strong rooms 91 *tsubo*, the plant room 60 *tsubo* and the outbuildings 120 *tsubo*. The architect was Professor Tatsuno and the cost has been 800,000 *yen*. At 4 p.m. the opening ceremony took place. About 400 guests were present, among them being Count Matsukata and Lieut.-General Ogawa. The President of the Bank of Japan, Mr. Yamamoto, after detailing the facts connected with the construction of the new building, dwelt upon the great importance of Osaka as a commercial and industrial centre, and said that the establishment of a large branch of the Bank of Japan in that city was imperative. The edifice had not been planned with any view to display. Strength and solidity had been the sole objects of the architect, and it was trusted that the constantly growing prosperity of Osaka would derive benefit from the institution.

Count Matsukata said that when the Bank of Japan established a branch in Osaka twenty years ago, it was estimated that a capital of about seven hundred thousand *yen* would suffice, and a million had consequently been devoted to the purpose. Since then the development of trade and industry in the city had been so enormous that the directors of the Bank had been obliged to radically change their original programme. It might, perhaps, be thought that this new building was somewhat too extensive for the needs of the place, but he ventured to predict that before many years it would be found too small. He trusted that such would be the case.

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CHINESE NOTES.

Saturday, Jan. 24.

Mr. Ku Hung-ming makes a very practical suggestion. It is that on the passport of every missionary in China the words should be endorsed:—"No missionary is permitted under any circumstances to approach a Chinese official or magistrate in his official capacity unless the terms of his passport have been, or are, in danger of being violated, in which case he shall take that document to the Chinese official and demand that it be respected;" and also:—"In cases of persecution of Chinese Christians by Chinese officials or non-Christian population, where the ordinary laws of humanity are outraged, the missionary is authorized to lay the facts of the case before the nearest consular officer who will take such action as he deems proper and necessary." Mr. Ku claims that Chinese mandarins do not at present know their own rights and the limits of their duties where the affairs of foreigners or native Christians are concerned, and he further thinks that a principal factor making for unrest and trouble is the uncertainty under which the Chinese people labour as to the policy of foreign nations and the attitude of foreign officials." It is very seldom indeed that the outside world hears from a Chinese gentleman of Mr. Ku Hung-ming's qualifications any clear opinion about the state of affairs in China, and we do not see why such utterances should not merit the fullest attention.

It is reported from North China that by orders of Viceroy Yuan a number of bankers have been arrested and fined heavily for violating the provisions of law with regard to the rate of exchange for sycee. The telegram (*Asahi Shimbun*) is vague, but apparently the Viceroy's action has had the effect of dislocating exchange operations. Sir Robert Peel and his advisers little anticipated the stupendous troubles they were bequeathing to the world when they commenced the demonetization of silver.

The troubles of Sheng Kungpao are producing an effect anticipated with apprehension by the friends of progress when it became known that this remarkably active and enlightened official had become the butt of official jealousy—if indeed that be the true explanation of Sheng's downfall. The effect we refer to is the closing of the Nanyang College, which derived a large part of its support from the profits of the China Merchants S. N. Company and of the Telegraph Service so long as these were under Sheng's control. Deprived of these sources of revenue, the College, it is now announced, will be closed at the end of the Chinese year, that is to say, next month. Yung Lu was the first to strike a blow at Sheng Kungpao, and as Yung Lu is not by any means credited with liberal ideas, he may perhaps be gratified by this consequence of Sheng's fate.

An Italian syndicate has applied for permission to establish a system of wireless telegraphy between Peking and Taku, a distance of 120 miles, over a perfectly flat country.

The French Representative in Peking is reported to be pressing the Chinese Government to employ a French citizen in the capacity of postal adviser, in compliance with the provisions of the 1896 agreement. We were not aware of the existence of any such agreement, but it may be assumed that whatever course Mr. Dubail is pursuing is reasonable and just.

The line from Ching-ting to Taiyuen is to be commenced about the middle of March.

Monday, Jan. 26.

The position of Chang Chih-tung has been a subject of much conjecture during the past few weeks. His transfer to Nanking, after the death of Liu Kunyi, was understood to be temporary, and a general belief prevailed that he would ultimately return to his former Viceroyalty, such, too, being understood to be his own desire. But during his discharge of Viceregal duties at Nanking different arrangements were made, and ultimately he found himself without high office. Chang's record, from the point of view of the Manchu Court, is not unchequered by ugly shadows, and had he been allowed to drift permanently beyond the circle of the seats of power, no one could have been greatly surprised much as the fact must have disheartened all friends of China's progress. Rumour now says, however, that Yung Lu and Yuan Shih-kai are endeavouring to have the aged Viceroy summoned to Peking and appointed to the Foreign Office, where it is felt that the credit he justly enjoys with Europeans and Americans would greatly facilitate the successful discharge of diplomatic duties. We do not doubt that the Foreign Representatives in Peking would also welcome this appointment. The *Tsung-li Yamên* ceased to have any nominal existence after the war of 1900, and it was devoutly hoped in Western official circles that the newly organized Foreign Office under Prince Ching would prove a more practical and less obstructive bureau. That hope has not been realized, it would seem. The Foreign Office is little better than a replica of the *Tsung-li Yamên*. With Chang Chih-tung at its head things might move in a different groove, but that too remains to be seen.

A telegram to the *Asahi* from Peking says that two thousand sabres imported by a German ship in contravention of the Protocol have been seized at Chingwang-tao. It is added that extensive smuggling of arms is clearly demonstrated by the equipment of the Chinese troops, they being in possession of weapons of the most modern character, but that the Foreign Powers take no notice of the fact. Probably it will be agreed by thoughtful persons that the Foreign Powers show their wisdom in this respect. One of the most unpractical provisions of the Protocol was that which vetoed the import of arms or munitions of war, since it assumed that China would take steps to give effect to an embargo of which she was herself the victim, and that she would take such steps although the safety of the State was imperilled by them. There is a higher duty than that of observing ill-considered treaty-provisions, namely, the duty of providing for the national security. If China believes that the efficient equipment of her army is essential to the discharge of that duty, and if she acts upon her belief by violating the Protocol, we can neither impugn the wisdom of her conviction not condemn her obedience to it.

Tuesday, Jan. 27.

In the Chinese capital the Court is said to be considering the expense required for sending princes abroad to study. The project is strongly approved in some quarters and it would doubtless be of immense service to the cause of Chinese progress, but as a heavy outlay would be involved, the Court may well hesitate. It is difficult to know whether funds are really scarce in Peking. If rumour may be credited, the expenditures incurred by the Court on account of doings that might be foregone without any apparent disadvantage, are enormous, and yet, at the some time, complaints of impecuniosity are constantly heard.

The affairs of Yung Lu are evidently attracting a large share of public attention at present. It has already been stated that a pamphlet accusing him of treasonable designs was circulated broadcast in Peking. Apparently the publishers of the pamphlet did not limit the field of their operations to the capital, for news comes that great numbers of the same booklet have been distributed in Shanghai, and its circulation throughout the whole empire may be inferred. Given sufficient money to pay for the compilation and printing of such a document and to organize machinery for its distribution, any coterie of unprincipled men can at any moment make a powerful appeal to national feeling. But a man's guilt must not be assumed merely because he is indicted. Rumour says, however, that Yung Lu's health has broken down, and that, the continued discharge of his duties being impossible, his resignation can not be long deferred. Obviously if he has to leave office at this juncture, the fact will be construed as palpable truth of the accusations preferred against him. The whole thing is nebulous. How much to attribute to pure intrigue and jealousy, how much to regard as based on fact, there are no available means of determining.

Thursday, Jan. 29.

Strange rumours continue to come from Peking. They all point to trouble for Chang Chih-tung, either because the enemies of the old Viceroy have conspired to effect his overthrow, or because he himself has been guilty of extraordinary indiscretion. He is said to have inspired the expectant Taotai of Chili to memorialize the Foreign Office in the sense that Sheng Kung-pao accepted a bribe of four million marks from Germany on condition of granting special facilities to Germans in the various ports of the Yangtse. But the authorities at the Foreign Office are believed to regard this as an apocryphal charge, and to attribute it solely to Viceroy Chang's enmity toward Sheng. Another story is that the text of the booklet recently circulated broadcast throughout the empire, is found to be covertly composed with the view of promoting Chang Chih-tung's influence and reputation, from which fact his implication in the affair is suspected. But of course it is quite evident that unless Chang's character has been greatly misinterpreted through all these years, he is not the man either to prefer a groundless accusation of the above nature or to connect himself with a scheme like the distribution of anonymous brochures. If any such charge has really been made by the Chili Taotai, no foreigner will readily believe that Viceroy Chang suggested it, for Chang is at all events familiar with international affairs in the Yangtse Valley, and he must therefore know that the purchase of special privileges in that region for German subjects at the cost of 4 millions of marks would be as sensible as trying to manufacture cucumbers out of moonshine. As for the anonymous brochure, it would be extravagant to infer that because its author or authors show a predeliction for Chang, their pens were set in motion by him. Unhappily, however, China's domestic politics seldom lend themselves to intelligent analysis by outsiders. The only confident conclusion we can reach is that much commotion exists in high official circles and that the figures against

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which the storm beats most conspicuously are those of Chang Chih-tung and Yung Lu. If it is a trial of strength between those two statesmen, we fear that Chang will go to the wall.

Concerning the seizure of two thousand sword-bayonets at Chung-wan-tao, the telegraph (*Asahi Shimbun*) reports that Sir Robert Hart has sought instructions from the Government, and that there is clear proof of the swords having been imported to the order of Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai. It is, in that case, a pretty complication. Viceroy Yuan is bound to equip his troops. In such matters the restrictions of a treaty could have no importance in his eyes, for the safety of the State is its supreme law. Nevertheless, if the swords were imported to his order, he stands convicted of a deliberate violation of the Protocol, and it would appear impossible that he should continue to occupy the positions of Viceroy of Chili and Superintendent of Northern Trade under such circumstances. It is our opinion, and we expressed it at the time in most unequivocal terms, that a more shortsighted stipulation never found its way into an international convenant than this veto on the importation of arms. Apart from the palpably unpractical nature of a condition that all materials used for the manufacture of weapons or munitions of war should be forbidden to enter Chinese ports—a condition which, if strictly enforced, would exclude numerous staples of ordinary commerce—, there is the obvious anomaly that to China herself was entrusted the duty of restraining her own infractions of a Protocol which the dictates of national security would compel her to violate. We should imagine that the Chinese Government is secretly cursing the vigilance of its own Customs officials and wishing that Sir Robert Hart could have found some other court of appeal than the Peking administration. It will certainly be singular if the first outcome of this ill judged veto should be the downfall of one of China's ablest and most progressive officials.

Friday, Jan. 30.

A telegram to the Foreign Office in Tokyo announces that the Foreign Representatives have held a meeting in Peking, and have decided that China's application for payment of the Customs dues in gold must be rejected. Doubtless we shall some day be permitted to examine the reasons underlying the refusal, but at present we can not conceive any argument that would be held valid in a court of equity. China is entitled to a certain percentage on all the goods passing through her customs. She does not receive that percentage, and although it may be urged that the fact is due to depreciation of her own currency, no one can honestly pretend that such an accident absolves foreign nations from a hard-and-fast obligation assumed by them *vis-à-vis* the Chinese Government. So long as the value of the imports arriving in China is assessed on a gold basis, the conventionally fixed percentage of duty on these goods ought to be paid in gold or its equivalent. By paying an invariable number of debased coins whose value in terms of the goods does not represent the conventional ratio, the treaty is distinctly violated. A day may come when the dollar, worth two shillings, say, at the time when the tariff was fixed, will have fallen to one shilling. China, according to the present system, will then be receiving customs dues amounting to 2½ per cent. instead of the 5 per cent. to which she is entitled. Can that be considered just? It is curious to observe the exquisite arbitrariness with which economical doctrines are interpreted by Western nations in dealing with Eastern. When an Oriental Power proposes to obtain an increase of revenue by augmenting its import dues, European economists ridicule its short-sightedness and assure it that it is merely imposing a tax on its own people, since it is out of the consumer's pocket that the duty must ultimately come. But when China desires to levy the full dues secured to her by treaty, the European importer abandons his economic theories incontinently, and declines to pay. If he were sincere in his doctrines, it should not matter to him whether China obtained her full rights or a great deal less than her full rights, because in either case the difference would affect Chinese subjects only. But the colour of an economic law evidently depends entirely on the spectacles through which it is viewed.

The *Asahi's* Peking correspondent depicts the Chinese Government as quite resigned to the fact that the Powers will never agree to pay the duties in gold. Yet the Chinese Government can not labour under the smallest delusion as to the measure of consideration it would itself receive from Foreign Powers were the positions reversed. With one exception these Powers show no inclination to accept payment of the Indemnity in silver. Meanwhile the British Chargé d'Affaires is said to have informed the Chinese Government that if it exercised reasonable economy in the matter of superfluous outlays, it could pay the Indemnity without any difficulty. Sound advice, doubtless, but scarcely embodying any valid excuse for a violation of the treaty by foreign Powers.

England, America and France are reported to have united in protesting against the appointment of Yu Lien-san to be Governor of Shansi. The reason for this protest is that while Lu was Governor of Hunan he showed himself distinctly anti-foreign, and as Shansi is a field of extensive missionary enterprise, the danger of placing it under the rule of such an official can not be overlooked. Did not these special considerations exist with regard to the propagation of Christianity, the three Powers are represented as saying that they would not think of interfering, but the special circumstances of the case constitute a justification.

If that news be true it has much significance. Hitherto foreign Powers have not thought of officially scrutinizing the possible attitude of a Chinese governor towards Christian propagandism, but now they are said to be formulating a principle which means nothing more or less than that pro-Christian tendencies shall be a necessary qualification for high provincial office in China. We do not pretend to criticise such action. We merely note its meaning. The Chinese problem bristles with stupendous difficulties, and nothing is easier than to sit at one's desk and pen academical condemnations of the steps taken by practical men in the face of these difficulties. Onlookers can not, however, conceal from themselves that foreign interference in China's domestic affairs grows more and more palpable and extensive, and that it is now becoming associated with active international tutelage of Christian propagandism. If there were no gunpowder in China, these developments might be watched with indifference. But we know that there is a great deal of gunpowder, and we can conjecture what kind of an explosion would inevitably be produced in any Occidental country by the continued operation of similar causes.

FORMOSA.

The prophet being always without honour in his own country, Japan's administration of Formosa has been observed with very little appreciation in the Far East, and any journalist or correspondent that could pen a smart paragraph at her expense considered that he was performing a proper task. But the Rev. W. Campbell, writing in the *Scottish Geographical Magazine*, tells a story which contrasts strikingly with some of the accounts published hitherto, especially by Hongkong papers. He visited the jail at Taichu, and inasmuch as we may presume that the miracle performed for the edification of a certain Kobe journal's correspondent, the miracle of fattening up the prisoners in the space of three hours, cleaning, white-washing and renovating the jail, and altogether reforming its system—inasmuch as we may reasonably assume that these marvels were not achieved in Taichu while Mr. Campbell waited for admission, what he says about the prison is worth quotation and credence :—

> The whole thing was intensely interesting to me, because on every hand one could see the operation of high intelligence, firmness, and even of mercy in grappling with evils which are found amongst people of every land. Before coming away the Governor remarked to me that the entire group of buildings, including the surrounding wall, was the outcome of convict labour; and it did, indeed, seem to be a feature of the system here that no prisoner was allowed to shirk duty who was really able to work. Nor can anyone question the soundness of this principle, for the healthful appearance of the large companies I saw engaged in the manufacture of straw mattresses, and as brick-makers, builders, carpenters, and coolies, was in favour of it; while statistics given me regarding the after-career of those who had served their terms of confinement also showed that prison-life in Taichu was both bearable and distinctly reformatory in its tendency.

As to what Japan has thus far accomplished in the island, Mr. Campbell's summary is this :—

> At the outset it should be remembered that, when they arrived in 1895, instead of being allowed to take quiet possession, they found the people everywhere up in arms against them, and had literally to fight their way from north to south before anything like settled government could be established. . . . . Immediately after some measure of peace had been restored, the executive sent out qualified experts to engage in survey work and to report on the resources of their newly ceded territory.
>
> A complete census of the population was taken in 1897, 800 miles of roads were made, and a tramway line laid down from Takow to Sin-tek. This was followed by construction of the main line of railway from Kelung to Takow, about one-half of which has already been opened for goods and passenger traffic. Three cables were also laid down, connecting Formosa with Japan, Foochow, and the Pescadores, and over the existing 1,500 miles of telegraph and telephone wires immediate communication has been made possible with every important inland centre. The post-offices recently opened in Formosa number over a hundred, and letters can now be sent to any part of the empire for two cents each. Up till the close of 1899 one hundred and twenty-two Government educational institutions had been established, only nine of those being for Japanese, and one hundred and thirteen for natives. There are at present ten principal Government hospitals in the island, at which about 60,000 patients are treated gratuitously every year, while sanitary precautions and free vaccination have become so general that the danger from visitations like smallpox and plague has been very much reduced.

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MR. SAKATANI ON FINANCE.

The Vice-Minister of Finance delivered an interesting address on the 26th inst. before the Economical Society. He based his remarks on a statement by a French newspaper that the cause of the recent political crisis was Japan's financial difficulties, a statement which confirmed the previously observed fact that the French have a less accurate knowledge of this country's affairs than England and America have. After some remarks upon financial affairs in the past, he passed to consider the present situation. The Government had restored order in the accounts by a sale of bonds to the extent of 50 millions of *yen* and by reducing the expenses or postponing public works so that an economy of 9 millions was effected. They had further taken steps to check the contracting of debts by the communes, and to restrain the establishment of small banks. All these things had produced the effect of restoring commerce to its normal channels, of bringing about an easy money market, and of reducing the prices of commodities. The Bank of Japan was now holding 20 million *yen* of non-interest-bearing deposits lodged by small banks, and its specie reserve amounted to 107 millions. In compiling the Budget for 1903-4, exhaustive inquiries had been conducted, and the views of Count Matsukata after his return from the West had been carefully considered. With regard to revenue, the question whether there did not exist some better source than the land tax had been duly weighed. It might be supposed that *sake* was such a source, but in truth the great desideratum in the case of *sake* was some improved method of brewing. The method pursued at present was notably defective; so much so that whereas in England two hundred manufacturers supplied all the alcohol required by the nation, fifteen thousand *sake* brewers were employed in the task in Japan. Until a different system was introduced no additional revenue of any considerable quantity could be expected from *sake*, not could a larger tax be imposed on it. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce was now engaged constructing a model brewery, and in the meanwhile things must remain as they are. The tobacco tax next presented itself. This too was under consideration. Should the Government monopoly be continued, or should the monopoly be sold, for private farming, or should a tax be levied on land devoted to culture? The last method had failed in other countries and did not commend itself for adoption here, but as between the two first the problem was still undecided. Concerning an increased tax on sugar, that also seemed out of the question. There had been a steady decline in the production of Formosan sugar, and investigatious showed that it must be attributed to the system of duties and bounties in Europe, so that at present the idea of levying a larger tax could not be entertained. The customs seemed a suitable source, but these could not be touched without international negotiations. As for the State's forests and moors, they certainly promised to be profitable in the future, but for the moment no reliance could be placed on them. Thus, finally, nothing remained but the land tax.

Turning to expenditures, Mr. Sakatani said that the chief item was naval increment, which demanded on outlay of 115 million *yen* in 11 years, and a yearly expenditure of 6 million *yen* for purposes of maintenance. The House of Representatives had approved of this increment but had disapproved of recourse to the land tax for obtaining the necessary funds. The next important items were 3 millions for riparian repairs and 13 millions for railway construction. People called for reduction in these items, but, on the one hand, the originally proposed appropriation of 19 millions for railways had already been reduced to 13 millions, and the riparian works had been carried to a point that rendered it impossible to abandon or greatly reduce them. As for telephones, they yielded an income of 8 per cent. on the money invested; numerous applications remained unsatisfied, and to give up the project of extending them would be madness. Then again, the building of schools and the improvement of harbours were works that could not be deferred, and if the problem of enterprises in China and Korea came to be considered, it had to be noted that Japanese settlers existed in almost every town in Korea and that a Japanese bank issued notes there. In such circumstances the construction of a line of railway seemed imperative. Turning to China, many enterprises were on the tapis, enterprises connected with coasting trade, river carrying trade and with the advisability of providing better credit machinery for the Japanese subjects engaged in commerce there, which machinery took the form of a China-Japan bank. Moreover, following Germany's example, it was proposed to establish commercial samples museums in each of the principal marts of the Middle Kingdom.

Concerning local finances, some uneasiness was felt because of the steady increase of communal indebtness, which now totalled 45 million *yen*, and because of the imposition of special taxes to the amount of 3½ millions. But the present arrangements as to sources of revenue rendered it more or less inevitable that debts should be incurred, and a remedy seemed to lie in providing new sources. Further some order must be taken as to the sale of communal bonds abroad, which was now managed in a surreptitious and disadvantageous manner.

Much talk was heard about administrative reform. Mr. Sakatani did not think that any appreciable income could be anticipated from that quarter. Already a considerable reduction of staff had been effected by dispensing with the services of old or comparatively inefficient officials, and some increase had been made in the salaries of juniors. That had worked well, and now the question of increasing the salaries of seniors was under review. Nothing substantial in the way of income appeared possible in this branch of the Budget. To Mr. Sakatani personally it appeared that the only direction in which administrative reform might be possible was a reduction of the number of prefectures. There were probably ten too many at present. A bill in that sense would perhaps be introduced, but considering how much commotion was now caused by a petty alteration of the limits of a small local division, it must be anticipated that the abolition of ten prefectures would evoke great criticism and opposition.

THE "CHIUO SHIMBUN" AND THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

The *Chiuo Shimbun* contains, a most wonderful article, of which the gist is that when Germany contemplated her singular *coup* on the occasion of withdrawing her troops from Shanghai, she apprehended opposition from Japan as England's ally. Therefore she approached the Foreign Office in Tokyo through her Representative in that city, suggesting that as Japan and Germany were chiefly interested in the Yangtse Valley, they should co-operate in procuring a guarantee of its integrity from the Chinese Government. Baron Komura assented, imagining that he would thus secure the good will of Germany; but the next incident was Germany's secret arrangement with Prince Ching, and in the sequel Baron Komura had nothing for his pains except a strong remonstrance from the British Representative.

Is it not remarkable that a newspaper like the *Chiuo Shimbun*, which has for editor a prominent politician and leading member of the House of Representatives, should print such canards without the slightest reference to sources of official information which have already been placed within reach of all? And is not the fact still more remarkable when the misrepresentation relates to a matter which has attracted universal attention, and which ought to have been noted with special interest in Japan? On December the 4th there was published in London a Blue Book containing official correspondence with regard to the evacuation of Shanghai. The London *Times*, summarizing the contents of the Blue Book, wrote:—

> It seems from a despatch of Sir Claude MacDonald's, that the German proposal was, rather curiously, communicated to the Japanese Government before it reached the Foreign Office. They acted, as they have acted throughout the negotiations, as became faithful and intelligent allies. They telegraphed to their Minister in London to ascertain whether the condition forbidding China to grant exclusive rights to any Power on the Yang-tsze was acceptable to us, and they informed Sir Claude MacDonald that they would not send any instructions to the Japanese Minister at Peking until they knew our wishes. They were not left long in suspense before receiving the text of Lord Lansdowne's reply to the German Note, with which they expressed themselves "entirely in accord."

Next to the strange procedure of Germany and the bad faith shown by Prince Ching, the most noteworthy incident of the affair was that described in the above paragraph, namely, that Japan came into possession of Germany's proposal before it reached the Foreign Office in London, that she immediately placed herself in communication with the British Government, and that she declared her intention of refraining from taking any step until her ally's wishes were known. In the face of such facts the *Chiuo Shimbun's* article is certainly one of the most laughable "breaks" that stand to the discredit of any responsible newspaper.

A BUDDHIST PRIEST'S VISIT TO LLASSA.

A highly interesting and even romantic story is told by Tokyo journals. It appears that in June, 1897, a Buddhist priest, named Kawaguchi Ekai, left Kobe with the intention of finding his way to the capital of Thibet. He travelled *viâ* India, and having reached Darjeeling, he applied himself diligently to study the language of Thibet, some knowledge of which he may be presumed to have already possessed. By the beginning of 1899 he seems to have considered himself sufficiently qualified, and having donned the costume of a lama, he entered Thibet. The journey thence to Llassa occupied a year and was performed amid great hardships. He succeeded, however, in reaching Llassa at the close of 1899, and in remaining there until 1902, his disguise never being penetrated throughout that period. Meanwhile it was of course impossible for him to communicate with Japan. Indeed from the time of landing in India he appears to have cut himself off

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completely from his native country, doubtless a wise precaution. Ultimately becoming an object of suspicion in Llassa he had to fly for his life. This part of the narrative is dismissed in a few words. We are merely told that terrible privations and hardships had to be endured and that "fifty barriers" were passed, which is probably a figure of speech. In August, 1902, he reached Darjeeling, when, of course, his dangers were over. There, however, news reached him that all those from whom he had received aid and succour in Llassa had fallen under the displeasure of the authorities and were threatened with heavy punishment. On their behalf he undertook a journey to Nepaul, from whose ruler he hoped to obtain intercession on behalf of the sufferers. Whether he succeeded in that purpose no information is given. It is added, however, that during his residence of over two years in Llassa he amassed much invaluable information about religious subjects, and that when the fact of his visit to the Thibetan capital became known, the natives of India treated him with profound reverence.

GERMANY AND THE SHANGHAI EVACUATION.

Since writing on the above subject in our issue of the 26th instant we have received the Blue Book containing the correspondence respecting the evacuation of Shanghai. Careful perusal of its contents convinces us that the views we expressed on the strength of a leading article in *The Times* require material modification. What *The Times* said was this:

> It seems from a despatch of Sir Claude MacDonald's, that the German proposal was, rather curiously, communicated to the Japanese Government before it reached the Foreign Office. They acted, as they have acted throughout the negotiations, as became faithful and intelligent allies. They telegraphed to their Minister in London to ascertain whether the condition forbidding China to grant exclusive rights to any Power on the Yang-tsze was acceptable to us, and they informed Sir Claude MacDonald that they would not send any instructions to the Japanese Minister at Peking until they knew our wishes. They were not left long in suspense before receiving the text of Lord Lansdowne's reply to the German Note, with which they expressed themselves "entirely in accord."

The impression obviously conveyed by this account is that Germany took Japan into her confidence in the matter of the Yangtse-Valley stipulations before communicating those stipulations to England, and that had not Japan hastened to inform her ally, the Foreign Office in London might have remained for some time in ignorance of Germany's purpose and might have suffered some detriment owing to want of knowledge. But the Blue Book shows that such a statement of facts would be very misleading. There was exactly one day's interval between the communication made by the German Representative in Tokyo to the Japanese Foreign Office, and the communication made by the German Ambassador in London to the British Foreign Office. Count Arco Valley, according to Sir Claude MacDonald's dispatch, handed a copy of the German Memorandum to Baron Komura on the 6th of October, and Baron Eckardstein conveyed the same memorandum to the Marquess of Lansdowne on the 7th of October. Japan acted a straighforward part, but so did Germany, and truly we can not discover the smallest evidence that, in the matter of procedure, so far as Tokyo and London were concerned, the Berlin Government made any attempt to place England at a disadvantage.

THE CHARITY CHRYSANTHEMUM PARTY AT WASEDA.

We have received from Mr. Hara Taneaki a statement of accounts with reference to the chrysanthemum party given last autumn in Count Okuma's garden at Waseda on behalf of the Tokyo Prison Door Aid Association, of which Mr. Hara is Manager and which owes its inception and success to his untiring benevolence and self-sacrifice. The account stands thus:—

	Yen.	Yen.
Total contributions in coin (collected and to be collected)		3,635.000
Expenses.—Printing	127.230	
Management	9.035	
Distribution of notices.	17.547	
Jinrikisha	45.840	
Band (including tent and refreshments)	98.133	544.91
Cakes given on the ground	208.200	
Luncheons	38.925	
Net receipts		3,090.900

N. B.—A small sum is still expected and it will go to pay costs of collection. With regard to the principal patrons—

Count Okuma defrayed all the expenses of preparing the place and also granted the use of the garden.
Baron Shibusawa defrayed all the expenses of the various amusements, including the phopograph.
The Sato family of Komagome gave 150 boxes of chrysanthemums for bouquets.

The Association, through Mr. Hara, tenders sincerest thanks to the ladies under whose auspices this party was organized, and above all to Count Okuma. Mr. Hara remarks that the building of the asylum will be done entirely by the ex-prisoners who have been in receipt of the Association's aid, and that the work will be a lasting memento of the "fragrant hearts" of the donors.

The document further states that 552 ex-prisoners have received aid from the Association. Of these 41 are working at the Asylum; 146 are living in Tokyo and earning their livelihood; 189 have returned to the provinces and are self-supporting; 40 have died; 64 have moved elsewhere and their fate is unknown; 29 have fled from the Asylum and 43 have returned to the path of crime.

The Asylum is under the patronage of the ladies of Tokyo.

KOREA.

A telegram received by the Foreign Office in Tokyo from Seoul announces that Mr. Kin Seung-kyu has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary for Korea in Japan, and that he will leave the Korean capital for his new post on the 29th instant.

It is rumoured from Seoul that a project is on foot to elevate the daughter of Mr. Kim Yuk-om to the position of empress. The public, outside Korea, have not previously heard anything of this lady, nor yet of her father, and the general supposition has been that if any one became empress, it would be the Lady Om, who has special claims to that position. The telegraph says that if the Kim project be pushed, there will be a great commotion in the Palace, which is likely enough.

Rumours come from the Korean capital that negotiations are in progress for a loan of 25 million francs from a Belgian syndicate to the Korean Government. It is added that the Representatives of Russia and France are lending active aid to the syndicate. In connexion with this matter we may again call attention to the Russo-Japanese Protocol of 1896, which says:—

> If, in the sequel of reforms recognised as indispensable, it should become necessary to have recourse to foreign loans, the two Governments, in common accord, will lend their aid to Korea.

It has been said by a great jurist that a coach and four could be driven though any covenant ever drawn up by human intelligence. Probably that feat could be performed in the case of the above Protocol. But every ordinarily intelligent person must agree that its plain object is to restrain either of the high contracting parties from directly or indirectly assisting Korea to obtain a foreign loan without the other's concurrence. Russia doubtless reads the document in that sense, and very strong proof will be needed to convince the public that her Representative in Seoul is acting contrary to this belief.

The latest news with regard to this matter comes to the *Asahi* in the form of a telegram from Seoul dated the 27th instant. It says that there is apparently good foundation for the assertion that a loan is on the tapis, the lenders being a Belgian syndicate, the amount 4 million *yen*, the chief projector Li Yong-ik, the principal promoter M. Waeber, and the purpose to which the money is to be applied being the establishment of a bank with note-issuing power. The telegram adds, however, that there will probably be difficulties about the question of security.

There is telegraphic news from Korea that a cotton-yarn trust has been formed by the Japanese merchants, twelve in number, engaged in the importation of cotton-yarn into Seoul and Chemulpo. A project had been on foot to form a *kanakin* (calico) trust also, but it does not seem to have matured.

It is rumoured that the German Government entertains the intention of establishing a Legation in Seoul, and that Dr. Weipart, now Consul at Chemulpo, will be the first Minister. This promotion for Dr. Weipart will be very welcome news in Japan, where his exceptional abilities and many high qualities have been fully recognised for many years.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Seoul correspondent wires that on being questioned by the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, the Russian and French Representatives and the head of the supposed Belgian syndicate categorically denied the truth of the rumours relating to a loan to the Imperial court. Such being the case, it is thought highly improbable that Li Yong-ik's endeavours to secure a loan—for he is still said to be working with that aim—can be crowned with any measure of success.

ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS.

We observe that, according to the *Japan Herald*, "the editor of the *Mail*," replying to "American's" letter about the comments of English newspapers on the Anglo-German alliance in Venezuela, "denied that the English press had shown any ill-feeling to Germany in this matter." The editor of the *Mail* must be permitted to say that he made no such denial. What the editor of the *Mail* actually said was this:—"We do not question 'American's' accuracy, but we plead not only our own ignorance of the vehement polemic that has taken place, but also our failure to find evidence of it in any of our exchanges or in any telegraphic news up to December 19th. We therefore venture to ask 'American' to be more explicit. He has preferred a very grave charge against the British press, and we have a right to ask that the accusation be either substantiated or withdrawn." If such language

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can be construed as "denying that the English press had shown any ill-feeling to Germany in this matter," words must have acquired a new significance.

The fact is that "American's" letter presented itself to us in the light of an exaggeration, and we asked for the bases of his charge because we had observed, more than once, a similar tendency on the part of Continental Europeans—of whom we take "American" to have been originally a unit—to over-state the comments of English newspapers. We ourselves were once informed by an eminent German that the *Japan Mail* had shown more hostility to Germany than the most rabid anti-British German journal ever showed towards England even during the South-African war. It was impossible to be perturbed by such a manifest hyperbole, but taken in conjunction with other allegations it set us thinking that perhaps some condition of unappreciated sensitiveness exists in Germany towards England. "American" spoke of "how unkindly some of the leading (English) papers criticised their own Government for having come to an agreement with Germany in this matter, and how offensive the tone of the press had been towards Germany in the midst of their joint action in Venezuela." He added:—"It might be difficult to find a parallel." That was indeed a strong presentment of the case. "It might be difficult to find a parallel"! Now "American's" letter was written on January 12th. At that time our latest detailed news from Europe bore date December 19th, and among all the exchanges then to hand we could not find any evidences of the very offensive mood noted by our correspondent. Our hope was that on being challenged to produce his evidence and on attempting unsuccessfully to reply, he would be induced to greatly modify his verdict. However, he declined the challenge, and we allowed the matter to rest there, seeing that controversy might merely engender bitterness which "American" would evidently deplore. But now comes the *Japan Herald* and, writing on January 26th, that is to say, just a fortnight after "American's" letter was penned, it quotes from journals received subsequently to the 12th, extracts which it regards as confirmatory of "American's" allegations. That is a fine free-and-easy kind of *ex-post-facto* proof. But even in the face of such testimony we fail to see justification for saying that the tone of the British press towards Germany had been so offensive that a parallel might be difficult to find. We ourselves, although we frankly welcomed the alliance when the first news reached us, have changed our opinion on examining the conditions, and on observing the singularly one-sided character of the pledge given by England to Germany. Given for what? Among all the countries in the world of this twentieth century we should be disposed to single out Germany as the one least likely to be betrayed into the sentimental extravagance of doing any unrequited favour to a foreign State. Now what did England gain by Germany's cooperation on this occasion? Certainly from a material point of view Great Britain had no reason whatever to seek an ally, and from a moral point of view her situation *vis-à-vis* the United States would have been better without a German partner. Our hope at first was that the union would have proved a step towards better relations. But all kinds of partnerships are alike in one respect, namely, that to be successful they must bring some profit to both parties. This union is really too partial, and if English journalists have put their finger on that weak spot, is it fair to accuse them of a tone so offensive as to be almost without parallel?

THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

This affair continues to grow in magnitude. Every day sees some new arrests, and the total number in detention has become obscure, the estimates varying from 116 to 120. The prison authorities are said to have been much embarrassed. Under ordinary circumstances these persons should be lodged in the Kajibashi House of Detention, and as they are all charged with a similar offence, each must have a separate room, according to law. But there are only 168 rooms in the Kajibashi building, and several of them are used for females under arrest or for sick people, so that the number actually available for daily purposes never exceeds 102 or 103. It has therefore been found necessary to fall back upon the resources of Sugamo Prison, and to make use of its wards for unconvicted prisoners.

The *Jiji Shimpo* continues its vehement and forcible attacks against the project of taking entirely under official supervision the compilation and preparation of text-books. Put into the briefest possible compass our contemporary's argument is that the shaping of an ethical model for the nation can not be entrusted solely to officialdom, and that great evil has already been suffered by committing that error even partially. This is a large question, not to be discussed within the limits of a paragraph. But we may say here that the *Jiji Shimpo* has excellent reasons for its critical restrospect.

UNVEILING OF PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA'S STATUE.

On the 28th instant at 10 a.m. an imposing ceremony was held within the Kudan Gate of the Palace enclosure, when the unveiling of a statue of the late Prince Kitashirakawa took place. His Imperial Highness, who at the time of the fall of the Tokugawa, held the post of Lord Abbot of Rinno-ji, the great Uyeno Monastery, served subsequently with much distinction in a military capacity, and died in Formosa in 1896, when in chief command of the forces there. The statue is of bronze. It is equestrian, and it was cast at the Koishikawa arsenal, the designer and modeller being Mr. Shinkai Taketaro. It is said to have cost 40,200 *yen*, whereas subscriptions to the amount of 47,000 were received. Marquis Oyama represented the Army on the occasion of the unveiling, and read an address. The late Prince's youthful son, His Highness Prince Norihisa, returned thanks in felicitous terms. Lieut.-General Sakai, who commanded in Formosa under Prince Kitashirakawa at the time of the latter's death, also delivered a brief address. The ceremony itself was a compound of foreign and Japanese customs. the adaptations having made by Surgeon-Major Mori Ogai, whose reputation as a writer of romances is very high in Japan.

Mr. Balfour, says a contemporary, is to be invited to consider the advisability of adding to the British Board of Admiralty a naval constructor and a mechanical engineer. Questions are also being asked about the business and constitution of the Defence Committee of the Cabinet—the mysterious body whose secret is so closely guarded.

THE GERMAN SCARE.

England is a great country for scares. From the days when the *Antiquary* was written down to the compilation of the "Battle of Dorking," the nation's weakness in this respect has been frequently manifested. Perhaps it is not wholly weakness. Perhaps a lively sense of the perils to which we are exposed has the wholesome effect of keeping us ready to meet them. But it would be more agreeable if some other method of promoting national preparedness were available. The latest spectre is a German invasion of the United Kingdom. A writer signing himself "Engineer" vitalizes this spectre in the columns of the *National Review* with the approval of the Navy League. His idea is that Germany could gain a point in the matter of time. By a sudden exercise of the whole of her naval force she could cripple the British Reserve Squadron, and if this act synchronised with the moment when the Mediterranean and Channel Fleets were not within immediate reach, the North Sea would be completely commanded by Germany for three or four days, which would suffice for carrying two or three army corps to Harwich. Then, even supposing that the intervention of powerful British squadrons from the south led finally to the capture of the German troops, a blow capable of bringing England to her knees might be struck in the interval.

That is really a remarkable forecast, remarkable because it assumes that great armies can be launched over-sea at a moment's notice like bolts from the blue. How can we imagine Germany attempting such a coup at a moment of profound peace, when England would be entirely unprepared? The thing is inconceivable. And granting any preparedness on England's part, the absence of the Channel and Mediterranean squadrons is not to be assumed. Then there is the question of transport. Germany's mercantile marine would not begin to suffice for the task unless she diverted all her steamers from their regular services, and such a measure would involve much delay nor could it possibly be concealed. In the extremely improbable event of the German nation's attempting the wild enterprise of invading England—for a wild enterprise it surely would be—the only method of obtaining transports instantaneously and in sufficient numbers, would be to close all German ports to the exit of every British vessel then at anchor there, and to impress the services of all the ships thus seized for carrying troops across the channel. Conceive the stupendous character of such a task, and the absurdity of imagining that it would be hidden from the outer world. Besides, the collecting of all these vessels at suitable places and the embarkment in them of two or three hundred thousand men would require many days, granting the fullest exercise of that wonderful organizing capacity displayed by Germany in the past. Meanwhile, what would England be doing? Sitting with idly folded hands in calm expectation of a fatal blow! The *National Review* is notorious for its insularity. This chimera finds a fitting place in its columns. Yet it is a pity that such folly should be ventilated, for it can not but postpone the day when Germany and England will be firm friends, recalling with amusement the season of their temporary estrangement.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Mr. Tsuji Shinji, President of the Imperial Education Society, has addressed a memorial to the Government urging the necessity of establishing a translation bureau. Mr. Tsuji's point is that access to foreign works on scientific and philosophical subjects is absolutely essential to Japan's progress, and that the want is not at all adequately satisfied by private enterprise, which can not, indeed, be reasonably expected to devote itself to undertakings of which the reward is distant and doubtful. The only remedy, Mr. Tsuji thinks, lies in official assistance. Perhaps he is right, but we lament the correctness of his judgment, if it be correct, since it means the opening of another avenue to official tutelage. However, Mr. Tsuji justly points out that the translation of a book from one European language into another and the translation of a book from a European language into Japanese, are two very different things. So in truth they are. Many Frenchmen, for example, can render French works into German, and many Germans can render German books into French or English, but there is not in the whole world an Englishman who could render an English book into correct and classical Japanese, and there are very few Japanese competent to translate foreign works into their own language. It is not a case of want of diligence or intelligence. It is a case of enormous difficulty.

On the 22nd instant the followers of the Shin Sect were admitted to view the remains of the late Prelate, Count Otani. About thirty thousand took advantage of the opportunity and the confusion is said to have almost defied the efforts of some hundreds of policemen. The funeral is to be on the 7th of February at 2 p.m. It will be attended by an Imperial Delegate and will be conducted in strict accord with the prescribed rites.

It is stated that out of the total sum of 1,400,000 *yen*, approximately, which was appropriated for the purpose of indemnifying Japanese subjects on account of losses connected with the Boxer troubles, about 1,300,000 has been paid over. The family of Mr. Sugiyama, the murdered secretary, have still to receive ten thousand *yen*, which would have been already handed over had a recipient been fixed, and Colonel Shiba has to receive 3,000 *yen*, which will be paid on his return. The authorities at the Foreign Office say that although Colonel Shiba has exerted himself repeatedly to procure indemnities for brother officers or soldiers that served in the campaign, he has wholly neglected to push his own claim, and though several times reminded by the Foreign Office, has neglected the matter completely. They add that the method of distributing the Indemnity has been universally approved and that there are absolutely no complaints.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* London correspondent says that the *Cologne Gazette* praises the address recently delivered by Mr. Katsu Inouye before the Japan Economical Society. Mr. Inouye, who returned last fall from a long residence in Berlin as Japanese Representative, spoke, it will be remembered, in highly appreciative terms of the remarkable strides made by modern Germany in the realm of commerce and industry, and while admitting that the peoples of Japan and Germany were beginning to understand each other better, lamented that mutual errors still occurred. The *Jiji's* telegram does not say whether the German journal had any criticism to offer.

A ball was given at the British Legation on the night of the 23rd instant. It was attended by a large number of prominent Japanese officials and military and naval officers, and by a considerable contingent of Yokohama residents, for whose convenience a special train left Shimbashi at half past one in the morning. The *Asahi Shimbun*, referring to the event, says that the guests were invited to contribute to the funds of the Kumamoto Leper Hospital, but we imagine that our contemporary is confounding this ball with a concert which is announced to be held at the same Legation on behalf of the Hospital.

Our readers are aware that the suit for libel brought by Mr. Hoffmann, of Kobe, against three Tokyo journals, the *Yorozu Choho*, the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Niroku Shimpo*, was not taken up by Public Procurator Tsukui. We do not know anything about the reasons that guided Mr. Tsukui's decision, but in view of the abominable character of the publication complained of by Mr. Hoffmann, it would have been most regrettable had any technicality impeded the course of justice. We are therefore glad to learn that the Procurator's decision has been reversed by the Appeal Court and that the case will proceed.

Ten students left Yokohama on the 24th instant for Europe by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steamer *Tamba Maru*. They travel at Government expense, six going to Germany, two to England and two to France. It has been habitual of late years that Germany should receive a majority of the students going westward from Japan to compete their educational career.

It is announced that Prince Nashimoto will proceed to Europe in March next accompanied by Captain Baron Yamane and a Chamberlain. His Highness will make Paris his head quarters, remaining there two years for the purpose of studying military science.

It is stated that Count Matsukata has accepted the presidency of the Red Cross Society in succession to the late Count Sano. This news will doubtless be welcome to the friends of the Society, for not only is Count Matsukata widely popular, but also his association with any work of benevolence is sure to be earnest and active.

Mr. Henry Sell, the proprietor and publisher of "Sell's Dictionary of the World's Press" has issued a brochure *apropos* the completion of his new premises at 166, 167 and 168 Fleet Street. Leighton House, (which is the name he has given it) is on historic soil. Here is Johnson's Court, here was the Red Lion Inn which disappeared in the Great Fire of 1666, here the Cato Street conspirators kept their arms, and at various times men with eminent names have been connected with one or other of the numbers.

It need scarcely be said that the Imperial German Legation in Tokyo presented a busy scene on the 27th instant. Throughout the forenoon there was a long stream of distinguished callers, and at noon almost the whole German community of Tokyo and Yokohama assembled to enjoy the lavish hospitality for which the Legation is famous under the sway of Count Arco Valley. Germany's rapidly growing influence in the Far East has no more powerful or popular promoter than her present Representative in Tokyo who is as much admired and applauded by outsiders as by his own nationals.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a telegram to the effect that the Russian Government has intimated, through the Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg, its intention of restoring Newchwang as soon as the ice breaks up. Four conditions, however, are attached to the restoration and the telegram does not say what they are.

His Excellency the French Minister in Tokyo has addressed to the son of the late Madame Takayama, chief nursetender of the Red Cross Hospital, a letter of sincere thanks on behalf of the French Government for the services rendered by Madame Takayama in the Hiroshima Hospital where officers and men of the French contingent in Chili were treated. The letter covers an Order conferred by France on the deceased lady.

We observe that His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Germany has just conferred the Grand Cross of the Order of the Red Eagle upon His Excellency Count Matsukata. This, being a Birthday honour, was conveyed to Count Matsukata on the 28th instant, and was doubtless intended as a gracious memento of the impression left upon the Kaiser's mind by Count Matsukata's visit to Germany last year.

LADIES' LAWN TENNIS AND CROQUET CLUB.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Club was held at No. 261 Bluff on the 22nd inst. The following is a statement of the Receipts and Disbursements for the year ending December 31st 1902.

RECEIPTS.

	Yen.
By Cash in H. & S. Bank	149.45
„ Cash in Hand	7.00
„ Fees of Members and Honorary Members	1,930.00
„ Entrance Fees	140.00
„ Visitors' Fees	114.00
„ Sale of old balls and mallets	45.50
„ Tournament Fees	24.00
„ Special Prize Fees	26.00
„ Sale of old wood	98.00
„ Subscriptions to Gardens	50.00
„ Proceeds of "Sunshine and Shadow"	194.40
„ Interest on Current account	6.07
	2,784.42

DISBURSEMENTS.

	Yen.
Paid for Wages	902.81
„ Tea, milk and sugar	68.88
„ Ground Rent	187.50
„ Collecting Charges	75.60
„ Balls	380.95
„ Stationery, advertising, etc.	51.59
„ Prizes	74.00
„ Repairs	117.38
„ Fertilising and mending lawns	30.60
„ Laying out and draining new banks and lawns	355.15
Cash in H. & S. Bank	535.00
Cash in hand	4.96
	2,784.42

The Ballot for the new Committee resulted in the election of the following ladies and gentlemen, who have kindly consented to act:—President: Mrs. Bonar, Vice-President: Mrs. F. S. James, Hon. Treas.: Mrs. Syme Thomson, Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Stedman, Committee: Mrs. James Walter, Mrs. Read, H. A. C. Bonar, Esq., and W. Hagen, Esq.

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THE JAPAN RAILWAY'S TENDERS.

SOME interesting facts have come to our knowledge with regard to the methods of the Japan Railway Company in dealing with tenders. Recently the Company invited tenders for 32 locomotives, the tenders to be opened on the 10th of January. It was not an entirely open competition, for the Company restricted the bidding to four English and three German makers whose names are borne on the list of the Japanese Government's Railway Bureau. Each of these firms, therefore, was admittedly competent and trustworthy: the question of price alone should have been conclusive between them. In calling for these tenders the Company gave notice that a decision would not be immediately rendered, but that the tenders should remain open for six days, the meaning of which delay was understood to be that the Company, without being guided solely by price, contemplated placing a part of the order in Germany. When the tenders were opened on the 10th instant, the following figures were found (we give totals only):—

Tenderers.	Makers.	Price.
Messrs. Isono & Co.	Messrs. Neilson, Reid & Co.	£ 70,242
Messrs. John Birch & Co.	Messrs. Sharp, Stewart & Co.	70,813
Messrs. Mitsui & Co.	Messrs. Dubs & Co.	72,016
Messrs. Mitsui & Co.	Messrs. Beyer, Peacock & Co.	72,799

It will be observed that no German firm tendered, and, further, that the lowest figures are those of Messrs. NEILSON, REID & Company while the highest are those of Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK & Company. The natural course, seeing that all these firms were officially recognised as having equal claims in the matter of trustworthiness and competence, would have been to give the order to Messrs. NEILSON, REID & Company, makers of high repute. But on the 12th inst. it was intimated that the order would be divided, 12 engines going to Messrs. NEILSON, REID & Company, 12 to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK and Company, and 8 to German makers, though none had tendered officially. It need scarcely be observed that if the order was divided at all the natural procedure would have been to give one part to Messrs. SHARP, STEWART and Company, whose tender stood second on the list in order of lowness. The strangeness of the incident does not end there. Messrs. NEILSON, REID and Company, when they found that in spite of having come out first in a competition to which they had been invited, they were to be classed in point of eligibility in the same category with the firm that came out last, declined to have anything further to say to the business and refused to take the order for 12 engines. Thereupon, as a matter of course, the order should have been transferred to Messrs. SHARP, STEWART & Company, the second on the list. But it was not so transferred. It went to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK & Company, the last on the list. Thus the issue of a competition in which four eminent British firms were invited to take part, was that three-fourths of the business went to the highest tenderer among the four, and that the remaining fourth went to a German firm which had not sent in any tender at all. The arithmetical result to the Japan Railway Company, apart from the German prices of which we know nothing and which must remain a mystery—is that a contract for 24 engines went to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK and Company at £55,420, which contract might have been placed with Messrs. NEILSON, REID and Company for £52,348 and with Messrs. SHARP, STEWART and Company for £52,782. Thus by giving the order to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK and Company instead of Messrs. NEILSON, REID and Company, a sum of £3,372, the property of the Japan Railway Company's shareholders, was thrown away, and by giving it to the former firm instead of to Messrs. SHARP, and Company, a sum of £2,638 was lost.

There may be some occult explanation of these things. But to us the incident is incomprehensible. It can have but one result, namely, that respectable English firms will decline hereafter to take any part in competitions which appear to be purely farcical. Messrs. NEILSON, REID and Company showed their indignant contempt for such proceedings by standing aside altogether. That is what other good firms will do in future. Is that also what the Directors of the Japan Railway Company desire to compass? We should be sorry to do them an injustice, but truly some figures now lying before us suggest that the free atmosphere of honest competition is not what they desire. We find, for example, that in September of the year 1901, a contract for six tender locomotives was given privately to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK & Company through Messrs. MITSUI and Company at 44,000 *yen* per locomotive, no competition being invited. We find that in October of the same year, the Railway Company having occasion to procure another lot of 6 tender-engines, invited competition, which resulted in the contract going to Messrs. DUBS and Company through Messrs. MITSUI and Company at 33,950 *yen*, the locomotives to be delivered in Japan. Here then, in the short space of one month, the gain accruing to the Company by substituting competition for private order was 10,050 *yen* per locomotive, or 60,300 *yen* in all. We find again that shortly afterwards the Railway Company, requiring 12 tender engines, called for bids, when Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK and Company, represented as usual by Messrs. MITSUI and Company, asked 29,600 per engine—using round numbers—delivered in Japan whereas Messrs. DUBS and Company offered engines for 25,500 *yen*, a difference of 4,100 *yen* per engine. Nevertheless the contract went to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK and Company, the consequent loss to the Japan Railway Company being 49,200 *yen*. We find, finally, that in a fourth contract for six tender engines given to Messrs. DUBS and Company in October 1901, the price of each engine was 31,590 *yen*, being 12,410 *yen* per engine cheaper than the price paid a month previously to Messrs. BEYER, PEACOCK and Company for similar engines, so that the difference between the September contract and the October contract was altogether 74,460 *yen*.

We do not suggest any explanation of these figures. We merely offer them for the consideration of business men and of the shareholders of the Japan Railway Company.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS QUESTION.

A TELEGRAM to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Peking says that in reply to China's application for payment of the customs duties in gold, the British Government has stated that whereas several other Powers would gain by such an arrangement, England would be a chief sufferer. It is not possible therefore to agree. The same telegram adds that Russia led China to expect assistance from her in this matter, but that the St. Petersburg Government was merely seeking to reap some political advantage, and that, at the psychological moment, it made no helpful move.

England is certainly placed in a very unfortunate position. We do not think that there can be much doubt as to the justice of China's claim. She is conventionally entitled to receive a certain per-centage of the value of goods entering her ports, but in consequence of the money being paid in a depreciated medium, she is not receiving that stipulated per-centage by any means. No one can doubt for a moment that if the positions were reversed, China would be held strictly to the letter of her covenant. She would be told that she had pledged herself to do a certain thing, and that she must do it, *ruat cælum*. When 5 per cent. has to be paid according to international compact, the obligation is not discharged by handing over a quantity of silver which represents only some 3½ per cent. That battle was fought and won by Japan in 1889, and the principle then established is not vitiated by any special circumstances connected with China's claim. Of course whatever injustice is done to China by refusing her demand, does not morally lie at England's door more than at the door of any other Power. But since England occupies the most prominent place in the commercial field, it is upon her that the responsibility seems to rest chiefly. That is a kind of embarrassment to which she is often condemned. In this particular case her reluctance to do the right thing appears notably unfortunate, for the addition that would be made to the customs dues is quite insignificant from the importer's point of view, and as to the argument that tradal prosperity would be impaired, the simple answer is that no new imposition is in question, since the Powers would be merely giving practical effect to a promise made by them with open eyes. They agreed

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by treaty that duties on the basis of five per cent. *ad valorem* should be paid, and China asks for nothing more than five per cent. Justice has very little to do with the intercourse of nations now-a-days. If China were strong enough, she would doubtless do as Mexico has just done, namely, issue a decree that customs dues must hereafter be paid in gold. Mexico is said to be tired of receiving in silver and paying in gold, a sense of weariness which must be acutely felt by China also.

THE CABINET.

ALTHOUGH three months must elapse before the assembly of the new Diet, there is naturally a great deal of conjecture as to the course that the Cabinet will pursue. Hitherto it has not been the custom for a Ministry to remain in office after dissolving a House of Representatives; or, when no change of Cabinet occurred in the interval between the dissolution of one House and the assembling of the next, it has not been necessary for the Ministry to demand from the new Diet an immediate decision concerning the subject of controversy with its predecessor. Almost without exception the contention has been connected with some Budgetary item, and since, according to the Constitution, the failure of a Budget to obtain approval from the Diet necessarily involves the continued operation of the old Budget, there is here a kind of automatic remedy for temporarily shelving topics of financial dispute. The Ministry, having dissolved a House of Representatives, simply reverts to the Budget of the preceding year, and a period of truce naturally ensues. But on the present occasion the Ministry has not resigned, nor does the Constitutional remedy apply to the circumstances of the case. For there is a special problem to be considered; the problem of naval increment with the correlated question of resources to give effect to it. These are matters not necessarily included in the Budget, and to defer further discussion of them for a twelve-month merely because the Budget itself need not be discussed, would be inconsistent with the prominence given by the Government and the Opposition alike to the programme of national defence. Thus the Cabinet is virtually pledged to invite from the new House a decision on the very same matter which led to the dissolution of the old, and seeing that in all human probability the very same members will have to give the decision, there can be no manner of doubt about the issue. What, then, is to ensue? Will there be a fresh dissolution, or will the Cabinet resign? If the former, then evidently parliamentary institutions in Japan are in jeopardy, for the power of deliberation and consent would be quite illusory if the House of Representatives were required to choose between dissolution and blind obedience to the Government. If the latter, if the Cabinet is to resign, then instead of challenging an incontrovertible verdict, the Cabinet would have done much better to resign last month, without putting the country to the expense and trouble of a new election and without temporarily paralysing the legislative machine. A sense of this dilemma disturbs the public mind and inspires all kinds of conjectures, which derive food from the movements of politicians. For meetings of prominent men and consultations of committees are certainly taking place, and, on the one hand, it is alleged that since Marquis ITO's dignity would be compromised by an open conflict with a Cabinet under the leadership of one of his own *protegés*, and since Count KATSURA is too sensible and too loyal to openly raise his hand against his old patron and the country's benefactor, therefore a compromise of some kind is inevitable; while, on the other, it is affirmed that Marquis ITO, having now entered the political arena, probably for the last time in his life, in defence of a great principle, can not possibly abate anything of his requirements. Which of these estimates is correct we frankly confess inability to determine. Perhaps both are true with limitations. At all events there is a stir in the political atmosphere, and something important is likely to eventuate. Meanwhile there is still open to the Ministry a route not hitherto openly discussed. No genuine difficulty exists as to finance. The settled accounts for 1901-2 showed a surplus of some 7 millions of *yen*; the settled accounts for the current year are likely to produce a further surplus, and the effect of putting the 1902-3 Budget into operation for 1903-4 will be to give a surplus of 15 millions. We see no reason why, under such circumstances, the Ministry should not quietly drop its Land-tax Bill, or at any rate, postpone its discussion, and ask the House to sanction, in the meanwhile, whatever appropriation may be needed for purposes of naval increment in the pending fiscal year. Japanese financiers are not under any obligation to provide in advance all the funds required for carrying out a programme spread over several years. The money needed can be voted from year to year, as is done in other countries. If the KATSURA Cabinet chose to seek that exit from the dilemma, it might make the attempt. But would it succeed? We do not think so. We believe that the next House of Representatives will come together with the fixed resolution of provoking a collision with the Government, and that the majority will negative every official proposal submitted to them. If that forecast be correct, then certainly the present is a suitable time for effecting some adjustment which would, on the one hand, deprive the coming elections of their passionate element, and, on the other, avert an apparently fruitless and certainly dangerous collision between the Ministry and the Diet. It is probably quite true that another dissolution would spell ruin for many of the members and would permanently destroy their public career. The Government, thus, has a powerful weapon in its reserve armoury. But what influence upon the nation's temper would be produced by employing such a weapon?

IS IT A FACT THAT JAPAN HAS BECOME A COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL COUNTRY?

The above is the title of an article published in the *Jiji Shimpō* some weeks ago, which on account of its interest to foreigners we translate literally as follows:—The talk about Japan's being constituted a commercial and industrial country has in recent years been on everybody's lips. In reference to the question of what is the best economic policy for us to follow in future, with the exception of that small section of the community engaged in agriculture, everybody recognises the necessity of our making commerce and industry the foundation of the country's wealth. It would seem at first sight as though as a country we were very favourably situated for pursuing this policy. But the question is, how far have we actually followed it? Though various differences appear in countries owing to their adoption of diverse economic systems, there are three unmistakable signs of commercial and industrial countries; which are:—(1) That the raw produce imported from foreign countries should be utilized for manufacturing purposes; (2) that imported food should go to support the people of the home country, and (3) that the interest of the money sent abroad and the profits derived from general business should be received in the form of imports, which should always be in excess of exports. We observe by the British Trade Report for 1901 that the value of food, liquor, raw produce and manufactured articles imported and exported by England was as below:—

IMPORTS.	£
(1) Articles of food and liquors	224,763,000
(2) Raw Produce	137,355,000
(3) Manufactured Articles.....	93,609,000
(4) Other Miscellaneous Articles	66,511,000
	522,238,000

EXPORTS.	£
(1) Articles of food and liquors	15,626,000
(2) Raw Produce.....	33,777,000
(3) Manufactured Articles.....	207,966,000
(4) Other Miscellaneous Articles	20,976,000
	348,345,000

PERCENTAGE OF THE EXPORTS AS COMPARED TO THE IMPORTS.

(1) Articles of food and liquors	6.9
(2) Raw Produce	25.0
(3) Manufactured Articles.....	222.0

We see then that the proportion of food stuffs, liquors and raw produce imported by England corresponds to over 3/5 of the total value of her imports; and that, on the other hand, the proportion of manufactured articles exported has reached 2/3 of the total value of her exports. It appears that in the case of food stuffs and liquors the total value of the imports is about fifteen times that of the exports. It is quite natural that when a country is manifesting signs of making commerce and industry, instead of agriculture, its economic foundation its imports and exports should take this course.

When we come to inquire how our country stands to-day in reference to the above-named points, though our tables, being very incomplete and failing to distinguish between raw material and manufactured articles, do not allow of accurate comparison with the English tables, they suffice to give a general idea of our economic situation. According to last year's (1901) returns the total value of exports was 252,349,000 *yen*; and the total value of imports, 214,929,000 *yen*. Out of this the value of food exported was 28,125,000 *yen* and that imported 7,502,000 *yen*, that is, food bore the proportion of 11·1 of the total exports and 3·5 of the total imports. This one thing of itself is enough to make it clear that Japan has not yet given up the economic prin-

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ciple of supporting herself on agricultural products. But, moreover, when we come to consider a variety of other articles of commerce this becomes still plainer. The total value of the exports of our four principal commodities, namely, refined copper, raw silk, woven silk and coal is put down at 100,270,000 *yen*, that is, they constitute about one half of the total exports* of the country. On the other hand, as to the import trade, with the exception of ginned cotton, valued at 50,000,000 *yen*, it would seem that the imported articles consist mostly of railway locomotives, iron, steel, things made of iron and kerosene; which means that we still are in the condition of a country which exports raw produce and imports manufactured articles; that is, that our position is the exact opposite of that of England, which may be regarded as a model type of a commercial and industrial country. Though our circumstances bring us into connection with those products which form the basis of commerce and industry, despite the fact that the necessity of our becoming a commercial and industrial country is pressed home upon us by so many writers and speakers, we cannot but acknowledge that the real truth is that we are still a very long way from attaining to that position. We are not worthy of being compared to a country like Germany even, which has a very limited coast line and few good harbours and which, in addition to being ill adapted to become a commercial and industrial country, in recent years has had a strong party in favour of giving increased protection to agriculture. Yet German trade reports show that she aproaches much nearer to the adoption of the policy of a commercial and industrial country than we do. Here is a report of her average imports and exports during 6 years, from 1895-1900.

Imports.	Marks.
(1) Food	1,632,800,000
(2) Raw Produce	2,254,700,000
(3) Manufactured articles	1,032,200,000
Exports.	**Marks.**
(1) Food	480,500,000
(2) Raw Produce	882 400,000
(3) Manufactured articles	2,479,300,000
Percentage of Exports to Imports.	
(1) Food	29.4
(2) Raw Produce	39.1
(3) Manufactured articles	240.1

So that we see that the proportion of imports and exports in the case of the three chief articles of trade in Germany is very much the same as it is in England. While, then, it is clear that Germany is advancing step by step towards the adoption of the policy of the commercial and industrial countries, we, though occupying a position that favours both trade and industry, in respect of the degree of development, are far behind Germany, and it may be said that we still retain the old form of an agricultural country. Judging from things as they appear to-day, it is impossible to say when we shall attain to the good fortune of becoming a commercial and industrial country. Though one can not see far ahead, yet it would seem according to present appearances as though the influence of the opinions of that one-sided section of the community which, out of consideration for temporary interests only, advocate the protection of agriculture, were increasing. It is to be regretted that on this account the country is hindered and delayed in developing the commerce and industry which, if we are to judge from its physical condition and peculiarities, ought to be made its economic foundation. This is a matter worthy of the attention of all those who argue in favour of commerce and industry.

* This is rather rough calculation as the total exports are valued at 252,349,000 *yen*.—(Translator).

A STIRRING TALE OF THE SEA.

The American ship *St. David*, Capt. C. Ryder, arrived off Yokohama Qarantine Station at two o'clock on Sunday morning, in tow of the British steamer *Glenogle*, Capt. G. E. Warner. The *St. David* sailed from Manila on Oct. 21st, bound for Puget Sound. About Dec. 10th, she encountered a severe typhoon, during which she lost her main mast and sails and sustained considerable damage. After making repairs, Captain Ryder shaped his course for Yokohama. On Dec 19th he was sighted by the T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, which left Yokohama on Dec. 17th for Honolulu and San Francisoo. Captain Going, of the *America*, very kindly supplied the *St. David* with fresh provisions, and by Capt. Ryder's request, took on board one of his sailors who was suffering from malaria fever. Since parting from the *America Maru*, the *St. David* made the Japan coast upon four different occasions but each time was blown off. At last about four o'clock on Saturday, Jan. 24, while 20 miles off, the vessel was sighted by Captain Warner of the *Glenogle*, and noticing the distress signals and the general condition of the vessel the steamer bore down and by request of Captain Ryder towed the *St. David* to Yokohama.

The *Glenogle* was *en route* from Tacoma, Wash., to Kobe, and left here early on Sunday morning for the southern port.

On January 2nd, when 70 miles to the eastward of Yokohama, the *St. David* rescued three Japanese fishermen. The sampan contained four men —one had already died from exposure while the other three were utterly hopeless. The survivors were hoisted on board the *St. David* and have been under the care of Captain Ryder since that date. They are still in a very low condition.

On Dec. 15th, when 300 miles N. E. of Yokohama, Captain Ryder reports passing the Danish ship *Lord Templeton*, Captain Morse, on the voyage from New York to Hakodate. The *Lord Templeton* has not arrived at Hakodate, so she undoubtedly encountered the same severe weather as the *St. David*, and as yet has been unable to reach her destination.

After making necessary repairs the *St. David* will leave for the Pacific coast of America.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The twenty-seventh half-yearly meeting of shareholders of The Grand Hotel, Ld., was held on Monday afternoon in the Hotel. Dr. C. H. H. Hall presided and there were also present Messrs. C. K. M. Martin, B. C. Howard, R. Howie, Capt. J. Martin and Mr. M. McDonald.

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the Secretary (Mr. G. Booth),

The Chairman said—The Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts, now before us, will be taken as read if there is no objection. We may note with gratification the evidence of a good half year and that the debt incurred on account of the new wing, office lobby and other structural improvements, has been discharged. This has been accomplished, however, by temporarily drawing upon the Working Account for funds needed for the new work; the payment of a dividend at this time requires, therefore, that a certain part of this draft be in effect returned to Working Account, and your Directors are of the opinion that the sum recommended for distribution is a fair proportion to be so returned. A very large balance remains, however, as the contribution of the last year to the permanent improvement of the property. You will be pleased to know that the expectations held regarding the value of the new wing as a source of revenue are in process of fulfilment, and that the satisfaction of guests with the accommodation there afforded gives reason to think that the demand for such suites of apartment will be greater than was esrimated. upon. The experience confirms the judgment to the Directors in the character of the accommodation provided there and designed for the projected larger addition to the hotel. In pursuance of the decision of the shareholders at the late extraordinary general meeting, the architect has been duly commissioned to prepare plans and specifications for a five-storied steel frame building to be erected on the area now covered by the stone building. The work is already in hand and as building opperations cannot be undertaken prudently before the autumn of next year the Board of Directors and the architect will have ample time for deliberation so as to secure the best attainable results. This unavoidable delay will make it unnecessary to draw upon the building credit voted until late next year.

Mr. R. Howie was about to call attention to the item of Debentures, *yen* 10,000, in the accounts when,

The Chairman said the accounts could not be discussed till the motion was seconded.

Mr. Howie begged pardon and seconded the motion of the Chairman.

Mr. McDonald said:—I desire to invite the attention of the shareholders to that portion of the Report of the Board of Directors which recommends the payment of a dividend amounting to eleven *yen* per share, which, in view of the undertaking recently accepted in Gennral Meeting calls for more than passing scrutiny. The additional new building to which the company stands committed, means in the near future, the expenditure of a large sum of money, much of which must be borrowed, in spite of any provision that can now be made. I freely admit that the company has earned the right to confidently count on uninterrupted prosperity, but I hold, notwithstanding, that it is unwise and unbusinesslike to mortgage the future needlessly. It will be seen by reference to the accounts of the 1st and 2nd half-years of 1902 that the earnings of the Company were enough to provide for the new wing recently completed, and to pay a dividend of nine *yen* per share in the first half-year. The dividend recommenced for the 2nd half year, however, must be borrowed, and becomes accordingly, a tax on the earnings of the present year, and under the circumstances. I thing eleven *yen* per share excessive. I am of opinion that, however prosperous the company may be dividends exceeding *yen* 18 per share should not be paid in any year till the borrowing period has been passed, and I therefore move to amend the motion before the meeting by reducing the dividend to *yen* 9 per share.

Mr. A. M. Knapp, who had entered the room while Mr. McDonald was speaking, said if that gentleman advocated the creation of a sinking fund for the erection of the new building, he (Mr. Knapp) would be in favour of it, regarding it as a thoroughly business-like proposal that even at this early date a sinking fund for such a purpose should be established. He seconded the amendment.

On the amendment being put to the meeting three voted for and three against it.

The Chairman—In this case, gentlemen, it is not only the privilege but the duty of the presiding officer to vote, and for the reasons given already in my remarks I think the recommendation of your Directors the best to be made. Therefore I vote against the amendment. I will now put the motion for the passing of the report and accounts.

On the motion being put four voted for it and two against it. The motion of adopted.

Mr. Howie at this point referred to the matter he had previously risen to speak on, and asked why the plan of writing off yearly from the debentures had been departed from.

The Chairman—At the time of discussing the new wing that matter was also discussed, and as the rate of interest for these debentures is less than we would have to pay for money borrowed, it was thought advisable in the interest of the hotel to discontinue temporarily the paying-off of the debentures. That is why no further payment has been made on that account since the discussion of the new wing.

The next business was the election of Directors and as no one had been nominated he suggested that the re-election of the retiring Directors, Dr. Hall and Mr. C. K. M. Martin should be proposed.

On the motion of Mr. McDonald, seconded by Mr. Howie, the retiring Directors were re-elected.

The Chairman said that as to the election of auditor the Directors had much pleasure in recommending Mr. J. Cox Edwards, and that gentleman was, on the motion of Mr. McDonald seconded by Capt. Martin, duly elected.

The next business was to fix the remuneration of Directors.

Mr. Howie asked whether he was correct in supposing that by the articles of the company *yen* 500 was the maximum fixed.

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The CHAIRMAN said yes.

Mr. HOWIE then proposed that the Directors should receive *yen* 500 each, and further that in view of the somewhat onerous services rendered by them during the past year they should receive a bonus of *yen* 100 each. The latter was a small sum but it might mark in some way the appreciation of the shareholders.

Mr. KNAPP seconded and the motion was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN, for himself and his fellow Directors, thanked Mr. Howie and the shareholders, and this being all the business the meeting separated.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities, for the half-year ended December 31st, 1902, accompany this Report.

	Yen.
The net profit for the half year, including balance brought forward from June 30th, 1902, and after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, bonus to Manager, and Sundry Creditors, and after writing off bad or doubtful debts, amounts to	77,341.71
which it is proposed to apply as follows:	
In payment of a dividend of *yen* 11.00 per share for the half year	27,500.00
For Depreciation	40,000.00
Carried forward to new account	9,841.71

The construction of the new wing having been completed, the item, "New Buildings Account," which appeared in former half-yearly statements of accounts, has been omitted from the Statement of Accounts for this half-year because the disbursements under that head, amounting to *yen* 91,136.62, have been finally distributed among the Assets,—buildings, furniture, and electric light.

Dr. Hall and Mr. Martin retire from the Board by rotation but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Cecil Guinness having resigned the Auditorship, owing to departure from this port, Mr. J. F. Cox-Edwards was appointed Auditor for the unexpired term, and the Directors have much pleasure in recommending his election for the current year.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 27th day of January, when warrants will be issued.

C. H. H. HALL,
MARSHALL MARTIN, } Directors.

Yokohama, January 12th, 1903.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital 2,500 Shares at *yen* 100	250,000.00
Sundry Creditors	12,859.80
Debentures	10,000.00
Kurumaya Security Fund	200.00
Unclaimed Dividends	646.04
Profit and loss account	77,341.71
	351,047.55

ASSETS.	Yen.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	1,180.70
Cash in hand	657.89
Fire Insurance, Value of running policies	2,480.46
Ground (Estimated Value, Oct., 1897, Yen 85,000	60,000.00
Buildings	170,108.43
Furniture	68,705.33
Electric Light Plant	22,005.64
Steam Launch	7,000.00
Wines in stock	7,009.00
Provisions in stock	1,721.94
Cigars and Cigarettes in stock	2,063.65
General stock	869.92
Sundry debtors	7,244.59
	351,047.55

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT:—31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

Dr.	Yen.
To Insurance Account	3,034.78
To General Expenses	36,131.79
To Director's and Auditor's Fees	1,400.00
To Bonus to Manager	500.00
To Taxes Account	1,357.97
To Interest Account	722.02
To Balance available for division	Yen. 77,341 71
to be dealt with as under:—	
Dividend at Yen 11.00 per share..	¥27,500.00
Written off buildings	26,000.00
Written of furniture	10,000.00
Written of electric-light	4,000.00
Carried forward to new Account	9,841.71
	77,341.71
	120,488.27

Cr.	Yen.
By Balance brought forward from 30th June, 1902	21,427.87
By Transferred from Working Account	97,514.04
By Balance of Rent Account	1,199.15
By Share Transfer Fees	6.00
By Share Warrant Fees	8.00
By Sale of Old Material	333.21
	120,488.27

Yokohama, 31st December, 1902.

MARSHALL MARTIN,
M. KAUFMANN, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be in accordance therewith.

J. F. COX-EDWARDS, Auditor.

Yokohama, 8th January, 1903.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The half-yearly general meeting of this Company was held at the Company's office on Jan. 28th. Mr. J. Johnstone, Chairman, presided, and there was a small attendance of shareholders.

The minutes of the last meeting, held in August, 1902, were taken as read, and the accounts for the half-year were submitted to the shareholders.

The Chairman then said the meeting had been called in accordance with Rule 41 of the Company's Articles of Association, which provided that a general meeting of the shareholders should be held twice a year. The Articles of Association, however, only stipulated that a statement of accounts should be presented at the general meeting held at the end of the financial year, but as the Directors for some years past had laid before the shareholders a half-yearly statement, they were continuing the practice by presenting the accounts which were now before the meeting. Considering the unsatisfactory state of trade generally, the Directors thought it was a matter of congratulation that they were in a position to place such a satisfactory statement before the shareholders. On referring to the accounts they would observe that there was a credit balance of *yen* 20,857.58 to be dealt with. Subject to their approval, the directors proposed that an interim dividend of *yen* 5 per share be paid; that would absorb about *yen* 13,000, leaving a balance of *yen* 7,857.58 to be carried forward. If any shareholder had any questions to ask regarding the Company's business generally, he would be pleased to answer them.

Mr. Dodds added that stock had been very carefully taken and verified, and the directors were satisfied that the valuation was a very moderate one. The same remark applied to plant, machinery, and steam launches.

There being no questions, the dividend was formally declared, and the proceedings terminated.

NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now the pleasure to submit to shareholders the accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1902.

Before closing the books for the year $60,000.00 had to be written off the second reserve fund for defalcations and fraud by our late Compradore in Yokohama.

The gross profits including $21,235.51 brought forward from last year are $248,799 24 which after deducting all charges and allowing for bad and doubtful debts leaves a net profit of $145,103.95.

This the Directors propose to deal with as follows:—To pay a dividend of $1.96½ per share (in London 3 1½) absorbing $79,490.15, to place $50,000.00 to Reserve and to carry forward $15,613.80.

On the departure of Mr. Lauts for Europe in April Mr. Julius Fo-ke was elected a Director but resigned his seat in the Autumn when Mr. Lauts, having returned to Hongkong, was re-elected—this will require your confirmation.

Mr. Ewens retires in rotation from the Head Office Board and Mr. Wotton from the London Committee and being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

The Accounts at the Head Office have been audited by Mr. R. C. Wilcox and in London by Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths and Co., Chartered Accountants.

Your obedient servant,
C. EWENS,
Chairman.

Hongkong, January, 7th 1903.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

LIABILITIES.	$	$
Capital, 750 fully paid Founders' Shares of £1 each laid down in the east at exchange of 3s.)	5,000.00	
Capital, partly paid, £323,-624 (laid down in the east at exchange of 3s.)	2,157,493.32	
Capital reserve fund	191,973.33	
Reserve fund	65,533.35	
		2,420,000.00
Notes in circulation		477,295.00
Fixed deposits and account		735,379.50
Loans payable		250,000.00
Bills for collection and branch balances		283,502.45
Drafts, acceptances and endorsements (Bills rediscounted)		370,606.91
Balance of profit and loss account		145,103.95
Total		4,681,887.81

ASSETS.	
Cash on hand and at bankers	533,288.63
Government securities belonging to the Bank	315,759.03
Bills receivable, loans and advances	2,046,040.76
Bills for collection receivable and branch balances	1,769,347.39
Adjustments	2,452.00
Furniture	15,000.00
Total	4,681,887.81

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 31st December, 1902.

	$	$
Charges, Directors' fees and salaries		103,695.29
Amount to be placed to reserve fund	50,000.00	
Dividend account, proposed payment of $1.96¼ per share on 40,453 shares (3/1½ per share in London at exchange of 1/7 1/16)	79,490.15	
Balance to be carried forward to next account	15,613.80	145,103.95
Total		248,799 24

	$
Balance brought forward from last year.	21,235.51
Gross Earnings for year ending 31st December, 1902	227,563.73
	248,799.24

On 1st January, 1903, our Capital and Reserve Funds will stand as follows:—

	$
Capital Fully Paid Founders' Shares	5,000.00
Capital Partly Paid Ordinary Shares	2,157,493.32
Capital Reserve Fund	191,973.33
Reserve Fund	115,533.35
Total	2,470,000 00

C. EWENS,
Chairman.

J. LAUTS,
CHAN KIT SHAN,
CHOW TUNG SHANG, } Directors.
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR, Chief Manager,
H. PINCKNEY, Chief Accountant.

I have audited the above balance sheet and beg to report to the shareholders that such balance sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Bank's affairs as shown by the Books. The Audit in London has been carried out as usual and certified by Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths and Co., Chartered Accountants.

I certify that all my requirements as auditor have been complied with.

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Auditor.

Hongkong, January, 7th 1903.

The *Piemonte*, the new Italian warship on the China station, left Venice on the 23rd ult., under the command of Capt. Gaelano, and reached Singapore on the 6th inst. She is a third-class cruiser of 2,500 tons displacement, 12,000 h.p., and 32 guns. The *Piemonte* was built at Elswick in 1888 at a cost of £220,000 and is a speedy craft, her engines driving her at the rate of 21 knots an hour. Her nominal coal supply is 560 tons and she carried a complement of 325 officers and men.

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THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XXI.

Effect which Ieyasu's edict produced.—Okubo Tadachika is entrusted with the task of executing the edict at Kyoto, Osaka and Sakai.—This *daimyo's* fall and the crushing of Tadateru's plot.—Exile of Takayama Ukon and Naito Yukiyasu.—Their presence at Nagasaki provoking the fervour of the Christians.—Disputes among the Religious.—The exiles leave Japan.—Their arrival at Manila.—Their death.—What became of their descendants?

When, at the command of Ieyasu, the edict of persecution had been posted up, in all the towns of Japan, the *daimyo* showed little enthusiasm in obeying the instructions of their master. With the exception of the apostate *daimyo*, and perhaps a few zealous Buddhists, who profited by this occasion to win the good graces of Ieyasu, no one had even the idea of beginning a merciless persecution. Most of the *daimyo* contented themselves with exiling some influential Christians, or of condemning to death the most prominent among them. Some even declared that there were no Christians in their dominions. Uesugi Kagekatsu was the most conspicuous among them. It was not precisely out of love for the Christians, but only in order to countercheck the schemes of Ieyasu, his ancient rival, that Uesugi took up this attitude. He did not depart from it till 1623, when he ceded his states to his son Sadakatsu (44).

The *daimyo* who, in these circumstances, had the most difficult position to fill, was probably Itakura, the Governor of Kyoto. A great friend of the Religious, and very much inclined to protect the Christians, he had already, in the preceding year, received the order to register the names of all the Christians of this town. He found seven thousand of them. Fearing that this relatively high figure would irritate Ieyasu, then occupied with having drawn a list of all the Christian communities in Japan, Itakura accused only the cipher of sixteen hundred.(45) It was, therefore, with the greatest reluctance that he could decide himself to carry out the edict of Ieyasu. However, as the orders were formal, he invited the Religious of Kyoto to repair to Nagasaki. On the 22nd of February 1614, he held seven junks at their disposal, and the Religious embarked on them with a certain number of leading Christians. In passing Fushimi and Osaka these junks had to take on board other exiles, so that in the end they were full.

But, this was only part of Itakura's mission: it remained still for him to destroy the churches and to compel the Christians to apostatize. The well-informed Ieyasu, doubting whether Itakura was energetic enough for this office, sent him as assistant Okubo Tadachika, *daimyo* of Odawara. (46) It was not, however, that Okubo had the slightest cause for ill-will against the Christians: on the contrary, he had always shown himself favourably inclined towards them. But, just at this moment, he had a serious motive to act against his own feelings, and to even anticipate Ieyasu's wishes. Tadateru's plot had been discovered, and Okubo Tadachika was compromised in it.

This famous plot, already spoken of in the preceding chapter, was to have only effect after Ieyasu's death, but the old badger,—as the conspirators had nicknamed Ieyasu,—had hunted it out, towards the end of 1613. Tadateru, in behalf of whom the plot had been hatched, escaped from disaster in disavowing his partisans and in abandoning them to their sad fate. All the other conspirators, among whom six or seven *daimyo*, were deprived of their estates and sent into exile. Okubo Nagayasu, *daimyo* of Hachioji, had even to commit *harakiri*. This Okubo, Ieyasu's Minister of Finance, had, with Tadateru's plot in view, appropriated immense sums of the State Treasure, and kept them concealed in his residence of Sumpu. When, after his death, perquisitions were made in his residence, a box is said to have been found, containing the plan of the plot with the names of the conspirators, and letters inviting the Spaniards to come and help in the overthrow of the Shogun. It was, however, only under the pretext of these letters that Nagayasu, was sentenced to death. For the same reason also, he was publicly charged with the most abominable crimes. His malversations, it was said, had had no other object than the furnishing with the necessary funds the foreigners, who plotted with the Christians of Japan against the Shogun's life, and the safety of the State.

Ieyasu had had recourse to this clever subterfuge with the double object of branding the Christians as traitors to their country and the Religious as dangerous conspirators, and of concealing from the public the real state of things. Here again, what must be admired is not only the cleverness of Ieyasu in counterchecking the plot, but also his dexterity in stifling it without the least noise. Tadateru's plot as well as the result of it were kept concealed from the *daimyo*, to whom this bad example might have been contagious, at a moment when a breath of revolt traversed Japan. Nagayasu excepted, all the guilty parties were deposed under the most unlikely pretexts, which the public, however, had to accept as true.

Okubo Tadachika, who knew that his name had been found on the list of the conspirators, expected every day one of those terrible sentences of which Ieyasu had the secret. Hope returned to him, however, when Ieyasu entrusted him with the important mission of crushing the Christians. He resolved, therefore, to acquit himself of it with the greatest zeal. And in fact, when he reached Kyoto with his *samurai*, he displayed extreme rigour. In the twinkling of an eye the churches and the houses of the Religious were destroyed from top to bottom, and the Christians driven from their dwellings. The quarter of Matsubara, almost entirely occupied by Christians, soon resembled a desert; what Okubo had not destroyed the Buddhists carried off.

To make the Christians apostatize Okubo had recourse to means which were enough to make the most courageous yield: he announced that he would burn alive all that did not renounce their faith. Then wishing to show that he would spare nobody, he caused a certain number of women to be tied up in rice bags, and, to the great amusement of the public, he had them carried through the streets of the town. Julia Naito and several of her companions were among the unhappy victims who were treated in this outrageous way.

After having given this proof of his energy at Kyoto, Okubo proceeded to Fushimi, Osaka and Sakai to carry out in those places the same programme. Everywhere he encountered, on the part of the Christians, the same constancy, nay, even a veritable joy to die for the faith. Those whose names had not been put on the list, went personally to denounce themselves. Thus, at Osaka, John Jiroemon, grand-son of Hachisuka Iemasa, went with his wife, demanding permission to share the fate of the Christians destined to exile. But orders had been issued against any person of high rank being molested, and only seventy-one *samurai* of ordinary condition were exiled. These were sent to Tsuruga, thence by sea to the province of Mutsu, the domain of the *daimyo* Tsugaru Nobuhira. The latter treated them with deference and rendered the work of clearing land, to which they had been condemned, as easy as possible. Tsugaru was still at this period a convinced believer; he had proved it shortly before this event, by putting the Cross in his arms.

Whilst Okubo thus behaved as an ardent persecutor, a sentence of Ieyasu fell on him like a thunderbolt. Under the pretext that he had given his daughter in marriage without reference to the Shogun, he received the order to proceed at once, and without taking any of his *samurai* with him, to Ii Naotaka, *daimyo* of Hikone (Omi). It meant disgrace, deposition, exile. Okubo then understood how cleverly Ieyasu had played with him, and that he had only sent him to Kyoto with the majority of his *samurai*, in order that he might be able to gain possession of the Odawara castle without having to fear any resistance. And this last precaution was not at all superfluous, at a time when the malcontents made their last effort to overthrow the usurper. But the consummate ability of the latter foiled all the projects of his adversaries.

It has been said already, that the box discovered in Okubo's residence contained letters, in which the conspirators implored the assistance of the King of Spain. Did these letters really exist? and if so, did they ever reach their destination? These are questions yet to be discussed. Anyhow, the fact remains that Ieyasu was by no means quite easy in his mind on the question of the pretended conspiracy between the Japanese Christians and the Spaniards. He suspected several Christians of continuing the work of Okubo, and he persecuted them with unaccustomed severity. Takayama Ukon and Naito Yukiyasu he suspected most. Already in the Taiko's time Takayama had been accused of plotting with foreigners, and this was one of the reasons of his disgrace. As to Naito, who had retired, some years before, to Maeda of Kanazawa, he had had the audacity to protest against Ieyasu's edict. His son Thomas, who was in Hideyori's service at Osaka, had done the same. Ieyasu, while pretending to shut his eyes on these protests, resolved to chastize the guilty parties.(47) He ordered Maeda to drive Takayama and Naito from his estates, and to send them with their families to Nagasaki, whence they would be exiled to Manila. Maeda experienced such embarrassment in communicating this order to these two unfortunates, that he had not even the courage to grant them a last interview. Takayama, who had been hospitably treated there for nearly twenty-five years, caused all the money that he had saved out of his revenues, to be given to Toshitsune, brother and successor of the *daimyo* of Kanazawa, declaring that he wished to go into exile a poor man.(48) Thus he bade farewell to his *kerai*, and set out with his wife and his grand children to the number of four. His eldest son had also entered Hideyori's service at Osaka. One of his daughters had been married to Yokoyama Nagatomo, a leading *kerai* of Maeda. Yokoyama had on this occasion been baptized, and had shown himself, for a certain time, to be a fervent Christian. But Ieyasu's edict made such an impression on Yokoyama that he apostatized, declaring himself convinced of the superiority of Buddhism. He persuaded his wife to renounce also her faith, but the latter refused, and, wishing to share the fate of her father, she went with him into exile.

Naito Yukiyasu had with him his wife, his children, and his four grand-children. Travelling on foot, without a single servant, the proscribed party, carrying with them the objects which were most indispensable, proceeded to Kyoto. Along the line of route, the Christians and even the Buddhists gave them veritable ovations. All wished to see these two great fallen noblemen, who had been condemned to a punishment much more cruel than had ever been inflicted even on the worst criminals. The nearer they approached Kyoto, the greater became the crowds of curious sight-seers, so that the Governor of that town, fearing a riot, ordered the exiles to halt at Sakamoto, whither he himself went to see them, persuading them to renounce their faith. His temptations were no more successful than those of Hideyori's emissaries, who also had gone to Sakamoto, inviting the exiles to take refuge in the fortress of Osaka. Some days after, the exiles, whose number had been increased by other proscripts of rank, left for Nagasaki.

While they awaited there the vessels which were to convey them into exile, the inhabitants of Nagasaki, to the number of more than 50,000, delivered themselves up to extraordinary manifestations. Deeply touched at the sight of the noble proscripts, they invited the Christians of the environs to come and join them in their public prayers and penances, in other that they might obtain from God the revocation of the edict of persecution. There was an immense concourse, and the religious enthusiasm became such

(44) Relation de la persécution du Japon pendant les années 1628, 1629, 1630. A most interesting relation printed at Paris in the year 1635.

(45) Pagès, p. 254.

(46) Generally called Sagamidono, from his title Sagami-no-kami.

(47) Pagès, p. 284.

(48) Pagès, pp. 255-256.

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that the Governor of the town became afraid of a revolt. He immediately informed Ieyasu of these assemblings, and the latter sent to Nagasaki a special envoy. This, however, seeing the pacific character of the demonstrations, reassured the evil-disposed Governor, and wrote also to Ieyasu how matters stood(49).

However, if the religious processions of the Nagasaki Christians were calculated to bring down God's mercy on the persecuted Church, the regrettable rivalries of the different religious orders must certainly have incursed the Divine wrath. On the death of de Cerqueira, Bishop of Japan, an event which had arrived on the 20th of February, 1614, an apostolic brief nominated the Provincial of the Jesuits, Father Carvalho, administator of the Church of Japan. Immediately the Fransiscans and Dominicans declared themselves independent of Father Carvalho and claimed to be under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Manila. Carvalho issued an interdict against the refractory monks, who in their turn, assisted by the secular clergy, composed of seven native priests, excommunicated the Jesuit. Owing to the particular propensity of the Japanese to quibbling and dissension, soon the whole Christian community took part in the dispute(50). Thus, instead of uniting in these dangerous times, and coming to an understanding on the subject of the measures to be taken to fortify the faithful for the approaching struggle, the Religious, giving way to their detestable congregational jealousy, preferred to excommunicate each other, to the great scandal of the Christians and even of the pagans. This lack of Christian charity, not to say of common-sense, had the most disastrous consequences. For, here again the sins of some individuals were imputed to the Christian doctrine itself, which, for this reason, was once more denounced as subversive.

While these regrettable events took place, the ships destined to transport the exiles to Manila and Macao arrived. They were three little junks in a very bad condition. The one destined for Manila had been fitted by Murayama, one of the Governors of Nagasaki. It took on board Takayama and Naito with their families, two secular priests, some thirty Religious of the different orders, and Julia Naito with fourteen of her companions. The most notable among the latter were Julia's cousin, Magdalen Nakajima, Mary Tsutsui, daughter of the ex-*daimyo* of Ueno, Mary Pak, a noble Korean, and Mencia Otomo, a daughter of the great Sorin. To the observation that the junk was too small to accommodate so many people, Hasegawa, chief-governor of Nagasaki, advised them brutably to hang the ladies outside the ship(51).

The two other junks destined for Macao also carried Christians of note, of whom Thomas Ukita, perhaps the last representative of this illustrious family, was the best known. More than seventy Jesuits were also on board. In spite of this great number of deported preachers, there remained still forty-two of them concealed in Japan, namely; twenty-seven Jesuits, seven Dominicans, seven Fransiscans, one Augustinian and five secular priests.(52)

On the 8th of November, 1614, the three junks left the port of Nagasaki. The two destined for Macao made the voyage in a short time and without accident. The other one had hardly left the port of Nagasaki, when, by order of Murayama, a bark took secretly back several Franciscans and the two Japanese priests, of whom one was Francis, the son of the governor(53). The other exiles, after having gone through several tempests and suffered from hunger, only reached Manila on the 28th of November. A splendid reception awaited them on their arrival. A galley adorned as if for a regatta had been sent to meet them, as soon as their ship appeared on the horizon. The Governor, the Archbishop, the army, all the people awaited them in the harbour. To the roar of cannons and the ringing of bells the exiles were conducted in carriages to the cathedral and to the church of the Jesuits, where they were received to the strains of the "Te Deum." The Governor assigned them considerable revenues from the Treasury with superb residences. But they refused all that was not strictly necessary.

A little while after their arrival at Manila, Takayama fell ill, and died on the 3rd of February, 1615. He was then sixty-three years of age. The Governor gave him a solemn funeral, in which all the town and more than 1000 Japanese took part. Takayama was buried in the church of the Jesuits, where his tomb is to be seen to this day. On his death-bed he had ordered his family to remain at least three years outside Japan, even if religious peace were established there. What is certain is that his wife and children returned later on to Japan without, however, leaving the least trace either of the place which served as their refuge, or of the name under which they were obliged to conceal their identity.

Naito lived twelve years more in exile, dividing his time between prayer and study. Very skilful in Chinese characters, he translated into Japanese a number of religious and scientific books. Chinese medicine having interested him a good deal, while staying at Peking at the time of the Korean expedition, he now translated not only the books treating on this subject, but he also practised medicine in his leisure moments. He died in 1626, venerated by all. His tomb was placed beside that of Takayama. His children and grand-children returned later on to Japan, where they completely disappeared. Julia, his sister, died at Manila in 1627. The other virgins also died in exile.(54) As to the rest of the deported Christians, several died in foreign lands; others, profiting by favourable opportunities, returned to Japan, in concealment and under false names.

(49) Pagès, pp. 274-277.
(50) Pagés, p. 257. Charlevoix, vol. IV p. 344-346.
(51) Manila Annals concerning the Japanese exiles of 1614.
(52) Pagès, p. 280.
(53) Pagès, p. 279.
(54) Manila Annals concerning the Japanese exiles of 1614.

FOOTBALL.

Y.C. AND A.C. v. H.M.S. "AMPHITRITE."

The football team of H.M.S. *Amphitrite* came to Yokohama with such a reputation that the result of Saturday's game with the Y.C. and A.C. was rather a surprise, the naval men being snowed under to the tune of six goals to nothing. The visitors of course were on strange ground but they seemed to lack considerably the combination which has characterised the other naval teams who have played on the Yokohama ground this season while their defensive play in front of goal was very poor. Altogether we cannot help thinking that Dame Rumour was responsible more than the men for the brave tales of their former prowess. The first half produced no goals, Yokohama playing with the wind against them. On change of ends the home side pressed and their combination at once told. Strome secured first blood; the second goal was scored off the visitors themselves; the third by Strome; the fourth by van Smith; the fifth by Mason; and the sixth trundled through at a moment when the sailors were temporarily off guard. For the home side Powys played magnificently in goal, and it was greatly owing to him that the naval men failed to score towards the end of the game. The two backs, Kingdon and Moss were in excellent form; while among the forwards Drummond, as usual, outpaced everyone. Strome put up a good game in centre and White was steady as ever. The teams were:—H.M.S. *Amphitrite*:—Goal, Sproat; Backs, Bodell, Barker; Half-backs, Peggs, Colligan, Wright; Forwards, Platt, Halsey, Liley, Claridge, and Chessell. Yokohama:—Goal, E. Powys; Backs, A. Kingdon, W. S. Moss; Half-backs, W. J. White, H. W. Kilby, E. Ford; Forwards, K. Van Smith, A. W. Read, O. Strome, J. F. Drummond, B. Mason.

LAW CASES.

SHIMADA *v.* FINDLAY, RICHARDSON & CO.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Friday by Judge Kano, judgment in this case was given against the defendants, who were ordered to pay the costs, and to give back the cheque for *yen* 163.80 to the plaintiff. The plaintiff can temporarily execute judgment for the cheque. The other claim of the plaintiff was dismissed.

INFRINGING THE CUSTOMS LAW.

Mr. Isaacsen, a Danish subject and a resident of Kobe was brought up in the Kobe Ku Saibansho on January 23rd on a charge of infringing the Customs Law.

Public Procurator Inaba charged the accused with having boarded the American steamer *City of Peking* in a steam launch from Wakinohama, which is outside the harbour district, without obtaining special permission.

The accused said he is an employe of Messrs. Christensen & Co., and had to go on board the steamer to keep watch over some men who had been sent by his employers. He was not aware of the fact that Wakinohama was outside the harbour limit. When he went on board the steamer he had nothing with him and he had no intention of evading the Customs.

He was convicted and fined *yen* 4.

ACTION FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT.

The case instituted by Mr. A. J. MacGlew against Mr. Kato Kinjiro for payment of *yen* 1,302 with interest at 6 per cent. from April 16th, 1902, was resumed in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Jan. 22rd. The petition, it will be recalled, stated that plaintiff entered into a contract with defendant for the purchase of 42,000 kin of Yenshu ginger at the rate of *yen* 13.20 per 100 kin, on the 20th February, 1902, and on 21st of the same mouth bought 42,000 kin of the same kind of ginger at *yen* 13.70 per 100 kin. The contracts were to be carried out at plaintiff's place of business on the 15th of April. Defendant, however, failed to carry out the contracts on the stipulated date, and plaintiff was eventually compelled to purchase the quantity required from other parties, viz 42,000 of Messrs. W. H. Gill & Co., and 42,000 of Messrs M. Raspe & Co., for which he had to pay *yen* 12,600. Had defendant fulfiled his agreement plaintiff would have been able to procure the goods at *yen* 11,298, but owing to defendant's failure to implement his contract plaintiff sustained a loss of *yen* 1,302.

The Court gave judgment for plaintiff by default and ordered defendant to pay *yen* 1,302 with interest from 16th April, 1902, at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. Costs were also given against defendant.

DISPUTE BETWEEN LANDLORD AND TENANT.

A petition has been sent into the Kobe Ku Saibansho by Mr. Hirata, legal representative of Mr. Alfred Kirby, Executor of the late E. C. Kirby, British subject, against Mr. H. E. Reynell, No. 14, former Concession, Kobe, for the surrender of the buildings on lots No. 13 and 14, former Concession. The petition states, says the *Kobe Herald*, that the buildings in dispute were let to Mr. Reynell in February, 1895, until the end of December, 1902. Plaintiff further states that he has applied for the surrender of the buildings several times since the 1st January of this year but without effect. Hence the application for an order of the Court. The hearing takes place on 27th inst.

THE FORMOSAN OPIUM MONOPOLY CASE.

The hearing of a case instituted against Sir Marcus Samuel and two others by Mr. Robert Hughes for recovery of commission was to have taken place at Kobe on Jan. 22nd; but the hearing was adjourned to the 24th inst.

SMITH v. POPE.

In the Yokohama Ku Saibansho on Monday

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afternoon before Judge Iriye, Dr. A. G. Smith, No. 32, Yamashita-cho, as trustee for Mr. Thomas L. Brower, sued Mrs. Reg. Pope, No. 252, Bluff, claiming from her payment of *yen* 75, one month's house-rent for December last, and 5 per cent. interest and the temporary execution of judgment.

Mr. Sato appeared for the plaintiff. The defendant did not appear and judgment was given against her in default. She was ordered to pay costs.

A JOVANSAN APPEAL.

The *Japan Gazette* publishes a telegram from Tokyo, under date the 26th Jan., which says:—The hearing of the Jovansan adultery case came off to-day at 10 a.m. before Judge Tsunematsu, presiding in the Third Criminal Divison of the Tokyo Court of Appeal. The appellants were Mrs. Rachel Jovansan and Mr. Reginald George Hopkins, who are said to have fled from Japan toward the end of last year. Neither was present in Court. Procurator Tsukui and Counsel Ideura, the latter for respondent, in answer to a query from the Chief Judge, stated that they had no reason to object to judgment in the first instance and hoped that the appeal be quashed. Thereupon the judges concerned held a joint conference and briefly gave judgment confirming the sentence of the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on the 21st November last, subjecting Mr. Hopkins and Mrs. Jovansan to rigorous imprisonment for six months and confiscating the security of the defendants deposited as bail. The present judgment is to be communicated to the Mayor of Yokohama.

MUKAI v. GOTTFRIED THOMAS.

On Tuesday morning, in the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kato, an action claiming the return of security—*yen* 5,000 in Redemption Bonds—brought by Mr. Mukai of Tokyo against Mr. Gottfried Thomas, No. 90, Yamashita-cho, came on for hearing. Defendant was represented by Mr. Koide, but plaintiff did not appear. At the request of defendant's counsel, who said plaintiff had made several mistakes in his statement, judgment was given in default for defendant.

THE LE PREVOST CASE.

The preliminary examination, conducted by Judge Tedzuka, into the charges brought against Mr. Alfred Le Prevost, Mr. C. Bremner, and five Japanese of embezzlement and fraud against the firm of Cornes & Co., has concluded. The accused have been found guilty of charges coming under the purview of the 1st clause of Art. 390 and Art. 394 of the Criminal Code and have been committed for public trial at the Yokohama District Court on the charge of obtaining goods under false pretences.

"THE ENGLISH STUDENT."

The above-named fortnightly magazine devoted to the study of English and specially adapted for the use of Japanese teachers and advanced students has been in existence about two years. It was edited for some time by Miss Bacon; Miss Hartshorne, Miss Tsuda and Mr. H. Sakurai also taking part in the editorship. Dr. Nitobe has now become the chief editor. The magazine, which is published by the Eigaku-shimposha, is very well got up and most carefully edited. It strikes us that the magazine might prove very useful to foreign students of the Japanese language, as its pages are crowded with translations of Japanese into English and English into Japanese. The January 15th number contains a letter from Mr. James E. Liddiard, F.R.G.S., of Bournemouth, England, in which he proposes to make himself the medium of a correspondence between Japanese boys and girls studying English and English boys and girls. Here is his proposal—"I beg therefore very earnestly to request and to urge that all Japanese students who, having some knowledge of English, wish to increase it, should avail themselves of the opportunity of entering into the arrangement, and should write a letter to a yet unknown English friend, stating the address of college, or school, name, age, and sex of the writer and send it enclosed in another envelope addressed to the editor of this paper, (*The English Student*) who will forward it to me. I will then find an English student of the same sex who will reply to it direct. I believe that if we can only secure a good start, the movement may then be left to work its own way, and I would cordially solicit the hearty cooperation of Japanese professors, schoolmasters and school-mistresses in this effort."

"The English Student" enjoys the benefit of the advice of several foreigners, and hence seems to have avoided the errors into which English journals edited by Japanese exclusively are sooner or later sure to fall. At the beginning of the year the office of the magazine issued a very carefully prepared Pocket Diary, containing well chosen quotations from eminent authors for each day in the year and a variety of useful information, which sells at 25 *sen* a copy. The office of the Eigaku-shimposha is at 3 Omote-jinbo-cho, Kanda, Tokyo. The magazine sells at 10 sen a copy or 2 *yen* 28 *sen* per year.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Charles Henry Wilson, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Rangoon, has received the decoration of C.I.E.

We acknowledge the receipt from the *Daily Press* Office, Hongkong, of the 1903 issue of the "Directory of Protestant Missionaries in China, Japan and Korea."

A collision occurred between a goods and a passenger train at Tomobe station early on the morning of the 28th instant. Several cars were greatly damaged and one man was killed.

Mr. P. S. Symes, whose death is recorded in our Kobe telegram, was well-known both in Yokohama and Kobe. A good many years have now elapsed since he left this port and took up his residence in Kobe where he entered the firm of Messrs. H. E. Reynell and Co. He went home some years ago.

Arima seems to be keeping up the reputation it has gained for thefts. Another robbery was committed at the Arima Club Hotel, a foreign lady losing jewellery valued at over *yen* 1,000 a few days ago. The thief has been arrested by the Osaka police. The stolen articles were discovered in a house at Suita near Osaka.

The E. and A. S. *Eastern* called as per contract at Macao on the 10th to take mails and passengers to Timor, but the harbour is so silted up that she had to anchor 12 miles off. The weather was very bad and it was 36 hours before a steam launch (at a cost of $100) succeeded in reaching her with the ship's papers, leaving the passengers to wait two months for the next contract steamer.

Correspondents of the Hongkong papers speak very disparagingly of the Hanoi Exhibition. The exhibits from China and Japan were naturally the best in the exhibition, the goods sent from France being very mediocre, though they included several cases of *recherché* Parisian gowns and sets of furs! The Exhibition buildings, built principally of stucco, were tumbling about the ears of visitors early in January, owing to the rains.

It is now ascertained that the titular Sultan of Achieen escaped by the merest chance when his hiding place was lately surprised by the Netherlands troops. Among the slain was the Sultan's secretary. The latter wore the Sultan's signet ring, and hence the corpse was taken to be that of the Sultan. It is a custom among the Achinese that the Sultan should never part from his signet. This idea caused the mistaken identification of the corpse.

A small blaze occurred in the hold of the O.S.S. *Telemachus* on Jan. 13th at Shanghai. A hose was turned on from the wharf hydrant and the crew, with the assistance of some of the men of H.M.S. *Pique*, succeeded in putting out the blaze, the only result of which was some slightly burned whiskey casks. This, said the *China Gazette* of Jan. 14th, will not be serious enough to prevent her sailing to-day. The cause of the fire is unknown.

In connection with the exhibition at the Vatican of the more valuable of the Pope's jubilee presents it is announced that the total number of gifts was 32,000. The value of the gifts presented to him on the occasion, of his three jubilees is estimated at $2,500,000. The Pope has bequeathed the presents to the Holy See.

A New York telegram dated the 10th inst. says:—After a cabinet conferenee and several meetings with the ministers of the interested nations, Secretary Hay has announced the willingness of the United States to accede to the requests of England and Germany with regard to the "open door" in the Philippines. This is the result of a complaint made by those Powers to the Secretary of State that their merchants were suffering discrimination in the matter of export duties on hemp from the Philippines. The action of the government has been communicated to the Philippine Commission.

The six-a-side Ping-Pong tournament at the Boat Club terminated rather ignobly—in the sense that several of the players did not play off their games. The various captains, we believe, agreed to call the game closed, aud as a result we find that Mr. D. L. Abbey's team scored 111, the highest scorers being Mr. T. Jensen (34), and Mr. C. Dentici (34). Mr. J. Abbey's team scored 94, the highest figure being made by Mr. S. H. Kuhn (56). The team of Mr. W. Goddard only registered 37, of which Mr. L. Thompsen contributed 12. The team of Mr. J. Kuhn scored 117, the highest total being that of Mr. R. Meiklejohn (32). Mr. Schwabacher's side only registered 102, of which the captain contributed 40. Mr. Kuhn's team, therefore, wins.

The *Hongkong Telegraph* published on Jan. 21st a telegram intimating that the lorcha *On Fat* had been pirated near Canton, and that during a scuffle which ensued nine captures were effected, one man was killed and a European wounded. As the result of further inquiries it ascertained that the *On Fat*, trading on the West River between Banton and Wuchow, was attacked near Samshui. The pirates were overpowered, one of them was killed and nine were captured. The European who was wounded in the face by a rifle bullet is said to be a Mr. Morrison of the Imperial Maritime Customs. He had gone up the West River in connection with the opening up of the new passenger stations, and was making the return trip to Canton on board the lorcha. At the time of the piracy he was asleep, but the firing of guns soon awoke him and he assisted in beating off the pirates. It was during this time that he was hit in the cheek with a bullet. He continued the journey to Canton in the *On Fat*, and upon arriving there was operated upon in the Canton Hospital.

The Privy Council of Great Britain has decided that British Columbia may refuse the franchise to Japanese, says an exchange. Some time ago the collector of votes for the province, located in Vancouver, refused to enrol the name of a Japanese who applied. The County Court and Supreme Court Justices upheld the appeal of the Japanese, and also the Supreme Court of Canada. The Privy Council has, however, reversed all these orders and given the province the right for which it has contended. General satisfaction is expressed at the decision in British Columbia. The *Toronto Globe* says:—The Imperial Privy Council has decided that the law of British Columbia, which declares that a Japanese who becomes a naturalised citizen of the Province, is not entitled to vote, is constitutional. This judgment is a reversal of the verdict of the Supreme Court of the Province mentioned, rendered on March 9th, 1901. It is no doubt based upon a strict legal interpretation of British Columbian law, and, if so one may sincerely hope that the law will be amended. Canada is a free country, and subjects of other nations who are admitted to all other privileges of citizenship should not, in fairness, be deprived of the right to vote.

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AMERICAN TOPICS.

Jessie Benton Fremont, widow of Gen. Fremont, the Pathfinder, died on Dec. 27th of pneumonia at Los Angeles, aged 78 years. Mrs. Fremont, who was a daughter of Senator Thomas H. Benton, was secretly married to Lieut. Fremont in 1841, when she was only 17. He was 28. She completed her husband's memoirs and prefixed to them a sketch of her father, and she published several other books.

The *Manila Times* gives particulars of a leper-town to be founded shortly in the Philippines. All lepers there will be deported to Culion, an islet in the middle of the group south-west of the island of Mindoro. The site for the leper-town has already been marked out. Marriages between the leper settlers will be forbidden. The lepers will be allowed home rule and will be given land for cultivation. The lepers in the islands are estimated to number ten thousand.

It was announced on December 23rd that during the past two years more than $1,000,000 has been raised for the endowment fund of Syracuse University. The largest contribution was from Mr. John D. Archbold of New York, who gave $400,000. Mr. John D. Rockefeller gave $100,000 and Mr. Lyman C. Smith, of Syracuse, an equivalent amount. Messrs. C. W. Seamans, of New York, John S. Huyler, of New York, William Nottingham, of Syracuse, and S. W. Bowne, of New York, also gave large sums.

Yesterday was a day of rumours, said the *Manila Cablenews* of Jan. 6th. They began in the morning and at midnight were increasing in number and virulence. Chiefest among these was the report that Admiral Dewey had fired into and sunk one, two or more German naval vessels, and that Uncle Sam and the Kaiser were at war. One heard these startling statements on the water-front, in the stores, on the Escolta, and in the banks. By dinner time they had reached the Club, and officers of the Army and Navy gravely discussed the likelihood of their being true and their emanation.

Two rich American globe-trotters named Hopkins and Grossmayer were arrested in Singapore and locked up on Christmas Day and subsequent days, with a plank bed and rice diet, on the telegraphic charge of having obtained a sum of $450 by fraud from the Manager of the Hongkong Hotel. It appeared when the prosecutor arrived at Singapore that as the two gentlemen, who were expecting remittances, were leaving Hongkong, the Manager handed Mr. Hopkins a sum of $450, which was intended for another Mr. Hopkins. This was all the foundation for the charge, which was of course, dismissed.

A Washington telegram of Dec. 30th said: The Navy Department has decided to divide the Asiatic squadron into three divisions instead of two, as at present, and to send out another flag officer. The heavy battleships will be under command of Rear Admiral Evans, who also will be in command of the entire squadron; the cruisers under the command of Rear Admiral Cooper, who is to succeed Rear Admiral Wildes, and a new division comprising the light gunboats will be created under the command of Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, now commandant of the Puget Sound Navy Yard. The latter will raise his flag on the gunboat *Rainbow* and will have his general headquarters at Cavite.

FIRES.

The *Nagasaki Press* reports that early on Friday morning fire-bells gave the alarm of an outbreak in the compound of the Nagasaki Quarantine Station at Megami. The flames spread rapidly and before they could he got under had completely destroyed eight buildings, covering a total area of about 413 *tsubo*. The waiting halls, bath-rooms, 2nd-class detention house, and disinfecting quarters were among the structures reduced to ashes, and the offices, 1st-class detention house, engine department, watch tower, and hospital buildings had a very narrow escape from being burnt down. The cause of fire is unknown, but it is believed to have originated in one of the bath-rooms. There was a good supply of water and the firemen and police worked with a will. The outbreak was entirely suppressed by 5.30 o'clock on the same morning. The damage done by the fire is roughly estimated at *yen* 120,000.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Mr. F. Carruthers Gould is engaged on another volume of his Froissart's Modern Chronicles. It will deal, in the same style of description and illustrations as his book published in February last, with the principal political events of the current year. This second volume will, like the first, be published by Mr. Fisher Unwin.

Many Oxford men will regret to learn that the venerable Warden of New College, whose health has long been precarious, is compelled by advanced age and increasing infirmity to announce his approaching resignation. Dr. Sewell entered upon his ninety-third year on Christmas Day, and has been connected with New College as scholar, fellow, tutor, and warden for exactly three-quarters of a century. He is almost the last remaining survivor of the old unreformed Oxford, which Newman described as "very idle but very delightful," and in his earlier days he was a friend of Dr. Martin Routh, the famous centenarian President of Magdalen, who remembered meeting Dr. Johnson in the Bodleian Library. New College has prospered exceedingly under the rule of Dr. Sewell.

The death of Jules Gery, a once brilliant violinist, reported from Paris, reads like a story out of Mr. Henry Harland's charming book "Grey Roses." To die as a street fiddler after all his early triumphs is pathetic enough to be mere fiction. It is the story of Edmund Pair in "When I Am King" all over again—the gifted young composer fallen from the caresses of elegant Paris into the degradation of pianist at a *brasserie-à-femmes*. It is, however, a pet subject with Mr. Harland, in spite of his frequent sunny optimism, and he takes up the theme again in "The Reward of Virtue," wherein he describes the melancholy decline of old Bibi, begging on the pavement of the Boul' Miche and dying a wretched death in a slum behind Notre Dame.

The great Norwegian poet, writer, and politician has just been celebrating his seventieth birthday. Björnson has lived the greater part of his life in the country, and, according to a writer in the *King*, makes a capital all-round country gentleman, an experienced and successful breeder of both cattle and horses, a good neighbour, and is as hospitable as a true country gentleman proverbially is. He shows to his visitor with interest and pardonable pride his cows and horses, the last new piece of machinery, and the excellently appointed stables. Although Böjrnson has now reached three-score years and ten, his figure is as upright as ever, and he is still, as in the past, a great enthusiast in the cause of freedom and probity.

Arrangements are being made for the early celebration of the jubilee of Manchester's Free Library. Manchester was the first to establish a municipal library under the Free Libraries Act of 1850. The jubilee took place in September of last year, but the event will not be celebrated until the beginning of this year. When the Reference Library was first opened in Manchester fifty years ago there were in it 16,000 volumes; to-day there are 128,000. The lending department half a century ago was only a small part of the original building, while to-day there are eighteen separate branches, and the number of books on the shelves has risen from 5,303 to 176,700. A calculation which has been made by the chief librarian shows that during the last fifty years no fewer than fifty-two millions of books have either been read or consulted.

"House Mottoes and Descriptions: Old and New" (Elliot Stock), by S. F. A. Cauldfield, is an interesting and suggestive compilation. The author has collected house mottoes and descriptions from London and the English counties as well as from Scotland and Ireland. There is also a collection of foreign inscriptions, and many examples from bells, sundials, organs, and so on. Amongst the most remarkable of mural inscriptions were surely the following, which decorated the north, south, east, and west gates of the ancient city of Galway:—

From the ferocious O'Flahertys,
Good Lord, deliver us!
From the devilish O'Dalys,
Good Lord, defend us!
From the cut-throat O'Kellys,
Good Lord, save and keep us!
From the murderous O'Maddens,
Good Lord, preserve us!

Thackeray was noted, among his varied accomplishments, for the facility with which he could rattle off and illustrate "familiar letters" in the form of rhymed prose. An excellent unpublished specimen of his cleverness in this line is included in a collection of letters and drawings by Thackeray to be sold at Sotheby's this month. This collection was the property of the late Miss Kate Perry and her sister Mrs. Elliot (*née* Jane Perry), the intimate friends of Thackeray. The letter referred to runs: "Well, I thought as sure as sure could be, I should find a letter from kind J. E. Pray why doesn't she write to me? I'd like to know and if not she where's her sister, Miss K. P.? One or other is surely free to send a line to double you tea. What is the reason? I have often said. Are Kate and Jane both ill in bed? Is that little shivering greyhound dead? or has anything possibly happened to Fred? or have they taken a friend instead, of that old fellow they've often fed (along with Venables, Clem and Sped) with a broken nose and a snowy head? Tell me, how shall the riddle be read?" In the same piece of fooling sent to Mrs. Elliot (December 1856) he mentions that he had "more than 3,000 in the City Hall in Glasgow" at his lecture.

Much interest is felt in other denominations than the one immediately concerned in the work which is now proceeding among the Wesleyan Methodists in the compilation of a new hymn-book. There is, of course, abundant material to go upon in the hymns of the founder of the Connexion and his more poetic brother Charles, for, apart from the original efforts of John Wesley, his translations from the German have long been regarded as among the best hymns in the English language. Charles also is said to have written some thousands of hymns, but probably not more than about two hundred of these have been sung by the Wesleyans themselves, of which from thirty to forty may be considered to have passed into general hymnology. And it may be taken for granted that the compilers of the new hymnal will lay to heart the express injunction of John Wesley himself in the preface to "A Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People called Methodists." In this he gave a general permission to all and sundry to reprint the hymns of both his brother and himself, "provided they print them just as they are. But I desire they would not attempt to mend them; for they really are not able. None of them is able to mend either the sense or the verse. Therefore I must beg of them one of these two favours: either to let them stand as they are, to take them for better for worse, or to add the true reading in the margin, or at the bottom of the page; that we may no longer be accountable either for the nonsense or for the doggerel of other men." This is a request which every hymnologist is entitled to make, but it is one with which few compilers of hymnals can be found to comply.

RUSSIAN SQUADRON ON THE WAY OUT.

The following description of the Russian Squadron now on the way out to the Far East, via Singapore, appears in the *Hongkong Telegraph*:—

Retvizan.—This is one of the newest first-class battleships of the Russian fleet, having been launched

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in 1900, and is of Philadelphian build. She displaces 12,700 tons; has 16,000 indicated horse-power, and a speed of eighteen knots with forced draught, and can carry as much as 2,000 tons of coal, though the normal quantity is only about half that amount. She has water-tube boilers of the Niclausse type. Her main dimensions are: Length 374 ft.; beam 72 ft. 2 in.; draught, 25 ft. She has a belt of nine inches of Krupp steel, with turrets fore and aft of ten inches of armour of the same character, and her deck is 2 in. to 4 in. thick. Her crew numbers 750. The armament of the *Retvizan* includes four 12 in. breech-loaders, twelve 6 in. quick firers, twenty 3 in. quick firers, twenty 3-pounders, six 1-pounders: total sixty-two guns.

Pobleda.—This is another new battleship, the name of which signifies victory. She, like the *Retvizan*, has been commissioned for the first time. She resembles closely the *Peresviet*, and has a displacement of 12,674 tons, with a complement of 742 officers and men. She is 401¼ ft. long, with a beam of 71¼ ft., and a draught of 26 ft. Her belt of Krupp steel is 9¾ in. thick, and her gun turrets have 9 in. of armour, whilst her protective deck has thickness of 2¾ in. She can stow away about the same quantity of coal as the *Retvizan*. In addition to six tubes for the discharge of torpedoes she carries the following guns: Four 10 in. breech-loaders, eleven 6 in. quickfirers, sixteen 3 in. quick-firers, ten 1.8 in. quickfirers, seventeen 1.4 in. quickfirers, two light guns: total, sixty guns.

Palada and *Diana.*—These are ships of similar construction and are really commerce destroyers, having each a protective deck 2½ in. thick, a speed of twenty knots, and a displacement of 6,630 tons. The crews of these vessels number about 1,000. Besides four torpedo tubes each, they mount individually six 6in. quickfirers, twenty 3in. quickfirers, eight 1·4in. quickfirers: total, thirty-four guns.

Bogatyr.—This is a protected cruiser, built at Stettin. She was launched in 1900 and gave a speed of twenty-three knots at her trial, and has room for 1,100 tons of coal at the maximum. In addition to six torpedo tubes, two of them submerged, she has the following guns: Twelve 6in. quickfirers, twelve 3in. quickfirers, six 1.8in. quickfirers, three light quickfirers; total, thirty-three guns.

Boyarin—A small cruiser of 3,200 tons only, the *Boyarin* is another recent addition to the Russian fleet, which was built at Copenhagen and launched two years ago. She has Belleville water tube boilers, and on her trials made a record with a speed of no less than twenty-five knots an hour. This vessel also has six torpedo tubes, and in addition the following guns: Six 4.7in. quickfirers, eight 1.8in. quickfirers, two 1.4in. quickfirers, three machine quickfirers: total, nineteen guns.

This squadron is the largest foreign naval force that has appeared at Kiel since the canal was opened, and attracted an unusual amount of attention in German naval circles. The crews of the seven units forming the squadron amount in round numbers to 3,000 men, with 240 guns, and a total displacement of 45,600 tons. The Russian battleships are nearly as large as the newest type of German battleship, the "H" class, which are still on the stocks; while the Russian cruisers are stronger than the German protected cruisers *Hertha* and *Hansa* which are now in the Far East. The German officers welcomed their visitors in a series of festivities on a large scale.

THE JAPAN BREWERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following are the Reports and Accounts for the nine months ended 31st December, 1902, for presentation at the Fifth Ordinary Meeting of Shareholders to be held at the Company's Offices at the Brewery, Yamate-cho, Yokohama, at 4 p.m. on Monday, 2nd February, 1903.

In accordance with the Circular issued to Shareholders, dated 10th November, 1902, the Accounts have been make up for the 9 months, from 1st April to 31st December, 1902.

In future the date for closing the Financial Year will be 31st December, and the General Meeting will be held in February of each year.

Mr. Eichelberg was promoted to the office of Chief Brewer on the resignation of Mr. Kayser in June last, and a new Assistant Brewer (Mr. Schweitzer) has lately arrived from Germany. Mr. Wendt still retains his position of Assistant Brewer.

The Accounts now presented are difficult of comparison, but the Directors consider them fairly satisfactory, considering the large sum paid as Beer Tax, viz., *yen* 83,305.40, for the 9 months under review. Deliveries have fallen off somewhat, but this is accounted for by the unsatisfactory condition of trade in the country.

The Export Account shows a large increase over last year, but the withdrawal of troops from China and the low price of silver is now affecting it to a considerable extent.

The Working account for the 9 months show a balance at Credit of *yen* 72,400.54, which added to the amount brought forward from last Account makes a balance in Profit and Loss Account of *yen* 74,377.63, which the Directors propose to distribute as follows:—

	Yen.
To payment of a Dividend for the 9 months of *yen* 5 per share (Free of Income Tax)	45,000.00
To Reserve Fund	25,000.00
To Balance carrried forward	4,377.63
	74,377.63

This addition to the Reserve Fund will bring that account up to *yen* 85,000.

Mr. J. D. Hutchison resigned his seat on the Board on his departure for Europe.

The present Directors of the Company are: Messrs, Jas. Dodds (Chairman), T. B. Glover, O Haynemann, C. B. Bernard, and F. S. James (Managing Director).

Auditors.—Mr. Cecil Guinness resigned on his departure for Singapore, and Mr. J. F. Cox-Edwards was elected to fill his place. He and Mr. F. J. Hall are now the Auditors.

JAMES DODDS, Chairman.
F. S. JAMES, Managing Director.
J. H. DINSDALE, Secretary.

Yokohama, 19th January.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMPER, 1902.

LIABILITIES.

Dr.	Yen.
To 9,000 Shares at *yen* 50 each: fully paid up	450,000.00
„ 2,000 Debentures at *yen* 100 each	200,000.00
„ Reserve Fund	60,000.00
„ Bills Payable	57,097.45
„ Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	7,782.64
„ Guarantee Funds	27,644.55
„ Sundry Creditors	46,310.99
„ Profit and Loss Account	74,377.63
	923,213.26

ASSETS.

Cr.	
By Land and Buildings	299,368.05
„ Machinery in operation	213,838.65
„ Plant, Casks, Vats, and Corking and other Machinery	106,784.51
„ Stock of Beer, Malt, Hops, Bottles, Coal and Working Stores	158,325.17
„ Office and other Furniture	1,670.12
„ Fire Insurrance current	1,188.36
„ Cash in hand	262.08
„ Sundry Debtors	141,776.32
	923,213.26

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.
To Interest	17,933.15
„ Coal and Working Stores	19,295.61
„ Ground Rent and Taxes	3,831.00
„ Beer Tax	83,305.40
„ Fire Insurance	3,582.06
„ Salaries and Wages	47,477.34
„ Wear and Tear	6,012.10
„ Charges and Advertising	24,487.98
„ Depreciation of Machinery, Buildings, &c.	22,255.65
„ Directors and Auditors' Fee	2,325.00
„ Balance to Profit and Loss Account.	72,400.54
	302,905.83

Cr.	
By Gross Profit on Beer Sales	302,861,83
„ Share Transfer Fees	44.00
	302,905.83

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.—1902.

Dr.	Yen.
9th May.—To Final Dividend of *yen* 7.50 per Share for the Year ended 31st March, 1902	67,500.00
31st December.—To Balance	74,377.63
	141,877.63

Cr.	
31st March.—By Balance	69,477.09
31st December.—By Profit on Working Account for the Nine Months	72,400.54
	141,877.63

RESERVE FUND.—1902.

Dr.	Yen.
31st March.—To Balance	60,000.00

Cr.	
31st December.—By Balance	60,000.00

JAS. DODDS, Chairman.
F. S. JAMES, Managing Director.
J. H. DINSDALE, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing Accounts and compared them with the Books, Vouchers and Securities in the possession of the Company and find them to be in accordance therewith

F. J. HALL,
J. F. COX-EDWARDS, } Auditors.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. BLOWITZ AND MR. TOKUTOMI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In noticing in your issue of to-day my reminiscence of Mr. Blowitz, published in the *Kokumin Shimbun*, you surmise that the letter partially reproduced there in facsimile was addressed to me by the late *Times* correspondent. You will oblige me by making it known through your columns that the letter in question is one addressed to Mr. Tokutomi, editor of the *Kokumin*, when he was in Paris in 1896-7.

Yours respectfully, E. FUKAI.

January, 23rd, 1903.

THE LATE REV. T. T. ALEXANDER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am instructed by my Mission to forward to you a copy of the following resolutions, and to request the courtesy of your paper,

"Whereas, our brother, Rev. T. T. Alexander, D.D., was called to his heavenly home from Honolulu, Nov. 14th, 1903.

"Therefore, Be it Resolved, First, That the members of the West Japan Mission of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., record our high appreciation of the work done by our brother in Japan. He was among the most eminent and successful of missionaries, and we thank God for sparing him for twenty-five years of service in this land.

"Second, That we record our very deep sense of loss and sorrow, as we know that he will no more share in our counsels and labors. As individuals, we have lost a friend and brother beloved, whose fellowship and friendship we highly esteemed.

"Third, That we record our most heartfelt sympathy with Mrs. Alexander and her children, and assure them of our supplications in their behalf to Him who is the God of all comfort and consolation. Our prayer and hope is that they shall every one be abundantly sustained under this crushing affliction, and be filled with faith in our Heavenly Father, which shall enable them to experience something of the fullness of His wisdom and love.

"Fourth, That we rejoice to know that our estimate of our brother's worth is generally shared by others in Japan. Evidence of the fact has been seen in resolutions passed by the Central Japan Conference at its December meeting, and the lament of the Japanese Church over his death, as voiced in different papers. To God be all the praise for Dr. Alexander's life of unselfish devotion, which, in its influence, will long be felt here.

"Prepared in behalf of the Mission by the Committee,

(Signed) T. C. WINN,
F. S. CURTIS,
GERTRUDE S. BIGELOW."

Thanking you in advance, for a courtesy which I am sure you will be glad to grant, I have the honor to be

Sincerely Yours, HARVEY BROKAW.
Secretary, West Japan Mission.

Hiroshima, Japan, Jan. 21st, 1903.

FALSEHOODS AND FALSIFICATIONS ABOUT HARNACK'S BOOK "WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It was my duty, about 7 months ago, to send some correspondence to your valuable paper with regard to the procedure of the last Conference of the Evangelical Alliance in Japan and the account concerning it in the *Japan Evangelist*. To-day again I am in a still more constrained condition to appeal to the judgment of the unprejudiced public because of a communication of the lady missionary, Miss E. Huhold (of the C.M.S.) to the *Japan Evangelist*, 1903, No. 1. This communication is professedly written in order to arouse Christian missionaries against the famous book of Harnack, Professor of Theology at Berlin, "What is Christianity?"—"We . . . should do what we can to hinder such a book coming into the hands of a heathen people." In order to prove that Harnack's views are exceedingly dangerous to Christianity, Miss H. claims to quote about 21 passages from his book. I had scarcely begun to read these pretended quotations this morning, when my suspicion was aroused

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as regards the honesty of the compiler. I at once undertook to find out all the quoted passages in the German original and ascertained that not only a grossly arbitrary and incorrect compilation of single sentences of Harnack's had taken place, without taking into account the connecting and limiting ideas, but that the communication contains also direct falsifications of Harnack's views and words.

I am going to prove this. Miss H. writes:—Harnack says: "Paul has put limits to the Gospel of Christ by finding a way to uphold the ideas of the Old Testament while the teaching of the law and of the whole Old Testament should have lost its importance for the Christian believer."

This and all other quotations from Harnack's book ought to be faithful translations of what Harnack has really written; otherwise it is not only misleading but entirely untruthful to introduce all these quotations by the above two words "Harnack says," and besides to put them between inverted commas. Yet I looked often in vain for the corresponding sentences in the original. Sometimes I found single words or portions of some sentences of the original thus put together so as to produce quite a wrong impression of what Harnack really intended to say, and sometimes I could not find at all either parts or the whole of some ostensible quotations. I may have overlooked this or that sentence, but as will become clear at once, my final opinion concerning Miss H.'s quotations nevertheless cannot be altered.

The above first quotation is partly taken from p. 116 of the German original (1st ed.). I myself quote now that passage according to the authorized English translation (by Th. B. Saunders, 2nd revised American edition, p. 200): "Paul, although he taught that the law had become of no avail, found a means of preserving the whole of the Old Testament. What a blessing to the Church this book has proved! As a book of edification, of consolation, of wisdom, of counsel, as a book of history, what an incomparable importance it has had for Christian life and apologetics." There is not the smallest doubt that in the German original this passage is the only one that corresponds to a certain extent to the would-be quotation of Miss H. According to the latter it seems as if Harnack were of the opinion that "the teaching of the law and of the whole Old Testament should have lost its importance for the Christian believer," while according to the original Harnack enlarges upon the blessing the Old Testament has proved to the Church! Moreover, the words "Paul has put limits to the Gospel of Christ" I cannot find anywhere in the neighbourhood of that passage in the original.

The following four quotations I could not find in the original either; I therefore earnestly request Miss H. to indicate clearly the numbers of the pages of the German or English original where they appear.

The next quotation is "There are no miracles." The German and English original does not settle this question in so short a way. Harnack says on p. 17 (Eng. ed. p. 28f.): "In the third place, we are firmly convinced that what happens in space and time is subject to the general laws of motion, and that in this sense, as an interruption of the order of nature, there can be no such things as 'miracles.' But we also recognise that the religious man—if religion really permeates him and is something more than a belief in the religion of others—is certain that he is not shut up within a blind and brutal course of nature, but that this course serves higher ends, or, as it may be, that some inner and divine power can help us so to encounter it as that 'everything must necessarily be for the best.' This experience . . . . is always felt afresh to be a miracle each time that it occurs; it is inseparable from every higher religion, and were it to be surrendered, religion would be at an end." It is a falsification to quote from this passage as Harnacks opinion nothing except these four words "there are no miracles." Also the further explanations of Harnack concerning the question of biblical miracles ought to have prevented a conscientious critic from stating as Harnack's view of this matter only those four words.

The next quotation, "Christianity contains neither doctrine nor creed but only practical teaching of religious virtues such as, trusting in God, humility, mercy and self-denial," I did not find in the original. Please, Miss Huhold, tell me the number of the page? But even though you should be able to prove this to be a genuine "quotation," the judgment you add in parenthesis to this quotation falls under the judgment of Matth. 7, 1-5, and Luke. 18, 9-14. You say: "The striving for higher moral virtues replaces the redemption through Christ and so Harnack's Christianity is only heathenism mixed up with a few Christian ideas." It is a pity for you to have written these words of ugly fanaticism. Harnack and other "liberal" theologians do not consider their "orthodox" opponents or any one who earnestly endeavours to be a disciple of Jesus, in the sense of John 13, 34-35, as heathen!

Then, on which page of the original must I seek your following two quotations? After having been informed, I shall perhaps say more about them.

Now I come to a most detestable falsification which I find in the following words that are quoted as Harnack's:—

"The work of Luther was only the beginning of the Reformation, for Luther really never came out of Romanism in the least, for he kept the doctrines of the Divinity of Christ and of the Trinity." Harnack indeed is of the opinion that the work of the Reformation is not yet accomplished, and holds that Luther was, of course, not infallible, but it is a calumniation and nothing else to represent Harnack as having ever thought or even said "Luther really never came out of Romanism in the least, for," etc. I do not find these words in Harnack's book "What is Christianity?" and they cannot be contained in it. Else Harnack could not write on p. 188 (Engl. ed. p. 320 f.): "... no new phase in the history of the Christian religion has occurred since the Reformation. Our knowledge of the world has undergone enormous changes; every century since the Reformation marks an advance, the most important being those in the last two; but, looked at from a religious and ethical point of view the forces and principles of the Reformation have not been outrun or rendered obsolete. We need only grasp them in their purity and courageously apply them, modern ideas will not put any new difficulties in their way." This, as nobody can deny, implies the opinion that the Reformation, and with it Luther himself, "really came out of Romanism" in principle and more or less in fact also.

Only this one would-be quotation of Miss H., I think, already settles the question concerning the spirit in which she wrote her communication to the *Japan Evangelist*. This is in no way a spirit of of truth and love. Miss H. gives the above words as quotation from Harnack's book. In doing so she tells something that is absolutely untrue. The only excuse for her may perhaps be that she did not read Harnack's book herself but simply believed what she read about it in some lying book or newspaper or magazine, and that she does not quote from Harnack's book, but from some writings of his adversaries.

The next quotation I have not yet found in the original. But the one following I found. According to Miss H., Harnack wrote:—"If we study the sources of the life of Jesus in the right and only true way, we shall soon see that for instance the fourth Gospel, which is not written by John, is not of historic source, for the writer of this Gospel has acted with the freedom of a sovereign and by putting facts into other places and throwing a strange light over them he has illustrated high thoughts by imagined situations." The original (p. 13, Engl. ed. p. 21 f.) says (I italicize those portions which Miss H. has omitted or changed!): "*In particular*, the fourth Gospel, which does not emanate *or profess to emanate* from the apostle John, cannot be taken as an historical authority *in the ordinary meaning of the word*. The author of it acted with sovereign freedom, transposed events and put them in a strange light, *drew up the discourses himself* and illustrated great thoughts by imaginary situations." What Harnack says shortly afterwards about the positive value of the 4th Gospel, Miss H. does not quote at all; "On the other hand, *it is an authority of the first rank* for answering the question, what vivid views of Jesus' person, what kind of light and warmth, did the Gospel disengage?"

The next quotation I did not find in the original in spite of careful searching. Then follows a quotation that also omits the positive side of Harnack's view; besides, the first and second sentences of it are not following each other immediately in the original, but are separated by the above first "quoted" passage concerning the 4th Gospel. This whole arrangement of Miss H.'s quotations clearly seems to indicate that she did not quote from the original, as her communication pretends to do, but from some "refutation" of Harnack's book. She quotes: "Except some important news which we find in Paul's writings, the first three Gospels are the only sources of Christ's teaching. But also these first three Gospels we cannot call historical books, for they are not written in order to report actual facts, but they are books written for the use of evangelisation, that is for the purpose of arousing belief in the person and mission of Christ; it is also for this same purpose that the references to the Old Testament are put into it." The original (p. 13 f., Engl. ed. p. 214) says (I italicize the changed or omitted passages!): "Our authorities for the message which Jesus Christ delivered are—apart from certain important statements made by Paul—the first three Gospels. . . . . *Sixty years ago David Friedrich Strauss thought that he had almost entirely destroyed the historical credibility not only of the fourth but also of the first three Gospels as well. The historical criticism of two generations has succeeded in restoring that credibility in its main outlines.* These Gospels are not, it is true, historical works"; [The English edition adds here "any more than the fourth," the German text does not vouchsafe this] "they were not written with the simple object of giving the facts as they were; they are books composed for the work of evangelisation. Their purpose is to awaken a belief in Jesus Christ's person and mission; and the purpose is served *by the description of his deeds and discourses* as well as by references to the Old Testament. *Nevertheless they are not altogether useless as sources of history, more especially as the object with which they were written is not supplied from without but coincides in part with what Jesus intended.*" Everybody must admit that Miss H.'s "quotations," even where they are verbually correct, on account of the omitted words and clauses must create quite wrong opinions concerning Harnack's views.

The next two quotations, viz. "The verses, Luke 1, v. 34-37 are not original, but added much later, be it by Luke himself or by others" and "Also Matt. 28, v. 18-20 is not original but added much later"—to which Miss H adds: "(In this arbitrary manner Harnack does away with the birth from a virgin)," and: "(In this arbitrary manner Harnark does away with all that is inconvenient for his views)"—I did not find in my copy of Harnack's "What is Christianity." I should like to be informed.

Then follows again a so-called quotation, of which I can find a few single portions in quite different connections, but which also contains something Harnack never wrote. Miss H. quotes. "And in regard to the self testimony of Jesus, He (Jesus) always speaks of the Father as the Greater One and with this he puts himself on one line with all men *and does not think to call himself the Son of God in a special sense* and to give with the word 'Believe in me' a special doctrine. By keeping his commandments one believes in him and to keep His commandments, means: to love." In order to prove that Harnack never can have written the italicized portion of this "quotation," I quote now from p. 81 (Engl. ed. p. 138): "In this consciousness he knows himself to be the Son called and instituted of God, to be *the* Son of God, and hence he can say: 'My God and my Father,' and into this invocation he puts something which belongs to no one but himself," and on p. 82 (Eng. ed. p. 139) "for our part we must be content with the fact that this Jesus who preached humility and knowledge of self, nevertheless named himself and himself alone as the Son of God." I wonder how Miss H. will be able to prove the truthfulness of her "quotation."

The quotation which follows next is a most instructive example to show how by omission and alterations of some words or clauses the original meaning of some passage is intentionally misrepresented. Miss H. quotes: "The knowledge of God is the sphere of the sonship of God. In the real sense the knowledge of God is the only real meaning of the sonship of God. Jesus was convinced that he knew God better than anybody else, or anybody before him, and he knew that it was his vocation to communicate to others this knowledge by word and deed. And conscious of this fact that he knew God, better than anybody before him he calls God: My God My Father." "How he has come to this knowledge of God and to the consciousness of his vocation, that we do not know and we never shall know." On p. 81 (Eng. ed. p. 137 f.) Harnack says (I again italicise the omitted and changed portions): "It is 'knowledge of God that makes the sphere of the Divine Sonship . . . . . Rightly understood, the name of Son means nothing but the knowledge of God. *Here, however, two observations are to be made*: Jesus is convinced that he knows God in a way in which no one ever knew him before, and he knows that it is his vocation to communicate this knowledge of God to others by word and by deed—*and with it the knowledge that men are God's children.* In this consciousness *he knows himself to be the Son called and instituted of God, to be the Son of God and hence he can say*: *My* God and *my* Father, *and into this invocation he puts something which belongs to no one but himself.* How he came to this consciousness *of the unique character of his relation to God as Son*; how he came to the consciousness *of his power*, and to the consciousness *of the obligation and the mission which this power carries with it, is his secret and no psychology will ever fathom it. The confidence with which John makes him address the Father: Thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world, is* undoubtedly the *direct reflection of the certainty with* which Jesus *himself spoke. Here all research must stop.* Miss H. wishes to prove that according to Harnack "Jesus does not think to call himself the Son of God in a special sense" and therefore she omits words of the original which are of the greatest importance for this question. This is falsification. Besides she boldy writes: "That we do not know and we never shall know" in inverted commas, although the original is: "is his secret and no psychology will ever fathom it." Then Miss H. adds in parenthesis "The words of Matt. 3, v. 17 and Matt. 16, v. 13 and the confession of Christ before the High Priest, Harnack does not touch at all, for they are too inconvenient for him." Materially these passages are touched in Harnack's book, although he does not quote them expressly.

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The next quotation, "The whole teaching of Christ we can sum up in the words: 'Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is near at hand' and 'nobody comes to the Father but through me,' I did not yet find in the original. But what Miss H. adds to these words in parenthesis "the redemption through Christ does not exist for Harnack, but only the knowledge of God is the way by which we come to God and become children of God in the same way as Christ is a son of God"—is incorrect. Harnack says on p. 115 (Eng. ed. p. 197): "No doubt it is true that Christianity is the religion of redemption; but the conception is a delicate one, and must never be taken out of the sphere of personal experience and inner reformation."

As could be expected, that saying of Harnack which has been most denounced and misunderstood by his adversaries, in Germany, is not overlooked by Miss H. She quotes:—"Not the Son but the Father alone belongs to the Gospel, according to Christ's teaching" (Eng. ed. p. 154); "The Gospel, as Jesus proclaimed it has to do with the Father only and not with the Son", and she is honest enough to add Harnack's own limitation too: "Only because he is the personal realisation of the power of the Gospel he belongs to the Gospel but not as one of the constituents of the Gospel" (Engl. ed. p. 156; "It is not as a mere factor that he is connected with the Gospel; he was its personal realisation and its strength, and this he is felt to be still". But between these two quotations something is inserted as if these three sentences were written by Harnack in this succession, and this middle portion I have looked for in vain in the original text until now. It runs: "Jesus is the great prophet, the excellent incomparable hero of faith in God, and full of love and faithfulness in his work and mission, which only was to reveal to men the kind and loving father heart of God." Where Harnack wrote this in his book I should like to know, and also where I have to look for the last quotation of Miss H.

My letter has become very long, Mr. Editor. But I am writing in the interest of the work to which one of the greatest scholars of our time has devoted his life, in the interest of truth, and in the interest of the Mission for which I am working myself. I could add some more things concerning Miss Huhold's way in which she warns Japanese pastors against the German missionaries in Japan, her countrymen (for, by the way, she is a German who entered the service of the Church Missionary Society). But for the present I shall be waiting for her defence and also for a suitable reply by the editor of the *Japan Evangelist*, who perhaps ought to reprint my letter for the sake of truth.

Yours faithfully, AD. WENDT.

Tokyo, Koishikawa, Kamitomisaka, No 23,
January 23rd, 1903.

MARRIAGE OF REV. C. H. B. WOODD.

A wedding of unusual interest was celebrated at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, on January 5th, when one of the largest congregations ever known in Singapore at such a function assembled to witness the marriage of Miss Elfrida M. Hose, eldest daughter of the Bishop of Singapore and Sarawak, to the Rev. Charles Hampden Basil Woodd, M.A., Principal of the Training College, Osaka. The Cathedral was beautifully decorated, and the service, fully choral, was very devotionally rendered by Mr. Salzmann and the Cathedral Choir. The Bishop of Singapore and Sarawak performed the marriage ceremony, assisted by the Venerable Archdeacon Dunkerley, Colonial Chaplain, and the Rev. E. Griffith Evans, Assistant Chaplain. The Bride who came up the Cathedral on the arm of her oldest brother, Mr. E. S. Hose of the Perak Civil Service, was given away by her mother. She was very prettily dressed in a white corded silk dress trimmed with chiffon and orange blossoms and wore an orange blossom wreath and tulle veil. The Bridesmaids (Miss Winifred Gentle and Miss Bagot Harte) wore tucked book-muslin dresses with lace trimmings and pink scarves; and white chiffon picture hats with pink flowers, also curb gold bracelets, and pearl and gold broches, the gift of the bridegroom. The presents, which were numerous and valuable, amounted to nearly a hundred aad seventy, among them being a nugget of Sarawak gold, weighing 3½ ounces, which was a part of the gift of H. H. the Rajah of Sarawak. The happy pair came up to Japan by the *Hakata Maru*.

The latest proposal for checking the falling off of the population in France comes from Colonel Loutee of the general staff. He proposes that children and grandchildren shall have equal succession rights, so that a man with many children will receive a larger share than his brother, who may have none or few. An only child would be allowed to receive only one-half of the father's estate, the other half going to the next heirs.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

Mr. Astor has given £50,000 in memory of his little daughter to the London Children's Hospital.

It is reported that the Hartopp divorce cross-suits cost upwards of £13,000. The lawyers gained most of this.

The torpedo gunboat *Spider*, built at Devonport, 13 years ago, at a cost of £50,000, is to be sold out of the service, an order to refit her at a cost of £20,000 having been cancelled after a survey had revealed the unsatisfactory character of her hull.

Mr. Andrew Canegie has purchased part of the Pittencrief estate, near Dudfermline, including the glen which runs through Dunfermline, and the site of Dunfermline Tower, where Malcolm Canmore married Princess Margaret. The price paid was £45,000.

The depression in the British cotton-spinning industry is evidenced by the fact that eighty-five joint-stock companies in Lancashire, with an aggregate capital of $25,175,000 and operating 6,667.000 spindles, record a net loss of $7,150 for the year.

By order of the Emperor William, eight large statues will be placed in the interior of the new Berlin Cathedral, facing the Royal Palace—namely, those of Luther, Melancthon, Zwinglit Calvin, Frederick the Wise, Joachim II., Philip the Magnanimous of Hesse, and Duke Albrech, of Prussia, Grand Master of the Teutonic Order.

There are 2,064 languages in the world, and its inhabitants profess more than 1,000 religions. The number of men is about equal to the number of women. The average length of life is about 33 years; of 1,000 persons only one reaches a hundred years of life, of every 100 six reach the age of 65, and not more than one in 500 lives 80 years.

Lord Kitchener in his criticism of the Delhi manœuvres speaks strongly with regard to the confusion caused by officers not looking after their transport, and by the non-enforcement of the order limiting private transport. The arrangements for keeping commanders of forces in touch with their units proved insufficient, but the general work of the two armies showed that the lessons of South Africa had been carefully studied.

It is not generally known that a talent for music is one of the strongly marked characteristics of the German Emperor and his family. The Kaiser's thorough competence as an orchestral conductor has recently been mentioned. The *Berliner Tageblatt* reports that there are several members of the Prussian Royal family who possess undoubted skill as composers. These are Prince Henry of Prussia, who can jot his quavers as adroitly as he manœuvres a battleship, Prince Joachim Albrecht, who has a special gift in dance music, Prince Eitel Fritz, the Kaiser's second son, and the Hereditary Prince of Saxe Meiningen,

Prof. Mommsen has written a letter entitled, "The Only Thing that Can Save Us," to *Die Nation*. The Professor seeks to infuse fresh life into the liberal-minded men of his country. "We are," he says, "not at the end but at the beginning of a *coup d'état* by which the German Kaiser, the German Parliament, are to be subjected to the absolutism of a union of junkerdom and chaplainocracy working solely in its own interests. "Compared with this monarchical absolutism was a mild and humane form of Government." In the further course of the letter the Professor says, "I have never been a Socialist, and do not think of becoming one, but it is unfortunately true that at present the Socialist is the only party which has any claim to political esteem. It is necessary to speak of the talent it possesses. Everyone in Germany knows that with a head like Bebel's a dozen junkers could be supplied with so much brain-power that each one of them would shine amoug his fellows."

Yielding to the entreaties of his daughters (says the *Australasian*), a well-known resident in a country town agreed to bring them to Melbourne to hear Madame Melba in opera. Good seats were secured for Saturday, Nov. 29th, and the family arrived on the Friday night, only in time to learn that the performance had been postponed. The initial expense was bad enough, but to face the cost of keeping the family for nearly a week in the city was more than was bargained for. The father secured a refund of the money for his tickets, but was not satisfied with this, and wrote to Mr. George Musgrove suggesting that the railway fares of himself and his family might under the special circumstances be reasonably paid by that gentleman. Mr. Musgrove replied:—"Dear Sir,— I went to London to see the Coronation. It was postponed in consequence of the illness of the King. When the British Government refunds me my passage money I shall be glad to send you the amount of your railway fares."

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has notified the Provost of Greenock that he is prepared to give $50,000 to erect a memorial to James Watt, the inventor, who was born in that city on Jan. 19th, 1736, in recognition of his engineering achievements; or Mr. Carnegie will head a movement in America to raise a large fund which, in conjunction with sums raised in Great Britain, will provide for a more extensive scheme of commemoration.

The experiments in tea culture made in the Caucasus during recent years have proved eminently successful, and the Russian Minister of Agriculture and Imperial Domains is now taking steps to establish the industry on a sound working basis, which will assist its rapid development. The climate and other conditions are all in favour of the new enterprise. The experiments so far made have been thoroughly practical and exhaustive. They were carried out by a few of the largest Russian tea merchants and by experts acting for the Ministry of Imperial Appanages. The latter department will next year import expert tea cultivators from China, India and Ceylon to act as instructors on the Caucasian plantations. The yield of Caucasion tea this year was 13½ tons. It was of three qualities, and sold as follows to the wholesale dealers: Appanage tea, first quality, 4s. 4d. per pound; second quality, 3s. 4d. per pound, and third quality, 2s. 7d. per pound, The privately grown tea brought, for first quality, 3s. 5d. per pound; second quality, 2s. 7d. per pound, and the third quality, 2s. 2d. per pound. The realization of such prices would appear to prove that the Caucasion tea is really of good marketable value. and there is nothing to prevent its culture assuming vast proportions in that highly-favoured province. Hitherto the experiments have been confined almost entirely to the government of Kutais, but many other districts are equally favourable to high class tea culture.

The main object of the Kaiser in visiting England has now at last been discovered—according to some wiseacres. Half-political, half matrimonial, his object was to tighten the bonds of amity between the two kindred nations by bringing about a marriage between his eldest son, the Crown Prince, and His Majesty's own cousin, Princess Alice of Albany. Doubtless the consent of King Edward, as head of his house, would be requisite for such a union; but it was surely not necessary for the Emperor to go specially to Sandringham for the purpose. His Majesty, in his time, has played many parts, but this will have been the first occasion of his appearance in the *role* of a match-maker, which is more the business of a mother than a father. Besides, rumour at Berlin speaks of another marriage project which might commend itself more to the Emperor as combining business with love. This is the proposed union of the Crown Prince with the Princess Alexandra of Cumberland, a marriage which would have the effect of finally solving the Brunswick-Hanover question, exactly in the same way as the Schleswig-Holstein question was at last disposed of by the Emperor's own wedding with the Princess Victoria, daughter of the ducal claimant to the Elbe Duchies.

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THE DELHI DURBAR.

American papers contain long accounts of the proceedings connected with the Durbar at Delhi. We extract the following :

Delhi (India), December 29.

The Viceroy, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, made his state entry into the capital of the Moguls to-day. This constituted the official opening of the Durbar held to celebrate the accession of King Edward as Emperor of India.

It was a splendid pageant, probably unparalleled in its magnificence. At the head of the elephant procession rode Lord and Lady Curzon on the state "grand tusker," twelve feet high, the largest elephant in India. Their howdah was decked with gold and silver, and the elephant itself was almost hidden beneath a gold-worked saddlecloth. Surrounding them were footmen in scarlet and gold liveries and bearing massive silver staves. The Duke of Connaught, who represented King Edward, and the Duchess of Connaught followed. Their elephant was equally gorgeously caparisoned.

Then, in order of precedence, came the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Maharajah of Travancore and other ruling chiefs, seventy in all, their huge elephants forming a line over a mile in length. This glittering procession started from the railroad station, preceded by dragoon guards and artillery, the Viceroy's escort, and by heralds and trumpeters.

The route was entirely lined by British and native troops. From the saluting battery, posted at the fort commanding the Lahore gate, guns thundered out a royal salute as the Viceroy passed with the heralds and trumpeters sounding at intervals spirited fanfares. The cortege passed in front of a line of 150 elephants carrying the brilliantly dressed retainers of the ruling chiefs. The colossal beasts all saluted by trumpeting and throwing their trunks in the air, presenting a truly imposing sight, and afterward fell in line behind the official procession. Great crowds of onlookers witnessed the spectacle, which, it is asserted, has never been surpassed in magnificence even in this country of Oriental splendor.

The heralds and trumpeters who followed the escort and immediately preceded the Viceroy were conspicuous by the splendour of their attire. They were followed by the newly constituted Imperial Cabinet Corps, comprising thirty Maharajahs. The excitement was at fever heat as the first elephant with the gold and silver howdahs of the staff officers came in view and commenced to circle around the mosque. The first elephants passed in front of the Jumma Musjid, the steps of which were thronged with distinguished personages, including the Viceroy's American and British guests and the delegates from the colonies and from other parts of the empire. The enormous animals shuffled slowly by, many of the massive howdahs of quaint and rich design being surmounted by magnificent canopies of gold-embroidered and be-jeweled tapestry. The bodies of the animals were almost hidden by their trappings of crimson, purple and gold. Bands of gold encircled their tusks, golden bracelets were on their ankles, gold and silver bells were hanging from their neck chains and their heads were painted and decorated in every conceivable color. The mahouts were clad in the brightest attire, as were the attendant spearmen who marched by the elephants' side.

The Viceroy was in state uniform, Lady Curzon was dressed in gray, the Duke of Connaught had on a Field Marshal's uniform and the Duchess of Connaught was attired in blue. They received a flattering welcome at all points. The Viceroy and the Duke of Connaught subsequently drove to the main camp.

The roads, after the passage of the procession, presented a scene of chaos, as the camel carriages, mule carts, landaus, bicycles and bullock carts pressed onward in strange confusion. There were many breakdowns, and many hours elapsed before the people were able to return to their homes.

In the rear of the procession rode General Lord Kitchener, the Commander-in-Chief of India, surrounded by a brilliant staff, and followed by the heads of provinces, with escorts of Indian cavalry and tribal leaders from beyond the border line. Down the main street moved the cortege through lines of saluting soldiers and excited, surging salaaming throngs of natives ; through the ancient city, with the balconies and housetops teeming with life, and through the Moree gate into the open park beyond. There, after a four-mile march, the elephants of the Viceroy and the Duke of Connaught halted side by side, and the pageant was concluded with the great Princes filling by, their elephants trumpeting a salute.

New York, December 30.

A cable to the *Sun* from Delhi says : This was the second day of ceremonies of the coronation durbar, at which King Edward is to be proclaimed Emperor of India. Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, carried out the programme for to-day by opening the Indian Arts Exhibition in the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and a brilliant gathering of native Princes.

Lord Curzon made a noteworthy speech on the decadence of the Indian native arts. He deplored that the native taste was declining. It was in the hope of arresting the progress of decay that the exhibition had been organized. He appealed to the native artists and their patrons to study and imitate the splendid specimens of the past collected at the exhibition.

They were witnessing in India one aspect of the process that was going on throughout the world, he said, which long ago had extinguished the manual industries of Great Britain and was rapidly extinguishing those of China and Japan. Nothing could stop it, because it was inevitable in an age which wanted things cheap and did not mind their being ugly ; which cared much for comfort and little for beauty ; which was seeking something new or strange. It was certain that if many of the old Indian arts and handicrafts were to be revived and placed in a flourishing condition it could only be done by the patronage of the Indian chiefs, the aristocracy and cultured persons ; but so long as these preferred to fill their places with flaming Brussels carpets, cheap British furniture, Italian mosaics, French oleographs, Austrian lustres and German brocades there was not much hope.

Lord Curzon said he did not mean to specially reproach East Indians for their pursuit of foreign goods. Matters were just as bad in Great Britain. But he wished to impress upon his hearers that support of native art must come from India. Outside patronage alone could not support it. He was convinced that in an artistic sense India was not dead. She could still imagine and create.

The art collection is the result of prolonged and careful research. It includes priceless brocades, enamels, gold and silver plate, carpets woven to order for moguls and emperors, jewelry from the treasure houses of the Hindoo Rajahs, and exquisite carvings in wood, marble and ivory. One of the carpets in the tent of the Gaekwar of Baroda is embroidered with pearls, rubies, emeralds and diamonds. It cost sixty lakhs of rupees.

NEWS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

The cruiser *Pique* is now on the way home from the China Station to pay off at Devonport, as it is found she is in need of more extensive repairs than can be carried out at the Hongkong yard.

The cruiser *Thetis* (Captain Julian C. A. Wilkinson) was officially inspected on Jan. 12th in Sheerness Harbour, and finally left Portsmouth on 18th inst. for the China Station to relieve the cruiser *Arethusa*, which will return to England and pay out of commission at Chatham.

The question of the founding of a Russian newspaper, printed in English, at Shanghai, for the purpose of upholding Russian interests in the Far East, has been raised by the *Novy Kraij* of Port Arthur. This organ energetically urges the establishment of such a newspaper so that Russians may be able to refute the anti-Russian news published by the English and Japanese papers at Shanghai, which, it says, inspire the native Press, whose influence over the masses of the people of the Celestial Empire is daily becoming greater. The *Novoe Vremya*, in warmly supporting the proposal of the *Novy Kraij*, expresses the opinion that the Chinese and Japanese regard the silence of the Russians as an avowal of the truth of the accusations and slanders of which Russia has been the object.

The most representative gathering of foreign newspaper correspondents ever seen in Paris took place on Dec. 18th in the Hotel Ritz, to offer M. de Blowitz an artistic souvenir on the occasions of the resignation of his post as correspondent of *The Times* in the French capital. The souvenir took the form of a beautiful silver statuette, entitled "Journalism enlightening the world," executed by M. Carabin, the names of the subscribers being engraved on the panels.

The trial of John McKeever for the murder of Mr Kensit at Woodside Ferry, Birkenhead, concluded at Liverpool Assizes on Dec. 11th in a verdict of acquittal. When the foreman of the jury, after half an hour's absence, announced the verdict a scene of great excitement ensued. McKeever danced with joy in the dock, and had to be held by two warders while the judge formally discharged him. People in the crowded court rose from their seats, cheered vociferously, and waved hats and handkerchiefs. The judge had to threaten to have someone locked up before silence was restored. Thousands of persons were waiting outside the hall, and McKeever was carried shoulder high through the streets, waving his cap and playing his mouth organ.

Colonel FitzGeorge, the eldest son of the Duke of Cambridge, explained the cause of his failure to a meeting of his creditors at the London Bankruptcy Court on Dec. 12th He returns his liabilities at between £2,000 and £3,000. As chairman of the Empire Printing and Publishing Company he signed a letter of guarantee believing that it referred only to an amount of £56 for interest, but the court had held him liable for the principal. He retired from the army with a pension of £420, and also had an allowance from his father. His expenditure had been slightly in excess of £500 a year. Asked if there was any likelihood of a proposal being made, Colonel FitzGeorge said he could not say.

At a meeting at the Mansion House the report of the Committee on the Port of London has been presented and adopted. Briefly, the report recommends :—One controlling authority. Forty paid members. Fees on vessels using the port. Fees on cargoes. Capital for improvements to be raised on the security of the dues. No scheme adequate without direct representation of merchants. While willing that power should be given to purchase wharves and docks, the committee think it unwise to burden the scheme with a recommendation of such magnitude.

In a circular to the six Great Powers the Porte states that the disturbances in Macedonia are "due to the ambitious aims of Bulgaria." The circular instructs the Turkish ambassadors to impress upon the Powers the utility of intervention in regard to Bulgaria in order to put an end to the agitation of the Bulgarian Committee.

Mr. William Le Queux, who is making some important excavations of Roman remains at Castor, Northamptonshire, the site of the Durobrivæ of Antoninus, has made a very remarkable discovery in a field close to the remains of the ancient Ermin-street, consisting of the floor and boundary walls of a temple, believed to be that of Jupiter. The floor is a large one, 40ft. long by 20ft. wide, beautifully tesselated in a design of white and red in perfect preservation. Great quantities of brilliant red frescoes have been dug out, together, with bones, ashes, Roman pottery, and glass. In the centre of the room is a large, pear-shaped hollow about 2ft. deep and 10ft. wide, in the centre of which are remains of the base of the altar.

Members of the crew of the *Good Hope*—which has now gone to Zanzibar to coal—have given some diverting accounts of the ceremonies connected with the crossing of the line, in which Mr. Chamberlain figured conspicuously. Mrs. Neptune presented a bouquet of coral to Mrs. Chamberlain, and Neptune read an address welcoming them to his domains, and wishing them a happy issue of their trip and lasting benefit to their health. He then conferred upon them the freedom of the sea, and said it was also his pleasure to confer upon Mr. Chamberlain the "Most Noble Order of the Sardine," and upon Mrs. Chamberlain "the First Class of the Bloater." Mr. Chamberlain humorously replied. First of all Neptune christened Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain by sprinkling their foreheads with salt water. The first to go through the ordeal was Captain Madden, followed by the commander, Lord Monk Bretton, and Mr. James Wilson, Mr. Chamberlain's private secretary. Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain watched from the after bridge and evidently enjoyed the fun. In the evening a smoking concert was held, and during the interval the captain asked Mr. Chamberlain to accept a casket made by the carpenters, artificers, and electricians to hold the vellum certificate of his freedom, and also a silken Union Jack made by the signalmen.

The Hartopp divorce case, which occupied the attention of Mr. Justice Barnes and a Special Jury for three weeks, concluded on Dec. 16th. The Judge summed up the evidence at great length, and the Jury, after considering the matter privately for over three hours, found that Lady Hartopp had not misconducted herself with Lord Cowley ; that Sir Charles Hartopp had not been guilty of cruelty or of misconduct with Mrs. Sands. On these findings the Judge dismissed the petition, there being no necessity, he said, for dismissing the counter charges, there being only an answer and no cross petition. The verdict was, perhaps, the best possible end of a bad business. The Jury were not concerned to inquire whether Sir Charles and Lady Hartopp would enjoy themselves better appart, but only whether the charges which they respectively brought had been established. Under all the circumstances, the Jury came to a very reasonable conclusion. While they, doubtless, felt that both the petitioner and the respondent had behaved with evident want of circumspection and delicacy, they held that the actual offences alleged had not been proved in either case. What was clear enough was that Sir Charles and Lady Hartopp were a semi-detached couple who lived their different lives without much regard

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to each other's interests and feelings. As Mr. Justice Barnes pointed out in his summing-up, neither of them had any real interest, but pleasure, and their pleasures did not correspond. The middle-aged husband was a racing man who had devoted himself to the Turf with an assiduity that had considerably impaired his fortune. His young wife, on the other hand, had a passion for hunting which he did not share. Thus it came about that while the gentleman was occupied with his own particular branch of sport, the lady had taken hunting quarters for herself in Leicestershire. Various incidents of a disagreeable and more or less compromising nature occurred, on which, however, the jury have placed—correctly, no doubt—a charitable construction. Mr. Justice Barnes made orders that Sir Charles Hartopp should pay his wife's and Lord Cowley's costs on the petition, and that respondent should indemnify him and Mrs. Sands in respect to the counter-charges.

At the recent general meeting of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, the chairman referred to the question of using petroleum fuel on the company's ships. He stated that the matter had been thoroughly considered, and the necessary modifications in the fittings could be made immediately, being already designed; but so far the company had failed to find any vendor of petroleum who would enter into a contract to supply them with oil at a fixed price for a sufficient number of years to make the change financially advisable.

The report of the Mercantile Cruisers Committee has been issued. The committee was appointed to consider in what manner merchant cruisers might be secured which could carry an armament of least 4.7-in. guns, and should not be transferred to a foreign flag. The committee says that nearly all merchant vessels are structurally strong enough to carry and fight 4.7-in. guns, and can be fitted with steering gear below the water-line without difficulty, and at an expense of between £500 and £1,000 per ship per annum.

The Austro-Hungarian Minister for Trade is dealing with a proposal for a new service to the Far East, to commence in January next. Whereas until now goods passing between Trieste and Shanghai have only been shipped directly to Bombay, where they have had to be transhipped to Shanghai, the Bombay-Shanghai branch line will be abandoned. In its place there will be substituted a direct and more frequent service from Trieste. According to the time table just issued, the Lloyd steamers will call at Shanghai eight times in 1903, leaving Trieste on Jan. 27, Feb. 27, March 27, May 25, July 25, Sept. 25, Nov. 18, and Dec. 26; whilst the homeward-bound service is due on June 23, July 24, Sept. 18, Nov. 20, Jan. 20 (1904), March 9, and April 15. The service to Japan is like-wise to be increased to 15 voyages to Kobé in the the year, which should facilitate the shipments of Austrian sugar.

Dr. Birsh, body physician to the Tsar, has explained in medical circles the true facts concerning the presence at the Court of Livadia of the mysterious M. Philippe, who is supposed to have influenced the Tsar by means of hypnotic séances. According to Dr. Hirch, M. Philippe was at the Rusian Court by the express wish of the Tsarina, and for the purpose of determining the sex of the expected heir to the Russian throne. All the reports which have appeared in the German Press about the Tsar's "Cagliostro" and the influence which this mysterious person had gained over his Majesty are not to be taken seriously. M. Philippe was invited to Livadia for the purpose mentioned above, but he employed his time while there in amusing their Majesties by his entertaining spiritualistic performances, at which members of the Court who were present declare the Tsar laughed most heartily. There was no question of exercising undue influence over the Tsar, but it is a fact several of the grand duchesses took the séances seriously.

THE LATE CAPTAIN CAROZZI.

Captain Carozzi, who will be remembered by some of the old residents here and in Yokohama, died a few days ago in Shanghai under sad and distressing circumstances, having been found shortly before his death in an almost starving condition. Carozzi (the *N.-C. Daily News* states) came out to join the indoor staff of the Imperial Maritime Customs in 1877, but failing in his final examination, took up the sea calling for choice. He was second mate in the service of the China Navigation Company, on board of the *Pekin*, and lost command through a firm assumption of authority and independence of spirit. In '78 he commanded the *Woo-on* and left Jardine's to pilot the fortunes of the privately owned *Pingon*, which cleared from Singapore with a cargo of arms and ammunition, bound for one of the many disaffected islands of the Dutch Archipelago. Carozzi—fatalist that he was—took everything that came in a philosophical way and amongst the favours was a life sentence for this offence in consequence of the vigilance of a Dutch man-of-war. Capt. Danielson, who was associated with him in the venture, died in gaol at Sourabaya, and Carozzi escaped, after suffering several months' incarceration, to tempt fate once more in another blockade runner. In April, 1885, during the Franco-China war, with 600 Chinese troops, he was captured by a French cruiser. The ship was taken as a prize to Saigon and sold, and Carozzi was sent to the Pescadores, where he was liberated in a short time by the French authorities on parole. There seems to have been collusion as to the surrender in this case, as the terms were exceptionally light, and the ubiquitous captain was in possession once more of his liberty. During a sealing trip to the Behring Sea in 1889, for an act of insubordination in complicity with his mate he shot one of his Chinese crew, and in consequence stood his trial on the capital offence before the Consular Court in Yokohama. After short deliberation the jury acquitted the accused, but as he afterwards remarked to his friends, it was a *mauvais quart d'heure*, and one, with all his stolidity and indifference, that was exceptionally trying to his nerves.

There are few who knew him intimately that will not miss him, for his wealth of anecdote, for the careless way he looked on the serious side of life. Brave to the verge of suicide, generous to a fault, proud to a degree that often led his best friends to mistake his motive, he has dropped out of the running, and there is not a man who enjoyed his friendship who does not know that he has sustained a personal loss by Captain Carozz's death.

P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.

In introducing the Report of the Board of Directors at the 62nd annual meeting of the company, held at the offices, London, on 12th December, Sir Thomas Sutherland said he considered that the report was upon the whole, the most satisfactory which it had ever been his lot to bring before the notice of the proprietors. The dividend, with the bonus, amounted to 9 per cent. on the total paid-up capital of the company, the bonus being absolutely identified with the safety of their fleet and immunity from serious accident. For the past 13 years, that is since the capital account was reduced, they had been able on the average to make a payment of 8 per cent. and a small fraction, which was very good indeed, for at the same time they had considerably strengthened the financial position of the company. . . . . The total receipts from passenger traffic had been nearly £6,000 less than in the previous year, which was a record year, This slight decline, if it were of any importance, was due to the company's liberality in cheapening the price and extending the term of the return tickets, which they now granted for a period of two years. But the directors were prepared next year to face even a larger sacrifice if necessary, for consequent on the reduction in the price of coal they felt bound to introduce from the 1st January a considerable modification in their passenger fares, more particularly those of their Indian passengers. The proposed modification would chiefly affect their first-class outward or sterling rate; the reduction would be not only of the 10 per cent. which was added to the fares about two years ago, but it would amount to 16 per cent. or 17 per cent. In future, whether their passenger rate went upwards or downwards, it would move on what he might call a sterling basis. They also intended to differentiate their mail steamers from what they called their intermediate steamers—that was to say, from their steamers which ran at an average speed of perhaps, 11½ knots. In short, the directors had done their best to achieve an equitable tariff. . . . As to the £600,000 put to the sinking fund, this was the most munificent sum ever so placed. It was a valuable measure of precaution in view of the termination, two years hence, of the present mail contract. At a time when other countries were striving to supplant British commerce and even political influence in those regions where we had hitherto had a supreme interest, he imagined that the Imperial importance of our mail services would be kept prominently and clearly in view. Thirty years ago the company received, as nearly as possible, exactly double the amount of their present mail subsidy. At that time the subsidy was one-fourth of their total net revenue, whereas to-day it was only one-tenth; and yet the mail service had became vastly more extensive, more rapid, and more costly. If the company were to be put on a footing with their foreign competitors—the German or French companies, say—they would require a very large addition to be made to their present subsidy. Looking around the horizon of their business generally, it would give him the greatest possible pleasure to paint a picture of coming prosperity, but the materials were not at hand for the purpose, for the shipping trade at the present moment was monotonously and universally depressed. . . . The directors had applied for a new charter. They could get along with their present charter very well but for one desideratum. They wished to have the power to issue capital in payment of any ships which they might acquire *en bloc*. He did not say any operation of this kind was before them. There was, of course, delay in connection with these matters, and at the present moment the negotiation was complicated by the Government's anxiety to prevent the P. and O. Company from falling into the hands of some American octopus; but he could assure the Government honestly that they had no desire whatever to encounter this fate, and that they wished to continue, if possible, a British Company—not only in name, not only in point of form, but in reality. They were now constructing four large vessels of the *Moldavia* class at a cost of £1,500,000. The cargo vessels they were building would cost about £100,000 each. Their shipbuilding obligations at the present moment amounted to very little less than £2,000,000, but the balance-sheet showed that the company had funds in hand to pay for these ships to-morrow if it were necessary to do so. When these vessels were added to their fleet it would have cost them not less than £10,000,000. Meantime their present fleet stood at a very modest figure in their books; the calculation of the directors was that it stood in gross at £9 2s. per ton, and in net, deducting their cash reserves and investments, at £4 16s. 11d.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

VENEZUELA.

London, January 23.

The German warships *Gazelle*, *Panther* and *Vineta* shelled the fortress of San Carlos on Jan. 21st. The fortress replied. The village of San Carlos was burned by shells.

Mr. Bowen has informed the representatives of the Powers at Washington that Venezuela makes the raising of the blockade a condition precedent to the formal opening of negotiations.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF SAN CARLOS.

Later.

The bombardment of San Carlos is not explained. It causes considerable astonishment in London and Washington. It is stated in Berlin that the bombardment was certainly the subject of previous consultation between the Naval Commanders, who are equally responsible.

If Mr. Bowen satisfies the Powers that Venezuela is really determined to do her utmost to fulfil her obligations the Powers will raise the blockade.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain sails for England on Feb. 20th.

VENEZUELA.

London, January 24.

The bombardment of San Carlos continued throughout Wednesday and was resumed on Thursday. The fort suffered terribly but is still resisting.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Speaking at Potchefstroom, Mr. Chamberlain said that the British Government did not desire its former enemies to sacrifice their traditions or their national pride. He hoped the time was not remote when they would be proud to be members of one of the freest countries on earth. They had lost nothing of their cherished liberties. The present was the creative time when efforts were necessary to cement the races and to assure the prosperity of the country.

PANAMA CANAL.

Later.

The Panama canal treaty has been signed at Washington.

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"COLONEL" LYNCH.

"Colonel" Lynch has been found guilty and sentenced to death.

BRITISH ARMY REFORM.

In an article on the army reform problem, *The Times* sweepingly condemns the army corps system. It declares that there is no part of the empire which cannot be reached three weeks earlier from South Africa than from the Motherland. *The Times* advocates that a large part of the army be kept in India, and another large part in South Africa, which, with its white man's climate, is a magnificent country for the most complete training of troops.

VENEZUELA.

London, January 25.

The German Commodore wiring from Maracaibo on the 21st reports that the *Vineta* bombarded and destroyed the fort at San Carlos on the 21st in consequence of the fort's unexpected attack on the *Panther* on the 17th.

Press telegrams report that the bombardment continued on the 23rd, the fort still resisting.

ILLNESS OF KING OSCAR.

Owing to the failing health of King Oscar of Sweden and Norway the Crown Prince has been temporarily entrusted with the regency.

SUGAR.

Later.

The French Senate has approved of the sugar convention.

THE CONDEMNED TRAITOR.

Although it is generally recognized that the sentence on "Colonel" Lynch will be commuted the newspapers demand that exemplary punishment should be inflicted on him.

VENEZUELAN COMPLICATIONS.

London, January 26.

There is a temporary delay in the Venezuelan complication. Mr. Bowen asks for the raising of the blockade, which the Powers decline to grant until they are satisfied that the guarantees of Venezuela are *bona fide*. Meanwhile the condition of affairs is generating great heat in America.

VENEZUELA.

London, January 27.

Mr. Bowen has announced that he has good reason to believe that the Venezuelan dispute will soon be satisfactorily settled.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Delarey, addressing a crowd at Ventersdorp, in Dutch, said that Mr. Chamberlain was the man to set things right and urged the Boers to be loyal to the new Government.

THE ALLIES AND VENEZUELA.

Later.

The Allies have handed Mr. Bowen declarations promising to cease the blockade as soon as an agreement is concluded with Mr. Bowen as the Plenipotentiary of Venezuela, embodying their conditions. Venezuela offers part of the Customs of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello.

PLAGUE IN DURBAN.

Owing to the spread of the plague in Durban, native servants and labourers are leaving the town in thousands.

FRENCH ARMY REFORM.

London, January 28.

The report on the French Army estimates recommends the transformation of the cavalry into mounted infantry, together with the creation of a bicycle corps.

VENEZUELA.

It is announced that the blockade will be raised on the 28th January, it being understood that the Allies have accepted the guarantee offered by Venezuela.

A TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

Later.

There has been a fire at the Colney Hatch Asylum. It broke out in the Jewish women's wing. Fifty-two were burnt to death.

BRITISH ARMY REFORM.

The Times, in a third article on the Army problem, suggests making the present South African force into the First Army Corps, the Commander-in-chief to have the widest powers for preparing schemes for the concentration of the troops in readiness for despatch to India, Egypt, or the Far East.

LYNCH.

Lynch's sentence has been commuted into penal servitude for life.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

London, January 29.

Mr. Chamberlain on leaving Mafeking for the Cape was met on the Transvaal border by the Governor and the local authorities, who escorted the party on horseback.

SOMALILAND.

Colonel Cobbe, reconnoitring towards Galhagu, the Mullah's headquarters, has encamped at Enmaras.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

The ratification of the Franco-Siamese treaty has been extended to the 30th of March.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Later.

An express train, travelling at the rate of 60 miles an hour, dashed into the rear of a local train at Graceland, New Jersey. The *debris* took fire. Twenty-four persons were killed, of whom 16 were burnt alive. Fifty-two were injured.

GERMAN MINISTER ENNOBLED.

The Kaiser has created the German Minister at Peking a Baron.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

THE BUDGET.

Saigon, January 23.

The discussion of the Budget continues in the Chamber.

THE FRANCO-SIAMESE TREATY.

It is generally believed that the delay assigned for ratifying the Franco-Siamese Treaty will not be prolonged. The discussion of the Treaty is imminent. The Reporter of the Foreign Affairs Budget calculates that the benefits of the Siamese Treaty remain hypothetical.

MORE BOMBARDING.

Three German ships have renewed the bombardment of Maracaibo. These incidents are estranging American and British opinion.

GERMANY IN VENEZUELA.

Count von Bulow asserts agreement with England and Italy in Venezuela, and declares the pacific character of the general policy of Germany as well as the possibility of accord with France on diverse questions in different parts of the earth.

FRENCH FINANCE.

Saigon, January 24.

The Chamber has voted the Budgets of the Interior, of Finance, and of the Colonies. It has adopted, with the approval of the Minister of the Colonies, a reduction of 1,000 francs, as an indication of its desire to see the Military establishment reduced in certain colonies. It has also adopted a resolution secularizing all the scholastic institutions of the Colonies.

PANAMA.

The treaty relating to the Panama Canal is signed.

COLONEL LYNCH.

The Irish member of Parliament, Lynch, formerly Colonel in the Transvaal, has been condemned to death for high treason.

FRANCO-SIAMESE CONVENTION.

Saigon, January 27.

The period of delay for the ratification of the Franco-Siamese Convention has been extended to the 30th March.

VENEZUELA.

President Castro has been beaten by the insurgents near Puerto Cabello.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

CHINESE CUSTOMS DUES.

Peking January 29.

With regard to the question of the Chinese Government's request that the customs dues should be paid in gold, the Representatives of the Powers though they had already embodied the refusal in identical notes, repeated it yesterday, the 28th instant, in a joint despatch.

(Special to the "Japan Mail.")

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Kobe, January 26, 3.35 p.m.

An accident occurred at the Shioya station at midnight on Saturday, a goods train telescoping the rear—luckily empty—carriages of the 11.15 passenger train from Akashi.

The engine and guard's van were damaged badly but the line was soon cleared. No lives were lost.

DEATH OF MR. P. S. SYMES.

News has been received here of the death on November 24th of Mr. P. S. ("Paddy") Symes.

(From the "Japan Herald.")

VLADIVOSTOCK A FREE PORT.

London, January 22.

The Russian Imperial authorities have drawn up a project to make Vladivostock a free port.

It is proposed that the harbour shall include berths to be occupied by the vessels of the Eastern China Railway Co., in addition to extensive wharfage and warehouses, capable of dealing with a yearly turnover of 130,000 tons.

The estimated cost of the work is £55,000.

COLONEL LYNCH'S TRIAL.

London, January 23.

Colonel Lynch, who has been tried on the charge of treason, has been sentenced to death.

THE VENEZUELA AFFAIR.

London, January 26.

The *Westminster Gazette* says that the Venezuela question is fraught with considerable danger to international peace.

The Powers of Europe, adds the London journal, have had a long experience of the difficulties attending the concerts of different countries, but the United States is less schooled in such matters and may not distinguish between the actions of Great Britain and Germany.

The New York correspondent of the *Times* says that the yellow press of America already sees a great opportunity for the display of spread-eagleism.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

THE TROUBLE IN VENEZUELA.

London, January 22.

The German fleet has again bombarded the fort at San Carlos. The firing continued over two hours, shells being used. The fort made a

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stout resistance. The blockade of the coast is causing a shortage in the food supply.

JAPAN AND GERMANY.

The *Cologne Gazette* favourably comments on a speech by Mr. Inouye Katsunosuke, Japanese Minister at Berlin, which was delivered at Tokyo on the 4th December last.

THE BOMBARDMENT BY GERMAN MEN-OF-WAR.

London, January 24.

The forts at San Carlos are still making resistance to the attack of the German man-of-war.

Baron Richtofen, German Minister of Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Diet,. remarked that the Commander-in-chief of the German squadron is making no unusual movement but is maintainlng the prestige of the national flag.

Americans are greatly exasperated over the bombardment of San Carlos and Mr. Hay has brought forward some demonstrative proposal.

THE KING OF SWEDEN.

The King of Sweden has temporarily retired from the Throne and the Crown Prince becomes Regent.

THE SITUATION IN VENEZUELA.

London, January 26.

The German war-ships have withdrawn and the bombardment is suspended. San Carlos still maintains its position against the attack.

On Saturday last a battle was fought near Puerto Cabello between the Government troops and the rebels. The rebels won the victory.

ANOTHER SOUTH AMERICAN TROUBLE.

A territorial dispute has occurred between Bolivia and Brazil concerning some land near the Amazon. It is feared the dispute may lead to war.

THE ALASKAN BOUNDARY.

The Alaskan Treaty has been signed between the Great Britain and the United States. In pursuance of the treaty a commission will be appointed to fix the boundary.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST.")

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, January 24.

Bowen has communicated in Washington that he is empowered by Venezuela to settle directly all the contentious points regarding the Venezuela question. What cannot be settled presently, will be laid before the Hague Arbitration Court. Venezuela promises securities which Bowen has not specified. The suggestion that the blockade of the Venezuelan coast should be raised, will be considered after the Powers' joint examination of the securities offered by Venezuela. The English papers defend the bombardment of San Carlos by the *Panther* as an allowed expedient necessary for the maintaining of the blockade. The bombardment still continues.

MOROCCO.

In the Reichstag Bebel directed most sharp attacks against the speeches delivered by the Kaiser on the occasion of Krupp's death. He did not refer to the person of the Kaiser. The Chancellor defended his master in the warmest way and had a great success. Count Bülow's attitude is acknowledged on all sides.

GERMAN POLITICS.

It is expected, that in Morocco the Sultan will get the better of the pretender.

GERMAN POLITICS.

Berlin, January 24.

Count Ballestrom, who had prevented the discussion in the Reichstag of the Krupp affair, was attacked by the papers of several parties. He then resigned the presidency, giving as the motive of the resignation that he no longer enjoyed the Reichstag's confidence. Probably he will be re-elected.

KING OSCAR.

King Oscar of Sweden has fallen ill. Provisionally he transferred the Government to the Crown Prince.

[King Oscar was born in January 1829, Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf in June 1858. The Crown Prince is married to Princess Victoria, the only daughter of the Grand Duke of Baden.—ED.)

VENEZUELA.

The commodore of the German squadron off Venezuela confirms that the *Panther* ceased firing against San Carlo only in consequence of the low water level which rendered difficult the manœuvres of the gun-boat in the lagune. President Castro then issued a proclamation according to which the fort had gained the victory over the German ship. The German Commodore therefore ordered the continuation of the bombardment and destroyed the fort entirely.

Berlin, January 27.

The negotiations between the German and English ambassadors at Washington, and Mr. Bowen have a successful course. In the case of the sufficiency of the guarantees offered by Venezuela through Mr. Bowen the joint raising of the blockade is impending. The bombardment of the San Castro fort does in no way influence the negotiations. The attacks of the yellow press in the U. S. made not the slightest impression in Berlin.

THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE.

The German Crown Prince has left Russia for home. The Russian press bade him good-bye in the warmest terms.

COUNT BALLESTREM.

No doubt Count Ballestrem will accept his re-election as President of the Reichstag. Count Bülow in no way interfered in the matter of his resignation.

THE VENEZUELA NEGOTIATIONS.

Berlin, January 28.

The negotiations at Washington are going on. The political circles of Berlin judge the situation to be quieter than before.

KAISER AND CROWN PRINCE.

The Crown Prince is laid up with a cold caught while on his trip to Russia.

The birthday of the Kaiser was solemnised in Germany in a particularly splendid way. The festivals arranged in his honour in Russia had a specially hearty character. In Berlin the French embassy illuminated. The German papers wrote most sympathically about Emperor Wilhelm.

On the occasion of his birthday the Kaiser bestowed high orders on Admirals Büchsel and Bendemann, and conferred a barony on Ambassador Mumm von Schwarzenstein. G. von Köller received the high order of the Black Eagle. In remembrance of the gallant behaviour of the gunboat *Iltis* the Kaiser has ordered that the ship wear, fixed on the top of the signalling flag-staff, the order "Pour Le Mérite."

THE ORIENT.

The situation in the Orient is slowly improving.

SCANDINAVIAN TROUBLE.

It seems that the regency of the Swedish Crown Prince will result in the breaking-up of the union of Sweden and Norway.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

In a leader Prince Uchtomskij invites Germany to take part in the Asiatic politics of Russia.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

PROMOTIONS.

London via Bombay, January 17.

Colonel Henry Jenner Scobell, Fifth Lancers, commanding the 1st Brabant's Horse, has been appointed to the command of the 1st Cavalry Brigade at Aldershot.

Lieut.-Col. Michael F. Rimington, C.B., Sixth Dragoons, commanding Rimington's Scouts, has been appointed to the command of the 3rd Cavalry Brigade, at the Curragh.

MOROCCO.

London viâ Bombay, January 17.

The expedition against the rebels left Fez on the 11th inst. under the command of two of the Sultan's uncles.

NEW GRAND VIZIER FOR TURKEY.

It is understood that the dismissal and disgrace of the Turkish Grand Vizier, Said Pasha, are due to the rejection by the Sultan of his proposals for the improvement of the administration of the Turkish provinces in Europe. His retirement is regarded as foreshadowing complications in connection with Macedonia, and the postponement of the scheme for unifying the Ottoman Debt.

THE "ST. LOUIS."

London via Bombay, January 18.

The *St. Louis* has arrived at New York safely. Storms caused the delay, her average speed being nine knots. The passengers held an indignation meeting, and passed resolutions censuring the Company (which is included in the Atlantic Combine) for allowing them to embark in a steamer with leaky boilers.

The Management of the Company declares that there is nothing in the condition of the boilers of the *St. Louis* to prevent her making a normal passage.

LABOUR PROBLEMS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, January 19.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Johannesburg, said that the Kaffirs must be compelled to work and the white labour be made more efficient; when these means were exhausted, then it would be reasonable to take more drastic measures. South Africa, he said, should not at the present time waste her energies in seeking labour from undiscovered sources. He hoped the day was not far distant when the Transvaal would be ready for self-government, but autonomy conceded now would give the Boers scope for political agitation. On the other hand he was sure that neither Boer nor Briton is anxious to substitute the rule of Park Lane for that of Downing Street.

GERMAN MAIL STEAMER ASHORE.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd steamship *Lahn*, (Capt. Malchow) bound from Italy for New York with 500 passengers on board is ashore to the eastward of Gibraltar. The American cruiser *Hartford* and tugs have so far failed to refloat her.

London, January 20.

Mr. Chamberlain's remarks on Chinese labour have depressed the Kaffir market.

THE STRANDED STEAMER.

It is believed that the *Lahn* is in no danger. The passengers are to be transhipped.

VENEZUELA.

Some of the bakers at Caracas have closed their shops owing to the want of flour.

The commander of the fort at San Carlo reports that he was attacked without provocation or notice. Three of the garrison were wounded. Two explosions were heard on board the *Panther*, and it is reported that two of her sailors were killed.

The affair is sarcastically commented on in America, where public opinion is particularly sensitive.

THE PLAGUE IN NATAL.

London, January 21.

There have been thirty-four cases of plague, one of them a European, at Durban. There have been seventeen deaths.

THE SOMALILAND EXPEDITION.

Col. Cobbe has been awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry at Erego on the 6th of October last.

VENEZUELA.

Venezuela offers her Custom-houses as a guarantee for the settlement of the claims made on her.

In the Reichstag, Count Bulow said that Germany desires to put an end to armed action in Venezuela as soon as possible. The blockade will probably be raised directly the Washington negotiations have reached a satisfactory conclusion.

The closest agreement prevails, he said, between Germany, England and Italy. Despite the bitterness of a portion of the English Press, and the insults cast by a frenzied poet—referring to Rudyard Kipling—the relations of the Monarchs and Cabinets of London and Berlin were unchanged.

A BYE-ELECTION.

At the election for the West Derby division of Liverpool, for which the late Mr. S. W. Higginbottom (Conservative) was returned unopposed at the last general election, Mr. Rutherford (Conservative) has been returned by 5,455 votes against 3,251 votes given for the Liberal candidate, Mr. Holt.

THE DIGNITY OF LABOUR.

The Lord Mayor of London presided over the seventy-ninth anniversary meeting of the Birkbeck Institution. Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, in presenting the prizes said that the country which would rank high must prove its superiority by its work and its products. This his Government never failed to impress on the Japanese.

THE SOCIALISTS AND THE KAISER.

London, January 22.

The action of the President of the Reichstag in prohibiting the Socialists from discussing the Kaiser's speeches in connection with the death of Herr Krupp, wherein the Kaiser denounced the Socialists, is condemned by the whole Press of Germany.

The Socialists have convened numerous meetings of workmen to protest against the President's action.

A GIGANTIC SHAM.

The *Times* publishes the first of a series of articles on the military position of the Empire.

It declares that the Army Reserve is below 30,000 men.

While the Military Budget has risen to £32,000,000 sterling, yet our military position is infinitely worse since the war than it was before.

It concludes by saying that our whole military system is nothing less than a gigantic sham, and a fraud on the taxpayers.

DEATH OF THE NEW GOVERNOR OF ANHUI.

Peking, January 21.

H.H. Jao Ying-ch'i, Governor-designate of Anhui, transferred from Chinese Turkestan, died of disease at Kaomi, Shantung, on the 16th inst., on his way to Peking.

MARCONI IN CHINA.

Italy has asked for a concession to establish a wireless telegraphic service between Peking and Taku.

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JUST INDIGNATION.

Tientsin, January 21.

The Tientsin Volunteers at their meeting yesterday, Mr. Jim Watts in the chair, unanimously decided to decline the China medal without a clasp, as being an inadequate recognition of the services they rendered.

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Tientsin, January 21.

Viceroy Yuan Shi-k'ai is determined to enforce his last decree regarding the discount on sycee. He, to-day, ordered to be arrested 1,000 native bankers of the best reputation in the community and fined them very heavily for non-obedience. All native banking business is now at a standstill.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa Jan. 31
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 1	M. Feb. 2
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	M. Feb 2
Europe	M. M. Co.	Oceanien 2	Tu Feb. 3
Tacoma, Wash....	N. P. Co	Tacoma	Su Feb 8
America	P. M. Co	Korea 3	Su Feb 8
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan 4	M Feb. 9
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co	City of Peking	Th Feb. 12
Seattle, Wash.....	N. Y. K.	Kinshiu Maru 5	F Feb. 13
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 6	M Feb 16
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	W. Feb 18
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co	Empress of India	Th Feb. 19
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co	Coptic	Th Feb. 19
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu Feb. 24

1 Left Shanghai on the 28th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 27th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 20th inst.
4 Left Vancouver on the 26th inst.
5 Left Seattle, Wash. on the 27th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 28th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa Jan. 31
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co.	Salazie	Sa. Jan. 31
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	M Feb. 2
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W. Feb. 4
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Th Feb. 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa. Feb. 7
Europe, &c.....	N. Y. K.	Sanuki Maru	Sa Feb. 7
Hongkong...	P. M. Co.	Korea	M. Feb. 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of Japan	M Feb. 9
Hongkong...	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	M. Feb. 9
Seattle, Wash.....	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	Tu. Feb 10
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. Feb. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa Feb. 14
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co	Gaelic	Tu Feb 17
Tacoma, Wash....	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Th. Feb. 19
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Empress of India	F. Feb 20
America	O. & O. Co	Coptic	Sa. Feb 21

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, M. Aubert, 23rd Jan., —Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 22nd Jan., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Shimosa, British steamer, 2,699, E. A. Chaplin, 23rd Jan.,—New York via ports, and Moji, 21st Jan., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 23rd Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 17th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, M. J. Curnow, 23rd Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 23rd Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Willowdene, British steamer, 2,726, J. W. Rigby, 24th Jan.,—New York via ports, and Nagasaki, 20th Jan., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Austria, Austrian steamer, 4,879, R. Calledain, 24th Jan.,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 18th Jan., Mails and General.—Pollak Bros.

Neck, German ship, 2,121, A. H. Kerjös, 24th Jan., —New York, 18th July, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 24th Jan.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 24th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 23rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, G. E. Warner, 25th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 8th Jan., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

St. David, American ship, 1,476, C. Ryder, 25th Jan., —Manila, P.I., 21st Oct., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 25th Jan.,—Kobe, 23rd Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 25th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 24th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telemachus, British steamer, 4,802, Goodwin, 26th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 25th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 26th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Kobe, 25th Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 26th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 25th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 26th Jan.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,436, S. Yamanishi, 26th Jan.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 26th Jan.,—Kobe, 25th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 458, S. Kawano, 27th Jan.,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, Shimizu, 27th Jan.,—Taku, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 27th Jan.,—Kobe, 25th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, W. Hayward, 27th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 26th Jan., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, Robt. Day, 28th Jan.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 27th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tsinan, British steamer, 1,460, C. Lindbergh, 28th Jan.,—Melbourne via ports, and Kobe, 26th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 28th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 27th Jan., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 28th Jan.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 26th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kweilin, British steamer, 1,088, McIntosh, 28th Jan.,—Kobe, 26th Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 29th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 10th Jan., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 29th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 13th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kut Sang, British steamer, 1,495, Payne, 29th Jan., —Hongkong, 22nd Jan., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 29th Jan.,—Yokkaichi and Handa, 28th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,429, I. Miyagi, 29th Jan.,—Kobe, 27th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lyra, American steamer, 3,516, G. V. Williams, 29th Jan.,—Tacoma and Seattle, Wash., 6th Jan., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, F. E. Beadnell, 23rd Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 23rd.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Prosper, Norwegian steamer, 898, Christiansen, 23rd Jan.,—Moji, Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co.

Fazilka, British steamer, 2,698, D. Campbell, 23rd Jan.,—Madras via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Darmstadt, German steamer, 3,161, G. Meiners, 24th Jan.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,783, J. W. Wale, 24th Jan.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 24th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chun Sang, British steamer, 1,418, Arthur, 24th Jan.,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Wuerzburg, German steamer, 3,246, von Binzer, 25th Jan.,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, G. E. Warner, 25th Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shimosa, British steamer, 2,699, E. A. Chaplin, 25th Jan.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Indradeo, British steamer, 3,457, Wm. Easterbrook, 26th Jan.,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 25th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, R. Nunome, 25th Jan.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 25th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amphitrite (16 guns), British cruiser, 11,000, Captain C. Windham, 25th Jan.,—Hongkong.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 26th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 27th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 27th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Hugo, British steamer, 2,290, Stabb, 27th Jan., —Moji, Ballast.—A. Weston.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 28th Jan.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 28th Jan.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 29th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 29th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 29th Jan.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 29th Jan.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C. Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Richarme, Mr. Martinie, Dr. Florenz, Mr. Taylor Evans, Miss Evans, Mr. Swall, Mr. and Mrs. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Berthelot, Mr. Jaboo, Mr. Ahba, and Mr. Keliner, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. E. Baelz and servant, Mr. Pow Kit Shun, Mr. W. R. Townsend, Mrs. W. R. Townsend, and Mr. A. Simon, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. G. D. Fearon, Mrs. G. D. Fearon, and Miss Fearon, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. G. H. Bryant, Mrs. C. McCulloch and infant, Miss McCulloch, Miss Bryant, Mr. J. F. van B. von den Bergh, Major R. P. Ames, U.S.A., Capt. H. du R. Phelan, U.S.A., Dr. E. Mansfield, U.S.A., Capt. A. D. Williams, U.S.A., Mr. O. Eckenstein, Capt. L. P. Howell, U.S.A., Mrs. L. P. Howell, Capt. A. L. Miller, U.S.A., Miss Hassler, Capt. W. F. James, U.S.A., Capt. W. B. Summerall, U.S.A., Capt. W. R. van Tuyl, U.S.A., Capt. C. B. Lloyd, U.S.A., Major J. P. Peed, U.S.A., Capt. L. B. Peck, U.S.A., Capt. W. G. Miller, U.S.A., Capt. J. E. Mead, U.S.A., Mrs. J. E. Mead, Dr. E. J. Farrow, U.S.A., Mrs. E. J. Farrow, Miss G. Hargis, Major J. E. Reifsnyder, U.S.A, Mr. B. Tyman, Major W. P. Evans, U.S.A., Major J. H. H. Peshine, U.S.A., Capt. S. Weirick, U.S.A., Lieut. C. F. Williams, U.S.A., Mrs. W. W. Rich, Mr. A. Henning, Mr. J. U. Buchnean, Miss E. Calvert, Mrs. J. D. Humphreys, and Master Humphreys, in cabn.

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. Murata, and Mr. Schrieber, in cabin; 3 Chinese, in second class. For Seattle:—Mr. G. J. Hasson, Mr. T. Blaylock, Mr. T. W. Darby, and Mr. W. C. Finlay, in second class; 13 Japanese, and 114 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Col. H. E. Dosch, Mr. B. Kobayashi, Mr. T. Thos. Fortune, Mr. F. Schmidt, and Mr. M. Shibata, in cabin. For Kobe:—Miss K. A. Gibbons, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss A. Carter, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. H. W. Elser, Mr. J. W. Reeves, Mrs. E. C. McCullough, and Mr. J. W. Sleeper, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Iyo Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mrs. G. S. Lapriack, and Mr. M. Matsuda, in cabin; Mr. K. Yamaguchi, in second class; 5, in steerage. In Transit:—Miss M. C. Morris, Miss L. A. Batty, Miss J. B. James, Miss M. E. Funk, and Mr. C. A. Davis, in cabin; Mr. D. W. Peterson, and Mr. G. S. Evans, in second class; 38, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Rev. T. W. Burkholder, Mrs. T. W. Burkholder, Mr. F. C. Cooper, Mrs. F. C. Cooper, Mr. W. E. Crossman, Com. G. L. Dyer, Mr. L. G. Emory, Mr. P. L. Flanigan, Mrs. Wm. Guild and child, Mr. A. E. Jessup, Mr. R. M. McWade, Mrs. R. M. McWade, Miss May McWade, Mr. J. M. Lachlan, and Dr. D. W. Rulison, in cabin.

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Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Henry Bennett, Mr. H. H. Bush, Mrs. H. H. Bush, Mr. Hugh Calloway, Mr. Paul Crompton, Mr. Walter L. Faber, Rev. W. G. Fritz, Mr. O. W. Gralund, Mrs. Hanigan, Mr. S. Kondo, Major G. Pereira, Mr. E. Thomas, and Mr. S. Ubikata, in cabin; Mr. R. W. Squires, Mr. W. C. Fitch, Mr. Jas. T. Fugate, Mr. R. Ichikawa, Mr. J. M. Krause, Mr. H. Nakajima, Mrs. Kawai, and Miss Sugihara, in second class.

Per German steamer *Darmstadt*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. W. Daniels, Mr. L. E. Sperry, Mr. Stanley Raby, Lieut. Hoffmann, Miss MacCormac, Mr. Pow Kun Chen, Mr. T. Smith, Mr. Wehrle, Mr. J. C. Heldt, and Mr. Karno, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tamba Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. K. Kamio, Prof. Y. Kozai, Mr. T. Kara, Mr. S. Wakamura, Mr. Y. Yahagi, Mr. M. Nagaoka, Mr. A. Saito, Mr. Y. Yamazaki, Prof. G. Uchida, Mr. Ronald Shaw, Mrs. A. C. Shaw, Miss Shaw, and Miss Mary Steven, in cabin; Mr. T. Imai, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Yo Sho and 2 children, Mr. R. Del Pon, Mr. K. Murakawa, Mr. S. Ito, Mr. G. Honma, Mr. S. Noda, Mr. K. Nakamura, Mr. C. Suyehiro, Mr. S. Yamakawa, Mr. Y. Furiya, and Mr. Matsubara, in second class; 20, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Major R. F. Ames, U.S.A., Mr. G. H. Bryant, Miss Bryant, Mr. J. U. Buchanan, Miss E. Calvert, Mr. O. Eckenstein, Major W. P. Evans, U.S.A., Dr. E. J. Farrow, U.S.A., Mrs. E. J. Farrow, Mr. G. D. Fearon, Mrs. G. D. Fearon, Miss Fearon, Mr. J. H. Fertig, Mrs. J. H. Fertig and child, Miss G. Harris, Miss Hassler, Mr. A. K. Henning, Capt. L. P. Howell, U.S.A., Mrs. L. P. Howell, Mrs. J. D. Humphreys, Master Humphreys, Capt. W. F. James, U.S.A., Mr. Andrews Kerr, Mr. John M. Klein, Mrs. John Klein, Capt. C. C. Lloyd, U.S.A., Dr. F. Mansfield, U.S.A., Mrs. McCulloch and child, Miss McCulloch, Capt. J. E. Mead, U.S.A., Mrs. J. E. Mead, Capt. A. L. Miller, U.S.A., Capt. G. W. Miller, U.S.A., Capt. L. B. Peck, U.S.A., Major J. H. H. Peshire, U.S.A., Major J. P. Peed, U.S.A., Capt. H. du R. Phelan, U.S.A., Mrs. E. E. Price, Major J. C. Reifsnyder, U.S.A., Mrs. W. W. Rich, Mr. Emile Schmidt, Capt. W. F. Summerall, U.S.A., Miss E. Pauline Swartz, Mr. B. Twyman, Mr. J. F. Van B. von den Bergh, Capt. W. R. Van Tuyl, U.S.A., Capt. S. Weirick, U.S.A., Capt. A. D. Williams, U.S.A., and Lieut. C. F. Williams, U.S.A., in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver:—

From.	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong	263	—	—	125	—	388
Foochow	210	—	—	—	—	210
Shanghai	561	460	—	—	—	1,021
Kobe	177	259	—	—	—	436
Yokohama	398	—	—	5	—	403
Total	1,609	719	—	130	—	2,458

From.	SILK. New York.	Other Cities.	Total. Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	160	—	160
Shanghai	518	—	518
Yokohama	982	14	996
Total	1,660	14	1,674

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Darmstadt*:—

	RAW. Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen.	WASTE. Genoa.	Milan.	Marseilles	Trieste.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	86	338	—	—	67	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	83	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	—	106	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	—
Total	175	388	—	—	100	—	106	—
	513				206			

Following were silk shippers per *Doric*, for San Francisco, 28th Jan.:—

	Bales.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	115
Varenne & Co.	65
American Trading Co.	50
Vivanti Bros	25
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	20
Doshin Kaisha	20
Total	295

Following were silk shippers per *Tosa Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., 28th Jan.:—

	Bales.
Pollak Bros.	100
Vivanti Bros.	84
Bavier & Co.	42
China and Japan Trading Co.	12
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	661
Doshin Kaisha	25
Total	924

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Slight demand continues and still a fair business.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

There has been a fair business passing and prices remain unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

There is no special change to report.

American	$2.72
Russian	2.67
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market continues firm and prices are practically unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.70 to 7.50
White Refined	8.80 to 10.70

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The Raw Silk market is quiet with a little tendency to ease on some kinds, especially Kakedas. Filatures and Re-reels suitable for America still hold their own, but prices on the Bourse are easier for March delivery, and it looks as if we have seen the top notch for the present.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,085 to 1,095
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,085 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,010 to 1,020
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	1,080 to 1,090
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,050 to 1,060
Re-reels—No. 2	1,020 to 1,030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1,000
Kakedas—Extra	1,020 to 1,035
Kakedas—No. 1	990 to 1,000
Kakedas—No. 1½	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 2	930 to 935
Kakedas—No. 2½	900 to 910

WASTE SILK.

There has been a fair demand for small lots of Waste at full rates.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

The market is closed.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 29.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight	260½
— — 6 months' sight	261½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	77*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	75½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	94*
— Private 10 days' sight	95½*
India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	155⅛
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sigh	50½
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	21¾

* Nominal.

MARUSE SHOTEN.

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DAILY OFFICIAL QUOTATION.

No. 76, MAIN STREET.

TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 29.

RICE QUOTATIONS, PER TEN KOKU.

MORNING.

	January.	February.	March.
1st Meeting	144.85	145.10	147.40
2nd Meeting	144.65	144.85	147.40
3rd Meeting	144.15	144.70	147.15
4th Meeting	145.00	145.40	147.90

AFTERNOON.

	January.	February.	March.
1st Meeting	—	145.40	148.00
2nd Meeting	—	145.70	148.25
3rd Meeting	—	145.70	148.30
4th Meeting	—	145.80	148.30

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TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE.
SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, January 29.

Yesterday's total transactions were 11,100 shares.

MORNING. Jan.	Feb.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. Jan.	Feb.
78.95	79.60	Nippon Railway ...	—	—
23.55	23.30	Nippon R'way, 3rd.	—	—
60.20	60.70	Sanyo Railway	—	61.35
48.00	48.35	Kansai Railway ...	—	48.55
60.80	61.25	Kiushiu Railway ...	—	61.70
81.50	81.85	Tanko Railway.....	—	82.05
39.30	—	Tanko R'way, new..	—	—
23.90	24.50	Tobu Railway	—	—
59.50	60.00	Sobu Railway	—	—
8.60	—	Boso Railway	—	—
27.70	28.10	Narita Railway.....	—	28.30
12.00	12.30	Narita R'way, new..	—	12.40
20.40	21.50	Kioto Railway	—	—
20.25	20.80	Hokuyetsu Railway.	—	21.10
—	—	Hankaku Railway..	—	—
114.40	114.50	Tokio Electric Car...	—	—
70.80	71.20	Tokio Ele. Car, new	—	72.00
31.40	32.10	Tokio Electric Ra'y.	—	32 50
—	—	Kei-hin Electric Car	—	—
84.80	85.30	Nippon Yusen	—	85.60
34.10	34.70	Toyo Kisen	—	34.95
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—
29.40	—	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new.	—	—
67.80	69.30	Tokio Electric Light	—	68.85
45.30	—	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	46.90
40.00	39.95	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	—	40.15
24.00	25.00	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new ...	—	—
—	—	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
166.90	167.20	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	—	167.90

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August 16th, 1902. 13.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

毎土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 1903.

BIRTH.

At No. 248-A, Bluff, Yokohama, on Jan. 29th, the wife of ROBERT SULZER, of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A SMART shock of earthquake was experienced in Yokohama at five o'clock on Tuesday morning.

H.E. MR. SUFU, Governor of Kanagawa Ken, visited the Russian flagship *Petropavlonsk* on the morning of the 2nd inst.

A WELL-KNOWN teacher of dancing named Hanayagi Jinsuke, died on the night of the 28th inst. at his residence in Asakusa.

A BLIND man fell into the Creek near Miyoshi-cho, Yokohama, on Thursday and was drowned before assistance could be rendered.

OISHI MITSUTARO, who was being taken by a police constable to Yokohama from Matsuda on the morning of the 2nd inst., managed to elude the policeman and is still at large.

MR. AKIZUKI Satoo, first secretary of the Japanese Legation in Paris, has received a medal from the President of the French Republic.

THE Neill-Frawley Dramatic Company went straight from Manila to Singapore and then intended proceeding on a tour through India.

MR. G. BARCLAY (the newly appointed Secretary of the British Legation) and Mrs Barclay arrived by the *Stuttgart* on Wednesday morning.

THE well-known poetess, Mrs. Nakajima Utako; died at Tokyo on the 31st ult. She was elevated by the Emperor to the rank of seventh-class the same day.

A FORMER postman named Masuda Hirosuke was arrested by the police on the 31st ult., on a charge of starting the conflagration at Yayezu on the 16th ult.

MR. KATO TOKUJI, chief editor of the *Gumma Shimbun*, and two others were arrested by the police on the 2nd inst. on a charge of alleged blackmailling.

AN old woman named Araki Taki (62) living at Shinonome-mura, Sasagori, Tamba Province, murdered her mother Shige (96) by strangling her a few days ago.

THE general meeting of the Red Cross Society's Kanagawa branch took place at Koai-mura, Aikogori, on the 30th ult. Over one hundred members were present.

A WELL-KNOWN gambler named Kogakichi, living at Kakigaracho, Tokyo, and four others were arrested by the police on the 31st ult, charged with blackmailing.

A WOMAN named Komaye Kiyo (21) employed by Mr. Takashima Nagama-a committed suicide by lying down on the railway line before a train at Kanagawa on the evening of the 28th inst.

THE Kanagawa authorities announce that during temporary repairs to the Yokohama breakwater on both side of the light houses, dynamite will be used along a distance of 2,764 ft. from the 3rd to the 25th inst.

A CHINAMAN named Kaku Shiren, employed by Mr. F. W. Horne, was arrested by the Kagacho Police on the 2nd inst. on a charge of having stolen a cheque valued at *yen* 13.50, and thirteen files, belonging to his employer.

IN commemoration of the death of the late Emperor Komei, father of the present Emperor, the banks and many business houses of Yokohama were closed on Friday. Flags were displayed but this was not by any means general.

WHILE digging a new well at Mannenji-mura, Kotama-gori, Saitama Prefecture, on the afternoon of the 2nd inst. three coolies were entombed. The police hurried to the spot and eventually dug out the men, but only one was alive.

THE authorities of Hyogo prefecture have reported to the Kanagawa Kencho that some cows were suffering from rinderpest in a batch of sixty sent by train from Kobe to a butcher in Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, on the 2nd inst.

A MAN named Shibuya Hikotaro, formerly a constable in the Bluff police, living at Minami Ota-machi, Yokohama, attempted suicide on the morning of the 3rd inst. by cutting his throat with a razor. The man went to Juzen Hospital at once. The poor fellow's wife had been ill a long time and at last entered the Yokohama Hospital but the husband had not enough to pay her expenses, and the worry unbalanced his mind.

MATSUMOTO MASAGORO, living at Honmoku-mura, Yokohama, has been arrested by the Kotobukicho police on a charge of having stolen 7 tons of coal on its way to a ship from a coal depot of the Hokkaido Coal Mine Co., on the 28th inst.

FORTY-TWO labourers returned to Yokohama from Honolulu by the *America Maru* on the 31st ult. They left Yokohama on the 3rd ult., for Honolulu but were refused a landing owing to an infectious disease breaking out among them.

THE ship *Forest Home*, which left Hakodate on Dec. 17th consigned to Messrs. Pollak Bros., Yokohama, has not yet put in an appearance and it is feared she has had more than her share of the heavy weather recently prevailing on these coasts.

A TELEGRAM received in Tokyo states that a collision occurred between the Japanese steamer *Denshin Maru* and the junk, *Yodeyoshi Maru*, off Tadotsu at 4 o'clock on the morning of the 3rd inst. The junk sank but the crew were rescued.

A BLUEJACKET named Yoshida Daisuke, of Yokosuka, has been arrested by the police charged with stealing official money to the extent of *yen* 800. He should have deposited the money in the Mitsui Bank on the 2nd inst., but instead fled to Uraga and spent it.

THE Tozu Kisen Kaisha steamer *No. 2 Tozu Maru* on her way from Shimoda to Tokyo, ran on a sand bank off Oshima on the 30th ult. The steamer *Sansei Maru* rescued nine of the crew and six passengers, while nearly all the cargo was transferred, The steamer is still on the bank.

SECOND Lieutenant Kotoyama Kwanichi, of the *Itsukushima*, went ashore on the morning of the 30th ult., but did not return at expiry of his leave. The officers of the ship at once instituted a search and found that their comrade had fallen into the Yokosuka Dock. His head was crushed and he had besides suffered injury to his limbs.

IT is reported that a mob rising connected with a water-rights' dispute, occurred at Miye Prefecture early on the morning of the 2nd inst. Several hundred farmers assembled at Kusunoki-mura, Kuwana-gori, and broke down an embankment. Forty police constables from Kuwana Station proceeded to the spot and restored order.

AMONG distinguished visitors staying at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, is Count Vay of Vaya who has arrived from Vienna for the purpose of inspecting Japanese schools and the educational system of the country. Baron von Cotta, of the German Army, and Baron Tessin are also at the hotel. Baron Tessin is visiting the military establishments of Japan.

AT the annual meeting of the Kobe Regatta and Athletic Club Messrs. C. H. Lightfoot and W. W. Campbell were the only names voted on for president. Thirty six votes were given for the former and thirty-three for the latter. The Chairman suggested that as Mr. Lightfoot was absent Mr. Campbell should be elected, but the latter declined to undertake the duties, subsequently consenting however to act until Mr. Lightfoot returns, about the beginning of April. The Committee elected consisted of Messrs. P. L. Spence, R. A. Marshall, E. T. Bethell, E. J. Marshall, E. H. Moss, J. W. Franklin, R. Ross Reid and A. H. Gillingham.

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Monday, Feb. 2.

The "excursions and alarums" of the past few days do not seem likely to produce any tangible result. Those that ought to know deny that anything special has been upon the *tapis*. The meetings of nominally hostile politicians have been nothing more than personal amenities; indications that "gentlemen" do not drag their political controversies into social circles. Some one visiting Marquis Ito, had his *tête-à-tête* interrupted by Marquis Yamagata, and was surprised to observe that the two statesmen seemed as friendly as ever, though each proclaimed his opinions and sustained his theses without reservation or reluctance. In short the public learns that these nominally bitter political quarrels take the form of wholesome and sweet discussions where the leaders are concerned, and that all the froth and fury are confined to the ranks of the followers. It is agreeable to obtain a glimpse of such comfortable conditions behind the scenes, but there still continue to press as stubbornly as ever for an answer the questions, what is to be done, and how is the "situation" to be resolved. If the Lower House does not yield and the Cabinet does not surrender, another collision is inevitable, and another collision means either fresh dissolution of the House or somewhat ignominious resignation of the Cabinet after a wholly fruitless struggle. Count Katsura is too clever to be merely drifting. He has his programme cut and dry, we may be sure. And what is more, he manages to keep it secreted from the gaze of thousands of prying eyes and beyond the reach of all conjectures.

It seems certain that Mr. Kato is to be one of Yokohama's candidates in the coming election. Tokyo newspapers state, somewhat quaintly, that the Yokohama electors had become rather weary of always returning the same representatives and that, having conceived a desire for change, they applied for advice to Marquis Ito, who suggested Mr. Kato. It is announced that Mr. Kato, accompanied by two of the leading residents of Yokohama, visited Marquis Ito at Oiso on the 31st ult., and that the Marquis and Mr. Kato subsequently proceeded to Yokohama, whence the former was to take train for Tokyo. We suspect that the Yokohama constituency are not so unreasonably capricious as this account would indicate, and that their desire to be represented by Mr. Kato rests on some basis stronger than a mere love of change. Meanwhile nothing more is heard of Mr. Shimada Saburo. Will he agree to accept a substituted seat in Miye prefecture or will he insist on contesting Yokohama? Mr. Shimada has not been during recent years such a success as his friends could have wished. A transfer to Miye would look very like a gentle process of shelving.

On the same day, 31st ult., Marquis Ito received visits from Marquis Yamagata and Viscount Aoki. Evidently the Elder Statesmen are determined that, so far as they are concerned, this crisis shall be deprived of its acute elements, as far as possible.

The Tosa politicians have composed their difficulties. Having learned that main fact, our readers will probably take little interest in details. We may mention, however, that the section which threatened secession has so far carried its point as to obtain restoration to the ranks of the Party for the members who were expelled last year, and that the six candidates for election are to be Messrs. Kataoka, Hayashi, Nishiyama, Yamamoto, Doi and Takenouchi. Apparently the outlying part of the constituency is to return the same number as the central part.

Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Interchanges of visits continue between prominent figures on the political stage. Marquis Yamagata and Count Inouye are undoubtedly active and their movements are supposed to indicate an attempt on the part of these two distinguished statesmen to produce some modification of Marquis Ito's views. We record these rumours without inviting any one to credit them. What may be safely asserted, we think, is that something will be accomplished before the Diet meets in May, if not before the elections next month.

Meanwhile the question of the members for Yokohama is attracting a great deal of attention. Marquis Ito appears to have actively interested himself on behalf of Mr. Kato Takaaki, who, together with Mr. Okuda Yoshito, formerly chief of the Legislative Bureau, seem to have obtained the suffrages of an overwelcoming majority of the electors. Mr. Kato's career must always attract a large share of public notice, but his proposed colleague, Mr. Okuda, is also widely spoken of because of his connexion with a wholesale programme of administrative reform which the present Cabinet rejected as impracticable. It is therefore conjectured that the assistance rendered by Marquis Ito to Mr. Okuda at the present juncture may be interpreted as an indirect approval of the latter's ideas. Mr. Shimada Saburo is said to be struggling hard against political extinction. He is nothing if not sentimental, and we are not surprised to find him appealing vehemently, almost passionately, to the public's preference for right over might. He is to be deprived of his long-occupied seat by the strength of money, he is to be driven out of parliament by the force of intrigue, and so on. These pleas he is reported to have addressed to Count Okuma, couching them in the eloquent language of which he is such a master. But the Count is not moved, and it appears as though Mr. Shimada would have to rely solely on a journalistic campaign, his great arena of action. It would be a pity that he should step down from the House of Representatives. He and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi are attractive figures in that assembly. But somehow Mr. Shimada seems to have let the times give him the go-bye. A great many picturesque or repellant rumours will surely push themselves into currency in connexion with this contest. One is already afloat, namely, that Mr. Shimada was offered a sum of thirty thousand *yen* to pay the expenses of a trip to Europe. Of course he indignantly declined. This is not the first tempting bait that he will be seen, in silhouette, righteously rejecting before the figures are declared at the polls.

Friday, Feb. 6.

The elections in Yokohama promise to be very keenly contested. The two sections of the community—the *Jimoshi ha* and the *Shōnin-ha*—which have hitherto been divided, are now said to be united in favour of Mr. Kato Takaaki and Mr. Okuda Yoshito. On the 3rd instant, Messrs. Otani, Mogi and Asada proceeded to Tokyo, and, visiting Baron Shibusawa, asked him to urge Mr. Shimada to refrain from contesting the constituency. Baron Shibusawa made the attempt but met with no success, Mr. Shimada proving immovable. It appears that the sympathies of a considerable section of the younger men of business are with Mr. Shimada, partly on account of his political and social views, and partly became he has represented the place for so many years. As for Mr. Shimada himself, he declares that no sentimental considerations shall induce him to refrain from the contest. His language, as reported by the *Jiji Shimpo*, indicates that he regards himself as the victim of tyranny, the tyranny of wealth and the tyranny of power, and that he hopes to create a romantic situation which will at least soften the pain of his fall. He makes, perhaps, as good a showing as might have been expected under the circumstances. It must be indeed a bitter experience to find himself threatened with political distinction after all these years of almost brilliant prominence.

THE SILVER SPECTRE.

Presumably the great people who talk of some means to restore stability to silver are not without an intelligible scheme, but some of us who have been gazing at this problem for the past thirty years, must be permitted to regard the project of President Roosevelt with extreme scepticism. How can silver be made stable in terms of gold unless it is interchangeable with gold at a fixed ratio? That is the "hard pan" to which the problem is finally reduced, fiddle and fuddle with it as we may. Silver must either be taken as money or it must be a mere commodity. It can not possibly be both. It would be as rational to talk of keeping a kite steady after cutting it adrift as it is to think of giving an immutable value to silver in terms of gold so long as the two metals are not tied together by a definite ratio, and such union necessarily involves interchangeability. Publicists in Shanghai have been writing about the possibility of issuing convertible tael notes and giving to the tael an unalterable gold value. In other words, they would change the tael into token money. It would not be at all difficult to do so, we imagine. Of course the paper tael would soon drive out the silver coin, but that would not matter in the least, inasmuch as intrinsic value would have nothing to do with the eligibility of the tael. What would matter, what would alone matter, is that China should be competent to redeem these notes with gold at any moment, and thus the question narrows itself to procuring a gold reserve. We do not see why China should not follow Japan's example in that matter; establish a national banking system and procure gold through the medium of exports. But it would be a lengthy operation, especially in view of her complete unreadiness. The point to be kept in constant view, however, is that no measure short of the absolute adoption of the gold standard can have any real efficiency. To discuss any other scheme seems to us mere waste of time.

FIRE AT GIFU MIDDLE SCHOOL.

On the morning of the 1st instant fire broke out in one of the dormitories of the Gifu Middle School. Ten buildings were destroyed, and 7 of the students as well as 7 firemen lost their lives. It is stated that the value of the property lost was five thousand *yen*, but we presume that the amount of the policy of insurance is referred to, for however flimsy be the construction of Japanese schools, ten buildings could scarcely be erected for five thousand *yen*.

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CHINESE ITEMS.

Saturday, Jan. 31.

The *Tokyo Asahi* has a critical article showing that according to the terms of the leases held by England and Germany at Wei-hai-wei and Kiaochou, respectively, China has surrendered jurisdiction to the lessees. This, says our contemporary, is perfectly clear in the case of Wei-hai-wei, the provision being worded in most unequivocal language. There is more ambiguity with regard to Kiaochou, but at that place also Germany must be held to enjoy, within certain limits, complete jurisdiction. Nothing of the kind can be said, however, of Port Arthur. China's sovereign rights in the Liaotung Peninsula have not been impaired by any provision of the Russian lease.

Major Horiuchi, who has just returned from China, was interviewed at Shimonoseki by a representative of the *Asahi*. He puts a somewhat different complexion on the affair of the alleged smuggling of arms to order of Viceroy Yuan's agents. The swords—5000, not 2000, in number—were for the Tientsin police and were imported by a German merchant for that purpose. We can not perceive, however, that the provisions of the Protocol can be stretched so as to except arms and munitions of war required for civil officers. If that were the case, the veto of the Protocol would have been from the first a dead letter.

The Major further stated that during the past ten years there had been no parallel for the mildness of the present winter in Manchuria. The upper reaches of the Liao river have been almost free from ice hitherto.

Viceroy Yuan's financial scheme is said to have completely failed and the fact is believed to have brought him into some discredit. There has not been published, so far as we know, any succinct and intelligible account of the Viceroy's project, and we must therefore limit ourselves to stating that it was suggested by the *debâcle* in the money-market last year owing to the appearance of immense quantities of spurious *cash*. The Viceroy contemplated an arrangement which, in his opinion, would have prevented any repetition of such occurrences, but public opinion, especially foreign opinion, is said to have been entirely against him.

Monday, Feb. 2.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has a telegram of unstated origin, saying that Lu Hai-kan, who is now associated with Wu Ting-fong for purposes of commercial treaty revision in Shanghai, has memoralized Peking, urging that several Japanese jurists should be engaged for compiling or recasting China's legal codes. Mr. Li is represented as saying that theoretically the French are probably the best jurists, but that for practical purposes the Japanese are most desirable. Prince Ching is said to have highly approved this suggestion, and it is added that the Chinese Minister in Tokyo has been instructed to make inquiries.

All this, with the exception of the final part relating to Mr. Tsai, was published long ago. Did the *Hochi* put it in a pigeon hole to be dressed up as novel intelligence on a convenient occasion, or has there really been some confirmation?

Tuesday, Feb. 3.

The Chinese Court seems to be taking to heart the advice said to have been tendered to it by certain foreign Representatives and the criticisms penned by local foreign journals. It has issued a decree directing that on the occasion of the visit to the Western Mausolea in April, all needless expenditure and superfluous ceremonial shall be avoided. Such decrees have doubtless a certain measure of value, but their effect is very trifling unless they are supplemented by detailed regulations showing exactly what is to be dispensed with. The people will never take the initiative or act on their own responsibility in such matters, especially people who are so conservative as the Chinese. If a certain section of the populace have been in the habit of making a certain display on occasions of Imperial progress, they will not change the custom without explicit instructions from imperialism itself or its accredited representatives. That appears to us to be one of the great troubles in China. The Throne constantly enunciates comely doctrines and pretty precepts, but officials treat these exhortations as mere parades of virtue, and make no resolute attempt to give effect to them.

There appears to be some delay about the completion of the Manchurian railway. A telegram to the *Jiji* says that the supply of rolling stock—trucks are specially alluded to—is insufficient, and that the line can not be got into complete working order before next year. If that news prove correct it will be a great disappointment to many people who have been dreaming of the time when they could pack their portmanteaus and reach London or Paris from Tokyo in a fortnight.

It is stated (*Asahi's* telegrams) that Chang Chih-tung is reluctant to obey the summons to Peking. The old Viceroy thinks that there is confusion in the official mind about his public and his private liabilities, and that the atmosphere of the capital is not suited to a clear elucidation of the perplexity. He is therefore remaining provincially immured, and in the meanwhile is doing everything in his power to recover his former viceroyalty.

A censor has impeached Viceroy Yuan to the Throne on the ground that during the Boxer outbreak he caused punishment to be inflicted on a great many persons without full investigation of their offences. If steps were to be taken for arraigning all officers or officials in high positions, of whatever nationality, who in that time of terror struck first and questioned afterwards, some that have been beribboned and bemedalled by great Sovereigns for "splendid services" in Chili, would fare exceedingly ill.

The *Choya Shimbun* publishes a picture of the monument erected to the memory of Baron Ketteler. It appears to be a structure purely Chinese in style, namely, a species of triple *torii* spanning the street at the place where the tragedy was enacted. The cross-beam of the central section is 40 feet high, and under its central point is a tablet copied from an inscription composed by the Emperor himself in his Majesty's own name. The legend sets out by eulogising the services of the deceased, and then, after an expression of the Imperial regrets for his sad fate, there is a warning to all men that such acts as those of which he was the victim can bring only calamity. This inscription is reproduced in German and in English under the cross-beams of the flank sections. The *Choya's* correspondent adds that Prince Ching was the first to pass under the arch.

Thursday, Feb. 5.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that the Chinese Government has definitely refused the applications made by German, French and other syndicates for mining and railway privileges in the province of Fuhkien. The refusal is said to have been accompanied by an instruction that if any concessions are granted in that province, they must go to Japanese subjects. If that be true it is a diplomatic triumph for Japan. Possibly China was helped to the decision by reflecting that the Japanese are not particularly likely to be keen applicants for concessions. They have more than enough to do at home, and thus, by reserving Fuhkien to Japanese enterprise, temporary immunity from all foreign enterprise is perhaps secured for that part of the much harrassed empire at all events.

Rumours still come about ex-Viceroy Chang's movements, some representing him as likely to visit Peking and others saying that he will carefully avoid the capital. Chang has many enemies in Peking, and to enter that city would probably involve a heavy expense, which, perhaps, the present state of his exchequer does not facilitate. Perhaps, too, he thinks that the maws to be filled being so numerous, omissions would be inevitable, and omissions must result in the sharpening of enmities. Whether he goes to Peking or does not go, however, his restoration to his old Viceroyalty seems to be confidently anticipated in the best-informed circles.

The plans for the Shanghai-Nanking railway are reported to have matured. Work will be commenced on the first section so soon as the New Year's holidays are over. A board of directorate has been organised in Shanghai with two British subjects and three Chinese.

THE SNOW.

The extraordinary spell of fine sunny weather that Tokyo and Yokohama had enjoyed this winter, came to an end on the 31st ultimo, when snow began to fall from early morning and continued without intermission until midnight. This fall of snow caused great damage to telegraphic and telephonic apparatus in Tokyo and Yokohama. Not that the quantity of snow which fell was particularly large or that it accumulated to any great depth. The trouble was that rain began to descend when the snow was about 6 inches deep; then the rain ceasing, was succeeded by sharp frost, and then again there was a descent of snow flakes. It resulted that the telegraph and telephone wires became loaded with a weight of frozen snow and water, so that in Tokyo 27 poles were broken, 30 pulled out of the perpendicular, and so many wires severed that fully one-third of the publics messages had to be refused. Yokohama's case was almost as bad. The authorities are said to have adopted every possible precaution when the snow began to fall, but no available measure proved of any real service. A very large number of workmen were engaged from daylight on the 1st instant effecting repairs, but by sunset on that day only one complete wire had been re-established for telephonic communication between Tokyo and Yokohama.

The snow storms of the 31st ultimo and the 2nd instant came from Korea and from the Pacific respectively. On the 2nd, the depth of the snow in Tokyo was nearly 7 inches at 3 p.m., and as the fall continued until 9.30 p.m. a depth of about 9 inches must have been reached. No special damage was done by the second storm. What made the first so destructive was the alternations of rain and severe frost.

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AN EDUCATIONAL QUESTION.

Saturday, Jan. 31.

There has been a curious complication in connexion with a text book of ethics. The work is compiled, if not actually translated, from Muirhead's "Elements of Ethics," Dr. Kuwaki Genyoku being the author, and has found a place among text books of philosophy used at Dr. Inouye Yenryo's school in Tokyo. It appears that among the precepts inculcated by this volume, one is that provided a man's motive be good, even the killing of an emperor should not be imputed to him as a crime. This remarkable enunciation has now been challenged by the authorities, not that they denounce the doctrine as unequivocally immoral, but that they deny the propriety of teaching it in that crude form, as it appears to have been taught. Mr. Nakajima Tokuzo, who admits having allowed the precept to be inculcated without any modification or restriction, is likely to find his career as an educator stopped, and the public will be curious to hear what Dr. Inouye has to say on the subject when he returns from his trip abroad. In the meanwhile we are left to marvel at the nature of the official supervision which allows such things to appear in text-books. Some time ago a vehement commotion was made because an author had employed, as an illustration of style, an advertisement written in Tokugawa days. It happened that the thing advertised was an article quite unmentionable or unthinkable among ordinarily decent people, but it happened also that no one except a person with special knowledge could have detected the impropriety. Two or three people were nevertheless mercilessly gibbetted. Possibly they deserved to be, but it was well understood that their carelessness would never have been proclaimed so vociferously from the market cross had not rival sellers of text-books seen their account in making a fuss. What is to be said, however, of a primer of ethics which embodies the naked doctrine that a good motive justifies the killing of a Sovereign? And how could any modification or restriction soften the monstrosity of such a dictum? Every crime of political assassination that has taken place in Japan during the *Meiji* era would be justifiable according to this code of morality. It is not surprising to learn that Dr. Inouye's school has been struck off the list of publicly recognised institutions.

We can not but partly sympathise with the remarks of the *Asahi Shimbun* on the subject of the Philosophical Institute of Dr. Inouye Yenryo which has been deprived of its public status in connexion with the teaching of an ethical text book founded on Muirhead's treatise. Not only has the school been ruined, for to that the sentence of the Educational Department virtually amounts, but also four graduates who passed out of the school last October and who thereby acquired the status of eligibility to become teachers in Middle Schools or Normal Schools, have been declared ineligible; deprived, in short, of the results of their three years' study. Truly that seems very hard, especially as among these four students some are said to have shown by their answers to questions at the graduation examination, that they altogether disputed Muirhead's strange doctrine. If that be so, a great injustice would seem to have been done. But evidently judgment must be suspended.

Monday, Feb. 2.

Public opinion seems to be against the measure taken by the Educational Department in the case of Dr. Inouye Yenryo's Philosophical School. The line followed by leading critics is that the chain of responsibility has been stretched to extreme length. It can not be denied that there is cause of dissatisfaction with the interpretation of ethical doctrines taught by Mr. Nakajima Tokuzo. The Japanese nation is not prepared to admit that under any conceivable circumstances it might be right to put the Sovereign to death. Above all such a doctrine is repudiated when the execution or assassination partakes of a political character. Therefore Mr. Nakajima, whatever be his academical qualifications, might justly incur the displeasure of the educational authorities. But why should the school be deprived of its public status, and, above all, why should every student that has graduated there be declared ineligible for the position of teacher in a middle or a normal school? If there be such close scrutiny of ethical doctrines, it is plain that all primers of morality founded on the philosophy of Mencius should be utterly tabooed, for Mencius inculcates, in clearest language, the thesis that an evil monarch may be removed, and even indicates the order in which the duty of removing him devolves on the members of his entourage. Apart, however, from that contradiction in procedure on the side of the Educational Department, there is the consideration that the error of one teacher should not be visited on the head of the whole school and on that of the graduates. The *Asahi Shimbun* makes the point that were such a doctrine of vicarious responsibility accepted, then all the schools where teachers or principals have been implicated in the recent text-book scandal, should also be declassed. But obviously that is a false analogy. The view doubtless taken by the Educational Department with regard to Dr. Inouye's School is precisely similar to the view taken by the Tokyo Municipality towards the Honjo Factory where pest made its appearance some weeks ago. The School, owing to the filtration of a pernicious ethical principle among its students, has become an educational plague spot, and the authorities are probably acting in reluctant accord with a strict sense of duty when they decide that no measures shall be neglected to prevent the spread of the virus beyond its original centre of propagation. It is indeed a very hard case. One can not but sympathise with both sides. Yet we can easily conceive what an outcry might have been raised against the Educational Department had it shown any disposition to condone this offence. As to the Mencian philosophy, we may be permitted to recall to the recollection of Japanese critics that Mencius and Confucius were the ethical deities of Japan throughout nearly the whole of the Tokugawa epoch, and that the effect of their teachings was merely to alienate public approval from the dual system of government and direct it towards the restoration of administrative authority to the Emperor.

Tuesday, Feb. 3.

A bold line is now taken by certain Japanese newspapers with reference to the question of ethics which has attracted so much attention. These journals—which, we need scarcely say, belong to the Government's opponents—contend, in effect, that men should be free to acquaint themselves with all systems of ethics, employing their own intelligence to discriminate between the bad and the good, and that a nation whose moral system was cast in one rigid mould of official manufacture would be a poor kind of human agglomeration. The beauty of the Analects, of the Bible, of the Sutras and so on, say these critics, comes from the personality of Confucius, of Jesus, of Shaka, and not from the words actually used by them in expounding their systems.

That is all very well. Men of mature years and ripe intelligence need not fear anything from close contact with all the ologies and all the dogmas ever propounded or formulated. But there must be some system of ethics in the schools, and to say that regicide may be safely suggested to youths as a proper step towards liberty is as though one should allege that poison may be properly served to children at their meals on the theory that if they can not distinguish it from wholesome meat, they must suffer the consequences. It is really curious to see how this matter is being twisted out of all resemblance to its true shape by the heat of political passion. We can easily conceive what a strident scream would have been raised had Mr. Nakajima's teaching and Professor Muirhead's doctrines been treated lienently by the Educational Authorities.

FOREIGN CAPITAL.

The *Fiji Shimpo* publishes another interesting article which points out that public enterprises, like electric railways, are precisely the channels into which foreign capital may safely flow. Such enterprises are comparatively sheltered from the political influences that cause fluctuations of stocks; their prosperity grows *pari passu* with that of the district where they are located, and they are secured against competition during the period of the charter. The *Fiji* has already dealt thoroughly with the narrow-minded objections raised in some quarters, and its devotes this second article to an *exposé*, in the main, of the suitability of these public enterprises for the employment of foreign money.

Perhaps it may be well to add a word here. From the writing of some of our local English contemporaries we infer that considerable importance is attached by them to the outcry recently raised in certain quarters against the introduction of foreign capital if associated with foreign partnership. We doubt altogether whether the commotion deserves much attention. Among journals having any title whatever to be treated seriously, two only took up the matter in a hostile spirit. One of them is a journal that has rendered itself conspicuous by the extraordinarily intemperate and reckless character of its utterances with regard to question after question during the past few years. Moreover, its proprietor and editor-in-chief is a personal enemy of the man mainly instrumental in enlisting the cooperation of British capitalists on this occasion. As for the other journal, not the least doubt can be entertained about the origin of its denunciations. They were prompted solely by the agents of an enterprise which would profit largely did the Tokyo Electric Railway Company fail to carry out its project. That, indeed, was the main-spring of the whole agitation. On the other hand, three out of the four leading journals have ranged themselves unequivocally against these interested agitators, and two of the second-rate journals have followed suit. The facts should be remembered in estimating the representative character of the affair.

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BRIDGE.

Bridge has come to stay in the Far East. Echoes of its popularity reach us from Hongkong and Shanghai, and in Japan it "has the floor." One of its great advantages is that ladies can play. They seldom or never ventured to take a hand at serious whist, but at bridge they hold their own effectively, making "no trumps," doubling and even quadrupling with the best of us. Why there should be that difference no one has yet explained, so far as we know. Bridge is more difficult than dummy whist. When a trump is declared the play of a bridge hand and a dummy-whist hand do not differ appreciably, except that greater importance attaches to the number of odd tricks won at the newer game. But when "no trumps" is the order, a higher and more intricate quality of play seems to be demanded than anything called for in whist. In fact, the successful play of a "no trump" hand is a feat apparently requiring accurate calculation, careful observation and fine judgment. Yet ladies who would never have intruded upon the sacred circle at dummy whist, sit down to bridge without a visible qualm. If bridge had no other recommendation, that alone would constitute high merit. Meanwhile whatever may be said in the game's favour, it is most devoutly to be wished that its conventions were fixed. One of the charms of whist was that its rules and its principles commanded universal reverence and obedience. A man might sit down to play in Paris, in Berlin, in London or in New York with the calm conviction that under every sky the same precepts would be observed, the same deductions might be drawn, the same strategy could be pursued and the same *coups* would be achievable. America, it is true, introduced a variation in the manner of leading from a suit of five or more cards, and for a time the "old conservatives" sniffed and snorted at the innovation. But they ultimately acknowledged its justice, so that, a quarter of a century ago, whist appeared to have fallen into grooves from which there never could be any variation for all the ages of the ages. It is not so with bridge. Doctors still differ, play varies accordingly, and the man of accurate deductions must long ardently at times for the Median and Persian system of the old game. Even the elementary laws of play are not fixed. What, for example, are the things permissible to the holder of dummy after his hand is exposed? Some great authorities assign to him a most important function; they declare that he may supervise the game so far as to prevent his partner from leading out of the wrong hand. According to these persons, no penalty attaches to leading out of the exposed hand when the lead should be out of the dealer's, or *vice versâ*. But other Solons, speaking with equally assured conviction, interdict any such supervision by the dealer's partner, prescribe the full penalty for leading out of turn, and declare that if the dealer's partner give any indication, whether right or wrong, of the hand from which the lead should come, then the error of leading out of the wrong hand is *de facto* committed, and the corresponding penalty becomes payable. Which code is right? We ourselves, with all deference, incline strongly to the latter. If the whist player of dummy lead out of turn, he is liable to have a suit called from the right hand, and unless "bumble puppy" be the order, he has a suit called. Why should there be no such obligation of accuracy at bridge? The consequences of license may be much more serious in the new game than in the old. Again and again it happens that the bridge dealer can not put himself in, or can not put his dummy in, and that his inability means the loss of several tricks. Such a position scarcely ever occurs at whist, yet English lawgivers treat the lead out of turn at bridge as an offense not deserving any penalty. Then again there is the convention as to what should be a player's first lead when his partner has doubled a no-trump declaration. American experts say "lead a heart;" English say "lead from your best suit." Both agree that the heart convention lessens the opportunities of doubling, but the Americans claim for their system the advantage of greater safety. On the other hand, there are shrewd men whose allegiance to the heart convention is so loyal that they even repudiate its narrowing effect. We ourselves have never been able to follow their reasoning. For, take an example. One of the commonest of the third player's doubling hands is a long established suit with one certain re-entering card. The first player does not require a card of entry. It is sufficient that he should have a long established suit which he leads off at once. But the third player has to get in and must therefore have a re-entering card. Now the combination "a long established suit and one certain re-entering card" can occur in only three different ways if the re-entering card must be the ace of hearts, whereas it can occur in any one of twelve ways if no such restriction exists. From that point of view, therefore, the English system is four times as broad as the American. But which is the better, practically speaking? The question is cardinally important, for unless one knows one's partner's choice of system, one may plunge him into irretrievable disaster by leading a heart which he does not expect or not leading a heart when he does expect one. Then we have the problem of the discard. From what kind of suit should a player make his first discard? From the suit that he wishes to have led to him or from a suit that he does not wish to have led? Here again whist had the advantage of absolute explicitness. With strong trumps declared against you, your discard was necessarily from the suit you desired to have led; with strong trumps on your own side, your discard was from weakness. American authorities on bridge advocate adherence to the whist rule. The question of discard, they say, can not occur at bridge except in the case of the non-dealing side, who are always in the position of being opposed by either actual strength in trumps or hypothetical strength in plain suits. If, then, it is important to be as explicit as possible in the information you give your partner when strength is against you at whist, why is not similar explicitness desirable at bridge? Often, indeed, it is far more desirable. Take a case of frequent occurrence. "No trumps" being declared, the leader opens his best suit; his partner wins the trick and returns the suit, with the result that four tricks are won right off, and on the fourth the leader's partner has to discard. If he discard from his strong suit, it is led to him at once and the fifth trick, which saves the game, is made tolerably certain. If he discard from his weakest suit, the leader has to choose between two suits, and the chances are even that he opens the wrong one and so helps to establish something big for the dealer. Of course such reasoning is not exhaustive, but it illustrates the uncertainty of the situation, and it suggests how immensely bridge would be improved were its rules and conventions firmly established and universally recognised.

THE TAKUSHOKU BANK.

The Colonization Bank of Hokkaido held its half-yearly general meeting in Tokyo on the 29th instant. The report was read and passed, the dividend being at the rate of 8 per cent. yearly. Mr. Sone, President of the Bank, made a brief speech, from which we gather that although the Bank has now been operating for three years, the volume of its transactions is not large. The following figures were shown:—

	Yen.
Loans repayable by yearly installments ...	1,402,387
Loans repayable at a fixed time	410,560
Loans on the security of shares	33,552
Loans on the security of crops	212,729
Total	2,064,128

Nevertheless this report showed a considerable improvement on the total figure for the last term, namely, 1,668,757 *yen*. Especially in the item of loans on the security of crops was the increase palpable, for these had grown by 200,000 *yen*, chiefly owing to the establishment of a branch at Sapporo. The Bank is allowed to charge interest up to 12 per cent., but the Directors hope to reduce the rate gradually. Interest has always been very high in Hokkaido, and Mr. Sone said that although the money market had become so much easier in Japan proper, no perceptible change had yet occurred in the northern island. For reasons easily understood agricultural products in Hokkaido were always cheapest at harvest time, but unfortunately for the farmers they were generally unable to hold over, and being obliged to realize at once, they necessarily suffered all the more. The Bank aimed at assisting them against that loss. The total earnings of the Bank during the half year amounted to 144,576 *yen*, inclusive of money brought over from previous accounts. After making due provision for reserves, a sum of 56,000 *yen* was paid in dividends, and 73,396 *yen* was carried to the next account.

PRINCE KOMATSU.

It appears that the title of "Komatsu" is to disappear from the list of Imperial Princes. The present holder of the title is Prince Akihito, who, being without issue of his own body, adopted for successor his younger brother, Prince Yorihito, now a Commander in the Imperial Navy. Being unwilling, however, that his brother, who is now thirty-six, should have a long period of minority, Prince Akihito has memorialized the Throne and has obtained Imperial Sanction for resuscitation of the title of Higashi-Fushimi, which will go at once to Prince Yorihito, who will thus become *Higashi-Fushimi no Miya Yorihito Denka*, the title of "Komatsu" disappearing from the Princely roll at the decease of its present holder. Prince Akihito, though comparatively young—he is only fifty-seven—is said to be suffering from an affection of the throat which is causing much uneasiness. His Imperial Highness has never been strong since his return from England last year, whither he went to represent Japan at the Coronation.

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KOREA.

Another scrap of land is said to be exciting interest in Korea. It is the little island of Samhak, which lies in the vicinity of Mokpo. Some Japanese merchants of Mokpo bought the island for 120 Korean taels, but since it passed into their possession the authorities have discovered its strategical value and are endeavouring to buy it back for 1,700 *yen*. Its Japanese holders, however, are reported to be obdurate, and having, apparently, some apprehension lest official pressure should be brought to bear, they have placed the matter in the hands of their Legation in Seoul. We have no authority for these statements except the *Yomiuri Shimbun*.

Further inquiries lead us to apprehend that reliance can not be placed on the good news of Dr. Weipart's promotion to be German Minister Resident in the Korean capital. The Berlin Government's intention of raising the Seoul post to the rank of a minister-residency appears to have been formed some time ago, though the Diet had not yet voted the necessary credit at the date of latest advices. Very likely the appropriation has been passed by this time. Be that as it may, however, the impression in official quarters seems to be that, in spite of Dr. Weipart's quite exceptional ability, he can not yet be placed in charge of a Legation. The present Minister-Resident in Bangkok, Mr. von Saldern, is spoken of as a more likely candidate for Seoul. We may still be permitted to hope, however, that Dr. Weipart will share conspicuously in the upward movement which the creation of the Seoul Minister-Residency will cause, and that his special Japanese qualifications will find scope for due exercise in whatever position is chosen for him. If the routine of the German service is too rigid to allow an exceptional departure in favour of such a man as Dr. Weipart, it is all the worse for Germany.

Li Yong-ik—or Yi Yong-ik as he seems to be called in Korea—is making his return to power felt in Seoul. He is said to have procured the removal of Cho Pyong-sik from the Department of Foreign Affairs, and his replacement by Li Do-chai. Cho Pyong-sik is the aged statesman who came to Japan in 1891 on a special mission supposed to be connected with the neutralization of Korea under joint guarantee by the Powers. It is he apparently, that was responsible for the measure recently taken to stop the circulation of notes issued by the First Bank in Korea, a measure which had to be subsequently rescinded in consequence of the Japanese Representative's protest. Cho Pyong-sik and Li Yong-ik are at daggers drawn. They are "monkey and dog to each other," as the Japanese saying is. Consequently Li has taken advantage of Cho's discomfiture in this matter to arraign him for having acted *ultra vires*—the Foreign Minister having no legitimate function in connexion with financial matters—, and for having brought discredit on his office. Victory rests with Li.

The news of Cho Pyong-sik's fall from power is confirmed, as also is the fact of his replacement at the Foreign Office by Li Do-chai. This latter had hitherto been chief of the Railway Bureau, which office is now given to the Minister of War, Sin Kwi-son, the latter being succeeded by the hitherto Minister of Finance, Chhim Sang-Kun. Cho Pyong-sik becomes chief of the North-eastern Railway Bureau, which is a veritable "shelf." The actions and interactions of these various changes may not be easily traceable, but their general basis seems to be that Li Yong-ik, on his return to power, at once attacked the procedure of the Minister of Foreign Affairs because the latter, at the instance of the Japanese Representative, had obtained the rescinding of a decree which interdicted the circulation of the First Bank's notes. Li is said to maintain that the national dignity of the empire would be impaired by allowing the notes of a foreign bank to circulate everywhere throughout Korean territory, but probably the true explanation of his conduct is that among his various plans there is included one for the establishment of a State Bank with a large note-issuing power. Another source of trouble has been the Nak-dong dues. From these exemption had apparently been obtained for Japanese goods in consequence of a Japanese protest. But Li affirms that to pay any respect to foreign remonstrances in such matters is to surrender the country's sovereign rights, and he is reported to have procured the issue of instructions ordering the dues to be levied as before. Altogether Li Yong-ik is making his hand felt strongly, and it must be confessed that whatever sympathy with Japan he possessed or simulated some time ago does not seem to have survived his asylum in the Russian Legation and his refuge on a Russian man-of-war. What seeds of future trouble were sown during that strenuous period of his existence, we may know by-and-by.

All the leading Tokyo papers publish news from Seoul to the effect that Baron Ginsberg, representing the Russo-Chinese Bank and working in conjunction with Li Yong-ik, has put up a sum of 150,000 *yen* for the purpose of obtaining the ginseng monopoly in Korea. This monopoly was farmed to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha three years ago, but the agreement terminated last year, and during the discussion as to its renewal the active Baron is pulling the wires. Such is the story, and it is added that the purchase of this monopoly was probably the basis of the recent rumours about a Russian loan to Korea. But it is also added, in another quarter, that the Korean Government's agreement with the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha contains a clause providing for renewal, and that, consequently, the Ginsberg-Li-yong-ik tale probably has its basis in smoke. That is the fate of many rumours that reach us from Korea.

The agitation in Korea against the circulation of the First Bank's convertible notes is said to be growing. Acting doubtless at the instigation of Li Yong-ik, the Governor of Seoul is reported to have issued instructions to the localities that should any Korean subject be found attempting to pass these notes, he must be prosecuted. Nobody has any right to suppose that in taking this action Mr. Cho Ha-sik believes that he is not serving the interests of his country, and the same credit may be given to Li Yong-ik. But from an outside point of view the objection to the notes look a little farcical. Korea has no currency of her own and her people suffer all the inconvenience resulting from that state of affairs. Yet when a throughly stable Japanese Bank establishes a branch in the Korean capital and puts into circulation notes which every one can trust and which serve to greatly facilitate trade, a romantic notion is started to the effect that Korea's imperial dignity suffers by the process. The First National Bank in Seoul occupies much the same position that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation formerly occupied in Yokohama, with the difference that when the English Bank began to issue notes in Japan, there were already Japanese notes which met the needs of Japanese subjects, partially at all events. Of course in the case of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank there were onlookers who pointed out that the issue of bank-notes in every country ought to be subject to the laws of that country and under its sanction, and that the Japanese Government should step in to interdict the circulation of the Hongkong and Shanghai Corporation's paper. But whatever the Japanese authorities thought about the matter, they never allowed themselves to be carried away by a patriotic vertigo such as that which has visited Korea at the prompting of Mr. Li Yong-ik; a vertigo which, considering the general conditions of Korea as to material progress, must really be called ridiculous. If it is not possible to enlighten the Seoul Authorities on this subject, the darkness of their minds must be very dense. Possibly, however, the affair has a side not visible to the general public.

The arbitrary action of the Korean Authorities with regard to the circulation of notes issued by the First Bank, is not to be passed without remonstrance. It is said that the withdrawal of the original interdict was made the subject of official correspondence between the Japanese Legation and the Korean Foreign Office before Cho Pyong-sik resigned the portfolio of the latter, and that the Governor of Seoul was acting entirely *ultra vires* when he issued a notification forbidding the use of the notes in the capital. A strong protest has therefore been presented by the Japanese Consul to the Governor, and, at the same time, the Japanese Representative has addressed the Government in the sense that a promise given in writing by the Minister of Foreign Affairs in his official capacity, can not with any pretense of propriety be arbitrarily violated by a local official. Meanwhile it appears that the interdiet is operative in Seoul only, and that the Governor's example has not been followed in the provinces, up to the present at all events.

After all the talk we have heard about the appointment of a Russian high official—Mr. Waeber was generally designated—as foreign adviser to the Korean Government, it appears that the post is to be filled by a Belgian subject. There is a difference in the statements of the correspondents of the *Jiji* and the *Asahi*, so that whether the appointment has actually been made or whether it is only contemplated we can not be quite certain. At all events the decision seems to have been taken. It will be generally agreed that if Korea has any need of such an *employé*, a Belgian is a good and prudent choice.

NAVAL REVIEW.

There are to be naval manœuvres on a large scale in the Sea of Japan next April, and they will conclude with a grand review. Some 70 vessels are expected to take part in the manœuvres. They will assemble in the first place at Kure, and after the manœuvres the review will take place in Kobe. The Emperor is expected to be present, and His Majesty will subsequently visit the Osaka Exhibition.

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THE VENEZUELA CLAIMS.

It is characteristic of modern international methods that the blockading Powers in Venezuelan waters should refuse to have their claims classed equally with the claims of Powers which did not resort to force for purposes of collection. Certainly there would be plain justice in insisting that expenses incurred in the process of blockading should take precedence of all other claims, just as the officials engaged in administrating a bankrupt estate have to be paid before the creditors. But for the rest why should not all nationals that have suffered by Venezuela's defalcations be treated alike in the settlement? That would be only equitable, for there is no moral canon that gives preferential rights to a creditor simply because he has been the first to take the debtor by the throat. However, what is happening must of necessity have been anticipated, and Europe, we strongly suspect, will say that Mr. Bowen asked for too much when he sought to place on the same footing those that had asserted their claims by force of arms and those that had sat quietly looking on. In the meanwhile it will be observed that Lord Cranborne denies any Anglo-German alliance and declares that the two Powers are only cō-operating. Strange to relate, no one says a word about Italy. Italy is cōoperating just as vigorously as Germany and England, but her presence in the "galley" does not appear to attract any attention in Great Britain or even in America.

Cōoperation in China meant that a German Field Marshal commanded the allied forces. Did Sir Archibald Douglas command all the squadrons operating in Venezuelan waters? Was the analogy carried to that point? We do not think sō. If Sir Archibald, in his capacity of commander-in-chief, had approved of the bombardment of a Venezuelan fort, he would not have left the whole work to the German vessels alone. There is nothing to show that the squadron operated under one direction. The probability is that their cōoperation was limited to making a convenient partition of the coast in proportion to the blockading strength of each, that the German ships found an obdurate fort within their section, and that they proceeded to bombard it just as they would have bombarded any other obstacle encountered in the discharge of their duty.

THE GERMAN AND THE ENGLISH PRESS.

We really must be permitted to say one word more about the recent discussion on the subject of the German and the English press. It has been maintained, or at any rate suggested, by one side of the controversialists that the English press is to blame for having prevented an *entente* which might have grown out of the Venezuelan alliance. Evidently if the blame is to be apportioned in that fashion, we must assume that before English newspapers began to criticise the alliance as an unwise act of policy on Great Britain's part, German newspapers had abandoned the terrible campaign of virulent abuse and misrepresentation carried on by them throughout the course of the South-African war. But our latest exchanges show that no assumption could be further from the truth. American newspapers of January 3rd, re-produce German cartoons depicting Mr. Chamberlain's visit to South Africa—cartoons from *Ulk* (Berlin), from *Der Wahre Jacob* (Stuttgart) and from *Jugend* (Munich). It is unnecessary to enter into details. One is not disposed to attach cardinal importance to the contents of pictorial journals, but it can not be denied that they show the temper of the audience which they seek to attract. A most vindictive and abhorrent temper it is to be sure. In the face of these pictures there is no room to pretend that Germany's mood had softened prior to the Venezuelan affair. The old hatred was there, smouldering only in some quarters perhaps, but flaming fiercely in others. Evidently the time is still far distant when the two peoples can clasp hands sincerely. The more's the pity. But we must decline to credit the fiction that the English press is responsible for marring the beneficent potentialities of the Venezuela alliance. There were apparently no potentialities.

THE FAMINE IN THE NORTH.

Terrible suffering prevails in Awomori Prefecture in consequence of the failure of the harvest last year, and unless assistance be rendered and that promptly much loss of life must inevitably take place. The localities affected are eight of the ten rural districts comprising the prefecture, and of the eight, Sannohe, Kamikita, and Higashi Tsugaru, which are in the central and eastern parts, have been most heavily visited. Of the 44,000 persons who are now reported to be suffering from famine, 30,000 belong to those three districts. The Right Reverend Father Berlioz, whose letter to us from Gonohe (one of the affected localities) we publish this morning, gives harrowing details of the distress that exists and calls for aid which we doubt not will be readily furnished. We shall be happy to receive and forward to the Governor of Awomori Prefecture for distribution among the suffering people any sums that may be sent to this office.

An Imperial Ordinance has been issued directing that effect be given to the law which empowers the authorities to grant a respite from taxes to the inhabitants of districts suffering from the effect of natural calamities. Awomori prefecture will be immediately brought within the range of the Ordinance. The law in question provides that if, in consequence of some calamity, such as an earthquake or inundation, or in consequence of a failure of crops, the whole or part of a prefecture be judged incapable of paying taxes, these may be deferred for a period of three years. It is journalistically suggested that this timely ordinance might well be supplemented by an order temporarily relieving the people of Awomori prefecture from the burden of conscription.

Particulars are furnished of the number of persons reduced to a state of destitution in Aomori prefecture. The figures are these:

Higashi-Tsugaru district	8,207
Nishi-Tsugaru district	4,382
Minami-Tsugaru district	2,285
Kita-Tsugaru district	2,289
Naka-Tsugaru district	2,490
Sannohe district	13,323
Kami-Kita district	9,379
Shimo-Kita district	2,118
Hirosaka town	729
Aomori town	278

It will be seen that the Tsugaru district has suffered most, and that, immediately after it comes Sannohe. From the Kami-kita district news is received that two men have died of starvation and that many others are in a precarious condition. The people were living on grass and roots until recently, when a heavy fall of snow cut them off from that precarious form of sustenance. The local authorities are, of course, making all possible efforts to relieve the distress, but their resources are necessarily inadequate.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of the following sums on behalf of the famine-stricken people in Aomori Prefecture. The money will be sent to the Governor of the Prefecture in accordance with the suggestion contained in Bishop Berlioz' letter, printed in our issue of Tuesday. Bishop Berlioz wrote:—

"The Mayor makes a proposal which seems sensible enough. The donations received should be advantageously appropriated to opening a road that would place Herai-mura in communication with Gonohe, this latter village being the market-place of the region. The needy employed on that work would be thus enabled to earn a living, and, at the same time, that out-of-the-way place would be connected at last with the rest of the world."

	YEN.
The "Japan Mail" Office	20
F. Schroeder	5
E. V. Thorn	20
"Q."	50
Cash	20
"K. D. G."	30
"Heretic"	5
The Gijo Gion-sha and the King's Daughters of the Joshi Gakuin	26
"Alliance"	25

RESCUING THE WAIFS.

The December issue of *The National Waif's Magazine*—which is published in the interests of the National Incorporated Association for the reclamation of Destitute Waif Children, otherwise known as Dr. Barnardo's Homes—gives one an excellent idea of the wide-reaching influence for good which these Homes are now exerting in the sad grey underworlds of the great cities and towns of the British Isles. What a truly dreary picture of the bitterness of the struggle for life which confronts some unfortunates from the hour of their birth these artlessly told tales depict; how terribly hopeless and ineffectual even seem the labours of such men as Dr. Barnardo to relieve the hideous misery and stem the great tide of cruelty, want and woe. To strengthen the hands of such men should be the object of all who love "the little children," and we are glad that from Yokohama goes forth every year some small contributions towards the funds of Dr. Barnardo's homes. The offerings of the children attending the afternoon services at Christ Church in 1901 were acknowledged last year through our columns, and many of those who contributed will doubtless be glad to read the following extracts from the *National Waif's Magazine*:—

In our last issue a most useful Paper by Sister Alice on Boarding-Out appeared, and this has greatly interested many of my readers. But I should like to mention that the principal difficulty we experience in the extension of the Boarding-Out system is that of finding truly Christian homes, homes where there is real piety and where the children have a prospect of being brought up in the fear of God. In too many instances, for example, we have been compelled to discontinue Boarding-Out in some districts, and even to remove our children and to close the centre because of the rapid progress of High Church practices and extremist sacramentarian teaching.

We have had to make a rule that, wherevre the Confessional is set up, we must at once remove our children from the parish. In some of the village schools, to which children would go if Boarded-Out, a crucifix has been set up, or pictures of the Virgin Mary or of the saints. In some cases the children have been instructed to cross themselves in ront of such a crucifix or picture, and to bow or "cross themselves," as it is termed, on entering or leaving the church. I need hardly point out that our aims is to place all our Church of England children under Evangelical influences, and we will be no party to the propagation of Romish doctrine for practices.

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THE GUIDES QUESTION.

We read in several of the leading Tokyo journals that complete revision of the Guides' Regulations is contemplated. The pending Osaka Exhibition is the proximate cause of this measure, but every one knows, of course, that some improved means of controlling the guides has long been recognised as a desideratum. There are regulations already, but one of their defects is want of uniformity, different prefectures adopting different systems. We have not the smallest faith in the results of any revision of rules. So far as official control is concerned, there is little if anything to be desired. The guides are good enough *quâ* guides. If they are not better, it is because the occupation does not offer inducements to better men. No Japanese cherishing any legitimate ambition is likely to choose the profession of guide. It can not be a stepping stone, being regarded not only as a *pis aller* among callings but also as a distinctly demoralized manner of making a livelihood. For whatever the guides may say to the contrary, however vociferously they may protest, it is beyond all question that the major part of their earnings come from illegal commissions. There it is that reform is needed, and there it is that reform can never be effected by mere regulations. If there be any whole-hearted desire to improve the guides' system, the only course, in our opinion, is to place them entirely under the direction of the Welcome Society. Yet, even were that effected, immense difficulties would have to be overcome before the evil of squeezes could be eradicated.

The Government, it is stated, has issued to the various communal authorities, an injunction on the subject of guides. General instructions are given as to the line that should be pursued in licensing guides on account of the approaching Osaka Exhibition. In the first place, every applicant for a license is to be examined as to his knowledge of English, the Middle-School standard being taken. In the second place the pay and allowances of the guides are to be definitely fixed, and any demand for larger emoluments is to be strictly interdicted. Finally, it is provided that persons who have been engaged as guides for three years and who are still so engaged, need not pass any examination.

Of course these bases of regulation are very good, so far as they so, and they probably represent the limits of proper official interference in such matters. But they leave the real question untouched. The real question is the illegal squeezes exacted by guides from store-keepers to whom they introduce foreign tourists. That is an abuse not by any means limited to Japan, but we are inclined to think that it prevails in Japan more extensively than in Europe, first because the opportunities are larger, and secondly because few Japanese store-keepers are in a sufficiently independent position to resolutely refuse the guides' exactions. The opportunities are larger because the great majority of tourists visiting this country spend a certain sum upon so-called "works of art," and in doing so are brought into contact with petty tradesmen who are willing to bid heavily for their custom; and as to the Japanese store-keeper, it is only necessary to look at the commercial status of the average curio-dealer to know that he dare not defy the guides. This problem, we believe, can not be dealt with otherwise than by placing the whole body of guides completely under the supervision of the Welcome Society.

THE INDUSTRIES BANK OF JAPAN.

The half-yearly report of the Industries Bank, presented and passed at the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders on the 29th instant, was as follows:—

	Yen.
Gross Earnings for the half year	166,328
Disbursements	143,544
Net Profits	22,784
Government subsidy	41,994
Total available	64,778
To Reserve against losses	1,823
To Dividend (5 per cent. annually)	62,500
To Reserve for equalizing dividend	455

The President, Mr. Soyeda, in presenting the report, made a speech describing briefly the business of the Bank during the period under review. He alluded especially to the sale of 50 million *yen* worth of bonds to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on behalf of the Treasury, but his statements in that context did not contain anything novel. The Directors asked and obtained the shareholders' consent to certain changes of the regulations, the first being that the amount of debentures issued should not exceed 5 million *yen*; secondly, that the Bank's powers of dealing with its branches should be extended, and, thirdly, that the Directors should have discretion to extend the period of loans to a longer term than 5 years in special cases.

THE KUMAMOTO LEPER HOSPITAL.

It is scarcely necessary to say anything in commendation of the charity concert which took place on Friday evening at the British Legation for the benefit of the Kumamoto Leper Hospital. Commendation of the promised music is not in question of course: the programme speaks for itself. But the object of the charity may commend itself more strongly to our readers if we explain that the Kumamoto Leper Hospital has hitherto been maintained almost wholly with English money, the sum contributed by the Japanese themselves being altogether insignificant. The list of contributions from year to year shows that the charity commended itself to the middle and even the lower ranks of the British people, and that folks whose circumstances do not permit contributions of more than shillings, half-crowns or half-sovereigns, gave their mite readily on behalf of this work of mercy in far Japan. But such collections depend necessarily on the activity of the collectors. The fortunes of a leper hospital in Kumamoto can not be expected to remain an object of solicitude to ordinary Englishmen and English-women in Maidstone, or Torbay, or Hull or some other town remote from Far-Eastern interests. Last Fall, two of the most active collectors—ladies of course—happened to be incapacitated by illness, and so the Kumamoto Hospital, finding itself virtually cut off from supplies, fell into an embarrassed condition. Very little is needed to give to the afflicted inmates such small comfort as is possible, but if that little fails to come, the consequent suffering is none the less acute. That is why this concert is to be held. Very likely it will occur to some of our readers that in such matters the Japanese should be able to look after themselves and to care for their own unfortunates. Such a thought suggests itself easily. It suggested itself to us recently, when, in response to representations from Miss Riddell, whose whole strength seems to be devoted to this most merciful work, we addressed a personal appeal to several of the leading merchants of Japan, enclosing a full account of the Hospital and explaining its temporary embarrassment. With the exception of Baron Y. Iwasaki, who immediately sent 50 *yen*, not one of those to whom we wrote took even the trouble to notice our letter. Perhaps the stress of business is too great, perhaps its interests are too absorbing, to afford leisure for listening to such appeals even when they come from a personal friend. Whatever be the explanation, it is evident that one must neither be deterred by such incidents, nor forget that true charity has no concern with the example set by others.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1.—Trio for Piano, Violin and Cello in B flat major.....Beethoven
Dr. von Koeber, Herr Junker, and Mr. E. C. Davis.

2.—Song....."Das Zauberlied"...Meyer-Helmund
Mrs. W. T. Payne.

3.—Cello Solo....."Romanze".....Goltermann
Mr. E. C. Davis.

4.—Sonata for two Violins in G minor.....Händel
Herr Junker and Miss Koda.

PART II.

5.—Song....."Where'er She Walks".....Händel
Mr. N. G. Maitland.

6.—Piano Solo..."Aufforderung zum Tanz"...Weber
Professor Heydrick.

7.—Song...(*a*) "Die Mainacht ..... } Brahms
(*b*) "Traun! Bogen und Pfeil sind gut für den Feind... }
Mrs. W. T. Payne.

8.—Sonata for Violin and Piano in G major (First movement)...Rubenstein
Dr. von Koeber and Herr Junker.

We print to-day from the *Japan Register and Messenger* an article by Miss Riddell, of Kumamoto, with reference to the care of lepers. Miss Riddell tells her terrible story in the most effective fashion.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE AND VENEZUELA.

The best *exposé* we have seen of the Monroe Doctrine and its practical significance, is contained in the last issue of *The Independent*. It is from the pen of Mr. Paul S. Reinsh. We quote a portion:—

But, after all, the main point in this discussion is that the basis of the responsibility of a South American republic is different from that of a perfectly independent state. Such a state answers in the last resort by its territorial sovereignty, which, in the case of Latin America, is declared inviolable by the Monroe Doctrine. The United States by shielding the southern republics in this manner is itself assuming a certain responsibility for them. The policy of excluding all political influence of the European Powers would be purely a "dog in the manger" way of acting unless it rested upon vital national interests and unless it included the willingness to make up in some way for removing the ultimate political responsibility of the states affected.

The positive implications of the Monroe Doctrine which are involved in the above statement will be developed, not by theoretical discussion, but by gradually accumulating precedent. As to the exact form which they will assume as history unfolds itself if would be presumptuous to utter any predictions. But it admits of no doubt that in some way the United States will have to supply the ultimate responsibility for the states of the region that come within the purview of the Doctrine.

It might seem that the positive requirements of the Monroe Doctrine would be satisfied should the United States establish a universal system of arbitration with respect to European claims of all sorts against Latin American states. But by thus insisting upon arbitration the United States impliedly guarantees that arbitration shall be successful. Should the debtor state refuse or be unable to pay, execution should then be levied upon it by the creditor nation; given all the principles of the Doctrine, war would not be a proper means of execution, but

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there should be a peaceful levy upon the various sources of state income. It is, however, entirely conceivable that these sources should be entirely inadequate to pay heavy claims incurred during protracted revolution and at the same time to afford the necessary means for carrying on the administration of the state. How could the creditor state in such a case satisfy its adjudicated claims without taking over and reforming the total administration? It is certainly not fanciful to suppose such a condition, which, in fact, in view of the constantly increasing amount of foreign investments and the absence of political ability in some of the republics, is ever more likely to come about.

A situation of this kind would present a crucial question. Should the United States allow a foreign creditor nation to enforce its right by virtually taking charge of the administration or by enforcing a mortgage right on land, or should the American Republic itself assume the financial responsibility for a state that had shown itself completely unfit to meet the rudimental requirements of civilized government? The only other alternative would be to condemn the region occupied by the offending state to continued barrenness as far as economic development is concerned.

In discussing this question we must always distinguish between those Latin American states which lie in the torrid zone and those which occupy the more temperate regions. The latter, like Mexico and the states of the southern half of the continent, have succeeded in establishing efficient government, and while they are attracting large numbers of European immigrants and great amounts of capital they are well able to take care of their own interests, to meet their obligations, and to defend themselves. But among the states of the northern half of South America there are some who have fallen into a condition approaching constant revolution and bankruptcy. It is here, too, that the actual interests of the United States are strongest, on account of the proximity of these states to the route of the canal. If the positive elements of the Monroe Doctrine are to ripen anywhere into a financial protectorate, it is here that this likelihood is most considerable, as a similar protectorate by a foreign Power would be looked upon as coming very near to interfering with the special sphere of our most cherished interests.

HONGKONG AND THE GOLD STANDARD.

Speaking at the twelfth ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders in the National Bank of China, Ltd., the Chairman, Mr. C. Ewens said:—

I can hardly close without referring to the burning question of an ever-dropping silver currency. With the probable adoption of a gold basis in Singapore it is high time that Hongkong should carefully reconsider its position. I know that there is a great deal to be said upon both sides of the question, and there are strong vested interests still in favour of continuing on a silver basis, but if the inhabitants of Hongkong were polled to-morrow I believe that four out of five Europeans would vote for a fixed standard. Until we have a fixed standard we can never expect to attract home capital to Hongkong.

Another item in Mr. Ewens' speech of interest to Yokohama readers is:—

The unfortunate fraud on the part of our compradore in Yokohama is much to be deplored, and as he hung himself in gaol it was hopeless to discover how he made away with the proceeds of his defalcations, and therefore the only proper course was to at once write it off from reserve, as we have done. I should, however, mention that this agency has been withdrawn.

ORDERS.

It is said to be in contemplation to confer the First Class Order of the Rising Sun on the Premiers, Foreign Ministers and Ministers of the Household in Italy, Belgium, France and Russia, in consideration of the cordial reception given to Prince Komatsu in these countries when His Imperial Highness visited Europe on the occasion of the Coronation. There is also talk of conferring high orders upon Professor Westlake and Holland, in recognition of the attitude publicly taken by them at the time of the China-Japan War.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

American journalists seem to have been greatly impressed by the Delhi Durbar. The New York papers just to hand all contain editorial reference to it. The *Tribune* writes:—

This stately pageant just outside the storied walls of the Mogul capital is far more than a perfunctory proclaiming of Edward VII. as Emperor of India. It is a practical confirmation of the rule which holds Sikh and Ghoorka, Rajput and Mahratta, Pathan and Bengali, Punjabi and Parsee, Hindoo and Moslem all together in peace and harmony, and which so adapts itself to the individual passions and predilections of each as to make itself acceptable and beneficent to all. It would be too much to say that British rule in India is free from faults, and from grave faults. But when we consider the complexity of the task and the number and magnitude of the difficulties which beset it, we must confess that such success as has been attained by it is worthy to rank among the governmental wonders of the world.

The grand assault-at-arms which took place at Delhi on Jan. 3, attracted great attention partly by reason of the review of the veterans of the great Mutiny. Fifty years separate us from those stirring times and the ranks of the survivors have been greatly thinned by death. Lord Curzon and the Duke of Connaught spoke to each man as he came up to the flagstaff. To one blind old native, who was led up to him Lord Curzon said: "I am sorry you could not see the durbar." To which the reply came: "Thank you, sir, I felt it."

Truly it can not be said that Germany has thus far made a success of the business of colonizing. Recent statistics show that there are only 3,762 German subjects in all the German colonies, inclusive of officials, officers, missionaries, women and children, and that each colonist costs the mother country 1,428 dollars (gold) per annum. If in the course of the last five years the colonial trade increased from eleven millions of marks to twenty-five millions, the colonial appropriations grew in the same time from seven millions to nineteen millions.

In view of recent discussions in Yokohama the following extract from a letter of the New York *Tribune's* London correspondent should prove of interest:—

Close constructionists have been startled by the reports that the Athanasian creed has been sung in Westminster Abbey without the damnatory clauses, and that it was omitted altogether at the high festival service at St. Margaret's, Westminster. The Ritualists are appalled by the boldness with which the Bishop of London, whom they considered one of their sympathizers, has complained of the appearance of Roman doctrine and practice in a few extreme churches. He has given three warnings to the vicar of St. Michael's, Shoreditch, to refrain from the employment of the rosary in the pulpit and the use of devotions to the Virgin, invocation to the saints and service benediction with the reserved Sacrament, and threatens to prosecute him immediately under the Clergy Discipline Act.

The behaviour of the Japan Railway Company regarding the tenders for engines recently asked for is a matter with which we do not propose to occupy much space in our columns, though it promises to become the basis of considerable excitement in Japanese business circles. The sum of the matter is that the Railway Company, having invited tenders from a small number of eminent firms, all constructively recognised as equally trustworthy, finally gave the contract to the highest tenderer. On the side of the Company it is replied that what they invited were not really tenders but only estimates, and that they reserved to themselves the right of discrimination without regard to cost. This we learn from the *Jiji Shimpo*. But the same paper publishes the document originally addressed by the Company to the firms concerned, and from that document we learn that tenders were explicitly called for. What the difference would be between tenders and estimates for such a purpose, we can not pretend to guess. Doubtless the whole question will receive the full investigation that it merits.

Many banquets have taken place in Tokyo during the past few days and others are announced as imminent. Tokyo's winter is a very gay season as a general rule, and this winter seems to be exceptionally so.

A man named Murakoshi Koju has been arrested in the Nihon Bashi district of Tokyo for forging Russian rouble notes. It appears that Murakami, whose profession is that of printer, was present in Chili during a part of the Boxer campaign. Three rouble notes came into his possession, and observing their crude manner of manufacture, he conceived the idea of counterfeiting them. By way of preliminary he changed two of the notes in Yokohama, and having thus assured himself of their currency, he set to work, with the assistance of an accomplice, to make counterfeits with the third for model. The face-plate had been finished and that for the reverse was in hand when the police interfered.

A telegram to the Foreign Office from New York reports the silk market firm owing to news from Europe that supplies are small. The same telegram reports cotton rising, and gives details of price and quantities on hand or to arrive, but the figures are not decipherable.

New York telegraphs that the Japanese Government has ordered from Philadelphia a quantity of X-rays apparatus to be utilized in the Government mints for detecting coins swallowed by workmen. Some one's inventive faculty must have been busy when that yarn was invented.

The House of Representatives in Washington is said to have passed the bill for placing the Philippine currency on a gold basis but no official news of the fact has been received. This matter has been the subject of some controversy in America, but there never could have been any serious doubt about the Government's action. China is getting gradually hemmed in. From every side the gold barrier is being raised against her, and soon she will be completely isolated from the rest of the civilized world. Will she welcome the new barriers or will she desire to pull them down.?

The Emperor of Japan has presented the Chrysanthemum to the King of Saxony. This fact has not yet appeared in the *Official Gazette*, and is given by Tokyo journals as a rumour.

FAR FROM THE CITY.

I long for the clang and the whirr of the cars,
For I miss the sharp, nerve-startling ring,
And the slide of the wheels on the cold polished steels,
As droning and humming they sing.

'Tis the pulse and the voice of a work-a-day world,
How it spurs on the blood and the brain!
To be hurrying along, to be one of the throng,
So eagerly struggling for gain.

The hills round about me like sentinels stand,
And the green meadows, peacefully lie,
Of Earth's beauties in spring, many poets may sing—
I long for the crowd hurrying by.

"OPALIA."

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THE FOREIGN-CAPITAL QUESTION.

AS might have been expected, the *Jiji Shimpo* takes a broadand liberal view of the foreign-capital question. The matter had not previously been noticed in our contemporary's editorial columns—that is to say, not previously so far as the present example is concerned, for, of course, the general problem had often been discussed by the *Jiji*. It will not be necessary to enter into any detailed *resumé* of our contemporary's arguments. Their gist is that while all such financial transactions ought to be conducted with due regard to proper conditions, the transactions themselves are not only legitimate, but also essential to the country's material development. The article concludes by some strong animadversions on the pusillanimity of Japanese who would argue that their people are not able to take care of themselves in commercial or industrial contact with foreigners, and would virtually relegate their country to the rank of Turkey or Egypt, where the national strength does not suffice to assert the sovereign rights of independence.

The only leading journal that has not yet spoken on this subject is the *Kokumin Shimbun*. We have heard what the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Asahi* and the *Jiji* have to say, but the *Kokumin* still refrains from speaking, though there need not be the smallest doubt about the line it would take. In fact, it may be confidently asserted that the overwhelming mass of intelligent public opinion is radically opposed to the strangely timid doctrine enunciated by the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The truth is, however, and every one (we imagine) now recognises it to be the truth, that the recent anti-foreign-capital agitation was not based on any genuine conviction of the dangers so vociferously alleged, but that it had its origin in interested motives and in political passions. There are some powerful business-men in Tokyo, men occupying prominent positions in the world of finance as well as in that of politics and society, who desire to see the Tokyo Electric Railway swallowed up by the Horse Tram Company. Hundreds of thousands, we may even say millions, of *yen* are involved in the question, for if the swallowing process were effected on the lines indicated by the Horse Tram Company, its directors and shareholders might indeed go on their way rejoicing. Therefore a strenuous effort has been made to excite a spurious public sentiment against the Electric Company, and since the instincts of business competitors are prone to obey the dictates of immediate expediency without any regard for national welfare, it happens that in this case a doctrine has been vehemently formulated which, were it accepted by the public, would not only brand Japan as altogether incompetent to pursue the high destiny apparently awaiting her, but would also reduce to a snail's pace the progress of her material development. Then there has been the political bias; the anxiety to fix upon the present Cabinet, especially upon its financial member, some stigma of a thoroughly discrediting nature, and so the campaign has been directed towards convicting him of national robbery because he happens to be interested in an enterprise with which foreign capitalists had been invited to associate themselves. The pens of the leading Tokyo journals were scarcely needed to prick this bubble. We are glad, nevertheless, that they have pricked it. For at times it must have occurred to casual onlookers that the methods of competition in Japan are exceedingly dangerous, and that industrial, commercial or political rivals do not hesitate to employ weapons such as must seriously discredit the country. If there be any ignorance or any prejudice still lingering in remote quarters, such ignorance and such prejudice are dragged out into the light of day, and made to assume proportions of almost alarming magnitude, the impression conveyed to outsiders being that Japanese society is still honeycombed with bigoted and narrow-minded doctrines handed down from the dark ages, and that the country's brilliant progress in modern times has been merely accidental and superficial. But we see now that although these unscrupulous manœuvres are still practised, although interested appeals are still made to false patriotism by men whose care for their country's real welfare is conspicuously small, the great bulk of public opinion sways in the right direction, and the nation declines to be diverted from its route to prosperity by self-seeking guides

CHINA AND GOLD.

IT is at all events satisfactory to observe that Shanghai is not following the example of perfunctory Hongkong with regard to the silver problem. Two clever and carefully reasoned essays have been published in the model settlement, one by Mr. E. S. LITTLE, who contends strongly for immediate adoption of the gold standard, the other by Mr. G. B. PALMER, who takes the opposite view. Naturally neither of these talented writers has much to urge that is novel. They discuss a subject which has already been worn threadbare by controversy. Mr. LITTLE devotes some space to proving that Japan was not better situated for recourse to gold in 1898 than China is in 1903. That is true in one sense, namely, that the balance of trade is, on the wholly, less unfavourable to China than to Japan, and that, consequently, the nightmare of an annual outflow of gold need not disturb her so greatly. There is another analogy between the financial situations of the two States, namely, that Chinese Viceroys are beginning to make issues of unsecured notes, just as Japanese *Daimyo* did before the Restoration, and that if such proceedings continue, the Central Government, should it seriously put its hand to the plough of currency reform, will find itself obliged to accept responsibility for a mass of depreciated and discredited paper, just as was the case with the Central Government in Japan when feudalism fell. But these things are only the fringe of the problem. When we come down to bedrock, two cardinal requirements are found: one is that China should proceed to provide herself with a national currency; the other that she should furnish herself with a gold reserve. At present she has no national currency: she has only a multitude of local currencies, related to each other by such confused ratios that bullion may be said to be the sole universal medium of exchange. Silver weighing so much is given as the equivalent of such and such goods. So long as that is the case, the central Government can not possibly declare any fixed value for the white metal in terms of the yellow. An obvious desideratum is to establish a national system of coinage in which silver shall be relegated to the place of token money, not directly exchangeable for gold, redeemable notes and gold coins alone being legal tender for amounts above a certain minimum. Even from a technical point of view that is a stupendous undertaking. And evidently it must be preceded by the accumulation of a gold reserve. Unless the gold be at hand, gold notes and gold coins—the latter would probably be little needed—can not be issued. Thus the very first step to be taken towards this big reform is to obtain a store of the yellow metal. If the Chinese Government had national banks that could finance the export trade, and draw from that source a steady annual supply of gold, as Japan did prior to the war of 1894-5, a beginning might be made at once. Of course there are many disadvantages incidental to such a system, but they are not overwhelming. At any rate no other certain method of procuring gold presents itself except a foreign loan. Some critics appear to think that China could not obtain a foreign loan of sufficient magnitude. If not, then the consummation of the gold-standard project must be postponed for many a year, postponed, that is to say, until the few millions of taels annually obtainable by officially financing exports, accumulate to sufficient dimensions. When could that result be obtained? Perhaps in twenty years; perhaps in thirty. Japan's experience seemed to point to an even longer time when the Chinese Indemnity suddenly came to her aid. In 1894 her reserve of hard money, accumulated with much toil during 13 years, was not a moiety of what she needed to adopt the gold standard.

But without dwelling on these details we desire to call attention to one feature which does not seem to have been seriously considered by either of the essayists above alluded to. Yet it is a vital feature. Why should China, from her own point of view, adopt the gold standard? What is the use of arguing about the methods she should choose in pursuit of reform until she is herself persuaded of the necessity of reform? Can she be persuaded? That is

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what we greatly doubt. For the only region in which the need of reform makes itself severely felt is the region of foreign trade. Were she completely severed from commercial intercourse with outside nations, China could fare well enough with her present system of currency, clumsy and antiquated as it is. The payment of the Indemnity and of her foreign debts would cause some embarrassment, but we suspect that, being human after all, she would gleefully embrace that embarrassment did it result from conditions fatal to the continued prosecution of foreign commerce. If the Representatives of the Treaty Powers approached her with an academical treatise about the advantages of a stable currency, and if the only direction from which they could draw striking illustrations of the disadvantages of instability happened to be her foreign trade with all its vexations, its complications, and its international troubles, might not her statesmen, in their heart of hearts, welcome this providential obstacle to the prosperity of the treaty-port alien, and pray for a still heavier and more rapid depreciation of the white metal? It seems to us that such a temper is to be apprehended.

THE ETHICAL QUESTION.

IT is curious to observe what very intemperate writing has been prompted by the affair of the ethical text book at Dr. INOUYE ENRYO's School. One would suppose that the Educational Department had committed some unpardonable sin, so severe are the comments penned by certain newspapers. There is, in our opinion, reasonable ground for protest on behalf of the students whose certificates of graduation were deprived of their main validity because of a teacher's laches. The students themselves had not done anything meriting such a fate, so far as we can see. They entered the school originally on the assumption that by graduating successfully they would become eligible for certain positions without undergoing a competitive examination, as is necessary in the case of candidates not possessing such a qualification. They pursued those studies diligently and they finally passed out, earning a *de facto* title to be employed as instructors in Middle or Normal Schools. But of that title they were suddenly deprived on the discovery that one of their teachers had failed to supplement with qualificatory remarks a passage in an ethical text book which they had used. The passage itself was not condemned. It had, in fact, been examined and approved by the Educational Authorities. Such examination did not mean, however, that the doctrine embodied in the passage was to be served out undiluted to students. Alcohol a great many degrees above proof may be sound enough in itself, yet anyone giving it to young people to drink without water would be blameworthy. The teacher had incurred that blame, but it seems to have been an excess of discipline to visit his offense on the head of the graduates. Some may take the view that these graduates, having possibly imbibed false doctrine, were not fitted to become teachers, and that it was an act of necessary prudence to deprive them of the opportunity. But they have not been deprived of the opportunity. They are still eligible for teacher's posts if they succeed in a competitive examination. All that they have lost is the title to such posts without further examination. Hence we are at a loss to understand either the justice or the rationale of the sentence pronounced against them. But for the rest we fail to see how the Educational Department could have acted differently. It certainly could not continue to put its official *cachet* on the school as a place where young men's parents might send them with full confidence that no erroneous principles of morality would be imparted to them. Purely private schools are at liberty to teach any systems of ethics they please, within the limits of law, but a public school officially recognised possesses the State's constructive authority for all the instruction given in its class rooms. It would have been manifestly impossible for the Educational Department to continue that authority to Dr. INOUYE's School. Hence the sanction was very properly withdrawn, and the School falls to the rank of a private institution. That issue probably spells ruin, yet if any one undertakes to show that a more lenient measure would have been suited to the circumstances, he will find the demonstration very difficult.

AN EPISODE.

ALREADY the coming general elections have furnished a striking episode. Mr. SHIMADA SABURO is the central figure. Threatened with the loss of his seat for Yokohama, which he has held ever since the Diet first became an accomplished fact, he has fallen into a condition which can not be described otherwise than as hysterical. He has openly declared, and has embodied the declaration in a letter to Count OKUMA, that the contest now about to take place in Yokohama is a contest between righteousness and money. Mr. KATO TAKAAKI is the opponent against whom this allegation is formulated. The fact at once reduces Mr. SHIMADA's pretence to an absurdity, for the nation knows, as a matter of absolute certainty, that wherever Mr. KATO is concerned no corrupt practices of any kind will be tolerated, still less deliberately adopted. What is to be said, then, of Mr. SHIMADA SABURO? He has long been a prominent figure in the political world and in the ethical world. He possesses a wonderful gift of eloquence which, in the Diet's early days, often charmed the Lower House, and which has been constantly exercised in the cause of Christian propagandism and philanthropic effort. For many years no man was more respected. The mere fact of association with his name sufficed to secure public confidence for any enterprise or any cause. But that is no longer the case. He has apparently fallen from his high place. It would seem that he is one of those to whom the advent of years brings only discontent with the world they live in. That chagrined mood has long been evident in the columns of his newspaper, the *Mainichi Shimbun*. We are aware that Mr. SHIMADA's name has frequently been disconnected with matter appearing in the *Mainichi* and that his responsibility for its contents is often disavowed. But that is not comprehensible. No such relations of independence ever exist between the staff of any Japanese journal and its proprietor as those that occasionally exist between the proprietors of English journals and their staffs. Moreover the British public would curtly decline to credit any proprietor who pretended to disapprove of his editor's writings while leaving him in discharge of editorial functions. Mr. SHIMADA must reconcile himself, therefore, to be regarded as the *Mainichi Shimbun*, and to be identified with its writings. What that means very few foreigners are fully qualified to judge, nor need we here say more than that the *Mainichi* is in a state of waging perpetual warfare against some person or some thing, and that although few of its campaigns are conducted with the almost delirious passion that marked its crusade against Mr. HOSHI TORU up to the moment of IBA SOTARO's appearance upon the scene, it must be frankly described as a journal which finds the time completely out of joint and is thoroughly dissatisfied with things as they exist. In short, we take the *Mainichi's* columns to be the seed-plot of Japanese socialism and Mr. SHIMADA SABURO to be the first leader of Japanese socialists. Whether that is a reproach to him or a credit, we do not wish to express any view. Every man is entitled to his own opinions, and it is indeed a poor order of mind that can not acknowledge the possible justice of another's convictions. But certainly no little interest attaches to the fact that socialism in Japan should find its first leader in such a conspicuous figure as Mr. SHIMADA SABURO. The socialistic element in Kanagawa prefecture recognise him as their chief and are said to be organizing their strength to support him at the coming elections. The would be an insignificant element were not many of the labouring class connected with them, and under any circumstances they will scarcely make themselves greatly felt for the present at all events. But as observers of the times we have to recognise the existence of such an element and to identify the figure that stands at its head.

In the midst of its embarrassments over finding enough officers for ships in commission, the U.S. Navy Department has received an urgent appeal from Rear-Admiral Robley D. Evans, commanding the Asiatic Naval Station, for a sufficient commissioned personnel. Admiral Evans' letter, which was written on Nov. 29, shows that he is seriously hampered by a shortage of officers on the ships of his several squadrons.

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THE BOOKSHELF.

Flower o' the Corn, by S. R. Crockett; London, Messrs. Macmillan & Co., Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.

For once we are not inclined to complain of Mr. Crockett's prolific output, for the volume under review is written in his better style while the story he has to tell is worth the telling. It is a distinct relief after the theatrical exaggerations of such a book as *The Firebrand* to take up *Flower o' the Corn*, though both come from the same pen. Faults of style it has in plenty; mannerisms inseparable from all that Mr. Crockett writes abound in every chapter, yet the impression left by the whole book is very pleasant. The story belongs to the days of Marlborough and Louis the Great and deals with the adventures of a certain winsome lassie, whose father is chaplain to one of Marlborough's Scottish regiments, and a young officer on the personal staff of the conqueror of Blenheim. These young persons meet for the first time among the cornfields of Brabant, but most of their adventures befal them in a mountain village in the high Cevennes where the Camisard peasants made such a bold fight for religious liberty, to the despair of Madame de Maintenon and His Most Christian Majesty. What part the hero and heroine took in this struggle we leave Mr. Crockett to tell, merely remarking that, although sudden death as a spy comes very near the hero, all works out satisfactorily in the end.

Cecilia, a Romance of Modern Rome, by F. Marion Crawford; London, Messrs. Macmillan & Co., Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

In this book Mr. Crawford is back among his well-loved Italian haunts. His subject, atmosphere, and surroundings being congenial, it naturally follows that he has turned out a volume interesting in its story and charming in its craftsmanship. Cecilia is a young lady of high degree who lives a considerable part of her life in the world of dreams. Slowly she evolves from the visions of the night a connected story and in so doing resurrects the long-forgotten history of the last of the Vestal Virgins of ancient Rome. Curiously enough a young Italian Naval officer passes through a similar experience: his dreaming leads him into building up the same scenes imagined by Cecilia—hence the story which Mr. Crawford has to tell. As we have said, he tells it well, arresting the attention from the beginning and keeping it to the close.

Proverbs and Common Sayings from the Chinese, by Arthur H. Smith. Shanghai, the American Presbyterian Mission Press.

The fame of the Rev. Arthur H. Smith as a Sinologue is wide-spread. In this volume he presents us with a new and revised edition of a book which has already found a place on the bookshelves of all interested in the ancient wisdom of the Chinese. Had not the unfortunate Boxer rising of 1900 brought about a fire which destroyed Mr. Smith's library, the book would, we learn, have been entirely recast and enlarged on a very extensive plan. We are very thankful, however, for the book as it stands. The pity is that the printer did not employ a type or use a paper worthier of the theme. This is a real disappointment, for the binding is excellent.

JAPAN BREWERY CO., LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of this company was held on Monday. Mr. J. Dodds presided and there were also present Messrs. F. S. James (managing director), T. B. Glover, O. Haynemann, C. B. Bernard, M. Russell, H. J. Snow, F. Retz, and the Secretary, Mr. J. H. Dinsdale.

The Sectetary read the notice of meeting.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—This is the fifth general meeting of the company held for the purpose of presenting to the shareholders the report and accounts for the nine months ended 31st December, 1902, but before I proceed to ask you to pass them, I wish to explain some of the reasons why the financial year and date of general meeting have been changed. You are all probably aware that the demand for beer during the winter months is not so large as during the Spring and Summer, so that in making up the accounts to 30th September and 31st March, we got a very uneven division of profits. The first six months always showed a much larger balance of profits than the following six months, and when considering the question of an interim dividend, it was difficult to estimate accurately what would be a safe sum to set aside for that purpose. This has especially been the case since the excise tax was enforced, and although your directors have for some time had the change under consideration it was difficult to alter it till this term. Another reason which makes the change desirable, is that all the other breweries in Japan close their accounts at the end of the year, so by coming into line with them, we shall be able to form an estimate of the accounts, and watch the development of the business. In June last our chief brewer Mr. Kayser resigned and in his place we appointed Mr. Eichelberg, who for some years has ably filled the position of assistant. This gentleman has the full confidence of your directors; and since the beer brewed by him has been placed on the market, nothing but the highest praise has been received as to its quality, both from Japanese and European consumers. Sales during the period under review have been disappointing, inasmuch as they have not increased over the previous year, but this is accounted for by the continued depression of trade in the country. With a freer circulation of money and a more prosperous outlook, the consumption would doubtless largely increase. The advance in the price of beer for home consumption, which it was confidently expected would have been arranged last year, has not materialised. The falling-off in demand and severe competition have been the causes, and unfortunately there is not much chance in the near future of this being accomplished, as a new brewery is in course of erection in Tokyo and its beer is expected to be placed on the market during the coming summer, which means still greater competition. The imposition of the excise tax has told heavily on the net result of the working account. As previously stated, it has not been possible to advance the price of beer, therefore the whole of the tax has to be taken off the profits made on current prices. The business of the company is on a sound and healthy basis, but it will be seen from the accounts that although the profits made by the brewery are not far short of previous years, the excise tax has absorbed no less a sum than *yen* 83,000. It is hoped that the Osaka Exhibition may have a stimulating influence on the beer industry, and steps have been taken to bring "Kirin" prominently before the public in the Exhibition grounds. I think it may only be right to say that, had the accounts been held over for the next 3 months, the profit might have shown a reduced instead of an increased amount, as these months, January to March, have usually proved the unfortunate months of the year. These now go into the average of the current year, which I am glad to say has opened satisfactorily. You will notice from the accounts that it would have been possible to have declared a larger dividend than *yen* 5 per share, but taking into consideration that the paid up capital of the company is hardly adequate, unless helped by other means, your directors have thought it desirable to add to the reserve fund, which they hope to continue to build up as opportunities offer. These are all the remarks which your directors and myself thought necessary to add in explanation of the report, but if any shareholder wishes for any further information I shall be glad to answer any questions.

There being no questions the Chairman proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Retz seconded.

This was carried.

The Chairman said there was no further business; no new appointment had to be made as to either directors or auditors. Mr. Hall had been reappointed, and Mr. Cox-Edwards was elected in place of Mr. Guinness. There remained a quorum of directors according to the Articles. The motion just now passed gave sanction to the dividend, for which warrants would be issued to-morrow.

The meeting then terminated.

CONCERT AT THE SECOND HIGH SCHOOL.

It has always seemed to us a subject for regret that few attempts have been made to cultivate a taste for music, in as far as it is possible to do so, at the High Schools and at the Universities. Last year the Second High School took the matter up in right earnest, purchased instruments and employed an instructor. A certain number of the students became very enthusiastic and practised most regularly month after month, with the result that on January 31st the Daini Kōtō Gakkō Musical Society was able to hold its first concert. Thanks to the very able assistance given by certain musical members of the foreign community and by Miss Mochidate, a young lady who has studied music under foreign superintendence for many years, the concert was a great success. It was very largely attended by the students of the school and a few favoured outsiders. The large school hall has never been fuller, probably not less than a thousand young men were present. Several items on the programme had to be dropped, however, owing to illness Among them were the cornet performances promised by the Rev. J. M. Stick. Mr. Stick has lately arrived in Sendai. He was for some time a bandmaster in America, and his playing is said to be something quite out of the common, and since he has brought with him a very first-class instrument, lovers of music in Sendai looked forward to a rare treat on this occasion. But their disappointment was considerably lessened by the appearance on the platform of another new arrival, Mrs. Gerhard, who sang two songs in exquisite taste and whose voice is melodious and well trained. Mr. Oscling's rendering of "My Ain Countrie" was thoroughly Scotch. Among the extras we must not omit to mention a song by the Rev. H. S. Jeffreys, whose Chinese name, so familiar to some readers of this journal, had to be interpreted to the students, as is the case with not a few of such titles assumed by Occidentals. Mr. Jeffreys surpassed himself in this song. Few of the audience had any idea that his voice had such a compass as displayed on this occasion or that the words *salve regina* could be rendered with such thrilling effect. We trust that this promising opening performance of the Sendai Musical Society will be followed by many such musical treats. and thus will the monotonous, somewhat dreary life of a sleepy provincial town be relieved of a certain amount of its tediousness. To lovers of music to live outside the musical world is the hardest to bear of all forms of banishment. What moments in life are there to be compared to those spent in listening to the suggestive, dreamy strains of an exquisitely rendered musical composition? What language is there to be compared to that which our finest instruments are made to speak by great performers? Once heard, these things are dreamt about and longed for again and again. And if life is to be measured by the amount of pleasure we enjoy, then the cycle of a Cathay where there is no music is worth far less than a few hours of transport in some musical paradise which once or twice in our lives we have been privileged to enter.—*Contributed.*

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THE STORM.

A PARABLE FOR THE (JAPAN) TIMES.

A professor got into his boat one day,
Heigho, Chiggorleth!
The pupils with him, and sailed away,
With a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
The rain it gently falleth.

His name was—Noah, (as I confess),
Hay owe, and the Aleph!
He was out on an Aleph hunt, I guess,
With the L M N and a T and an S.
Rifle tubes and Joseph.

Now a storm arose as quick as a wink,
As the orator deponeth,
And before you knew—what do you think?
A rimble, ramble, rumble O,
He casts up all he owneth.

Professor he frowned and he said to the sea,
Heigho, no more death!
"You're H_2O: just still you be!"
With a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
Heigho, Chiggorleth!

Now in the Parliament very soon,
How much affordeth?
The storm arose like a great typhoon,
With a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
Indeed, a question for death!

The man appeared got up with care,
Heigho, that's orchid.
"Don't spend too much, or there's none to spare"
For a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
And the lightning that's forked.

The little boat was changed to a ship,
Heigho, for battle!
But there's many a slip 'twixt cup and lip,
With a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
"And Japs are kittle cattle!"

A man got up and he said a word:
No wrath he nurseth!
Then all was peaceful—at least I've heard
Of a rimble, ramble, rumble, O,
That very soon disperseth.

So now my meaning's very plain,
Cobdens, Brights, and Cobbetts!
Pay up your taxes and pay again,
With a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
Or else its a case for Roberts (police)

When we want cash we raise a row (war)
Heigho, the boodle!
And then we get it—and that is how! (that's what for)
With a rimble, ramble, rumble O,
Oh, I am not a noodle.

And the storm goes down, as it surely will;
It never rains but it poureth!
So every body just work with a will,
And a rimble, ramble, rumble O!
The truth, it never boreth.

LAW CASES.

TH. DE BERIGNY v. YAMADA KEISUKE.

As will be recalled, says the *Kobe Herald*, Mr. Berigny lodged a petition in the Kyoto Chiho Saibansho against Mr. Yamada, claiming cancellation of a judgment given by arbitrators appointed by the Kobe Chamber of Commerce (Japanese) and the Kyoto Court dismissed the case on the 7th October, 1902, with costs.

Mr. Berigny then appealed to the Osaka Appeal Court. Mr. Berigny applies for reversal of the original judgment and prays for an order that the arbitration award delivered by the Kobe Chamber of Commerce on the 5th June, 1902, in a dispute between Th. de Berigny and Yamada Keisuke regarding a transaction for some railway sleepers in which he was directed to pay *yen* 12,522.60 with interest at 6 per cent. since the 2nd October, 1901, and to bear one half the costs shall be cancelled, and that costs of the action shall be borne by respondent.

The hearing of the appeal was to take place on January 29th; but Mr. Hiraoka Manjiro, who is acting for appellant in the absence of Dr. Masujima in the United States, was compelled by illness to put in a written application for an adjournment.

Counsel for respondent (Mr. Okada) offered no objection and the Court adjourned the case *sine die*.

DAMAGE TO A JINRIKISHA.

On Monday in the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kano, the hearing took place of an appeal lodged by Mr. E. B. Jones against the decision of the lower Court in the suit brought by him against Mr. C. T. Benney, No. 33, Yokohama.

Mr. Ideura for the appellant asked that the decision of the lower Court be quashed and the respondent ordered to pay damages amounting to *yen* 20 with costs. Counsel stated that on the 28th June, 1902, the respondent's carriage collided with the appellant's jinrikisha in the street in front of No. 81, Yamashita-cho, causing damage to the jinrikisha to the amount claimed. An action was subsequently instituted in the Yokohama Local Court, which was, however, dismissed on the 14th November last.

Mr. Benny stated that he was not responsible for the collision, inasmuch as both the carriage and the groom were hired by Mrs. Hall. To a question of the Court, he replied that he had paid the wages of Sugiuara Tatsunosuke, the betto, simply for the purpose of saving trouble to Mrs. Hall.

Arguments were then heard and the Court announced that judgment would be given on the 6th inst.

THWAITES & CO. VERSUS SATO.

On Monday in the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kano, the hearing was resumed of an action, adjourned from December 19th, brought by Mr. Sato Rennosuke of Tokyo against Mr. C. Thwaites, No. 61, Yokohama.

The Court anounced that Mr. Kobayashi Taichiro and Mr. Tamura Nariyoshi of Tokyo had been appointed to give to the court expert testimony on the following points:—(1) the expense involved in giving performances in a theatre in Tokyo; (2) whether the number of visitors is previously estimated in giving any performances; (3) whether the Kinki Kan could accommodate 2,000 visitors, and if, not, about how many visitors could be seated.

Mr. Noro Takenosuke was called as a witness and deposed, in reply to the Court, that eleven kinds of illusion performances were given at the Tokyoza theatre, and further stated, that one of the illusions was not given, owing to the lack of a sufficient number of female performers.

Mr. Ideura applied to the Court for the examination of Mr. T. Southall, the Manager of the Davis Illusion Co. who has recently arrived at Yokohama from Hongkong.

The Court granted the application and further proceedings were adjourned until the 20th inst.

OKANO v. MENDELSON.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, on Feb. 3rd before Judge Kato, the claim for payment of *yen* 2,859.88 with 6 per cent. interest, and costs, preferred by Okano Yasuhei against Mendelson Bros. of 273 Yamashitacho, came up for hearing.

Plaintiff stated that in the name of Akai Yoshisaburo, he sold 387 *hiki* of Kobai Kaiki, in several instalments, at the price of *yen* 2,859.88, to defendants. The goods in question were duly delivered to Yoshikawa Enkichi, in charge of the buying department of defendants. But defendants though knowing that plaintiff had the right of pledge over the above goods, paid Akai on their account the sum of *yen* 1,788.86 on the 11th Dec., 1902, and the sum of *yen* 1,071.02 on the 19th Dec. in the same year.

The case was adjourned.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

The Camphor Monopoly Case was resumed before Judge Kato in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on Feb. 3rd.

A long discussion took place as to whether the partnership entered into between the parties was registered under British law or not, as the decision of the principal points in dispute between them would depend upon whether the agreement was to follow British or Japanese company law.

Ultimately the Court referred this point to experts and the case was adjourned *sine die*.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. K. YAMADA.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, on Feb. 3rd, before Judge Kato a suit was brought by Messrs. Simon Evers & Co., No. 25, Yamashita-cho, against Mr. K. Yamada, claiming from the latter payment of *yen* 4,966.957, damages (particulars of which have already been published.)

This case which arose over a contract for sugar, was adjourned for more evidence.

THE JAPAN DIRECTORY.

In good time, that is before the end of the first month in the year, the Japan Directory for 1903 appears on our desk. It is a portly volume containing, exclusive of advertisements, 561 pages of information, most of which relates to the addresses and business occupations of foreigners and Japanese in this country. We note, that the issue for 1902 consisted of only 479 pages of similar matter. A good deal of the increase has been called for by the expansion of already existing sections, but the Tokyo list of Japanese firms, merchants, etc., all grouped under distinctive headings, is quite new and should prove highly useful to business folk. This occupies 39 pages of the book. The similar department under Osaka has been greatly enlarged, but the Kyoto information and that appearing under the headings of Nagoya and Nagasaki is quite new. Shimonoseki appears for the first time as a business place, with a respectable showing of Japanese and foreign firms and a British Consulate. The list of hotels in Japan has been enlarged from 3½ to 7½ pages. The Yokohama list of Japanese merchants and firms has been expanded by some 15 pages, and seems to include practically all important places of business. A new feature is the introduction of maps, of which Kobe is very plain and legible, while Yokohama (former settlement and bluff) has had to be drawn on such a scale that some parts of it will try the eyes of those referring to it. The latter comment however, can not be made as to the body of the work, which is in good type, intelligently arranged and, so far as we have been able to note, remarkably free from errors. The book is issued as usual from the *Japan Gazette* office, and with its tastefully got up cover and general appearance is a credit to its printers.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

A new book by Miss E. R. Scidmore is announced. It will be a description of her observations in India.

Mr. Robin Grey,—whom many in Yokohama will remember as one of the Secretaries of Lord Charles Beresford during his "Commercial Traveller's" tour in the Far East,—was married on Dec. 17 in London, to Miss Dorothea Evelyn Murray, eldest daughter of Mr. John, Murray the famous publisher of Albemarle Street.

A book which takes thirty-six years to appear is surely rather unusual. This is the case with a work begun by the late Professor Thorold Rogers in the '60's, the final volume of which is just ready. Two volumes came out in 1866, two in 1882, two more in 1887 and now comes the seventh, edited by his son. The whole work is Professor Thorold Rogers' "History of Agriculture and Prices in England from 1259 till 1793." At the first date England was holding the Oxford Parliament; at the second the long continental war was beginning. The book has involved vast research.

A good story is told of a certain Californian judge who delights in a little pleasantry to relieve the monotony of the Supreme Court Sessions. It was during the hearing on appeal of a case in which a certain attorney appeared as a pleader, followed by an escort of office clerks bearing legal tomes. The judge looked up, and with a twinkle in his eyes remarked, "How is this? Can't you read law enough in your office without bringing your books here?" "I'm not reading

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law," retorted the attorney, "I'm reading the decisions of the Supreme Court of California."

A word of congratulation to the industrious delver on the *Gentlewoman's* staff, who has unearthed the following delicious fragment from a forgotten book of Miss Alcott, the American authoress, concerning the boyhood of King Edward. Writing about half a century ago, that observant woman from the States has this extremely vivacious note on the King as a boy:—"A yellow-haired laddie, very like his mother. Fanny and I waved and nodded to him as he passed by, and he openly winked his boyish eye at us—for Fanny, with her yellow curls wild waving, looked rather rowdy, and the poor little Prince wanted some fun."

Among the many notable passages in Mr. Leslie Stephen's "Studies of a Biographer" is this one, in which he speaks of Robert Louis Stevenson's courage in the face of physical frailty and on-coming death:—Disease and trouble might do their worst; the career of the "pirate" or even more creditable forms of the adventurous, might be impracticable; but at least he could meet life gallantly, find inexhaustible interest even in trifling occupations when thrown upon his back by ill-health, and cheer himself against temptations to pessimistic melancholy by sympathy with every human being who showed a touch of the heroic spirit. "It is best (Stevenson says) "to begin your folio; even if the doctor does not give you a year, even if he hesitates about a month, make one brave push, see what can be finished in a week. . . . All who have meant good work with their whole heart have done good work, although they may die before they have time to sign it. . . . Life goes down with a better grace, foaming in full tide over a precipice, than miserably struggling to an end in sandy deltas."

At the dinner given by the Authors' Club to Mr. F. G. Bullen, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the chairman, remarked that he and the guest of the evening were probably the only two authors who had ever enjoyed the finest sport in the world—whale-hunting. Mr. Bullen's first book, "The Cruise of the Cachalot," appeared at a moment when English literature needed the breath of fresh air he brought. Perpetual brooding over sexual subjects could not be healthy, and Mr. Bullen's influence breathed a breezy spirit of blue water, of whales and sharks and other monsters, which cleared the atmosphere. Concluding, Sir Conan Doyle told a story of an Engiish officer who was badly wounded in South Africa, and the military surgeon had to shave off that portion of his brains which still protruded from the skull. The officer got well, and later on in London the surgeon asked whether he knew that a portion of his brains was in a glass bottle in a laboratory. "Oh! that does not matter, now," replied the soldier, "I've got a permanent position in the War Office."

Madame Sarah Bernhardt, in the *Cornhill Magazine* discussing the attitude of various nationalities towards the theatre, says this of the English people:—No country has been more sympathetic to me than England, and, in spite of the coldness with which the English are accused, I have had no cause to complain of any want of warmth in my receptions. The English, too, are faithful in their attachments, and once they discover power in an artist they are true to their admiration for this power, and, speaking from my own experience, England always seems with regard to me to exhibit the perfect "entente cordiale" between the French and the English which the Society of that name strives to express, at whose soirée I assisted in London. Nothing is more touching than the proud and ardent affection of the English for Shakespeare. This fine race never hesitate to class their poet with all the great men of all nations, and doubtless they are right, and I myself am one of his greatest admirers, for was he not the great initiator of the present power of the stage?

As a forcing house for literary talent *Good Words* is taking first place. The second of the series of Imperial Competitions inaugurated by the publishers has just concluded. The first competition was for the best Coronation Ode, and the number of odes received from all corners of the British Empire was 1,084. In July last cash prizes to the value of £75 were offered to any subject of the King, at home and in the Colonies, for the three best "Songs of the Empire." Again, the poets in every corner of the British Empire sat them down to write with the result that 321 songs were received from contributors in all parts from China to Southend. The £75 were divided into nine prizes, three of which were won by residents in England, two in Scotland, two in Australia, one in Bermuda, and one in Ireland. The winning songs and extracts from a number of others were published in the Christmas "Imperial Number" of *Good Words*, and together with particulars of a third competition for the best "Short Stories of the Empire," which should outbid its predecessors in popularity. The prize money on this occasion has been increased to £100.

The penultimate sale of 1902 at Sotheby's salerooms was a triumph for the admirers of Thackeray. Never before probably have equally high sums been paid for autograph letters, pencil sketches and other productions from his hand. The examples which came under the hammer belonged originally to Miss Kate Perry and her sister, Mrs. Elliott, formerly Jane Perry, intimate friends of Thackeray, and when these ladies died the relics passed into the possession of the seller. In the total about £1,150 was realized for twenty-seven lots. The following call for special mention:—Kate Perry's album, beginning with an unpublished poem, "The Pen and the Album," and containing much interesting matter, £590; three verses, each of four lines, beginning "I am Miss Perry's faithful Phil," sent with a small gold brooch having the head of a lady's Skye terrier enamelled in colours, £50; a small full-length pencil drawing of the novelist lecturing, £78; five other drawings, £149 10s.; the Lord's Prayer, written by Thackeray on a piece of paper the size of a 3-penny piece, and the same by Gorson on another piece the size of a six pence, £25; Miss Perry's soup kitchen account book, with a sketch of her on the title page by Thackeray, inscribed "Suffer and Forbid Them Not," 32 guineas.

CHARITY AND NOBLE DAMES.

A Correspondent sends us the following clipping from *Harpers' Weekly*:—

The golden glamour begins to fade from King Edward's coronation, which began as a world-famous pageant, was suddenly darkened by the shadow of disaster, and finally ended as a simple and impressive religious ceremony. Not the least-heralded part of the celebration was the Coronation Bazaar held in July, and opened by Queen Alexandra. Rumours of awkward disclosures concerning its management are ripe in even the most exclusive circles of the Court. The Duke of Fife, the King's son-in-law, who is chairman of the Bazaar committee, insists on the publication of the balance-sheet, in order to make clear to an inquiring world why very great sales resulted in very small and even evanescent cash returns. Certain great ladies, who helped to make the bazaar a success or other and who have been talking to their admiring friends at afternoon teas of wonderful efforts and sacrifices they made for the bazaar, are equally determined to keep the financial statement strictly private and confidential. Rumour says that the reason is that the bills of expenses sent in by these great ladies practically absorbed the entire receipts of the bazaar; hence their coy unwillingness to see the accounts given to a cold and unsympathetic world. Rumour farther says that the American stall, which was so eloquently hymned on both sides of the Atlantic, is as much under the cloud as the rest, even more so perhaps; for everything in the American stall was charged for although the women at this stall were among the richest Americans in London. There is something sordidly humorous in the picture of these great ladies with proverbial Anglo-Saxon thrift making social capital by taking part in the great charity sale, posing as patronesses and dispensers of royal and noble bounty, and then sending in a formidable bill "for services rendered."

Our Correspondent adds:—"Of course this may be all idle talk, but such things have happened even in Japan."

AMERICAN TOPICS.

A movement has been started to form a "Carnation League" in honour of President McKinley. Each member of the league is expected to wear a carnation on September 15 in commemoration of his death.

The revenue cruiser built in Japan for the Philippine Government had her bow and the berth of the chief engineer stove in by the sea off Quelpart while on her way to Manila and had to put into the Gotos for repairs.

According to Mr. Franklin Allen, Secretary of the Silk Association of America, the imports of raw silk into the United States amounted in 1902 to 12,918,882 bales, valued at $45,164,062. In 1901 imports amounted to 12,025,546 bales, valued at $12,025,546.

A Washington dispatch says the Superintendent of the Money Order Department of the U.S. Post-office estimates that the money orders sent from the United States for Christmas gifts in 1902 exceeded the sum of $6,000,000, while the total amount of such orders for December was nearly $9,000,000.

Mr. Carroll D. Wright, Commissioner of Labour, is quoted as saying that the wages now paid in the United States are higher than ever before in the history of the country. The highest level, up to the present time, he says, was made in 1902.

On the 5th of January it was reported that Mrs. Stanilaus Spighalski, a Polish woman at Air Line Junction, Toledo, U.S.A., gave birth to four children the previous Saturday night and Sunday morning—two girls aud two boys. Mrs. Spighalski gave birth six years ago to twins and three years ago to triplets. The mother is but 22 years of age.

Philadelphia purposes to give the world an object lesson in the construction of an up-to-date boulevard. It is to be traversed throughout its length by an electric railway and the company operating the line is to co-operate with the city in making the road the best and grandest ever seen. In describing the projected work one of the managers of the road said the boulevard will be 300 feet wide and ten miles long. The electric line will occupy 100 feet in the centre of the road. The tracks will be sunk below the level of the driveway. It was added that the line would be embanked with sloping lawns of grass and beds of flowers, so as to resemble a tropical garden ten miles long. The tracks will be crossed by hundreds of low bridges which, while affording ample means for persons to cross without danger from the swift moving cars, will also add to the picturesque appearance of the drive.

The *Electrical Review* on Jan. 10th published the diary kept by Mr. Samuel F. B. Morse, during his earliest work on the Baltimore and Washington telegraph line in 1843. The book was discovered in the library of Thomas A. Edison at Orange, N.J. Under date, August 10, 1843, Mr. Morse describes certain tests he had made and makes the following interesting prophesy: "The practical inference from this law is that a telegraphic communication on my plan may with certainty be established across the Atlantic. Startling as this may seem now, the time will come when this project will be realized." Commenting on this prophesy, the *Electrical Review*, says:—"To-day there is no ocean unspanned by a telegraph cable. We have completed the first Pacific cable and have made a good start on the second and Marconi has established communication across the Atlantic without wires. It is difficult to realise that this diary was written less than 60 years ago."

Three cows were attacked with rinderpest in a cow shed at Ozaki-mura, Yebara-gori, Tokyo, on the 30th ult. The Kanagawa Kencho have issued a special notification prohibiting the removal of animals or goods passing within the infected area to Yokohama.

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CLOSING SCENES OF THE ACHEEN WAR.

A private telegram to hand in Penang gives the news of the Sultan of Acheen having voluntarily given himself up to the Dutch authorities. This piece of information is of no mean importance, inasmuch as it signifies that the long protracted "Acheen rebellion" is drawing near to a termination, if ever a termination can be arrived at with brigands and outlaws still pestering the outlying districts. It is certainly a step nearer to peace when the leader of the guerilla fighting that has been going on for an interminable length of time surrenders of his own accord to his enemies. The Sultan first ascertained that he would be well received by the Governor of Acheen, and then, finding that his skin was safe, he went and delivered himself up to the Dutch. He is now located in the house of one of the principal Dutch military officers. He threw up the sponge at Segli, and a Dutch war vessel was sent to convey him to Kota Radja. When the present Sultan's father died, the son set up as pretender to the throne. He was never recognised, and carried on desultory fighting against the Dutch. Now that he has been silenced, the hands of the authorities are much strengthened, and numbers of the lesser chiefs among the rebels will probably lay down their arms. The event constitutes one of the final stages of the war, and the chief concern of the Dutch will be touching the position in which they will place the would-be Sultan—*Pinang Gazette*.

GOLD MINING IN KOREA.

The first annual meeting of the British and Korean Corporation, Ld., was held in London on Dec. 23rd, Mr. W. Keswick, M.P., presiding. The report presented to the meeting covered the year to June 30th, 1902, and was in the following terms:—

The property and concession were transferred to the corporation on June 29, 1901, and it was found necessary to entirely alter the policy that was being pursued. Ill-conceived, unnecessary and extravagant outlay was put an end to, and all efforts were devoted to underground work at, and the development of, the Gwendoline (Unsan) Gold Mine. The result of this work has been that at June 30 last not less than 15,000 tons of ore had been proved in the mine of the estimated gross value of £105,500. On Sept. 30 this quantity had been increased to 24,525 tons of the estimated gross value of £157,833, or allowing for all mining and milling expenses, a net value of £99,000. The appearances generally in the Gwendoline Mine, according to last advices, are of a favourable nature, but it must not be forgotten that the formation is of a somewhat capricious character. It has hitherto maintained an even average, both in quality and width, when considered as a whole. Immediately the development of the mine warranted the proceeding, orders were given out for the mill. It is with great regret that the directors have to announce that Mr. E. T. McCarthy, to whom are due the reforms and development work at the mine, has lately been obliged, for domestic reasons, to return to England. In every possible way Mr. McCarthy has anticipated the needs of his successor, Mr. S. Herbert Williams, and in his concluding report he recognises the assistance received from his staff, and particularly mentions the services of Mr. Morris. It was arranged for an engineer to proceed to the concession and make a general report on its mineral resources. Mr. W. H. Shockley was entrusted with the duty, and made a superficial examination during three months. Mr. Shockley, however, considered it perfectly possible that the investment of a moderate amount of capital on exploratory work might be attended with good results, and he particularly mentioned the alluvial deposits as deserving of attention. Mr. Shockley made a survey of the area over which the Corporation has mineral rights. According to this survey it turns out that the Unsan Magistracy, instead of consisting of about 800 square miles as represented by the vendors, contains about 169 square miles only, and the Directors are consequently calling upon the Vendors for compensation in respect of this shortage of area. A dispute between the Corporation and the Vendors in regard to certain ouly on the property, repayable by the Corporatien, was compromised by the purchase consideration being reduced by 12,500 Ordinary Shares and the agreement was altered accordingly.

The balance-sheet shows that the issued capital is £324.472 consisting of 237,500 ordinary shares of £1 each (which appears on the other side as the consideration to the vendors), and 110,000 £1 Preference shares, 15s. paid, and some calls in advance. The cost of the concession is as above, besides which the sum of £33,000 was paid to the vendors for their expenditure up to the transfer; expenditure since by the Corporation has been £36,000. A sum of £13,500 cash remained on June 30 last, and there was also the uncalled sum of £27,500 due on the Preference shares.

At the annual meeting, in moving the adoption of the report, the Chairman said that it stated fully the position in which the mines in Korea were at the present time. The progress made had been satisfactory since the company took charge of them, and there was every promise of favourable results being obtained, although, of course, mining was always uncertain. With regard to the ore, he stated that the assays had been high, but the formation was not in a continuous lode. However, they had so far had the good fortune to secure returns quite as good as could be expected in the short time during which operations had been going on. Machinery had been sent out to Korea up to a certain point, and, further machinery would shortly be shipped in order to perfect the plant. The delay had been due to some indecision as to the right method of treating the ore. He believed that it would be a cyanide "proposition," and it was hoped that, by next summer, the plant would be completed and at work. Owing to the great distance and to the difficulties of transport, it was, however, possible that it would take a little longer. The development work at the mines had been carried out by Mr. McCarthy, to whom they were much indebted for the ability which he had shown in the matter. Referring to the serious "shortage" which had been discovered in the area acquired by the corporation, he said that the matter was engaging the attention of the Board, who hoped that some satisfactory settlement would be arrived at. It appeared to be a case of misunderstanding, owing, probably, to defects in native maps, and to the uncertainty of measurements in a country like Korea. In the circumstances, he thought that they should show consideration towards the vendors; but, at the same time, the directors would take every care to safeguard the interests of the company.

Mr. C. C. Macrae, the vice-chairman, seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A renewed fall of snow began in Yokohama about daybreak on Tuesday morning.

A sharp shock of earthquake was experienced in Yokohama on Saturday morning about ten minutes to two o'clock.

Fifteen more cows were attacked by rinderpest in Tokyo on the 2nd inst. This brings the number of affected animals up to thirty-two.

Fire broke out at half-past four on Thursday morning on a lighter owned by Messrs. Helm Bros., No. 43, Yokohama, and laden with cottton. The lighter was immediately towed ontside of the harbour, where every effort was made to put out the flames. It was no until 11 o'clock, when the cotton had been almo all consumed, that these efforts were successful.

Says the *N.-C. Daily News*:—Shakespeare on the stage is not a success in Shanghai if one is to take as a criterion of the local taste in drama the audiences present last night and on Monday to see "Twelfth Night." A well-nigh empty dress circle, and a somewhat unenthusiastic pit and stalls cannot make the task of future productions of the works of the great dramatist at the Lyceum Theatre an easy one, and the effect on the performers must be anything but an inspiration to best efforts.

From among a bundle of green, blue, yellow, crimson and, we think, lilac, literature which has been sent to us by that tireless passenger agent, Mr. T. D. McKay, we select what appears to be the most recent publication. It is a folder entitled "Around the World by the Pacific Mail S.S. Company's Route." Like all advertising matter from this source it is handsomely arranged and beautifully illustrated, two of the pictures being scenes on the *Korea*, and many of them views in Japan. Moreover this is really a handbook of information for the traveller who, if he has an acutely retentive memory and is willing to put himself to a lot of trouble, may by its aid dispense altogether with even Mr. McKay. But, fortunately for passenger agents, there are few such passengers, and the result of perusing this literature merely awakens a desire to travel, which we imagine is its chief object. As to the other publications we can only admire the enterprise which sends them forth to advertise the great railways of the American continent—the Union Pacific, the New York Central, the Lehigh Valley, and other lines—and the steamship companies with which they are connected.

Hongkong papers announce the death at sea on board the E. & A. Co.'s steamer *Australian* (Captain Helms) of Mr. Henry Campbell, one of the founders of the present firm of Messrs. Campbell, Moore & Co., Ld. Deceased was journeying from Sydney to Hongkong. On Sunday, 4th January, at 5.30 p.m. whilst the *Australian* was at sea between Sydney and Brisbane, a slight gale sprang up with heavy seas, which caused the vessel to lurch and take a sea aboard. Unfortunately Mr. Campbell, who was on the well-deck at the time was thrown against the poop-deck ladder rails, with the result that his spine was fractured. He was immediately attended to by the ship's surgeon and everything possible was done for him, notwithstanding which he lapsed into unconsciousness at one o'clock next morning and expired at 11.30 a.m. on 5th January, when the vessel was within a few hours of Brisbane. At the latter port the body was sent ashore for burial. Mr. Campbell was a widower and had one daughter, aged eleven years, whom he had left at school in Sydney pending his return from China. The *Australian* was not detained in Brisbane, but at Townsville the police officers boarded the ship and held an enquiry into the circumstances of the accident with the ship's surgeon and first officer, who were eye-witnesses of the sad event.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The magnificent west front of Exeter Cathedral, which has been gradually forced outward by the weight of the roof, has been found insecure, and the dean and chapter have decided on a complete renovation at great cost.

Archbishop Temple, says a home paper, will rank in history with Archbishop Tait, as one of the two Primates of the Nineteenth Century who were able to lead the Bishops in the House of Lords with consummate skill. Their methods were diverse, but the result was obtained with equal certainty in both cases, and what was said by a Bishop, now long dead, of Tait, might equally have been said of Temple:—"Even when we do not agree with him he compels us to follow him."

According to Mr. W. F. Dunning, there has been a great acceleration of the motion in the great red spot on the planet Jupiter during the past summer. For 23 years the motion was retarded, but in 1901 a change had taken place, and the motion was accelerated. This increase of motion was contemporaneous with the outbreak of a dusky marking in the latitude of the spot. During the year a number of white and dark spots have been visible on the north side of the north equatorial belt, and the mean rotation period of these has been about ten seconds less than that shown by the red spot. A new belt has lately formed to the north of these white spots. The equatorial current has been moving at the same speed as last year, for the mean rotation of 24 spots is the same, or nearly ten hours.

Flying at even higher game than an earl, Italian railway thieves have succeeded in pillaging Royal jewellery. The victim is the King of the Hellenes, and the Greek Government has just officially notified the fact to that of Italy. The Rome correspondent of the *Yorkshire Observer* states that on November the 30th the King's secretary dispatched from Ventimiglia eight cases, of which one was filled with valuable jewellery—the highest Greek and foreign orders, ornamented with brilliants, diamonds, rubies, pearls, and emeralds, time pieces in gold, encrusted with valuable stones, jewelled decoration clasps

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and badges, rings of price and gold chains. Only seven cases reached their destination, and inquiry proves that only seven reached Brindisi, though eight were dispatched.

The *Star* announces the engagement of Lord Dalmeny, eldest son of the Earl of Rosebery, to Lady Marjorie Grenville, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Warwick.

The London *Times* says that the Public Prosecutor has incurred a grave responsibility in refusing to prosecute the directors of the London and Globe Finance Corporation.

The Pope, in receiving the cardinals on Christmas Day, eulogised the Christian democratic movement. Later the Pope expressed privately his profound regret at the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury and his warm regard for him "as a prelate, who, although a frank opponent of the Catholic Church, had a noble mind."

Messrs. Vickers Sons, and Maxim, who have already built submarine boats for the British Admiralty, are engaged in the construction of three more of these vessels, but it is not known whether they are for the British or some foreign navy. They are 100ft. long, are very bluff in the bow, and have a greater diameter and girth than the submarines previously built for the Admiralty.

A Rome telegram of Jan. 10th stated that Signor Prinetti (whose illness we have since recorded) had accepted a challenge to fight a duel with a former cavalry officer, Count Bellgarde. The latter was commissioned to make a report for the Foreign Office, and not seeing his report published, the Count obtained a personal interview with Signor Prinetti, which resulted in a quarrel. Later the Count sent two friends to Signor Prinetti, who promised to name his seconds.

A recent Parliamentary return gives the cost of repairs made to boilers in ships of the British navy. The list includes fifty vessels fitted with Scotch boilers and thirty-three with water tube boilers, Belleville type. The service in commission of the Scotch boilers ranges from nine years five months to one year nine months, while the water tube boilers have records extending from five years two months down to one month. The showing made for the latter boilers is decidedly bad as compared with the old Scotch type, and some ships have had their Belleville boilers removed after one year's service. The worst cases are those of the *Europa*, from which, after an expenditure of £40,000 on repairs in one year, the boilers have been removed. The *Hermes* after one cruise is likewise getting a new set of boilers. The repairs to the *Powerful's* boilers during a three years' commission averaged £3 per 100 horse-power per annum, whereas the Scotch boilers on board the *Barfleur* averaged only 4/6 per annum per 100 horse-power during a service of seven years.

A Sydney correspondent writing to a London paper says:—Some recently-published statistics have thrown an instructive light on the cost of Parliamentary government. The Commonwealth, with an estimated population of 3,881,000, is ruled by one Federal and six State Parliaments, at an approximate cost of £500,454. The salaries of the Governor-General and State Governors amount to £36,500, and their expenses to £15,883, a total of £52,383. There are 48 Ministers, as follow:—Commonwealth, 8; New South Wales, 8; Victoria, 9; Queensland, 9; South Australia, 4; Western Australia, 6; and Tasmania, 4; their united salaries forming a total of £54,590. The members of both Houses of Parliament total 756, their united salaries forming a total of £163,700, to which must be added the salaries of Presidents, £5,500; Speakers, £6,020; Chairmen of Committees, £5,650; members' railway passes, £23,800; in addition to expenses of standing committees in New South Wales and Victoria, £8,045; staff salaries, £44,424; reporting staff, £23,948; printing, £46,538; electoral officers, £11,283; election expenses (annual proportion), £16,100; library, £7,679; refreshment rooms, £6,107; contingencies and miscellaneous, £24,677. The standing committees consist of members of both Houses, with the exception of the secretaries, the former being allowed substantial fees and expenses, and the latter receiving fixed salaries and travelling expenses.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FAMINE IN THE NORTH.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—A year ago some 200 brave soldiers lost their lives in the snow at the foot of Hakkoda-san. This year, in the same region, the winter proves exceptionally mild; there is scarcely any snow, and the plum-trees look as if they were about to burst into blossom. But another scourge—famine—has made its appearance. Its victims are already numerous, and what will they be in a month or two?

Owing to the cold that prevailed last summer, the rice crop failed, or nearly failed, in the north-eastern districts. As, in many places, there is neither corn nor potatoes to supply the deficiency, thousands of people are already reduced to subsist on fern-roots (*warabi i-no-ne*), dioscorea (*tokoro*) and other weeds (*hagusa*), of which they make *mochi*. Hundreds of horses have been slaughtered; their flesh is secretly devoured in the forests, and who knows to what excesses the hungry may not be driven?

I wished to ascertain personally that all the details published in the papers were not exaggerated, and, with this intention I proceeded to Heraimura, where the famine, I was told, was most distressing. I questioned many persons on my way, and had twice an interview with the Mayor of the locality, Mr. Kosaka Jintoku, whose zeal for the relief of his people is highly commendable. From his own lips I learnt that almost all that had been written was but too true.

Herai-mura lies eight *ri* westward of the Shiriuchi railway station. As far as Gonohe travelling by coach, *Japonico modo*, is possible; but for the second half of the way, there is but a narrow, uneven foot-path quite impracticable for *basha*. This difficulty of communication must, in a large measure, account for the distress of the district.

There are in the village a little over 2700 inhabitants, about 500 of whom are reduced to the last extremity. The Mayor is of opinion that, should no help come within a month or two, over a thousand of these unfortunates must either starve or linger through a miserable existence.

At present the more fortunate earn a few *sen* by supplying the Tetsudo Kwaisha with railroad sleepers; but the distance to Shiriuchi is eight *ri*, and how difficult the transport! Such among the inhabitants as were habitually in easy circumstances are condemned, this year, to live as sparingly as possible, and endeavour to sell at a reasonable price the cattle which they possess.

The Prefect of Aomori visited the scene and was sorely affected with what he saw. He promised to do his best to alleviate the hardships caused by the calamity. His means, however, are limited, as the money of the taxpayer can only be devoted to the purpose for which it was intended. It remains but to appeal to private charity for help, failing which there can be no doubt many will die of want.

The Mayor makes a proposal which seems sensible enough. The donations received should be advantageously appropriated to opening a road that would place Herai-mura in communication with Gonohe, this latter village being the market-place of the region. The needy employed on that work would be thus enabled to earn a living, and, at the same time, that out-of-the-way place would be connected at last with the rest of the world.

His desire also is that all contributions should be addressed to the Aomori Prefecture, and used under the control of the Authorities.

I consider it to be my duty as well as a compliance with the wish of generous souls, to acquaint them with the above lamentable facts. No doubt they will have no hesitation in asserting once more that sympathy which they have never failed to feel in presence of misfortune.

Thanking you for the insertion of this letter, I beg to remain yours sincerely,

A. BERLIOZ, Ev. de Hakodate.

Gonohe (Aomori Ken), 23rd January, 1903.

THE HANOI EXHIBITION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of the 27th ult., there is under "News of the Day," a paragraph beginning, "Correspondents of the Hongkong papers speak very disparagingly of the Hanoi Exhibition," &c.

It would not be easy to compress into so few lines (nine) so much of the *suggesto falsi* and the *suppresso veri* as this precis shows the reports must contain to warrant such a sweeping statement.

Up to my leaving Hanoi, I was daily in the Press Pavilion, in intimate communication with the officials and Press representatives in Hanoi. By then all the regular correspondents had done their work and left. I called upon the principal Editors in Shanghai and in Hongkong, both going and coming back, and was favoured with letters of introduction from some of them to their correspondents at Hanoi, &c. I can therefore claim to know something of matters connected with the Hongkong and Shanghai Press arrangements.

In contrast to the statements of the "Correspondents" quoted, the facts, briefly, are: The French exhibits from "Home" filled the extensive Quadrant Wing of the main permanent buildings, also an extensive annexe in rear, and the large machinery halls and annexes, &c., where were heavy machinery, large printing presses and everything required by the indigenes, and by the French Military, Civil, and other officials, and the Bourgeoise and Colonists in the interior. Samples of wines, and other beverages; preserved and other provisions; a very complete Exhibit of what France could send, or that was estimated to be possibly required.

The exhibits from China were mainly toys and rubbish of the sorts that the Globe Trotters waste money on, and increase their impedimenta with, which occupied a part of a rear Annexe; and was shared with the Japanese.

The Japanese exhibits were of the cheaper class of Japanese wares such as are to be found in Moto-machi, Kobe, and Benten-dori, Yokohama, also samples of the goods manufactured in competition with European products; necessarily very cheap, to suit the trade with the indigenes, &c., the quality necessarily inferior, as the Customs protective tariffs favoured French goods, &c.

The extensive Gallery of "Beaux Arts;" the extensive Quadrant occupied by the Indo-Chinese; Siamese; Philippines (with "Old Glory" flying above); the magnificent Central Hall, and the numerous minor buildings, are not mentioned by the "Correspondents" quoted.

As to the "Tumble-down" story; the principal buildings are too well and solidly constructed, and the temporary ones being wooden structures, are not liked to be seriously affected by a little rain; indeed, they have already passed the ordeal of one Rainy season.

Since the commencement of the erection of the Exhibition buildings, the flooding of the low lying land, by abnormally high water in the rivers, tested the solidity of the foundations thoroughly.

Envy, malice, and all uncharitableness is too evident; and I found many of the folk connected with the Press in China quite unprepared to see and hear what the French had achieved in the past few years; and disinclined to give due credit to them, or even credence to the candid and moderate statements of disinterested observers, who were not prejudiced by connection with "vested and conflicting interests" in Southern China, &c.

I am yours &c.

C. PFOUNDES.

Kobe, Kita no machi 50.

"WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?"

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Would it not be well for arguers on "what is Christianity?" to reflect that some fundamental subjective truths can only be told by symbol? Also, that it never can be kind to talk of "detestable" as applied to a lady however misguided she may appear? That, possibly, investigation will prove the Bible to be a spiritual guide rather than a strictly historical document? If so, how futile will seem arguments upon this question or the other, apart from its spirituality! In several places this spirituality is, in the Bible, maintained: thus Christ says: "God is a spirit": John explains, "God is Light, God is Love," the light, the feeling within each. Christ goes on, "I and the Father are one"—*i.e.* one and the same person. In another place does not Paul write, "Now the Lord (Master) is the Spirit (Breath)"? What we are all talking about and following is therefore the breath, the spirit, But what spirit? Is it not the spirit of love? Now the spirit of love has many manifestations—attraction, kindness in men: animals; even rocks and gases feel attraction. Men feel love, kindness. The poets, who are the creators in our small world, feel this great feeling and represent it, now ill now well. When it is represented superlatively well, we call it inspired—divinely inspired. Their characters speak and live but they are modelled on flesh. When we read a poem in which Wisdom appears as character we understand its application. When we read a book in which Love, Kindness, Goodness in person is the actor,—when this Love, Kindness, Goodness, in his words and acts claims to be the same as God Himself, to be the son and yet the very same—can we not see that the Book is speaking about ourselves,

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and our own (mankind's) inmost divine nature? What need to quarrel or worry about this? May not even one writer have written four narratives, in order to make sure some one in each generation would understand him? From generation to generation we know the germ is handed on and on. From generation to generation the spirit of honour, courage, kindness, love, gives character to the rising germ, in maid and boy. In every generation the wonder grows not less, that the spirit of Christ is with us still. In this way can we not see that no author can disturb the historical accuracy of the divine record; for the history is a spiritual and inner one, finer far than if it had been a mere solitary teacher who had been killed by Roman (or Chinese) troops. It may have been so. He may have taught. He may have had pupils who mourned and who rejoiced again to see him. All this may be—no one can limit. But what is of far more importance to all and each, now and here, is that inside us all, in that little germ (the Christos) is a feeling of nobility, honour, courage and kindness which is the same nature as God himself ("God inside us"), which, if it be killed by our own or others' negligence, does not die, but will surely rise again, and, being Master, will once more take command, when he says to our other parts—"Come, follow me!" To follow truly—this it is, to *be* a Christian—is it not?

Yours faithfully, WISDOM FINDER.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The following is the report to be presented by the Committee to the annual general meeting of members of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, to be held on Friday, the 6th Feb., 1903:—

The Committee have pleasure in presenting to the Members the thirty-first Annual Report of the Club.

Accounts:—These shew a Credit balance of *yen* 333.42, after starting the year with a Debit balance of *yen* 337.36, which may be considered very satisfactory, but it must be borne in mind that there were no extraordinary expenses during the year in the shape of new boats or oars. Your Committee recommend that out of this balance a sum of say *yen* 300 be set aside on special deposit as the commencement of a fund for the redemption of Debentures.

Rowing:—The past rowing season cannot be said to have been very successful. The weather at the Interport Regatta in the Spring was the worst the Club has experienced for a long time, and this certainly spoilt what would otherwise have been, in all probability, a most successful Regatta. In the Interport events, the honours were borne off by the K. R. & A. C., their representatives winning the Fours and Pairs, but losing the Double and Single Sculls. The rest of the events, though not drawing large entries, provided some excellent finishes. The Club was represented at Kobe at their Coronation Regatta in June, the Shanghai Rowing Club also being represented, but our men failed to pull off any one of the four Interport events. The entries for the Autumn Regatta were very good in the Junior events, but very poor in the Seniors, which is to be much regretted.

Swimming:—There was a fair amount of interest taken in this sport last Summer, but the Swimming Races and Diving Competitions did not draw very large fields. The Aquatic Sports, however, were well patronised and largely attended, and provided an excellent afternoon's amusement.

An invitation to participate in an Interport Aquatic contest was sent to the K. R. & A. C., but was unfortunately not accepted. It is to be hoped that such a contest may be arranged this coming season.

Boats:—Nearly all the boats are in very good order, and it is not anticipated that very much will be necessary in the way of repairs before the opening of the new season. The two new Double Sculls imported from England have turned out a great success and are very much liked. Your Committee considered it advisable to restrict these boats to the Seniors. The effort made to dispose of some of the older and unused boats by sale was unfortunately not successful, but it is to be hoped that there may be still a chance of getting rid of these incumbrances. The Club received an acquisition during the season in the shape of the home-built *Randan*, which was very kindly presented to the Club by its owners, and the hearty thanks of the Club are due to them for their handsome present.

Bathing Barge and Landing Stage:—In accordance with the authority vested in your Committee by the last Annual Meeting, Debentures were issued in April to the extent of *yen* 2,500, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent., and with the money thus acquired a new Bathing Barge was built costing *yen* 2,285, with the old Barge thtown in. The new Barge was completed early in June, and has so far proved a very good successor to the old one. It will be necessary to give her one or two coats of paint before relaunching her for the coming season.

The Launching Stage will require a few necessary repairs being done to the pontoons to make it serviceable for another season.

The Bathing Barge and Landing Stage have both been hauled up on the beach at Honmoku for the winter.

House and Property:—These are in very good order, several necessary additions and repairs having been effected during the past year. These include new *Sudare* over the verandah and extensive repairs to the Slips.

Bye-Laws:—The following addition was made to Bye-Law XIII. by your Committee, viz.:—"That all yacht Dinghies making use of the Club Slips be charged at the rate of *yen* 2 per annum.

THE YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB IN ACCOUNT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER.

1902, Dec. 31. Dr.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Balance from last Account:—		337.36
To wages Account:—		
Wages for 1902	626.00	
Carpenter	175.00	
Extra Coolies	108.02	
		909.02
„ *Working Account*:—		
Sundry Petties, Compound, etc.		103.09
„ *House Account*:—		
Ground Rent	79.17	
Heating, Gas and Water	156.94	
Repairs (including awning to verandah)	133.90	
Subscriptions to Periodicals	100.25	
Furniture and Utensils	59.31	
Repairs to Slip	174.07	703.64
„ *Printing Stationery and Advertising Account*:—		61.90
„ *Fire Insurance Account*:		
House, *yen* 10,000; Boats and Furniture, *yen* 6,500; Bar Stock, *yen* 250; Telescope and Barometer, *yen* 250.00; Barge, *yen* 2,500; Landing Stage, *yen* 300		239.50
„ *Boats Account*:		
Repairs, etc.		122.17
„ *Bathing Barge and Landing Stage Account*:		
Barge, Hauling, Fitting, etc.	107.23	
Landing Stage, Repairs, etc.	91.95	199.18
„ *New Barge Account*:—		2,285.00
„ *Prizes Account*:—		
Regattas and Swimming Races		745.20
„ *Regatta Account*:—		
Band, Refreshments, etc., at Regatta and Sports	604.94	
Expenses, Coronation Regatta at Kobe	117.17	722.11
„ *Interport Smoker Account*:—		
Expenses, Refreshments, etc.	382.20	
Receipts, Less Tax	353.72	28.48
„ *Interest Account*:—(Including Int. on Debentures)		103.45
„ *Balance in Hand*:—		333.43
		6,893.53

1902, Dec., 31. Cr.

By Subscriptions Account:—	Yen.	Yen.
184 Active Members, 1st half 1902	1,104.00	
4 Tokio Members, 1st half 1902.	20.04	
185 Active Members 2nd 1902 half	1,110.00	
3 Tokyo Members, 2nd half 1902	15.00	
40 Honorary Members, 1902	400.00	
45 New Members, 1902	270.00	
2 Boy Members, 1st half 1902.	5.00	
2 Boy Members 2nd half 1902.	5.00	2,429.00
„ *Entrance Fee Account*:—		
45 New Members		450.00
„ *Prizes Account*:—		
Entrance Fees for Races	132.00	
Subscriptions "Shipping & Insurance"	95.00	
Gate Money at Regatta	6.50	233.50
„ *Boats Rent Account*:—		107.00
„ *Bar Account*:—		67.043
„ *Debentures Issued*:—		
50 @ *yen* 50 Fach		2,500.00
		6,893.53

E. & O. E.
Yokohama, January 28th, 1903.
Examined and found correct,
FRANK O. STUART, Auditor.
O. STROME,
Hon. Treasurer.

THE CARE OF LEPERS.

[Speech delivered at the "Ladies' Hygienic Association," Tora-no-mon, by Miss Riddell of Kumamoto, on 6th December, 1902. President, H. H. Princess Chikako Komatsu.]

About one *ri* from the city of Kumamoto there stands the Buddhist Temple of Honmyōji belonging to the Hokke sect. It is built in memory of Katō Kiyomasa, who some 300 years ago was the Lord of Kumamoto. In this world's history there have been few stronger men than he. He was a great politician, a greater general and of enormous physical power, but it is said he was a leper, and that he was cured by the prayers of the Hokke sect. Hence numberless lepers come from all parts of Japan to visit and pray at his shrine.

My first visit to that temple was in the early Spring some ten years ago. It was a Festival day: above, the sky was of deepest blue, and standing out against the blue was an avenue of cherry trees in full abundance of bloom for a ¼ mile in length. Above, all was beauty: below, all was misery, for beneath those beautiful branches of cherry blossom were crouching numbers of men, women and children all more or less wasted and disfigured by disease:—some with noses gone, eyes disappearing, fingerless and toeless stumps, and all displaying their worst wounds and deformities, in order to elicit the sympathy and charity of those who attended the festival at the Temple. Passing through this avenue we came to a great number of stone steps leading up to the shrine, and on nearly every step was a leper, all begging and praying, even little children in their mothers's arms, some of them covered with hideous skin diseases, if not with leprosy, being taught to hold out their little sickly hands for alms. As we mounted the steps the sound of a drum was borne to our ears, accompanying the never-ending chants of those near the shrine, "Nam-myō-hō-renge-kyō! Nam-myō-hō-renge-kyō!" Before the shrine were rows of men and women with rosaries and uplifted hands and faces, praying earnestly, and to the left in a side building was a drum, while in front of it sat a young man of about 18 years, sadly disfigured by disease and moving his head from side to side to the beat of the drum, until he fell down hysterical and insensible.

This scene I have witnessed many times since, though never in such numbers, as on that first occasion.

Naturally I made enquiries as to what was being done to relieve these sufferers, and found that for the poor, and for those who had spent their all in seeking medical aid, there was no charity in all the country either civil or religious, to relieve this dual tragedy of pain and despair. There was absolutely no resource for anyone without means, but what is worse than death itself, viz: to become an outcast from home and loved ones, and at a time when the failing heart and body most need the care and comfort of home and friends. Instead, the poor leper, in order to save his friends from ignominy and shame, goes out *alone*, to suffer years of tedious misery *alone*, and at last to die unknown, uncared for, and unmourned. It is not surprising that I determined to try to do something to relieve their sufferings of body and mind, and to spare no effort to try to find a cure for this disease which it is not too much to say has attacked the vitals of the Japanese nation. The number of registered lepers in the kingdom is almost incredible and the number of concealed cases cannot be computed. In three Kens alone, last year the official statistics reached to 50,000.

Eight years ago, through the kindness of friends in England 4,000 *tsubo* of land were purchased and a Hospital built upon it, in Japanese style. At that time Dr. Iwai gave us most valuable advice as to building arrangements, to which advice we are still greatly indebted for the excellent health of our patients and their freedom from epidemics. There are three wards: two for men and one for women and each of these wards is divided into four rooms so that cases can be classified. There are also separate bath-houses for men and women; a larger building contains the Dispensary, consulting and waiting rooms, a steward's office and medical student's room, the kitchen and *makanai's* quarters. There is also a residence for the Superintendent Doctor and his family. At present there are 38 in-patients and two nurses. Among the patients are two little girls of 5 and 7—and a brother and sister of 12 and 14—they are very happy and bright, and study for two hours every morning under the direction of other well educated patients. Since coming to Tōkyō, nicely written letters have reached me from the children as well as from the elder patients.

It is a pathetic sight to see them helping each other in various ways, some act as teachers, while others use their eyes for those who have none, and those who have fingers and feet use them for those without. Generally it takes four patients to make up one ordinary human being. Besides the dispensary

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at the Hospital we have another close to the temple of Honmyōji, which I have already mentioned. A trained nurse lives there (her husband and sister-in-law are both in-patients at the Hospital) and the Doctor goes over every Wednesday morning to see patients and gives directions to the nurse for the following week and its daily work of cleaning and bandaging.

From the beginning the Hospital has been greatly helped by Dr. Toraō Tajiri. He studied with Dr. Kitazato of Tōkyō and his remedies have been tried. Since last year, however, we have been guided by the advice of Dr. Dohi of the Imperial University and our own experience of the previous seven years.

That we absolutely *cure* cases of leprosy, I am not prepared to say, but that we are able to arrest the disease, cure its frightful wounds, and make sad and hopeless *Outcasts* into healthy men and women (*healthy lepers*, if you prefer it) there is abundance of proof.

At the present time, one of our patients is earning a respectable living as an official on the Kiūshiū railway, another is supporting his mother and brother. Some years ago a girl was brought to us by her friends, she was 17 years old and had been sent to consult a doctor in the city about a skin disease on her shoulders and arms. He told her that it was leprosy. She said afterwards it was "like telling her that she was *dead*," and thinking it of no use to live, she tried to commit suicide by drowning in the river near the doctor's house on her way home. A policemen saw her and rescued her, and eventually she entered the Hospital, where she stayed for three years, when she returned to her home in good health, and is now able to support her old aunt, the only relative she has.

Two months ago a woman named Oda Shige and her little daughter were admitted to the Hospital as in-patients. The mother is 34 years of age and the little girl 7 years. She lived at a place 24 miles from Kumamoto. With suppurating ulcers on hands, arms and legs, and with mouth, ears, nose, throat and roof of mouth partially eaten away, with one eye blind and purple with disease, she draged herself and her little girl all the weary 24 miles, begging by the way, to pray at the Leper Temple. There she stayed for four months, living on alms, and one day we saw her going to the shrine with her little girl and invited her to the Dispensary. She turned and came, and it ended in their entrance to the Hospital. Her physical condition has greatly inproved but her voice is almost gone and all we can do for her physically is to soothe her pain. To-day however I heard from the resident doctor that her end cannot be far off. Her little girl O Tsuyu, is a very dear child and as bright and happy as a summer day in Japan. She has no ulcers, but the sinews of one leg and of one arm and hand are shrivelling and as she was born after her mother was in a pronounced condition of leprosy, her physical chances are not great. She lives in the same ward as her mother, but in a room with two women who are not in any advanced stage as yet. One of them has a little child at home and is delighted to have O Tsuyu to mother instead of her own little one.

The last to enter the men's department is one Tsuda Matatarō. He is now 42 years of age and has been a leper for seventeen years. Until he became a leper he was a policeman, and afterwards until three years ago, as long as he could use his fingers, he made umbrellas (the large Japanese umbrellas made of bamboo and oiled paper). Some of his fingers are gone now and those he has have no feeling in them. The right leg is rotting away at the ankle bone, and the left at the knee. The toes are gone on both feet. There are terrible open wounds on his body, and one on the top of his head measuring four inches in length and one in breadth, He is simply dying and decomposing all over, and is quite unable to do anything for himself. After the lengthy operation of dressing his wounds is over, every morning one of his fellow-patients has him in charge for the day, attending to all his small needs.

Some years ago I noticed among the out-patients a woman who looked very ill and very poor and I took an early opportunity of speaking to her. I found that she was a lady both in speech and manner and always when she came I tried to talk to her a little by herself. She had bad wounds, and several fingers and toes were gone. Then she ceased to come for about two weeks and as her address was in the out-patients' book, I asked the doctor to take a nurse and try to find her. With some difficulty they discovered the wretched place she called her home and on entering found her almost dead from hunger. She was alone and had had high fever, which made her so weak she could not prepare her rice for herself and though there were neighbours on either side, no one would come to do anything for her because she was a *leper*. It is indeed a terrible thing to be a leper! Her story is briefly this:—she was married at 17; she became a leper at 19 and when she was a little over twenty her husband deserted her, and by degrees from being a woman of some position with servants to wait upon her, she sank lower and lower in the social scale and in poverty, until we found her utterly unable to earn her own livelihood and dying of hunger. However she came into the Hospital and we were able to relieve her of much pain and to cure her wounds. When I left for England four years ago, and went for the last time to say "good-bye" to the patients this poor woman came a little way apart from the others and I think the same thought was in both our minds, "that perhaps we should never meet again on earth." Tears filled her eyes, but they were not *tears* like yours and mine, it was *yellow pus* which came slowly on to her cheeks. Even the luxury of pure tears was denied to this poor, loving woman, because she was *a leper*.

Patients come to us from all parts of Japan, Hakodate, Tokyo, and everywhere. Generally they try to get away from their friends, for their presence brings divorce and trouble through every branch of the family they belong to. We have found that those who have been accustomed all their lives to beg by the wayside prefer to be out-patients' that they may be free to spend at night, in drinking and dissipation in their "Kichin-yado," what they have obtained by day in begging. The most frightful immorality prevails in these resorts, which are generally owned by lepers.

We have as in-patients chiefly those who have held respectable positions in life, but having spent their all on quack doctors would be reduced to beggary, but for the timely aid of the Hospital. There are among them ex-Government school teachers, officials, catechists, farmers, an army officer, shopkeepers, etc., etc.—all without money, and the greater number without friends. Leprosy as a disease is not so contagious as consumption. It is possible to live in the same room as a leper and with ordinary care, not contract the disease—whereas it is difficult to live with a consumptive patient and not contract it, because the bacillæ are breathed into the air from the lung of the consumptive patient, while leprosy is a blood disease, and the danger lies only in the bacillæ of the leper entering the body through a cut or abrasion, and drinking from the cup a leper has used, etc., the bacillæ being very active in the saliva.

The public however is not free from danger in unsuspected ways—for as a leper has strength, he generally maintains himself by engaging in light work which more often has to do with food than otherwise. Frequently, when asking an out-patient what he supports himself by, the answer is, "by selling fish in the market," or "by selling vegetables." In the early part of this year I was asked to admit two patients belonging to Kumamoto into the Hospital, and on causing enquiries to be made as to their condition, we found they were a family of four and all lepers, that the mother and daughters were in so bad a state they could not be seen and one son was also very bad. These three lived concealed in the back of the house, where the mother and daughter made cakes which were sold by the other son, who kept a shop in the front of the house—he being not yet outwardly disfigured.

The annual expense averages about *yen* 5,000 and the accounts are yearly examined and audited by the officials of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. A few friends in England and one Japanese lady have kindly undertaken to support one leper each—the cost is *yen* 100 per annum. In one case several ladies have combined to make up the *yen* 100 between them. The increase in numbers and expenses makes it urgent to endeavour to obtain increased subscriptions. The question is frequently asked me, "is it not very sad work for you?" It is sad, but in the sadness there is so much joy that the sadness is forgotten and on looking back this work among or for lepers has been the greatest joy of my life. The sympathy so far has come chiefly from England, but I am looking forward confidently to an "Anglo-Japanese alliance" in this as in other things.

Many say that the Government must do something. It doubtless will in time. Some suggest that all lepers be collected into large communities and then given very little food so that they may slowly die off and rid the country of a burden. But the isolation of lepers in Molokai has proved that it is a cruel step to take. These lepers are our human brothers and sisters, regardless of country or class—and they are dying brothers and sisters. Who does not dread a lingering death? A leper takes 15 years to die, sometimes 20 years, and sees himself dying all the time. The dying need our love and care. I would suggest that the tens of thousands of lepers in Japan be segregated not in large communities, where they cease to be individuals and only "cases," that comfortable houses should be provided separately for men and women, to accommodate not more than ten or twelve in each house, and that the inmates should be maintained according to their property and social status in the world, each family bearing its own expense at the private dictates of Government:—they would thus end their days in peace and comfort—and the Government would then have to provide only for the utterly destitute. This would be but a light tax on the country, probably not so costly as the maintenance of a single gun-boat and in 50 years Japan would not have a single leper in it.

I would stir your hearts for two things. For the love of Japan to resolve to rid the country of this terrible scourge, and for the love of humanity to hasten to comfort and aid those who meanwhile are daily and hourly sinking in the deepest and most loathsome tragedy of pain and shame and despair that the human mind and body can conceive. To this end I ask your aid.

H. RIDDELL.

WEALTH BEQUEATED IN ENGLAND IN 1902.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer in England in his budget speech estimated the yield of the death duties for the year to be ended March 31, 1903, at a million less than in the previous year, when the revenue from this source, the largest ever obtained, was £18,513,714.

The amount received in 1900-1901 was £17,033,512, and to the extent of about £1,200,000 the excess in the following year was due to the payment of duty on Baron Maurice Hirsch's shares in the Jewish Colonization Society—about which there had been prolonged litigation—and to the arrangement which the Chancellor of the Exchequer explained that he had made "to clear up a good many outstanding arrears for the benefit not only of the exchequer but also of the parties concerned." The arrangement appears to be still in force.

The receipts from the death duties up to the present are nearly as much as in the corresponding period of last year, and probably instead of the decrease of a million, which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach estimated, his successor will have to report a gain on the estimate of three-quarters of a million or perhaps even a million.

This year reports have been published of estates over £100,000 each with an aggregate gross value of £58,045,142, upon which death duties have been levied, including the following:

		Number of Estates.	Gross Value.
£	£		£
Over ...1,000,000		5	10,073,278
From ... 500,000 to	1,000,000	17	11,673,585
From ... 300,000 to	500,000	24	9,473,596
From ... 200,000 to	300,000	30	9,400,790
From ... 150,000 to	200,000	41	6,919,632
From ... 100,000 to	150,000	86	10,504,351
Total		206	58,045,351

Most of this wealth had been slowly gained by careful, long-lived investors. Of fortunes quickly acquired by speculation there is little trace in the calendars of the probate registries.

The average of the age at death of the persons who had at their disposition these fifty-eight millions is nearly seventy-three years. One-fourth of them had lived for eighty years and upwards, and six had passed their ninetieth year.

Benjamin Buck Greene, a director of the Bank of England, was ninety-three; Benjamin Weir, formerly chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, who left the greater part of his wealth to found a hospital, was ninety-four; Thomas Kingston, of Cambridge, ninety-six, and the Rev. Samuel Hopper Powell of Sharon Lodge, Ripon, had lived for ninety-seven years. There was no centenarian among the persons whose estates have been charged with duty on more than £100,000 each. The real age of such persons is usually known. Among the estates reported during the year 1902 have been those of the following:—

	£
Earl Fitzwilliam, aged seventy-seven	2,949,830
Panaghi Athanasius Vaghano, aged eighty-four, Greek merchant.....	2,888,095
William Richard Sutton of Golden-lane, carrier	2,089,795
James Dick, aged seventy, of Glasgow, rubber merchant.....	1,077,034
Stephen Augustus Ralli, aged seventy-three, Greek merchant	1,068,524
Robert Arthington, aged seventy-seven, the Leeds recluse	993,565
Charles Cassiot, aged seventy-six, of London and Oporto, wine shipper	830,210
Mrs. Emma Montefiore, aged seventy-two, daughter of Sir Isaac Lyon Goldsmid...	813,258
John Corbett, aged eighty-three, of Droitwich, salt merchant	768,838
Mrs. Anne Turner, aged eighty-two, of Liverpool, widow of Charles Turner, M.P.	633,305

The estate of J. W. Mackay of the Commercial Cable Company, which was expected to be at least £2,500,000, was sworn for probate at £1,537, gross, in the United Kingdom, and £70 real and personal in the United States. The remainder of his estate was stated in his will to be the community property of Mrs. Mackay and himself.

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W. R. Sutton, the parcel carrier, died in 1900, but his estate, then sworn at £8,765, was resworn in July last, and thus yields duty for the current financial year on more than two millions. Additional duty has also been the subject of litigation, of Mr. Arthington, provisionally sworn at £430,358, and Mr. Corbett, sworn under administration "pendente lite," at £412,972.

The estates of nearly or more than £2,000,000 each upon which the death duties have been levied in this country during the past fifteen years have been few, as the following list shows :—

	£
1887—Baron Herman De Stern	3,544,978
1887—Hugh McCalmont, aged seventy-six	3,121,981
1887—George Greenfell, Second Baron Wolverton, aged sixty-three	1,824,338
1889—John Rylands, aged, eighty-seven, Manchester	2,574,922
1890—Junius Spencer Morgan, aged seventy-six	2,022,064
1892—F. Clarke Hills, aged eighty-five Deptford, chemist	1,941,715
1892—Right Hon. W. H. Smith, M.P., aged sixty-six	1,764,460
1898—Sir Andrew Barclay Walker, aged sixty-nine, brewer	2,874,130
1893—Edward Henry, fifteenth Earl of Derby, aged sixty-seven	1,802,204
1895—Andrew Montagu, aged eighty, of Ingmanthorpe	1,992,656
1896—Sir Charles Booth, aged eighty-four, distiller	1,927,167
1897—William Louis Winans, aged seventy-five	2,403,587
1897—James Bibby, aged eighty-three, Liverpool, shipowner	1,776,432
1899—John Gretton, aged sixty-six, of Bass & Co., brewers	2,714,045
1900—George Smith, aged ninety-one, Elgin and Chicago	5,000,000
1900—W. O. Foster, aged eighty-five, ironmaster	2,587,631
1900—Baron A. C. de Rothschild, aged seventy-seven, Paris	2,257,979
1901—Marquess of Bute, aged fifty-three.	1,864,310
Total	43,994,477

The average is under two and one-half millions each, but these are sworn valuations upon which duty has been levied and paid which do not usually include settled estate in which the deceased had only a life interest.

Thus Sir Rober Loder, whose own estate was under £20,000, had power of appointment of £1,500,000, and the late Duke of Westminster's own estate was under ■ million, although the settled estate which passed on his death was probably worth ten or twelve times as much.

We hear from time to time from the United States of persons whose wealth is "estimated" to be ten, twenty, or fifty millions. Probably two or three very rich men in the United States have each the disposal of a greater fortune than any individual in this country has at his own absolute disposition; but trustworthy statistics of private wealth in America are not easily accessible.

Common report about other people's money is curiously untrustworthy. The credulity of people generally about stories of wealth is unbounded. So far as a careful student of wealth statistics can form an opinion, the number of people in the United States worth $500,000 each is not likely to be greater than the number of those in the United Kingdom worth £100,000 each; but an "estimate" on $500,000 on the other side often gets changed into £500,000 in transmission to this country. S. H. H.

London, December 28, 1902.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

BRITISH TAXATION.

London, January 31.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, speaking at the Crystal Palace, said that he must dispel the illusions which had gathered regarding a large reduction of taxation in the forthcoming Budget. When the accounts for South African compensation had been wound up our liabilities would be found to be considerably more than at first estimated. Nevertheless he believed that he would be able to reduce taxation.

NEW MILITARY COMMAND.

The *Standard's* Johannesburg correspondent wires that from the 1st of February the whole of the military forces from the Zambesi to the Cape would be under one supreme command. General Lyttleton will be Commander-in-Chief, with head-quarters at Pretoria.

A DIPLOMATIC COUP.

Later.

The Bank of Paris (Pays de Bas) has arranged a loan of 7½ million francs for the Sultan of Morocco, at 6 per cent. It is guaranteed by the Customs revenue. It is believed that the loan is a diplomatic *coup*, intended to strengthen French influence.

ILLNESS OF SIGNOR PRINETTI.

Signor Prinetti, the Italian Premier, was seized with a stroke of apoplexy during an audience with King Victor Emanuel. There are hopes of his recovery.

ANOTHER DEADLOCK IN VENEZUELA.

London, January 31.

The blockading Powers have declined to entertain the proposal of Mr. Bowen that all claimants against Venezuela should be placed on an equality with them. This refusal has caused a deadlock.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain has reached Kimberley.

MILITARY EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.

General Hildyard has been appointed Director of military education and training.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

Later.

President Roosevelt has sent a message to Congress, along with Notes received from Mexico and China, dwelling on the injury to international trade resulting from the fluctuations in silver. The message recommends legislation enabling America to co-operate with gold standard countries for the purpose of establishing the stability of silver.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

London, February 1.

The United States Government proposes to appoint a Commission, consisting of three financial experts, to represent the United States on an international monetary conference, on the lines indicated, by Mexico and China, or in any kind of international exchange used (? of views) promising success. The Commission will not commit the United States to any change of the currency system.

BRITAIN AND GERMANY.

Viscount Cranborne, speaking at Sheffield, said there was no alliance with Germany as to Venezuela, but there was co-operation similar to that of the Powers in China and elsewhere. A real alliance was that with Japan which went to the roots of British policy in the Far East and would have the most momentous consequences in the future.

THE VENEZUELAN NEGOTIATIONS.

Later.

Mr. Bowen has informed the representatives of the blockading Powers that in the event of the latter persisting in their rejection of his proposals he will be obliged to inform the other claimants and the Powers that Venezuela is being forced to yield to a plan which will seriously affect their interests. It is maintained in diplomatic quarters in London that France and the other Powers are not likely to raise any difficulty, inasmuch as it is expected that Venezuela will satisfy them from other sources outside the 36 per cent. of the customs duties assigned to the blockading Powers.

CRUISER SINKS DESTROYER.

The 3rd class cruiser *Pioneer* (2,200 tons) during night operations cut the destroyer *Orwell* in two. The fore part sank. Two men were killed and thirteen are missing.

[The *Pioneer* is described in the telegram as a "Channel" cruiser but both this vessel and the *Orwell* were up till recently attached to the Mediterranean squadron.—Ed. *J. M.*]

MOROCCO.

The absence of any news from Fez for several days is causing anxiety in Tangier. According to the latest news, the Sultan's army and the rebels are face to face.

MOROCCO.

London, February 2.

On the 29th the Sultan's force, commanded by the Minister of War, attacked the pretender's position, completely defeated his followers, and captured the pretender.

THE SHAH.

The members of the mission for conferring the Order of the Garter on the Shah of Persia, have arrived at Teheran. The mission was escorted to the Palace by two squadrons of Cossacks and forty mounted police.

THE FIGHTING IN MOROCCO.

London, February 3.

It appears that the Morocco pretender was not captured, but the victory of the Sultan's forces was complete. They rushed down upon and surprised the rebel camp, most of the pretender's followers being slain or taken prisoner. The camp, with all its provisions and munitions, was taken by the Imperialists, who also recaptured the artillery lost on Dec. 23rd.

MOROCCO.

London, February 3.

The Sultan's victory was due to the treachery of the Beni Warien, one of the rebel tribes who renounced the Pretender on the eve of the fight.

THE U.S. AND VENEZUELA.

The American Press is filled with violent denunciations of the Allies for refusing to accept Mr. Bowen's proposals.

Later.

The British Minister at Washington has presented to Mr. Bowen the counter proposals of the allies providing that two-thirds and a thirtieth per cent. of the customs dues at La Guaira and Puerto Cabello be handed to the allies and that other claimant nations be given the other third.

GENERAL PRINSLOO DEAD.

The Boer General, Prinsloo, is dead.

THE KING.

The King has a mild attack of influenza and has been obliged to cancel all his engagements for this week.

VENEZUELA.

Mr. Bowen has rejected the counter proposals of the Allies and has suggested reference to The Hague Tribunal. President Castro is profiting by the feeling in the United States to play off the latter against the Allies. There is apparently some haggling in his procedure.

IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS.

The following members of the House of Commons have been released from prison, though the remainder of their sentences has still to run: Wm. Redmond (member for East Clare); M. Reddy, (member for Birr); and John Roche (member for East Galway).

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

London, February 5.

Mr. Chamberlain had an enthusiastic reception at Bloemfontein.

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THE DREYFUS CASE.

There are indications of an impending renewal of the campaign for the rehabilitation of Dreyfus. It is stated that the French War Office has secured documents which prove that Dreyfus could not have been a traitor.

VENEZUELA.

The attempt to revive the revolution in Venezuela has been decisively crushed by the Government, which destroyed the insurgent force near Comotagua, capturing fifty officers and two hundred men.

THE BALKANS.

Later.

The Porte has officially warned the Powers that the Macedonian Committee in Bulgaria is organising a regular invasion of Macedonia next spring. The situation is causing much anxiety on account of the international issues involved.

SOMALILAND.

The Boers in Somaliland are most willing and are giving every satisfaction.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

RELIGION IN FRANCE.

Saigon, January 29.

In the Chamber of Deputies, the Radicals and Socialists demanded the suppression of the Budget of Religions. The President of the Council, M. Coombes, opposed the motion, maintaining the principle that religion is necessary in the actual social state of France.

The budget was voted by 315 votes to 192.

The declaration made by M. Coombes has caused much comment.

DEATH OF WELL-KNOWN COMPOSERS.

The composers Robert Planquette and Augusta Holmes are dead.

LYNCH.

The sentence of death passed on Lynch has been commuted into imprisonment for life.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, January 30.

The Radicals and the Socialists will continue to support the Cabinet.

THE LOAN TO MOROCCO.

The Bank of Paris and of the Pays-Bas has lent 7½ millions of francs to Morocco.

M. PRINETTI.

M. Prinetti has been attacked by partial paralysis. His speedy recovery is hoped for.

DEATH OF A FORMER MINISTER.

January 31.

M. Raynal, a former Minister, is dead.

BUDGET OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The Chamber has adopted the Budget of Foreign Affairs.

THE FRANCO-SIAMESE TREATY.

The Committee on Siam will soon hear M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in order to hasten the discussion of the Franco-Siamese Treaty in the Chamber.

MOROCCO.

Saigon, February 1.

According to *The Times*, France and England have agreed upon an identical policy with regard to the affairs of Morocco.

RAILWAY STRIKE IN HOLLAND.

In Amsterdam there is a general strike of the employees and workmen on the railway. The running of trains is stopped.

STRIKE AT AMSTERDAM.

Saigon, February 2.

The strike of railway hands at Amsterdam is nearly over.

LATEST NAVAL DISASTER.

At Corfu the English cruiser *Pioneer* ran down the torpedo-destroyer *Orwell* in manœuvring, and the crew of the latter were drowned.

VENEZUELAN DIFFICULTIES.

The negotiations with regard to Venezuela are becoming difficult. The allies demand the advantage of privileged claimants. Venezuela formally maintains that the rights of all the Powers are identical.

MOROCCO.

Saigon, February 4.

The troops of the Sultan of Morocco have completly depeated the pretender and captured his camp.

THE WAR BUDGET.

Saigon, February 5.

The Chamber of Deputies has voted the budget of war, which it has augmented by 620,000 francs, including rations of the soldiers.

VENEZUELA.

Washington telegraphs that the negotiations continue stationary.

(FROM THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

GOLD IN MANCHURIA.

London, January 29.

The Siberian press says that a gratifying success has attended the expedition working on behalf of the recently formed Russo-Manchurian Mining Syndicate.

Gold has been found in the neighbourhood of Telin, in the province of Mukden, and the yield seems to warrant mining operations being undertaken.

CHINESE RAILWAY EXTENSION.

London, February 2.

The *Standard's* Odessa correspondent says that the Russo-Chinese Bank has been commissioned to place a loan of forty million francs in Paris for Chinese railway extension.

THE VENEZUELAN NEGOTIATIONS.

London, February 4.

The New York correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says it is undeniable that the Allies' rejection of Mr. Bowen's offer has produced a disagreeable impression.

The sensational papers, adds the correspondent, are insinuating that the rejection means war, which is absurd; but undoubtedly there is great tension in official quarters.

THE VENEZUELAN COMPLICATION.

London, February 4.

Mr. Bowen's alleged offer to pay immediately the amount the Allies are willing to accept as a preliminary to the reference of the Venezuela affair to The Hague Arbitration Tribunal is generally regarded as distinctly improving the situation.

TROUBLE IN THE BALKANS.

Seven Bulgarian bands of six thousand strong are preparing to operate in Macedonia in the spring.

The continued delay in the production of the Austro-Russian scheme of reforms is causing considerable uneasiness at Sofia.

The *Times* fears that serious trouble will ensue.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

RUSSIA AND THE DARDANELLES.

London, January 28.

Another Russian torpedo destroyer has passed through the Dardanelles.

THE VENEZUELAN TROUBLE.

French and American bankers are competing in the taking up of the Venezuelan public bonds, which were floated on the security of the Customs. The negotiations for the arbitration are progressing favourably.

According to the German authorities, hostilities were commenced by the fort at San Carlos, which opened fire on the German warships.

THE VENEZUELAN NEGOTIATIONS.

London, February 1.

Germany, Italy and England have rejected the proposal which Mr. Bowen, the United States Minister, brought forward on behalf of Venezuela, it having been considered that the proposed 30 per cent. of Customs revenue was insufficient to meet the demand of the three Powers.

THE GINSENG MONOPOLY.

Söul, February 2.

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha's contract for the sale of ginseng having expired by the end of last year, M. Ginsburg, who is interested in the Russo-Chinese Bank, is making strenuous efforts, conjointly with the Chinese merchants, to secure a monopoly in the produce. According to a report, the contract has been already concluded, *yen* 150,000 being offered to the Korean Court as security. This is probably only a rumour.

KOREAN POLITICS.

Chao Ping-shih, the ex-Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Director of the North-Western Railway, and Shen Chi-shan, the Minister of War, has been transferred to the Directorship of the Railway Bureau, being replaced by Chen Hsiang-hsun.

THE VENEZUELAN TROUBLE.

London, February 2.

The arbitration of the Venezuelan trouble has been somewhat forwarded. A reasonable share of the Customs revenue is to be pledged to the Powers. There is violent opposition in the Press to the continuance by the Powers of the blockade.

THE MOROCCO REVOLT.

The Sultan of Morocco has defeated the chief of the revolutionary party and the rebel troops have dispersed.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

A RUMOURED LOAN.

London, February 2.

The *Standard's* Odessa correspondent reports that the Russo-Chinese Bank has been commissioned on behalf of the Russian Government to place a loan of 40,000,000 francs in Paris for the extension of the Eastern Chinese Railway.

(FROM THE "KOBE HERALD.")

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

London, January 30.

The troubles in Macedonia are growing more serious, and the state of affairs has grown more intensified since the last reports.

The Powers are arming, Russia more especially, her various Arsenals being reported to be particularly active.

Commissariat arrangements have been prepared at Odessa.

PROGRESS IN PERSIA.

Mr. Griscom, late U. S. Minister to Teheran and now appointed to Tokyo, states that international jealousies are retarding the introduction of railways into Persia. He reports that only six miles of railway have been constructed up to the present.

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

THE HERB CASE.

Tokyo, February 4.

The hearing of the appeal instituted by Procurator Honda and Franz Carl Herb, in connection with the judgment rendered in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho on the 29th July last before Judge Danno, subjecting the defendant to major imprisonment for six months on a charge of negligent bankruptcy, came off to day shortly after 10 a.m. in the third criminal division of the Tokyo Court of Appeal before Judge Tsunematsu. Presiding Procurator Matsudera conducted the prosecution and Mr. Kitaro Urabe, Tokyo, appeared, under official appointment, for the accused, who was not present in the Court.

Procurator Matsudera and Counsel Urabe asked the Court for a judgment in default. Procurator Matsudera very briefly summarising twenty-six items of the charge on the tapis, said that the accused heedlessly contracted debts

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beyond his ability, and that he should be charged with fraudulent bankruptcy; the sentence in the first instance was given for a part of the offence. The Procurator went on to suggest that now that the accused had already fled, the bail of *yen* 1,000, disposited by him, would be properly confiscated.

Counsel Urabe only remarked that he was at a loss to understand the nature of the appeal made by the Procurator concerned in Yokohama, and that whether the Procurator filed the appeal with a view to subjecting the accused to conviction of a grave offence in lieu of a minor offence, or it refered to the degree of the punishmen, constituted a question, in view of the fact that the accused was charged at the outset of the affair with the fraudulent possession of property alone.

The judgment was delivered about 2 p.m. subjecting the accused to minor labour of six years and confiscating the bail of *yen* 1,000. This means that the matter charged was treated in the Tokyo Court as a grave offence.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST")

PRESIDENT OF THE REICHSTAG.

Berlin, January 30.

Count Ballestren was re-elected president of the Reichstag. He accepted the election.

THE KRUPP WORKS.

Mrs. Krupp communicated to the men employed in her late husband's establishment that the Krupp works in Essen have been converted into a joint stock company.

RUSSIAN TARIFF.

The Russian tariff which has been published now emphasises that national labour must be protected in the first line. It is not said on which date the new tariff will be put into force. The new tariff provides for differential duties on several products of the iron trade, for instance on iron, machines and electric apparatus. The duty on iron has been raised 150 per cent.

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, January 31.

The Powers blockading the Venezuelan coast have declared that in order to bring the blockade quickly to an end they will acquiesce in any slight advantages over others that they may obtain.

The rumours that the *Panther* was injured so seriously by the fire of Fort San Carlos that it had to be towed to Willemstad (Curaçao) are false. The ship still lies off Maracaibo.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE.

The German Crown Prince is now better.

ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER.

Minister Prinetti was stricken by an apoplectic fit, but is now recovering.

THE SCANDAL IN SAXONY.

The Crown-Princess of Saxony has been declared devoid of all her rights as a member of the house of Hapsburg-Toscana and of the Saxon dynasty.

PRUSSIAN PEASANTS.

Minister v. Podbilski has declared in the Prussian Diet that he will break with the Peasant's League.

VENEZUELA.

Probably the preference of the blockading Powers' claims for indemnification will be saved by separate payment. Otherwise the Hague arbitration tribunal will decide the indemnity question. The blockade of the Venezuelan coast continues.

MOROCCO.

It is certain that the government in Morocco will remain in the hands of Sultan Abdul Asis.

MACEDONIA.

Russia and Austria will direct to the Sublime Porte a joint note concerning the reforms necessary in Macedonia. There will be no conference of the Powers interested in the Oriental question.

RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

Russia and Persia have come to a commercial arrangement which now has become perfect. Persia abandons her system of farming out the country's duties.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEW.")

WAR OFFICE MAKES NEW DEPARTURE.

London, January 23.

The War Office has decided on the immediate formation of a number of new cavalry regiments, the nucleus being the provisional regiments organised for the late war, and the reserve squadrons of the old regiments.

New distinctive uniforms are being designed.

TRIAL FOR HIGH TREASON.

At the trial of Colonel Lynch, counsel for the defence argued that a British subject can be naturalised as a citizen of a foreign country during a state of war.

On this the Chief Justice ruled that a declaration of war prevented British subjects making any arrangements with the King's enemies. Taking the oath of naturalisation was in itself an act of treason.

The bulk of the sitting was occupied with similar legal points.

HIGH TREASON.

London, January 25.

In his summing-up in the high treason trial, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Alverstone, emphasised the fact that this case was not merely a technical breach of the law, but an instance of deliberately assisting the King's enemies. There had been too much tendency in the past to be-little the crime of treason.

Justice Wills pronounced the sentence of death.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London viâ Bombay, January 26th.

Mr. Chamberlain and party while trekking from Potchefstroom to Mafeking have been cordially received by the Dutch at the places en route.

General Delarey welcomed him at Ventersdorp, and altogether Mr. Chamberlain appears to have made a favourable impression on the Dutch.

Eleven prominent Boer irreconcilables who had sworn never to take the hand of a National Scout resolved after hearing Mr. Chamberlain's speech at Potchefstroom to bury their animosities and co-operate with the British.

MOROCCO.

The Pretender is advancing on Fez, and a decisive battle is imminent.

NEW INTEROCEANIC CANAL.

The Panama Canal treaty has been published.

The United States guarantees the neutrality of the territory in the Canal Zone. Colombia agrees not to cede or lease to other Powers any territory for coaling stations which might interfere with the protection and free use of the Canal.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, January 27.

Mr. Chamberlain, addressing the Burghers at Lichtenburg, said that Lord Milner was about to publish a proclamation which would speedily put an end to the compensation question.

General Delarey urged that all should unite to repair the ravages of the war.

NEW BRITISH COTTON FIELD.

Twenty-six bales of West African cotton have been sold at Liverpool at 5¾d. a pound. It is announced that the Government has undertaken to carry West African Cotton free on the Lagos and Sierra Leone railways for two years, Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., transporting it free to England for the same period.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Tacoma, Wash....	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	Su. Feb. 8
America	P. M. Co.	Korea 1	Su. Feb. 8
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan 2	M. Feb. 9
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 3	Th. Feb. 12
Seattle, Wash....	N. Y. K.	Kinshiu Maru 4	F. Feb. 13
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. Feb. 14
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 5	M. Feb. 16
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	W. Feb. 18
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam	W. Feb. 18
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. Feb. 19
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Th. Feb. 19
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Tu. Feb. 24
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	F. Mar. 6

1 Left San Francisco on the 20th ult.
2 Left Vancouver on the 26th ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 3rd inst.
4 Left Seattle, Wash. on the 27th ult.
5 Left San Francisco on the 28th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa. Feb. 7
Europe, &c.....	N. Y. K.	Sanuki Maru	Sa. Feb. 7
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Korea	M. Feb. 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	M. Feb. 9
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	M. Feb. 9
Seattle, Wash.....	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	Tu. Feb. 10
Europe, via S'hai.	M. M. Co	Oceanien	Th. Feb. 12
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. Feb. 12
Australia	N. Y. K	Kasuga Maru	Sa. Feb. 14
America	P. M. Co	City of Peking	Sa. Feb. 14
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co	Gaelic	Tu. Feb. 17
Tacoma, Wash....	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Th. Feb. 19
Canada, &c.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Feb. 20
America	O. & O. Co	Coptic	Sa. Feb. 21
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. Feb. 26
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Feb. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Sa. Mar. 7

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,814, F. L. Sommer, 30th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 28th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaish.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 30th Jan.,—Vancouver, B.C., 14th Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 30th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, 29th Jan., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 30th Jan.,—Shanghai via ports, 24th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Banca, British turrrt steamer, 3,793, E. P. Martin, 30th Jan.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 29th Jan., General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,763, W. Townsend, 30th Jan.,—Shimonoseki, 28th Jan., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, T. Darke, 31st Jan., —Londondon via ports, and Kobe, 29th Jan., General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Peresviet (15), Russian battleship, 12,674, Captain Boisman, 31st Jan.,—Nagasaki, 27th Jan.

Petropavlovsk (16), Russian battleship, 10,960, Capt Takovleff, 31st Jan.,—Nagasaki, 27th Jan.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, H. Fraser, 1st Feb.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, and Kobe, 31st Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Mvaru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 1st Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophie Rickmers, German steamer, 2,262, H. Pape, 31st Jan.,—Batoum via Yokkaichi, Kerosene Oil. —Standard Oil Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, Rorison, 2nd Feb., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 31st Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 2nd Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 1st Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 2nd Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 1st Feb., Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, James Potter, 3rd Feb.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 1st Feb., General.—Cornes & Co.

Gibraltar, British steamer, 2,473, D. Morris, 3rd Feb.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 1st Feb., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 4th Feb.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 2nd Feb., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 2th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 4th Feb.,—Kobe, 2nd Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, A. Yamashita, 4th Feb.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 4th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 3rd Feb., General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, Guigues, 5th Feb., —Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 4th Feb., Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Wm. Watt, 5th Feb.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Feb., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 5th Feb.,—Portland, Or., 14th Jan., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kogoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, K. Kobori, 5th Feb.,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 3rd Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 5th Feb.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Austria, Austrian steamer, 4,879, R. Colledain, 30th Jan.,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 30th Jan.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yokohama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,429, I. Miyagi, 30th Jan.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibbals, 30th Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 30th Jan,,—Misumi. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kweilin, British steamer, 1,088, McIntosh, 30th Jan., —Hakodate, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

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Telemachus, British steamer, 4,802, Goodwin, 30th Jan.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, M. Aubert, 31st Jan.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Bulysses, British tank steamer, 3,958, T. G. Scott, 31st Jan.,—Taketoya, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, F. Beetham, 31st Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 31st Jan.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Lyra, American steamer, 3,516, G. V. Williams, 1st Feb.,—Hongkong via ports General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 1st Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, Shimizu, 1st Feb.,—Kobe, General.—O. S. K.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 2nd Jan.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 2nd Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsinan, British steamer, 1,460, C. Lindbergh, 2nd Feb.,—Melbourne via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,734, W. Hayward, 3rd Feb.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Prometheus, British steamer, 4,583, Robt. Day, 3rd Feb.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Carlo VI. (20 guns), Austrian cruiser, 6,250, Captain Dredger, 3rd Feb.,—Nagasaki via Kobe.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, J. Noma, 3rd Feb.,—Yokkaichi via Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 3rd Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 4th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 4th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 5th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,814, F. L. Sommer, 5th Feb.,—Yokosuka, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, I. Sato, 5th Feb.,—Ohama, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 5th Feb.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, T. Darke, 5th Feb.,—London via Moji and ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru* from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. T. Soushall, Mr. W. Whigham, Mrs. R. Finch, Mr. B. Russo, Mr. L. Stassano, Col. Samoilor, Mr. K. Konagai and two Chinese, in cabin; Mr. H. Perkins, Mr. Kawahara and Mr. T. Cowen, second class; 18 Japanese, 7 Chinese and 1 European, steerage.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, from Vancouver:—Baron Gyldeekrona, Mr. R. Handro, and Mr. W. T. Davis, in cabin: 16 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, from Melbourne via ports:—Mr. Felson, Mr. J. W. Mooury, Mr. R. Edwards, Mr. E. E. Edwards and Mr. M. M. Edwards in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Williamson and child, Mrs. S. Ikeda and child, Mr. J. C. Rudge, Mr. C. Yamagata and Mr. Suzuki in second class; 7 passengers in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. T. F. Goulding, U.S.A., Mr. M. H. Percival, Mr. T. Dickin, Miss G. Lamar, Mr. R. W. Duke, Mr. M. Mindelsohn, and Mr. T. Nishioka, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Lieut. K. I. Pepper, U.S.A., Major H. D. Thomason, U.S.A., Mr. Fred. O'Brien, Lieut. W. Dean, U.S.A, Capt. R. E. Whelan, U.S.A., Lieut. P. H. McAndrew, Major S. O. Beasley, U.S.A., Capt. S. D. Bullen, R.A., Capt. I. D. McKay, Mrs. I. D. McKay, Capt. M. E. Roberts, U.S.A., Mr. Ross R. Brattin, Mr. C. W. Frankel, Mr. H. Schlee, Mrs. H. Schlee, child, infant and amah, and Mr. T. B. Reece, in cabin: 4, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. A. J. Easton, Mr. and Mrs Geo. Barclay, Miss Dorothy Barclay, Miss Greenwood, Miss Sophie Decker, Miss D. Grammont, Mr. W. B. Scott, Mr. Harry Willner, Mr. O. Temple, Miss Wunderlich, Miss E. Fischer, Mr. James Dunn, Mr. R. Redpath, Mr. Alfred Rossner, Mr. Carl Saber, Mr. Robert Saber, and Mr. Egor. Karpoff, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Colomb, Mr. Sugino, Mr. de la Pessine, Mr. Takata, Mr. Iskan, Mr. Dubuffet, Mrs. Dubuffet, and Mr. C. Jeamy, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss A. Carter, Mr. H. W. Elser, Mr. T. Thomas Fortune, Miss K. A. Gibbon, Mr. Max Hartt, Mr. P. Camp, Mrs. E. C. McCullough, Mr. Otto Meyer, Mrs. Y. Mori and servant, Mr. C. H. Poirson, Mr. J. W. Reeves, Mr. J. W. Sleeper, Miss L. Wall, Mr. A. Weill, and Mrs. A. Weill, infant and amah, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Lieut. Boissiere, Madame Boissiere, child and amah, Mr. R. Dubuffet, Mr. R. Lacroise, Lieut. Com. E. R. Craved, U.S.N., Mr. S. Saba, Mr. R. Berthelot, Mr. M. J. Dayet, Mrs. Semiere, Mrs. R. Berthelet, Mr. Louis Trial, and Mr. Andersen, in cabin; 5, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ceylon*, for London via ports:—Mr. E. A. Leather, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Major S. O. Beasley, U.S.A., Mr. C. P. Boland, Mr. Boss E. Brattin, Capt. S. D. Bullen, R.A., Mr. Frank Coulson, Mrs. Frank Coulson, Miss Coulson, Miss Ethel Coulson, Lieut. W. Dean, U.S.A., Mr. K. Ezawa and servant, Mr. C. W. Frankel, Lieut. P. H. McAndrews, U.S.A., Capt. I. G. McKay, U.S.A., Mr. Frederick O'Brien, Mr. R. Pacheco, Lieut. K. I. Pepper, U.S.A., Capt. M. E. Rebert, U.S.A., Mr. F. B. Reece, Mr. H. Schlee, Mrs. H. Schlee, 2 children and amah, Major H. D. Thomasen, U.S.A., Capt. B. Whelan, U.S.A., Mr. A. Yamaguchi, Mr. R. Yezoye, Mrs. R. Yezoye, and Mr. R. Yezoye, Jr., in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. R. Finch, Miss K. Furukawa, Miss Arbuthnot, and Major Arbuthnot, in cabin; Mr. Lee Soa Tee, Mr. K. Mayekawa, Mr. and Mrs. T. Yamada, Mr. H. Sekine. Mrs. Effie R. B. Dodds, Miss Clara Dodds, Miss E. Fay, and Mr. Kek Gyoku See, in second class; 24, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste silk shipped per steamer *Salazie*:—

	Raw.				Waste.		
	Marseilles Option.	Milan.	Lyon.	Russia.	Marseilles	Italy.	London.
H. Bernardin & Co.	—	—	24	—	—	—	—
Ulysse Pila & Co...	—	—	93	—	165	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co...	—	—	36	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.....	—	—	—	—	40	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	89	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	—	—	—	—	35	—	—
Robison & Co.....	—	—	—	—	41	—	—
Herbert Dent & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	—	—	153	—	397	—	3

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for yarns has been quiet, owing to the Chinese New Year. Prices are firm but show little inclination to advance in sympathy with Manchester quotations. A fair business in shirtings is reported and in other branches there has been slight movement.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	V. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

Business has been checked by the higher cost ruling in producing markets, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅜ inch and upward...	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron...	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market is firm.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market continues firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila...	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang...	6.90 to 7.70
White Refined...	8.80 to 10.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a small business this week, chiefly native purchases for direct export. We leave quotations unchanged but the tendency is toward ease and with *bona fide* purchasers in the market reduction will be made.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,110 to 1,130
Filatures—Extra, Fine...	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,085 to 1,095
Filatures—No. 1, Fine...	1,110 to 1,120
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,085 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine...	1,010 to 1,020
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	1,080 to 1,090
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,050 to 1,060
Re-reels—No. 2	1,020 to 1,030
Re-reels—No. 3	990 to 1,000
Kakedas—Extra	1,020 to 1,035
Kakedas—No. 1	990 to 1,000
Kakedas—No. 1½	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 2	930 to 935
Kakedas—No. 2½	900 to 910

WASTE SILK.

There is no change in the situation. A small business is doing at full rates but the quality on offer is not very desirable, good parcels being scarce.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

No change. Total settlements amount to 179,726 piculs, against 191,315 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

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A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, Feburary 5.

Kirin Breweries, buyers at *yen* 120. Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sales at *yen* 112. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, buyers at *yen* 70. Langfeldts, sellers at *yen* 50. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	112 Sales.
Grand Hotel	250 Buyers.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.	50 Sellers.
Japan Brewery Co.	120 Buyers.
C. Nickel & Co.	28½ Buyers.

Telephone No. 328.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 5.

Market quiet without any change in silver from London or sterling quotations from China and local rates are unaltered.

London—Bank T.T.	2 0 3/4
— — Bills on demand	2 0 15/16
— — 4 months' sight	2 0 3/4
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0 13/16 @ 3/4
— — 6 months' sight	2 0 13/16 @ 1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight	260 @ 1/2
— — 6 months' sight	261 @ 1/2
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	77* 1/2
— Private 10 days' sight do.	76*
Shanghai—Bank sight	94*
— Private 10 days' sight	95 1/4*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight	49 3/4
— Private 30 days' sigh	50 3/8 @ 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ 1/4
Germany—Bank sight	208 3/4
— Private 4 months' sight	212 1/2
Bar Silver (London)	21 3/16

* Nominal.

BOVRIL AT THE FRONT.

Bovril has played such a conspicuous part in South Africa that it forms no inconsiderable feature of the story. The *Lancet* has had frequent references to Bovril in the reports of the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Nearly every newspaper correspondent has had to refer to Bovril to make his story complete Rudyard Kipling and Baden-Powell have written their Bovril stories. Over 500 British hospitals and similar public institutions use and prescribe Bovril, not beef tea, but Bovril.

The reason is not far to seek. Bovril is a nourisher as well as a stimulant. It contains the albumen and fibrine, the sustaining properties of the beef. It is this fact, together with its absolute purity, that commends Bovril to physicians and scientists, and proves in practice what it demonstrates in analysis.

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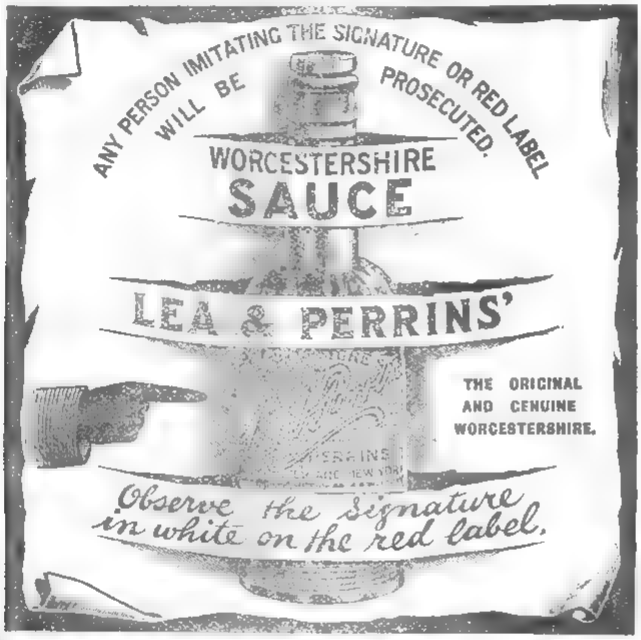

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毎土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1903.

BIRTHS.

On Saturday, February 7th, at No. 258, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of EDWARD J. COWAN, of a Daughter.

At No. 254, Bluff, Yokohama, on Feb. 11th, the wife of WM. L. MERRIMAN, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

At Dzushi, at 7.30 a.m. on Thursday, the 5th inst., KENNETH MARTIN ("TOMMY") PAGE, beloved youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Page, aged 12 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

BISHOP and Mrs. Foss left Kobe by the *Sanuki Maru* on Tuesday, on six months' furlough.

UP to 5th inst. one hundred and forty-four cows had been attacked by rinderpest in Tokyo.

THERE was a heavy snowfall at Karatsu, Mayezuru, Yamaguchi, Saga, and Toyama on the 5th inst.

MR. NAKAI YOSHIKUSU, Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank's London branch, died in Tokyo on Feb. 9th.

MR. MUROTE YAHACHIRO, formerly a Member of Parliament for Ishikawa Prefecture, died at Kanazawa on the 9th inst.

FIVE shares of *yen* 100 each, fully paid up, of Langfeldt & Co., Lt'd., were sold at auction on Tuesday morning by Mr., Jno. W. Hall for *yen* 30 each.

A COLLISION occurred between a goods car and an engine at Otsu station on the afternoon of the 4th inst. One coolie was killed.

THE body of a young woman, a maid servant, was found floating in the water at Yatobashi, Yokohama, on the evening of the 4th inst.

FIVE hundred and eight boxes of silver, being part of the China indemmity, arrived at Shimonoseki by the steamer *Hakuai Maru* on the 10th inst.

THE silver statue of Mr. Otani Kahei, which is to be presented to him by the Yokohama Tea Guild, will be ready about the middle of the present month.

A POSTMAN named Ishida Kinya was run over by an electric train at Shinyanagicho, Nagoya, on the 9th inst. He injured his head and face and is not expected to recover.

ON the 9th inst. a charcoal burners' shed at Takabayashi-mura, Nasu-gori, Tochigi Prefecture, was crushed by the heavy snow. Two persons were killed and three injured.

A MAN named Onishi Kinosuke, employed in the weaving shop of Mori Rinyemon, Aichi Ken, stole *yen* 2,000 belonging to his employer on the 4th inst. and escaped to Tokyo.

MR. FRANZ BALTZER, technical adviser to the Railway Department, was received in farewell audience by their Majesties the Emperor and Empress on the morning of the 7th inst.

THE total receipts of the Hongkong Coronation Celebration Fund, including interest, were $41,940, and the total expenditure $26,642, leaving a balance in the bank of $15,298.

THE *Shokokai*, a young society which succeeded in obtaining a majority of the membership of the Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce, have summarily passed a resolution dissolving the chamber.

THE Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce hopes to send delegates to the 5th Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire to be held at Montreal on the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th August next.

A THIEF entered a house occupied by Kurimoto Kempei at Hiranocho, Fukagawa, Tokyo, early on the morning of the 17th inst. and stole 4 gold rings, 4 *Keicho* coins, and several foreign coins valued at *yen* 1,300.

THREE passenger cars and the engine of a Tokaido train were derailed at Takashimacho, Yokohama, on the morning of the 11th inst. Two down trains from Tokyo were blocked at Tsurumi and Kanagawa in consequence.

A COUNTERFEIT Yokohama Water-works bond for *yen* 1,000 was found on the 6th inst. by a man named Ishioka Rinnosuke of Kita Shinmonzencho, Azabu, Tokyo. He had received the bond from another man and took it to the Water Office to be verified.

THE Kobe Ladies Benevolent Society held its annual meeting on Feb. 3rd. It appeared from the accounts, which were adopted, that the subscriptions for the year amounted to *yen* 470.50 and special donations to *yen* 88. The total revenue was *yen* 794.30, including *yen* 214.14, brought forward from the previous year. The total expenditure amounted to *yen* 399,40, leaving a balance of *yen* 454.90 to carry over.

ON the afternoon of the 4th inst, a Japanese boat containing eight men and two women while passing down the Ochanomizu at Surugadai, Kanda, Tokyo, were caught by a landslip. The boat immediately sank but the passengers were rescued.

A MAN named Kobayashi Sango, employed at the Itabashi station on the Nippon Railway was arrested by the Itabashi police on the 7th inst. on a charge of having stolen *yen* 600 belonging to the station on the 5th inst. which he spent in a house of ill-fame at Itabashi.

AOYAMA JUSHICHIRO, employed as a servant on the Japanese war-vessel *Chitose*, was arrested by the Isezakicho police on the 4th inst. and charged with having stolen *yen* 120 belonging to Captain Tanaka, and a gold watch, valued at *yen* 180, belonging to the accountant of that vessel.

A TRAGIC affair occurred in Tokyo on the evening of the 10th inst. when a jinrikisha man namedTaniguchi Tomozo, living with his wife and son at Zoshigaya-machi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, murdered the lad, 7 years of age, while asleep, by means of a sword and then committed suicide.

A MAN named Hirota Fukuzo, belonging to Kyoto, formerly employed by the Metropole Hotel, Tsukiji, Tokyo, was arrested by the Kyobashi police on the 6th inst. charged with stealing several coats and articles valued at *yen* 100, belonging to foreign guests of the hotel on the 2nd and 8th inst.

A TELEGRAM received in Osaka states that the steamer *Kaiyo Maru*, belonging to Mr. Hattori Kanzayemon, Hakodate, while on her way from Hakodate to Yesashi, ran ashore during a snow storm at Koramachi Matsumaye, on the night of the 6th inst. She is insured in the Imperial Marine Insurance Company.

A COLLISION occurred between the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Tetorigawa Maru* and the *Okura Maru*, a chartered steamer of the same Company, at Myojinga-hana, Kiushu, on the evening of the 7th inst. The *Tetorigawa Maru* sustained damage on her port side and entered Tanoura for repairs. Passengers and cargo were all saved.

A FARMER named Matsumoto Torakichi, living at Setagaya-mura, Yebaragori, Tokyo, who had brought to Yokohama a ring with five diamonds, and arranged to sell it to a foreigner for *yen* 60 (its value being *yen* 300) has been arrested by the Kagacho police. It appears that the ring belongs to the wife of Mr. Takashima Kokinji at Nagatacho, Tokyo.

THE funeral of the late Count Otani Koson, Lord Abbot of the Honganji, took place at Kyoto on the 7th inst. Many hundred thousand priests and lay people were present. The following casualties were reported by the police:—injuries 311, faintings 75, fights 7, thefts 121, pickpockets captured 374, lost articles 1,021, while 79 persons fall into creeks or ditches.

THE chief steward of the *Sumidagawa Maru*, who returned to Shimonoseki from Gensan on the 8th inst., states that there has been heavy snow there ranging in depth from four to five feet. The rice crop and agricultural work failed last year and the fishing was unproductive. Consequently many persons have died and more deaths are likely to result from privation.

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KOREA.

Saturday, Feb. 7.

Japan appears to be protesting vigorously against the arbitrary action of the Korean Authorities in forbidding the circulation of the First Bank's notes. The Central Government has been addressed by Mr. Hagiwara, Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, and the Governor of Seoul by the Consul. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the total issue of the Bank's notes does not exceed six hundred thousand *yen*, and that, in view of the uncertainty of affairs in Korea, ample preparations to meet a run have been made from the first. Only a hundred and twenty thousand *yen* are in circulation in Seoul. These notes have been presented for payment in consequence of the Governor's injunction, but as no notes have come in from the provinces, it would seem that the interdict has had no effect outside the capital.

In connexion with this matter it is stated that the true origin of official opposition to the notes of the Japanese Bank is to be sought in Li Yong-ik's purpose of establishing a bank of Korea. It is with that object that he contemplates the engagement of a Belgian adviser, and the Russian Representative is said to be promoting the scheme.

Monday, Feb. 9.

There is not as yet any news of the reception given by the Korean Government to Japan's remonstrance against the capricious and illegal anti-banknote interdict. Intelligence from Chemulpo says that the market has been dislocated by the sudden withdrawal of its supply of circulating media, inasmuch as the vetoed notes of the First Bank were almost the only currency in daily use. It is impossible, indeed, to speak too strongly of the recklessness shown by the Korean Authorities in this matter.

The interdict against the circulation of the First Bank's notes was officially extended to Chemulpo on the 5th instant, and great inconvenience was caused in commercial circle. Of course a sharp run took place at the Bank's agency in Seoul, but as immediate payment was made of all the notes presented, the commotion did not last many days. Probably its subsidence was due to lack of material, the great majority of the notes having been at once dealt with.

Whatever steps the Japanese Government may take, or whatever reparation it may exact, these incidents must necessarily shake public confidence for a long time in the note-issues of any foreign bank. People will naturally hesitate to accept paper which may at any moment be declared illegal by an official proclamation.

A scarcely credible item of news comes from Masampo, namely, that the Russian Consul there is labouring to have the local magistrate removed, and to bring about his replacement by an official of pro-Russian tendencies. We shall have a goodly number of Russophobe stories circulated pending the settlement of this trouble.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Korea which suggests that Li Yong-ik is disposed to push matters to an extremity. According to this account, the Russian and British Representatives have endeavoured to procure the restoration of Cho Pyong-sik to his former position as Minister of Foreign Affairs, the idea being that he is the best man to settle the complication. Matters appeared to be tending in that direction when Li Yong-ik despatched a body of the notorious Peddlers' Guild to Cho Pyong-sik's residence, and effectually intimidated the old man. Li, therefore, seems to be afflicted with the dementia which the gods send as a prelude to destruction. Of course there is much excitement among the Japanese merchants in Chemulpo, whose business is brought to a standstill.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Representative in Seoul, who has been on a visit to Tokyo, left that city for his post on the 8th instant, thus considerably curtailing his projected stay.

Tuesday, Feb. 10.

A telegram from Seoul to the *Asahi Shimbun*, dated the 8th instant, says that the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce has issued a proclamation declaring that although the circulation of the First Bank's notes had been interdicted, the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Brown, refused to receive the interdict, and consequently the notes must continue to be receivable in payment of dues. The Chinese Minister, says the same paper's correspondent, has also notified his nationals that the Bank's notes are receivable, and consequently the paper continues to circulate among Chinese merchants. This news is confirmed by the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent. It contributes to the bewilderment of the public, for while, on the one hand, it suggests that the Korean Government does not yet see the gravity of the situation, it implies, on the other, that the Authorities have not power to enforce their own mandates within the limits of Korean territory. As for Mr. Brown, he has exercised a wise and courageous discretion. He sees clearly, as every sensible person must, that the measure taken by the Government at Li Yong-ik's suggestion, is a flagrant violation of treaty, and that it displays an almost insolent indifference to the interests of tradal convenience.

The Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Chemulpo has held a meeting and passed a resolution calling upon the home Government to bring strong pressure to bear on Korea, and inviting the other chambers of commerce in that empire to unite in protest against the arbitrary and injurious action of the Seoul Cabinet.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun* there can be no doubt that the reason for this action on the part of the Korean Government is in consequence of Li Yong-ik's project of establishing a note-issuing national bank. All his preparations are said to have been made. He has collected a sum of six or seven hundred thousand *yen* in silver and a small quantity of gold, and he has been carrying on the manufacture of bank notes for some time. From Japanese subjects engaged in the latter work it is learned that the notes are intended to go into circulation in February and that they bear that date of issue. The *Hochi* adds that in this matter Li is supported by a Russian and a Belgian, and that these two gentlemen have agreed to assist him in finding the capital necessary for the projected bank.

Of course there is no manner of reason why Korea should not have a national bank. It would indeed be well from many points of view that she should equip herself with that commodity. But there is here no manner of excuse for interdicting the circulation of the First Bank's notes. If such a course were admitted as legal, the Korean Government, having conceived, some fine morning, the notion of monopolizing this or that important branch of commerce or industry for its own profit, might suddenly employ the machinery of the executive to thrust every one else out of the same line of business.

The impetuous section of the Tokyo press publishes various rumours. By these writers the Japanese Government is represented as having preferred demands which savour of the romantic. We do not reproduce our contemporaries' tales because we place no manner of faith in them. The Foreign Office in Tokyo will doubtless insist in the most unequivocal manner that Korea withdraw from her stupid and ill-considered position, but it will be time enough to frame menaces and formulate special demands should the Seoul Government prove obstinate. Even Li Yong-ik, who must be a singularly short-sighted politician, will hardly have the temerity to stand to his guns under the circumstances, and we therefore anticipate a speedy and simple solution of the difficulty.

Wednesday, Feb. 11.

Telegrams from Seoul suggest that the Korean Government is halting between two opinions. Some of its members lean towards immediate surrender of an untenable position, and others are in favour of obstinate resistance. Cho Pyong-sik appears to be the leader of the former party, and his attitude has had the effect of rendering his residence somewhat nosy, for he receives constant visits from gangs of the renowned Peddlers' Guild who make the welkin ring with cries of "country seller," "national robber" and other epithets which acquire peculiar force when they proceed from the mouths of men whose habitual lawlessness endangers the safety of the empire. The other side is generalled by Li Yong-ik, with Li Keung-thak for lieutenant, and it is understood that the Peddlers' vociferations are a gentle echo of these worthies' sentiments towards statesmen so small-hearted as to set the paltry obligations of treaties and the facilities of trade above the vast advantages of establishing a bank. The Russian Representative is said to be offering himself as mediator with some show of importunity, but there is an impression that he contemplates the sport of fishing in troubled waters, and his advances are consequently rejected on the stereotyped plea of failure to apprehend his "points." On the other hand, the Representatives of England and America are lending their support to Japan, and the Representative of France is maintaining a demeanour of courteous neutrality. Meanwhile, other arguments begin to appear upon the scene in the form of war-ships, the *Tsukushi* having entered Chemulpo, where she will soon receive for consort the *Takasago*. The resolution of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Chemulpo, whose meeting was reported in our last, appears to have borne a very uncompromising tone. It is said to call for an immediate exercise of force. Perhaps the staid members of the Chamber understand better than unconcerned onlookers what kind of measures the situation demands, but perhaps, also, they have allowed themselves to be naturally perturbed at finding their entire business dislocated by a stroke of the Korean official pen. In Seoul, too, the Japanese residents appear to be much excited. They are said to denounce the procedure of the Tokyo Foreign Office as altogether too hesitating and lenient, but inasmuch as this version of their thoughts and sayings comes through channels hostile to the Cabinet, a discount must be allowed. At any rate it is fortunate that the management of this possibly dangerous crisis is not entrusted to the man in the street. We pre-

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sume that Japan will not decide upon any final step until the arrival of Mr. Hayashi in Seoul, which event is expected to take place on the 13th or 14th. Mr. Hayashi left Tokyo on the 8th, and instead of stopping at Kobe as was anticipated, he proceeded at once by train to Takayama in Choshiu, whither the *Takasago* was to call on the 10th to pick him up.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that Mr. Brown's action in this matter might have been anticipated. He was prominently in favour of the issue of the First Bank's notes, and he spoke strongly of the convenience that would thus be conferred on the Customs administration. Last year, when the first attempt was made to veto the circulation of the notes, he declared that he should not observe the interdict unless valid reasons were given. On this occasion, therefore, he has been merely consistent. But our contemporary justly remarks that considerable interest attaches to the question of time in this business. Did the Korean Government communicate the interdict to Mr. Brown before or after Japan's protest had reached the Foreign Office in Seoul? If the communication followed the receipt of the protest, the fact would indicate marked indifference on Korea's part to Japanese remonstrances. We imagine that the sequence of events will not be found to suggest the latter inference.

Mr. Hagiwara, the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, seems to be unable to obtain audience of the Emperor. His Majesty declines to be approached until his counsellers have decided definitely what course shall be pursued. There is also a reverse to the picture, as there always is. Li Yong-ik's project of limiting the business of note-issuing to a bank established under his own auspices would, if consummated, immediately enrich the Imperial treasury and ultimately confer much financial convenience on the Emperor's household. The Sovereign, therefore, is naturally disposed to take Li's view of the proper thing to do. Meanwhile, the question of the ginseng farming is also mixed up in this matter. The monopoly was sold to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha for three years, which terminated in 1903. At present the sale of last year's yield has not been concluded, but some new arrangement must be made before next autumn when this year's crop will become available. Li Yong-ik is supposed to be desirous of pledging the monopoly as security for capital to run the projected bank. We do not see why he should not get his capital from the Mitsui, if that be his sole idea. But there is a general impression that he wants to go elsewhere, and thus the ginseng problem is becoming mixed with the question of the bank-note interdict. Japanese authorities allege that the monopoly could not be managed by Occidentals, and that it must be entrusted to either Koreans, Chinese or Japanese.

The minor journals of Tokyo write very strongly about this business. That was to be expected. Any international complication presents itself to a certain class of writers as an opportunity to attract public attention by vehemence of speech. Still, it must be admitted that we have here a formidable volume of public declaration, for although journals like the *Jiji Shimpo* show greater self-restraint, there is unanimity of conviction that the needs of the situation will not be satisfied by merely exacting some small reparation, and that the occasion must be seized to establish a more satisfactory state of affairs. That would certainly be very desirable, but we must frankly say that this talk of establishing a more satisfactory state of affairs has become cobwebby from age. The public has been hearing declarations in that sense for more years than we can immediately enumerate, yet the "satisfactory state," seems to be as far off as ever. Its consummation involves a measure of interference which Japan may not be disposed to take in Korean domestic politics. Experience has never demonstrated that a school of unreasoning and squabbling lads can be ruled and disciplined by means of sermons delivered from a neighbouring mount. They have to be closely reached with the birch. Korean politicians and statesmen are little better than unruly boys, from the point of view of modern international intercourse and national administration. But who is going to assume the responsibility of taking them in hand? Perhaps, after all, the craft of twentieth-century statesmen has indicated the wisest path through these labyinths; namely, the acquisition of privileges which carry with them rights of interference that are at once undeniable and exercisable without provoking too dangerous friction. Russian dealings with Manchuria constitute a fine object lesson in that kind of state-craft.

Japanese newspapers say that Baron Shibusawa's efforts to effect amalgamation of the two Korean railways, namely, that from Seoul to Fusan and that from Seoul to Chemulpo, are likely to be crowned with success. Considerable difficulty had to be overcome, but the end is now in sight, and a meeting will be held on the 25th instant to make final arrangements.

Thursday, Feb. 12.

It is announced by telegraph from Korea that the Government of the country has finally decided to employ a Belgian expert in the position of adviser to the Throne. This arrangement has been effected by consultation between Li Yong-ik and the Belgian Representative in Seoul. It is added that the new foreign expert will occupy the highest position among Korea advisers, that he will have a salary of a thousand *yen* a month, that steps are now being taken to find a suitable person and that the money has already been provided. It is very fortunate for Korea that she can afford to furnish herself with a Belgian in this capacity. The Belgians that have served in the Far East have all been thoroughly competent men, and they appear to have the gift of adapting themselves cleverly to their circumstances But it might be wished that this appointment should not have been made at such an inauspicious moment, for unquestionably the new adviser will be associated by the public with the arbitrary and reckless policy of Li Yong-ik, which at one moment seemed likely to plunge his country into serious difficulties. Another point suggesting itself at once is that any self-respecting adviser who enters Korea's service should stipulate beforehand to have his advice taken or his irresponsibility clearly declared. The course pursued by the Korean Government on more than one occasion during the past few years and especially on the present occasion, has not redounded to the credit of her foreign advisers, and while we are very sure that their counsels have not been sought, it may be doubted whether the public at large has held them equally blameless.

As to the bank-note affair, it appears that the veto published by the Governor of Seoul has been withdrawn, which may be taken as an indication that Korea is coming to her senses. The general interdict remains in force, but it is not to be supposed that Korea will defy Japan about such a matter. The question of compensation, however, may prove troublesome. It will be of little use to impose a monetary penalty, unless Japan is prepared to lend whatever funds are required to pay it. On the other hand, railway or mining concessions will not immediately repay the losses suffered by the Bank and by Japanese merchants at large.

On the 9th instant Li Do-chai's appointment to be Minister of Foreign Affairs was announced. This Li held the same post at the time of the political emeute which involved the assassination of the Prime-Minister, Kim. He has the reputation of being a most obstinate man, and his name is prominently associated with opposition to the top-knot-abolition edict. Besides, he is Li Yong-ik's nominee, which does not suggest that he will be anxious to satisfy Japan's claims. Nevertheless his appointment is regarded with satisfaction in some quarters in Japan, inasmuch as a good understanding is said to have been arrived at between the Japanese Representative and the Court, and the latter is necessarily a consenting party to Li's appointment. Cho Pyong-sik held the post of Foreign Minister during Li Yong-ik's temporary eclipse, and it was by representations made to Cho from the Japanese Legation that Li Yong-ik's anti-bank-note proceedings were reversed last December, to be renewed when the latter returned to power. The Emperor is understood to have been desirous of giving the portfolio again to Cho, in the interests of an amicable understanding with Japan; but Cho stipulated for a measure of independent authority which overtaxed the forbearance of his political rivals, and accordingly the post went to Li Do-chai. Nevertheless this is not counted a sinister incident, first because the Court is showing itself altogether placable, and secondly because the astute Li Yong-ik seems to be now taking great pains to dissociate himself from the note-veto madness. Meanwhile the Russian Representative is reported to be using his influence to convince the Koreans of the folly of obstinacy, a role which he would naturally adopt under the circumstances.

The First Bank is said to have received a telegram from Seoul saying that the run has ceased in consequence of a change in the policy of the Korean Government. Reports differ slightly as to the quantity of notes offered for exchange in consequence of the veto, but the most trustworthy figures seem to be 150,000 *yen* in Seoul, 80,000 in Chemulpo and 20,000 in Kunsan, making 250,000 in all. The Bank's total issues aggregate 700,000 *yen*; namely, 300,000 in Fusan, Chemulpo 200,000, Mokpo 100,000 and Seoul 100,000. In Mokpo and Fusan the Government's veto produced no effect whatever. It will be observed that the run in Seoul exceeded the amount of notes actually issued there, but of course that is easily understood, as the Government itself probably presented any notes that had flowed in from the provinces.

Friday, Feb. 13.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Seoul says that arrangements for the establishment of a national bank of Korea have been nearly completed, at the instance of Li Yong-ik. The regulations have been compiled by Mr. Kato Masuo, adviser to the Korean Government; the capital is to be 3 million *yen*, and the general organization is

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more or less similar to that of the Bank of Japan.

The official recently appointed to represent Korea at the Court of Japan has asked to be excused, on the plea of ill-health, and a successor has been appointed, but we are unable to decipher the transliterated name of the new nominee.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Seoul correspondent states that the Korean Government is giving a daily wage of 20 *sen* to any member of the Peddlers' Guild that comes to Seoul for political purposes. The consequence is that these gentry are assembling in the capital in increasing numbers, and are organizing a more and more determined opposition to the circulation of the First Bank's notes.

The information is confirmed that the Governor of Seoul has removed the placards posted recently by him, interdicting the circulation of Japanese bank-notes. But the Governmental veto remains in force, and the action of the Governor is regarded as a mere whittling process which leaves untouched the core of the trouble.

An interesting article is published by the *Jiji Shimpo*. It seems to suggest that the only potent weapon for diplomatic purposes in Korea is money. Korean statesmen behave like children, Personal ambition appears to be their only incentive. They attach comparatively no importance to the welfare of the State, and in the pursuance of their own selfish ends they betray singular want of judgment and tact. If such persons be treated with leniency, the only result is to confirm their evil habits. If they be treated with harshness, they immediately have recourse to some foreign Power, whose protection they solicit on any conditions whatsoever, even conditions scarcely falling short of sacrificing the national independence. The nature of their motives must therefore be considered in advance of all other political factors. In other words, they must be taught to see their own account in whatever line of policy it is desirable that they should pursue. Free use of money is the obvious resource in dealing with such folks. The Japanese Legation in Seoul should have an ample "contingencies allowance," and should use it liberally and discreetly, which task is much facilitated by the fact that the source of political inspiration is the Palace. This, as our readers will perceive, is a much abbreviated version of the *Jiji's* article. But it embodies the gist of the article as we read it. A frankly practical article, we are bound to confess, and one that ought to bring a blush to the cheek of any Korean perusing it.

THE ITALIAN SOCIETY.

A meeting of the officers of the Italian Society was held in the Italian Legation, Tokyo, on the 9th instant, among those present being Marquis Nabeshima, President of the Association, Viscount Toda, Mr. Tsuji Shinji, Professor Hozumi, Mr. Okura Kihachiro and other prominent persons. The Italian Representative read to the meeting a letter from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, saying that the organization of the Association had been reported to the King, who desired that his wishes for its success should be communicated, and who was pleased to contribute a sum of 2,000 francs towards the Association's funds. This donation was accompanied by a present of 200 books from the Minister himself.

MATTERS POLITICAL.

Saturday, Feb. 7.

The two long-opposed sections in Yokohama, namely, the land-owners' section and the merchants' section, have formed a club called the Kibo-Club, which was intended to be an instrument for reconciling the two parties and uniting them effectively for election purposes. But when the preliminary meeting was held on the 5th instant with the object of organizing the Club, unexpected opposition declared itself, especially with reference to one of the proposed rules of organization, namely, that all questions relating to the election of officials or parliamentary representatives should be decided by the club in conclave. Several of the young members of the community, who are regarded as supporters of Mr. Shimada Saburo, denounced this rule on the ground that it would convert the club into a political engine. The consequent controversy became so vehement that the leaders of the project finally decided to strike out the rule from the draft. It is considered that this elision deprives the club of all *raison d'être* and defeats the project of the two sections' amalgamation. Yokohama will thenceforth be the scene, it is predicted, of a very vigorous contest between Mr. Shimada Saburo, on the one hand, and Messrs. Kato and Okuda on the other.

The recent movements in political circles seem to have ended in nothing, except, perhaps, in showing that the Elder Statesmen would gladly compound the situation were composition possible. It will not be easily known to what point the negotiations, in the ordinary sense of the term, were really pushed. But whatever did happen, the result is practically nil, and people are left to form unguided conjectures about the issue of the strange situation.

Tuesday, Feb. 10.

The Kibo Club having failed in the intention of its promoters to assume a united attitude towards the election of Messrs. Kato and Okuda, it was proposed that the leaders of the club should approach the constituency over their own names and merely as "members," not as "representatives," of the Club. But to that arrangement Mr. Kato emphatically objected, and it was then decided, according to Tokyo journals, that Mr. Kato's supporters should call themselves *Yokohama no yushisha*; that is to say instead of figuring as members of the Kibo Club, they should stand forward as leading citizens of Yokohama. Whether Mr. Kato has endorsed that arrangement we do not yet know, but in the meanwhile Mr. Shimada's supporters have taken heart of grace. Mr. Minowa Saburo, one of the present parliamentary representatives of the prefecture, has retired in Mr. Shimada's favour, and Messrs. Tanaka Shozo and Taguchi Ukichi are exerting themselves vigorously on Mr. Shimada's behalf. Mr. Tanaka's presence in the "galley" is doubtless due to the fact that the *Mainichi Shimbun*, Mr. Shimada's journal, lent its most uncompromising support to the cause of the sufferers from the Ashiwo mine poisoning. Mr. Shimada himself is endeavouring to stir up the indignation of the electors by telling them that their prefecture is being converted into a pocket borough, and that the electors are required to return a member indicated by Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. From this it is evident that Mr. Shimada believes himself to be opposed by the two statesmen. He has a hard fight.

Thursday, Feb. 12.

Mr. Kato and Mr. Okuda have agreed to stand for Yokohama. In connexion with this Mr. Kato has made a statement which is published by all the principal Tokyo journals. The gist of it is that the Tosa electors had desired to elect Mr. Kato again but for obvious reasons he declined to stand. Then he was approached by the leading men of Yokohama, and he consented to receive their suffrages if they were determined to elect him by perfectly legitimate methods and in all sincerity of heart and will. The point that Mr. Kato evidently desires to make absolutely plain is that no motion in the nature of solicitation came from his side. He was requested to stand, and he agreed to do so conditionally on being assured of the integrity of his supporters' purpose and the propriety of their procedure. This we take to be an indirect answer to Mr. Shimada Saburo's pretext that Yokohama is allowing itself to be led by the nose and converted into a pocket borough of Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. We gather from Mr. Kato's statemeut that Marquis Ito had nothing whatever to do with the matter beyond lending his influence and assistance to compose the differences that have hitherto separated Yokohama into two camps, the land-owners and the merchants.

CHINESE N WS

Saturday, Feb. 7.

The chief official of the Commercial and Agricultural Department of Hupeh province has arrived at Moji *en route* for Osaka, where he is to inspect the foreign section of the Exhibition. Japanese newspapers state that Hupeh is to send to the Exhibition a number of remarkable specimens of Chinese antiquities, dating from the Chan dynasty, and representing the work of the Tang, the Sung, the Yuan and the Ming. Many of these objects are said to be priceless, and it is expected that they will prove an immense attraction. The official in question is to return to China after making the necessary arrangements. He will come again to Japan at a later period, and will be accompanied by a number of youths who will remain in this country for purposes of study.

Some time ago it was reported that Shêng Kung-pao had granted some special privileges to German subjects in the Valley of the Yangtse. What the nature of the privileges were, no explanation was offered, nor did it appear how Shêng could be in a position to make any general concession. Another telegram now partially elucidates the matter by saying that the privileges in question have reference to navigation, the idea evidently being that in his position of president of the China Merchants S. N. Company, Shêng possessed some exceptional power. Doubtless he did, but that he could exercise it in favour of Germany exclusively is evidently impossible.

The rebellion continues in Kwangsi. A great part of the province is said to be in a state of war, and the death of a prominent officer of Government troops is announced. How curiously inept the Peking Authorities show themselves in dealing with these local disturbances! From the point of view of administrative efficiency their title to remain in the seats of power certainly rests on a

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slender basis. Yet, after all, the successful management of provincial affairs in China depends little upon the Central Government and much upon the quality of the satraps it appoints.

Viceroy Yuan's paper monay has fallen to such a discount that its further issue has been suspended, according to a telegram in the *Asahi Shimbun*. On the other hand, the Japanese Specie Bank's notes circulate freely and command complete credit. Yet the declared limit of Viceroy Yuan's issue was two million taels. It is a curious and striking illustration of the infinitesimally small faith that Chinese men of business place in their own officials.

Monday, Feb. 9.

Telegrams from Peking announce that the usual New Year's reception took place at the Imperial Palace on the 6th instant. Exceptional interest attached to this event for outsiders in consequence of a busily circulated rumour of the death of the Empress-Dowager. The event completely belied these stories, for the redoubtable lady was very much *en evidence*, and her appearance happily suggested the enjoyment of most robust health. It was the Emperor that looked debilitated and careworn. His appearance is said to have been almost alarmingly worn and emaciated, a fact which confirms the rumours circulating of late in well-informed quarters, to the effect that the quarrels in the Palace are more acute than ever, and that their serious culmination may be looked for at any moment.

An interesting feature of the ceremonial was the position assigned to the Korean Minister. It is stated that his place at the reception had caused much discussion in the Manchu Court, where the legend that Korea is a tributary of the Middle Kingdom has not yet been forgotten. But common sense finally carried the day. This tradition, once so true in fact, was finally abandoned, and the Korean Minister took his place among the Envoys of independent Powers.

China seems likely to be well represented at the Osaka Exhibition. The telegraph (*Jiji Shimpo*) says that Prince Su having memorialized the Throne urging the advisability of a strenuous effort on the part of his country's manufacturers and merchants, and suggesting that Governmental aid should be given, the Court has decreed a subsidy of 200,000 taels. It has already been reported that Hupeh is sending a remarkable collection of antique works of art, and thus a worthy representation of the old and the new may be anticipated.

Tuesday, Feb. 10.

Mr. Uchida, Japanese Minister to China, arrived at Chingwan-tao on the 7th instant and proceeded at once to Peking. His stay in Japan had not been long.

It is evident now that Chingwan-tao having become available, the route to Peking is no longer blocked in winter. Tientsin and Peking used to be almost completely cut off from over-sea communication by the freezing of the Peiho, but that inconvenient state of affairs is now remedied, in part at all events.

Thursday, Feb. 12.

It is provided in the Shanghai Convention of last year that China shall take steps to initiate and conclude the revision of her mining regulations. For that purpose she engaged the services of Mr. Wallace Broad, B.A., F.G.S., as mining adviser. Last October he was sent up the Yangtse on a tour of inspection, and on his return recently he furnished materials for the following paragraph which appears in the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

Mr. Broad touched at points in Anhui, Kiangsi, and Hupeh, but most of his time was spent in the rich mining province of Hunan, which he traversed to a point on the Siang River close to the border of Kuangsi. He saw a considerable number of mines of various kinds, and was most favourably impressed with what he saw. One mine in particular was exceedingly interesting, inasmuch as it is being worked on a rather large scale entirely by native methods and appliances, not a single article of foreign manufacture being in evidence. The mine referred to is the Lunghuangshan, the ores being those of lead and zinc. Over 1,000 hands are employed, about one-half the number being engaged in keeping the mine dry by means of primitive bamboo pumps. No smelting is done at the mine; the ores are simply concentrated by native methods and exported. In dressing the ore a considerable quantity of iron pyrites is obtained, and this is purchased by the natives for the manufacture of sulphur, the resulting slag being further treated for the production of sulphate of iron (green vitriol), the final residue being hydrated peroxide of iron (red ochre), which is ground in hand-mils and precipitated in settling tanks from which it is cut out in bricks and sold as a pigment and for other purposes. Mr. Broad was informed that he was the first foreigner to visit the mine and its accompanying chemical works, and he was greatly impressed with the ingenuity of much that he saw.

Mr. Broad also paid a short visit to the Pinghsiang coal mines. These mines are well-known to the people of Shanghai. A large colliery has been established at Ngan-yung with both Chinese and foreign capital and under foreign engineers. A railway about 40 miles in length connects the mine with Liling whence both coal and coke are sent in small boats to Hanyang and Hankow. Mr. Broad has been carefully studying Baron Richthofen's "Letters," but does not find them always quite trustworthy. The Baron says: "Liling (which is the market place for Pinghsiang coal) is of no importance, as it yields only a small quantity of an inferior dust coal." The facts are quite otherwise.

Mr. Broad speaks in the highest terms of his reception by the Chinese throughout the entire trip, which was both interesting and pleasant. He has great hopes for the future of the mining industry in China.

Simultaneously with the receipt of news that the Governor of Shingking had announced to Peking the approximate completion of Russian preparations for the second movement of evacuation, which is to take place on the 1st of March, comes intelligence that the Bazouks are again active, and that their strength is sufficient to enable them to defy any force hitherto sent against them by the Authorities.

A strange event is reported in connexion with the Manchurian Railways. Among a body of Chinese passengers, four were killed and eleven wounded more or less severely by some villains who have not yet been discovered. The event took place on the section of the line between Jehling and Kai-yuen towards the close of last month.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the Chinese Government has sent two hundred Orders to the Japanese War Department for distribution among the officers that took part in the Chili campaign. This is a novel departure. It amounts to conferring decorations on the leaders of a hostile invading force. Will China, we wonder, continue in this *beau chemin* by conferring marks of distinction on the military officers of all the Powers whose forces devastated her territory, killed her people and escaladed her capital in the year 1900; or does she desire to set up a marked distinction between her Japanese invaders and her Occidental invaders? Probably the latter.

All the Chinese Representatives in foreign countries, with the exception of Mr. Tsai in Tokyo, are said to have addressed to the Throne a memorial urging that Chinese youths should be sent to study in all the countries of the West. The memorialists say that Occidental education does not necessarily inculcate irreverence towards prince or parent. They suggest that the duty of superintending these students be entrusted to the various Representatives, and they deny the necessity of sending any special official for purposes of inspection.

MASTER KENNETH PAGE.

The death of Kenneth Page at the early age of twelve is one of those painfully sad events which too often bring bitter sorrow into households eminently undeserving of such afflictions. Little Kenneth was a bright, engaging lad, full of promise, a worthy unit of a family widely loved and respected. The fate that overtook him was not without presage, for he had been ailing since the year before last; but though his appearance could not be associated with the idea of robust health, it was not until the very day before the end that his symptoms developed an alarming character. It would be sacrilege to intrude any expressions of public sorrow into a grief that belongs so essentially to home life, but if profound sympathy can bring any grain of comfort, the poor lad's parents and sisters have it in the fullest measure.

The funeral of the late Master Page took place on Saturday morning. The service was held at the Van Schaick Hall, where there was a large gathering of friends of the family. The Rev. E. S. Booth conducted the service both at the Hall and at the graveside, and a choir of children was present to lead the singing. Miss Moulton presiding at the organ. The floral tributes were numerous.

MARQUIS ITO.

Marquis Ito may be interested in seeing what *The Independent* has to say about the recent session of the Diet:—

The attempt of Marquis Ito to preserve his political leadership during the recent session of the Japanese Diet showed extraordinary cleverness. He tried to steer a middle course, to convince people that he was an ardent advocate of naval expansion, but that the Government's way of going about the business was wrong, and that he had a better way, that way being, in short, the conversion of the fund for naval expansion into what he called a fund for naval replacement; to alarm the country about its financial peril, and at the same time to persuade outsiders that financially the country was sound; to induce the Government to give way a little on the Budget, and at the same time to induce his own party to make some concessions in other directions. The Diet did not sit long enough to prove or disprove the astuteness of his policy; but, however that may be, the present political crisis is one of the most interesting and important that has occurred in Japan for years. In the first place, it has brought together, after a long period of separation if not of estrangement, Count Okuma and Marquis Ito, each a prominent figure in Japanese politics, each the head of a great political party. This meeting means that the day of the *Genro* or elder statesmen is over. For the last few years the old statesmen, who brought about the Restoration of 1868, have formed a veritable clog on the machinery of state. The present Ministry, which represents a small coterie of politicians under Marquis Yamagata, is in other words the representative of a school whose distinctive political doctrine is not exactly conservatism as we understand the world, but a determination not to let the young men have a chance, and also a determination to oppose party government.

The *Independent's* representation of Marquis Yamagata and his followers as a school whose distinctive political doctrine is not to let the young men have a chance, ranks as a magnificent misrepresentation. The Cabinet itself is essentially a Cabinet of young men. If the *Independent* is so hopelessly at fault, what may be expected in less responsible quarters?

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PROFESSORS WESTLAKE AND HOLLAND.

The Japanese Government's statement of reasons for desiring to confer the Second Class Order of the Rising Sun on Professors Westlake and Holland is a warmly worded document. It consists of three clauses. The first is devoted to a description of the attitude assumed by these eminent authorities on international law, in connexion with the sinking of the *Kowshing* by the *Naniwa*. When the news of the incident reached England, it caused great and not unnatural excitement. Public opinion ran very high against Japan, and appearances seemed to indicate that Great Britain would become this country's enemy. At that perilous juncture Professors Westlake and Holland stepped into the breach, and by publishing a luminous exposé of the tenets of international law in its bearing on the occurrence, showed that Japan had right on her side, and effectually checked the rising storm of public anger. The second clause deals with the position consistently taken by the two professors towards the problems of Consular Jurisdiction and Treaty Revision. Their impartial and learned views of these questions proved of incalculable benefit to Japan, and helped her along the path of progress. Finally, there is an appreciative reference to the aid given by Professors Westlake and Holland to Japanese students and officials visiting Europe, and also a eulogy of their indirect assistance to Japanese Universities. The document notes that Lord Kelvin is already in possession of the First Class Order of the Sacred Treasure, and that it is more than time to offer some recognition of the services of Professors Eastlake and Holland.

We have been asked to translate and publish the document addressed by Mr. Kato Takaaki, Baron Kaneko and others to the Ministers of State for Foreign Affairs and the Navy, on the subject of Professor Holland and Professor Westlake's merits. The following is a translation :—

To the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.
To the Minister of State for the Navy.

Professor J. Westlake, a teacher at Cambridge University and a member of His Imperial Britannic Majesty's Privy Council, and Professor T. S. Holland, a teacher at Oxford University and a member of His Imperial Britannic Majesty's Privy Council, have rendered the following conspicuous services on behalf of the Japanese Empire's national welfare and national prestige.

I.—At the commencement of the war of 1894-5, when news reached England that His Imperial Majesty's ship *Naniwa* had sunk the British ship *Kowshing* in the Korean Sea, the people of England in general were much excited. It was argued that Japan's act had been one of piracy; she was called barbarous; it was declared that she should be amply punished; in fact, public opinion was plainly opposed to Japan. If at that juncture this state of opinion had been accentuated, there was reason to fear that foreign interference might have been provoked at the very outset of the war, the progress of which would thus have been prevented. Therefore Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, then chief of the Legislative Bureau, was specially despatched by this country to Saseho, and was ordered to prepare a report of the facts, which was sent to the various countries of Europe where the necessity for explanations seemed pressing. But before this, and within a few days after the news of the sinking of the *Kowshing* reached England, the above Professors had advanced an impartial and powerful plea on behalf of Japan, and although they met with opposition for a time, they finally overcame it, calmed the troubled waves and dispelled the hostility of the English people towards Japan; a service so truly great that Europeans and Japanese alike fully appreciated the conspicuous ability of the two Professors and the work they had done for Japan.

II.—It is unnecessary to say that revision of the treaties and abolition of the system of consular jurisdiction were part of Japan's State policy from the time of the Restoration, for though Japan had entered the comity of nations, so long as consular jurisdiction was maintained she could not obtain a position of equality with European nations. The abolition of this system would greatly elevate the position of Japan and increase her prestige. In spite of the fact that among Europeans there was strong opposition to the abolition, the above two Professors, repeatedly advanced powerful arguements on Japan's behalf from 1885 onward, at the meetings of the celebrated Association of International Jurists organized by European students of international law. Also, when Mr. Kaneko Kentaro was chosen to be an ordinary member of the Association, they asked him to present a report on Japanese civilization, and guided by the trustworthy material thus obtained, they rendered an upright decision, defeated their opponents and imparted a uniform tone to the arguments of sociologists outside the realm of foreign intercourse. Thus the services they rendered and the success they achieved in raising Japan's status in the world and in enhancing her prestige, must be called very considerable.

III.—The two Professors have cöoperated in the kindest and most valuable manner with many Japanese students. When Mr. Takahashi Sakuye, during the period of his studies in England, desired to publish a book which should acquaint the world with Japan's achievements in her war with China, they enabled him to do it in the name of an English university, thus affording him extraordinary assistance. Further, it is matter of general knowledge that they showed the greatest kindness and furnished substantial facilities to Japanese investigators in the prosecution of their inquiries, as for example Messrs. Terao Toru, Okubo Toshitake, Mizuno Rentaro, Tokutomi Ichiro, Fukai Yeigo and many others.

Again, from the point of view of science, these two Professors are stars among the world's international jurists; their works are text-books used in Japan; and their achievements in promoting the cause of learning in this country are signal.

As above set forth, the services rendered by the two Professors to Japan are very great, and are fully understood by Europeans and Americans. Now the fact may be recalled that Lord Kelvin, in consideration of his labours in the cause of science, has already received the First class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure. Yet, though the services of the two Professors are familiar not only to Japanese but also to Europeans and Americans, no mark of destinction has yet been conferred on them, which is alike contrary to the desire of Japan and a subject of surprise to Europeans and Americans. Therefore the undersigned have the honour to beg that, in consideration of the two Professors' merits, an Order be granted to them, if possible the Second Class of the Rising Sun, and to that end they have compiled this brief summary of services which they now submit for the information of the Authorities :

(dated) June, 1902.

(signed) Kato Takaaki.
(Formerly Japanese Representative in England).
Kaneko Kentaro.
(Member of the International Law Institute).
Takahashi Sakuye.
(Member of the International Law Institute).
Mizuno Rentaro.
(Councillor of the Department of State for Home Affairs).

The result of the above application was that the two Professors received the Order suggested.

THE PEST IN TOKYO.

There has been a case of illness closely resembling pest in Sarugakucho in the Kanda district of Tokyo. The sufferer is a woman and she was taken ill on the 8th instant. No final verdict has yet been pronounced by the medical authorities, but considerable uneasiness is felt, for Sarugakucho is one of the thickly populated quarters of Kanda district, and to deal with an outbreak of pest there would be very different from dealing with it in a factory at Honjo.

It turns out that the woman in Kanda whose malady was supposed to be pest, is suffering from an ordinary illness, not associated in any way with pest. This is good news, for if the pest made its appearance in the thickly populated region of Kanda, its limitation and control would have been extremely difficult, if not altogether impossible.

THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY.

The *Jiji Shimpo* is exerting all its powerful influence to bring about reforms in the administration of the Japan Railway Company's affairs. As a basis for criticism our contemporary has written several articles and paragraphs about the business of the tenders, and it now passes on to the question of general management. In this campaign the *Jiji* has the fullest approval from the public, we are persuaded. Among foreigners, at all events, the comment elicited by the affair of the tenders has generally been that good sometimes comes out of evil, and that if this exposure lead to radical reforms in the lax and perfunctory methods of the company, a national benefit will be secured. We believe that the *Jiji* will succeed, for there is no corporation in this country that can defy the *Jiji's* strictures.

In the course of his speech at the recent half-yearly meeting of the Railway Company, Viscount Soga applied the term *chonin* to British merchants. This expression is a relic of the days of feudalism, when caste distinctions prevailed. Hence the *Jiji Shimpo* condemns Viscount Soga in strong terms, and declares that his employment of such a term indicates the *de-haut-en-bas* temper in which the Company's business is conducted. Our contemporary mentions that, in the parlance of the railway officials, its clients in the northern regions are known generically as *dobiyakusho* (rustics), the petty officials of the Company regarding themselves as people quite above such an agricultural herd.

We may say for the information of our readers that the term *chonin* is not in itself insulting or depreciatory. It means simply "citizen," or "man of a town." But somehow it has fallen out of use in recent times, being replaced in its sense of "townsfolk" by the word *shimin*. Probably Viscount Soga may be fully acquitted of all intention to say anything belittling of British merchants. The expressions current in their youthful days linger unconsciously in the mouths of old people, and are often uttered without full thought for the changes that later times have brought. We can recall a memorial penned by the great Mr. Fukuzawa, in which he described himself as "Mita no chonin Fukuzawa Yukichi."

The list of largest shareholders in the Japan Railway Company is this :—

	Shares.
Fifteenth (Nobles) Bank	303,773
Imperial Estates Bureau	24,422
Baron H. Iwasaki	22,982
Marquis Asano	17,947
The Ex-King of Riukiu	16,961
Prince Mayeda	12,352
The Mitsui Company	11,202
Baron Y. Iwasaki	10,500
Marquis Tokugawa	10,076

The very large holding of the Fifteenth National Bank has been a subject of much comment, as showing that an investment returning a steady income of 10 or 11 per cent. has more attractions for the Bank than business falling within the ordinary range of such an institution's functions. After the Fifteenth Bank the two Barons Iwasaki are the largest owners, their shares totalling 33,482, and representing 2¾ millions of *yen* at present quotations. The Japan Railway Company is apparently a species of close corporation. Its latest declaration of dividend was 11 per cent., and its 50 *yen* shares are quoted at only 79, from which we conclude that there are no sales.

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THE AWOMORI FAMINE.

The *Japan Gazette* publishes statistics obtained from the office of this prefecture, showing that no less than five prefectures in the north-east, are suffering keen distress, the area of the calamity being thus much wider than was originally supposed. We learn from these figures that, excluding Toyama prefecture, from which no accurate details have yet been obtained, there are nearly 148,000 persons in a state of complete or partial destitution. Evidently it is a time when charitable folks should come to the rescue. We observe that our contemporary deprecates the idea of applying contributions to the purpose of road-making, urges that they should go to buy rice, and says that several persons are waiting to contribute until they can be assured of the direct employment of their money for food supplies. If there be many whom that scruple deters from aiding, it may be well to point out that charity through the medium of public works is the method now generally adopted in enlightened countries. It is the method pursued in India and it has been found to work excellently. As many as three million persons have been engaged at one time by the Indian Government on works which, while they gave relief to the destitute, were also calculated to avert destitution in the future. But of course there must be many sufferers who can not be reached by such means; the aged, the infirm and those of tender years. Direct relief is essential in their case, and equally of course any funds contributed through the medium of this journal will be forwarded with a request that the Governors of the afflicted region should use the money according to their discretion. As to direct distribution by foreigners, it must necessarily be difficult and expensive, apart from the much more serious consideration that a foreign distributor is not in a position to exercise discrimination or to obtain accurate information. These objections would not apply to the missionaries on the spot, but it may be observed that the appeal in this instance came originally from a leading missionary, who nevertheless advised that any funds collected should be placed in official hands. None the less if any further contributions can be obtained for purposes of direct distribution by foreign agents, we should be the last to throw cold water on the project.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of the following sums on behalf of the famine-stricken people in Aomori Prefecture :—

	YEN.
H. E. Count Arco-Valley	30.00
H. E. Sir Claude Macdonald	30.00
H. E. Baron d'Anethan	30.00
The "Japan Mail" Office	20.00
F. Schroeder	5.00
E. V. Thorn	20.00
"Q."	50.00
Cash	20 00
"Heretic"	5.00
The Gijo Gion-sha and the King's Daughters of the Joshi Gakuin	26.00
L'Union Fire Insurance	10.00
L. Suzor	5.00
A. E. Fischer	20.00
Billy	1.00
Woonie	.50
Marjorie	.50
Eric	.50
Two B.'s	3.00
Yokohama Eigo Semmon Gakko, Literary Society	5.00
Yokohama Third M. P. Church	2.50
Un Ami	10.00
T. W. Hellyer	20.00
C. B. S.	5.00
Offertory S. Andrew's Church, Tokyo	114.00
Otto Reimers & Co.	100.00
R. J. Ward and Family	25.00
H. Loomis	5.00

A Correspondent who has sent his "mite" towards this fund, says—"I found some verses in a paper from home to-day which I have taken the liberty to slightly alter and ask you to print; perhaps it may induce others to come forward with their half-dollars, for in a case like this every little helps."

What's half-a-*yen* to you and me
However low our fortunes be?
To *them*—a great and splendid gift,
That, parcelled out with painful thrift,
From Hunger's grip shall set them free.

For evermore anigh them, he
That grim old Wolf, lurks threat'ningly;
—He giveth twice, who giveth swift
His half-a-*yen*.

"KIGEN-SETSU."

Feb. 11th was "Kigensetsn," the anniversary of the accession to the throne of the Emperor Jimmu Tenno, and also of the present Emperor's declaration of the Constitution, the former event being assigned by history to the year 660, B.C., while the latter took place as recently as 1889, A.D. In Yokohama the banks were closed and business was almost completely suspended, while the men-of-war and ships in the harbour dressed with bunting and fired salutes at noon.

The Emperor was present at the Audience in the Palace on the forenoon of the 11th instant, when all the Ministers of State, Marquis Ito and Marquis Oyama, as well as the Foreign Representatives attended. The number present was 378. His Majesty's speech took the usual very curt but gracious forms. It was translated into French by Baron Sannomiya, and replies were made by Count Katsura on behalf of the Ministry and Baron d'Anethan on behalf of the Corps Diplomatique, Baron Sannomiya again acting as interpreter. Luncheon was subsequently served in the Hall of Plenty (Homei-den). The Empress was not present at this audience. Her Majesty held a Drawing-room, at which the wives of the Ministers of State and other distinguished persons were present.

Among the incidents of the *Kigen-setsu* celebrations in Tokyo on the 11th instant, one of the most novel and appropriate was a banquet at the British Legation to all the Japanese graduates of Oxford and Cambridge. No less than thirty thus distinguished were found, and among them were Count Matsukata, who received the honorary LL.D. of Oxford University on the occasion of his visit to Europe last year, Marquis Hachisuka, Marquis Kuroda, Baron Kikuchi, Mr. Soyeda, Mr. Nanjo Fumio, and several others whose names are well-known. The banquet appears to have been a great success, and Sir Claude MacDonald's remark, when proposing the toast of the graduates, that he hoped the function might be one of an annual series, and that on each occasion an increased number would celebrate the event, was greeted with warm applause. It happened that the insigina of the Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, which the King had conferred on Count Matsukata, reached the Legation on the afternoon of the 11th, and Sir Claude MacDonald took the occasion to present them to the Count at the close of the banquet, to the very marked satisfaction of the eminent statesman. After dinner Count Matsukata was invested with the insigina by the Minister's hand, amid much applause, and he wore the broad sash and handsome star throughout the evening. The programme forbade any set speeches or toasts, with the exception of the healths of the Emperor of Japan and the King of England, and success to the Oxford and Cambridge graduates. But Baron Kikuchi, Minister of State for Education, departed from the order by proposing the health of the host, Sir Claude MacDonald, which was drunk with much enthusiasm.

GERMAN INCURSIONS INTO THE REALM OF BRITISH TRADE.

Sir Alfred Bateman has compiled an exhaustive memorandum dealing with the principal features of Great Britain's import trade from Germany. The impression prevails that German goods have largely replaced English even in the home markets, and on that supposed fact some sinister forecasts were founded. But when the circumstances are critically and minutely examined, they do not bear out any such conclusion. The *Commercial Intelligence* makes the following digest of Sir Alfred's dicta :—

An examination of our imports from Germany as a whole shows an average increase, as between 1880-84 and 8896-1900, amounting to £3,702,000, which is at the rate of nearly 15 per cent. But there are two facts which qualify this statement of increase materially. The first is that the figures for the earlier period include about £1,558,000 for the value of live animals (for food) imported, and the importation of live animals from German ports has been prohibited for some years in consequence of orders of the Board of Agriculture. The other is that an increase of no less than £3,346,000 is shown to have occurred in the value of our imports of sugar from Germany, and the case of sugar is, by reason of the German sugar bounties, altogether exceptional. Further, the increase in the value of our imports of sugar from Germany would have been very much greater than recorded had it not been for a heavy reduction of price. If the two facts referred to be allowed for, by omitting the value of live animals from the total in 1880-84 and excluding sugar from the account altogether it will be found that instead of an increase of £3,702,000 in the value of our "direct" imports from Germany there will be an apparent increase of about £1,911,000 only.

Looking at the details as a whole, the observation which at once occurs to Sir Alfred is that although in several items there is distinct advance in our imports from Germany, yet the whole amount of the trade in some of the articles is insignificant in comparison with our own home and export trades in those articles. As to cotton and woollen manufactures, we only took from Germany £678,000 worth of the former and £1,048,000 worth of the latter, on an average, in 1896-1900, while we exported in all over £58,000,000 *worth of cottons, and* £15,700,000 *worth of woollen goods.* Similarly, with iron and steel manufactures (including machinery and cycles), of which we imported on an average in 1896-1900 £891,000 worth from Germany, but exported of our own manufacture £49,000,000 *worth.*

Among the protests that have appeared in many English papers against writings of the nature of Rudyard Kipling's latest inflammatory verses, we think it worth while to quote the following :—

We were the first to protest against the attempt to inflame public feeling against Germany in connection with the Venezuelan imbroglio, and we are very glad to see that we are not the last. Granted that we have no cause to affect love for those who so lately vilified us, or for the monarch who first encouraged Mr. Kruger and then deserted him in his hour of need; granted also that our Government, as every one agrees, did a foolish thing in entering this Venezuelan business bound hand and foot to Germany; what object but the lowest, the vilest, is served by venting the indignation which should be directed against those who are responsible for the bungle, upon a nation which, whatever its faults, is a great and noble people, a nation which has laid all mankind under obligation for the many geniuses she has

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borne to the world? The author of the famous telegram is not the only German known to fame, and we would fain believe that the day is not far distant when ill-feeling will die away, and our cousins-German be our allies, not in blockading the defenceless coast of a trumpery State, but in promoting the advancement of mankind in every department of human effort. This at any rate shall be the Christmas card of one English paper to a foreign people.

THE POLICE IN NEW YORK.

Before any one raises hands of horror over the supposed corruption in Japan, let him read an essay in *The Independent* of January 15th, consisting of statements made by a New York patrolman. The patrolman commenced his career of candidature for policeman by giving $300 to a politician who promised to get him appointed. The money was paid over in a saloon in William Street, and the politician handed it to the saloon-keeper to put into the safe. This proved a sort of confidence trick, for the saloon-keeper, knowing that no complaint could be lodged against him, quietly denied all knowledge of the money, and it was lost to the politician and the candidate for ever. That, however, was a mere preliminary episode. What follows in the story is much more interesting, for it shows that the police of the great city are in the regular pay of various classes of law-breakers, and that while a patrolman pockets from $150 to $200 a month in this manner, a captain's earnings run up to anything from $20,000 to $50,000 annually. The furnisher of this striking information attributes the whole abuse to what he calls "fool laws;" that is to say, laws against irrepressible vices. Instead of making any attempt to abolish gaming, drinking and that other vice that accompanies wine, he would control them all by a system of licensing.

MR. JOHN BARRETT.

We observe that on his return to Bombay from the Delhi Durbar Mr. John Barrett was interviewed by a representative of the *Bombay Gazette*, which paper publishes the following:—

When the Commissioner-General was asked by a representative of the *Gazette* to give an interview on the World's Fair, he asked to be excused from making an extended statement in advance of his address before the Chamber of Commerce this afternoon, but consented to answer a few questions that were asked him. In reponse to an inquiry about his declination of the Japanese mission, and the alleged opposition of Japan to his appointment, Mr. Barrett said;

"Although I appreciated greatly the honor that President Roosevelt showed me by offering me the high and responsible post of United States Minister of Japan, I felt that I could not possibly accept without doing serious injury to the interests of the World's Fair, and disregarding my obligations to complete my present mission. The offer came to me just as I was beginning the exploitation of India, which I consider a most important field. Had I accepted I would have been obliged to have given that up, as well as Australasia, another very important section of the world which I have not yet had time to visit. It is my desire and ambition to see the Asian and Australasian representation at St. Louis, the most complete ever displayed in America, and to do all in my power to promote the growth of commercial and friendly relations between the United States and the countries bordering on the Pacific and Indian Oceans. In view of the magnitude and character of the World's Fair, I am striving to arrange to have these Asiatic exhibits not only comprehensive, but throughly legitimate and illustrative of their real resources, products, and possibilities. I am not seeking spectacular features, which often are demoralizing in tone and effect, but am urging Asiatic Governments and exhibitors to permit only such exhibits to be sent to St. Louis as will in every way reflect credit upon them. In regard to Japan's alleged objections to me on account of certain political views I was described as holding, I have no definite knowledge. I cabled my declination almost immediately after the tender."

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

"Mrs. Babcock," is the euphonious name of a lady who, for literary purposes, calls herself "Onoto Watanna." To what language the latter appellation belongs we should not have been able to conjecture had we not known that Mrs. Babcock is partly of Japanese origin, and that one, at all events, of her efforts as an authoress deals with Japanese things, and has been very well received by readers and reviewers in America. What has brought the story into special prominence, however, is that a drama, called "The Darling of the Gods," having been founded on it, Mrs. Babcock accused the authors of plagiarism, and one of them, Mr. David Belasco, has brought action against her, the immediate result being that many people are talking of "Onoto Watanna," and many more of "The Darling of the Gods," which, though it is said to be a very poor play, is likely to prove a paying concern in consequence of this notoriety. A law court is often an excellent advertising medium.

The Emperor of Japan has sent two magnificent embroidered screens to St. Petersburg for presentation to the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Russia.

The obsequies of the late Lord High Abbot of the Shin Sect, Count Otani Koson, took place on the 7th instant in Kyoto. It goes without saying that the ceremonies were of the most imposing nature. Six thousand five hundred priests took part, aad the number of mourners of the same sect totalled over twenty thousand, the spectators being innumerable.

It seems to be agreed in Washington that Dr. Von Holleben's recall was due to his failure to keep the Berlin Government properly informed about America's attitude in the Venezuelan affair. He led the Kaiser to imagine that President Roosevelt was certain to accept the position of arbitrator, and His Majesty is said to have been surprised and disconcerted when he found that this forecast was erroneous.

We should really deem it a very great favour if our kind clients would take practical note of the elementary rule of journalistic arrangements, namely, that editors of newspapers are not also their own accountants. Possibly there is a covert compliment in the implied notion that an editor is such a jack of all trades as to have time and ability to keep the books of his office as a mere trifling episode of his daily work, but the editor of this journal would gladly dispense with the complimentary implication for the sake of being guaranteed against inquiries as to how much such and such an advertisement costs, or when such and such an account will be sent. The manager of the paper, or the accountant, is the proper person, and the only proper person, to address on these matters. To ladies principally we make this appeal. The fine usage of the twentieth century forbids us to offer any direct remonstrance to this individual or that of the fair sex, but we do venture to say that when ladies are so kind as to undertake functions involving reference to newspapers or use of their columns, they might not unreasonably lay aside for a moment their indifference to the usages of that contemptible biped, man, and adapt themselves to an etiquette which costs nothing and saves a good deal of inconvenience.

The devastation recorded in our telegrams refers to the Society Islands which are included in the French establishments of Oceania. Papeete, from which Italian and French warships have gone to render assistance, is the chief town of the group, with a population of 4,282 inhabitants of whom 2,490 are French. It is to be supposed that the disaster has chiefly affected the outlying islands, of which there are many forming the group.

A Shanghai journal deems it astonishing that a newspaper in England was found to publish Mr. Kipling's latest poem. We can not go quite so far as that, nor do we think that such a stricture comes with particularly good grace from the Shanghai press, in which gross and cruel insults are so often offered to the Chinese. But we do wonder that *The Times* published the poem. Can it be that the sting in the tail of it escaped the Thunderer's observation? For the sting is in the tail solely. Out of the eleven verses of which the poem consists the first ten are irreproachable from an international point of view. They are severe, it is true, and for the sake of friendship with Germany, which we all desire to see restored, it would have been better had they never been written. But they are not wantonly insulting. The insult is in the last, where by a poetic licence deserving of the fullest denunciation, the Germans are likened by implication to Goths and Huns. It is mere dementia to talk in such a wild manner.

Count von Bülow made reference to the matter in the Reichstag. That, we think, was a mistake on his part, especially as he kept silence for so long a time about the much grosser insults offered by German journals to the British nation from the Sovereign to the lowest soldier. Besides the reference will serve only to advertise the poem. If Mr. Kipling republishes it in book form, we predict that he will elide the eleventh verse.

The Hongkong business-men have changed their minds, wisely we think, and are about to discuss the question of silver at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. We ventured to query the good sense of their previous resolution to leave the problem undebated because no advantage was likely to accrue from debating it. After all, the task to be performed by the merchants of the Colony does not necessarily extend to suggesting a complete system of reform. It is limited, rather, to an announcement of their opinion whether reform is necessary. If they decide in the affirmative the duty of those responsible for such matters will be to think out and give effect to the proper measures. On the other hand, if the Hongkong merchants decide that things may remain as they are, the effect of their decision will be considerable. Probably their ideas will take the form that reform would be highly beneficial, but that it must wait for action on China's part. The colony can not conveniently separate itself in this matter from the neighbouring country, with which virtually the whole of its commerce is carried on.

Mr. de Lima, Brazilian Representative in Japan, has been promoted to Peru, where many important questions are now on the *tapis*. He is to leave Tokyo on the 20th instant, to the great regret of many friends.

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BARON IWASAKI.

THE *Japan Times* publishes a carefully prepared translation of a remarkable letter addressed by Baron Y. IWASAKI to the *Jiji Shimpo* on the last day of last year. In these columns the gist of the letter was given at the time. Much attention has justly been attracted by the Baron's utterances, not merely as coming from a man so prominent in the business world of Japan, but also because of their pessimistic character. The distinguished writer takes a very gloomy view of the morality of his country's merchants and manufacturers, and alleges that while they have shown some aptitude in borrowing the forms of Western enterprise, they have failed to imbibe the spirit of integrity, of discipline and of self-respect that constitute the bases of solid success, especially in England. We can not question the accuracy of Baron IWASAKI's strictures, though we should be inclined to say that their publication may be regarded as at least an earnest of the better conditions he seeks to introduce, and further that he himself and not a few other leading men of affairs in Japan, may be pointed to as examples of as high a standard as any country furnishes. Baron IWASAKI, when he goes abroad in search of models, does not, we presume, fall into the error of counting everything gold that glistens. Nevertheless his eulogies of Occidental ways strike us as somewhat exaggerated, and would not be altogether borne out by the experience of Occidentals themselves. There are bad and good everywhere. Still no one can gainsay the fact that a deficient appreciation of moral responsibility is one of the chief obstacles to business success in Japan, since it paralyses credit by which the resources of a nation are infinitely multiplied. We greatly admire the courage shown by Baron IWASAKI in frankly proclaiming this unpopular truth. His words can not fail to have effect, supplementing, as they do, many similar though less drastic criticisms from other prominent Japanese.

Nevertheless the conviction is not to be escaped that Baron IWASAKI's judgment has been somewhat clouded by his pessimism in the matter of the introduction of foreign capital. His clearly expressed belief is that if foreign capital be employed for the purposes of works in the nature of monopolies, such as railways, gas works, electric lighting, electric trams, water-works, harbours, and so on, there is danger that the absolute control of such undertakings might fall into foreign hands, an innovation to be strongly deprecated in the existing condition of Japanese affairs. His conclusion is:—"When our commercial and manufactural development shall have become complete in form and spirit and our social order as perfect as in European countries, it will then be possible to introduce foreign capital for the prosecution of undertakings partaking of the nature of a monopoly, without any apprehension of the power of management being seized by foreigners to an injurious extent." The words remind us forcibly of the dialogue between the American mother and her child:—"Dear mother may I learn to swim?" "Yes, surely darling daughter; hang your clothes on a hickory limb, but don't go near the water." In effect the Baron's advice sounds like, "Wait until you can do without foreign capital before you think of employing it." We should have supposed that association with Occidental men of business, whom he so highly eulogises, would have been precisely one of the courses advocated by Baron IWASAKI as likely to furnish the absent leaven of commercial conscience, and we should further have supposed that if British merchants and manufacturers really possessed the high character assigned to them by their panegyrist, there would not have been any danger of their seizing the power of management to the injury of their Japanese partners. What strikes us chiefly, however, is the hypothesis underlying Baron IWASAKI's remarks: the hypothesis that any shrewd British man of affairs would for one instant entertain the vain fancy that enterprises such as those enumerated could be successfully prosecuted by him in Japan after he had "injuriously seized" the power of management. We venture to affirm that not one solitary Englishman labours under such a futile delusion, and that if British capitalists invested money in Japanese enterprises, it would be with the unique intention of enjoying Japanese cooperation and themselves refraining, as far as possible, from all direct interference with the prosecution of the undertaking. That is where Baron IWASAKI seems to have entirely underestimated the shrewdness of the foreigners; that he is where he shows remarkable misconception of the nature of foreign experience in Japan; that is where he appears to greatly mistake the peculiar temper of his own nationals. There is not going to be any attempt on the part of foreigners to seize monopolies in this country and to exploit them injuriously. Any foreigner engaging in such schemes, would find himself badly "left," and he knows it. In fact, jealous exclusiveness is a Japanese trait which, though it certainly has its uses and though it possesses some title to respect, can not be regarded as altogether wholesome or conducive to the country's material development.

Apart from these general considerations, which, in our opinion, reduce Baron IWASAKI's apprehension to the dimensions of a mere chimera, there is the special fact that, precisely because of their monopolistic character, the enterprises which he would close against foreign capital, are safeguarded by regulations and hedged around with restrictions which render it wholly impossible for foreigners to attempt the manœuvre of "seizing" them "injuriously." The charters under which these monopolies are granted and the instructions that set limits to their privileges, are probably the most inelastic documents of their kind ever drafted by distrustful legislators. Baron IWASAKI very scantily appreciates the temper of his country's lawgivers. Thus we can find no point of view from which his conservative thesis supports intelligent inspection, and we think that Japan, having doffed her old-fashioned garments, may fairly venture into the water of general progress, instead of practising private swimming in her own backyard.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

IT is plain that the Korean Government has allowed itself to be betrayed into a course which, unless speedily arrested, may lead to serious complications with Japan. The inspirers of the Seoul Cabinet's policy, whoever they may be, appear to think that audacity is the only necessary basis of international policy, and that they may innocuously play fast and loose with Japan provided that they show a bold enough front. The bank-note question is the main, if not the sole, immediate source of trouble, though we presume that the imposition of extra-conventional dues on goods travelling by the Nak-dong river is also kept in sight. The Korean Authorities, so far as we can gather, duly sanctioned the circulation of the First Bank's paper, and then suddenly withdrew the sanction, without giving any notice whatever to the Japanese Minister. Moreover, their procedure was of the most drastic character, for they issued an administrative order against using the notes and accompanied it by an announcement that any one tendering or receiving them would be severely punished. The result was that out of six hundred thousand *yen* worth of notes already in circulation, one quarter were presented for conversion within a few days, and the remainder may be expected to find their way to the Bank at brief notice. In these circumstances the Japanese Government is represented as having taken a very strong course. It is said to have informed the Korean Foreign Office that such doings are entirely contrary to the spirit of friendly intercourse, as well as to the language of the treaty of 1876, which guarantees full facilities for Japanese trade in Korea, and to have declared that the veto must be withdrawn at once. Tokyo newspapers allege that the remonstrance embodies a threat of strong-handed proceedings in the event of obduracy on Korea's part, but that seems very improbable. Japan will doubtless insist on her rights, but she will refrain from menace until the last resort. Meanwhile the writings of prominent Tokyo journals indicate considerable indignation. They urge that not only should an immediate remedy be applied and due compensation sought, but also that measures should be taken such as will provide effectually against the recurrence of incidents so perilous to public tranquillity.

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If LI YONG-IK be really the prime mover in all this commotion, he must be a very clumsy and a very short-sighted official. It is most unfortunate, too, that he should have been so closely connected with Russia recently. According to the best Japanese authority, namely, that of Minister HAYASHI himself, as reported in the columns of Japanese newspapers, LI YONG-IK formerly showed himself friendly to Japan, and professed a sincere desire to cement the amicable relations between the two empires. Then followed his political peril, his flight to the Russian Legation, his escape from Korea in a Russian man-of-war, his sojourn at Port Arthur, his speedy return to Seoul, again in a Russian man-of-war, and his immediate re-instatement in a position of paramount power, which he apparently lost no time in ultilizing for purposes diametrically opposed to his previous attitude and his former professions. It is not to be expected for a moment that this sequence of events will fail to assume the character of cause and effect in Japanese eyes. The man in the Japanese street will inevitably conclude that LI's suddenly developed unfriendliness is the outcome of a creed instilled into his mind during his refuge under the Russian Flag, and thus another point of friction will be created between this country and the Great Northern Power. Yet it seems to us highly improbable that Russia is wittingly concerned in this matter. For, in the first place, the quality of such diplomacy would be quite unworthy of her. She can not possibly look to extend her influence in Korea by encouraging its Government to commit flagrant breaches of treaty against Japan, and to commit them in a manner which is almost ludicrously defiant. It has to be remembered that, some weeks ago, the Korean Foreign Office openly pledged itself to the withdrawal of the original veto issued against the circulation of these same bank notes, and that the notes were thenceforth suffered to circulate without impediment. But now suddenly and without the slightest warning, the veto is re-issued, as though Japan's previous remonstrances and the Korean Government's previous official assurances were not worth the paper on which they were written. That kind of thing is altogether too clumsy to be associated with Russian instigation, especially as its evident result must be to strengthen Japan's position in Korea. Moreover, it is understood that the Russo-Chinese Bank contemplates the establishment of a note-issuing branch in Seoul, and, of course, the present veto, if allowed to stand, would be fatal to such a project. We can not suppose, therefore, that Russia has prompted this escapade. But the man in the Japanese street will not argue so closely. He will merely regard LI YONG-IK as a Russian partizan, and will attribute the whole incident to Russian instigation. It is a pity that if Russia must afford the shelter of her Legation and her men-of-war to Korean politicians, she can not make choice of men less maladroit, or at any rate subject their acts to greater restraint and closer supervision.

THE JAPAN RAILWAY QUESTION.

IN the columns of the *Japan Times* we find a detailed report of an explanation said to have been given by Viscount SOGA at the half-yearly general meeting of the Japan Railway Company on the 7th instant. Viscount SOGA, in his capacity of President of the Company, undertook to elucidate the strange facts recently set forth in these columns with respect to tenders for locomotives. According to the *Fiji Shimpo*, the Viscount's explanation does not seem to have exceeded a statement that the Company had always reserved to itself the right of choice between tenderers, without respect to the arithmetic of their offers, and that, experience having proved the superiority of a certain manufacturer's goods, the order was given to that company. It is not to be denied that much validity might attach to such an explanation. The Company, while desirous of continuing its purchases from a firm of established excellence, may nevertheless have desired to impose some check on the firm's prices, and with that object may have called for tenders, the intention being, however, to give the order to the firm in question should its offer be found not too conspicuously large by comparison. Had that line been pursued, the other firms invited to tender might have valid grounds for dissatisfaction, but the general public would cease to entertain doubts of the Company's integrity. That line was not pursued, however. What happened was that the order for 32 engines was divided, 12 being given to the lowest tenderer, 12 to the highest—namely the favoured firm—and 8 to German manufacturers who had not tendered at all. In the face of these facts it really seems idle for Viscount SOGA to tell the public and the shareholders, however credulous he may count them, that the Directors' choice was dictated solely by considerations of established excellence of manufacture, and not by prices, within certain limits. If the form of inviting tenders had no other object than to impose a check on the favoured firm, why was the order given, in the first place, partly to the favoured firm, partly to the lowest tenderer, and partly to Germans who had not tendered at all? The so-called explanation renders the affair more inexplicable than ever. Yet that is the version most advantageous in the interests of the Directors' reputation. The *Japan Times*' version is this :—

> The Company, which had found it necessary to buy 32 locomotives in the first term of the 37th fiscal year, had decided to order some of them from German factories on account of the fact that the Company's previous experience had proved to it the superiority of German engines in their quality compared with those made in other countries. The Company had also considered that, owing to the recent dullness in the business of manufacturing engines in Germany, it would be able to secure them at a comparatively low price in that country. Again, there was at one time a tendency showing that the British factories from which the company used to buy its locomotives of late years, seemed to consider that they had a monopoly of the supply and would consequently raise their prices. It was for these reasons that the company particularly selected four British and three German companies to participate in the competition for tenders when tenders were first called for. But unfortunately when the first tenders were opened, it was found out that none of the prices thus tendered came below the figures previously fixed by the company. Under the circumstances, the Company, considering that there was not sufficient time to repeat the invitation for tenders fresh, gave up the idea of doing so; but decided to secure the necessary machines by individual contracts and named some companies among those once invited, whose tender came comparatively near the price satisfactory to the Company. 12 engines went to a company represented by Messrs. Mitsui & Co. and another 12 to one represented by Messrs. Isono & Co. while 8 of them went to Messrs. Raspe & Co., a German firm. Thus the transaction was perfectly honest and fair on the part of the Company.

It is scarcely necessary to comment on such an explanation. We prefer to assume that Viscount SOGA is wrongly reported and that he can not possibly have made the extremely silly statements attributed to him by our contemporary. The sum of the matter, according to this account, is that the Directors, finding all the tenders to be above their own proposed maximum, proceeded to resolve the situation by giving their order to the highest tenderer among the whole. That is farcical. If the shareholders of the Japan Railway Company are content, that is their own concern. But for the sake of that already greatly damaged commodity, Japanese business reputation, we wish that Viscount SOGA had made out a more specious case.

TRUSTS.

M. PAUL LEROY-BEAULIEU, the eminent French economist, arrives at the conclusion that trusts are the children of protective tariffs. The protective tariff constitutes a kind of ring fence around a country. It converts a certain area, great or small, into a clearly defined field whereto outside nations are forbidden access and wherein manufacturers and producers belonging to the fenced-in country, may plan and conduct huge cooperative campaigns without fear of foreign competition. The American man of business has illimitable ambition. Indeed his ambition is by some supposed to be largely responsible for the gigantic organizations called trusts which he conceives. Merchants and manufacturers in other countries are content to get rich, but the manufacturer or merchant of the United States sets himself to attain a goal of power and fame such as none of his European confreres conceives. LEROY-BEAULIEU, in enunciating that idea, which doubtless commends itself to the artistic Frenchman for the sake of its picturesqueness, relates at the same time that when Austria-Hungary was enclosed by a tariff fence in the matter of sugar, a vast trust was formed by her producers also. Sugar being protected by a prohibitive duty amounting to the actual cost of its production, the producers agreed to fix its price for the home market at a very high rate, exporting their surplus at prices that barely covered actual expenditure. The same thing happened in Germany, and the Governments of both countries, deeming it a good thing, since they thought

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that it developed their national trade, helped to encourage the process by granting the lowest possible freights to sugars travelling over State lines to places of export. The organization was confined to sugar because sugar alone possessed the necessary qualification of a protective tariff, but if the enactment of such a tariff with regard to one commodity immediately made that commodity the object of a trust, is it not reasonable to conclude that trusts would flourish in Europe also, as they do in America, given similar conditions, and that the phenomenon is not due to specially elastic ambition on the part of the American merchant or manufacturer? There are no trusts in England, and we do not think that their absence is due to any inferiority of business instinct in the Englishman's moral equipment, though LEROY-BEAULIEU seems to hold that view. We think that the fact may be fairly referred to the free-trade system, which, by extending the field of competition to the whole world, renders the trust an impossibility. Senator HOAR, however, whose anti-trust bill is now before the Senate of the United States, does not concern himself with the tariff at all. He appears to think that two things only are necessary, in the main, for controlling trusts. One is publicity. Every corporation engaging in interstate or foreign trade, would have to lay before an Interstate Commerce Committee annually a detailed statement of its business, though what the Committee would do with the information we can not clearly discover. The second thing is a penal provision against any contract, combination or conspiracy to drive a rival out of business, and against any one "who for such purpose shall in the course of such commerce sell any article or product at less than its fair market value, or at a less price than it is accustomed to demand or receive therefor in any other place under like conditions; or who shall sell any article upon a condition, contract, or undertaking that it shall not be sold again by the purchaser, or restrain such sale by the purchaser."

It would seem that the Senator went to the CODE NAPOLEON for inspiration in this matter, since article 419 of that celebrated law runs thus:—

"*All those who by means of a junction or coalition between the principal holders of a given merchandise or commodity, tending to prevent its sale or to hold its sale at a certain price*, or who by any fraudulent ways and means shall effect an advance or fall in the prices of the commodities and merchandise, or of stocks and public effects above or below the price which a natural and free competition of trade would determine, shall be punished with imprisonment for not less than one month or more than one year, and a fine of from five hundred to ten thousand francs (one hundred to two thousand dollars)."

But in practice these provisions have proved impossible, as can easily be conceived, and it looks very much as though Senator HOAR'S provisions would be found similarly ineffective. The tariff, we can not but think, is the root of all the evil—so far as trusts are an evil. A cartoon in *The Philadelphia Record* depicts the situation with graphic accuracy. It represents the G. O. P. sitting in bewildered anxiety before a structure of Dingley Tariff bricks crowned by the trust octopus. The foundation bricks are the tariffs, and into the narrow openings between them the G. O. P. fears to push "lest the edifice fall." It was not in this form that protection was expected to hit the United States hardest, but political economists have never been good prophets.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE AND THE "KIGEN-SETSU."

JUST a year has passed since the announcement of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, and a year should be long enough to justify us in forming an opinion as to whether the event has produced upon the Japanese nation's mood the effect predicted by some persons at the time. We recall that the critics were principally French and Russian, and their criticism took the form of a prediction that Japan's admission to such a union on equal terms with one of the foremost nations of Christendom, would inevitably turn her head and betray her into international arbitrariness of a dangerous character. In making that forecast the pessimists had little experience to guide them. Japan's probable demeanour in any given circumstances of foreign politics was still a matter of conjecture, for her history, having hitherto been mainly the history of a family living secluded from the shocks incidental to contact with the outer world, furnished few precedents to guide an estimate of her mood towards any crisis abroad. That fact evidently cut both ways: it should have deterred prophets of evil as well as prophets of good. Hence, although our own knowledge of Japanese character seemed to suggest that the above forecasts were not likely to be fulfilled, we could not altogether emulate the confidence of the critics, and were obliged to confine ourselves to an expression of individual opinion. We did venture, however, to state positively our own entire want of faith in these sinister forecasts, and to affirm that after some years' experience of Japanese ways and temper, we did not anticipate any such results of the alliance as were predicted in some quarters. Is it too soon now to claim that our judgment was juster than that of the critics? Perhaps they may be disposed to ask for a further period of probation, but they can scarcely deny that the year which has elapsed possesses some value, and that its lessons are entirely contrary to their theory of "swelled-head." The Japanese nation undoubtedly welcomed the alliance with acclaim, and indulged in some emphatic ebullitions of gratification. But thereafter it resumed the even tenor of its international life, and the only apparent fruit of the alliance has been that whenever complications occurred, or threatened to occur, in Far-Eastern politics, Japan has been found standing quietly but steadfastly at England's side and discharging her duties as an ally with calm loyalty. There has not, we may fairly say, been the slightest evidence of self-seeking on her side, nor any indication that close association with a great Occidental Power has begotten unwholesome ambition in her breast. Without this new and signal proof, indeed, it has long been recognised by close observers of her disposition that quiet faith in time and the faculty of waiting patiently are prominent among her national characteristics. Many chapters of her inter-fief annals in pre-Restoration days go to prove this, but in modern times one of the most striking examples was her conduct in the Chinese complication of 1900. The slightest symptom of eagerness to take her place in the line of battle at that time, even when the saving of many valuable foreign lives was in question, would have confirmed the impression prevailing in some quarters that she aimed at the hegemony of an armed Orient, and that the "Yellow Peril" was more than the phantom of a nightmare. On the other hand, the slightest symptom of reluctance to cōoperate in the task of relieving Peking, would have justified the creed of those that held East to be East and West to be West by an immutable decree of providence. Japan showed at that crisis a very remarkable measure of patient judgment and unruffled tact. She did not allow herself to be either deterred by injurious suspicions or goaded by prejudiced taunts, but waiting quietly and watching astutely, she stepped into the arena exactly at the right moment. And throughout the storm and stress of the subsequent proceedings she uniformly evinced the same self-contained moderation, never attempting to seek a prominent place in the hour of victory nor showing any inclination to fall back at the moment of danger. That record might have prepared the outside world to forecast her mood in the presence of such an incentive to self-glorification and self-assertion as the English Alliance, and it certainly warrants us in pointing to the story of the past year as a consistent sequel.

THE CONCERT AT THE BRITISH LEGATION.

The amount produced by the concert at the British Legation on behalf of the Kumamoto Leper Hospital was 1,134 *yen*, exclusive, of course, of expenses, which were defrayed by the Legation. The account stands thus:—

	Yen.
320 tickets at 3 *yen*	960
Donations from Princess Higashi-Fushimi, Baron Iwasaki, Lady McEacharn, Dr. Baelz, Captain Brinkley, Mr. Payne and "Anonymous"	174
Total	1,134

This amount has been handed to Miss Riddell for the use of the Hospital.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram from Nagano, dated February 11th, which states that official money to the extent of *yen* 1,000 was lost in transit from the Iida Post Office to Ina Post Office that day.

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BOLIVIA AND BRAZIL.

Acre, the region which was referred to in the telegrams yesterday, seems to be a debatable territory. But, though the name does not occur in any of the maps at our disposal, which include those of *The Times* and the *Twentieth Century* atlases, there seems to have been hitherto little doubt as to the subject. Acre was held, certainly by American writers, to be indisputably on the Brazilian side of the frontier. Latest information with reference to the matter spoke of the Marquis Carlo di Rudini, son of the well-known Italian statesman, returning to Brazil where he has considerable concessions in the neighbourhood of Acre which he intended to connect by road and rail with the river Madeira and so transport the mineral wealth of the region by the Amazon to the sea. We learn that Bolivia has also granted concessions on her side of the frontier to a syndicate which it was understood should exploit her territory, while the Marquis, who has been endeavouring to establish a "merger" or "combine" with Sir Martin Conway and the real Acre syndicate should work on Brazilian soil. Now we read that the Bolivian Government has permitted the Brazilian troops to provisionally occupy Acre pending negotiations. From this it would appear that there has been a jar of some kind.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

For some years past Japanese journalists have been fully alive to the interest attached to the views of prominent men on the great questions of the day and interviewing has become as fashionable here as it is in the West. In this matter there is no difference between the religious and the secular press, as may be seen by the lengthy account of Count Ōkuma's views on religion which have been recently published in the *Fukuin Shimpō*. Count Ōkuma has watched the progress of Christianity in this country with very keen eyes for over 40 years and the *Fukuin Shimpō* is undoubtedly right in thinking that his opinions on this subject will carry weight with all unprejudiced persons. We now proceed to condense what the *Fukuin Shimpō* has given to its readers in several numbers of the paper. The first account of the Count's opinions published was entitled *Okuma Haku no Dampen* (Scraps of Conversation with Count Ōkuma). Owing to the fact that the interview was interrupted by the arrival of visitors, none of the subjects touched on were dealt with at any great length. Here are the Count's remarks in their fragmentary form.

Mr. Uemura, the editor of the *Fukuin Shimpō*, is a man of considerable reputation, but why do men like that quarrel among themselves? (The reference was to Mr. Uemura's disagreement with Mr. Ebina Danjō in reference to the nature of Christ). It is true that such things are very common among foreigners. In the year 1900 when there was a large gathering of missionaries in Tōkyō a good many of them came to see me, and without any reserve I told them what were my objections to Christianity as propagated in this country. There were some among them who agreed with what I said. As mission work is comparatively new in Japan, I suppose competition among the different missions is unavoidable, but to me it seems to be a weakness. I know that it is argued that though men may unite in social, benevolent and ethical movements, they cannot unite as religious believers, because the religion which one body thinks to be true differs essentially from that in which another body believes. Though this sounds very plausible, I still, as an outsider, have the feeling that there is something wrong about the existing enmity of one sect to another. I pretend to no special knowledge of either religion or philosophy and simply speak as an ordinary man of the world. Some may say that I am without religion myself and a mere materialist, but I have inherited from Buddhist and Confucianist ancestors a certain amount of religious consciousness, which enables me to judge of religious questions. Here the interviewer interposed:—"If you have religious consciousness, this is saying that you realize that God exists and that religion is necessary. Is it not so?" To which the Count replied that when he thought over all the ways in which mind was affected by the action of matter he could no longer regard the soul as a separate, independent entity in the way that Christians were wont to regard it. Count Ōkuma then proceeded to speak of another matter thus: As I stated in an address delivered in Kanda in the year 1900, at the beginning of the *Meiji* era at one time I thought it feasible to construct a religion that would suit my fellow-countrymen by judiciously blending the best elements of Buddhism, Confucianism and Christianity, but I soon discovered that this could not be done and subsequently was rather ashamed of my simplicity in once thinking otherwise. But when I ponder over this now, I say to myself, people affirm that religions are not man-made but were not Confucius, Shaka and Christ all men? There may be some other explanation of the fact, if it be a fact, that men cannot construct religions at will. The objection to my plan as stated at the time does not appear to me as forcible now as it did then.*

At a subsequent interview granted by Count Ōkuma he is reported to have spoken in the following terms:—The late Dr. Verbeck was a most courteous, Christian gentleman. When I was living at Nagasaki I had a school attended by about 50 pupils and I employed the Doctor as English teacher there. I put many questions to him about Christianity and for three years was instructed by him. He was not like some missionaries: he never tried to force his opinions on me, but waited till he was applied to by me. Count Soejima studied Christianity under Dr. Verbeck at the same time. But Dr. Verbeck did not treat either of us as disciples, whether it was because we taught him Japanese I don't know. At one time I thought I might become a Christian, but I could never make up my mind to do so; whether it was that the Confucianism that filled my head kept me from believing in Christianity or whether it was that my perusal of the history of Christianity in Europe created a bad impression on me, I can't say. Anyhow I regarded Dr. Verbeck as my teacher and obtained much religious knowledge from him. Soon after I had moved to Tōkyō I was employed as a teacher in the Kaisei Gakkō (afterwards converted into the Imperial University). There it was that, after a close study of Buddhism, Confucianism and Christianity, I at first came to the conclusion that the three religions might be combined to advantage, but I afterwards perceived that a revelation or miracles form the foundation of a religion; that the men who have founded religions have dwelt in the mountains alone with God; that they have appeared among men as special messengers of God and as such they have been welcomed by mankind. The successful founders of religions have all been men who have first communed with God. My reaching this conclusion is largely to be attributed to the teaching I received from Dr. Verbeck. Just as I was thinking that I might become the founder of a religion Count Soejima was full of the idea that he might become a God.† (*Ware ga shūkyō no kaizan taran to kushin* (苦心) *shitaru toki*, Soejima *wa mizukara Kami taran to ikigomi oritari.*) The Count it would seem no longer entertains this notion.

At one time religion became the subject of a warm diplomatic discussion. It took place in 1868 at the Hongwanji in Ōsaka. The representatives of England, America and France maintained that Japan's forbidding Japanese subjects to become Christians was contrary to the Treaties made with these Powers. Mr., afterwards Sir Harry, Parkes was the leader on their side and I represented the Japanese Government, on account of my knowledge of the subject under debate. Sanjō, Iwakura and Kido were present at the discussion, which lasted from 10 o'clock one morning till 4 in the afternoon. At that time I had already begun to entertain the project of founding a new religion and so was opposed to the removal of the edicts against Christianity. I pointed out that the history of Christianity in the West showed that it was liable to cause grave political disturbances. I maintained that the Treaties only referred to the personal belief of foreigners and could not be interpreted as curtailing the power of the Japanese Government in dealing with their own subjects. I was young and full of spirit at the time and I argued our side of the question at issue in an earnest manner. I asked the foreign diplomats what they themselves would think if foreigners were to come to their countries and assert their right to interfere with any directions bearing on religion that their Governments might be pleased to issue. We saw dangers connected with the propagation of Christianity that they did not recognise. In their past history there were scores of instances of religions becoming the cause of strife and bloodshed. When, in a rage, the French Minister said he would write to his Government and ask them to send men-of-war to settle the question, I came down on him in no measured terms. I told him that his remark well illustrated the danger to which we should expose ourselves did we allow Japanese subjects to become Christians. A religion that had men-of-war at its back to settle any disputes that might arise was one that our Government should certainly forbid. (*Jitsu ni Kirisutokyō no osorubeki wa, ippo ayamareba gunkan sata ni naru nari. Kakaru kata muki areba koso Kirisutokyō wo kataku kinsuru nari*). The foreigners winced as they listend to this argument.

On the withdrawal of the anti-Christian edicts, Count Ōkuma's remarks briefly stated, were as follows:—It was only a few years after the above named discussion was held, namely, at the close of 1871 or the beginning of 1872, when the prohibition of belief in Christianity ceased and Japanese were left free to choose what creed they pleased. The causes which brought about this sudden change of policy were various. Parkes kept up the pressure from without and at the same time our statesmen began to understand better the state of opinion on this question in the West. The reform was effected by Saigō (Takamori), Itagaki, Sanjō and myself, as Iwakura and Kido were then in Europe, and did not altogether approve of our action. Saigō gave in on this question at once, as was his wont when his feelings were appealed to. It was a weakness in Saigō's character that always clung to him to yield to the opinion of others when an appeal was made to his feelings without considering whether a cause was just or reasonable. Many a time did I save him from unpleasant consequences by arguing against measures to the adoption of which his sensitiveness was leading him. The world of course did not know this and invariably, as it its wont where great men are concerned, gave Saigō credit for much more prudence than he possessed. The Count's language is very strong here. He says, *Ware wa soba de sono ri to hi wo tadashite, kore wo shirizokuru koto shibashiba aritari. Sore de sejin wa ware wo dai-akunin to shite, Saigō wo dai-gōketsu to shitari. Saigō no daijimbutsu to iwaruru ni, ware wa kwankei nashi to wa iigatashi. Hito ōku wa agamuru mono wo masumasu ōi nara shimen ga tame, ta ni dai-akunin wo shimeshi, sono hedatari no hanahadashiki wo shimesu wo yorokobu.**

* This we take to be the meaning of the somewhat confused account given in the *Fukuin Shimpō* of Count Ōkuma's remarks on the occasion of the first interview granted to one of the staff of the paper. What appears below, it will be seen, considerably modifies what is stated here.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† The Count is an eminent Shintoist and a great Chinese scholar.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* As some readers may not be able to understand the original, we translate the passage:—"Time and again I set him right, making him withdraw from courses he intended to follow. The world thought me to be a very bad man and considered Saigō to be a great hero; but it is true to say that I was connected with Saigō's becoming a great man. Most

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Here the Count quoted instances from history of the mistaken notions entertained in reference to the lives and actions of prominent men. He then passed on to the subject of Buddhism; the present condition of which he described as *keishiki no bi, naiyō no shū* (externally beautiful, but internally repulsive). The sins of the present generation of priests are many, says Count Ōkuma, and the hell about which they preach is a place prepared for the like of them. Foreign Christian missionaries are in every way superior, but when we come to Japanese Christian pastors, as a class, they fall below the foreign standard. Some of them have been turned out of the church and are no better than Christian *sōshi*. There are men who enter the church with all manner of sinister motives, who are mere speculators with no real religious feeling of any kind. In my intercourse with professing Christians I have met with a number of such persons. At the present time there is much that is artificial among religious professors. The tendency to make big outward show is in many cases a sure sign of inward hollowness or rottenness.

* * *

Under the title "The Present State of Christianity," the *Tōkyō Maishū Shinshi* publishes a number of Statistics culled from the Rev. D. S. Spencer's "Tidings from Japan," which we are told is published annually and which last year arranged the statistics given under 52 headings. Here is the *Maishū Shinshi's* summary of Mr. Spencer's report.

Missions.	Native Pastors and Missionaries.	Evangelists.	Converts.
Protestant	789	494	50,512
Roman Catholic..	229	98	55,824
Greek Church	4	152	27,245

These figures when compared with those of ten years ago do not, as far as the Greek Church and the Roman Catholic Church are concerned, indicate remarkable progress, but to Protestants they are on the whole encouraging. There are 23 Protestant denominations working in Japan, but the most important sects are the Congregationalists, the Presbyterians, the Episcopalians, the Methodists, the Baptists and the Fukuin Kyōkai (Evangelicals). The statistics for the 7 principal missions are as follows:—

Missions.	Foreign Missionaries.	Japanese Pastors.	Members.	Converts.	Baptisms Last Year.
Congregational.	71	45	10,856	11,548	880
Presbyterian ...	153	79	10,156	11,651	1,213
Episcopalian ...	224	47	9,968	10,997	846
Methodist	73	60	4,367	6,561	949
Japanese Methodist	34	26	2,440	2,675	289
Baptist.....	56	9	2,213	2,213	328
Evangelical	6	18	1,025	1025	110

The following table gives other interesting particulars:—

Missions.	Churches.	Self-supporting Churches.	Church Property.
Congregational.....	81	34	125,794
Presbyterian	71	23	218,252
Episcopalian.....	69	2	—
Methodist	77	8	147,985
Japanese Methodist...	27	3	36,627
Baptist	30	—	—
Evangelical	14	—	9,000

Missions.	Sunday School Scholars.	Money Subscribed.	Amount per Member. Yen. Sen.
Congregational.....	6,880	33,791	3.11
Presbyterian	7,879	29,027	2.86
Episcopalian.....	5,524	15,827	1.59
Methodist	6,844	18,757	4.30
Japanese Methodist...	1,623	5,803	2.38
Baptist	3,775	4,283	1.94
Evangelical	710	1,511	1.47

It is calculated that if all the different kinds of property held by the Protestant Church be included, it is worth over 1,500,000 *yen*. Mr. Spencer's report is very minute, but it contains a few errors. For instance, it states that the total value of the property of the various churches † is 495,655 *yen*, whereas 608,655 *yen* is the correct amount. Again the number of converts attached to the six branches of the Methodist Church is stated to be 19,164, whereas 11,874 are the exact figures. Placing all the Kumiai Churches under the heading of the American Board of Foreign Missions is misleading, as there are Kumiai Churches that have hardly any connection with the American Board. This discrepancy we hope to see corrected in the next report issued by Mr. Spencer. On the whole the report shows solid progress. The increase of baptisms as a result of the evangelistic work known as the Taikyō Dendō was considerable, and as that movement is still supported, next year's report is likely to be encouraging.

* * *

A great many persons both inside and outside the Christian Church having regarded with disfavour the return of Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi to political life, if it be true that he ever left it, the *Fukuin Shimpō* has obtained from him a statement of his motives in combining the superintendence of a Christian School with political duties of sundry kinds. Here is what Mr. Kataoka has to say for himself: "Had I not been a believer in God it is probable that I should long ago have left the sphere of politics and become a recluse. I remain in the political world because I believe it is God's will that I should. I am no believer in men's hiding their belief or in their pretending to believe what at heart they reject. To have the courage of one's convictions seems to me the highest kind of courage. To be indifferent to the scorn of those who are opposed to us and in all things to act up to one's belief—this is the way to insure the final triumph of one's cause. The heretics of one age are regarded as orthodox by the one that follows. . . . How much good the Christian members of the Diet do it is hard to say, but as regards myself, I do my best to declare the glory of God. Some say that it is impossible to enter the political arena without becoming defiled, but I would remind such that go where we will we cannot escape contact with what is corrupt or defective. Even within the pale of the church we are not beyond the reach of evil by any means—sanctity that cannot survive contact with the world is not of much value. We can't live to ourselves. A certain class of religious devotees in the Hokkaidō practice living in silence (the Trappists). Those who complain that the world is not good enough for them had better join this body.

* * *

In the journal quoted above the Rev. T. Honda under the title. "The present religious world," writes in the following strain:—Some little time ago our Christianity had a tendency to become absorbed in the attempt to solve state and social problems, but recently it has made individual belief its chief concern. This from an evangelistic point of view is highly gratifying. If mission work be carried on with earnestness now, the results will be considerable. . . . In the matter of prayer and exhortation the officiating and older members of the Church occupy too much time and leave no opportunity for young members to take part in services. . . . There is a great lack of young evangelists. It would seem as though the majority of our Christians did not realize the importance of evangelistic work. The difficulty of obtaining suitable young men for training in Theological colleges being so great, it seems to me that ordinary Christians should be encouraged to preach and teach Christianity. . . . It goes without saying that independent and self-supporting churches are a great desideratum, but the difficulties in the way of obtaining them are very great. As regards education the Christian Schools that now exist certainly could not be kept up without foreign pecuniary help. . . . The foreigners who are spending their time in teaching in mission schools have as their object the formation of character, the turning out of the establishments which they control a number of Christian gentlemen, but the missions to which these teachers belong regard their work as charity bestowed on needy students and as a means of spreading the Gospel. Since these two points of view are in some particulars in opposition to each other the Christian teacher finds it rather hard at times to act up to his ideal.

* * *

In the *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church), Nos. 526, 527, Mr. Ishikawa Kisaburō criticises adversely the religious views of Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō. Dr. Inoue being by far the most voluminous of non-Christian writers on religion, it is quite natural that Christian periodicals of all shades of belief should make him an object of attack. The main contention of Mr. Ishikawa is that Dr. Inoue's religious creed has undergone some important modifications. This is nothing very startling. Probably the same might be said of the creed of every thinking man. Were it not so, the religious world would be at a standstill and religious literature would be absolutely without any interest. But we will allow Mr. Ishikawa to speak for himself as far as our space permits. He is a very earnest and able writer and his controversial methods are by no means of the contemptible kind met with in some sectarian magazines. He treats his opponents with the respect due to them and does his best to interpret them fairly. Mr. Ishikawa affirms that Dr. Inoue's cosmopolitanism and his nationalism are contradictory. Dr. Inoue has repeatedly asserted that national education and religious education conflict and nothing can reconcile them to each other. I, says Mr. Ishikawa, have always maintained that they can be made to work together most harmoniously. One of Dr. Inoue's objections to Christianity has been its cosmopolitan character. It is calculated to undermine nationalism, he says. In opposition to this I have repeatedly argued in this magazine that the history of Christianity has shown that instead of undermining nationalism it has increased the love of country to an enormous extent. Well, it is somewhat satisfactory to find that Dr. Inoue is moving in our direction. In a long article published in the *Yomiuri Shimbun* on Oct. 11th the following passage will be found:—"Though education and religion may come into conflict with each other, it by no means follows that they must do so. It depends very much on the sense in which the term 'religious education' is understood. National education we must have, and in order to have this it is necessary that the Government should determine on the degree of uniformity that is necessary. As long as no harm is done to national feeling and character, people should be free to choose their own creed. This is provided for in the Constitution. A limit should be placed on religious education. Rather than call it 'religious education,' I would name it *jinrō kyōiku*, 'humanitarian education,' because it is by no means confined to religion, but includes every duty which human beings are under an obligation to fulfil." This is not the Dr. Inouye of ten years ago by any means. The tone is conciliatory and the need of some kind of religious education is apparently clearly recognised. This is decided progress on Dr. Inoue's part. In another part of the article from which we have just quoted Dr. Inoue says:—"Every individual is to be regarded in two aspects, (1) As a national unit. (2) As a member of the human race. As a human being he has certain obligations and duties, as forming part of a nation he has other duties and obligations. Therefore contemporaneously with national education instruction as to the conduct which humanity requires of him should be supplied to every pupil and within this province of education, religion may be included." This is satisfactory and confirms what the Doctor had said in the passage quoted above. But from this point onwards the Doctor gets into a mess and makes a number of illogical statements. It would not do for him to admit that Christianity or Buddhism is qualified to supply the religious education the need of which he admits, and so he goes on to urge the advisability of creating a new religion, to be called I deal Religion (理想教 *Risō-kyō*). That in this twentieth century a Japanese scholar should be found bold enough to bring forward such a proposition is a striking phenomenon, to say the least of it.* We will not

people in order to make those whom they worship appear greater (by contrast) magnify the distance between them and other men, making out the latter to be very wicked men." There is a tinge of bitterness about these remarks.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† This we take it does not include dwelling-houses and the like.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* In Count Okuma and Dr. Inoue we have two distinct types of men, The former is a man of the

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discuss the question of the possibility of getting such a religion carried into practice even supposing it were to be formulated, but keep to Dr. Inoue's general views on the subject of religion. Now in Dr. Inoue's most recent utterances he objects to Buddhism and Christianity on the ground that they are not sufficiently cosmopolitan to serve educational, purposes. This reads oddly, says Mr. Ishikawa, when we remember that a few years ago Dr. Inoue argued that one objection to the use of Christianity in schools was that it was too cosmopolitan in character. Now the Doctor's excuse for recommending the compilation of a new creed is that neither Christianity nor Buddhism are cosmopolitan enough for his purpose. The Doctor proceeds further and further into the mire. Buddhism and Christianity exist side by side and are opposed to each other, therefore neither of them can be called cosmopolitan. It is quite evident that Dr. Inoue is playing fast and loose with the term cosmopolitan, which he expands and contracts to suit the exigencies of the shifting logical (or, rather, illogical) positions which he happens to be defending. If the cosmopolitanism now so earnestly desired by Dr. Inoue consists of a certain independence of all local and even national peculiarities, in a certain adaptibility to the most various conditions and wants, then the histories of Christianity and Buddhism show that they are both endowed with this quality to an infinitely greater extent than Dr. Inoue's embryonic Ideal Religion is ever likely to be. The cosmopolitanism of the Doctor's projected creed is purely imaginary. What authority will the world at large attach to any compilation of doctrines and theories that the Doctor and his fellow-thinkers may choose to make? If, as the Doctor says, the coexistence of Buddhism and Christianity proves that neither of them are thoroughly cosmopolitan, the coexistence of his proposed Ideal Religion and other religions would prove that his creed was not cosmopolitan. The Doctor has evidently got very much mixed up on this subject. Surely the Doctor possesses more knowledge of the history of philosophic thought than to suppose that any newly invented ethical creed will shake the old foundations or bring about the fall of a structure that ages of hard, patient thought have erected. A system of philosophy, religion or ethics severed from history has not the slightest chance of being generally accepted; as the majority of thinking men can never be induced to ignore what is past nor to treat with indifference the investigations made and the conclusions reached by the greatest minds which our earth has known. Who is going to construct this new creed? Even supposing the Doctor were to set about the work, it would of course be characterised by all the idiosyncracies, limitations and deficiencies of his mind; and on what grounds could its general adoption be recommended? In the region of thought the authority possessed by any ordinary scholar is very limited. It is too much to believe that Dr. Inoue would succeed better than Plato and Pythagoras who both attempted the same kind of thing.

* * *

In reference to the lives of foreign residents in Japan the *Kiristokyō Shūhō* expresses itself as follows:—The foreigners with which Japanese come into contact most are either missionaries or business people. Foreign school-teachers only mix with a very limited number of Japanese and their actions as a rule do not attract the attention of the Japanese community as a whole. The opinion of Japanese generally as to foreigners is based on what they know of the lives of missionaries and business men. Now, although the behaviour of missionaries is as a rule all that it should be, the immorality of foreign business men is notorious. If Chinamen or negroes in certain parts of the United States were to act as some Europeans and Americans act in Kobe and Nagasaki, they would be punished by lynch law. Foreigners residing in Japan have far more freedom than they would enjoy in their own countries. There is nothing to be feared from the Japanese communities in which they live. Though we are a law-abiding people and none of us would approve of lynch law, yet it is much to be regretted that immoral acts fail to raise the storm of indignation with us that they do in America.† It seems to be the general opinion among foreigners that Japan is a country specially adapted to the practice of immorality, as Japanese public opinion is so lax on the whole subject (*Nippon wa fuhinkō wo okonau ni benri nari; shakai no seisai usushi; fuhinkō no yukai wo motomuru ni tsugō yoshi to shite yorokonde kitaru nari.*) And so it comes about that much of the work of the missionaries is destroyed by the example set by their fellow-Christians. But for this we Japanese are largely to blame, as there does not exist among us a standard such as is upheld by public opinion in Western countries.

* * *

The *Gokyō* (Methodist) in a leading article asks whether the responsibility of leading and teaching Japanese should be undertaken by foreigners or by the Japanese themselves. After quoting a remark of the late Dr. Niijima and the words of the President of the Victoria University in favour of handing over the whole of the work of the Church to native pastors and evangelists, the *Gokyō* says, Though common sense recommends this course, as a matter of fact are we in a position to undertake the responsibility? Some of our evangelists are resigning in favour of business pursuits, others are too old to work, and while this is so, our Divinity Halls are forsaken (*Shingakkō no mon wa hijō ni sabishi*). If there are young men who believe in Christianity, how is it that so few offer themselves for the ministry? This is a question that demands most thorough investigation.

* * *

The *Nichiyō Sōshi* (Protestant Episcopalian) discusses the subject of the proper relation of the church to social questions. Should it be of a direct or indirect kind? In Europe and America, says this organ, the church is a distinctly religious body whose duty it is to preach the gospel and teach Christians. Its connection with various social movements for the benefit of society has always been of an indirect kind, but in Japan to-day there is a tendency to regard the church as a kind of social *tonya* (commercial wholesale agency) for the despatch of all business of a social kind. It is high time that this misunderstanding of the true office of the church was rectified and that Christians should devote themselves wholly to preaching the gospel. Mission work in Formosa is much called for at the present time and certain missions such as the Nihon Kirisuto Kyōkai and the Nihon Dendō Kaisha are making efforts to meet the demand for evangelists. In this matter we Episcopalians are behind other missions.

* * *

The Rev. A. Wendt has published a small book entitled *Fukkwatsu no Shingi* (The true significance of the Resurrection). In this work Mr. Wendt argues against the notion that the chief value of the Bible consists of the miraculous events it records. He points out that Christ was distinctly averse to his disciples' relying on miracles as a basis for faith. He cites Mark VIII., 11, 12, John IV. 44 and Luke XVI., 31 in proof of this. He thinks that considering the length of time that elapsed between the occurrence of the events referred to in the Gospel and epistles and the compilation of the written account of them now relied on by the Church, and considering the great ignorance at that time of what are now considered elementary scientific truths as to the processes of nature, it is hardly surprising that natural events should be described as supernatural occurrences. The early Christians undoubtedly expected that the world was about to come to an end and that hence there was no need for any written account of Christ's life, as in their time he would certainly reappear on the earth. It is incredible that with mere oral tradition to rely on no errors of fact should have found their way into the Gospels. The disciples in many instances failed to interpret Christ's meaning. . . . Mr. Wendt does not believe in the bodily resurrection of Christ and thinks that no reliance is to be placed in the alleged appearances to his disciples. In proof of the correctness of his view he quotes numerous passages from the Bible.

L'Abbe Francois Ligneul's latest work is entitled *Jimbutsu no Risō* (The Idea of Man). This little work runs into 77 pages and is a model of conciseness and clearness. The headings of the chapters will suffice to show the line of argument pursued, which are as follows:—Part I—Introduction; Chap I—What are ideas? Chap II—Ideas and Will; Chap III—The sources of ideas (history and philosophy) Part II; Chap I—The ideas of Japanese, Scandinavians, &c.; Chap. II—The ideas of the Greeks and the Romans; Chap. III—Ideas of man not discerned by the ancient philosophers; Chap. IV—Ideas and Modern Philosophy; Chap V—Ideas and Modern Ethical Principles:—(*a*) Morality according to the Principle of Absolute Duty; (*b*) Utilitarian Morality; (*c*) The Morality of Feeling; (*d*) The Morality based on sympathy and public opinion; (*e*) the Morality of the Evolutionists. It is needless to say that the book is controversial throughout and evidently intended to be so.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of members of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club was held on Friday, at No. 78, the Masonic Hall. Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President of the Club, was in the chair and there was a good attendance.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by expressing his pleasure to see so full an attendance. He then read the report, which has already appeared in these columns.

The CHAIRMAN said they would see on examination that the profit on the accounts included the difference between the amount raised on debentures and the cost of the bathing barge—that was to say *yen* 215, so that the actual profit on the working of the past year would stand at *yen* 455.78. Looking at those figures he thought they would agree with the outgoing Committee that it was right that some portion of the profit,—say *yen* 300 or such amount as the incoming Committee might think fit—should be placed on special deposit. As to rowing, the Committee had to compliment the juniors on the great interest they displayed last season, which gave reason to hope that future seasons would produce some good racing and some good men to replace the seniors, who he was sorry to say did not last autumn come up to their old reputation. That was a matter of comfort for the juniors, who if they kept on might in time fully consider themselves like those others of the Club who had been for 31 years or thereabouts interested in the Club and were now perhaps beyond the stage of active seniors It was to be hoped that the young ones would brace themselves up and do as well for the Club as the seniors, who the Committee had thought it their duty to say were not quite up to their old form last year. The Committee considered that the new byelaw was a proper step to take. They found that the slips were being used not only for launching the boats of the Club, for which purpose primarily they were constructed, but also that they really had become a storing place for dinghies night and day. The Yacht Club unfortunately had not yet found a place suitable for the storing of their dinghies and gear, and were to a large extent obliged to use the premises of the Boat Club. As a large proportion of the Yacht Club members were also members of the Rowing Club the Committee were very glad to see them and to allow them to use the Club's

world with a certain amount of scholarship. The latter is certainly a great scholar, but with very little knowledge of the world as it actually exists. Hence a theory rejected by Count Okuma 30 years ago, is still advocated by Dr. Inoue to-day. Mere booklore does not supply common sense.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† This goes too far. The negro-burners of America and the hardened villains that watch cruel deaths of men whose chief sin it is that they belong to a hated race are not to be exalted into saints in this fashion. These fiends in human shape frequently themselves perpetrate the same crimes for which they burn negroes. In quoting foreign public opinion the *Christian Weekly News* would have done well to say nothing about the negro-burners. It is not the violation of women, white or black, that they object to, but only the violation of white women by negroes.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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property in any way which would meet the convenience of the Yacht Club. At the same time when the slips were found to be used actually as storing places they thought the byelaw and the charge imposed for the use of the slips were only fair and reasonable. He had nothing to add beyond congratulating the Club on its financial condition, which he thought might be regarded as satisfactory, and expressing a wish for the continued prosperity of the Club. He moved that the report and accounts be adopted.

Mr. G. H. SCIDMORE seconded and the proposal was carried unanimously.

The next business was the election of officers, as to which the Chairman stated with regret that Mr. Hayward (who had been for several years Honorary Secretary) and Mr. Strome (who had acted as Treasurer during the past year) desired not to serve again in those capacities.

Mr. THWAITES stated that those gentlemen were willing, however, to serve on the Committee.

The ballot for officers resulted in the election of Mr. H. C. Litchfield (President), Mr. F. J. Hall (Captain), Mr. C. Thwaites (Hon. Secretary), and Mr. Cartwright (Hon. Treasurer).

The remaining members of the Committee were elected as follows:—Messrs. Goddard, Schellenburg, Hayward, and Lammert.

The CHAIRMAN having called for subjects of discussion,

Mr. G. H. SCIDMORE said that speaking as Commodore of the Yacht Club and expressing as he believed the views of the Commodore and members of the Mosquito Yacht Club, he had to ask whether the Rowing Club could do anything for the further accomodation of the Yacht Clubs. The bye-law already wisely imposed met with the approval of all yachtsmen who thought it was quite right that a tax should be levied upon the dinghies. But the Yacht Clubs had been growing and they were now much pressed for accommodation not, only for dinghies but for gear which it was necessary to store on shore. The yacht-owners appreciated the fact that the Rowing Club had been generous in its hospitality but they also felt that they were to a certain extent imposing on it and that the accommodation available was becoming insufficient. It was the desire of the two clubs therefore to ascertain whether further accommodation could not be obtained. It had been suggested that use might be made of the end of the hatoba—he did not know on what tems the ground was held, whether a shed could be built there or whether yachtsmen would be allowed to land anywhere else than at present. He had been informed that restrictions were imposed on the erection of buildings in the Rowing Club compound, but yachtsmen thought they could without violating those restrictions build a shed at the end of the hatoba not to exceed the height of the fence, which could be used for the storage of gear and the roof of which might be a verandah from which to time and view sailing races. Yachtsmen would be much obliged for encouragement or information as to the matter.

Mr. F. J. HALL, speaking as a member of all three clubs, thought extra accommodation both advisable and necessary. But as to the proposal to erect a shed at the flagstaff end of the compound he said two attempts had already been made with that view, and on each occasion the authorities had refused, on the ground that such a structure would obstruct the view of the customs officials at the French Hatoba. If permission could be obtained he felt sure the Rowing Club would be glad to erect a shed—which of course must remain under their control and for the use of which some fee should be paid. The present main building of the Boathouse was built not to exceed the height of the godown previously there and the side building was limited in height likewise in deference to the wishes of adjacent property owners. The only course open would be to build a shed at the end of the hatoba and if permission could be obtained, he for one would certainly support the proposal.

Mr. H. KESWICK thought the incoming Committee should devise some means of exercising control over the large number of sendoes who assemble at the Boat House, and suggested that registration should be enforced.

Mr. HALL supported Mr. Keswick and said the Committee should revert to the system employed some years ago by which sendoes had to be registered and their names noted by the Hon. Secretary. In cases of misdemeamour the operations of the police were largely aided by such a system, and the authorities naturally approved of it.

The CHAIRMAN also spoke in favour of Mr. Keswick's suggestion, which it was understood would come before the new Committee.

This was all the business and the proceedings terminated.

YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

An extraordinary meeting of members of the Yokohama Yacht Club was held on Tuesday evening, at No. 78, the Masonic Hall, Mr. G. H. Scidmore, Commodore, presiding. There was a fair attendance.

The CHAIRMAN said they were assembled in two capacities and he thought perhaps it would be well to deal first with the extraordinary meeting, which related to an amendment of the rules which had been published and posted on the club's boaid, The proposal was that Rule 2 should be amended to read that the annual subscription should be *yen* 3, payable in advance, in place of *yen* 2.

Mr. R. BOYES proposed this and Mr. A. Owston seconded.

Mr. F. OWSTON thought that the subscription should be *yen* 5.

Mr. CATTO seconded.

Mr. T. M. LAFFIN declared *yen* 3 quite sufficient and Mr. Hodges supported him.

Mr. LEAK explained that the idea of raising the subscription and so gaining about *yen* 125 was that by that means they should be able to give record prizes.

Mr. MCWILLIAM was willing to have the subscription at *yen* 3 but would object to *yen* 5.

The amendment was put to the meeting and lost by a large majority.

The motion was then put and seconded and passed.

The annual meeting of the club was then held, Mr. Scidmore presiding as before.

The report and accounts being before the meeting,

Mr. HALL asked for information as to the items of prizes presented under the headings of "receipts" and "disbursements" and

Mr. A. OWSTON thought that the two items under the head of "disbursements," "prizes presented by the Club" and "to the Club" should be slumped together.

Mr. HALL moved the adoptlon of the accounts. Mr. Catto seconded and the motion was carried.

Mr. A. OWSTON asked leave to make a statement in which he commented at some length on the remarks of the report.

Some discussion then took place on the question of arbitrary handicaps especially with reference to 39 raters, Mr. Laffin holding that such a handicap is necessary to secure good racing and Messrs. A. Owston and F. Owston contending that it was quite unnecessary.

In reply to Mr. Hodges, the Chairman said he had been handed a list containing the names of *Pima*, *Bonito*, *Devonia*, *Daisy May* and probably *Shamrock* which would go in to recreate the 21 rater class.

The CHAIRMAN thought the 12 raters should be revivified.

Mr. F. OWSTON produced a plan of a 14 foot, 13 rater of which if members would subscribe for three boats he would build six.

The report was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN spoke of the necessity of having proper moorings and urged upon members who desired to cruise that they should secure official permits and show them when called upon to do so. He thought the report most encouraging and remarked that probably a steam yacht would be added to the fleet.

Mr. HALL endorsed the utterances of the Commodore with reference to the necessity of proper and substantial moorings and said he thought before the boats were put out this season a scheme should be evolved to that end. This matter had had the attention of the Mosquito Yacht Club and the results was that Mr. Keswick and he had been appointed to meet any one that might be elected to meet them and discuss the matter. His remarks, of course referred specially to the moorings of the 21 raters and smaller craft, and he thought sub-committees from both clubs should be appointed to approach the harbour-master and if possible get him to issue certain rules as harbour regulations. He also called the attention of the members to the question of the registration of sendoes and assured them that the Boat Club would be glad to take steps in that view and to have the co-operation of yachtsmen. The idea was that each sendo should have a certificate from his owner, registered by the Water Police and signed by the Hon. Secretary.

The result of the ballot for officers was announced as follows: Commodore, Mr. G. H. Scidmore; Vice-Commodore, Mr. A. Owston; Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. T. Leak.

The voting for the General Committee resulted in the election of Messrs. T. M. Laffin, and H. Keswick.

The voting for the Racing Committee resulted in the election of Messrs. F. L. Elliott, R. Boyes, and C. S. Averill.

The record flags presented by Mr. Mottu were then handed to the winners.

Messrs. Bromley and Clausen suggested that ladies should be allowed to be members of the Club without subscription.

The opinion of the meeting was in favour of the suggestion.

A letter from Mr. A. Owston was read containing suggestions as to a one design class.

This being all the business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman on the motion of Mr. Catto.

REPORT.

The Committee beg to submit their report for the season 1902, reminding the members, that the Club, organized by a few yachting enthusiasts in 1886, has now reached the interesting age of "sweet sixteen." They would also point out that the interest and enthusiasm in the sport during the past season has been confined principally to the Cruising Class and 21 Raters; the racing among the 39 Raters and 12 Raters, the largest and smallest Classes of the Club, having deteriorated in both classes into matches between two yachts.

The Yokohama Yacht Club is formed for the promotion of Sailing and Sailing Races only, and the lack of interest in the sport among yacht owners, in the larger class particularly, is to be deplored.

The 12 Rater Class, inaugurated by Mr. Alan Owston, one of the aforesaid enthusiasts of 1886, has proved, as was intended, a very useful and interesting class for younger members, but the boats have now, with a single exception, been all sold out of the Club. The lack of craft for the accommodation of these enthusiasts, whose inclinations or income may not extend to large yachts, is likely to be supplied by the building of a new One-Design Class of about 12 feet waterline. The cooperation of the designer of the most successful of the Yokohama yachts is promised, and it is hoped that a number of boats will be built.

In the 39 Raters the situation is more serious, and it becomes a question for careful consideration, what measures can be adopted to promote more interest in racing among the larger yachts. The yawl rig has now become fashionable, and it is suggested that *Golden Hind*, *Kingfisher*, *Haidee* and *Wanderer* would form an interesting Racing Class. An example of what can be accomplished in the way of racing between yachts of different model and unequal speed is furnished by the Cruising Class, where the competitors throughout the season represented the whole strength of the class. It is hoped that these suggestions may provoke some discussion at the Annual Meeting, which may lead to a larger number of competing yachts in the 39 rating Class next season.

With these preliminary remarks the Committee submit the records of the year's racing.

During the season 59 regular races have been sailed under the auspices of the Club, and, in connection with the Mosquito Yacht Club, races for all four classes were held in celebration of His Majesty King Edward VII.'s Coronation.

39 RATERS.—*Mary* remains in the premier position; extensive alterations to hull, with increased length and displacement, and a comparatively reduced sail area, proving no drawback to her speed except in very light airs. *Maid Marion*, with centreboard replaced by a fixed keel and excellent Lapthorn sails, has maintained her reputation as a light weather flyer. *Golden Hind* early in the season

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again demonstrated her ability to win races in heavy weather, but, in July, her owner preferred the charms of cruising, deep sea dredging, &c., off the west coast of Idzu, and the big yawl was not present to try conclusions with the reconstructed *Mary* in a strong breeze. Little has been seen of either *Haidee* or *Kingfisher* during the latter part of the season, and *Spray*, under new ownership, *Wanderer* and *Aborigine* have started in two or three races only. It has been suggested that the latter three yachts join the Cruising Class, where no doubt they will meet with a hearty welcome.

CRUISING CLASS.—The season began with the usual duels between *Daimyo* and *Svanhild* with *Asagao* always close behind. *Svanhild* was later in the season withdrawn from racing and hauled out for extensive alterations. *Daimyo* again wins the record flag in this class, but with a margin of two points only from *Asagao*. The performance of *Asagao* against much larger craft, particularly in heavy weather, reflects great credit upon her designer and skipper. The owners of the older yachts in the cruising class have shown a most sportsmanlike spirit in persistently racing their boats, notwithstanding the fact that but few prizes came their way. *Virgina*, late *Ideal*, under new ownership, has again entered the racing. This yacht, although the smallest of the class, rather surprised some of her larger sisters in a thrash to windward around the Honmoku buoy in a heavy sea.

21 RATERS.—The new *Pele*, built on lines of *Edna*, carries off the pennant from a class of twelve. The racing between *Pele* and *Edna* has been the closest of any of the racing yachts, while *Vixen* leads them both, as soon as the wind blows hard enough. In a race of 6½ miles, *Edna* made an average speed of 6.65 knots, which with the full theoretical time allowance, from the yacht having the largest waterline (*Golden Hind*), is equivalent to a speed of 8.955 knots per hour.* At the end of July *Winsome*, a boat on similar lines to *Edna* and *Pele* and by the same designer, entered the field. In her first race, in light airs, she won easily, but was not as successful in later contests; her record, however, as second in the class, with 8 record points against *Pele's* 11, must be considered satisfactory. Of the older boats in this class *Pima*, late *Wettinge*, has made the best record. The new *Wettinge* appeared too late in the season to make much showing in the racing. She promises to be most successful in light weather. *Yugao* and *Sodeska* have both won first prizes from the newer boats. *Abunai* has been sold to Kobe.

12 RATERS.—*Madeleine* with 8 points is the champion in this class and remains the sole survivor of these boats in Yokohama.

The typhoon of August 28th did considerable damage to the yachts of the fleet, the 21 Raters suffering most, two of them being blown on the bund wall and two sunk. All were, however, repaired and put in commission again.

As has been pointed out in a circular letter to yacht-owners, insecure moorings have been the cause of the damage incurred from typhoons, and it behoves all yacht-owners to endeavour to make their moorings strong enough to withstand the violent windstorms, to which Yokohama is periodically subjected.

The thanks of the Club are due to the donors of many handsome prizes during the past season, also to the local press for continued courtesy in the announcement of races and other important Club business.

BALANCE SHEET.

RECEIPTS.

	Yen.
To Balance 1901	64.16
To Annual Subscriptions	252.00
To Yacht Registration Fees	132.00
To Sales of Signal Codes	4.50
To Entrance Fees for Races	368.00
To Prizes presented	952.75
	1,773.41

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Prizes presented by the Club	491.50
By Prizes presented to the Club	881.00
By Hire of Flagboats	19.80
By Printing and Advertising	199.30
By Stationery, &c.	28.65
By Notice Board	7.25
By Subscription to Lloyd's Register	10.30
By Collector's commission	15.00
By Chinese assistant to officer of the day	50.00
By Remuneration to Y.A.R.C. Sendo	5.00
By Gratuity to Flagboatman's widow	20.00
By Coolie Hire	3.40
By Ammunition and Gun repair	19.90
By Balance in hand	22.31
	1,773.41

F. T. LEAK, Hon. Treasurer.

Compared with the vouchers and found correct.

J. F. HIBBS.

* *Mary's* highest speed was attained in a 15 miles race with an actual time of 6.18 miles per hour.

RACING RECORD FOR 1902.

Yachts.	Rating.	First	Second	Third.	Total.	Other Prizes.	P. rets.
39 RATERS. Prizes.							
Mary	39	7	3	1	11	Record Prize*	11
Haidee	39	—	2	—	2		2
Kingfisher	39	1	4	—	5		5
Maid Marion	36.5	5	3	—	8		9
Golden Hind	36.5	3	—	—	3		6
Aborigine	36.5	—	—	—	—		—
Wanderer	32.5	—	—	—	—		—
Spray	34	—	—	—	—		—
CRUISING CLASS.							
Svanhild	29.5	1	3	—	4		4
Daimyo	29.5	7	2	—	10	Record Prize*	14
Molly	25.5	1	2	—	3		3
Mosquito	25.5	1	2	—	3		—
Surprise	25.5	2	2	—	4		1
Asagao	23.5	5	2	—	7		12
Virginia	21.5	1	3	—	4		2
21 RATERS.							
Winsome	21	3	2	—	5		8
Wettinge	21	—	—	—	—		—
Pele	21	4	3	3	11	Record Prize*	11
Edna	21	1	4	—	5	Highest Speed	5
Stella	20.5	1	—	—	1		—
Yugao	20	1	—	—	1		—
Vixen	19.5	2	1	2	5		6
Nandeska	19.5	—	—	3	3		—
Sodeska	19.5	1	—	—	1		—
Abunai	19	—	—	—	—		—
Pima	18.5	1	2	2	5		5
Bonito	17.5	—	—	—	—		—
12 RATERS.							
Thelma	12	3	1	—	4		8
Titania	12	1	1	—	2		3
Dora	12	4	3	—	7		8
Madeleine	12	5	3	—	9	Record Prize*	11

SUMMARY OF RACES.

39 Raters	sailed	15 Races...	*Mary*.....11 Points.
Cruising Class	,,	16 ,,	...*Daimyo*...14 ,,
21 Raters	,,	15 ,,	...*Pele* .....11 ,,
12 Raters	,,	13 ,,	....*Madeleine*11 ,,
Cruising Races to Uraga		4	
Total		63 Races.	

* Record Prize counts as First Prize.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Another very interesting and highly appreciated programme was presented at the fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society held in the Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening. The paper was by Mrs. John L. Dearing, being an appreciation of the poet Longfellow. Mrs. Dearing has a most attractive literary style and she dealt with the poet's works and life in a peculiarly interesting manner. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded her at the close, on the motion of the President. The second part of the programme served somewhat to illustrate the lecture, all the vocal numbers and the recitations being taken from Longfellow's writings. Needless to say the various items were excellently presented. Following is the programme:—

Part I.

"Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: An Appreciation."
By Mrs. John L. Dearing.

Part II.

Pianoforte Solo..."Air de Ballet".....Moskowski.
Mrs. R. J. Ward.

Song....."Come to me, O! ye children"
Thomas Anderton.
(Words by Longfellow.)
Miss E. Burdett Leach.

Violin Solo..."Romance" from "Second Concerto".....Wieniawski.
Mr. C. H. Thorn.

Recitation....."King Robert of Sicily"....Longfellow.
Miss Ross.

Song....."The Village Blacksmith"...W. H. Weiss.
(Words by Longfellow.)
Mr. S. E. Unite.

Recitation....."The Legend Beautiful"...Longfellow.
Miss Ross.

Quartette....."Good Night, Beloved".....Pinsuti.
(Words by Longfellow.)
Mrs. E. C. Irwine, Miss Poole, Mr. E. T. Nicholas and Mr. Somerton.

UNION CHURCH, YOKOHAMA.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Church and Congregation was held in Van Schaick Hall, on Wednesday evening, 4th Feb., 1903, the Rev. E. S. Booth, Hon. Pastor, occupying the chair.

The meeting was well attended, and the interest shown in the affairs of the Church promises well for the future.

The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—

Elders.—Rev. H. Loomis, and Messrs. Isaac Bunting and Geo. Booth.

Deacons.—Messrs. L. Pollard, J. Macbeth and Robert Wallace.

Trustees.—Rev. Dr. Dearing, and Messrs. Geo. Booth, L. Pollard, J. Macbeth, R. Wallace and Ernest Bunting.

Sunday School Superintendent.—Mr. C. Griffin.

Ushers.—Mr. J. Gray and Mr. Ernest Bunting.

The Trustees subsequently elected Mr. J. Macbeth as Secretary and Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

	Dr. Yen.	Cr. Yen.
1902, Feb. 1st.		
To balance brought forward	229.78	
To Offertories for the year	1,098.78	
To Donations and Subscriptions as per list	1,013.20	
To Interest on Bank Balance.	21.47	
To Offertors of 27th Nov. handed direct to the Revd. G. F. Draper	22.62	
By Church grant to the Sunday School		150.00
By Momban's Salary Feb. 1902 to Jan. 1903		36.00
By Pulpit supplies		285.00
By Printing		28.35
By Electric Light and Meter Rent Janry. to Dec.		23.38
By Brotherhood of Andrew and Philip Offertory of 4th May, 1902		46.52
By Yokohama Blind School Offertory of 27th Nov. 1902, Thanksgiving Day		2 .62
By Revd. E. S. Booth's honorarium		800.000
By Repairs to the Organ and Organ Hire		100.00
By Organ Tuning for the year.		75.00
By Cost of 2 dozen Hymn Books with Landing Charges and Custom's Expenses		30.71
By Fans for Church use		3.00
Fire Ins. Premium and Policy fee		19.25
By Rent of Van Schaick Hall for the year		150.000
By Rent of Union Church for the year		300.000
By Cost of 1 case Sacramental Wine		19.00
By Christmas Sunday School Entertainment; Offertory of 14th Dec.		60.00
By Christmas present to the Momban		6.00
By Balance Cash in hand		232.02
	2,385.85	2,385.85
1903, Feb. 1st.		
To Balance brought forward	232,05	

E. & O. E.

L. POLLARD. Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1903.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

E. I. BUNTING.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The offertories for the past year compare favourably with those for the preceding year, the figures being *yen* 1098.78 and *yen* 920.01, respectively, showing a gain of *yen* 178.77. Donations and subscriptions show little change, if Mr. Palmer's legacy of *yen* 220.40 which appeared in the previous year's accounts, be omitted.

Organ.—The outlay of *yen* 100 for repairs to the organ is an item which was not anticipated. It was found necessary to make extensive repairs to the "bellows," the leather supports having decayed and dropped out.

Your trustees have been approached regarding an increase in the rental of the Church, which is now *yen* 300 per annum. The installation of the steam-heating plant has added considerably to the comfort of the Congregation, and, as the expense attached to the installation was heavy, and more fuel will be

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consumed, the request for additional rent is reasonable. Taking into account the cheap terms under which the Church has been rented for a number of years past, your trustees think an increase of *yen* 150 per annum fair, and the question will be brought up for discussion at the Annual Meeting.

The year closes with a credit balance of *yen* 232.02, against *yen* 229.78 last year, so that receipts and disbursements for the twelve months practically balance one another.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1903.

UNION CHURCH.

LIST OF DONATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JANUARY, 1903.

	Yen.
Abel, Mr. L. H.	50.00
Apcar, Mrs. A. M.	20.00
Ballagh, Revd. J. H. (balance of sub.)	18.20
Ballagh, Mrs. J. H.	30.00
Booth, Mr. Geo.	100.00
Bunting, Mr. Isaac	60.00
Carst, Capt. J.	20.00
Case, Miss E. W.	10.00
Colton, Mrs. G. W.	20.00
Crosby, Miss J.	20.00
Dearing, Rev. J. L.	30.00
Draper, Rev. G. F.	25.00
Frank, Rev. J. W.	10.00
Greene, Mrs. W. W.	20.00
Hegt, Mrs	5.00
Johnstone, Mr. J.	100.00
Lewis, Miss	10.00
Loomis, Miss C.	5.00
Lowder, Mrs. J. F.	55.00
Macbeth, Mr. J.	25.00
McCready, Mrs.	15.00
Merriman, Mr. W. L.	60.00
Moulton, Miss J.	10.00
Nicolle, Mr. A.	50.00
Rose, Mrs. T. per Mr. C. V. Sale	50.00
Sale, Mr. C. V.	60.00
Schroeder, Mr. F.	20.00
Scidmore, Mr. G. H.	30.00
Swain, Capt. R.	30.00
Thompson, Miss A.	20.00
Unite, Mr. S. E.	20.00
Van Petten, Mrs. E. W.	45.00
Total	1,013.20

E. & O. E.

L. POLLARD, Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, 31st January, 1903.

SOME REMARKS ON THE CHOICE OF TEXT-BOOKS FOR JAPANESE STUDENTS OF ENGLISH.

[BY A SCHOOL TEACHER OF TWENTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE.]

Speaking generally, it seems to me, that the English text-books in use in both Government and private schools have been chosen in a haphazard fashion without sufficient consideration and that no fixed principles have guided the choice. Hence subjects and styles are very mixed and not a few books in use may be pronounced quite unsuitable. It may be well for me to state what I conceive to be the principles that should be observed in the selection of English text-books. Now, in the first place, I take it the main object of education is to prepare students for fulfilling the duties of life, to give them training that shall enable them to serve the State in some useful capacity. To require them to spend weeks and months in the study of theoretical works that have little bearing on real life seems to me a mistake. Books on philosophy should only be studied by advanced literary students. To expect an ordinary student to be able to read and understand Herbert Spencer or Emerson seems to me quite unreasonable. Philosophy is a special study in every country and the men who take a real interest in it and who thoroughly understand it are a select few. As a part of general education instruction on philosophy should, I think, be forbidden in all schools. When allowed it tends to encourage logic-chopping, cavilling, hair-splitting, and the like, and it promotes the growth of conceit in youths and makes them think they know more than they do. In the choice of text-books it seems to me the following principles should be observed:—

1. For ordinary students works bearing on their special subjects should be selected in preference to others. Science students should be reading English elementary works on science, which explain terms, theories and processes. Law students, who usually aim at becoming politicians should be kept to books that deal with government, finance, political economy and general history, and so on. The time at the disposal of students is so limited and the English language is so extensive that it is quite impossible for students to range over so much ground as is now attempted with profit. To attempt too much often ends in accomplishing nothing. Too many Japanese students have a smattering knowledge of a variety of subjects, but know nothing thoroughly. This is not scholarship.

2. For all but specialists in literature a knowledge of modern ordinary English is all that is required. Irving's "Sketch Book" is out of date. "The Vicar of Wakefield" is written in a style that is no longer in use. Addison's English does not furnish a good model for the Japanese student to imitate. Two hundred years ago less attention was paid to points of grammar than is the case now. Consequently the seventeenth century and the eighteenth century writers penned many passages that are now considered grammatically incorrect. There is no conceivable reason why an ordinary Japanese student should spend hours in puzzling out the meaning of such passages. The newspaper language of to-day is what the Japanese student of English needs to understand.

3. In the choice of class-books, abstruse, abstract, metaphysical subjects should be avoided. The teacher may in certain cases be able to show his cleverness in making these subjects intelligible to certain sharp-witted students in the class. But for the class as a whole these topics are unsuitable. There is only time for studying the most important and the most pressing subjects. For ordinary students to be spending months in trying to follow the eccentricities of such a writer as Carlyle seems to me to be useless waste of time. Carlyle is only read by a few specialists in England and America.

4. Novels I do not consider suitable for school text-books for several reasons. (a) They almost exclusively consist of love stories and introduce topics that had better not be discussed in the class-room. (b) They are too long to be read and explained in one year. (c) They contain too many allusions to peculiar local or social customs. Many of these references require more explanation than they are worth, from the point of view of the Japanese student.

It must always be borne in mind that Japan aims at becoming a great commercial and industrial country, and that in order to realize this object her general education must take the form that education has taken in America and Germany and is about to take more and more in England, that is, it must be adapted to preparing students for a business life. The day for what may be called ornamental scholarship has past as far as the bulk of the nation is concerned; and the sooner this is realised and acted on the sooner will Japan be in a position to compete successfully against other countries in commerce and industry. It is the absolute necessity of Japan's adapting herself to her present environment that renders a change in text-books and in methods of teaching indispensable at the present time.

THE TRAVELLER.

The train goes roaring through the night,
And I, a traveller, lie and dream;
Behind the heavy curtains. Care
Frets not my sleep; I know that there
Is one who watches track and steam.

The great ship plunges through the waves,
And I, a traveller, lie at ease;
I know the watchman on the deck
Will guard me well from rock and wreck
And all the storms that sweep the seas.

Some night—some dark and fearful night—
I'll start upon a journey when
No man may guard me while I sleep—
O may my faith be strong to keep
The dreams I dream untroubled then!

—*Chicago Record-Herald.*

THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XXII.

Ieyasu determines on Hideyori's ruin.—Treason of Katagiri.—The erection of the Daibutsu of Kyoto.—Katagiri's negotiations with Ieyasu.—Hostilities break out between Ieyasu and Hideyori.—The part taken by the Christians in this war.—Fall of Osaka.—Death of Hideyori and his partisans.

After having delivered this blow to the Christian religion, and exiled those suspected of plotting with the Spaniards, Ieyasu attacked Hideyori, whom he knew besides to be very discontented with his condition, and ready to claim by armed force the power of which he kept him deprived. On this side also, the moment of action had come, and the final conflict had been so well arranged by the astute Ieyasu, that all the wrong was, apparently at least, on the side of Hideyori, his victim. Ieyasu had at first allowed him to do as he pleased, both at Osaka where he lived, and throughout the whole extent of his dominions, comprising the provinces of Settsu, Kawachi, and Izumi. But, at the same time he had surrounded him by so many snares, that the inexperienced youth must necessarily end his life in one of them. The lack of loyalty on the part of so many *daimyo*, creatures of the Taiko, rendered the matter even easy for Ieyasu: not one had the courage to defend the cause of their benefector's son. Thus it was that Hachisuka, Asano, Kato, Fukushima, Todo, Kuroda, Maeda and so many others, whom the Taiko had taken out of the gutter, or almost so, abandoned Hideyori completely to his fate, nay, they helped even to strangle him.

Among these deserters, however, Katagiri Katsumoto, the Guardian of Hideyori, played the most despicable part: he betrayed his young master and delivered him, bound hand and foot, to Ieyasu.(55) Sold to the latter, Katagiri was for years a spy in Ieyasu's service, and at the same time Hideyori's evil genius. He it was who unceasingly involved the latter in foolish expenditures, and made him thus squander the riches that the Taiko had left to his son.(56) In the number of the eccentricities that he recommended to Hideyori, particular mention must be made of the reconstruction of the Daibutsu of Kyoto.

This colossal statue of Buddha, first erected in 1588, by the Taiko himself, had been partly destroyed by a fire, and then completely overthrown by the violent earthquake of 1596. In memory of her spouse, Mandokoro, the Taiko's legitimate wife, had, after the death of the latter, undertaken the reconstruction of this monument, but a fire destroyed it anew, in 1603. The unfortunate statue then seemed to be forgotten when, at the instigation of Ieyasu, Katagiri advised Hideyori and his mother Yodogimi to resume the construction of it, persuading them that this work of piety would draw on them the favours of heaven (57). No more was necessary to persuade Hideyori, then 18 years old, and very desirous of the favour of the gods, in order that he might issue safe and sound from his desperate situation. He therefore consented also to the proposition of founding an enormous bell, whose sound should gratify Buddha in his leisure moments. An inscription in the form of a prayer, engraved on the bell, would make this latter constantly intercede for Hideyori.

Begun in 1611, statue and bell were both finished in 1614, and the inauguration was to take place on the 15th of June of the same year. But, scarcely had the ceremony commenced than it was all at once interrupted by Itakura, Governor of Kyoto. The pretext of this unexpected interruption was that the inscription on the bell contained an expression injurious to Ieyasu. The two characters forming his name were separated by another character, and this was a manifest sign that the bell would draw down maledictions on his head. This sudden indignation of Ieyasu was all the more surprising as, long before the casting of the bell, he knew the inscription in question, and had without doubt even taken part in its composition. The fact of the matter was that another

(55) Katagiri is generally designated under the title of Ichi-no-Kami.

(56) Pagès, p. 207, 305.

(57) Keigen-ki, p. 37.

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of Ieyasu's arrangement had fallen through, and that, for want of a better, Itakura had had to employ this futile pretext. Ieyasu had ordered the Governor to seize Hideyori and Yodogimi, who were to assist at the inauguration, but who, warned on the evening before of the danger which menaced them, had decided not to leave the fortress of Osaka. Finding himself disappointed in this way, Itakura, always at Ieyasu's orders, made a great outcry on the subject of the inscription and accused Hideyori of hostile motives. No one was deceived as to the true reason underlying all this affair planned for years, with the cleverness and patience of Ieyasu. However, as a vain motive was always to conceal the principal reason, the bell will be henceforth the pretext for hostilities between Ieyasu and Hideyori. The interminable negotiations which followed this event, even the war which soon broke out, are thought to have been caused by the inscription of the bell.

It was from this moment that the role of Katagiri became a particularly odious one. Pretending to be overwhelmed by grief at the disagreement between his young master and Ieyasu, he offered his services as a peace-maker. In September 1614, he repaired to Sumpu in order to soothe Ieyasu's wrath. The task, say naively the historians, was a difficult one, but by dint of entreaties Katagiri brought about a reconciliation, however on the three following conditions: that Hideyori would exchange the fortress of Osaka for that of Koriyama (Yamato); (58) that Yodogimi was to reside in Yedo as a hostage; that Hideyori was to come to Yedo once a year, after the custom of the daimyos, in order to present his homage to the Shogun.(59) The question of the bell occupied the last place, and only for appearance's sake: they decided that the objectionable inscription should be in part erased.

To subscribe to these conditions had been, on the part of Hideyori, to renounce all his rights, which he just then wished to claim, and to reduce himself to the rank of a simple *daimyo*. Katagiri, however, while laying stress on the difficulty he would have in getting these conditions accepted, promised to do his utmost. Ieyasu testified his pleasure with Katagiri by clothing him with his own coat. He decided also that Katagiri's son would receive in marriage the daughter of Honda Masanobu, his favourite *kerai*.

These conferences had lasted more than a month, and when Katagiri returned to Osaka, he found himself received with extreme distrust. But when he had disclosed the conditions laid down by Ieyasu, indignation broke out everywhere, and he was openly accused of treason. Ota Nobuo, being begged to do so, abandoned his retreat at Kyoto, and came to Osaka to plead in favour of Katagiri, whom he believed innocent. He conjured therefore Hideyori not to condemn this devoted *kerai*, without first having heard him. But, Katagiri finding that he was discovered, did not judge it wise to wait so long: the following night he left Osaka secretly and took refuge in his citadel of Ibaraki (Settsu), with all his *samurai*. The Governor of Kyoto had already received order to send Katagiri reinforcements, lest Hideyori would go to attack him in his retreat. It would be superfluous to say any more on the subject of the guilt of Katagiri; in fleeing in so cowardly a manner he himself confessed his fault. Moreover, he became from the first attack the most furious combatant in Ieyasu's army. Nobuo, although very little versed in political profligacy, saw that he had been made to play the role of a dupe, and returned without delay to Kyoto.

From this moment civil war was inevitable. Hideyori saw that only a desperate effort could tear him from the mortal grasp in which Ieyasu had little by little secured him. Ono Harunaga, his most devoted *kerai*, worked with all his might to drive him to this extreme resolution. Without losing an instant Ono provided also for the victualling of Osaka. All the junks and barks, in the ports of Sakai, Hyogo and Akashi, that he could lay hands on, were used to transport rise and other edibles to Osaka. To the numbers of the *ronin*, who were already in the fortress, several thousands were added. Chosokabe Motochika the fallen *daimyo* of Tosa, and Sanada Yukimura, ex-*daimyo* of Ueda (Shinano), escaped from Mount Koya, whither Ieyasu had exiled them after Sekigahara, and came to place themselves at the disposition of Hideyori. Two other celebrated recruits were Goto Mototsugu and Akashi Kamon. The first, formerly a Christian and a *kerai* of Kuroda Nagamasa, had abandoned the later, for religious motives, and attached himself to Ikeda Terumasa, *daimyo* of Himeji. There Goto had become relaxed in his faith, and finally apostatized. Akashi Kamon had, since his dismissal by Kuroda, led a rather dull existence with his old mother, his wife and his two children. Hideyori's appeal to all knights-errant came also to him and thus furnished him with the means of living. Several other Christian *samurai*, among whom was the elder son of Takayama with 300 former soldiers of his father, the son of Naito and a son of Otomo Sorin fought also in the ranks of Hideyori's army. The quarter occupied by the Christian *samurai* was distinguished by six great banners ornamented with a cross. Five Religious and two native priests had also entered the camp of Hideyori, in order to offer their sacred ministry to the Christians.

Owing to this presence of Christian warriors at Osaka, several authors arrive at the conclusion that Hideyori's party was mostly made up of proscribed Christian *samurai*, making a last effort to overthrow the persecutor Ieyasu. Quite recently, still the *Historical Magazine*, publishing an article on this subject, exhibited the most astounding inaccuracy. It mistakes Katagiri's wife for Louisa, wife of the governor of Hosokawa's residence in Nagasaki,(61) and makes an influential and a zealous convert of the traitor's consort. Then the apostate Goto is mentioned as one whose religious leanings were not clear; and a Buddhist, a bastard of Hosokawa, is given out for the second son of Gratia, a Christian. Even the tedious story of the Murayama is erroneously stated therein. It was not the Governor himself who went to Osaka, but his son Francis, one of the two native priests mentioned above. The latter had gone there to assist the wounded soldiers, and it was while discharging this ministry that he was killed during the siege (62). Francis had never acted as the commander of the four hundred men, whom the Murayama were accused to have sent to Osaka. Heizo, an apostate like the Murayama, and at the same time a bitter foe of this family, had invented the whole story in order to bring them to their complete fall (63).

Certainly, as Hideyori had made the most engaging promises to the Christians who followed his party, in some places they desired his triumph over Ieyasu (64). It is even said that Hideyori's army was full of Christians (65). However, between that and the fact that the Christians composed the great majority of Hideyori's army there is a difference. Unfortunately, the Christian *samurai* had for the most part followed the disloyalty of their *daimyo* and sold themselves to Ieyasu. Akashi Kamon, who was the commander of the Christian volunteers at Osaka, had between a thousand and two thousand men under him (66). Add to this relatively small number several hundreds, and even a thousand of other Christian recruits, scattered in the different battalions, and their total number amounts to three thousand at most.

Here, one may even ask one's self, why should the Christians have unanimously followed the cause of the Taiko's son? Did this latter really inspire them such a confidence? If several of them expected religious liberty from Hideyori, others had more than one reason to doubt about his sincerity, in spite of all his promises. A very fervent Buddhist, and continually surrounded by bonzes, Hideyori had little sympathy for the Christian religion and its followers.(67) The few audiences which he granted to the Religious, and the other marks of politeness he showed them, had only one object, and that was to receive the presents which, in those circumstances, the Religious were accustomed to offer. It may also be that the young man, following the then general craze, made use of the Jesuits, in order to hear them speak about astronomy. The Jesuits had just then opened observatories at Osaka and Kyoto, explaining to all who wished to hear them the marvels of that science. These two institutions had won the Jesuits such consideration among the educated people, that it would have been at least imprudent, on the part of Hideyori, to treat them unfriendly. For this reason also he charged Katagiri to present the Religious with his excuses for past vexations.

As to Yodogimi, she was a fanatical Buddhist, detesting the Christian religion with all her heart and forbidding her servants, under the severest penalties, to follow that doctrine. She even went so far as to personally denounce the Christians to Ieyasu and to urge him to persecute them.(68)

After this description one can conceive how dangerous it would have been, on the part of the Christians, to place their confidence in Hideyori and his mother Yodogimi, and to expect from them a Government less hostile to their belief. If Hideyori had triumphed over Ieyasu, he would have probably launched an edict of persecution, on the day after his victory. The kindness he showed to the Christian *samurai*, at a moment when their help was much desired, would have vanished, the moment he had seen his power established.

As soon as Ieyasu heard that Katagiri's treason had been discovered, and that Hideyori was preparing to attack him, in spite of his advanced age he immediately set out at the head of a numerous army and encamped at Sumiyoshi, in front of Osaka. (December 1614). His son Hidetada hastened from Yedo with his troops and stopped at Hirano, another locality situated at a short distance from Osaka. To the fifty thousand men, whom Hideyori had assembled in the fortress of Osaka, Ieyasu and his son opposed more than double that number. Fighting soon began on both sides. In the first combats, victory was nearly always on Hideyori's side. Ieyasu was extremely alarmed at this, and, distrustful of the venality of several *daimyo*, he hastened to conclude peace. A Christian woman, Jokoin, the widow of Kyogoku Takatsugu, was entrusted with the negotiations. As a sister of Yodogimi she was chosen for this delicate mission, and unfortunately she succeeded in convincing the latter of the advantage of this peace. Hideyori, who had been told that famine would break out if the siege lasted longer, and that treason might likewise be expected from a great many of his soldiers, also allowed himself to be persuaded. On the 21st of January, 1615, peace was accordingly concluded and the two adversaries signed the document with their blood. Ieyasu, after having protested his sincere affection for Hideyori, had simply required that the latter would dismiss the *ronin*, who had hastened to him from all sides, and demolish the exterior rampart of the fortress of Osaka. Hideyori had accepted all these conditions. After the conclusion of peace, Ieyasu returned to Sumpu, whilst Hidetada remained at Osaka till the rampart in question was destroyed and the moat filled up. A month after all being finished Hidetada took the road to Yedo.

The demolition of this rampart was the ruin of Hideyori. During the last negotiations, his devoted *kerai* had all conjured him not to subscribe to Ieyasu's conditions, and to continue, war, so far in his favour. But a sort of fatality seemed to pursue the Taiko's son and drag him to his ruin: filial piety made him shut his ears to all entreaties, and listen, on the contrary, to the foolish counsel of his mother. Too late he understood his imprudence, and wishing to repair his error, at least in part, he caused the remaining rampart of the fortress to be hastily fortified,

(58) Pages, p. 305, speaks of Kameyama (Tamba).
(59) Keigen-ki, p. 60.
(60) Shiggakai, September 1902.
(61) See the end of Chap. XIX. Pagès, Annexe, p. 128.
(62) Pagès, p. 312.
(63) Pagès, p. 386 and 390.
(64) Pagès, p. 298.
(65) Pagès, p. 311.
(66) Keigen-ki.
(67) Pagès, p. 314.
(68) Pagès, p. 136.

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Ieyasu immediately protested and cried of treason. Once more Jokoin had to visit Yodogimi to convey to her the grievances of Ieyasu, (May 1615). At the same time Jokoin proposed to Hideyori a means of henceforth escaping all suspicions on the part of Ieyasu. She persuaded him to abandon Osaka and to take up his residence, for a few years only, at Koriyama. Hideyori, already very irritated at having let him be deceived once, rejected this proposition and declared to Jokoin that he would wage war to the bitter end with that cheat Ieyasu.

The latter was awaiting this answer, and at once set out at the head of 150,000 men. Since the conclusion of peace he had applied himself to augmenting his effective force, and to compelling to this war suspected *daimyo* like Fukushima and his own son Tadateru.

During this time, Hideyori had issued an appeal to all the *ronin* in Japan. He thus succeeded in getting together about 150,000 men in Osaka, including women and children. The principal chiefs of this army were Goto Mototsugu, who had command of 11,000 men; Ono Harunaga of 8,000; his brother Harufusa and Kimura Shigenari, each of 5,000 men; Chosokabe had 8,000 men under him, and Sanada 3,000 Finally several other chiefs, among whom was Akashi Kamon, commanded each from one thousand to two thousand men. As the fortress of Osaka was then too small to contain so many people, more than half of the soldiers were obliged to camp outside the walls, and to entrench themselves as well as they could.(69)

Hideyori began the attack in several places at once. Fortune seemed to smile on him anew. Already the fortress of Koriyama had fallen into his hands, and, for having surrendered itself to Ieyasu, the town of Sakai had been reduced to ashes. But, treason soon changed all this. Among the *ronin* who had rallied round Hideyori's standard, several had been sent by Ieyasu, and they informed him of all that passed in the Osaka army. They had even undertaken to bring about the disappearance of the most influential personages, and it was thus that Ono Harunaga was seriously wounded by one of them. From that time the confidence of Hideyori's men was severely shaken, and all expected a disaster. When, a little while after, Goto was slain in a combat at Wakae, there was a precipitate retreat on Osaka. Ieyasu immediately surrounded this place and prevented anyone from leaving it. The lack of food and of munitions, the general discontent and also the disagreement between the chiefs of the Osaka army, ended in causing the greatest disorder. The impossibility of escaping death was the sole bond which still kept this extraordinary assemblage together.

On the 4th of June, Ieyasu gave orders to attack the fortress. According to the Religious, who were shut up in Osaka, this last struggle was terrible.(70) Reduced to despair, the besieged made a supreme effort to disengage themselves from the grasp of their enemy, and the latter had to fall back for a certain time. Ono Harunaga, supported by Akashi Kamon, gained ground in proportion as the fight lasted. It is said that Ieyasu, consternated by the turn of the combat, resolved to put an end to his life rather than submit to the shame of a defeat. Sure of victory, Ono precipitously re entered the fortress to invite Hideyori to come out and assist at the triumph of his followers. Unfortunately this movement on the part of Ono, having the appearance of a retreat, arrested suddenly the enthusiasm of his soldiers and reanimated the enemy's courage, so that an hour later saw Ieyasu master of the field of battle. Sanada died in the fight, Chosokabe and seventy other chiefs were made prisoners. Akashi Kamon was one of the few who succeeded in escaping.

Without delay the troops of Ieyasu threw themselves on the town of Osaka, sacking every house and despoiling the vanquished of even their garments. Father Torrez had to submit to this treatment; at the moment of his flight he encountered a band of pillagers who, in an instant, reduced him to a state of complete nudity. At the fall of Osaka this Religious happened to be in the residence of Akashi Kamon, with the latter's family and several Christians. Forced to flee on the approach of the flames, he had scarcely time to have the old mother of Akashi carried into the castle, where the enemy had not yet dared to penetrate. After having marched for six miles on corpses,(71) Father Torrez arrived towards midnight at Kishiwada, where he could at last take a little rest.(72) Another Religious, Father Porro had gained Date Masamune's camp, in the hope that this *daimyo*, until lately the friend of the Religious, would take him under his protection. Date, however, having already dropped his pretended friendship for the Religious, gave Porro to understand that he could do nothing for a Christian. Happily, two *samurai* of Hachisuka invited the Religious to remain with them. Porro accepted their hospitality for five days. Finally Tsukuda Matayemon, a fervent Christian and one of Fukushima's *kerai*, offered him an asylum in his own dwelling(73).

Meanwhile Ieyasu had given orders to his soldiers to attack the castle. Scarcely, however, had the conquerors put foot inside, on the following day, than fire broke out from every part and consumed Hideyori's palace with all those that were inside. Hideyori himself, his mother, Ono and several other chiefs perished in the flames after having committed *harakiri*. The leading men among the prisoners were decapitated at Kyoto. On the express order of Ieyasu, Chosokabe had his fingers and toes cut off and after having been left in this state for ten days, was decapitated. Kunimatsu, the natural son of Hideyori, had at first escaped death. but he was soon betrayed and delivered to Ieyasu, who had him beheaded. The child was then seven years old.

Hideyori's wife was the sole person of this family who survived. Completely neglected by her husband even from the first moment, she had left Osaka before the war. To console her she was given in marriage to Honda Tadatoki, one of Ieyasu's *kerai*. She died at Yedo at the age of seventy. Her tomb is still to be seen there, in the temple called Denzu-in.

(69) Keigen-ki.
(70) Pagès, p. 309.

(71) It is pretended that 100,000 men perished in this battle and that the Setogawa overflowed its banks on account of the corpses which arrested its waters.
(72) Pagès annexe, p. 123.
(73) Pagès, Annexe, p. 125.

FOOTBALL.

U.S.S. "OREGON" v. U.S.S. "WILMINGTON."

It requires a special training to be able to play football under American rules; and it requires special aptitude on the part of the sporting journalist to describe the game in the language and terms associated with it in the land of its birth and evolution. Such training the present scribe never had and such aptitude he unfortunately does not possess, so he can give but a very imperfect impression of the game played on the Yokohama Cricket Ground on Saturday afternoon between teams from the U.S.S. *Oregon* and the U.S.S. *Wilmington*. Both teams, he had been told, had been training assiduously for the fray—really, that is the only term sufficiently expressive and at the same time truthful—so that we may take it that the game they put up was one of the best. At any rate every man did do his best most strenuously and it was not the fault of anybody that only one "gory wreck" was carted off the field during the match; while bloody noses became the rule, not the exception, long ere the referee brought the contest to a close. To our way of thinking there were too many scrums—scrums not at all like the Rugby scrum, but a faint imitation of the old nursery game of "more sacks on the mill," with this difference, that no one seemed to care whether heads were battered or limbs crushed so long as the ball did not break away for more than a foot or so at a time—and so it took an interminable time for the players to work the ball down the gridiron to the touch-line. But there can be no gainsaying the fact that American football is exciting. The players enter the field with all the ardour of gladiators, while the spectators—of whom there was a very large crowd on Saturday—spur them on by shouts and ejaculations that make the partisan yelling at an Interport "fonter" game tame as the mewing of the proverbial family cat by comparison. Saturday's game was a decided victory for the *Oregon* team—16 points to *nil*—these points including one touch-down that was not converted and in the second half a goal. One very good run was made by the *Oregon*, and towards the close the *Wilmingtons* managed to break out of the scrums more frequently than when the game began, but on the whole the *Oregon* had it all their own way: they were heavier and their combination closer than their opponents. By-the-way, the incantations which prelude the scrums were most weird at times.

ASSOCIATION.

After the wild delirium of the American game the practice match, under Association rules, between teams captained respectively by E. G. Fradgley (Colours) and H. W. Kilby (Whites) seemed dull and uninteresting. Play was fast and at times some pretty passing was seen. In the end Colours won by four goals to three.

DOOLEY ON FOOTBALL.

Mr. Dooley has been describing American football. "Bill has a head like a walnut on top iv a bag iv flour. He convarges so much to'rd to' top that they wasn't room to put in a complete set iv think devices but what he has it well-protected be a roof iv chilled steel covered with vulcanized rubber. In other days one'y death wud have kept Bill fr'm bein' a butcher. As it is th' fam'ly dont hardly know to do with him. He's too strong to be licked an' too big to be coaxed whin wan day a lether comer fr'm th' prisidint of a colledge: "Dear Sir an' Madam: I undherstand that ye have in ye're fame'ly a large piece iv raw beef that wud make a good cinter rush. I sthrongly advise ye to sind him to our far-famed university. Th' colledge man is becomin' more an' more a factchor iv American life.

An so Bill rolls off to colledge an afther awhile rayports come home fr'm him. "Th' Cinter Rush iv th' Hoopstown 'Varsity is Beefy Bill Lonergan. Th' coaches is all wild about his wurruk. But Bill Cassidy an' 'Assassin' Jenks who were in th' murderous eighty-eight team say he is far better thin Chaw Gumbin, iv that year. This is high praise but Bill deserves it. He is not as good with th' teeth as that gr-reat scholar an he needs th' practice he is gettin' fr'm 'Purrer' Sampson, ninety-three, in th' knee-cap kick, but th' ear-hold, th' sedden gouge, th' thrip, th' butt-in-th'-stomach, th' thump-in-th'-mouth an' th' abdominal heel, he is perhaps without an akel. Yisterdah durin' th' first half he broke th' forearm iv Hannigan, th' cinter rush iv th' scrup iliven.'

"Think iv th' mother at home readin these glad tiding while tears iv joy fill' her eyes. She goes to her room an offer up, p'raps, a little prayer f'r her wayward boy that th' nex' time he meets Hannigan 'twill be a compound fracture."

The following is the Yokohama Interport Team:—Goal, W. J. Waddilove; backs, W. S. Moss and A. Kingdon; half-backs, W. B. Mason, E. G. Fradgley and W. J. White; forwards, J. F. Drummond, O. Strome, J. E. Moss, H. W. Kilby and K. van R. Smith.

The Kobe team is expected to comprise the following:—Goal, G. Stephens; backs, A. R. Evans and H. E. Green; half-backs, Rankin, J. Thompson, and D. Weed; forwards, Crane, S. Clarke, McDougall, Heaslett, and Gutterre 3.

Referee.—Mr. J. H. Bathgate.

Our readers will be interested to learn that a marriage has been arranged, and will take place in April, between the Rev. Rowland Francis Cobbold, M.A., formerly chaplain of S. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, son of the late R. T. Cobbold, Esq., of Dedham, Essex, and Lilian Hope, daughter of the late Sir Harry Smith Parkes, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., formerly H.M.'s Minister to China and Japan.

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LAW CASES.

JONES v. BENNEY.

Judgment was given on Friday morning in the Yokohama District Court in the appeal case of Mr. E. B. Jones *versus* Mr. C. T. Benney. The appellant's claim, which was for compensation for damage done to a jinrikisha, was dismissed with costs of suit in the first and second instances.

TAN YUKETSU v. PHŒNIX ASSURANCE.

In the Yokohama District Court on Monday, before Judge Kano, the hearing began of an action claiming *yen* 8,000, brought by Tan Yuketsu, a Chinese merchant, formerly of No. 81, Yamashita-cho, against Mr. N. P. Kingdon, the representative of the Phœnix Assurance Company, No. 193, Yamashita-cho. Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Fujiwara; Mr. Hiraoka appeared for defendant.

Mr. Fujiwara stated that plaintiff took out four insurance policies on furniture, covering *yen* 5,000 altogether, from September 21st, 1901, and five policies on merchandise (woollen cloth) amounting to *yen* 7,000 between April 19th and July 8th, 1902. The term of the insurance was up to the end of December, 1902. On the 12th July, 1902, at 1 o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out on the premises when the furniture and merchandise insured were burnt. Plaintiff claimed payment of the sum insured, and *yen* 4,000 was paid with a promise that the remainder would be paid afterwards. It had, however, never been paid.

Mr. Hiraoka stated that he did not admit the authenticity of the alleged facts.

In answer to the Court, Mr. Fujiwara said that the goods insured were almost all destroyed and those saved were unfit for further use. They were sold by public auction by Messrs. Eyton & Pratt by instructions of the insurance company. He asked whether the defendant had made the contract in the name of Kinshow, or Cockeye, by which the plaintiff was commonly known in business.

Mr. Hiraoka stated that he refused to answer the question as the action was instituted in the name of Tan Yuketsu.

Mr. Fujiwara applied to the Court to summon Kaku Sensa, a Chinese living at No. 198, Yamashita-cho, as witness to testify that the contract was made in the name of Cockeye, which is the firm name of the plaintiff.

The Court decided to call this witness and proceedings were adjourned until the 25th inst.

CARL RHODE v. KURITA KAMEJIRO.

In the Yokohama District Court, on Monday, before Judge Kano, the hearing was resumed of an action, adjourned from January 23rd, brought by Messrs. Carl Rhode & Co., No. 70, Yokohama, against Mr. Kurita Kamejiro of Tokyo. Mr. Akao appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Matsuzawa for defendant.

Mr. Akao asked the Court that defendant be ordered to take delivery of 1565½ yards of woollen cloth and to pay *yen* 3,992.226, together with the sum of *yen* 745.215, interest on the above sum at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and the sums of *yen* 33.60 and *yen* 93.151, being the storage charges and insurance premium, *yen* 500 being deducted from the total sum. The contract was made in 1900 by the father of the present defendant. The father was now dead.

Mr. Matsuzawa stated that he could not recognize the contract, although he admitted Mr. Kurita Shotaro, the dead man, had business transactions with plaintiff. Mr. Kurita Shotaro died on the 4th September, 1900, and the present defendant, his heir and successor, had nothing to do with the matter.

Mr. Akao produced a memorandum of the contract, and other papers as documentary evidence, to prove the authenticity of Mr. Kurita Shotaro's signature.

Mr. Matsuzawa stated that he could not say whether the signature appearing on the papers was genuine or not, unless he referred to his client.

Mr. Akao agreed to lend one of the papers produced for the sake of reference and the case was adjourned until the 6th March.

MUKAI YEI v. RUNGE AND THOMAS.

In the Yokohama District Court on Tuesday, the hearing was reopened of the case brought by Mr. Mukai Yei, of Tokyo, against Messrs. Runge and Thomas, of Yokohama, demanding the return of six Redemption Bonds, valued at *yen* 5,000, which had been given as security for a contract for woollen goods involving a sum of *yen* 26,305.49. When the case came up on January 27th, judgment was given in default for defendants. Against this decision plaintiff appealed. He was represented now by Mr. Miwata while Mr. Koide appeared for defendants.

It appeared that plaintiff contracted to buy certain goods and agreed that in case of delivery not being taken within 90 days of the arrival of the goods, damages should be paid. He failed to take delivery and in accordance with the terms of the contract defendants confiscated his security.

After arguments from both counsel, the case was adjourned till the 19th inst.

J. HELM v. G. HIKIDA.

In the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, on Thursday, before Judge Kato, an action brought by J. Helm against J. Hikida over a mining transaction, adjourned from November 16th, was heard.

Mr. Sawada appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Sato for defendant.

Plaintiff asked the court to summon as witnesses T. Sato, S. Watanabe, T. Ishi and O. K. Weigall. Defendant asked the Court to call K. Fujita and his mother, and T. Ishii. The Court accepted the applications of both parties; but the examination of T. Ishii, K. Fujita and his mother, will be entrusted to the Kanagawa Ku Saibansho.

The Court adjourned *sine die*.

Y. OKUNO v. MENDELSON BROS.

In the same court before Judge Kano, this case, adjourned from Feb. 3rd, again came up for hearing.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Yamada and defendant by Mr. Sato.

Messrs. Wakabayashi and Akai having given evidence as to the sale of certain silk goods to defendants, and as to plaintiff having advanced money on them, the case was adjourned.

PIGGOT v. MARUYAMA.

In the Yokohama Ku Saibansho, on Thursday before Judge Hasegawa, Mrs. Mitsu Piggot of 64, Bluff, sued U. Maruyama for *yen* 92, house rent from January, 1902, till April of the same year. Defendant said he hired the house from Mitsu Sakurai, not from plaintiff, and the case was adjourned for further evidence, plaintiff urging that her name was formerly Sakurai.

YOKOHAMA MEN'S READING ROOM ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Reading Room Association was held on Saturday at five o'clock, at the Rooms of the Association, 82 Main St., and was attended by a good number of the subscribers. The Reports of the Secretary and of the Treasurer were passed as printed and circulated among the subscribers. The meeting endorsed a number of plans proposed by the Directors for enlarged usefulness during the coming year and a committee was appointed to investigate some possible early changes which may very much enlarge the scope of the Association. The report as given below shows a very satisfactory record for the first year and it is to be hoped that the year to come may show even larger advancement; if certain contemplated changes are made the organization will doubtless be even more useful to the community than it has been in the past.

The year just closed, says the report, has been one of success and of sustained interest sufficient to warrant the plans of the promoters and to give encouragement to all who have invested in the enterprise or given assistance to it.

The Board of Direction has had eleven meetings for transacting the business of the Association and considering matters of interest to the members. The work has been placed in the charge of several standing committees.

The two rooms which were originally secured over Brett & Co, were found too limited for the needs of the Association. In May the Directors found it would be possible to secure larger and better adapted quarters over Curnow & Co., consequently the new quarters were taken possession of on August 1st, 1902. This gives the Association a light, attractive and well-arranged suite of five rooms. The Directors have done considerable repairing, painting, preparing, putting in electric light and removing the partition between two rooms so that they can be used for lectures or social gatherings.

Of the five rooms the large corner room is used as a reading room; two as game rooms, and are supplied with draughts, chess and ping-pong; one is fitted as a hand ball court; the fifth is used for committee and other small meetings. In addition is a room which it is expected to equip as a lavatory. The rooms are simply but comfortably and attractively furnished; however, much remains to be added in this respect.

The reading room has been supplied with a large and well-selected list of British and American periodicals, which we believe will rank with the best in any class of club or public reading rooms. The list has been slightly revised for the coming year, embodying recommendations of the Hon. Librarian, which are the result of his observations of the tastes and desires of the members.

The Association has made a beginning of collecting a library for members' use, and 31 volumes are now in hand.

The Association roll at the opening of the rooms contained 102 members and contributors. The total during the year has been 124, and at the present time there are 91 actual members.

For the months from July 1st, 1902 to January 21st, 1903, there has been an actual recorded attendance at the rooms of 1,903. Owing to difficulty in keeping complete records these figures would fall somewhat under the actual facts. The attendance by months was July 195, August 349, September 274, October 314, November 242, December 285, January 271. One member of the reception committee has been on duty each evening to look after the interests of those present.

There have been five social gatherings in which assistance was rendered by a number of ladies. These had an attendance of 187. From March 1st to April 31st there were 12 meetings of a class in gymnastics with an attendance of 52. One fireside lecture was given with an attendance of 17. There has been one chess tournament contested with 12 entries.

The above results have been attained largely by attractiveness of the quarters and show there is in Yokohama a real field and desire for such an agency. The Directors believe that with a more aggressive policy and with an increased variety of attractions along social, literary, and physical lines, and having in mind always a wholesome moral atmosphere which will assist to a sturdy manhood and genuine integrity, the rooms will be a centre to attract a larger number of young men. Under these conditions they will merit and receive a larger financial support from firms and individuals, and become one of the recognized and indispensable features of the foreign community in Yokohama.

The Directors wish to thank all who have in any way contributed to the record of this first year. The Directors are the agents of the Association, and they would remind the members that the success of the movement depends on the co-operation of every member. We believe the spirit which rules should not be that of getting all possible out of the attractions offered, but that of raising the Association as a channel through which to contribute something to the welfare and happiness of our fellow young men in this limited and isolated community.

The four members of the Board of Direction retire by virtue of the constitution.

The accounts show that the total assets for the year were *yen* 1,818.29 while the expenditure has been *yen* 1,690.87, leaving a balance in hand of *yen* 127.42.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Japanese war-vessels *Mikasa* and *Yakumo* left Tsu for Kobe on the 5th inst.

The Russian cruiser *Askold* arrived at Nagasaki on the 10th inst. from Hongkong.

Baron Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, sent a telegram of kind inquiry to Signor Prinetti on the 4th inst.

A man named Uyemura Torakichi, living at Tsuyamacho, Okayama Prefecture, murdered his wife and then attempted suicide on the 5th inst.

A letter written by a Japanese gentleman, to which the *Nagasaki Press* has had access, states

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positively that there is no cholera at Karatsu. The ten men who were seized with illness (from which three died) it was found had eaten of a small whale bought from Korea.

A fishing boat belonging to Naka harbour, Mito, with eighteen men on board, while fishing at Isohama bay on Feb. 1st, was capsized. The eighteen men were drowned and the empty boat came ashore at Kashimaura. The bodies have not yet been found.

Mr. Morrison, Harbour Master, was shot in the face two or three times by pirates at Samshui on the 20th January. The powder used was so bad that he is rapidly recovering. Eleven of the pirates were captured and ten of them condemned to death by Mr. Van Aalst, the Commissioner of Customs, and beheaded.

The *Nagasaki Press* has much pleasure in recording that H. M. the Emperor of Japan has been pleased to confer on Mr. F. N. Dresing—for some months past Superintendent of the Great Northern Telegraph Co. at Nagasaki—the Sixth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun, in recognition of services rendered to this country during the Japan-China War and on subsequent occasions.

When the Nishiyama Waterworks scheme was first planned, it was stated, says the *Nagasaki Press*, that it would take four years to complete—from April 1st, 1899, to March 31st, 1903. In the beginning, however, events conspired to retard the commencement of the work, and consequently to-day, although much of it is done, the authorities find that they will be unable to keep to the date of completion originally fixed. Accordingly the matter is to be laid before the Board of City Councillors, with the request that they approve an extension of the time to March 31st, 1904.

A fatal accident occurred at Kiukiang on the night of the 28th January, in which four of the crew of H.M. gunboat *Snipe* lost their lives by drowning. It seems that the *Snipe* arrived there during the evening and the doctor, Dr. J. C. Rowan, went ashore to dinner. Later in the evening a boat was sent ashore to fetch him off. He was taken aboard and shortly afterwards the boat was caught by one of the blizzards so frequent in that locality, and capsized. Dr. Rowan was able to swim and was saved, but the boat's crew, consisting of four men, were drowned, and the boat was lost. Three bodies were recovered the following morning.

The total number of foreign residents at Nagasaki has just been returned as 1,659, the number of houses occupied being 542. The following are the nationalities of the local residents :—

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Dwelling.
Chinese.....	987	99	1,086	361
British	68	59	127	46
Russian.....	56	57	113	35
American.....	57	48	105	39
French	40	24	64	15
German	29	19	48	19
Austrian	18	9	27	6
Portuguese	9	4	13	3
Other nationals..	48	36	76	18
Total	1,304	355	1,569	512

In a recent issue the *Hongkong Telegraph* recorded that Captain A. W. Fleming of the British barque *Strathern* had, some time ago, spoken the American steam launch *Herminie M. de la Rama* in Lat. 14° N. Long. 117° E. At that time the vessel was long overdue on a passage between Hongkong and Manila, and was in a disabled condition. The crew had been out of food for some time, and the master, Captain Cannon, was very ill. Food, enough to last 5 days, was supplied to him. We now learn that the *Herminie M. de la Rama*, which left Hongkong on 8th December, was eventually picked up and towed into Singapore by the Holt steamer *Laertes*. Captain Cannon died before reaching Singapore.

Reporting the arrival at Shanghai under distress of the British barque *Lord Templetown* (Capt. Morse), 2,084 tons, (which left New York for Hakodate, with a cargo of kerosene oil, on the 5th July, 1902), the *N.-C. Daily News* says :—The *Lord Templetown* met with very bad weather and became partly disabled on the voyage. On the 15th December, when 300 miles N. E of Yokohama, she was spoken by the *St. David*, and last month she got within touch of her destination, Hakodate, but was blown out to sea again. On Monday (Feb. 2), however, she was able to put into Woosung and is now lying outside the Spit Buoy. She will be docked here for repairs without discharging cargo, but as she is drawing 24ft. 6in., it will be some days before she can pass the Bar. Her rudder head is broken and her rigging has suffered considerable damage.

The Statistical Department of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs send us the *Customs Gazette* for the third quarter of 1902. The revenue collected—under the new tariff—shows again a considerable improvement, as the following comparative table indicates :—

	1902.	1901.
Chinese Ports (so-called).....	7,725,609	6,761,594
Kowloon and Lappa	207,659	198,083
Lungchow, Mêngtze, Szemao, and Têngyueh	42,336	42,621
Total	7,975,604	7,002,298

Shanghai, as usual, was the principal factor in the improvement, the revenue collected there in July-September amounting to Hk. Tls. 2,716,154, against Tls. 2,161,216 in 1901, and Tls. 1,240,-453 in 1900. At Tientsin also there was a remarkable increase, the revenue in 1902 being Hk. Tls. 703,028, against Tls. 207,726 in 1901, and Tls. 60,082 in 1900.

What the immediate future has in store for us in China, who can tell? writes the Amoy correspondent of the *China Mail*. Certainly the Shanghai papers are not very consolatory reading just now, with their warnings and pessimistic prophecies of another "1900" though one would fain hope it is more talk than anything else. But this is true at any rate, that the Military Mandarins all over the place are much more active than usual, and that there is much practising among the soldiers. The camp at Emmungkang has been the scene, of late, of much marching and shooting, volley firing and practising of modern methods of warfare. After all, it is only their ordinary duty as soldiers to learn how to shoot, but one thing is evident that if trouble should come, the Chinese are going to be better prepared all over the Empire than they were three years ago. The Empress Dowager and her advisers are reorganisig the army, and are determined that more modern methods shall take the place of those which have obtained for centuries. Not every Chinaman is a coward, and he can be taught to fight well and to die bravely, as witness the Chinese trained at Weihai-wei, who fought on our side and distinguished themselves. "Forewarned is forearmed," and "he who lives longest will see the most."

Writing on February 5th, the *N.-C. Daily News* said :—

It is with very deep regret that we have to announce the death at 7.20 a.m. yesterday of Miss Mildred Yorke of the Janet Waldorf Company. The announcement that we were asked to make yesterday morning that she and Mr. Fitchett were only suffering from influenza was unfortunately too hopeful; and Miss Yorke died yesterday morning of malignant small pox. Mr. Fitchett's disease has also, we learn, been pronounced to be small pox, but in a mild form. The death of Miss Yorke is particularly sad, as she was not yet twenty-three years of age, and she was a very promising actress. Tall, gifted with unusual personal attractions, of a very bright sunny nature, with abilities much above the average, and with charming manners and address, she was a universal favourite. She was very well connected in Sydney, her native city, and was for some time a star in a leading amateur dramatic company there, where she attracted the notice of Mr. J. C. Williamson, the well-known theatrical manager in the Colonies. Under his auspices she joined the profession from sheer love of the art, and when Mrs. A. Dow-Currier was leaving for the present tour, Miss Yorke joined the company, in order to have the benefit of Mrs. Dow-Currier's instruction, as well as for the pleasure of the trip, which was to extend to the United States. Miss Yorke was devoted to the stage and very anxious to make a name for herself, in which she would undoubtedly have succeeded. Her sister, Miss Edith Haye, was travelling with her, and is quite prostrated by the blow which has fallen upon her. Miss Yorke's remains were privately cremated yesterday afternoon. The announced performance of "As You Like It" yesterday evening was, of course, abandoned, the theatre being closed, and the season will reopen to-night with "Pygmalion and Galatea." Among her other literary work Miss Yorke had written an operetta, for which Mr. Hal. Lindsay Campbell had composed the music, and which she hoped to produce in the United States.

FIRES.

Telegrams from Beking to the *Asahi* and the *Jiji* announce that during the night of the 17th instant a conflagration occurred in the barracks occupied by the Japanese troops in that city. The men were asleep at the time, and they escaped in their night gear. All the other troops in garrison worked hard to extinguish the flames, which was effected by daylight. No lives were lost, but several persons are said to have been injured.

The fire on the ligher owned by Helm Bros., involved damage estimated at *yen* 3,000, and the cotton, which was the property of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, was injured to the amount of *yen* 1,200.

About half-past four o'clock on Sunday afternoon fire broke out in a Chinese shop at No. 150, Yamashitacho, Yokohama. The flames were started by an *anka* (bed-heater) setting some clothes on fire in an upper room. A few buckets of water sufficed to extinguish the outbreak.

Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress contributed *yen* 250 towards the relief of sufferers by the fire at the Urono coal mine.

A conflagration occurred at Chosa-mura, Airagori, Kagoshima prefecture, shortly after noon on the 9th inst. Seventy-one houses were destroyed.

Fire broke out in an electric work room of the Uraga Dockyard, on the evening of the 9th inst., and greatly damaged the premises. The cause was accidental.

Fire occurred in the Buddhist temple known as Chosenji, Yawata-mura, Saitama Prefecture, on the night of the 8th inst., and the whole building was destroyed. An old servant of the temple was burned to death.

A man named Yamamoto Gorosuke, living at Motoishi-mura, Toyama prefecture, was arrested by the Shiba police on the 7th inst., on a charge of incendiarism.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HARNACK'S BOOK.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have read with some care and interest the communication entitled "Falsehoods and Falsifications about Harnack's Book, 'What is Christianity?'" in the *Mail* of the 2nd inst., anent Miss Huhold's letter in the *Japan Evangelist* on the subject. Having also in a cursory way read Harnack's work, and being somewhat acquainted with other works of his and his ideas in general, having also for a time sat under him, kindly allow me to enter the lists in a mild way.

But why such heat? Has really Miss H. been guilty of such a grave fault? And even if as charged, could not she be made to see the gravity and be led to repentance if approached in a way more in harmony with a gentleman's course towards a lady whom many esteem as sincere and know to be incapable of any such conduct as alleged? Is it really impossible to find any less compromising explanation for her conduct? And is it quite consistent to make charges of "Falsehoods and Falsifications," and in the same breath to admit that she may herself have been misled by the source she quotes? Ought she not to have the full benefit at least of this milder admission? This would of itself have purged the article of its violent personal nature (a common German fault) and perhaps would have

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recalled the writer to a discussion of the real merits of the question—a discussion that one looks for in vain. For her quotations furnish a text for a really good sermon.

Now it is quite likely that in her quotations, Miss H. follows some German and presumably competent critic of Harnack, who does not limit himself to this one book in his estimate of Harnack's teachings. Moreover Miss H.'s remarks would have been quite in order on this principle, for a man like Harnack is certainly amenable as a whole and not only for this one book. It is the estimate of the whole man's work that after all we are interested in when a leader of such a tendency speaks. True, Miss H. is guilty of a slight inadvertence in her approach to the subject, but, it is no credit to one conversant like Mr. W. with Harnack to be so easily upset by appearances as if all her quotations were perforce out of this one book.

To my mind there seems no doubt of the substantial accuracy of all her quotations, *i.e.* they seem not out of accord with Harnack's general position nor with his writings in general. I should not of course want to prove their verbal accuracy, as this in the case of such a voluminous author (guilty also of many *Flugschriften*) would be a thankless task. Besides his "What is Christianity" being only a shorthand report of extempore lectures, may not claim equal authority with his more careful compositions, and this even if he gave his imprimatur. It is therefore most proper to quote from his other writings in approval or the opposite of his teachings.

But even Mr. W. does not seek to disprove substantial accuracy of the sentiments expressed except in one or two unessential details as where he quotes from Harnack about Luther what seems to contradict Miss H.'s quotation. However those acquainted with how Ritschlians claim to be the true Lutherans of today though differing *in toto* on doctrines are not much troubled by such apparent contradictions. Much is possible on the principle of a higher synthesis of what on an undeveloped plane seems incommensurate contradictories. Schleiermacher and Hegel have not lived for naught.

Not at present desiring to follow out Mr. W. in his lengthy attack, let me briefly allude to one point only. He objects to the bald quotation "There are no miracles," and then to fortify his objection and to leave an impression as if after all Harnack was amenable in some sense to the ordinary Christian's idea of miracle, he quotes at some length. But does after all the whole passage not aim at justifying just what these four words say so bluntly,—"There are no miracles," and why does Mr. W. not read a page farther where Prof. H. repeats emphasizing summarily his contention, "Miracles, it is true, do not happen; but of the marvelous and the inexplicable there is plenty." And let any who still are uncertain test Harnack on the basal miracles of the resurrection, referring for instance to the remarkable foot note in his *Dogmengeach*, Vol. I. p. 73, 2nd Ed. or Eng. Ed. "History of Dogma" by Williams and Norgate 1894, Vol. I., p. 85. Certainly no one after such a carefully reasoned denial of the historical fact of the resurrection, Christianity's basal miracle according to Paul, would care to affirm that the four words "There are no miracles," did an injustice to Harnack or were a "falsification" of anything in any real sense. I am sure of Mr. W's. agreement here. Perhaps he even would champion Harnack's position. But when Miss H. or any old style Christian objects to such teaching and similar ideas that contravene all the fundamentals of the old style Gospel as it has been taught since Paul's days at least, it seems as if Mr. W. should welcome clear expression so that at least a confused layman in Japan might know how matters stood about such a light as Harnack.

Now I did not mean to transgress to this extent on your readers' patience. *Ex uno omnia disce.* I care at present only to rescue a good name from under the mire. My own limited acquaintance with Harnack and the whole subject enables me to guarantee to my own satisfaction the substantial accuracy of the sentiments attributed to Harnack by Miss H.'s quotations. In fact the case might be greatly strengthened and clasified, and perhaps it is no credit to a "good orthodox missionary's" intelligence or to his pedagogical tact to have him indiscriminately recommend Harnack's work, or to approve throwing it in Japanese dress on the market where to say the least it may give voilent fits of indigestion not always accompanied by nausea. Besides they tell me the translator has made a miserable mess, translating it in part only and mistranslating it even there often through shortness of intellect or language, so making a retranslation necessary, prompted I suppose by some other "good missionary."

Finally if Mr. W. will really make an effort to disprove the substantial accuracy of points adduced by Miss H. against Harnack's teachings and show that Harnack, for instance, allows the resurrection, the incarnation, the deity of Christ, the trinity, the atonement, or in short any of the great fundamentals of the redemption in Christ in any sense comporting with what has been delivered unto us by the saints of old, he will do a service deserving of some thanks. For many of us have learnt to estimate Harnack as belonging to a very different category, champion of a Christianity emasculated of all sturdy doctrine required by the great basal facts of the Gospel,—sensible for all that, as we may be, of his remarkable attainments and services as a scholar.

I think I have made out that your correspondent was really in the position of "no case; abuse the plaintiff's attorney," and trust that he will know the manly thing to do in the premises. For the moral laches he alleges must be looked for elsewhere, and he has himself not deigned to discuss the real points at issue.

Enclosing my card, I am, yours, CAMMA.

February 7th, 1903.

ANOTHER POINT OF VIEW.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of yesterday a correspondent expresses in a warm and hearty manner his opinion on "What is a Christian," and although in his account sentiment would seem to displace clearness, I take it that he identifies the Christian religion with Love, Kindness, Courage and Goodness, in other words, with human virtue.

Now permit me to state that this is a misconception which is only too widely spread. Human virtue and affection is not born of any creed, it has nothing to do with superstition, but has existed as long as man and has done more for mankind than all the Gods and Ghosts that ever wandered through the fenceless fields of space.

The spirit of Love and Kindness, of Courage and Goodness has existed to the same, if not a fuller, degree, among the nations which some men arrogantly class as "heathen." It certainly is not born of dogmatic theology. Christianity and morality are two different principles. even although they may coexist. All creeds have claimed morality their own and have endeavoured to hide behind its broad and generous shield their own imperfections. Christianity is something added to morality. It is morality plus a belief in say, Original Sin, the Scheme of Redemption, the Trinity, and a final reward for the few and punishment for the many.

Sincerely yours, WISDOM SEEKER.

Yokohama, February 6th, 1903.

MISS HUHOLD AND HARNACK.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The quotations from Harnack were taken from German writings against Harnack, even the words in parenthesis were quoted from them, and I must leave the controversy in the hands of those who wrote them. Thinking there would be no more need of these writings I destroyed them.

If it could be proved that Harnack's views are different from the quotations I translated from German I should rejoice. There would be then no reason for any opposition to his teaching. It is always pleasant to be told that things which we thought bad are not bad; and though I should be sorry to have nourished false opinions against any one I should be glad to find that I had been mistaken. It would therefore give me real cause for rejoicing if my opponent can assure me from his knowledge of Harnack's writings that Harnack believes in the Godhead of Jesus Christ and in His redemption.

It is true that I have warned others against the German missionaries; but never personally. How could I, knowing only one of them and having once enjoyed the most kind hospitality in his house. The reason of my warning is that I am being constantly told, and only last night was again told by the Japanese gentleman who has often acted as interpreter for them, that they teach that Christ is only the Son of God in the sense that we are all children of God. If they can assure me that this is not so and that they teach that "Christ is the Son of God" in such sense as the universal Church has understood the phrase, I shall only be too glad to cease my warnings. Otherwise I must continue as I have been doing. I do not like opposing anyone, but believing, as I do, that Jesus Christ is God, and that He is the Redeemer of the world as well as its Judge, I cannot wish that others should be kept from this faith.

Thanking you for allowing me space in your valuable paper.

I remain, Yours truly, E. HUHOLD.

THE SIBERIAN ROUTE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In reply to a number of inquiries directly and indirectly from the readers of your paper, I beg to state that the journey from Moscow to Peking, Vladivostock or Port Arthur, can now be made very comfortably. There are three departures per week from Moscow, "Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays," and the trains are composed of 1st and 2nd class sleepers, saloons and dining cars, going direct to Baikal, "Lake Baikal" via Irkutsk. The passage across the Lake is effected by steamer in summer and by sleigh in winter—a four or five hours journey. From Missovaia—the landing-place on the opposite shore—trains composed of sleeping and restaurant cars convey the passenger to Manchuria, "the Chinese Frontier" in 64 hours, and from Manchuria another train composed of very comfortable 1st and 2nd class carriages will take the traveller on to Port Arthur or Vladivostock in a little over six days. The entire journey from Moscow to Vladivostock or Port Arthur, taking into consideration certain prolonged stoppages at Irkutsk, Missovaia, Manchuria and Soungari, occupies 18 days, or to Peking 19 days.

I am, dear sir, Yours truly,

JULES CLERFAYT.

San Francisco, January 22nd, 1903.

"ALPINE ASCENTS AND ADVENTURES."

There was a large audience to listen to the Rev. Walter Weston's lecture on "Alpine Ascents and Adventures" and to witness the illustrations acompanying his remarks, on Wednesday evening at the Public Hall.

Sir Claude Macdonald, H.B.M.'s Minister, presided and in opening the proceedings said—Ladies and gentlemen: It gives me great pleasure to take the chair this evening and introduce to you the Rev. Walter Weston, who has very kindly consented to give a lecture on "Alpine Ascents and Adventures," for the benefit of the orphanage attached to the St. Hilda's Mission in Tokyo. Mr. Weston is well known to you by his work as chaplain in Kobe, when, to uphold the principle of *mens sana in corpore sano*, he was always to the front in the football field and all outdoor sports. (Applause.) Mr. Weston is a distinguished member of the Swiss and English Alpine Clubs and has also written an excellent book on that magnificent range of mountains in the province of Hida which may justly be called the Japanese Alps. But as you have come here to hear Mr. Weston and not me I will ask him now to deliver his lecture. (Applause).

Rev. W. Weston, M.A., then delivered his lecture which, though described by the same title as that which he gave before the Literary Society some time ago, was greatly different both in substance and detail. Many of the lantern slides used were also new but as a whole it must be said the slide contribution was not quite satisfactory, the lantern and the screen being apparently out of focus. The lecture, which was divided into two, the first part dealing with the Alps themselves, the second with the adventures of the speaker, was listened to with the keenest interest.

At the close, Sir Claude Macdonald said: I am sure you will all join in a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Weston for his interesting, eloquent and amusing lecture. Doubtless his thrilling account of dangers encountered and overcome will inspire some of my audience to emulate his example. Speaking for myself, I am inclined to think that the perilous slope of Camp Hill will suffice for me. (Laughter).

We should not forget to mention that between the two portions of the lecture, Mrs. James Walter sang a lovely song which was greatly enjoyed.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

"RAGGING" IN THE GUARDS.

London, February 6.

A sensational sequel has followed the "ragging" of three subalterns of the first battalion Grenadier Guards. The victims included Lord Douro, whose father, (the Duke of Wellington) brought the matter before the Commander-in-Chief. Lord Roberts instituted an enquiry with the result that Lieut-Colonel D. A. Kinloch, commanding the battalion, has been sum-

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marily retired on half pay, and Lieutenants Hollinshead and Blundell have resigned. Lord Roberts' action is approved both in military circles and by the public.

A STORMY INTERVIEW IN WASHINGTON.

Later.

The British Minister has had a stormy interview with Mr. Bowen, wherein he spoke plainly regarding the conduct of the negotiations. The interview was heated, but is stated to have cleared the air.

UNQUIET MACEDONIA.

London, February 7.

The Bulgarian Premier has declared in the Chamber that Bulgaria would fulfil her international obligations to keep the peace. He would shortly inform the Chamber what measures were intended to be taken against the Macedonian Committees.

KING EDWARD

His Majesty King Edward has recovered from his attack of influenza and drove out this afternoon.

"RAGGING" IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

Lieut.-Col. Kinloch's enforced retirement from the command of the First Grenadier Guards, in consequence of the "ragging" scandal, is exciting considerable interest, there being strong partisans on both sides. The case will be brought up in the House of Commons at an early date.

MAJOR-GENERAL OKURA.

Major-General Okura, Inspector of Remounts in the Japanese Army, inspected the mounted branches of the British Army in camp at Aldershot yesterday.

VENEZUELA.

London, February 8.

President Roosevelt has refused the invitation of the Allies to arbitrate the question of preferential payment and presumably the point will now be referred to the Hague tribunal.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE EXTREME DUTCH.

Dewet, with forty followers, representing the extreme Dutch, had a two hours' interview with Mr. Chamberlain. The proceedings were heated, Dewet accusing the Government of contravening the Vereeinging terms. Mr. Chamberlain refused to receive the deputation's address, and rebuked the delegates for presenting an address which was insulting, inasmuch as it impugned the good faith of himself and the British Government.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain in replying to the address presented by Dewet and others on Friday, refuted *seriatim* the accusations of a breach of the peace terms by Great Britain. The address further complained that the Government was unsympathetic. Mr. Chamberlain replied that the Government were working night and day and spending millions to restore the country, for which hitherto they had not received a word of thanks. If the people persisted in a policy of grumbling and insatiability he would despair of conciliation and would advise the Government to stay its hand.

Dewet replied that co-operation was impossible while his brother and Christian Botha represented the people. The country would not consent to be ruled by them. There would be unrest that would cause a rebellion, not armed, but one of agitation and discontent against the Government.

Mr. Chamberlain replied that Great Britain was prepared to carry out the peace terms, but that she would not forget her friends.

UNREST IN MACEDONIA.

London, February 9.

The Turkish Ministry of War is preparing for the moblization of troops, in view of contingencies in Macedonia.

SOUTH AFRICA.

There are indications that Mr. Chamberlain's outspokenness has had a good effect. Many Boer extremists now declare that they regret the tone of the address.

AMERICAN ANTI-TRUST BILL.

London, February 10.

The American House of Representatives has passed an Anti-Trust Bill requiring great industrial combinations to disclose their articles of incorporation, financial compositions and conditions. The Bill prescribes restrictions and penalties. Strenuous efforts are being made to induce the Senate to reject the Bill.

SWEPT BY A TIDAL WAVE.

A tidal wave and hurricane swept the Society Islands on the 13th of January. A thousand natives perished and eighty islands are devastated.

ROCKEFELLER AND THE U.S. SENATE.

Later.

An attempt by Mr. Rockefeller to influence individual Senators against the Anti-Trust legislature has caused a profound sensation. If confirmed it will go a long way towards the speedy passage of the law.

THE PACIFIC DISASTER.

Eight white men were drowned in the Society Islands disaster. Two French and one Italian war-vessels have left Papeete to render assistance.

DREYFUS AFFAIR.

London, February 11.

The French Minister of War has forbidden all the officers employed in the War Office to make any sort of communication regarding the discussion in the Press of the Dreyfus affair.

MACEDONIA.

The *Standard's* Vienna correspondent says that the Macedonian element is so powerful that preparations for a great rising are proceeding quite openly.

GREAT BRITAIN, ITALY AND SOMALILAND.

Later.

Signor Guido Baccelli, speaking in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, said that the deportation of the Sheikh of Obbia was necessary to facilitate the British operations in Somaliland. Italy loyally adhered to the agreement between the two countries and again proved her desire to maintain the heredity friendship which existed between Great Britain and Italy.

A KING'S ASSAILANT.

Rubino, the assailant of the King of the Belgians, has been sentenced to penal servitude for life.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Reuter's telegrams conveying the latest news have been successfully transmitted by Marconi on board the transatlantic liner *Minneapolis* 36 hours before the passengers landed. This success will probably lead to the inauguration of a regular system.

THE PHILIPPINES.

London, February 12.

Reuter's Washington correspondent telegraphs that administrative circles in that capital consider that the necessity for financial and other remedial legislation in the Philippines is very urgent and it is feared that unless it is undertaken another rebellion will break out.

VENEZUELA.

Later.

Mr. Bowen has accepted the terms of the British protocol, by which Venezuela agrees to pay Great Britain £5,500 down and to refer the question of preferential treatment to the Hague tribunal. The German and Italian protocols are still causing some difficulty.

THE STRAITS CURRENCY.

The Straits currency commission has practically concluded its labours. Its report goes to the Straits Settlements for consideration.

THE SAXONY SCANDAL.

A special Court sitting at Dresden has divorced the Crown Princess of Saxony on the ground of adultery.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

TORPEDO DESTROYER SUNK,

Saigon, February 6.

The torpedo destroyer *Espingole* (built by Normand in 1900, speed 27.2 knots) has sunk near St. Tropez in the vicinity of Toulon. The crew were saved.

KING EDWARD.

The state of the King of England is satisfactory.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

Saigon, February 9.

The Committee of Foreign Affairs continues its examination of the Franco-Siamese Convention. On Monday it will hear Mr. Savie, former Minister of France in Siam, and various persons, politicians and financiers, versed in the affairs of Indo-China and of Siam.

Saigon, February 11.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs has heard divers persons who all combat the Franco-Siamese Convention. The Minister of Foreign Affairs has refused to give authority to M. Pavie, Minister Plenipotentiary and former Representative of France in Siam, to appear before the Committee for the purpose of giving evidence. The Committee has asked M. Delcassé for additional documents.

SOUTH SEAS DISASTER.

A cyclone has ravaged the Tuamotu Islands, killing 1,000 persons.

[The Tuamotu Archipelago is a belt of coral islands, under the protection of France, which are situated in the Pacific about 6,600 miles from Peru].

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

BELGIAN CONCESSION IN CHINA.

London, February 10.

The report that King Leopold of Belgium has secured a valuable concession in China on the Peiho and also the right of constructing a railway connecting with the Shantung Railway is publicly confirmed at Brussels. Belgium has under contemplation the establishment of a settlement in China.

THE TROUBLE IN THE BALKANS.

The Bulgarian Government has protested against the mobilization of Turkey's troops, and regards it as an intimidation to Bulgaria.

(From the "Deutsche Japan Post.")

THE SAXONY SCANDAL.

Berlin, February 12.

The Court of Dresden has divorced the Saxon Crown-Prince and the Crown-Princess. The Court declared that the Princess was guilty of breaking her marriage vow. The Court ordered the Princess to pay the costs.

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JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The following is an official summary of the foreign trade of Japan for January, with comparison as to the corresponding month of the previous year :—

EXPORTS.

1903.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

	Quantities.	Values. Yen.
Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	135,685	1,825,167
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	633,776	206,022
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	44,798	146,367
Cotton tissues.....	—	317,692
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	126,587	64,673
Matches .....Gross	1,071,254	325,411
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	501,714
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	158,217
Lacquered ware.....	—	38,571
Umbrellas, European.....No.	119,752	60,989
Others	—	1,201,059
Total		4,845,882

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, HALF WROUGHT.

Silk raw .....Kin	702,317	7,198,727
Silk noshi and waste.....Kin	646,006	625,074
Cotton yarns .....Kin	3,859,439	1,278,078
Straw-plaits .....Bun.	1,005,547	368,664
Tea .....Kin	299,671	79,334
Camphor .....Kin	260,266	237,046
Kanten or colle vegetale..Kin	105,953	58,902
Others	—	638,862
Total		10,554,687

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	270,976	1,564,044
Rice .....Picul	81,543	482,915
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	706,252	126,641
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds Kin	3,531,613	59,871
Mushroom, shiitake .....Kin	118,545	76,697
Copper, coarse & refined..Kin	5,157,292	1,824,233
Fish oil .....Kin	563,275	42,891
Vegetable wax .....Kin	362,945	88,989
Others		715,526
Total		4,981,807
Grand total		20,382,379

1902.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	167,380	2,286,039
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	789,602	312,353
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	37,255	77,346
Cotton tissues.....	—	346,988
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	34,263	18,648
Matches .....Gross	866,940	269,744
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	536,533
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	112,719
Lacquered ware.....	—	41,533
Umbrellas, European.....No.	103,647	50,921
Others	—	949,947
Total		5,002,771

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, HALF WROUGHT.

Silk, raw .....Kin	751,569	6,742,772
Silk, noshi and waste.....Kin	554,142	561,215
Cotton yarns .....Kin	4,359,334	1,469,640
Straw-plaits .....Bnn.	701,850	231,379
Tea .....Kin	337,835	86,102
Camphor .....Kin	176,170	161,824
Kanten or colle vegetale..Kin	135,157	102,721
Others	—	500,446
Total		9,856,099

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	296,197	1,780,665
Rice .....Picul	324,043	1,598,579
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	997,040	196,050
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds Kin	3,247,220	54,799
Mushroom, shiitake .....Kin	89,637	52,000
Copper, coarse & refined..Kin	2,075,358	665,697
Fish oil .....Kin	1,362,010	92,203
Vegetable wax .....Kin	260,135	39,231
Others	—	719,743
Total		5,198,457
Grand total		23,057,327

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

1903.

Increase or decrease (–).

Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	– 61,695	– 460,872
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	– 155,826	– 106,331
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	17,543	69,021
Cotton tissues.....	—	– 29,296
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	92,324	46,025
Matches .....Gross	204,314	55,667
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	– 34,819
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	45,498
Lacquered ware.....	—	– 2,962
Umbrellas, European.....No.	16,105	10,068
Others	—	251,112
Total		– 156,899

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, HALF WROUGHT.

Silk raw .....Kin	– 49,252	455,955
Silk noshi and waste.....Kin	91,864	133,859
Cotton yarns .....Kin	– 499,895	– 191,562
Straw-plaits .....Bun.	303,697	137,285
Tea .....Kin	– 38,164	– 6,768
Camphor .....Kin	84,096	75,222
Kanten or colle vegetale..Kin	– 29,204	– 43,819
Others	—	138,416
Total		698,588

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	– 25,221	– 216,021
Rice .....Picul	– 242,500	– 1,115,644
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	– 290,788	– 69,409
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds.Kin	284,393	5,072
Mushroom, shiitake .....Kin	28,908	24,607
Copper, course & refined..Kin	3,081,934	1,158,536
Fish oil .....Kin	– 728,735	– 49,312
Vegetable wax .....Kin	102,810	49,758
Others.....	—	– 4,217
Total		216,650
Grand total		325,049

IMPORTS.

1903.

GROUP I.

	Quantities.	Values. Yen.
Cotton, raw .....Picul	340,346	7,694,622
Cotton yarns .....Kin	50,436	32,244
Wool .....Kin	255,284	282,399
Iron nails.....Kin	2,458,738	123,578
Rails .....Kin	3,053,258	116,822
Iron, bar and rod .....Kin	4,298,937	181,185
Other iron and steel .....Kin	11,418,645	564,560
Indigo, dry .....Kin	121,278	275,531
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—	304,751
Leather, sole and other...Kin	124,230	91,848
Machinery and engines	—	538,821
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers and railway freight	—	87,147
Steam vessels.....No.	1	1,600
Others	—	2,854,893
Total		13,150,001

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine ...S. yard	871,518	269,039
Woollen & worsted cloths ,,	95,876	117,295
Italian cloths ..... ,,	212,687	81,852
Flannels ..... ,,	5,381	3,480
Shirtings & cotton prints ,,	2,792,282	324,131
Cotton satins and cotton velvets..... ,,	620,846	187,186
Sugar, brown & white ...Picul	330,374	1,745,490
Watches .....No.	7,166	21,588
Others.....	—	1,313,250
Total		4,063,311

GROUP III.

Rice .....Picul	783,638	3,270,934
Beans, peas and pulse... ,,	368,113	1,008,454
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	5,455,982	1,150,662
Oil cake .....Picul	96,694	191,496
Others	—	1,541,642
Total		7,163,188
Grand total		24,376,500
Total of exports and imports.		44,758,876
Excess of exports ...		—
Excess of imports...		3,994,124

1902.

GROUP I.

Cotton, raw .....Picul	291,839	6,946,390
Cotton yarns .....Kin	558,566	363,311
Wool .....Kin	302,203	204,711
Iron nails.....Kin	1,610,151	90,158
Rails.....Kin	199,059	7,622
Iron, bar and rod .....Kin	5,536,022	266,564
Other iron and steel .....Kin	13,082,648	643,537
Indigo, dry .....Kin	97,938	196,370
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—	169,813
Leather, sole and other...Kin	189,822	130,845
Machinery and engines	—	890,307
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers & railway freight	—	181,719
Steam vessels.....No.	1	117,156
Others	—	2,838,732
Total		13,047,275

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine...S. yard	640,785	170,677
Woollen & worsted cloths ,,	61,731	61,650
Italian clothes..... ,,	168,135	61,272
Flannels ..... ,,	21,313	11,768
Shirtings & cotton prints ,,	7,659,424	667,269
Cotton satins and cotton velvets..... ,,	687,605	197,787
Sugars, brown and white .Picul	122,159	625,839
Watches .....No.	5,243	18,573
Others.....	—	798,090
Total		2,612,925

GROUP III.

Rice .....Picul	116,870	405,054
Beans, peas and pulse... ,,	96,668	268,050
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	2,735,526	572,220
Oil-cake.....Picul	13,808	23,527
Others.....	—	1,574,914
Total		2,843,765
Grand total		18,503,965
Total of exports and imports.		38,561,292
Excess of exports....		1,553,362
Excess of imports ...		—

GROUP I.

Increase or decrease (–).

Cotton, raw .....Picul	48,507	748,232
Cotton yarns .....Kin	– 508,130	– 331,067
Wool .....Kin	– 46,919	77,688
Iron nails.....Kin	848,587	33,420
Rails.....Kin	2,854,799	109,160
Iron, bar and rod .....Kin	– 1,237,085	– 85,379
Other iron and steel .....Kin	– 1,664,003	– 78,977
Indigo, dry .....Kin	23,340	79,161
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—	134,938
Leather, sole and other...Kin	– 65,592	– 38,997
Machinery and engines...Kin	—	– 351,486
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers & railway freight	—	– 94,572
Steam vessels.....No.	—	– 115,556
Others	—	16,161
Total		102,726

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine...S. yard	230,733	98,362
Woollen & worsted cloths ,,	34,145	55,645
Italian cloths ..... ,,	44,552	20,580
Flannels ..... ,,	– 15,932	– 8,288
Shirtings & cotton prints ,,	– 4,867,142	– 343,138
Cotton satins & cotton velvets..... ,,	– 66,759	– 10,601
Sugar, brown & white...Picul	208,215	1,119,651
Watches .....No.	1,923	3,015
Others	—	515,160
Total		1,450,386

GROUP III

Rice..... .....Picul	666,768	2,865,880
Beans, pease and pulse... ,,	271,445	740,404
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	2,720,456	578,442
Oil-cake.....Picul	82,886	167,969
Others	—	– 33,272
Total		4,319,423
Grand total		5,872,535
Total of exports and imports.		6,197,584
Excess of exports ...		—
Excess of imports ...		—

Summary table of the total value of specie and bullion exported from and imported into Japan for the same period, with comparison as to corresponding month of the previous year.

EXPORTS.

	1903. Yen.	1902. Yen.	Yen.
Gold coin and gold bullion	100,961	33,529	67,432
Silver coin and silver bullion	383,427	93,419	290,008
Total	484,388	129,948	357,440

IMPORTS.

Gold coin and gold bullion	2,964,239	348,939	2,615,300
Silver coin and silver bullion	792,063	17,876	774,187
Total	3,756,302	366,815	3,389,487
Excess of exports ...	—	—	—
,, imports ...	3,271,914	239,867	—

Summary table of the foreign trade of Taiwan (Formosa) for the same period, with comparison as to corresponding month of the previous year.

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	1903. Yen.	1902. Yen.	Inc. or dec. (–).
Exports	432,898	452,847	– 19,949
Imports	803,703	757,582	46,121
Total	1,236,601	1,210,429	26,172
Excess of imports...	—	—	—
Excess of exports...	370,805	304,735	—
Exports, specie and bullion	157,318	214,662	– 57,344
Imports, specie and bullion	36,056	14,884	21,172
Excess of exports...	121,262	199,778	—
Excess of imports...	—	—	—

Note.—The figures for distant ports such as Idzuhaha, Shishimi and Sasuna are excluded from the above figures for January this year on account of their trade returns being not yet arrived. The accounts for the ports of Nagasaki, Karatsu and Kuchinotsu being closed on the 28th day and those for remaining days being transferred to the account of the next month, it is an inevitable result that the above figures for January differ more or less from those of the monthly return for the same month to be issued afterward.

THE TRADE OF KOBE.

Commenting on the trade of Kobe during 1902, the Hiogo and Osaka General Chamber of Commerce say :—

The statistics of the Imperial Customs for the year give the total trade of Kobe as *yen* 219,204,254. Compared with former years the figures are :—

	Imports. Yen.	Exports. Yen.
1899	120,289,524	75,320,884
1900	137,484,281	69,706,549
1901	125,979,022	77,206,226
1902	144,516,111	74,748,143

This shows a decrease in Exports of *yen* 2,458,083 compared with 1901, and an increase in Imports of *yen* 18,537,089.

This remarkable increase in Imports is to be put down almost entirely to Raw Cotton, which is about *yen* 15,500,000 in excess of 1901. The decrease in Imports is to be mainly attributed to the depression in the Cotton Yarn trade, which fell off *yen* 2,487,231 as compared with 1901.

The total trade of the port it will be noticed is the largest on record, but while this is the case as far as figures go, the results to merchants especially have been far from satisfactory, and the year generally must be classed as a most unprofitable one. The steady decline in Silver during the year had its natural effect on exports to China and other silver using countries, and was consequently very seriously felt by exporters. Our Circular for 31st December, 1901, quoted Bar Silver in London at 25⅛ and Bank demand on China at 75/8 per cent. discount, whereas at the same date in 1902 the figures were respectively 22 3/16 and 226 per cent. discount.

The placement of *yen* 50,000,000 of Japanese Bonds on the London market has not had all its anticipated beneficial effect. During the year Japanese Banks steadily lowered their rates of interest for loans from about 11 per cent. to 7 per cent. On the 31st December, 1901, the leading banks offered 7 per cent. for fixed deposits, while at the end of 1902 the rate was 6 per cent. It is, therefore, quite evident that the general business of the country has been curtailed, and money that otherwise would have been in circulation has been accumulating in the Banks. It would naturally seem that cheaper money would tend to increase productive and industrial efforts throughout the country, but so far there are no signs apparent of any general revival in trade, nor are new enterprises being entered upon to any extent.

At the annual general meeting of the Chamber, held on Tuesday, the following officers were elected :—Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Chairman ; Mr. de la Camp, Vice-Chairman ; Messrs. Simons, Matthew Brown, E. A. Sargeant, A. Woolley, and F. G. Sale, Committee. The Chamber has now 59 members.

Mr. Bardens was in the chair and in the course of his remarks observed that year after year it was evident that the trade of the port was drifting into Japanese hands. Mr. F. G. Sale said that it was depressing news to hear that business was going out of foreign hands, into those of the Japanese. There had been so many failures on the part of Japanese merchants that the news was very unwelcome. Unless the Chairman could produce figures in support of his assertion it was hardly desirable that the reported success of the Japanese should go unchallenged. Mr. Bardens thereupon quoted raw cotton as an example. An inspection of the trade returns would show such to be the case. Mr. Cameron, in endorsing the remarks of Mr. Sale, said that Japanese firms sprang up and had to wind up almost immediately. But during the time they did business they undercut and spoilt the trade for others.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Wm. E. Craven, 6th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th Feb., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 6th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 31st Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 6th Feb.,—Kobe, 4th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 6th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 20th Jan., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Oregon (16 guns), U.S. battleship, 10,288, Capt. W. T. Burwell, 7th Feb.,—Uraga.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,814, F. L. Sommer, 7th Feb.,—Yokosuka, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 7th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 6th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, H. Yada, 7th Feb.,—Kobe, 6th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 8th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 7th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 8th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 7th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 9th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 9th Feb.,—Kobe, 7th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sithonia, German steamer, 4,239, Hilderbrandt, 9th Feb.,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 1st Feb., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 9th Feb.,—Kobe, 7th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuso Kan (10 guns), Japanese battleship, 3,777, Com. K. Kimura, 10th Feb.,—Yokosuka.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 10th Feb.,—Misumi. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 10th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, K. Homma, 10th Feb.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 11th Feb.,—Vancouver, B.C., 26th Jan., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 11th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 10th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

C. Ferd. Laeiss, German steamer, 3,799, Fuchs, 11th Feb.,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 10th Feb., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 11th Feb.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 10th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 11th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 10th Feb,, Mails & General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Pakling, British steamer, 2,875, Conradi, 12th Feb., —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 10th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 12th Feb.,—Kobe, 10th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, J. Noma, 12th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 6th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 458, S. Kawano, 6th Feb.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 6th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, James Potter, 6th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Kut Sang, British steamer, 1,495, Payne, 6th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sophie Rickmers, German steamer, 2,262, H. Pape, 6th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Standard Oil Co.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 7th Feb.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,783, W. Townsend, 6th Feb.,—London and Glasgow via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Wm. E. Craven, 7th Feb.,—Portland, Or., Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gibraltar, British steamer, 2,473, D. Morris, 7th Feb.,—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, Rorison, 4th Feb., —Hakodate, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, Wm. Watt, 7th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 7th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 8th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Willowdene, British steamer, 2,726, J. W. Rigby, 8th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 8th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 8th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peresviet (15), Russian battleship, 12,674, Captain Boisman, 8th Feb.,—Nagasaki.

Petropavlovsk (16), Russian battleship, 10,960, Capt. Takovleff, 8th Feb.,—Nagasaki.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, H. Yada, 9th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Veijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, A. Yamashita, 9th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 9th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 10th Feb.,—Seatle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 10th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Hunter, 10th Feb.,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 11th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 11th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 11th Feb.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, K. Kobori, 11th Feb.,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, Guigues, 12th Feb., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 12th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 12th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 12th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuso Kan (20 guns), Japanese battleship, 3,777, Com. K. Kimura, 12th Feb.,—Yokosuka.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. K. Inagaki, in cabin ; Mr. T. Matsuo, Mr. Alex. Gausseff, and 4 Chinese, in second class ; 18, in steerage.

Per American steamer *Korea*, from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Lieut. Victor Blue, U.S.N., Mr. A. L. Bagnal, Mr. A. S. Buford, Jr., Admiral P. H. Cooper, U.S.N., Mr. F. I. Collamone, Mr. A. M. Easton, Mrs. A. M. Easton, Miss Elice Gregory, Mr. J. H. Martin, Mr. A. S. Newberry, Mr. G. C. Scott, Miss M. Very, Miss M. Wilkins, Miss M. Wakelu, Mr. W. Worden, Miss M. Worden, Mr. W. J. Wilson, Jr., Mrs. W. J. Wilson, Jr., Mrs. S. H. Hegan, Mr. W. C. Kendrick, Mrs. W. C. Kendrick and daughter, Miss Cora Vantor, Mr. B. Breymer, Mr. Benj. B. Brown, Mrs. Benj. B. Brown, Master Fred. Brown, Mrs. S. J. Dickinson, Mr. Chas. K. Davis, Mr. W. C. Ford, Mr. H. Hohenthal, Miss H. Holbert, Miss T. Barbour Smith, Miss L. Hopkinson Smith, Mr. A. Whitney, Mr. E. H. Parrish, Mrs. E.

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H. Parrish, Dr. R. Schiffmann, Mrs. R. Schiffmann, Mr. R. H. Sherman, Mrs. R. H. Sherman, Mr. E. Holden Smith, and Mrs. E. Holden Smith and son, in cabin; 1 European, 157 Japanese, and 5 Chinese, in steerage. For Kobe:—Mr. Barry Baldwin, Mr. H. A. Cox, Mrs. H. A. Cox, Mr. F. J. Pierson, Rev. E. A. Wicher, and Mrs. E. A. Wicher, in cabin; 3 Japanese, in steerage. For Nagasaki:—Captain C. A. Emery, Mr. Chas. W. Wason, and Mrs. Chas. W. Wason, in cabin; 1 European, in steerage. For Shanghai:—Miss E. Butler, Mr. R. H. Chandless, Mr. J. J. Dawe, Mr. K. J. Kingsford, Mrs. K. J. Kingsford, Miss G. Kingsford, Miss R. Preston, Rev. W. C. Newton, Mrs. W. C. Newton and 2 children, Miss E. A. Pennington, Mr. F. S. Pray, Mrs. F. S. Fray, Mr. Alex. Stein, Rev. C. A. Salquist, Mrs. C. A. Salquist, Mrs. H. W. Shimer, Miss Olive Shimer, Rev. A. R. Van Meter, Mrs. A. R. Van Meter, Rev. J. H. Worley, and Mrs. J. H. Worley and 4 children, in cabin; 1 European, in steerage. For Hongkong:—Mr. E. J. Bates, Mr. C. E. Conant, Mrs. J. B. Clement, Mr. James Denman, Mrs. A. Gartley, Miss D. Green, Master D. Green, Mr. P. M. Hendry, Mr. R. J. Keeler, Mr. J. R. Keyes, Mr. P. C. Jones, Mrs. P. C. Jones, Miss Alice Jones, Mr. Henry Linn, Capt. A. Lorentzen, Mr. H. S. Locksmith, Mrs. H. S. Locksmith, Mrs. E. H. Murray, Mr. Jas. Pinguard, Mr. A. F. Redfern, Mrs. N. Rockwood, Mrs. M. L. Stanford, Mme. Wu Ting Fang, Mr. Jas. Williamson, Mr. C. E. Wolf, and Mrs. Thos. Washington, child and amah, in cabin; 3 Europeans, and 150 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kaga Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. R. Swain, Mr. H. Muramatsu, Mrs. A. Tsuda, and Mr. Y. Kato, in cabin; 11 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. and Mrs. Harning, Mr. Meant, Mr. W. H. Blackwell, Mr. G. T. Taylor, and Mr. Robert Emison, in cabin; Mr. William Johnson, Mr. A. M. Bayesdoff, and Mr. and Mrs. Greenefild, in intermediate; 16 Japanese, and 125 Chinese, in steeruge.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. E. E. Bens, Mr. S. J. Bens, Mr. A. W. Burns, Mr. Geo. Bowack, Mr. F. W. Chase, Mr. E. L. Heath, Mr. Robert Hamilton, Dr. F. W. Hall-Wright, Mrs. Hall-Wright, Dr. D. Ross Kilpatrick, Mr. G. Murray, Mr. C. P. Stevens, Mr. R. H. Wood, and Mr. R. W. H. Wood, in cabin; 14, in intermediate; 61, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. P. Ritter and wife, Dr. McDill and wife, Capt. W. C. Le Compte, Mrs. Kennon, Mrs. Rice, Miss Rice, Major T. S. McCaleb, Capt. E. F. Horr, Mr. T. L. Berguy, Mr. R. W. Irwin, Mr. Arai, and Mr. Wynhoop, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. P. Pirotte, Mr. F. W. Hopkins, Lieut.-Col. M. C. Goodrell, U.S.A., Major W. D. Bell, U.S.A., Mr. Mackausen, Mr. M. H. Grossmayer, Capt. F. B. Andrews, U.S.A., Mr. Yu Gin May, Mr. W. M. Millne, Mr. J. S. Walter, Capt. G. G. Bailey, Capt. W. H. Cowper, Lieut. McLean, U.S.A., and Mr. G. H. Rivers, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. R. Amthor, Baron de Gyldenkrona, Mr. George D. Morgan, Mr. Pilling, Mr. G. Young, Mr. Felgner, Mr. Boehm, Mrs. T. Monteggia, and Miss F. Beretta, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Sanuki Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. H. T. Paul, Mr. Jas. Campbell, Mr. J. L. Travis, Com. G. Yamashita, Mrs. C. E. Watts, and Mr. G. R. Gordon Smith, in cabin; Mr. K. Fujioka, Mr. Chun-mak Um, Mr. Chin-tei Jun, Mr. Chin-tei Kwan and child, Mr. K. Nagai, Mr. J. Arima, Mr. T. Suzuki, and Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, in second class; 25 in steerage.

Per American steamer *Korea*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. W. H. Andrews, Mr. Chas. W. Atkinson, Mr. Barry Baldwin, Mr. E. J. Bates, Mr. E. F. Baster, Lieut. Victor Blue, U.S.N., Miss E. Butter, Mr. B. H. Chandless, Mr. J. B. Clement and servant, Mr. C. E. Conant, Rear-Admiral P. H. Cooper, U.S.N., Mr. H. A. Cox, Mr. J. J. Dawe, Mr. Jas. Denman, Capt. C. A. Emery, Madame Wu Ting Fang, Mrs. A. Gartley, Mr. E. W. George, Miss D. Green, Master D. Green, Mr. P. H. Hendry, Mr. R. W. Irwin, Mr. P. C. Jones, Mrs. P. C. Jones, Miss Alice Jones, Mr. W. J. Kames, Mr. R. J. Keeler, Miss J. R. Keyes, Mr. K. J. Kingsford, Mrs. K. J. Kingsford, Miss G. Kingsford, Mr. S. Komor, Mr. S. Koshino, Mrs. G. Lamar, Mr. Henry Linn, Mr. H. S. Locksmith, Mrs. H. S. Locksmith, Capt. Chas. Lorentzen, Mr. P. Loureiro, Mrs. E. Murray, Rev. W. C. Newton, Mrs. W. C. Newton and 2 children, Miss F. A. Pennington, Mr. F. S. Pray, Mrs. F. S. Pray, Mr. P. J. Pierson, Mr. Jos. Pinguard, Miss E. Preston, Mr. A. F. Redford, Mrs. N. Rockwood, Rev. C. A. Salguist, Mrs. C. A. Salguist, Mrs. H. W. Shimer, Miss Olive Shimer, Mrs. M. L. Stanford, Mr. Alex. Stein, Rev. A. B. Van Meter, Mrs. A. B. Van Meter, Mrs. T. Washington and nurse, Miss M. Wakelee, Mr. Chas. W. Wason, Mrs. W. Wason, Rev. E. A. Wisher, Mrs. E. A. Wisher, Miss M. Wilkin, Mr. Jas. Williamson, Mr. G. E. Wolf, Rev. J. H. Worley, and Mrs. J. H. Worley and 4 children, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Carrillon, Mr. and Mrs Asselin and maid, Madame Suzor, two children and amah, Madame Launay, Mr. Herbert P. Colfelt, Mr. C. L. Bowie, Mr. Tamamura, Mr. H. P. Williams, Mr. Von Bergmann, and Captain R. L. Scott, R.A., in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. K. Shibiya, Mr. and Mrs. T. Miye, Miss Harkway, Mr. E. Bell, and Sub-Lieut. T. Mikawa, in cabin; Mr. O. Sakamoto, Mr. K. Tsutsui, Mr. A. Malcolm, Mr. M. Naruse, Mrs. Sakimura, Mr. T. Suzuki, Mr. H. Murayama, Mr. T. Suzuki, Mr. M. Fujita, Mr. Oh Hoi Nam, and Mr. K. Komatsu, in second class; 101, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Darmstadt*:—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen.	Genoa.	Milan.	Marseilles	Trieste.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	104	30	—	—	68	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	101	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	33	—	83
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	—	83	—
Ulysse Pila & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	35	—
Total	205	30	—	—	68	33	118	83
	235				302			

Following were silk shippers per *Kaga Maru*, for Seattle, Wash.:—

	Raw Silk. New York.	South M'chester.
China and Japan Trading Co.	10	—
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	30	—
Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha	216	5
Vivanti Bros.	189	—
Sugawa & Co.	20	—
Bavier & Co.	43	—
Siber, Wolff & Co.	91	—
Total	597	5

Raw & Waste silk shipped per steamer *Oceanien*:

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	France.	Lyons.	Milan.	Russia.	France.	Marseilles	Austria.	
Jewett & Bent	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	
Ulysse Pila & Co.	—	18	—	—	58	—	—	
Siber, Wolff & Co.	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	47	—	—	
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	35	—	—	
	—	43	—	—	140	—	—	

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Indravelli*, for Portland, Or.:—

TEA.

	Chicago Canada.	& West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages
Hongkang	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kobe	144	—	—	—	—	144
Yokohama	—	1,769	—	90	—	1,859
Total	144	1,769	—	90	—	2,003

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been some business passing but nothing special to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

This market continues dull.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¾ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1¼ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

Nothing new in the Kerosene market.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is firm.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.10 to 5.65
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.70
White Refined	8.80 to 10.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a small business during the week and prices are gradually receding, the greatest fall being noticeable in Kakeda sorts which are more plentiful than Filatures and Re-reels. The consuming markets in Europe are dull and everything points to easier prices in the near future.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,090 to 1,010
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,100 to 1,110
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,050 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,020 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	1,090 to 1,100
Re-reels—No. 1	1,070 to 1,080
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,040 to 1,050
Re-reels—No. 2	1,010 to 1,020
Re-reels—No. 3	980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra	1,000 to 1,010
Kakedas—No. 1	970 to 980
Kakedas—No. 1½	940 to 950
Kakedas—No. 2	910 to 915
Kakedas—No. 2½	880 to 885

WASTE SILK.

There has been a small business at former rates, but there is not very much of interest in the market either way. Good quality is scarce and commands full values.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Nothing to report in this market.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 12.

London ⅛ higher, China sterling quotations unaltered and local rates steady with very little business doing.

London—Bank T.T.	2/03⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/03⅞
— — 4 months' sight	2/03⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/01⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/01⅞
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight	259½
— — 6 months' sight	260½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	77⅛*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	76*
Shanghai—Bank sight	94*
— Private 10 days' sight	95⅛*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155⅛
America—Bank sight	49⅝
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	22-⅛

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kinshiu Maru 1	F. Feb 13
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen 2	M. Feb. 16
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 3	M. Feb. 16
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam 4	W. Feb. 18
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Pleiades 5	Th. Feb. 19
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 6	Th. Feb. 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 7	Th. Feb. 20
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria 8	Tu. Feb. 24
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 9	Tu. Feb. 24
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. Feb. 26
America	P. M. Co.	China	W. Mar. 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	F. Mar. 6
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	Su Mar. 8
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 9

1 Left Seattle on the 29th ult.
2 Left Shanghai on the 6th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 28th ult
4 Left Hongkong on the 10th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 7th inst.
6 Left Honckong on the 11th inst.
7 Left Hongkong on the 10th inst.
8 Left Tacomaon the 7th inst.
9 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. Feb. 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. Feb. 14
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. Feb. 17
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakusi Maru	Th. Feb. 19
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	F. Feb. 20
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. Feb. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa Feb. 21
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hakata Maru	Sa. Feb. 21
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. Feb. 21
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Tu. Feb. 24
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru	Tu. Feb 24
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. Feb. 26
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Sa. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co	China	Th. Mar. 5
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar	Sa. Mar. 7
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 9

BOVRIL ISN'T DEAR,

in fact, value for value, it is one of the cheapest drinks, and one of the most economical foods that can be obtained. A cup of hot Bovril costs less than a drink of whisky, and while giving a more genuine and lasting warmth than the latter, contains, in addition, the nutritive principles of beef worth many times its cost.

Old fashioned beef teas and meet extracts, whether known as such, or disguised under more pretentious modern names contain none of the NUTRITIVE properties of beef. Baron Liebig himself admitted this fact; there is not a doctor to-day disputes it. Used as a nourishment Meat Extract is probably the most expensive article one canbuy. Bovril one of the cheapest.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 1903.

DEATH.

On Feb. 11th, at Wakayama, in the fifty-third year of her age, EMMA WILLIAMSON.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

DR. GOTO SHIMPEI was to leave Tokyo for Formosa on the morning of the 13th inst.

A PRIMEVAL forest, full of large camphor trees, has been discovered in Southern Formosa.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU expired on the morning of the 18th inst. His remains will be accorded a State funeral.

BARONS ISHIGURO AND OZAWA, Mr. Saneyoshi, Military Surgeon-General; Professor Ariga and Mr. Hirayama have been appointed a committee to investigate the proposed amendment of the Geneva Treaty of the International Red Cross Society.

THE Russian war-vessels *Petropavlosk* and *Peresviet* left Nagasaki for Chemulpo on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

THE upper floor of a primary school at Sagaye, Yamagata prefecture, collapsed on the 12th inst. Six boys and girls were injured.

THE wife of Paymaster Asayama committed suicide at Saseho by cutting her throat with a knife, on Feb. 13th. The cause is not known.

ON the 17th 12 dead rats were found in Nishi Tobe-machi, Yokohama, and 2 in official residences in Ise-cho and 5 in Hanazaki-cho.

A TELEGRAM dated the 18th from Taipeh, Formosa, announced that the Japanese one *yen* silver coin is now quoted at *sen* 78, a rise of two *sen*.

THE Interport football match between Kobe and Yokohama was played on Saturday last and resulted in a win for Yokohama by three goals to one.

THE Rokujo Life Insurance Company has instituted a libel suit, claiming *yen* 60,000 from Count Otani, Chief of the Hongan Temple in Kyoto.

A SHIMONOSEKI telegram reports that the trouble between Japanese and Korean merchants of Mokpho, was settled on the 16th and business has recommenced.

MR. NARITA, Japanese Vice-Consul at Manila, reports to the Foreign Office, under date the 4th inst., that two fatal cases of pest appeared in Manila on the 1st.

THE interest on the Chinese indemnity amounting to *yen* 200,000 arrived at Shimonoseki on the 17th. It was deposited in the western branch of the Nippon Ginko.

A PIONEER named Kuribara Teikichi, belonging to the third company of the Akabane Barracks, Tokyo, committed suicide on the 14th on the railway near Sugamo.

THE authorities of the Home Department have received a telegram from the Governor of Saga that the steamer *Seiki Maru*, on the 14th, struck an unseen rock in Ukiko bay.

CONTRIBUTIONS are pouring into the fund now being raised by the foreign residents of Japan to relieve the distress in the north. The Rev. W. Weston has undertaken the distribution of the money.

THIRTEEN passenger carriages of the train which left Shimonoseki at 11 a.m. on Feb. 14th were derailed at a point between Shimada and Hisamatsu stations. The damages are now being repaired.

ON the 15th inst. the Moji police authorities found false Korean 5 *sen* nickel coins representing over 5,000 *yen*, in a Japanese junk. Detectives are searching for the counterfeiters.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha has purchased a British steamer at Hongkong to place on the North China line. The gross tonnage of the teamer is 1980 tons and it is reported that her length is 260ft., width 37ft. and depth 17ft.

RECLAMATION works along the sea shore of Kanagawa for a distance of 90,000 *tsubo* (1 *tsubo* 6ft. sq.) which have been promoted by Count Itagaki, Viscount Yamanouchi and others will be commenced on the 20th. It is said that the works will be completed within three years, and that they will cost *yen* 1,230,000. A contract was signed on the 16th, by the promoters and Mr. Hashimoto Chujiro, contractor.

THE funeral of the late Mr. Nakai Yoshikusu, formerly Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank's London branch, took place at the Honganji Temple, Tsukiji, on the afternoon of the 12th inst. Several prominent people were present.

AN employé of the Koishikawa Arsenal, named Tsukata (44), who embezzled *yen* 250 from the Yasuda Bank by means of a forged official document, was arrested on the 13th inst. His accomplice, a carpenter, was arrested on the 16th.

THE body of a foreigner, apparently a Russian sailor, was found at the Yokohama Pier on the afternoon of the 12th inst. The body was handed over to the Russian consulate. The Consular officials believe that the man belonged to the flagship *Petropavlovsk*.

ON the 24th ult. the British steamer *Hong Bee*, belonging to Wee Bin & Co., was seized by the Singapore police for smuggling opium, a large quantity, which did not appear in the ship's manifest, having been found hidden in the engine room. Mr. Beatty ordered the forfeiture of the steamer to Government.

A JEALOUS confectioner named Ishiguro Heijiro, 42 years old, living in Hamacho, Tokyo, on the night of the 16th attempted to murder a girl named Nakajima Sato, 23 years old, living in Asakusa Park. He used a big knife with which he inflicted a serious wound on her shoulder. The offender was arrested the same night and sent to the Court.

ON the 13th about midnight a robber armed with a Japanese short sword entered a villa in Kamakura which belongs to an American gentleman. The owner was absent at the time. Having threatened a woman named Shibata Kaku, the caretaker, the intruder appropriated a Japanese *haori* and decamped.

IT is reported that naval manœvres will take place off Kobe on the 10th April and His Majesty the Emperor will be present, leaving Tokyo on the 8th. On his way back to the capital His Majesty will visit the 5th Exhibition at Osaka. Her Majesty the Empress will leave Tokyo on the 11th April, for Kyoto and thence will proceed to Osaka to meet His Majesty.

WHILE the 7.30 a.m. express from Shimbashi, was running between Sudzukawa and Iwabuchi Stations, on Feb. 14th the engineer accidentally fell from the engine. The train had to be stopped at Sudzukawa while an engineer was brought from Numadzu to take his place. As a result, says the *Kobe Herald*, the express was 48 minutes over due. The engineer was picked up and removed to the Shunto Hospital in Numadzu, but he succumbed to his wounds.

ON Feb. 11th at 1 p.m. the *1st Inushima Maru* which was engaged in carrying stone and other materials from Bingo province, for the harbour construction works at Osaka, collided with the *2nd Inushima Maru* at Inushima in Bingo province. The former at once sank but the latter was uninjured. The cost of the sunken steamer is put at *yen* 119,000, her registered tonnage at 620 tons. It is stated that she was insured for *yen* 80,000 with the Imperial Marine Insurance Company of Tokyo.

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KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Saturday, Feb. 14.

There is evidently an interval in the negotiations relating to the Korean trouble, presumably because active steps by the Japanese Legation are postponed until the arrival of Mr. Hayashi in Seoul. Meanwhile the telegrams received by the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* go to indicate that the Korean authorities, or, at any rate, a majority of them, are desirous of settling the trouble amicably by agreeing to Japan's representations. The new Foreign Minister, Li Do-chai, is stated, however, to be in a difficult position, for owing to the resolution with which measures restricting the circulation of the bank-notes were originally taken, Li now finds himself between two fires, the blaze raised originally by the advocates of the veto assisted by their *soshi* alies, the Peddlers' Guild, and the blaze raised by the Court which has no desire to provoke serious international trouble. Li appears to have visited the Japanese Legation and made some tentative proposals, but his position was obscure and he retired without accomplishing anything.

With regard to the establishment of a Korean national bank, which is doubtless a good project and deserving of success, it is said to be the idea of the Korean Government to borrow the capital, three million *yen*, in whatever market is least exacting as to security. Should borrowing prove difficult, Li Yong-ik is reported to be prepared to inaugurate the project on the basis of two million *yen* worth of gold and silver coin already in the possession of the Treasury. It is evident that if the bank is to issue convertible notes, a reserve of two million *yen* will hardly be sufficient. In all her monetary embarrassements Korea has avoided, or has been induced to abstain from, recourse to a fiat currency. Her recent procedure in the matter of nickels resembled that financial abuse in principle, but she did not carry it to an irremediable extent. Issuing nominally convertible notes on the foundation of a wholly inadequate reserve would be a plain step towards fiat paper with all its disturbances and dislocations. It is to be sincerely hoped that no such seeds of tempest will be sowed in the storm centre of the Far East.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* telegraphic news from Seoul is very disquieting. It is to the effect that thousands of the Peddlers' Guild have assembled, and are still assembling in Seoul, and that they are employing measures of intimidation to check the circulation of the bank-notes. This report further alleges that the visit paid by Li Do-chai to the Japanese Legation on the 11th instant was an insolent demand for the withdrawal of Japan's protest, and further that the temper of the Court is decidedly hostile. Mr. Hayashi's arrival was expected on the 13th, and the Japanese merchants in the capital were anxiously awaiting his advent in order to lay their grievances before him. As for the reported withdrawal of the Governor of Seoul's veto, it is true, says the *Kokumin's* correspondent, that the placarded notifications have been removed, but whether the interdict itself remains in force or not seems uncertain.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the Korean Budget for next year has been compiled and that the income is estimated at 10,766,100 *yen*, being 622 *yen* greater than the expenditure. These figures show an increase of nearly 3 million *yen* respectively over the Budget of the current year, but they do not seem to be regarded very seriously.

Korea is apparently about to contribute her quota of emigrants for Hawaii. Japanese journals state that the steamer *Keiho Maru* left Chemulpo on the 10th instant, carrying 90 Koreans bound for Hawaii, and it is added that the emigrants seemed to leave their own country with satisfaction.

Monday, Feb. 16.

The Korean complication has been amicably settled. On the 12th inst., the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Hagiwara, proceeded to the Foreign Office in Seoul and presented a memorandum which was formally accepted by the Minister, Li Do-chai. The conditions required by Japan were, first, that the illegal veto upon the circulation of the First Bank's convertible notes should be withdrawn; secondly, that the Korean Government should officially apologise to Japan; thirdly, that should any Korean subject hereafter oppose any obstacle to the circulation of the above notes, steps should be taken for summarily punishing him, and that this arrangement should be announced to the citizens of Seoul by the Governor of that city; and fourthly, that the engagements entered into last December by H. E. Cho Pyong sik, Minister of Foreign Affairs, acting on behalf of the Korean Government, should be duly implemented. The apology mentioned in this agreement was to be sent in to the Japanese Legation the same day. It is further stated that the Korean Government immediately issued proclamations to the various open-ports, cancelling the veto, and that Mr. Hagiwara instructed the Consuls at these places to make inquiries as to whether the interdict had been actually withdrawn.

Rumour alleges that the Korean Government has decided to retire the Governor of Seoul and to change the Ministers of Finance and Foreign Affairs—some say Home Affairs—by way of atonement for this ill-judged measure. Needless to say, the Peddlers have been sent about their business. The conditions of settlement are reported to have been telegraphed from Fusan to the Japanese Chargé d'Affaires by Mr. Hayashi, upon the latter's arrival at Fusan on the morning of the 12th instant. Mr. Hayashi, if that be the case, must have called at Fusan in the *Takasago*, *en route* for Chemulpo.

It will be observed that Japan has not exacted any reparation of a material character. Certain Tokyo journals betrayed a Chauvinist tone, and were strongly in favour of substantial guarantees such as railway or mining privileges, but that pernicious device of modern diplomacy has not been adopted. Presumably the First Bank has not made any claim for compensation. Its President, Baron Shibusawa, is quite sufficiently large minded to regard the incident as one of the perils inseparable from business operations in Korea, and, further, it is very much in the interests of the railway enterprises he represents in Korea as well as of his own banking business, that popular antipathy should not be aroused by pressing for heavy penalties. But we do not doubt that Opposition journals in Tokyo will seize the occasion to pillorize the Cabinet and to raise a threnody over the empire's tarnished prestige and lost opportunities. Indeed, the *Hochi Shimbun* has already struck the key-note of the lament by declaring that the dragons' heads have ended in the tails of common snakes, which is the Japanese way of saying "much cry and little wool." Lovers of peace and moderation, however, will applaud the terms of settlement. It rested solely with the First Bank to apply or not to apply for compensation, and since the Bank gave no sign, it would have been altogether *ultra vires* that the Japanese Government should manufacture a claim on its behalf. We may justly say of Japan that she has shown herself uniformly moderate in her manner of dealing with international complications, and that whatever she has borrowed from Western civilization, her debt does not include the manœuvre of basing a scheme of national aggrandisement on a local outrage by an enraged mob or a band of lawless bandits. Nothing is necessary in such cases as this bank-note complication except to convince Korea that she must observe her treaty obligations more loyally and behave in general with greater circumspection. That end has probably been achieved.

The formal apology stipulated for in the conditions of the above settlement with Korea is stated to have been duly transmitted to the Japanese Legation and the incident is now closed. We further learn from the *Asahi's* Seoul correspondent that the newly appointed Minister to Japan is to start for his post on the 18th instant. We can not decipher the name of this gentleman, but it may be explained that he has only just been nominated, in succession to the appointee who was to have been the first Korean Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan, but who has been prevented by sickness, genuine or diplomatic, from proceeding to Tokyo.

It is stated by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the Government has pledged itself to guarantee a loan of 15 million *yen* on account of the Seoul-Fusan Railway, conditionally on the Diet giving its consent. Already the Diet has agreed that the Company's returns on capital invested shall not be less than six per cent., and now we have this proposal that the Imperial Treasury should stand security for a loan of 15 million *yen*. The question is one of great delicacy. So many considerations present themselves that we hesitate to approach their discussion until the necessity for doing so becomes more pressing. Besides, we are not aware what may be the provisions of Korean law as to pledges and mortgages, or what security a foreign creditor would possess under that law. But it is quite plain that according to Japanese law as it now stands, foreign capital can not be obtained for railway purposes except under a Government guarantee. A railway owned by Japanese subjects in Korea presents specially complicated features, however, and unless we are much mistaken this subject is likely to be dragged into the arena of political controversy. The bill can scarcely be presented until the winter session of the Diet. It is not apparently a matter of urgency, and only a plea of urgency would justify its submission in the approaching special session. So there is plenty of time for talk and for thought.

Tuesday, Feb. 17.

Mr. Hayashi, attended by the officer commanding the *Takasago* and his suite, was to be received in audience by the Emperor of Korea on the 17th instant.

It is stated, on authority which can not be regarded as conclusive, that the Korean Government has decided to refarm the ginseng monopoly to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, and that the terms of the contract are the same as they were on the previous occasion.

It is alleged that Mr. Kato Masuo, adviser to the Korean Government, is likely to resign at an early date, and return to Japan, Tokyo newspapers represent him as essenti-

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ally dissatisfied with his position. At the time of his appointment he was assured that he should hold the post of chief adviser, but he subsequently found that the Korean Government was already bound by a similar pledge to Mr. Sands. And now there is talk of employing a Belgian who will take precedence of all. Further, Belgians in the Far East have come to be recognised as Russian agents, or at least, as men working in Russian interests, and Mr. Kato does not look forward with pleasant anticipation to service in such circumstances. That is what Tokyo journals allege. We do not vouch for its accuracy by any means.

Wednesday, Feb. 18.

The central bank which the Korean Government is said to be about to establish, is now matter of consultation between Li Yong-ik and Mr. Brown. If Mr. Brown approves the project, it will at once assume a different character in the eyes of the public, but until we are assured that sufficient arrangements for a specie reserve are possible, the assumption of note-issuing functions by a government bank in a country so notoriously impecunious as Korea must be regarded with great misgivings.

The new Korean Representative in Japan left Chemulpo on the 16th instant by the *Tatsgami Maru*. He appears to have made his preparations with remarkable celerity.

Friday, Feb. 20.

Telegrams to leading Tokyo journals from Seoul announce that the Russian Representative in that city has asked the Throne to grant to Baron Ginsburg a concession for building the Seoul-Wiju railway. It will be remembered that this concession was granted to a French syndicate some years ago, but as the latter failed to undertake the work within the period fixed, the charter lapsed, and the Korean Government, declaring that it would itself build the line and that no railway concessions should be granted to any foreigners in the future, organized a bureau which did actually commence work on the first section of the line. The Russian Representative is said to have now adduced the example of Japan's concession for the Seoul-Fusan railway, and to have claimed a similar privilege for Russian subjects on the ground of the most favoured-nation clause, his alternative being that if the concession were not granted, then at any rate Korea should borrow money from Russia for the construction of the road. That Russian activity should take this special direction can not fail to be regarded with much anxiety. The Seoul-Wiju road had no commercial prospects. Its construction as a money-making enterprise would never be contemplated for an instant. Therefore when a foreign Power presses for its building and insists at any rate on being allowed to lend money for the purpose, the incident must be viewed in a purely political light. No one needs to be reminded of the effects that would follow were Russia's trans-Asian system of railways brought into direct communication with the capital of the Korean empire. That indeed would be a mighty stride in the process of peaceful absorption on which the destiny of the great Northern Power seems to have launched it.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent wires that the relations between Li Yong-ik and the Russian Legation are strained; that the Legation was not at all pleased at the speedy and thorough settlement of the bank-note question, and that this project of a Seoul-Wiju railway concession is not likely to be successful. Two points in that statement are difficult of credence. The first is that the Russian Representative associated himself either directly or indirectly with Korea's action in the bank-note trouble; the second that he has openly approached this Seoul-Wiju business without previous assurance of success. No able diplomat plays such a game with his cards exposed on the table.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The French, always diligent employers of their imagination, have started a theory that a union of China and Japan is one of the great events already lying in the lap of the future. It is by the *Journal des Débats* that the theory is propounded. Japan is to absorb China, and the combination will be the United States of Asia, with "the Far East for the Far-Easterns" as motto. "There certainly exists a real understanding between China and Japan," writes the French periodical in the immediate context of a prediction that "the continual absorption of the apathetic and corrupt Middle Kingdom by the Empire of the Rising Sun" is an affair of time only. "China offers but a passive resistance to those who would possess it by force. Its peaceful conquest need present no difficulty to the Mikado's subjects. All the authorities in Peking favour the idea." Thus the spectre of the Yellow Peril would be verified, for formidable in truth would be the combination of two countries one of which disposed of the brute force of numbers while the other possessed limitless energy and vitality. Our readers will perceive that the *Débats'* conception leaves something to be desired in point of lucidity. The absorption of China is to be by force, yet the authorities in Peking are assenting parties. Apart from that, however, the general idea that Japan and China may one day be found a consolidated entity wielding mighty power in the East, had suggested itself to many minds before the *Journal des Débats* wrote. But in spite of the attractions of such a theory from the purely speculative point of view, belief in its truth can scarcely survive the absence of any evidences of consummation. The peaceful conquest of China certainly does seem to be going on slowly, but at present there are no appearances that any large part of the fruits of victory will fall to Japan's share. It is a campaign in which money holds the field. There are occasional displays of the mailed fist, but their results are fitful and the condemnation they provoke soon obscures their results. Concessions are the great weapons: mining concessions, railway concessions, navigation concessions, and so on, in all of which Japan has a very small part, her available capital not being sufficient even for the purposes of her home development. One need only look at the political effects of Russian railways in Manchuria and Germany's in Shantung to be convinced that these are the great agents of conquest, and that any Power which is unable to enter the competition along these lines, will have an immense length of lee-way to make up hereafter. Japanese influence, political and educational influence, is undoubtedly increasing in China, but it is difficult to detect any signs of the gradual process of absorption discerned by the French journal. For whatever process of absorption is really going on, other States appear to be more responsible than Japan is.

MEETING OF DIVISIONAL GENERALS.

On the 13th instant the Generals of Division throughout the empire assembled in Tokyo for the purpose of holding a series of meetings. They were addressed by the Minister of State for War, General Terauchi, and the gist of his remarks was interesting as an indication of the subjects that are occupying military attention in Japan at present. His points may be summarized thus:—

A gradual decadence of military spirit is not altogether to be unapprehended. Education must direct more attention to this.

Officers commanding Divisions should make their subordinates give special heed to the strengthening of military discipline and orderly conduct.

Warning has already been given with regard to precautions against fires in barracks, but the recent prevalence of such disasters shows that greater care is necessary.

The great object of military laws should be to prevent the perpetration of crimes.

Military men are forbidden by the Penal Code of the Army to engage in political discussions. Yet occasionally this veto is disregarded. Thus in December of last year a letter was sent to the press from the Second Division on the subject of reducing the period of military service to two years. Such acts must be carefully avoided.

Extravagant doings on the occasion of men joining or leaving their corps have not yet been entirely abandoned. This abuse can not be corrected by local officials alone. Commanders of Divisions must exert themselves to devise methods of correction.

The treatment of military riding horses still leaves something to be desired. Every care must be taken not to use them cruelly or employ unnecessary violence.

Even if the newly approved portable military tents can not yet be fully served out to the Divisions, a number amply sufficient for purposes of instruction on occasions of manœuvres should be provided.

It is the policy of the War Office to abolish all supernumeraries as far as possible and to aim at military completeness only. Officers commanding Divisions are requested to keep this in view.

GERMANS IN AMERICA.

Karl Blind says that there are twelve millions of Germans in America, and that no less than 176,767 Germans were fighting in the ranks of the two armies during the civil war, 69 of them being officers on the staff. America has a wonderful power of assimilation, but it is said that her success in that respect is least conspicuous with the Germans, who retain the ear-marks of nationality much longer than immigrants from other countries do. Yet which of us is there that has not met many American citizens of German origin who are as American as they make them, and grand men at that? Looking at these figures of Karl Blind's, one can sympathise with the world policy of the Kaiser. Not the policy responsible for His Majesty's vertigo that Germany must have her finger in every pie whenever and wherever compounded in any part of the habitable globe, but the policy that makes him keenly anxious to preserve for Germany the advantages of German expansion. If these twelve millions were added to the Germans in Europe, what an immense access of strength they would represent. Or if they had an Australia, or a New Zealand, or a Canada, or an Africa, or an India to wax fat in and prosper, still and always as Germans!

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Saturday, Feb. 14.

As the date of the general elections approaches some of the newspapers begin to talk of official interference. They quote Baron Suyematsu as alleging that the police of Ishikawa prefecture are under the control of a man quite unfit to hold such a position in times of constitutional government, and that he has so effectually destroyed freedom of speech that people dare not more than exchange glances when they meet. From Yamaguchi prefecture also it is announced that a Government candidate has been set up in opposition to Mr. Ooka Ikuzo. The fact is related as though the mere appearance of a pro-official candidate in the field were a heinous crime against the proprieties. In times of political excitement we have to be prepared for all kinds of extravagances.

Monday, Feb. 16.

Mr. Shimada Saburo has addressed a long manifesto to the electors of Yokohama. The gist of it is that he claims to be the victim of a combination on the part of leading capitalists and leading politicians. From Baron Iwasaki came, he says, the first suggestion in favour of Mr. Kato. Then Marquis Ito took up the matter. But inasmuch as Marquis Ito had openly declared himself in favour of the re-election of the present members of the House, he was obliged to invent some pretext for his change of front, and the pretext he adopted was that this should be made the occasion for a reconciliation of the two factions in Yokohama, the land-owners and the merchants. Then Count Okuma also lent his support to the proposed change. In order to placate Mr. Shimada, he was promised a seat for Miye Prefecture, and was informed by Mr. Oishi Masami—who proposed to transfer his candidature from Miye to Kochi,—that there need not be any uneasiness about election expenses. But Mr. Shimada refused. Hence he invites the electors to conclude that they are being made the catspaw of a Marquis, a Count and a Baron; that their constituency is being turned into a pocket borough, and that, if they wish to assert their independence, they will elect Mr. Shimada Saburo.

That is the gist of the manifesto. We can not find in it from first to last any enunciation of principles. It is purely an appeal to sentiment. We have heard a great deal from Japanese publicists, eminently from Mr. Shimada Saburo, about the abuses incidental to the sentimental element in politics and in administration. It would not have occurred to us to predict that Mr. Shimada himself would some day make a conspicuous appeal to that very factor.

Tuesday, Feb. 17.

Very few of the Yokohama electors having met their candidates, Messrs. Kato and Okuda, these gentlemen visited Yokohama on the 15th instant, and were received by a large assemblage of influential citizens at the Wakayagi-tei. Mr. Kato delivered a brief address. He said that as he should have a future opportunity of speaking about politics, he would avoid that topic on the present occasion, and confine himself to warning his audience against the delusion which certain persons were endeavouring to promote, namely, that the Yokohama constituency was becoming a pocket borough and receiving orders as to the candidates it should elect.

Mr. Kato's short speech seems to have produced an excellent effect, and both he and Mr. Okuda were warmly welcomed.

We read in the *Niroku Shimpo* that the stalwart has again appeared upon the scene in Tokyo. It seems that Mr. Ebara Soroku is disposed to dispute the Yotsuya-district election with Dr. Hatoyama, and that a party of *soshi*, who interest themselves actively in the cause of their present representative, fell on one of Mr. Ebara's canvassers, and gave him a very severe beating. Proceedings at law have been instituted.

If the *Chiuo Shimbun* be credible, the police in Yamaguchi prefecture are abusing their authority in opposition to the election of Mr. Ooka Ikuzo. The *Chiuo* being Mr. Ooka's organ, may possibly be more or less prejudiced in this matter, but similar news comes from Ishikawa, concerning which place and its pre-election state Baron Suyematsu Kencho has employed his poetical abilities in the composition of a very clever couplet. In Niigata it is vehemently complained that a certain Mr. Onishi Tokutaro of Naoyetsu, who has been taking a very active part in canvassing for the *Seiyukai* candidates, has been served with notice under the provisions of the Premonition Regulations, as though he were a professional loafer. One would like to hear the other side of these stories before placing implicit credence in them. They come entirely from the parties that believe themselves aggrieved.

Thursday, Feb. 19.

Messrs. Okuda and Kato addressed the Yokohama electors in the Kiraku-za on the 16th instant. Mr. Okuda's speech dealt with the question of administrative reform. He may now be called the mouthpiece of those that advocate large economies in that direction, claiming that ample funds for naval expansion can thus be found without imposing any new taxes. Mr. Okuda supports his thesis with figures. In 1898, he says, the ratio between the administrative expenses and the total income of the State was 35 or 36 to 100; in 1899, it rose to 40 to 100, and in 1901 the figures were 45 to 100. Between 1899 and 1901 the number of officials increased by some ten thousand, their total salaries aggregating 3 million *yen* annually. Some increase is of course inevitable in view of the development of public business, but Mr. Okuda claims that what has happened has been merely an extension of the red-tape system, and that each increment of officials has brought a corresponding addition to the needless formalities and vexatious technicalities which render the discharge of official business a by-word among the people. He disavows anything like a negative policy. Japan having taken her place among the nations, must go ahead resolutely. But he thinks that her progress is only retarded by squandering money and multiplying useless forms.

Mr. Kato's speech was directed, in the first place, to demonstrating that the true issue between the Cabinet and the House of Representatives last session was administrative reform. So far as naval increment is concerned, there is virtually no difference of opinion. All admit that up to a certain point such increment is inevitable, though few would like to see Japan engage in the almost reckless competition of armaments now witnessed in Europe. Further, Mr. Kato does not pretend to offer any radical obstacle to an increase of the land tax as a source of revenue for special purposes. That is merely a matter of occasion. The present occasion does not seem to call for any such measure. What is wanted is administrative reform, and the application of some intelligent system to the government's undertakings, some of which appear to be conducted not only in a wasteful manner but also without due regard to the country's needs. Mr. Kato mentions the harbour works of Yokohama as one of the undertakings that ought to receive urgent attention, though, in point of fact, it is sacrificed to other enterprises. Yokohama, he observes, has a special interest in the welfare of the agricultural class, for although foreign trade seems to be the place's great source of wealth, a chief staple of that trade is raw silk which the agricultural class produces, and the principal purchasers of imported good are farmers. Yokohama, therefore, has special cause for desiring to see the fiscal burdens of the agricultural class lightened. Mr. Kato ridicules the tales circulated by some journals to the effect that, in consideration of receiving Yokohama's support he has pledged himself never to belong to any political party. He says, in effect, that any party professing his principles will have his support, and that party nomenclature has no importance in his eyes, the only thing of real importance being the platform.

Some journals predict a keen contest in Yokohama, and the *Niroku Shimpo* professes to believe that the candidature of Messrs. Kato and Okuda is unlikely to succeed. But the *Niroku's* wishes are generally the parents of its thoughts. Meanwhile Tottori prefecture has addressed what is described as an unanimous offer of support to Mr. Okuda.

ACCIDENT TO CAPT. BOUGOUIN.

An incident which might have had serious results had it not been for the courage and presence of mind of Capt. Bougouin, occurred a few days ago in Tsukiji. Owing to some unexplained cause, probably drink, a servant who had been for 19 years in Captain Bougouin's service became demented and showed symptoms of homicidal mania towards his wife and child. Fortunately his condition was discovered in time to prevent a catastrophe, and the police having been summoned, a constable was in the act of arresting the man when the latter drew a dagger, which he had hitherto kept concealed, and raised it to strike the constable. The blow, judged by its direction, would probably have proved fatal, but just at the critical instant Captain Bougouin seized the weapon and arrested its descent. In getting possession of it, however, three of his fingers were nearly severed from the hand. Fortunately Miss Nora Strange showed great self-possession, staunching the flow of blood and binding up the wound. Dr. Macdonald presently arrived and we understand that Captain Bougouin is doing well, and that he will not lose any of his fingers. It would seem that the constable owes his life to the self-sacrificing bravery of this noble-hearted Frenchman.

About 8 o'clock on the night of the 17th the launch belonging to the Yokohama Seamen's Mission run against a hawser extending from the German Mail steamer *Preussen* to a buoy about 120 feet distant, and was a good deal damaged about the funnel, engines, boiler, and other parts. The Rev. W. T. Austen called the attention of the Captain of the steamer and the agents, Messrs. H. Ahrens and Company, Nachf. to the necessity of having a light in order to prevent such accidents. It is stated that the agents have agreed to pay for the damages.

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PROGRESS OF THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

Monday, Feb. 16.

The preliminary examination by the law courts into the charges against ten of the persons implicated in the text-book scandal have been concluded, with the result that eight are committed for trial and two are released. These last are not acquitted of receiving or tendering bribes: they are released merely because they were not occupying official positions at the time of their corrupt practices, and consequently the law has no hold on them. Among the eight remanded for public trial the most conspicuous are Mr. Mizobe, who was Governor of Tochigi prefecture at the time, and Mr. Munakata, who held a similar position in Kumamoto. Each of these officials is supposed to have received a thousand *yen* from the publishers called Shuyeido. The remaining six persons are—or were, for of course on arrest all ceased to hold office—school inspectors or principals, and the publishers Kinkodo share with the Shuyeido the honour of having been conspicuously engaged in the process of persuasion. It would seem that in some cases the procedure was of the most unequivocal description. The guilty officials actually agreed to receive bargain money, and entered into compacts securing to them a subsequent payment in the event of and in proportion to success. In other cases a semblance of coyness was preserved, the *douceur* being concealed in a letter box marked "private correspondence."

Other arrests have just been made, ten persons having been marched off on the 14th instant. In connexion with this last arrest new proofs are said to have been obtained and further seizures are predicted, though the number hitherto apprehended totals 137. Of the ten persons arrested on the 14th instant, six are principals of schools and four are educational inspectors.

We wonder whether these events will awaken that remarkable assembly called a "Diet" to the fact that until Japanese educational officers receive something like adequate salaries, they will inevitably be liable to yield to temptations such as those that have produced these disastrous results. The principal of an elementary school in a provincial district receives emoluments amounting to the splendid figure of about 40 *yen* monthly, which is less than he could earn as a stone-mason. The principal of a middle school in the capital is rewarded with a salary of 100 *yen* per month, approximately. And a member of the House of Representatives gets two thousand *yen* annually for three months' work. These facts look shocking in the eyes of outsiders, but they do not appear to suggest anything particularly incongruous to the gentlemen of the Imperial Diet.

The Department of Education must be put to considerable inconvenience. There are now 49 unfilled posts, namely, 17 provincial inspectorships, 11 directorships of normal schools, 7 of middle schools, and 4 of female high schools.

One of the disheartening features of this incident is the writing of the *Nippon*. The *Nippon* is a journal wielding some influence and representing a certain section of intelligent Japanese opinion. Day in and day out it publishes articles attacking the Minister of State for Education, and calling upon him to resign because of this scandal. It appears to us, as it must appear to all calmly-judging persons, that every respectable Japanese newspaper should be applauding and thanking Baron Kikuchi for exposing this scandal and punishing those implicated in it. Is the *Nippon* so strangely short-sighted as not to perceive that a premium would be put upon official incompetence and corruption if a Minister of State were to be held personally responsible for every abuse he detected and sought to correct? Most assuredly these abuses did not begin during Baron Kikuchi's tenure of office, and if his 22 months at the Educational Department have sufficed to bring the disgraces to light, the nation ought to be hoping that he will remain there for 22 years instead of resigning because he has shown himself thorough-going and conscientious.

Tuesday, Feb. 17.

Five further arrests have been made in connexion with the text-book scandal, and people are wondering what dimensions this trouble will ultimately assume. Meanwhile there is much speculation and discussion as to the course that the Education Department will pursue to supply the deficiency of text-books caused by this incident. According to regulation, all the text-books that were put into use by dishonest methods must be laid aside and not employed in the schools for five years. But how are they to be replaced? There is naturally no mechanism to meet such an emergency. It is amusing to observe that even this lack of extraordinary means to deal with an altogether exceptional occasion, is attributed to the carelessness of the Education Department by the latter's political enemies. They remind us of the foreign Representative in Tokyo, many years ago, who, finding that the streets were difficult of passage immediately after an unprecedental snow-fall, adduced the fact as a conclusive proof of Japanese improvidence.

One Tokyo newspaper says that the people to be pitied are the book-sellers. Those that gave money of their own accord must be condemned, but those that gave it under threat belong to a different category. Poor innocent creatures! One of them is said to have been mulcted to the tune of a thousand *yen* by a certain local governor, and, after all, that particular store's text-books were rejected by the examining committee. That was surely very disappointing.

Friday, Feb. 20.

Another of the accused persons has been remanded for trial in connexion with the text-book scandal, the preliminary examination having shown that he made an agreement with the publishers Kin-ko-do to receive a thousand *yen* if he succeeded in getting certain text-books adopted in the Ehime schools. He did succeed, and twelve 100-*yen* war-bonds were handed to him. It would appear from the progress of the preliminary examinations that the sum of 1,000 *yen* was a common douceur. But even if we take one half of that amount as the average, then it will follow that from seventy to eighty thousand *yen* was spent by the publishers last year. Theirs must be a lucrative business. And it will continue to be a lucrative business so long as men holding official positions can not keep the wolf from the door without recourse to corrupt practices. Human nature is pretty much the same everywhere. The average man, whatever be his nationality, has an average capacity to resist temptation, and if his failures exceed the average, it is because the temptations are stronger.

THE OSAKA GAS WORKS.

This discussion is not yet concluded though a settlement seems to be in sight. Both sides have agreed, it is said, that five per cent. of the net profits should be paid to the Municipality. But in addition to that the Mayor asks that after the Company has set aside due sums by way of reserves, and after it has paid a dividend of 10 per cent., five-eighths of the remaining profit should be handed to the city. The directors of the Company, on their side, claim that the untaxed dividend should be 15 per cent., and that the city should not receive more than one fourth of the residue. Presumably a compromise will be struck between the two proposals.

It will be observed that this question has now narrowed itself to a simple problem of paying the city for the privilege of using the thoroughfares and of monopolizing the business of gas supply. That is exactly what we described some time ago as the kernel of the dispute, and our readers will now recall with amusement the vehement declamations of some of the local foreign journals whose editors had fallen into the error of supposing that Osaka was permeated with anti-foreign feeling, and that the whole difficulty had its origin in a determination not to allow foreign capitalists to have any share in valuable Japanese enterprises. Our expressed belief, on the contrary, was that the dispute turned solely on the question whether the city was entitled or was not entitled to compensation, a question which theory and practice in other countries and in other cities of Japan herself, had settled long ago. In Tokyo it is provided by the charters of the electric street railway companies that, after a company has paid a dividend of 7 per cent., one-third of any surplus shall go to the city. In Osaka the Mayor proposes that the untaxed dividend shall be 10 per cent., and that five-eighths of the remainder shall go to the city, while the Company asks for an untaxed 15 per cent. and a tax not exceeding one-fourth of the remainder. It is a mere point of vulgar arithmetic. All the diatribes written about anti-foreign sentiment, all the solemn silliness about remnants of uncivilized conservatism and so forth, are now proved to be pure froth. Nothing is the matter except a dispute about pounds, shilling and pence.

THE OSAKA EXHIBITION.

From what we have been able to gather the preparations for the Osaka Exhibition are in a very backward state. No one that thinks of going there at the time of opening need expect to find more than a fraction of the exhibits in place. The Osaka people have the reputation of being among the best business-men of Japan, if not the very best, yet they seem to be managing this important enterprise in a most perfunctory and inefficient manner. An intending exhibitor who returned two or three days ago from an attempt to obtain space for a small parcel of goods, informs us that it takes as many days to get things carried from the sea-coast as there are miles in the interval, and that matters generally are in a hopelessly backward condition. He says, further, that the site chosen for the exhibition does not afford space at all sufficient, and that altogether the conception and prosecution of the enterprise are sadly deficient. Doubtless by the time of the official opening in April some order will have been effected, but early visitors are likely to be much disappointed.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, Feb. 14.

In a remarkable letter addressed by the Peking correspondent of *The Times* to that journal under date of Nov. 24th, we find this passage:—"On March 6th, 1898, Germany signed an agreement with China defining clearly her rights in the province of Shang-tung, and obtaining for herself throughout that province preferential rights that were virtually exclusive. We admitted those exclusive rights." It appears to us that there is here a slight error. According to our information—information obtained in quarters deserving of all credence—England never admitted the exclusive privileges claimed by Germany in Shan-tung. The British Government protested against the legality of any such privileges. It seems that the protest was pigeon-holed without eliciting any clear answer and that it remains in a pigeon-hole up to the present day. But at all events it was never withdrawn, nor can we fairly allege that Germany owes England any gratitude for ostensibly acquiescing in the Shan-tung scheme of colonization.

Tuesday, Feb. 17.

The river bank of the Yangtse at Nanking has again crumbled away partially. What measure of damage was caused by this second catastrophe we have not heard, but it is said that great uneasiness is caused by the state of the bank, and that the breaking away of an extensive area is anticipated.

Telegrams from Shanghai announce the serious illness of Mr. Wu Ju-lung, the eminent educationist, who visited Japan last year. The latest of these telegrams, which is addressed to the *Jiji Shimpo*, announces Mr. Wu's death. Should that be the case, China will have suffered a great loss, for Mr. Wu was among her most enlightened and progressive men. We can not tell what his age was, but he was certainly well on in years, for the robust state of his health attracted much attention in Japan in consideration of his time of life.

News from Peking says that the main purpose of the much discussed Government purchase of the telegraphs, is simply to remove them from the control of Sheng Kung-pao, and to put an end to abuses that now disfigure their management. The matter is under active conference, and Yung Lu is represented as holding the opinion that no occasion exists for the Government to buy up all the shares, since the only thing essential is Sheng's removal. This affair has evoked from the foreign local press of Shanghai some comment which can not fail to have surprised the Chinese. It has been freely charged that the object of the Peking Government in seeking to get possession of the lines is to be in a position to manipulate the intelligence reaching the outer world should another anti-foreign outbreak take place. There is even a plain suggestion that the Government contemplates such an outbreak and is covertly preparing for it. Men that live in the shadow of eventualities such as that of 1900 may well be excused if they sometimes allow their apprehensions to take charge of their tact, but it does appear regrettable that Chinese sentiment should be constantly outraged by intemperate utterances of this kind.

Wednesday, Feb. 18.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a telegram from Peking saying that the Chinese Government is seriously considering the question of paying off the Indemnity at once by raising a loan on the security of the residue of the customs duties and the salt gabelle. The reason assigned for this project in that the gradual discharge of the obligation on present lines may involve troublesome complications. That is unquestionably true, but from a financial point of view it is evident that no special relief can be obtained by recourse to a loan. The present method of paying off the Indemnity is easier than any method likely to be acceptable to foreign creditors who have actually advanced money. There is, however, an old Chinese saying that burdens become painful only by long bearing. Perhaps China feels like the coolie who wants to shift his load from one shoulder to another. The load remains as heavy as ever, but it would hurt less were the point of pressure changed.

Thursday, Feb. 19.

It is stated that a movement is on foot to obtain the establishment of a Japanese consulate at Dalny. There are some three hundred and fifty Japanese subjects in that town. They occupy 37 houses, and their official affairs are looked after by the consul at Newchwang where there are only 50 or 60 Japanese. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, discussing this question, says that a deputation has come from Dalny to urge the advisability of establishing a consulate there, and alleges that the Tokyo Foreign Office hesitates to take action, being unwilling to raise the diplomatic question whether such an official should receive his exequatur from Peking or from St. Petersburg. That argument seems rather far-fetched. The *Yomiuri* might have dispensed with it, for we imagine that the Foreign Office is not likely either to be perplexed by such problems or moved by such taunts.

The *Nippon* writes mysteriously about Mr. Wu Ju-lung's alleged death. Our contemporary's opinion is that Wu had fallen under the displeasure of the Central Government, and that he acted unwisely in returning to his native province and placing himself in the power of the local officials. But the *Nippon* does not offer any suggestion as to the manner of his death, supposing it to have been caused by foul means, and for our own part we are perplexed to see how any nefarious enterprise can have been consummated in the case of a man of such eminence without attracting a large share of public notice. Mr. Wu's son, who had been prosecuting his studies in Tokyo, left that city immediately on receipt of news of his father's illness, but intelligence of the death must have reached him at Shimonoseki.

Friday, Feb. 20.

If the writer of the *North-China Herald's* "Peking News" be well informed, Russophile tendencies hold the fort in Peking at present. Yung Lu and the celebrated eunuch, Li Lien-ying, are said to be the leaders of the creed, which they seize every opportunity of propagating. To all members of the Government they expound the proposition that Powers like England, Germany and Japan would step out of the arena at the first sound of the war trumpet, and that Russia with her ally France would remain in undisturbed possession. It is easy to believe that such a theory should find ready credence in China. Russia's immense movement of expansion is taking place on the Far Eastern stage under the very eyes of a Chinese audience, whereas Germany and Japan can not be said to be expanding territorially at all, and of the huge additions that England has just made to her empire in Africa the people of China have probably only a rudimentary idea. Indeed if they think of Africa at all in connexion with England, the thought may be assumed to be uncomplimentary to the latter. Russia is the stupendous object lesson. Quietly and irresistably her vast shadow is stealing over the East-Asian continent, and the Orient has no more power in China's eyes to arrest the advance of the dark spectre than it has to make the clouds stand still in the sky. European and American writers are never tired of alleging that only by the visible aspect of might and by its sensible exercise can the slow processes of China's international perceptions be set in motion. If that be so Russia alone should have a place in the moral vision of the Middle Kingdom, and we can not feel the smallest wonder that Yung and Li should entertain the views assigned to them. Indeed, the future of the Far East is a topic from which we must all be desirous of turning away our prophetic thoughts. For history has no lesson to teach that does not invest the progress of the colossus with ominous contingencies. Russia will not pause on her march. Nothing can check her except a collision with a foreign State or a domestic cataclysm. Probably a majority of present-day onlookers think that the last scene of the drama will not be acted in their days, and that though their ears may detect the low roar of the coming deluge they will never see the crash of its cataract. Who can tell? Perhaps if these same spectators lay, as the Chinese do, in the direct path of the flood, they would not view its rise with so much *insouciance*.

Twenty-five Chinese students, including a teacher who comes to complete his education, arrived at Kobe on the 18th instant *en route* for Tokyo. It does not look as though there were anything fitful about this educational movement, and certainly if it continues a powerful leaven of progress can not fail to be introduced into the lump of Chinese conservatism.

A HISTORICAL FIGURE.

The third of the great trio of Tokugawa statesmen, whose wisdom may be said to have saved the empire from civil war at the time of the Restoration and Tokyo from being sacked, Mr. Takahashi Seiichi, died on the 13th instant at the comparatively early age of sixty-nine. "The Three Ships," as they were called, namely, the late Count Katsu, who was the "ocean ship" (*Kaishu*), the late Viscount Yamaoka, who was the "iron ship" (*Tesshu*), and Mr. Takahashi, who was the "earthen ship" (*Deishu*), all opposed themselves vigorously to the idea of resisting by force the transfer of administrative power to the hands of the Emperor, and their opposition proved successful, especially as it conformed with the sentiments of Keiki himself, the last of the Shoguns. The significance of the attitude taken by these three men can not be fully appreciated without remembering that by a large section of public opinion at that time the so-called restoration was regarded merely as a transfer of power from the Tokugawa to the two great southern clans, if not to one of them alone. People have heard nothing of the "earthen ship" during recent years, and probably to ninety-nine foreigners out of every hundred the name of Mr. Takahashi Seiichi is altogether strange. Yet he was surely one of the great figures that played a prominent part in the drama of the Restoration.

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DEATH OF PRINCE KOMATSU.

His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu expired in his Hashiba Villa at 3 a.m. on the 18th instant in the fifty-eighth year of his age. The Prince had acted a prominent part in the history of the *Meiji* era, and at the time of his death he was a Field-Marshal. Last year he visited England as Japan's representative at the time of the Coronation, and King Edward bestowed on him the Grand Cross of the Bath. His Imperial Highness had no son, and the title of "Komatsu" dies with him.

The body was carried to the Prince's official residence in Tokyo on the forenoon of the 18th, and doubtless the period of mourning—five days—will be reckoned from that time.

It appears that His Imperial Highness' health has not been robust for a long time. Six or seven years ago, he had a serious attack of inflammation of the lungs, and on his return from Europe last year symptoms of brain disease showed themselves. On the 21st of December, while the Prince was at his Mishima villa, a slight suffusion of blood on the brain took place, but he recovered sufficiently to return to Tokyo at the end of month. In the middle of January there was a repetition of the trouble, and before February set in the illustrious patient's condition had become serious. On the 13th instant he fell into a state of unconsciousness, and gradually passed away.

We may refer here to the Japanese custom of deferring the official announcement of a death in high places until some days after the event has actually taken place. History seems to show that this idea had its origin in war-time when military prejudice would have resulted from general intelligence of a commanding officer's demise. The oldest instance we can recall in the annals of this country was that of the Emperor Chiuai, remembered chiefly on account of his semi-mythical consort Jingu Kogo. Where military considerations are not operative, it would seem that this custom is dictated solely by principles of convenience or points of etiquette. Certain preparations have to be made and certain ceremonies performed, and until everything is ready the announcement of death is deferred. The custom is open to much criticism. It savours of the spirit of Prince Shotoku's code.

THE LATE PRINCE KOMATSU.

The funeral of His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu is expected to take place on the 25th or the 26th instant and will be a state ceremonial. Court mourning will be for five days, commencing from the 18th, official mourning (*haicho*) for three days, and general mourning (*go choji*) also for three days, all these periods being reckoned from the day of the Prince's death. General mourning means that musical or theatrical performances and public entertainments of every kind are prohibited. Baron Sannomiya is appointed Chief of the Obsequies Officials (*go sogi-gakari*), and he is assisted by seven high officers of the Government. The place of interment will be Toshigaoka in the Koishikawa suburb of Tokyo.

The leading Tokyo journals publish long accounts of the Prince's life. Its salient features are that at the commencement of the stirring events preluding the Restoration, the Prince abandoned the monastical career to which, according to the custom of pre-Meiji days, he had been condemned, and espoused that of arms. He at once received the appointment of commander-in-chief of the Imperial forces, and in that capacity is said to have shown some ability although his youth and inexperience must have told against him. What marked him specially, however, as a man of exceptional mind was his insistent and finally successful effort to pay a visit to foreign lands for the purpose of studying Occidental civilization *in loco*. He was the first Japanese Imperial Prince that ever went abroad. The petition that he addressed to the Emperor for leave to travel in Europe and America was dated from the Ninna-ji cloister. In it the Prince frankly declared that he had no inclination for a religious career and that he saw plainly that knowledge of men and things could not be acquired by the light shed from a student's lamp. That was in 1867, but more than four years elapsed before the Prince achieved his purpose. He spent several months in England, where Queen Victoria received him in audience, but his sojourn had to be cut short on account of the death of his father. It is characteristic of his thorough-going spirit that when the system of conscription was introduced in Japan, the Prince obtained permission to serve as a sub-lieutenant in the newly raised army, his object being to reconcile the nation to the unprecedented rule that men in all stations of life must henceforth be prepared to carry arms in their country's cause even in the most subordinate military position. But of course the Prince did not long remain a sub-lieutenant. He was appointed to the command-in-chief of the Imperial forces in the Satsuma rebellion, and in 1886 he paid a second visit to Europe, this time extending his travels to America. Three petitions had been necessary to obtain permission for his first journey abroad, but on the second occasion he received the appointment of military commissioner and no obstacle was placed in the way of his travels. Thereafter the most memorable incidents of his career were his appointment to the command-in-chief of the Japanese army after the death of Prince Arisugawa in the war of 1884-5, and his mission to England in 1902 as Japanese Representative on the occasion of the Coronation of King Edward. Undoubtedly his career fully earned for him the respect and gratitude of his nationals.

The conditions contingent upon the death of so distinguished a personage as Prince Komatsu affect foreigners as well as Japanese in a sense which many of the former may hardly realise. In accordance with custom a period of mourning was prescribed and, we believe, notified to officials in the course of Wednesday the 18th. The public intimation was made in the *Official Gazette* of the 19th in the following terms:—

In consequence of the demise of His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu, the Cabinet Office will be closed for three days from the 18th and Imperial Court Mourning will be observed for five days commencing with the 18th.

All singing, dancing and music shall be suspended for three days. On the day of the funeral such matters shall be suspended only in Tokyo.

During five days, high officials, peers and other persons of rank will wear mourning when proceeding to the Palace.

As this notification had not yet been published, the promoters of the King's Daughters' entertainment on Wednesday held to their engagements as arranged. The afternoon gambols of the children were not interfered with, but during the dance which took place in the evening a police constable sent in a message from the vestibule that the proceedings must be stopped. It was pointed out to him that money had been paid for the entrance of nearly all those present and that to summarily bring the proceedings to a close would be unfair besides being unnecessary, as the programme was already well advanced. The officer, however, insisted that the affair must be brought to a close, such entertainments being prohibited during the period of mourning. Mrs. Manley, President of the Society, appealed to Mr. J. P. Mollison, who was present, to use his influence but this also availed nothing. It would seem, however that the constable telephoned to headquarters for instructions and in the course of the evening a message was received from the Kagacho Station expressing appreciation of the conditions under which the assembly was being held but requesting that the proceedings should be closed at the earliest possible moment. The dance was therefore allowed to proceed. It closed at midnight.

A question, however, was then raised as to the holding of certain other entertainments, to wit the Literary Society's fortnightly meeting and the opening performance of the Janet Waldorf Company. We have made enquiries of Mr. Ikariyama, Chief of the Kagacho Police Station, and have been informed by him that as the suspension of singing, dancing and theatrical performances applies to the 18th, 19th and 20th, inclusive, both the Literary Society and the Janet Waldorf Company will have to postpone their meetings. The Christ Church bazaar, however, is outside the specified period and no exception will be taken to its being held.

The Janet Waldorf Company will open on Monday, with "Sweet Nell of Old Drury" and play every night with the exception of Wednesday. On Saturday they leave for America.

The lecture on Spiritualism, which Dr. Munro should have delivered this evening before the Literary Society, will be given instead a fortnight hence.

REDEMPTION OF BONDS.

On the 12th instant a drawing took place at the Bank of Japan for the redemption of 5 million *yen* worth of bonds. The bonds redeemed were 4½ millions of Pension Bonds and half a million of Naval Bonds. Up to the present fiscal year and ever since 1896, it had been the Government's habit to exercise the discretion given to it by the Diet in the method of redemption. Instead of paying off by lot bonds to the amount provided for in the Budget, the Treasury has gone into the market and purchased these securities at the rate of the day, thereby effecting a considerable economy, for whereas 100 *yen* would have had to be paid for each bond were it redeemed by lot at its face value, it could generally be bought in the market for about 90 *yen*. This method of paying off the national debt did not please financiers, however. They advanced a plea which had much justice, namely, that they had lent to the Government money in 1895 and 1896 for the purposes of the war on the supposition, if not on the explicit understanding, that the bonds would be paid off at par. They were quite willing that the Treasury should consult its own convenience as to the time of payment and the rate of redemption, but they expected to get back a *yen* for every *yen* they had lent, instead of having to be content with 90 *sen*. On its side the Government made the obvious retort that no one need sell his bonds if he did not please, and that the Treasury merely bought such securities as were offered for sale. But the bond-holders answered that, while not denying that fact, redemptions by lot at par were an essential measure for sustaining the market-value of the securities, and that their depreciation to 90 *sen* must be largely attributed to the fact that the Treasury no longer redeemed any

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of them at par. Apparently these arguments prevailed in the end, for in May last the Treasury, departing from the habit of the preceding 5 years, redeemed 3½ millions worth of bonds by lot at par, and has now followed with 5 millions, thus bringing the total to 8½ millions as provided in the Budget.

It may be mentioned in this context that funds continue to accumulate in the Bank of Japan, and that the Bank's residue of note-issuing power now amounts to 25 million.

POETRY AND POLITICS.

Whatever may be the faults of taste charged against Mr. Rudyard Kipling's latest poem, it has achieved the feat of attracting universal attention. The Emperor of Germany had the gracious kindness to send a telegram of inquiry to Mrs. Kipling when her husband lay at death's door, and we do not doubt that Kipling remembers the incident with gratitude or that it has embittered the resentment of the Germans under present circumstances. Block and Wildenbruch have written poems in reply, to "The Rowers." Therein Kipling is called "an Indian drummer" and the Germans are advised to "contemptuously ignore" his lines. It is just as sensible to apply such an epithet to Kipling as it was on Kipling's part to call the Germans "Goths and shameless Huns." The Germans have not more in common with Goths and Huns than Kipling has with an Indian drummer. But that a great deal of silliness should be talked and penned when passion runs high is inevitable. One can not fail to be surprised, however, by the language of some of the German newspapers. The *Vossische Zeitung*, translated by the *Literary Digest*, says:—

"What intense feeling against Germany must animate the English since they are unable to refrain from stabbing the German people in the back with insults at the very time that their respective governments are cooperating for a common purpose!* * * The English have not just now any special reason for national animosity against Germany. Hence Kipling's insulting expressions must be regarded as the genuine feeling of a certain element in England against Germany. Thus it is that the anti-Germanism of the Jingoes is more intense than the anti-English feeling that has sometimes made itself manifest in Germany."

Is not that singular criticism? "The English have not just now any special reason for national animosity against Germany!" The Berlin journal surely can not suppose that a few months suffice to efface from England's memory the incredible insults she suffered at German hands throughout the South African war. If Germany labours under that delusion the situation becomes still more perilous. Englishmen do not forget and can not forget so readily. There is only one thing that would make them willing to forget; only one thing. If the Germans know anything about English nature, which we begin to fear they do not, they would understand clearly that the surest route to a compromise of ill-feeling is an expression of regret from their side. When there is some evidence, however slight, that Germany appreciates and is not unwilling to atone for the injury she has done to Englishmen, they will not be slow to hold out the hand of friendship and reconciliation. Nothing else will have the slightest efficacy. There are plenty of important English journals which labour even now to throw oil on the troubled waters, but if we have any knowledge of our countrymen, the real corrective must come from the side of Germany herself.

DR. VON HOLLEBEN.

The retirement of Dr. von Holleben from Washington remains a mystery to the American press. Not a solitary editor seems disposed to credit the official explanation, namely, that Dr. Holleben's health required rest. Yet not one is able to supply any explanation that is even plausible. Still, underlying all the comments we seem to discern what is probably the truth, namely, that the Emperor was dissatisfied with the state of the two countries' relations, and that he thought it expedient to substitute for Dr. Holleben a man who not only is an old friend of President Roosevelt but also has an American wife. It may be observed, *en passant*, that to marry a lady of foreign nationality has apparently ceased to be a diplomatic disqualification in Germany. Mr. Von Brandt had to retire because he would not forego an American bride for the sake of his profession, but Baron Speck von Sternberg's consort is evidently regarded as a recommendation. American journals decline to attach credence to the theory that Dr. von Holleben's methods had any influence on American feeling towards Germany. One of them says, in the pungent style for which American newspapers are famous:—

"Poor man! He is to suffer because he has not achieved the impossible. What did the strenuous and preternaturally active Kaiser expect of us, or of his ambassador? Did he entertain the hope of inducing us to modify the Monroe Doctrine in his special interest? Did he expect to 'stampede' us by the yacht-christening affair and the Henry tour? 'Jollying' is a fine art in this country, and William had nothing to teach us in that direction. We gave Prince Henry a 'royal' time, but sentiment and civility did not interfere with business. * * * "Americans are free, frank, and unceremonious. They have the manners of liberty and democracy. When they don't like a thing—the sinking of ships or the bombardment of a port as part of a 'pacific blockade'—they say so with unpleasant bluntness. A thousand von Hollebens can not make the mailed fist attractive to American eyes. The ambassador who is to leaves us has commanded the respect of the American people. He is now made to suffer for the blunders of his superiors."

In England it seems to be accepted that Dr. Holleben's name was associated with an unsuccessful attempt to create a German-American and anti-English party in the United States. He opened the campaign by the celebrated despatch in which Lord Pauncefote was accused of calling a meeting of foreign Representatives in Washington for the purpose of secretly formulating a simultaneous note urging their governments to interfere between America and Spain. Some American journalists still believe, apparently, that Lord Pauncefote actually did take that step, but Englishmen treat the story with contempt, and indeed, for our own part, we are not disposed to attach credence to any such version of Dr. Holleben's writing. What is certain is that the Kaiser has some reason to be dissatisfied with American sentiment towards his country, and we really see nothing surprising in the fact that under such circumstances he should deem a change of Ambassador desirable.

DEATH OF KIKUGORO.

The celebrated actor Onoye Kikugoro died on the 18th inst., at 6 a.m. He had been ailing for some time, but on the 15th instant felt so much better that he paid a visit to Dr. Hashimoto at the latter's residence, and talked of resuming his place on the stage at an early date. While proceeding home, however, he had a stroke of apoplexy, and never recovered consciousness. He had no histrionic peer except Danjuro, who also begins to show signs of the wear and tear of time. Probably these two men stood at the dividing of the ways. They will be found to have been the last great representatives of the pure classical drama of Japan.

In this context we may refer to the performance of "Othello" now going on at the Meiji-za. The criticisms of the Japanese press are not by any means enthusiastic. We did not expect that they would be. Nothing is said against the acting; Kawakami and Sada seemed to have lived down the prejudices of the classical school. But the structure of the play and the language are not suited for direct transfer to the Japanese stage. Yemi Suiin, by whom the work of translation and adaptation has been performed, is considered to have shown much talent, but he has not managed to expel the odour of translation altogether from his work. Mr. Fukuchi Genichi, himself an eminent authority and great dramatic critic as well as writer, bears frank and generous testimony to the achievement of Yemi Suiin, and says that it is enough to bid his critics try their own hand at translating Shakespeare. But the fact is that difficulties of a nature more radical present themselves. In two respects the Japanese stage is truer to nature than the European. At times of great emotion, no character in a Japanese drama is ever permitted to deliver a long speech. That is held, and justly held, to be entirely contrary to the rule of life. By way of corollary to that principle actors on the Japanese stage never think aloud. Which of us ever does think aloud until old age brings that imbecile habit? But the European method is different. Men and women display the tides of their passion in long declamations and show their minds to the audience in protracted soliloquies. The Japanese do not understand such histrionic customs. They can fully appreciate Othello's last words, his three great "Ohs" of agony, but with much of the structure of Shakespeare's dramas they do not yet sympathise. Nevertheless Kawakami and Sada are not unsuccessful, which fact speaks volumes for their ability.

THE LONDON BANKERS' CLEARING HOUSE.

The annual returns of the London Bankers' Clearing House for 1902 show that the amount of drafts, cheques and bills paid through it in that year was over ten thousand million pounds. The year 1868 was the first year when accounts were regularly kept, and the figure for that year was about 3½ millions. The increase is stupendous, but the figures have now become quite unrealizable. It appears that the smallest amount for one day in 1902 was on September 9th when the figure stood at 20½ millions, and the largest amount was on July 28th, namely, 77 millions approximately. But in 1901, although the total for the year was only 9,561 millions, there had been a day—May 15th—when 109 millions were cleared. And it must be remembered that owing to restricted space, the House is obliged to refuse admission to many large banks.

Japan began to have a clearing house in Tokyo in the year 1887. Osaka had already been furnished in this respect since 1879, but Tokyo delayed 8 years. In 1887, the clearances in Tokyo totalled 1¼ million *yen*. In 1902, they rose to 1,150 millions. Hence the Tokyo figure for 1902 was to the London figure as 115 to 10,000, or about as 1 to 900, roughly speaking.

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THE AWOMORI DISTRESS.

The leading residents of Yokohama appear to be approaching the Awomori-relief problem in a thoroughly practical and benevolent spirit. They have been fortunate in finding a vigorous, enthusiastic man like the Rev. W. Weston to undertake the work of distribution, which will necessarily be exceedingly arduous at this season. When we commenced to collect subscriptions for the aid of the famine-stricken people, the magnitude of the disaster had not yet been appreciated, but now that so many thousands are said to be threatened with death by starvation, it becomes evident that a strong and open-handed effort is necessary. The names appended to the appeal addressed to Yokohama and Tokyo residents are sufficient guarantee that the fullest measure of assistance will be forthcoming and the best means devised for alleviating the distress. We understand that the promoters of this charitable work have wisely resolved not to wait until any large sum of money flows in. They asked Mr. Weston to set out at once for Awomori and he left Yokohama yesterday accompanied by two co-workers, Mr. F. Parrott, and Dr. Sasaki, and an interpreter from the Kanagawa Kencho, kindly placed at their disposal by H.E. Governor Sufu. These gentlemen will send a report as to the nature of the most urgent distress and the most advisable steps to be taken, on receipt of which report a full plan of operations will be mapped out. Meanwhile the sum of *yen* 741 has so far been sent to the Editor of the *Japan Mail*, and acting on the suggestion of the Right Reverend Bishop Berlioz, through whose touching letter printed in this journal the condition of affairs was first brought to the public notice of foreigners, *yen* 522 of this amount was sent off to the Governor of Aomori Ken early last week, leaving *yen* 219 still in hand. We intend handing this and any further monies that may reach us to the Treasurer of the Fund now being collected by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

The precaution of sending Mr. Weston to collect actual facts is very wise, for in some quarters it is doubted whether the distress of the people has not been greatly overstated, and whether the measures of relief already taken officially will not prove sufficient. It is to meet contingencies of this kind that a famine relief fund exists in every prefecture, a part of the proceeds of taxation in normal times being applied to maintain it. Evidently therefore, the legitimate function of private chairity is limited to succouring persons whose cases are of such a nature as to escape official observation, or to be excluded from the general rules which the authorities are necessarily bound to apply. We believe that considerations of this kind are not unlikely to influence many charitably disposed but prudent persons, and for that reason we applaud the precaution of sending Mr. Weston to make a report of the actual state of affairs. In the meanwhile, however, there has been testimony enough to show that some effort is demanded in the interests of humanity.

A Correspondent in North-East Japan sends us the following clipping from a Japanese journal, which gives a graphic description of the famine now raging in the northern prefectures: —

Most of our readers who have comfortable homes to live in, and plenty to eat, know very little what sufferings the poor in the mountain districts are really undergoing. A man just returned from Shichigashuku Mura, Katta-gori, tells us that there are in that village many families who are on the very verge of starvation. The village is a way-off place in the Katta mountains, about 7 *ri* from a town of any size and in winter time communications with the out-side world are often cut off by heavy falls of snow. The climate having been mild this winter, however, there is only two feet of snow on the ground at present, but this is enough to prevent the villagers from doing any outdoor work. Those who had been living on dumplings made of the common bracken are now cut off from their supplies, and rice-straw which they beat into *mochi* mixed with some flour is almost exhausted. Several days ago a clerk of the Matsuyama District Office was despatched there to urge the villagers for payment of taxes overdue and when he entered a certain house he found man and his wife, pale and sickly, bending over a child that lay on the floor. As soon as his mission was explained the poor man burst out crying and said that they had not tasted a morsel of food for two days though they somehow managed to give a little *kayu* to the only child that was very sick. The tax-collector was very much touched with this heart-rending condition of the family and going out to a rice-dealer, got two *sho* of rice which he gave to the grateful couple. This is one of many instances that come to our hearing and is enough to move any man of warm heart to tears. It is true that most of the villagers are engaged in charcoal making, but charcoal is this year so cheap that they can hardly make any profit. In Ayashi and Sakunami districts a similar state of affairs is reported, while hundreds in our midst are crying for aid. It is high time for the city to do something and every individual should do what he can for the relief of these suffering people.

Mrs. Mollison has, we understand, decided to give "Dr. Mondschein," preceded by a short concert, on Tuesday, 3rd March, at the Public Hall, in aid of the Aomori sufferers. To permit of the young folks contributing to such a worthy object, a full-dress Rehearsal will be given on Monday afternoon 2nd March, at 5 p.m.

We have received the following letter from the Governor of Awomori Prefecture :—

TO THE MANAGER OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

DEAR SIR,—I beg respectfully to acknowledge the receipt of two cheques, one for *yen* 265.50 on the 9th inst., and the other for *yen* 256.50 on the 11th inst., for which I return my heartiest thanks to you and the foreign residents and others who have so generously subscribed to the relief of the famine now prevailing in this portion of Japan. I wish also to thank the Right Reverend Bishop Berlioz for the letter which you printed in your columns in which he described the conditions prevailing in the localities which he himself visited.

Yours faithfully, YAMANOUCHI ICHIJI,
The Kencho, Awomori. Governor of Awomori Ken.
February 17, 1903.

The Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund have received the following telegram from the Rev. Walter Weston :—

Aomori, February 19th, 10.18 a.m.

Interviewed Governor on arrival last night, distress seems great, details difficult to obtain as severe weather hinders communication. Leave Friday morning to inspect worst districts personally.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of the following sums on behalf of the famine-stricken people in Aomori Prefecture :—

	YEN.
Amount already acknowledged.....	563.00
F. B. Hohler	10.00
Gideon F. Draper	10.00
From English Friends, per Miss E. R. Gillett	25.00
Mr. and Mrs. George Braithwaite.....	20.00
Alfred D. Charlton.....	5.00
R. & K. T.....	10.00
Allan, Norah and Ray	3.00
Kagoshima	20.00
C. E. Bruce-Mitford	10.00
T. V. L.	8.00
Anonymous, per Rev. W. P. G. Field...	47.00
James Hind.....	10.00

FIRES.

On the evening of the 14th instant fire broke out in the fodder store-houses of the Guards Land Transport Corps in the Meguro suburb of Tokyo. The flames became at once uncontrollable, and the solders on duty saw no means of saving the horses except to set them loose. Three hundred and fifty were released —some accounts say three hundred only—, and of these over 250 galloped into the streets and lanes, the remainder staying quietly in the enclosure of the barracks. Eighty chargers proceeded in a group to the Aoyama parade-ground, the place most familiar to them after the barracks, but nearly 200 terrified and disturbed the citizens by galloping hither and thither. The great majority have been recaptured but some are still reported missing.

It is stated that the fire at the Japanese barracks in Peking was caused by a candle which had been left burning throughout the night. The conflagration spread so rapidly that scarcely anything could be saved, and the total loss to the troops is estimated at sixty thousand *yen*. Eight men were slightly injured, four of them being Germans and Italians.

On the 18th instant at 8.40 p.m. fire broke out in the Agricultural School at Komaba in the Ebara suburb of Tokyo. The flames were extinguished by 9.30, but in that brief interval nine buildings had been destroyed. Nothing is yet known as to the origin of the conflagration. There were no casualties to life or limb, so far as has been ascertained.

Fire occurred in the store room of a house occupied by Yamazaki Seikichi, at Kokubuji-mura Kita Tamagori, Tokyo, on the 11th inst. An old man was burnt to death.

About 3 o'clock on the morning of the 19th fire broke out in a Chinese restaurant called Hei-Ching at No. 150 Yamashita-cho. Fortunately it was discovered early by a policeman, who gave the alarm to the occupants and to the Fire Brigade. The flames were speedily subdued, only parts of the ceiling, the wall and the floor being damaged.

THE JAPAN RAILWAY COMPANY.

The *Hochi Shimbun* joins the attack upon the Japan Railway Company; an attack which the *Jiji Shimpo* has maintained with great force and insistance through many issues. The onset commenced in connexion with the question of tenders for locomotives, and it has resulted in showing that the public is thoroughly dissatisfied with the management of the railway. It must indeed be admitted that the Japan Railway Company illustrates the old criticism so often uttered by Japan's benevolent observers, namely, that up to the moment of an enterprise's inception she is heartily progressive, but that, after completion of the first step, the spirit of advance flickers and fades. It is not difficult to understand why that should be the case in some instances, but we prefer to regard as typical the many illustrations that can be found of a different temper.

Mr. Rokuro, son of Count Washio, a rather dissipated young man, was wounded, on the 15th, in a restaurant at Omiya, Kojimachi, Tokyo, by a man named Matsubara Teruhisa (26) who belongs to a low class inn. The wounds were most serious on the head, shoulder and hand, and the injured man was sent to the Kisawa Hospital at once for surgical treatment. The pair had been drinking and then quarrelled over some money.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is on occasions like the Delhi Durbar that we get something like an adequate idea of what *The Times* is, what are its resources and what the measures of its enterprise. The Durbar took place on the 1st of January, and on the 2nd the great London journal published an account of the ceremony filling no less than 5½ columns and representing, approximately, nine thousand words, the whole having been sent by telegraph, of course. Mr. Valentine Chirol was specially despatched by *The Times* to make this report, and a wonderful achievement it is. Three and a half columns are from his pen, which means that he wrote and telegraphed fully five thousand words, filling 20 pages of foolscap, after the Durbar was concluded, and in the whole report there is not a line that shows the slightest evidence of haste or carelessness, while the general effect of the whole is eminently powerful and graphic. He succeeds in photographing the splendid pageant so that all its incidents present themselves to the reader clearly and in exact sequence. We should like to be able to form an accurate estimate of what this achievement in journalism cost *The Times*, but that is scarcely possible, and we must be content to express our admiration for the great journal's enterprise and its brilliant correspondent's competence.

There has been an explosion of fire damp in the Tagawa coal mine, Fukuoka prefecture, which is the property of the Mitsui Company. Several casualties are said to have occurred, but there is no accurate report.

Japanese newspapers state that Mr. Franz Baltzer, Engineering Adviser to the Railway Bureau of the Communications Department, is to receive the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun in recognition of his services to Japan. Mr. Baltzer is about to return to Europe.

It is announced that a training squadron consisting of the *Matsushima*, the *Itsukushima* and the *Hashidate* left Yokosuka on the 15th instant for a cruise in foreign waters. The *Matsushima* was the flag-ship during the war of 1894-5, and her relegation to the ranks of a training squadron in 1903 is an evidence of the development of the Japanese Navy. Hitherto the *Hiyei* and the *Kongo*, almost the oldest ships in the service, have been told off for this duty. The *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate* are all sister ships—steel cruisers of 4,278 tons displacement and 5,400 horse power. They will carry 183 cadets and will be under the command of Rear-Admiral Kamimura. The route fixed is Hongkong, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand.

It is stated that His Majesty the Emperor will leave Tokyo on the 8th of April to attend the naval review at Kobe on the 10th. Thereafter His Majesty will proceed to Osaka where the Empress will join him on the 12th for the purpose of opening the Exhibition.

Japanese newspapers announce the arrest of Mr. Yeto Iwahiko, one of the largest of the Osaka dealers in kerosene oil. He is charged with having bought up the boxes and cans of the Standard Oil Company bearing the *Uematsu* brand, and by means of them he pawned off cheap and altogether inferior oil on the public. The business proved highly lucrative for some time, but the Standard Oil Company's agents, informed of what was going on, took legal proceedings as the close of last year, and Yeto has now been arrested. This is a fraud that deserves to be punished in the most exemplary manner.

The Industries Bank announces an issue of debentures to the amount of three million *yen* from the 2nd of next month. The rate of interest is 6 per per cent., and the period of repayment ten years. It is expected that the issue will be a success, as the great banks are only paying 5½ per cent. on their fixed deposits, which, nevertheless, are steadily increasing in volume. Next to the Bank of Japan and the Specie Bank there is no financial concern in this country more worthy of confidence than the Industries Bank.

The *Nippon* publishes a portrait of Miss McLean who is generally known as the "Mother of the Japanese Marines." This lady's extraordinary hospitality to all Japanese sailors visiting London is said to have impaired her fortune. Recently the Sixth Order of the Sacred Mirror was conferred on her. The purpose of the *Nippon's* writings seems to be that an invitation should be extended to Miss McLean to spend the remainder of her days in Japan. She is now seventy years of age.

Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul, telegraphs from New York that the supply of raw silk in manufacturers' hands being abundant, little is doing on the market, and that the business in silk piece-goods continues brisk. Purchasers of cotton are numerous, and stocks being small, prices show a tendency to rise. Purchases for future delivery are large and prices very high.

SIR JOHN SIMMONS.

Sir John Lintorn Arabin Simmons, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., whose death is reported in the telegrams, is thus referred to by "Who's Who":

Field Marshal; Col.-Commandant R.E.; Hon. Col. Engineer and Railway Volunteer Staff Corps; Devon and Somerset Volunteer R.E.; 1st Middlesex Volunteer R.E.; *b.* Somersetshire, 12 Feb. 1821; 5th *s.* of Thomas Frederick Simmons, Capt. R.A., author of Simmons on Courts-Martial and other works; *m.* 1st, 1846, Ellen, *d.* of late John Lintorn Simmons, Keynsham; 2nd, 1856, Blanch, *d.* of late Samuel Charles Weston (*d.* 1898). *Educ.*: Elizabeth Coll. Guernsey; R.M.A. Woolwich. Entered R.E. 1837; Inspector of Railways, 1846; Secretary Railway Department of Board of Trade, 1851-54; H.M.'s Commissioner with Ottoman Army, 1854-56; British Commissioner for regulating Turkish boundary in Asia, 1857; Consul-General Warsaw, 1857-60; commanding Royal Engineers, Aldershot, 1860-65; Director School of Military Engineering, Chatham, 1865-68; Governor Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, 1870-75; served on Royal Commission on Railway Accidents, 1874-75; and on defence of British Possessions and Commerce abroad, 1880-82; attached to special mission of Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Salisbury to Berlin, 1878; and attended conference at Berlin in 1889; Inspector-General Fortifications, 1875-80; Governor Malta, 1884-88; was Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plen. to His Holiness the Pope, 1889-90; Field Marshal, 1890.

The *Army List* sets out the services of Sir John Simmons in greater detail. It says:

Sir Lintorn Simmons was employed for three years in the disputed territory on the N.E. frontier of the United States in constructing works for its defence and in making military explorations. Happening to be in Turkey in 1853 he was specially employed by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe on several important services; joined Omar Pasha in March 1854; escorted the new Governor into Silistria after the former one had been killed, and was present during part of the siege of that fortress; laid out and threw up the lines of Slobodzie and Georgevo on the Danube, having entire charge of the operation with 20,000 men of all arms under his command, a Russian Army of 70,000 men being within seven miles: was present during the occupation of Wallachia and had frequent charge of reconnaissances upon the enemy's rear. Went to the Crimea in Dec., 1854, to concert with the allied Commanders-in-Chief as to the movements of the Turkish Army: was present at the battle of Eupatoria, laid out and threw up the entrenched camp round that place; afterward was before Sebastopol from April, 1855, until its fall, and then went to Mingrelia and was present at the forced passage of the Ingur, where he commanded the Division which crossed the river and turned the enemy's position, capturing his works and guns: Omar Pasha in his despatch attributed the success of the day chiefly to Lt. Colonel Simmons. He served as her Majesty's Commissioner to the Ottoman Army throughout the war and was employed in all the negotiations having reference to the movements of Omar Pasha's Army. He received the Crimean Medal with Clasp, the Turkish Gold Medal for the Danubian campaign, the Order of Medjidie 3rd Class, and a Sword of Honour from the Turkish Government; also the 4th Class of the Legion of Honour. Was Her Majesty's Commissioner for laying out the Turko-Russian boundary of Asia, and granted the 2nd Class of the Medjidie by the Sultan, but was refused permission to accept it.

NEW YACHTS.

It is satisfactory to learn that the fleet of the Yokohama Yacht Club is to be strengthened by the addition of something like a dozen new boats. This subject was brought up at the recent meeting of the Club by Capt. F. Owston, who produced a plan showing a boat which he described as a slight improvement on the 12-raters (which class has practically disappeared). This new craft would be 14 feet long, and she would carry 155 feet of canvas, classing as a 13 rater. The cost he said, would be about *yen* 120. He offered, if three were subscribed for, to build six. This sportsmanlike offer was fully appreciated by the other members, but as the type proposed resembles the former 12-raters a feeling prevailed in favour of what may be termed an experiment. This is the adoption of the *Lark* class of boat, skimming-dish-like craft, not dissimilar from the form *Vixen* would present if she had her stern cut off straight up and down. With great beam (6 feet) and a centre board 4 feet deep, this boat, it is thought, would be quite safe in ordinary weather and even if capsized would not sink. To decide the question of which type should be adopted a meeting of those interested was held on Saturday evening and proved unanimous in favour of "Larks." These, it is understood, will cost considerably less than the other type. Ten or eleven have already been subscribed for so work will be begun at once in order that all may be in the water by the opening of the season in May. The building will be under the supervision of the racing committee; all the "boats" will be exactly alike, as far as possible; they will be painted different colours after being distributed among the subscribers by lot.

DEATH OF MR. LEWIS MOORE.

Many in Japan will read with sad regret the following lines, taken from the *N.-C. Daily News* of February 12:—

For some time there has been little hope of the recovery of Mr. Lewis Moore, whose long illness has been noticed in our columns from time to time, but he had made such a brave fight and kept up his spirits so well, that the news of his death yesterday morning in his 59th year came as a real shock to his very numerous friends. Mr. Moore came to China from Birmingham in the early sixties as a member of the English firm of Phillips, Moore & Co., and soon became very popular in Tientsin and here. When that firm closed its business in China, he started as an auctioneer, with constant success. He was of very wide sympathies and the kindest heart, genial and obliging to the utmost, and liked by everybody with whom he came in contact. His charity, of which he never made a parade, was inexhaustible. He was an enthusiatic volunteer fireman, and was still Chief Engineer of the Brigade at the time of his death. The Jewish community here looked up to him as their head. He was one of the oldest Freemasons in Shanghai, and was appointed District Grand Master of North China in 1896. He leaves a widow and one daughter, with whose loss there are none who do not sympathise. As "Joe" Moore, the name by which he was always addressed, he will long be held in affectionate remembrance.

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THE KOREAN QUESTION.

SOME doubt has been raised as to the legality of the position now assumed by Japan in Korea with reference to the First Bank's notes. Thus one of our local contemporaries says :—

> The Treaty of Commerce between Japan and Korea of 1876 provides for the circulation of Japanese money in Korea as legal tender, but whether the notes of the First Bank are Japanese money is a doubtful point. It has been argued that, although in form they are not Japanese money, they are issued on the security of such money and must therefore be considered legal tender. The question is, however, whether the notes of the First Bank would be legal tender in Japan. If they are not they cannot be considered as Japanese money, and, reading the treaty strictly, Japan would have no right to force these notes on Korea.

It can not be said that the above statement is altogether accurate. The Treaty of Commerce of 1876 between Japan and Korea does not contain any provision directly relating to the question of currency. It is in the Appendix to the Treaty that such a provision occurs. Moreover, it does not declare that "Japanese money" shall circulate as legal tender. The words of the Article are :—

> VII.—Japanese subjects shall be at liberty to traffic in any article owned by Korean subjects, paying therefor in Japanese coin. Korean subjects, for purposes of trade, may freely circulate among themselves at the open ports of Korea such Japanese coins as they may have possession of, in business transactions.

There is nothing about "Japanese money" in this Article. "Japanese coin" and "Japanese coins" are spoken of, and there can not be the least doubt that the silver *yen* used by Japanese merchants in their dealings with the Koreans are "Japanese coins," though they have ceased to be legal tender in Japan itself. If the obligations imposed on Korea by Art. VII. of the Appendix may be evaded on the technical ground that the notes of the First Bank are not "Japanese money" because they are not legal tender in Japan, then it is quite obvious that the same objection applies to silver *yen* coins, which do not possess any greater legality of tender in Japan than the notes do. But the Korean Government has not made any pretence of interdicting the circulation of silver *yen*. It is quite ready to receive any number of such coins and quite willing that any number of them should circulate throughout the country. Thus the position assigned to the Korean Government by these, its defenders, is that it objects to one kind of money as not being legal tender in Japan, and endorses another kind of money which labours under exactly the same disqualification.

Notice may further be drawn to the remark that Japan has "no right to force these notes on Korea." She is not attempting to force any notes on Korea. What she requires is that Korean subjects shall not be forced to decline her notes, which they are perfectly willing to receive and which they have hitherto been freely receiving. The Appendix of 1876 provides that Japanese coins may be freely circulated by Korean subjects among themselves at the open ports. It is quite beyond question that the spirit of this stipulation is violated when the free circulation of Japanese notes exchangeable for Japanese coins is officially interdicted by the Korean Government at the open ports. As to circulation outside the limits of the open ports, it is not understood that Japan advances any kind of claim.

Besides, there is another argument. The 9th Article of the Treaty itself says :—

> Friendly relations having been established between the two contracting parties, their respective subjects may freely carry on their business *without any interference from the authorities* of either Government, and *neither restriction nor prohibition shall be made* on trade.

It can not be pretended, we think, that the stipulations of this Article are fulfilled; it can not be pretended that there is no official interference with trade, and that it is free from either restriction or prohibition, when the only serviceable medium of exchange, the only currency by means of which trade can be conveniently conducted, is arbitrarily vetoed by the Korean Government. Such a method of eluding treaty obligations would not be suffered for one instant by an Occidental Power, and since it is in the common interest of all Europeans and Americans in the Far East that the treaties, conventions and protocols should be loyally implemented in spirit as well as in letter, it appears to us very unfortunate that Korea's ill-judged and manifestly illegal procedure should be defended by an English journal published in Japan.

This occurrence constitutes another instance of the singular reluctance shown by a section of the foreign treaty-port journals to admit the justice of any claim preferred by Japan against an outside Power. A most flagrant example of that temper was furnished in 1895-6, when China's unpractical, unprogressive and illogical action in the Korean problem received the support of the foreign local press against Japan, and a desire that Japan should be defeated in the resulting war found plain expression. China's cause espoused against Japan's when the latter was fighting for civilization and enlightenment, the former for tradition and conservatism! That sounds strange enough. And now, with regard to this currency question, we have it said :—"There can not fail to be a suspicion among outsiders that the action of Japan would be greatly resented if she herself were in Korea's place." That evidently implies that Japan, relying on superior strength, is attempting to exact something which she would not herself think of conceding in similar circumstances. Evidently the penning of such an assertion was not preceded by anything like due reflection, and it is precisely that readiness, almost reckless readiness, to condemn Japan that we find surprising, though we do not suggest that our contemporary has any conscious bias in the matter. Even if the rights and wrongs of the case were not clear beyond the possibility of misconception, a foreign local journal should hesitate to publish any hasty criticism. For there is such a thing as a history of Japan's foreign relations, and in that history there is a chapter wherein may be found a strange story; the story of how European Powers once held her to an engagement that never could have been contemplated by intelligent negotiators, and compelled her, in this very matter of currency, to adhere to the letter of a stipulation which subjected her to a process of robbery on a gigantic scale. Such was the kind of measure meted out to her by her foreign friends in the early days. They called her all kinds of hard names because she hesitated to allow them to exchange their own silver coins, weight for weight, for Japanese silver coins which had a gold face-value three times as great as the gold price of a corresponding mass of silver in Europe. They declared that because the language of the treaties unintentionally permitted that flagrant wrong, Japan must tamely submit to it, and she had to submit. And now she is blamed, forsooth, for not suffering Korea to veto the circulation of Japanese bank notes in the Japanese settlements and among Korean subjects trading there, which action would practically put an end to trade and thus be a fundamental violation of the treaty. These striking contrasts could scarcely be overlooked by unprejudiced eyes.

A NEW WANT.

THERE will soon be an opening in this country for speakers of Norse, Sanscrit, Hindustani and various other languages. The prefectural officials at the various settlements will advertise for these persons, unless special steps are taken to procure them in their respective countries by the aid of the Governments concerned. It is a matter of pressing importance, for until adequate provision of such interpreters is made, the local authorities are in daily danger of infringing the provisions of the revised treaties. The point is that foreigners residing in Japan can not possibly be expected to make applications for Japanese official assistance in a language intelligible to Japanese officials. It would be monstrous to require that they should do so. The treaties provide that after the incorporation of the settlements into the Japanese communes, existing leases under which foreigners hold property in the said settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property. Nothing is said in the leases, it is true, as to the language in which documents relating to transfers of property shall be couched for presentation to Japanese officials. But in the grand old pre-Revision days when such transfers were registered at the Consulates, each nationality, having its own Consul, was enabled to employ its own language; and inasmuch as the drafters of the treaties intended, or may be assumed to have intended, that all traditional usages with respect to such property should remain absolutely unchanged, it is plain that they contemplated the complete assumption of

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consular functions by the Japanese authorities, among which functions is that of receiving and replying to documents couched in any language that would have been decipherable by the Consuls. By a strange and very culpable oversight the Government of this country has failed to appreciate its obligation in that respect. It has not yet engaged interpreters of all languages for service at the various open ports, and the seriousness of its neglect becomes more striking when we observe that fully three years have passed since the revised treaties went into operation. This failure on the part of the Japanese authorities has led to serious results; results nothing less than "exasperating infringements" of the treaties. For on more than one occasion, when foreigners sought registration of transfers of property, they were informed that their applications and the acompanying documents must be in the Japanese language. One can not easily conceive the nature of the vertigo by which the local officials were seized when they advanced such a proposition. They appear to have entertained the chimera that the principles governing administrative procedure in European countries have some applicability in Japan, and that because English local officials in England would not receive a document couched in Norse, Russian or Sanscrit, therefore a measure of similar discretion may be exercised by Japanese local officials in Japan. That is quite monstrous. The idea is laughable, and the sooner it is dismissed finally, the better for all parties concerned. The Government of this empire must at once make provision of interpreters of every tongue spoken by foreigners visiting the country, and must disabuse its mind of the phantasy that what is good enough for foreigners visiting a European State is by any means good enough for them when they visit Japan.

This brings us to another example of the same perverted notions on the part of the Japanese. They evidently carry their delusion so far as to suppose that because local officials charged with the duty of carrying out municipal regulations, would in the Occident be considered to be as fitting recipients of a protest about international relations as an ashpit would be of a pulpit, therefore Japanese local officials must be counted equally disqualified. It is even conceivable that their sillness betrays them into imagining that since Consuls have the duty of receiving and transmitting foreign residents' protests about treaty violations, therefore Japanese municipal officials may reasonably refuse to act *in lieu* of Consuls. Such misconceptions are very much to be regretted. The foreign residents should "be on the look-out for this and similar infringements" of their valuable privileges, and should "resist them in every legal way as dangerous precedents to allow to be established." Obviously Japanese municipalities must be prepared to do business in any and every language spoken on the habitable globe, and must further be prepared to undertake consular and diplomatic functions if the foreign residents require such services at their hands.

ECHIGO OIL.

THERE are three companies engaged in the work of collecting and distilling oil in Echigo. They are the Takarada Company, the Nippon Sekiyu Company, and the International Company. At their last half-yearly meetings, the Takarada and the Nippon Sekiyu declared dividends of 40 and 25 per cent. respectively, whereas it is not on record that the International has paid any dividend since it commenced operations, though it has an almost unlimited supply of capital and is in the hands of men of established competence and great energy. This contrast has naturally attracted some attention. Mr. NAITO HISAHIRO, a prominent shareholder of the Nippon Sekiyu Company, discusses the matter in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo* through an interviewer from that journal. He offers an explanation which deserves some attention. It is, in effect, that the management of the International is defective. The Company began, he says, by employing Japanese assistants without exercising sufficient discrimination, and when it found itself badly served, it proceeded to replace these Japanese with foreigners, who, being unfamiliar with the conditions that exist in Echigo, can not accomplish anything satisfactory. Mr. NAITO professes to sympathise with the International, an expression of sentiment wherein some persons will detect more sting than honey, while others will give him credit for graces of thought contrasting agreeably with the determined opposition his Company has inveterately organized against the International. Seeing, however, that certain fragments of fact have reached our ears in connexion with this matter, we venture to doubt the completeness of Mr. NAITO's explanation. Probably he is right in saying that the International has not yet found a gold mine in Echigo, the balance being still on the wrong side of its accounts. But he is wrong, altogether wrong, when he alleges that the International has adopted, and is pursuing, the policy of replacing its Japanese employées by foreign. That is precisely the reverse of what the International is doing. It is understood to be replacing its foreign employees by Japanese as fast as circumstances warrant. We do not pretend to affirm that such a course should be considered the surest route to prosperity or efficiency. It is our belief, a foolish belief possibly, but none the less firmly rooted, that men possessing the confidence of the Standard Oil Company and sufficiently rich in experience to be chosen for the work of opening up an important industry in a strange country, are probably as well qualified for the task as any men discoverable anywhere, and that their replacement even by inexperienced Japanese could scarcely inure to the success of the enterprise. But, in truth, unless our information be very erroneous, the saddle does not rest on that horse at all. What has happened is that the International Company has to contend against obstacles of an occult yet very potent nature. Oil does not come to it except at prices quite inconsistent with any possibility of lucrative return. The International has the best and most capacious refinery in Echigo. Indeed, we have heard it said that the plant it has set up in the Japanese oilfield supports comparison with anything of its kind in the whole world. With such a plant the work of refining can be conducted far better and more economically than at any of the competing Japanese factories, for not only can oil of a uniformly higher standard be prepared, but also all the by-products can be profitably utilized, which means that the general business of refining can be conducted in an exceptionally lucrative manner. Hence it follows that the International can afford to pay for crude oil prices such as are not within reach of its rival refineries. Yet, in point of fact, the latter are said to be buying up the whole obtainable supply of crude oil at figures beyond the International's maximum. And is spite of this remarkable circumstance, in spite of the difficulty that they are laying in what may be called their raw material at such impossible prices, the Japanese companies are declaring dividends of 25 and 40 per cent. whereas they represent the International as losing money and extend to it their kind commiserations, through the mouth of Mr. NAITO. We do not pretend to explain these things. Their true inwardness is obscure to us. But we hazard a guess that by some process of combination and device of manipulation the Japanese companies have created a market in which they can buy crude oil themselves at nominal figures which become real for their American rival. That is not illegitimate. It is in the way of business. What it illustrates, however, assuming our hypothesis to be correct, is that foreigners attempting to carry on any enterprise in the interior of Japan must anticipate enormous difficulties.

JAPANESE WOMEN.

TO the last number of *The Independent* Dr. J. H. DE FOREST of Sendai contributes a short but interesting essay entitled "The Japan of 1902." In the course of this essay Dr. DE FOREST, referring to a well known novel by Mr. MURAI, says:—"Japanese women are getting a more exalted idea of their own nature and are resisting the ancient kind of language that makes woman the inferior and slave of man. In this novel the brave and self-effacing women in their talk use for the personal pronoun *I, sho*, the primary meaning of which is *concubine*. It is the universal Eastern way in which the best women, married or unmarried, depreciatingly speak of themselves. *** Now what is peculiar to 1902 is the beginning of open opposition to this word on the part of

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the women of Japan. One writer in the *Patriotic Women* magazine exhorts her sisters to cease the use of this humiliating term. It is difficult for Westerners to understand how hard it is to abolish its use in good society here. * * * But it is as certain to disappear from the conversations of good society as torture was from the courts. Just as the light of Western civilization hastened the latter, so will the knowledge that foreigners are beginning to read and interpret their books help on this reform of language that concerns the purity of the home."

There is one obvious comment to be made on this statement, namely, that whereas Dr. DE FOREST suggests that *sho* is used by a lady in conversation when speaking of herself, the expression does not really find a place in the spoken language; it is relegated to the epistolary style. Moreover, it is not read *sho*, but *warawa*, and one may very well doubt whether the old Chinese etiquette which suggested such a word as an appropriate equivalent for the pronoun of the first person in a woman's mouth, retains any of its original significance in modern ears. When a Japanese lady writes *warawa*, which, if the ideograph be analysed, means simply a female under authority, she intends to call herself nothing worse than *handmaid*. That is what *warawa* conveys to her, and that is what it conveys to her correspondents, and truly we greatly doubt whether "the purity of the home" is concerned at all in the business. Nor is the purity of the Japanese home a matter that justly invites foreign criticism. No one that has had any opportunity of closely studying Japanese society can deny for an instant that wifely fidelity is practised for more widely in this country than in any European land. Other qualities may be sacrificed to it, but that contribution to the happiness and peace of the home is assuredly gained. In speaking thus we do not mean to detract from the interest and value of Dr. DE FOREST'S criticism. What we desire to convey is that long observation does not endorse the theory that any demoralizing effect results from the epistolary employment of a word which conveys about the same notion of impurity as our own employment of the word "dear" in the exordium of a letter conveys of affection. If social reformers, working on behalf of the gentle sex, are going to busy themselves about antique terminology which long ago lost all the flavour of its origin, they will have to strike out a vast number of words from the Japanese vocabulary, words all of evil import, villainy, jealousy, clamour, and so forth, since into the construction of their ideographs the character for "woman" enters almost universally. We have never heard it suggested that men's self-esteem is impaired because in letters they describe themselves as "stupid things" (*sessha*) and in language as "menials" (*boku*), nor should we regard such a suggestion as more rational than a cognate objection to the use of the English epistolary phrases "your obedient servant" and "your humble servant." For the rest, the question of woman's position in Japan is a big problem which, like Japanese character, deters confident generalizations the more closely it is examined. Beyond doubt there is a great deal to be desired. But there is also a great deal to be preserved, and if with the position of women in Japan there is associated an excess of self-effacement and humility, who will venture to deny that the position held by women in many Occidental countries errs in the opposite direction?

LONGFELLOW: AN APPRECIATION.

(READ BEFORE THE YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY ON FEBRUARY 6TH, 1903, BY MRS. JOHN L. DEARING.)

There was once a little maid—the One I Knew the Best of All—a little maid of rather a poetic turn of mind, to whom the name of the Poet Longfellow was enough to conjure up all the tenderest and dearest emotions of which she was capable. On the day when she was thirteen, and birthdays meant much to that small person, a kind mamma put into her hands a copy of Longfellow's Poems. She had owned books before, in fact the shelves in her little blue room were full of books inscribed with her own pretty name, books that she loved, books that she had read through from cover to cover over and over and over, so many times that even at this time as she reads those same stories to her own wee laddies, she can tell just what is coming next. But never had the little maid owned a book that gave her so dear a feeling of self-respect, so proud a feeling of ownership, as on that never-to-be-forgotten day. And the little green book with its gilt inscription was from that day to this one of her choicest possessions. Week-days and Sundays, or whenever a lull in play-time came, or later when the school-tasks were over for the day, that charmed book was in her hands. I cannot tell you all they meant to her, those poems of the heart, but this I know that they gave her many an inspiration for the good, many a longing for the beautiful, and many a dream of the future. There was a subtle something in the words and in the rhythm that entered into the Small Person's soul, never to leave it. Later, when she was no longer the Small Person, the little green book was still in her hand, and the poems in her heart, and because she loved them so, she used to spend hour after hour learning them, until they became a part of her very being, and many and many a night did she put herself to sleep with the sweet flowing verses of her beloved poet. I have told you this about my little maid—the One I Knew the Best of All—because I feel sure she is but one of a multitude of girls and boys all over America to whom the name of the Poet Longfellow is not only a household word, but the synonym of all that is highest and best in literature.

In these days when Tennyson and Browning in England, and Emerson and Whitman and Lowell in America have outdistanced the sweet rhymes of our favourite in the popular mind, it is an especial pleasure to be asked to write an Appreciation of Longfellow, and I count it a labour of love and an act of devotion to him, "the sweetest of all singers," "the best of all musicians."

I feel that they are wrong who make light of Longfellow's service as an American poet. His admirers may no longer form a critical majority, but surely he more than any other quickened the New World to a sense of the beautiful in literature and art, and was the leader in that great burst of song which forms our national school, great with the names of Lowell, Whittier, Holmes, Bryant, and Whitman. His mission was apparent even to himself, that of bringing the new, crude and sterner thought of America back to the Old World taste and imagination. Puritanism was empty of poetry and beauty of expression as well as of sentiment, and yet full of rich, deep, passionate life. Longfellow came at the opportune time, saw the need, and so adapted the beauty and sentiment of other lands to the reason of his own people as to beguile them through the poetic senses, and prove to them that righteousness and holiness, that firmness of principle and delicate fancy, may go together. In the early part of the nineteenth century there was in America an unspoken demand for richer life and thought—and to this demand Longfellow gave his life. The circumstances of his birth were propitious, and worked to the one great end of making the poet. Descended from Pilgrim and Puritan stock, born in a cultured household, with a poet's voice and ear, reared in a typical New England town, open alike to polite influences of society and the stern breath and freshness of our North Shore region, a youth gentle and manly, pure and buoyant, he was fitted in a rare way for his life's work. He was educated at Bowdoin, one of our New England Colleges, and after graduation became a College Professor, when only nineteen. Later he was sent to Europe to acquaint himself with the Old World, and to complete his studies. After ten years of hard work abroad he was settled in a Harvard professorship for life (at Harvard the centre of learning) and in the midst of all that would assist his chosen ministry of song. Here in Cambridge, blessed with health, friends, ease, the opportunity for travel, congenial work and ever-increasing fame, he lived out his long beautiful life to its close with scarcely an abrupt turn or flurry. He, more than any of our American poets, devoted his life to poetry, for even his duties at Harvard as Professor of Belles-Lettres and modern languages, served to strengthen his literary bent, opening up to him the poetry of Germany, Spain, Italy, and the Sagas of the North.

This brief survey seems to cover the poet's life, for with him there seemed to be no passionate and unfulfilled dreams, no deadly struggle with poverty such as has hindered so many times the soaring of some of earth's sweet singers; no drama of sin and wrong in his spotless living, for to the end he bore like King Arthur himself the "white flower of a blameless life." There was but one break in his Psalm of Life. His one great sorrow came to him in early manhood, when his beautiful wife was taken from him in a most tragic manner. She was amusing the children with sealing-wax, when a drop of the glowing fluid set fire to her light gown, and before help came she was beyond relief. One of his prose romances, Hyperion, was written, just after this terrible event, in Europe, where he had gone to be alone with his grief. The atmosphere of the book is the true German spirit—the Rhine—every old castle and every echo and legend were known and dear to him, and under their influence he wrote. The hero, Paul Flemming, was the poet himself, and Flemming's words one feels are wrung from the poet's own hour of anguish. "How beautiful it is to love! Ah! how happy to be young and in love, to have known sorrow, and to use it as a foil; to visit and read the great world, yet not to be corrupted by it, still to keep a pure heart that has no taste for recklessness and vice; through all to recall one lesson: Look not mournfully into the Past, it comes not back again. Wisely improve the Present. It is thine. Go forth into the shadowy Future without fear and with a manly heart."

Longfellow began to write when very young. The following story is told of his first verses, and though vouched for by the press is thought by his friends to be a story made for an occasion. It was when he was nine years old that his master wanted him to write a composition. "Take your slate and pencil," he said, "and go behind the school-house and there you can find something to write about; and you can tell what it is, what it is used for, and what is to be done with it, and that will be a composition." In half an hour he brought back his first poem:—

MR. FINNEY'S TURNIP.

Mr. Finney had a turnip
And it grew and it grew;
And it grew behind the barn,
And the turnip did no harm.

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And it grew and it grew
Till it could grow no taller,
Then Mr. Finny took it up
And put it in his cellar.

There it lay, there it lay
Till it began to rot,
When his daughter Susie washed it,
And put it in the pot.

Then she boiled it, and boiled it,
As long as she was able;
Then his daughter Lizzie took it,
And she put it on the table.

Mr. Finny and his wife
Both sat down to sup,
And they ate, and they ate,
Till they ate the turnip up.

A year later, when he was ten, and this story comes from the poet's own lips, he stole out of his father's house one evening with something precious in his breast-pocket, and his heart beating hard with his own temerity. It was a copy of verses which he had written in secret, and was just going to drop into the box of the newspaper office on the corner. The next evening he walked by the office again, and from the opposite side of the street looked up at the printers at their work and said to himself with fluttering heart—"Perhaps they are printing my poem." When the family newspaper came, and he opened it with hope and fear, true enough, there at the head of the Poet's Corner were his own precious verses. He said to a friend in recounting his early triumph—"I don't think any other literary success in my life has made me quite so happy since."

The confidence and fearlessness with which the youthful poet addressed himself to literature is seen in the following letter, written to his father, while a senior at Bowdoin—"Whether Nature has given me any capacity for knowledge or not, she has at any rate given me a very strong predilection for literary pursuits, and I am almost confident in believing that, if I can ever rise in the world, it must be by the exercise of my talent in the wide field of literature. With such a belief I am unwilling to engage in the study of law." To which his father replied by letter—"A literary life to one who has the means of support, must be very pleasant. But there is not wealth enough in this country to afford encouragement and patronage to merely literary men." How fortunate for the world that he carried out his own bent, rather than his father's advice.

In his earliest poems he looked upon Bryant as his master, but there are no traces in his juvenile productions of the usual pasture-land of youthful aspirants—I mean the Elizabethan poets and those of the Lake School. Instead, he absorbed the spirit and rhythm of the German poets, Heine and Uhland. This is clearly seen in many of his poems, in none more so than in that exquisite little lyric "The Day is Done," which, in a few lines in Heine's style and Heine's metre, gives so true an estimate of his own poetry.

Read from some humbler poet
Whose songs gush from the heart,
As showers from the clouds of summer,
Or tears from the eyelids start.

* * *

Such songs have power to quiet
The restless pulse of care,
And come like the benediction
That follows after prayer.

The first edition of his poems, "The Voices of the Night," published in his 33rd year, was followed in 1841 by a second edition entitled "Ballads and Other Poems." Among these latter occur those lyrical homilies, sermons in rhyme, which gained Longfellow a popularity without parallel. His "Psalm of Life," "Excelsior," "The Rainy Day," and the "Village Blacksmith," are so familiar as to be almost hackneyed. The outcome of the "Village Blacksmith" is so pretty a story as to deserve repetition. In Cambridge stood the original smithy, under the spreading chestnut-tree, and in process of time the old tree, hoary with age, was cut down, and from its wood was made a fine old carved chair. This the school-children of Cambridge presented to their beloved friend on his seventy-second birthday. A few years later, at the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the city, the school-children had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Longfellow seated in the chair and of hearing him recite a poem dedicated to them in acknowledgment of their gift. As the Child I Knew the Best of All was one of that crowd of happy children, and as it was the only time she saw and heard her poet, it seemed to her the event of a lifetime.

Am I a king, that I should call my own
This splendid ebon throne?
Or by what reason or what right divine,
Can I proclaim it mine?

Only, perhaps, by right divine of song
It may to me belong;
Only because the spreading chestnut tree
Of old was sung by me.

Well I remember it in all its prime,
When in the summer time,
The affluent foliage of its branches made
A cavern of cool shade.

There by the blacksmith's forge, beside the street,
Its blossoms white and sweet
Enticed the bees, until it seemed alive,
And murmured like a hive.

And when the winds of autumn, with a shout,
Tossed its great arms about,
The shining chestnuts, bursting from the sheath,
Dropped to the ground beneath.

And now some fragments of its branches bare,
Shaped as a stately chair,
Have by my hearthstone found a home at last,
And whisper of the past.

The Danish king could not, in all his pride,
Repel the ocean tide,
But, seated in this chair, I can in rhyme
Roll back the tide of time.

I see again, as one in vision sees,
The blossoms and the bees,
And hear the children's voices shout and call,
And the brown chestnuts fall.

I see the smithy with its fires aglow,
I hear the bellows blow;
And the shrill hammers on the anvil beat
The iron white with heat!

And thus, dear children, have ye made for me
This day a jubilee,
And to my more than threescore years and ten
Brought back my youth again.

The heart hath its own memory, like the mind,
And in it are enshrined
The precious keepsakes, into which are wrought
The giver's loving thought.

Only your love and your remembrance could
Give life to this dead wood,
And make these branches, leafless now so long,
Blossom again in song.

Employing as he did regular forms for his verse Longfellow was never awkward. His voice warbles on with all the freshness of the spring-time, even in the twilight of his days, when everything he wrote breathed a melting thankfulness, and when his natural tenderness grew upon him with his years. He was undoubtedly the children's poet just because of this tenderness, and such poems as the "Children's Hour" show how deep was his appreciation and love for the little ones. The following few lines also suggest his love and tenderness:—

"O little feet! that such long years
Must wander on through hopes and fears,
Must ache and bleed beneath your load;
I, nearer to the Wayside Inn,
Where toil shall cease and rest begin,
Am weary thinking of your road!

O little hands! that weak or strong,
Have still to serve or rule so long,
Have still so long to give or ask;
I, who so much with book and pen
Have toiled among my fellow-men,
Am weary thinking of your task.

O little hearts! that throb and beat,
With such impatient, feverish heat,
Such limitless and strong desires;
Mine, that so long has glowed and burned,
With passions into ashes turned,
Now covers and conceals its fires.

O little souls! as pure and white
And crystalline as rays of light
Direct from heaven, their source divine;
Refracted through the mist of years,
How red my setting sun appears,
How lurid looks this soul of mine!"

Another delightful lyric, "My Lost Youth," is the utterance of the aged man looking back into his own youthful past, and finding it warm and true. It has the sound of the sea in it,

"The black wharves, and the slips
And the sea-tides tossing free,
And Spanish sailors with bearded lips,
And the beauty and mystery of the ships,
And the magic of the sea."

I have spoken of Longfellow's love for all that was of Old World lore, how he loved to burrow into the literature of the Romance languages, and how all his poetry seems tinged with what he found there to reverence and love; and not only are his poems rich with the atmosphere of Germany and Spain, but he constantly draws on his knowledge of the Greek and Roman classics to furnish him metaphor and simile, as well as the Bible, that storehouse of literary wealth of illustration used by writers of all ages. The works of Tennyson include more than three hundred quotations from the Bible, and are pervaded with a spirit so deeply devout that men have come to feel that he is essentially our religious poet, and that it is in the realm of religious thought that his genius has found its highest expression. And surely Longfellow does not linger far behind, for his poems breathe from beginning to end the beauty and purity of the Christian religion, the nearness of God to man, and the human "soul turning to the Love Divine that ope'd, to embrace us, on the cross its arms." As for Nature, Longfellow usually saw her through the mirror of art, and for this reason he cannot be called a poet of out-door life. There is no woodsy odour or breath of the pines in his poems, they more often are full of the odour of dusty books, and the world outside is seen through their pages, or as he saw it from his own front-door looking across the marshes of the historic Charles River. I find I must prove the rule by the exception in this case for surely Longfellow was our poet of the sea. He loved the coast and the salt marshes, the mighty rock-girt bay, the lights and beacons, the mists and fog-bells, the sleet and surge of winter, and its memories were the drift wood with which he kindled "thoughts that burned and glowed within." He loved to picture stories of the "ocean old, centuries old," and he has caught for us, as perhaps no other has, "the secret of the sea." The One I knew the Best of All used often of a summer afternoon, or evening, to drive over to beautiful Nahant where, on one of the promontories that stands high above that rock-girt shore, the poet had his summer home. It was a modest little cottage, and standing among its more stately and pretentious neighbours, it gave to the passer-by no hint of its distinguished occupant; but it was there that the poet gathered his sea-lore and learned the secrets of the great blue deep. It was there that, "borne on the evening wind across the crimson twilight," he heard "The Bells of Lynn," and it was there that he felt the "heart of the great ocean" with its "thrilling pulse" of mystery.

There is yet another branch of poetry untried before in America in which Longfellow excels, I refer to the sustained narrative poems, such as "Evangeline," "Hiawatha" and the "Courtship of Miles Standish." The first of these, "Evangeline," is perhaps known to everyone who reads. The following pleasant story is told of its creation:—Nathaniel Hawthorne was one day dining with Mr. Longfellow, and brought a friend with him from Salem. While at dinner, the Salem gentleman said:—"I have been trying to get Hawthorne to write a story about the banishment of the Acadians from Acadia, founded upon the life of a young girl who was then separated from her lover, spent the balance of her life searching for him, and when both were old, found him dying in a hospital." "Yes," said Hawthorne, "but there is nothing in that for a story." Mr. Longfellow, with the true poet's insight, saw immediately the striking figure it would make in verse and begged Hawthorne to pass it on to him for a poem. Hawthorne readily assented. The name Evangeline was coined for the story. Like "Hermann and Dorothea" the poem is composed in hexameters, as befits a bucolic love-song. In this beautiful and pathetic tradition of American history, fresh with sweet humanity, tinged with provincial colour, and taking on the atmosphere of Longfellow's own land; pastoral at first, then broken violently into action, when the peaceful Acadian farmers

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are torn from their homes and scattered broadcast over the land at the word of a tyrannical king,—afterward the record of changing scenes that make life a pilgrimage,—there is but one figure we follow—that of the betrothed Evangeline searching for her lover Gabriel through weary years and over half an unknown world, until at last, both old and gray, she finds him dying in an almshouse in Philadelphia.

All was ended now, the hope and the fear and the sorrow,
All the aching of heart, the restless, unsatisfied longing,
All the dull deep pain, and constant anguish of patience.
And as she pressed once more the lifeless head to her bosom
Meekly she bowed her own and murmured, "Father, I thank thee."

The poem is already a little classic, just as surely as is "The Deserted Village," and is the sweetest flower of all our American idyls. There are rooms in every house where one treads with softened footfall, and in the volume of Longfellow's Poems, Evangeline remains as a sacred relic from the heart of the tender poet.

Still stands the forest primeval, but far away from its shadow,
Side by side in their nameless groves, the lovers are sleeping,
Under the humble walls of the little Catholic Churchyard,
In the heart of the city, they lie, unknown and unnoticed.
Daily the tides of life go ebbing and flowing beside them,
Thousands of throbbing hearts, where theirs are at rest and forever,
Thousand of weary feet, where theirs have completed the journey."

There has been just one successful attempt to put into verse the legends and customs of the Red Man, the Indians of our Plains, and that was made by Mr. Longfellow in his inimitable "Song of Hiawatha." This poem was written not indeed from the haunts of the Indian, for our poet did not go among them to make himself familiar with his theme; but from his own library, and among his books, he wrote the legend of Hiawatha, that forest-song, fragrant with the fresh breezes of the lakes and rivers of the North. It is the one poem that beguiles the reader to see the deer, the eagle, the birch and the ash tree as they seem to the Redman himself. The introduction of the softly melodious Indian words throughout the song is like a glimpse of bright colour in a monochrome. The metre, the rhymeless trochaic dimeter, which Longfellow adapted from the old primitive legends of Finland, suits these myths of an untutored race, and gives the stir of life to the poem, which would perhaps grow tiresome in ordinary verse. The Song is but the halt pathetic story of the doings and sufferings of the chief as he strives to lead his people upward, and ever goes before them. The love-story of Hiawatha and Minnehaha is a pure little idyl introduced in the midst of the legends and myths, and the death-scene of the much-loved Indian woman, while she was still a young wife is one of the most touching bits of verse produced by the poet.

I cannot speak of the dramatic poetry of Mr. Longfellow, for my paper is styled "An Appreciation," and as I am not here to criticize I shall leave out what appears to me the field where his art least belongs.

Perhaps his station as poet was neither advanced by the "Tales of a Wayside Inn," but it is something to have given delight to countless multitudes of readers, and if this be the test of the worth of a poem, surely these Tales may not lose their reward. Like the tales of Bocaccio and those of Chaucer's Canterbury Pilgrims, they are a series of short stories mostly taken from the Old World literatures, and strung together with a running commentary of the poet's own. Longfellow proves himself a good raconteur, telling his tales as easily and simply in verse as another could do in prose. The Wayside Inn is still standing in the town of Sudbury, Massachusetts, and is one of the places visited and loved by all travellers and tourists. I have not spoken of his translations, a field in which much of his time was spent, and in which he has done work that outstrips all our other poets. We find translations from the Spanish, Italian, French, German, Scandinavian, and Old English, as well as Latin and Greek, embodying the spirit and in many instances the rhythm of the originals. Foremost among them is his translation of Dante's Divina Comedia, a work very much appreciated by all students of Dante, in which the "grand manner" as Mathew Arnold calls it, of the Master is wanting, but in which there is no awkwardness of expression or laboured translation. Among his sonnets there is one which claims attention because of its human tenderness, that quality which, as I have pointed out, won him his popularity with the people. This little sonnet is said to be the choicest in any language on the theme of personified Nature:—

As a fond mother when the day is o'er,
Leads by the hand her little child to bed,
Half willing, half reluctant to be led,
And leave his broken playthings on the floor,
Still gazing at them through the open door,
Nor wholly reassured and comforted
By promise of others in their stead,
Which, though more splendid, may not please him more,
So Nature deals with us, and takes away
Our playthings one by one, and by the hand
Leads us to rest so gently, that we go
Scarce knowing if we wish to go or stay,
Being too full of sleep to understand
How far the Unknown transcends the What we Know.

And so it was with our own beloved poet. He passed gently into his rest, March the twenty-second, 1882, at the ringing of the curfew, in the twilight of his age, at the close of a long life of devotion to his art, of love for his friends, and of quiet living out the best and truest and highest in God's world.

And when he died, it was as the passing of a king. He was mourned by the people as one mourns for his own familiar friend. And not only in America was he loved and honoured, across the sea in England, "from the palace to the parsonage, from the little village shop to the farmhouse on the lonely down, he was counsellor, comforter, and trusted friend to hundreds of thousands of gentle and earnest souls." The Reverend Charles Kingsley says of him:—"With us he has penetrated into thousands of Puritan homes, and awakened tens of thousands of young hearts to the beauty and the nobleness of the old Pre-Reformation age, and of that romance and art from which their exclusive hereditary training had, until his time, shut them out. And he has thus truly done a sacred deed in turning the hearts of the children to the fathers. That was enough; but that was not the whole. The world-wide humanity of his poems. . . . has produced throughout Great Britain a just reverence and affection for the American mind which will have . . . large social and political results."

And what dearer honour could England have bestowed on us and on him than to give him a place in the great and glorious Abbey among the great and good of all ages? In Mr. Thomas Wentworth Higginson's tribute to Longfellow, there is a list of translations into foreign languages. It includes 35 versions of whole books or detached poems in German, 7 in Italian, 9 each in French and Dutch, 7 in Swedish, 6 in Danish, 5 in Polish, 3 in Portuguese, 2 each in Spanish, Russian, Hungarian, and Bohemian, with single translations in Latin, Hebrew, and others, yielding 100 versions in all apart from the numberless editions in English. Said the late James T. Fields in illustration of his wide-spread popularity:—"I have heard him quoted by an American monk with a cowl, and sung by a camp meeting on the hills of New Hampshire." Prof. Grosvenor of Amherst gives the following pleasant reminiscence:—"Not long ago he was travelling by steamer from Constantinople to Marseilles. The conversation of a group of passengers had directed attention to Victor Hugo, when one of the group, a Russian lady, spoke of Longfellow as the universal poet and recited the lines 'I stood on the bridge at midnight.' Others in the group followed with quotations from Longfellow, six nationalities being represented. Said the Russian lady afterward—'Do you suppose there is any other poet of any country, living or dead, whom so many of us could have quoted? Not even Shakespeare, or Hugo, or Homer.'"

The secret of this popularity is an open one. Browning is the poet for poets, and Tennyson the poet for the scholar and thinker, but Longfellow is the poet of the household.

A finished artist—he has worked his best that he might bring peace, contentment and joy to the home. He has not made men think as have Tennyson and Browning, but there is no poet who has made the people so sensitive to the beauty of a good life, to the helpfulness of patient continuance in trust and love, for his themes are such as all revere, purity, integrity, honour, right, virtue and human love. He made his life sublime, because he made it helpful, therefore he was loved much.

GROWTH OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE NORTH EAST.

The cold barren and, compared to other parts of the Empire, thinly populated, North East District is beginning to show the fruits of the many years of labour put into it by faithful missionaries of our mother tongue. A notable proof of this fact was furnished in the Anniversary Meeting of the English Association of the Normal School on *Kigensetsu* (Constitution Day). At 10 o'clock the bright and happy faces of the students reflected the rays of the sun shining in its strength. The honoured guests and the principal of the school graced the *sedes discretas piorum*. The young ladies sat by themselves clothed in that modesty and sobriety, that makes us all so thankful that "the new woman" has not invaded "the land of the gods." The little lambs and kids on the back seats held in their mirthful spirits, and looked wise as owls pretending that they understood every word. The shrine of the muses was draped with the flags of the rising sun, the altar of sacrifice was clothed in damask green, the colour of living growth; and the blossoms from the vase breathed incense on the air.

At the appointed time Mr. Joma, the master of ceremonies, with a few fitting words, presented the programme and the function proceeded without the slightest delay or friction.

PROGRAMME.

1. Emperor Nintoku—I. (Recitation)..... M. Goto,
2. Emperor Nintoku—II. (Recitation) J. Takahashi.
3. No One Will Know—(Reading)...M. Watanabe.
4. Pearls in Verse—(Recitation).....Y. Waku.
5. Duke and Cow Boy—(Dialogue) T. Sasaki, S. Sasaki and T. Watanabe.
6. The Kid and the Wolf—(Recit.) .....M. Sato.
7. Spartan Education—(Reading and Translation) .....S. Tamazawa.
8. True Charity—(Dialogue) S. Asano and S. Kisara.
9. The Ass in the Lion's Skin—(Recit.) T. Sakuma.
10. The Story of the Old Man (who made the Cherry trees to blossom)—(Recit.) T. Takata.
11. Adventures by Momotaro—(Dialogue) H. Inabe, T. Hirono, S. S. Watanabe, S. Chiba and M. Higuchi.

The most notable of the above were No. 3 "No one will know," from the Mombusho Conversational Reader, with a moral in the time-honoured formula, "This story teaches us, etc.,"; and No. 8, "True Charity" a trilogue in which money for the wants of a poor widow's family is hid in a loaf of bread. The "widow," Mr. Kisara Gosuke, did well.

The Rev. J. H. De Forest, D.D., congratulated the students upon their success in getting along so well without the aid of any foreign teacher, and especially in view of the very limited time allowed in the curriculum for learning the English language.

After the feast of reason and the flow of soul, *more japonico*, the sacrament of good-fellowship followed and all hearts glowed with food and gladness. The watchmen on the walls of Zion will do well to keep the young men of this province in sight. They are the men of the future who will make the educational desert of the North-East to blossom as a rose.—*Communicated.*

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INTERPORT FOOTBALL.

A Win for Yokohama.

St. Valentine's Day in the year of grace one thousand nine hundred and three should long be remembered in Yokohama by those present on the Cricket-ground for the masterly exposition of Association football shown that day in the Interport match. As an old Interport player remarked, after the game, when these affairs were started in the eighties the respective teams used to comprise two or three "star" players a-piece, but the rest, though rattling nice, dear fellows, were poor hands at the game. As the years rolled on the general average of excellence rose, until at last the "star" player ceased to dominate the interport elevens and we arrived at a combination such as was seen on Saturday: teams of players of whom it might truly be said without fear of contradiction that every one was the right man in the right place, all as keen as mustard, and at the same time remembering the rules and sticking to them. Such a condition of affairs is ideal, and when to this is added a field of play in first class order—the high wind of the preceding night having thoroughly dried the turf—bright sunshine and hosts of enthusiastic friends ready and willing to cheer every bit of good play and to grow deliriously excited when a goal was made—what more could a footballer desire? Certainly when the game began there was a slight drawback, so far as Yokohama was concerned, in the strong breeze that was blowing down the field—a wind that had an icy tang in it, chilling and stinging those who had not come down warmly clad, but exhilarating otherwise—but this died down as the afternoon wore on, the game ending in a dead calm, characteristic of the time of year.

Kobe won the toss and elected to play with the wind in their favour but with the sun in their eyes. From the beginning it was seen that the game would be fast and speculation was natural as to whether the men could keep up the almost too-rapid pace to the end. As it turned out the local team "lasted" best, the visitors towards the close becoming very fagged and weary. We cannot help thinking, too, that Kobe lost the game in the first half owing to their inability to shoot at goal; had they taken advantage of their opportunities the result, we feel sure, would have had a different reading. For the Yokohama players were very far from being "on their game" in the first half, as even their most enthusiastic admirers must admit. A general feeling of hesitancy, together with a tendency to fumble, seemed to pervade the whole team; they hung back in most unexpected places and altogether gave no indication of what they really could do when put to it. Fortunately for Yokohama's honour Waddilove rose to the level of his opportunities, defending his goal splendidly, and so, though time and again in the first half Kobe broke though the half-back defence and beat the backs, Waddilove cleared his lines and saved the game, no matter how hot the bombardment might be. The first half, then, was Kobe's opportunity, and having allowed it to pass they missed the tide to fortune.

Yokohama drew first blood towards the close of the first half. There had been several attempts by either side, which the goal-keepers had frustrated; then White got hold of the leather and carried it down the field, dodging prettily all attempts to intercept his progress. He passed it out to Fradgley, who centred well, and J. E. Moss put the ball through—perhaps the prettiest goal made during the whole match. On resuming after half-time it was at once apparent that the indecision and hesitancy of the home-players had quite passed away, while Kobe showed a stern determination to equalise if possible, if not get ahead. The enthusiasm of the spectators was also steadily rising and the party-cries—for there was a very strong contingent of former and present Kobe residents on the field—grew in volume and intensity. No wonder then, after ten minutes of exciting play, when Thompson equalised by shooting a goal for Kobe, caps and hats went flying in the air and the cheering made hoarse throats hoarser still. But the last quarter of an hour was the climax of the whole match. Feelings ran high both in the teams as well as among the on-lookers, as either side made determined attempts to get the better of the other. Yokohama's staying powers were now very evident and they literally bombarded the Kobe goal. Stephens did wonders in saving, while many a shot by the Yokohama men proved ineffective owing to bad direction; but at last Drummond centred the ball and Kilby headed it through, making the score—Yokohama 2, Kobe 1. About five minutes remained of play, and the pace grew faster and more furious, Kobe being placed almost entirely on the defensive and the home forwards pressing for all they were worth. In the sequel of some exciting scuffling in front of goal, Fradgely centred the ball and Strome, receiving it on his head, punted it through, a shot impossible for any one to stop. Within a minute of this the whistle blew and all was over save the shouting, Yokohama leaving the field the winners by three goals to one.

Where every man did his level best and where everything possible was done on either side to achieve a victory, it would be impertinent to single out individuals for praise or blame. The general impression seemed to be that Kobe put up the better combination, but were lighter than their opponents; while the visiting forwards were certainly not anywhere so fast as the home line. We therefore beg leave to bring to a close these notes on perhaps the finest Interport "Socker" match ever played in Yokohama with the old East Country phrase of congratulation—"Good men, all."

The following were the teams:—

Yokohama:—Goal, W. J. Waddilove; Backs, W. S. Moss, A. Kingdon; Half-backs, W. B. Mason, W. J. White, E. G. Fradgley; Forwards, J. Drummond, O. Strome, J. E. Moss, H. W. Kilby and K. van R. Smith.

Kobe:—Forwards, Crane, S. Clarke, McDougall, Heaslett, Guterrez; Half-backs, Rankin, J. Thompson, D. Weed; Backs, A. R. Evans, H. E. Green; Goal, G. Stephens.

Mr. J. H. Bathgate was Referee.

In the series of fifteen matches since 1888 (there was no game in 1889 apparently) Kobe has won on five occasions, and Yokohama on seven, leaving three drawn. Kobe has scored 16 goals in all to Yokohama's 33 (including a goal to each in the goal-all draws in 1895 and 1902). We give the entire record, which is as follows:

Feb. 1888	at Y'hama	Kobe won; 2 to 1
Jan. 1890	at Kobe	Drawn; no goal
Feb. 1891	at Y'hama	Yokohama won; 4 to 0
Jan. 1892	at Kobe	Kobe won; 1 to 0
Feb. 1893	at Y'hama	Yokohama won; 3 to 1
Feb. 1894	at Kobe	Yokohama won; 2 to 0
Feb. 1895	at Y'hama	Drawn; 1 each
Feb. 1896	at Kobe	Kobe won; 4 to 1
Feb. 1897	at Y'hama	Yokohama won; 4 to 0
Feb. 1898	at Kobe	Kobe won; 2 to 1
Feb. 1899	at Y'hama	Yokohama won; 7 to 2
Feb. 1900	at Kobe	Kobe won; 1 to 0
Feb. 1901	at Y'hama	Yokohama won; 5 to 0
Feb. 1902	at Kobe	Drawn; 1 each
Feb. 1903	at Y'hama	Yokohama won; 3 to 1

It will be seen that only on two occasions—1888 and 1894—have the visiting teams defeated the ground elevens. In 1888 Kobe won at Yokohama by 2 to 1, and in 1894 Yokohama won at Kobe by 2 to 0. In 1896 the match was played in a snow storm and in 1893 there were five inches of snow on the ground. On Saturday, as we said above, the weather conditions were ideal.

Association Football.

There was a game of sixes on Thursday afternoon between Wheeler's Six and W. S. Moss' Six, which was won by Wheeler's team after a poor game by one goal to nothing. This places Moss out of the running for the Championship, as he has only one more game to play and has secured only four points, while Kilby's six have obtained seven. Strome, by losing one and drawing two, has also placed himself "hors de combat," and the competition proper now lies between Fradgley, Wheeler, Read and Kilby. Fradgley has lost one and drawn one, so has to win all the rest to have a chance at coming out on top. Wheeler and Read have only played two games, losing one and winning one, so they also have to win all the rest to come out certain winners. Altogether the fight for premier honours is a very close one, and it is hoped that the captains will endeavour to bring it to a definite issue as soon as possible. We have heard a rumour that Read's Six is going to scratch, owing to two out of their six men being too slack to play any more but we trust that this report will prove to be without foundation.

THE OUTLOOK IN NORTH CHINA.

The disastrous is consequent upon the unprecedented—according to Chinese soothsayers—and natives generally consider the outlook for 1903 anything but propitious as far as this port is concerned, owing to the fact that the river ice is not yet set for a distance of some 3 miles above the Foreign Settlement, and that a rainfall has occurred in January.

We have experienced some severe bursts of cold weather, and for about five days the river was frozen over below the Imperial Chinese Railway Wharf, but was put in motion again by the following spring tides. On several occasions a block seemed imminent, but though the river was filled with heavy ice floes the ice was never held in position long enough to enable it to cohere. An unusually heavy thaw resulted in a rainfall on the 23rd inst. followed immediately by a strong northerly gale, converting the roads into sheets of ice and bringing the thermometer to 5° Fahr., a more seasonable temperature. It is quite impossible to prognosticate as to the opening of the port; 14 degrees below zero have been experienced before now in the month of March, and once the heavy ice blocks now in the river become jammed the usual conditions will have to prevail before the port can be released from its ice bonds.

Of a series of excellent inter-Gunboat entertainments that given by H.I.J.M.S. *Oshima* on the 15th was admittedly the most successful. The items evoking the most applause were undoubtedly the Anglo-Japanese Alliance tableaux, the "Jujitsu" display by Mr. A. McGlew and his sailor pupils, the Benké act, the Duel in the Dark, and the wrestling, *sumo* style, while two of the *Rinaldo* men gave us comic songs, with a good old music hall touch about them. The success of the evening was entirely due to the able management of Commander Nagai and his indefatigable First Lieutenant, Mr. Morihiro, who were assisted by Mr. McGlew. Mr. Morihiro's energy and eloquence have become proverbial in the port, and his influence over his men is unbounded; upon his directing two of the fencing contestants to strive valorously the audience were given a most exciting spectacle, for raining blows like hail upon one another, the two men rushed together, closed, and after a splendid struggle the one lifted his opponent clean off his feet, and downing him tore off his helmet, thereby rendering his opponent defenceless and establishing himself as the winner of the bout. The wrestlers, *sumo* style, were magnificent specimens of brawn and muscle, and every bout was an artistic treat, and contested with the *rim* and indifference to bodily hurt which have put the Japanese in the proud position they hold in the front rank of the world's fighting men.

Trade is not in a very flourishing condition, and last Autumn's Imports have not been taken up as freely as would have been the case in normal times. Hard sycee is scarce and the cart traffic has fallen off. Skins are exceptionally dear, and dealers have very limited stocks.

The whole Province is in that state of unrest which originated with the building of the Chinese Eastern Railway, reached its culmination in 1900, and is unlikely to subside for more years than constitute the average length of life as computed by statisticians.

January 26th, 1903:—Since writing the foregoing the river ice has become set and Chinese have already been crossing to and from the North shore.

A Correspondent.

Newchwang, 26th January, 1903.

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SALVATION ARMY ENTERTAINMENT.

It was a pity that to the fine weather which we have lately been experiencing there should have succeeded such an inclement night as that of Thursday, when the entertainment organized by the Salvation Army, their friends and sympathisers, was given at the Public Hall. The seating capacity was fully sold but as not a few people found it impossible to obtain jinrikishas in which to ride to the hall and were thus deterred from attending, there were of course vacant seats. The house, however, was even better than could have been expected. The chair was occupied by Mr. Jas. Dodds and the programme contained the names of nearly every member of the Consular Corps, leading residents and merchants of Yokohama, Japanese and foreign, as supporters of the undertaking. The proceedings were opened by a choir singing the hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers," and the Rev. E. S. Booth next offered a prayer.

The Chairman then said: When accepting Capt. Ellis's kind invitation to preside at an entertainment to be given in aid of the philanthropic work of the Salvation Army I had no idea that it would attain the dimensions of the present gathering or that anything I might be called upon to say would be dignified by the name of an address. I think in view of the attractions that are before you on the programme you will be more pleased than disappointed if I leave the address unspoken. Col. Bullard will have the opportunity of telling you later on something of the philanthropic work of the Army. Of this branch of the work we in Yokohama have little knowledge, but what comes under our own observation, and we do know something about, is the most excellent work done by the Yokohama Branch of the Army under the able superintendence of Capt. Ellis, the popular officer in charge of the Head-Quarters here, the "Salvation Naval and Mercantile Home." This institution is run on what are intended to be self-supporting lines. The Home makes up 60 beds; possesses comfortable Reading Room and Dining Rooms and provides meals, board and lodging on most moderate terms to those who are able to pay, but no man is allowed to pass the door and go away starving simply because he has no money in his pocket. His case meets with immediate relief pending further enquiry. In this way the waifs and strays that drift to the port—distressed seamen and others who find themselves stranded here—, are picked up and taken off the street, their cases enquired into and relieved according to circumstances. Ships are found when possible for seamen out of employment while others are assisted away from the port either by partial or full passage money being paid for them. Part of this work is done on account of the Yokohama Charity Organization, for which Capt. Ellis acts as almoner, and most admirably does he perform the duties entrusted to him, placing the Society under a deep debt of gratitude for the judicious and economical way in which he helps to dispense their charity. Figures are sometimes more eloquent than words and as showing the operation of the Home the following figures will appeal to you. 1902 was a small year as compared with its predecessors, but during that year the Home provided

		Total for 5 year.
Beds	3,136	24,970
Meals	13,371	292,655
Found employment for	16 men	
Men reshipped for the Char. Org. or Consular Authorities	83	
Meetings conducted in the Home	61	590

The attendance at these meetings was 1291 and besides there were sundry entertainments of a lighter character. These figures go to prove that many of these men while enjoying quiet rational entertainment and refreshment in comfortable quarters were kept off the street, helping in a great measure to achieve the result that has transformed that portion of the town which was formerly known as Blood Town, into a quiet respectable quarter through which ladies and children can now pass without fear of molestation or annoyance. It must be very gratifying to the promoters of this entertainment to see so many of their friends rally round them in evidence of their appreciation of the good work accomplished and that in contributing to the financial result you are assisting a thoroughly good cause.—(Applause).

The first musical number was Dvorak's "Polonaise" excellently rendered by Mrs. A. Bellamy Brown and Mr. W. Karl Vincent. Mrs. Walter sang "Ave Maria" with all the power and feeling that we have been been accustomed to expect from her, and kindly responded to an insistent encore. The accompaniment was given by Miss Poole (piano) and Messrs. W. Karl Vincent (organ) and H. A. Poole (violin).

Colonel Bullard at this stage gave an address describing the purposes of the Salvation Army and reviewing its work, a number of lantern views being afterwards shown with the object of affording the spectators an idea of the extent and nature of its operations and specially of the philanthropic enterprises upon which it has embarked locally.

A distinct feature of the evening was the recitation by Miss Beatrice Ross of "Faithful unto Death." This, the Chairman explained, was based upon an incident of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow when of a thousand men raised by Prince Emilius of Hesse-Darmstadt to serve with the French, only ten men were towards the end left alive and these agreed to sacrifice their lives by contributing their own garments for the protection of their prince whose life was thus saved. Miss Ross gave this recitation with great feeling. The piano solo, Liszt's "Rhapsodie" was perhaps the best number on the programme, the marvellous execution of Mr. W. K. Vincent being even finer than those who know his wonderful skill anticipated. Of course it was encored and in response he gave a Russian *morceaux* which was new to most of his audience. Mr. G. G. Brady gave "The Charge" (G. R. Sims) with great effect, and was recalled. In place of "Trusting in Thee," which was put on the programme, Mr. K. Dodds elected to give "Ora Pro Nobis," Miss Leach accompanying, and the result was a surprise to the many who had not known that this young singer possesses a sweet yet fine powerful voice which with proper training will bear development. Finally, in place of the "The Sailor's Grave," Mr. N. G. Maitland chose to sing "Queen of the Earth" by Pinsuti, which was very well received.

Mr. C. V. Sale in a few fitting words proposed a vote of thanks to those who had taken part in the entertainment and the proceedings then terminated.

We ought to add that the Seinway grand piano used on this occasion was kindly sent free of charge by Messrs. C. Thwaites & Co.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I desire to thank you most heartily for the kindly references and sympathetic notices which appeared in your paper in connecion with the Musical Evening for the benefit of our work held at the Public Hall on the 12th inst.

Our warmest thanks are also due to the Chairman, Mr. James Dodds, and the ladies and gentlemen who by their very able services contributed so largely to the success of the gathering; also to Mr. F. Schroeder, of the *Eastern World*, Mr. E. V. Thorn, of the *Weekly Box of Curios*, and Mr. L. D. Adam, of the *Japan Gazette*, for providing the programme, tickets and bills. We are also indebted to Messrs. C. Thwaites & Co. for the loan of the pianos, free of charge.

I would further, and especially on behalf of Staff-Captain and Mrs. Ellis, thank the many friends who assisted in the arrangements and the Consuls, merchants, missionaries and other sympathizers who so unreservedly gave their support. This has been a source of very great encouragement.

The attendance, though large, was not what it would have been had the weather not been so inclement, but you will be glad to see by the following statement that a substantial balance has been handed over towards the support of our various institutions.

	Yen.
Income from sale of Tickets	643
Rent of Hall	30
Balance	613

I am, Sir, very sincerely yours.
HENRY BULLARD, Colonel.
Yokohama, February 16th.

COMMERCIAL NOTES.

The Cotton Spinners Union of Japan is now in consultation with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha as to the lowering of rates of freight. Cotton spinners in Bombay have already arranged lower rates between Bombay and the Chinese coast.

Telegrams from Osaka and Kobe, dated the 14th inst., report that the rate of interest is going down. In Osaka it is now quoted at *sen* 15, or 1.45 per day per *yen* 100. In Kobe, the money market is very dull and interest is quoted at *sen* 1.7 or 1.8.

According to a telegram from London, received on the 15th inst. by the *Jiji Shimpo*, the copper market is active and the metal is quoted at higher rates owing to the action of the Trust in the United States. The market is steady though stocks are somewhat scanty.

The *Jiji Shimpo* prints a telegram which Messrs. W. M. Strachan & Co. received on the 14th inst., that the market for gassed yarn is more active and for shipment in April and May, yarns bearing the "Bamboo and Sparrow" chop, No. 60's, are quoted at *yen* 282.50 and No. 80 of the same chop *yen* 335. These prices are *yen* 15 higher than previous advices.

The *Jiji Shimpo* reports that Japanese gold coins amounting to *yen* 50,000 are to be exported from Kobe to Hongkong through a foreign Bank on the 18th inst.

The *Kokumin* has received a special wire from Nagoya that the 400,000 *yen* debentures of the Kinjo Bank have been received with such good favour that quotations are now *yen* 51.15 against face value *yen* 50.

As rumoured for a long time past, the union of the 100th Bank and the Chukyo Bank was decided upon on the 15th inst. after general meetings of both banks. The Chukyo Bank will transfer its capital paid-up, *yen* 300,000; reserve fund, *yen* 4,200; and cash, *yen* 30,000, to the 100th Bank and the former will take up the shares of the latter.

On the 15th the Yokohama Raw Silk Company received a telegram from its branch in New York that the condition of the silk market during the week ending the 14th, was dull, very little business being transacted, and prices ruling a little lower. A report from the branch in Lyons said that the market there is quiet.

The *Kokumin* reports that deposits in the principal banks in Tokyo are gradually increasing owing to the prevailing dullness in business circles. According to the returns of the Clearance House last Saturday the deposits of the Mitsui Bank were calculated at *yen* 3,043,691; the First Bank, *yen* 2,377,678; the Mitsu Bishi Bank, *yen* 2,221,873; the Yasuda Bank, *yen* 1,676,042; the Third Bank, *yen* 1,094,542; the 100th Bank, *yen* 959,000; Tokyo Branch of the Osaka Konoike Bank, *yen* 934,000, the 15th Bank, *yen* 932,000; Tokyo Branch of the Yokohama Specie Bank, *yen* 597,000; and the Teikoku Commercial Bank *yen* 737,000.

The *Official Gazette* recently published Notification No. 74 of the Department of Communications, giving the Japanese exchange rates on foreign countries for money orders issued by the post office.

Currency.		Yen.
English	1 pound	9.822
	1 shilling	0.49105
	1 penny	0.04092
1 *yen*=2s. 0.4375d.		
French	1 franc	0.39063
	1 centime	0.00391
1 *yen*=2 francs 56 centimes.		
American	1 dollar	2.01605
	1 cent.	0.02010
1 *yen*=49.75 cents.		
German —1 mark		0.48280
1 *yen*=0.7125 pfenning.		
Dutch —1 florin		0.83430
1 *yen*=1 florin 19.861 cents.		
Hongkong	1 dollar	0.77792
	1 cent.	0.00778
1 *yen*=dollar 28.548 cents.		

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FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

We have received the following :—

Yokohama, 14th Feb., 1903.

Having been convinced, by evidence put before us, that great suffering is now being caused by the dearth of food in some of the northern provinces of Japan and being desirous, and knowing that our fellow-residents are desirous, to afford what relief is possible, and feeling that prompt action on the spot is now what is needed, we have undertaken to commence preliminary enquiries, how best that help can be given.

We have the assurance of his Excellency the Governor that such a movement will have all his sympathy, and unofficially all the support he can give, and we have therefore looked around for the most efficient help that can be found. The Rev. W. Weston has already consented to act, and is prepared to go north to Aomori at once, to examine and report how charitable relief can best be brought to those most needing it, and he, with the co-operation of Foreign Residents in that part of the country, will undertake to commence the distribution of whatever is placed in our trust with this object.

We therefore have no hesitation in appealing to the Foreign Residents of Yokohama and Tokio, to support us by pecuniary or other assistance. We intend to ask the co-operation of Foreign Residents in Kobe, Nagasaki, and Hakodate, and we shall be thankful to any of our fellow residents who can afford the time and energy to aid us in this work.

Subscriptions should be sent to the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Yokohama, for the Credit of the Famine Relief Fund, and will be acknowledged in the local press.

T. S. Baker.
J. W. Copmann.
J. Dodds.
H. J. Holm.
R. D. Robison.

[The Official Report states that the number of starving people is 147,688, divided as follows :—

Aomori Ken	45,480
Fukushima Ken	76,750
Miyagi Ken	12,685
Iwate Ken	12,773

besides Toyama Ken—where the destitute were still being counted.*]

* The following is a translation of the official report :—

THE CONDITION OF THE FAMINE DISTRICTS.

Since last spring, the weather has continued in a very unsettled state in Japan, and continually there was rain, while, thoughout the middle of last summer, the weather was very irregular, being sometimes unseasonably cold.

In consequence, the ripening of cereals and the growth of vegetables were considerably hindered in several localities. To make matters worse the eastern and northern parts of Japan were visited by storms and heavy rains at the end of September, utterly destroying the crops.

Even in those provinces where it was generally hoped to have good crops of rice, the harvest was reduced by 40 and 50 or even 60 and 70 per cent as compared with an average year.

All other agricultural products, such as millet, etc., also proved a failure.

No words can adequately express the pitiable condition and distress of the farmers now suffering.

The poorer class of farmers were left in an utterly destitute condition without a *sen* and without a piece of food.

So they were compelled to ramble about the mountains or marshes to gather fruits or some tender grass roots for their food.

Now even fruits and roots are exhausted, and, at present, their distress has driven them to such extremities that they have to eat anything procurable, such as even rice-grass, etc., to assuage their hunger, and the horses they had kept for agricultural work have been killed for food.

In Aomori, as the snow is still deep, all kind of work has been suspended, so that, out-of-doors, the people find it impossible to earn their livelihood. They are unable to even have recourse now to roots and such kind of poor food to be found in the mountains as the deep snow makes this impossible.

Under these circumstances, an Urgent Imperial Ordinance sanctioning the postponement of the payment of the land-tax has been issued ; and the most destitute of the people are now to be helped with the famine relief fund and the Ken relief expenses.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund :—

	Yen.
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	2,500
Mrs. Warton	100
Messrs. C. Weinberger & Co.	100.00
E. M. Hobart Hampden	15.00
Nobel's Explosives Co. (J. P. Mollison & Co. agents)	50.00
J. P. Mollison	50.00
"Friends"	16.63
Wm. H. Stone	50.00
W. B. Walter	50.00
Cornes & Co.	300.00
Yokohama Union Church	75.00
"A. L."	5.00
"R."	50.00
China and Japan Trading Co., L'td.	100.00
Hellyer & Co.	50.00
T. W. Hellyer	50.00
C. B. Stedman	20.00
Runge and Thomas	50.00
"W. G. S."	25.00
Mendelson Bros.	50.00
International Oil Co., L'td.	500.00
Russo-Chinese Bank	500.00
Capt. Kasturin	1.00
C. Groener	25.00
Louis Meyer	10.00
W. F. Koh	5.00
K. L. Van	2.00
Dow Woo Ching	1.00
G. M. R.	3.00
O. Hanger	2.00
C. W.	10.00
A. D.	2.00
Peyre Frères	2.00
J. de Cuers	25.00
G. Gertz	10.00
E. Kann	2.00
Pollak Brothers	200.00
Arthur and Bond	25.00
Butterfield and Swire (1st instalment)	100.00
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	250.00
Hunt & Co.	200.00
Balance "Japan Mail" List	209.00
K. A. J. Chotirmall & Co.	5.00
Sir Malcolm McEacharn	50.00
Mme. Veuve Maigre	10.00
A. Deveze	10.00
A. Gérard	25.00
A. B. P.	10.00
C. Illies & Co. (1st instalment)	100.00
R. D. Robison (1st instalment)	100.00
David Jackson	150.00
Thos. S. Baker	100.00
J. F. Cox Edwards	50.00
P. de C. Morriss	30.00
T. C. Anderson	10.00
P. R. Scott	10.00
C. A. S. Palmer	10.00
S. Wheeler	10.00
Total	6,470.63

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Mr. Crockett's new volume will have the title, "The Adventurer in Spain," and will be composed of a series of short stories. Mr. Crockett spent a considerable portion of last year in that country.

At Kurachee recently the wife of a military officer gave a geographical tea-party. Each guest had to wear a badge representing a town, river, mountain, or lake. A young subaltern arrived with a small portrait of Lord Kitchener in his buttonhole. When everybody had given up trying to guess what it represented he explained that it was the Bosphorus.

The "Etiquette of the Stage" was the subject of Mr. Pett Ridge's discourse before the members of the Playgoers' Club recently and there was much in it to keep his audience merry. He remarked that—In the stalls a rule is that the man with a heavy foot and a corpulent figure is bound to go out between the acts in the manner of a traction engine, and not return till the curtain is up. He considered that the County Council should see in future that these gentlemen were preceded by an attendant carrying a red flag.

Mr. Andrew Lang tells us in the *Windsor Magazine* that among people who, with exceptions, never read books, are novelists, Scottish professors, schoolmasters, booksellers, publishers, schoolmistresses, college tutors, actors, stockbrokers, men in commerce, reviewers, and hunting men. Among people who do read are Judges, the female members of the British peerage, gamekeepers, gillies, omnibusdrivers, shepherds, some lawyers, in both branches of the profession, some schoolboys and undergraduates, soldiers, two golfers, and most civil servants, who in England are almost always poets.

Paris has discovered a poet of extraordinary talent and precocity. The versifier is a little girl, ten years old, named Antoine Coullet, whose first collection of poems has just been published, unknown to her, by M. Lemerre. The child is quite unconscious of her poetical gift, and her verses are usually written in intervals between games with her younger sisters at skipping rope and playing with her dolls. Suddenly she will desert her playthings for a few minutes and scribble down the lines she has composed on such different subjects as the Lord's Prayer and the Martinique disaster.

Dr. Steele, of Florence, in some reminiscences of Professor Aytoum which he has supplied to Professor Knight, tells the following story of Aytoun's courting his first wife, Emily Wilson :

He called one day, found her in the drawing-room, and proposed to her. "But I must ask papa," she said ; and tripped downstairs to the library, where the mighty Christopher was writing against time, "chased by the printer" for the next month's "Maga," nearly overdue. Emily told him what his young friend Aytoun had asked of her. Old Kit, having not a moment to spare, tore off the fly-leaf of a letter, wrote upon it "With the compliments of the author," and pinned it on Emily's breast ; whereupon the blushing Emily tripped back to her expectant husband !

Whether Aytoun there and then made due acknowledgments to the "author" has never been recorded.

A correspondent of the New York *Nation* writes thus as to his experience of the duty levied by the United States on books printed in England :—

If Congress begins to lessen the surplus in the Treasury by cutting off sources of revenue, or if a "scientific tariff revision" takes place, the duty on books printed in England might be spared without loss to infant industries. The following is an example of the present working—not an isolated case, as I, and doubtless many others, can testify. As a member of the British Congress of Tuberculosis, the printed transactions of the Congress were recently sent to me. I do not know the market price of the four small volumes, but, as they are given to each member who paid the fee of five dollars, it is not likely to exceed this amount. The customs charges were $2.50, with sixty cents more for "warehouse." An examiner once remarked to me, when putting me through the Custom-house, that it was "no sanitarium." This recent experience makes me think he was right.

Recently at their rooms in Leicester Square, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson realised upwards of £900 for a couple of hundred lots of book-plates, being the collection formed by the late Mr. Joseph Jackson Howard, Maltravers Herald Extraordinary. One lot, comprising in itself a collection of armorial book-plates, alphabetically arranged in families, and mounted, made £340. The highest price yet paid for a single book-plate was £25 10*s.*, for that of Nicholas Bacon, "Equis auratus et magni sigilli Angliæ Custos librum hunc bibliothecæ Cantabrig, dicavit 1574," a rudely coloured woodcut of Arms—being the first dated English book-plate. The only other known copy is in the possession of University College, Cambridge. Two copies of Marriott's armorial plate, by Fairthorne, £9 7*s.* 6*d.*; Gore's armorial plate, by the same artist, £7 ; and a number of Chippendale plates made about £100.

Mr. Elliot Anstruther's finely illuminated volume, "The Bindings of To-morrow," just issued in England by the Guild of Women Binders, contains many admirable coloured reproductions of the work of that organization. Mr. Anstruther contends that feminine dexterity of hand and persevering industry are peculiarly fitted to the artistic clothing of books, and, no

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doubt, a large proportion of these examples of their work are not only of obvious mechanical excellence, but also of highly ingenious and attractive design. But Mr. Anstruther seems a little too much disposed to fancy that nothing worth mentioning was done until these clever ladies came on the scene. There has never yet been a great woman binder, and indeed, England has had no classic binder, with the exception of Roger Payne, who did beautiful work that is still highly prized. But national partiality has never suggested that he approached that artist "Le Gascon," or the Eve brothers, or the more distinguished members of the long dynasties of Derome or Padeloup. The field therefore, is open to women in England to a much greater extent than in France, and there is no reason whatever why they should not do very notable service in the future.

The question whether new English books shall continue to be bound in cloth or be issued, like French novels, in paper covers, is one which derives importance from (amongst other causes) the recent threatened strike of English bookbinders. There is something to be said on both sides, although the consensus of opinion appears to be strongly in favour of cloth. To every book-lover it must be admitted there is such a fascination about French yellow-backs that it is not surprising that the question should be asked. Why cannot we have the like? In Paris you can buy the latest work of a popular writer for three francs and a-half (about 2*s.* 10*d.*), But it is a self-evident proposition that France is not England. Mr. John Murray, Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co., Mr. Andrew Chatto, and Mr. William Heinemann amongst other distinguished publishers, are at any rate all in favour of cloth *versus* paper, and the only paper-covered books that sell at all well would seem to be those cheap reissues of standard works, such as Messrs. Macmillan, Messrs. Cassell, and other enterprising firms supply. When one can get for 4½*d.* a work like "John Inglesant," one does not stop to ask for a cloth binding, which it would be absolutely impossible to give, for the simple reason that the cloth would cost almost as much as the entire production.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

There were 100,000 immigrants into the Canadian North-west Territory in 1902.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has offered Philadelphia £300,000 for the founding of 30 public libraries.

Director of the Mint Roberts says the world's output of gold for 1900 will rise above the 1899 record of $307,000,000.

The gunboat recently constructed at the Uraga Dock-yard to the order of the American authorities was delivered in Manila on the 23rd ultimo.

The aggregate of individual gifts to churches, educational and charitable institutions in the United States made available in 1902, of $5,000 or over, was $85,000,000.

Assistant Attorney-General Beck has decided that the temporary landing of a Chinese crew and its transfer to another vessel belonging to the same company is not a violation of the exclusion law.

Latest American papers to hand give graphic descriptions of the distress caused in the Northern parts of the United States by the coal famine. Of course the more sensational journals are making capital out of the incident, and are most violent in their denunciations of the coal trust.

From Barbados, British West Indies, comes a telegram stating that Major Hodder, the officer commanding the British Royal Engineer force at St. Lucia, W.I., has reported observing the growth of a cone on the top of Mont Pelée, Martinique, first reported by the Martinique police on August 11. The cone, according to Major Hodder's calculation, has now reached a height of 928 feet with a base of 495 feet. This marvellous cone has taken only 107 days to reach its present dimensions, and it is still growing. Mont Pelée is still also growing, being now 5,000 feet in height, as against its former altitude of 4,428 feet.

An interesting experiment is about to be tried in the Philippines which will be for the benefit of sportsmen and the public generally. Several government officers have arranged to import Mongolian pheasants, which they believe will thrive there and add to the food supply.

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* reports that only 4,000,000 gallons of the whisky made in 1895, 1896 and 1897 remain in bond, and the whisky dealers are alarmed. About 7,000,000 gallons of six, seven and eight year old whisky are used annually, and the dealers say there will not be a gallon in bond by July 1.

Franklin College, Indiana, has produced a singular exemplification of the Scriptural saying that "the first shall be last and the last shall be first." The head of the class of '61 was William Henry Harrison McCoy; at the bottom stood William Tecumseh Stott. Stott is to-day president of the college, to which position he was elected in 1872, and McCoy is the janitor of the institution.

According to Dr. H. K. Carroll, who was the U.S. Government church statistician in 1890 and has annually made it his business to compile church statistics, the church membership growth in all denominations has failed to keep pace with the increase in population. Dr. Carroll says that the church membership gain last year was 1 per cent., while the population has been increasing at the rate of 2.6 per cent. a year. The total church membership in all religions he puts at 28,698,028, a gain of 403,743 over a year ago.

A grant of 20,000 acres of land, bearing the seal and signature of King George of England under date of June 5, 1764, has turned up at Jackson, Miss. The grant was to lands located in what was then west Florida, now Mississippi, and was made to the 12th Earl of Eggleston, who was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The 14th Earl of Eggleston is now the claimant. In 1804 the Earl of Eggleston disposed of 5,000 acres and now demands title to the balance. There does not seem any doubt that the grant is binding.

Advices from Honolulu say that the cost of press cables is given out at 20 cents a word, and the daily papers see hard times ahead in publishing the world's news at that rate. The *Honolulu Advertiser* has already increased its subscription price to $1 a month, with 25 cents additional for the Sunday edition. The evening papers are expected to follow suit, but it is believed that one of the daily papers, at least, will be forced to the wall. Arrangements had been made by sugar houses and other large enterprises for cable service and it is predicted that the patronage of Honolulu alone will pay the operating expenses of the cable, even without extension to the Orient and the Philippines.

The State Department has received the report of the Commission appointed to pass upon the claims filed by American citizens for injuries inflicted on them and their interests during the Chinese Boxer troubles of 1900. Claims numbering 230 and aggregating $3,030,000 were filed by Americans, mostly missionaries and persons engaged in commercial business in China. The commission cut down the aggregate to 45 per cent. allowing a total of $1,500,000 approximately to the claimants. This amount will be paid in semi-annual installments of 25 per cent. out of the indemnity of $25,000,000 which China has agreed to pay to the United States. The Chinese Government has already paid two installments.

Dr. L. Restrepo of Medellin, Colombia, S. A., about a year ago announced that he had discovered in the husk of an ordinary coffee bean a drug which was even more powerful in its curative effects on malaria than is quinine. Further experiments seem to at any rate partially justify Dr. Restrepo's claims. His method of preparing and administering the drug is as follows: Forty-five grammes of coffee beans, including the husk, or thirty grammes of the husk alone, is crushed and boiled in fourteen fluid ounces of water for five minutes. The resulting fluid extract is divided into six doses, which are all taken during one day. Several cases of malaria, given up by other physicians as hopeless, have baen cured by Dr. Restrepo.

A New York telegram to a Manila newspaper states that there was a hot discussion in the Senate on the subject of the conduct of the Army in the Philippines. Party lines were sharply drawn and the debate was animated between the Republicans, defending the Army, and the Democrats, who alleged gross cruelties perpetrated by American soldiers. The principal subject of the discussion was the killing of Father Augustine in Panay. The Democrats declared that this act was murder and denounced the policy of the administration and the conduct of the Army. The Republicans replied that in the War of the Rebellion smaller crimes than that of Father Augustine had resulted in the hanging of American citizens. A strong effort is being made by the anti-imperialists to secure prosecutions for the alleged outrage on the priest.

Stress is laid by the Philippine Commission in its annual report on the importance of establishing a gold standard for the islands and of making a reduction of at least 75 per cent. from the Dingley tariff rates upon goods imported into the United States from the islands. Other recommendations contemplate the establishment of banking corporations empowered to issue circulating notes under proper safe-guards, the repeal of the provision prohibiting the holding an interest in more than one mining claim, the increase to 25,000 acres of the amount which may be held by individuals from the public domain, the exemption from taxation in the United States of bonds issued by the insular government under the Philippine act, and empowering the Government to admit a limited number of Chinese skilled labourers into the islands. It is worth noting that the administration has decided to accede to the claim made by Great Britain and Germany for the "open door" in the Philippines, a decision which seems to be based on the position taken by Judge Day in the peace negotiations at Paris after the war with Spain.

Mr. Horace J. Stevens, assistant mineral commissioner of the state of Michigan, has compiled for the Boston News Bureau the following estimates of copper production for 1902, which that agency compares as follows with the figures for previous years (in pounds):—

	1902.	1901.	1900.
Lake Superior	166,000,000	156,289,481	145,461,408
Montana	218,000,000	229,870,415	270,738,486
Arizona	140,000,000	130,778,611	118,317,764
California	40,000,000	33,667,456	28,511,225
Utah.....	31,000,000	20,116,979	18,354,726
Miscellaneous	62,000,000	31,340,577	24,733,464
Total	657,000,000	602,072,519	606,117,166

The percentage of increase in production over 1901 is 9.1 per cent., which compares with a decrease in 1901 from 1900 of 0.6 per cent. and an increase in 1900 over 1899 of 6.6 per cent. Mr. Stevens estimates the 1902 world's production of copper at 557,854 tons, an increase of 8.9 per cent., and comparing as follows (in tons):—

1902.....557,854	1899.....468,423
1901.....511,803	1898.....434,023
1900.....484,852	1897.....405,350

Mexico is the largest contributor to the past year's increase. The supply of copper on hand at present in the United States is placed by Mr. Stevens at 150,000,000 pounds, or 58,000 long tons.

True to the expectations which were entertained at the end of 1902, the beginning of the present year has been signalized by the announcement of several matters of great importance concerning railroad properties, tending to continue the policy of combination and con-

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ciliation which reigns among such interests, remarks *Bradstreets*. The announcement of the deal by which the Vanderbilts on the one hand and the Pennsylvania-Baltimore & Ohio on the other acquired what is understood to be a joint control of the Reading system attracts much attention. While this was the most important single development of its kind, there have been several others of a like nature which have a considerable bearing upon the general railroad situation. It is, for instance, stated that the difficulties between the Pennsylvania and the Wabash in relation to the latter's plans for obtaining an entrance to the city of Pittsburgh have been satisfactorily adjusted. Another important deal just announced relates to the entrance of the Rock Island system into St. Louis and its successful conclusion of negotiations for satisfactory terminal facilities at that city in coöperation with the other lines centering there. It also seems to be settled that the road which Senator Clark has been building from Salt Lake to Los Angeles is to be operated in harmony with the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific and will not be an aggressive competitor with them. These and other minor developments of the same kind all go to show that the maintenance of peaceful relations among the railroads is something to which railroad officials and financiers are bending earnest and intelligent effort.

EUROPEAN NOTES.

Manchester proposes to follow the example of Glasgow in abolishing barmaids.

A thaw has caused disastrous floods in Austria. There have been many fatalities.

Sir Ernest Cassel offers a sum of £40,000 for promoting the study of ophthalmia in Egypt.

Last year, 63,365 alien immigrants arrived in England, being an increase of 10,000 on 1901.

The gross value of the estate of the late Colonel H. L. B. M'Calmont is estimated at £2,000,000.

Great Britain has offered private shareholders in the Netherlands-South African Railway Company £135 per share.

The fund for raising a national memorial to Queen Victoria amounts to £233,000, and includes £500 from Basutoland.

The Article Club has been wound up voluntarily. This is the natural sequel to the Cowen-Labouchere libel case verdict.

Brewers have voluntarily surrendered hotel licenses held by them at Blackburn, England The hotels are valued at £100,000.

M. Pelletan, the French Minister of Marine, has ordered the adoption of the eight-hours system in all the naval dockyards of France.

Sir Michael Foster, Unionist, who has represented the London University since 1900, intends to join the Radicals if the University sanctions the change.

Owing to the suppression of gambling at Ostend and Spa, many of the hotels and clubs in those towns have been closed for the winter. The municipalities are devising other attractions.

The pantomine song which has caught the taste of London streets this year has the idyllic refrain :—

Looping the loop with Lucy, Lucy,
Looping the loop with Lu.

Recently the Taff Vale Railway Company proceeded against the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, claiming £28,000 for damages sustained owing to the strike of 1900. A verdict was returned for the plaintiffs, and the assessment of damages was postponed. The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants has now decided not to appeal against the verdict, but to support any other union wishing to appeal. Mr. Richard Bell, M.P., the secretary of the society, reported that the society's damages and costs would amount to £50,000. Mr. Bell deprecated the carelessness of ordinary members of the society in electing irresponsible orators to the executive committee instead of men of grit, who would rigidly administer the rules.

In 1883 the gradual abolition of slavery in British North Borneo was provided for by proclamation. That enactment having done its work, another proclamation was notified on the 31st December last, declaring that no form of domestic slavery will in future be recognised in that Territory, all attempts to revive any form of slavery being dealt with under the Penal Code.

The United Kingdom is said by the *Marine Journal* to have at present thirty-four vessels of over 10,000 tons each, ninety-eight of over 7,000 tons, and 271 of over 5,000 tons. Germany has twenty-six of the first class, twelve of the second and fifty-two of the third. The United States has six over 10,000 tons, three over 7,000 tons, and thirty-one 5,000 tons.

The Italian Government's Naval shipbuilding programme for 1903 comprises two first-class battleships of the *Vittorio Emanuele* type, of which one will be named the *Roma*. There will also be four first-class torpedo-boats, a submarine, two commissariat supply ships, two shallow gunboats for lagoon service, and a number of light craft for the ports and arsenals. Armstrong's Italian gun foundries will supply most of the guns.

Mr. R. W. Hanbury, the President of the Board of Agriculture, speaking at a farmers' conference at Leicester, said that the corn duty had been an object lesson, inasmuch as it had not increased the price of bread. It would be very interesting, he said, to see how far, without injuring home customers, it would be possible to make foreigners pay on a good many articles sent to Great Britain.

The Italian Government is considering plans for the upbuilding of Naples. That city has a population of 500,000 inhabitants, but having no staple industry, about 150,000 of these are unemployed. Much distress, therefore, prevails. The Government's plan is to make the city attractive to European tourists. To this end it is proposed, in the first place, to erect a large gambling casino which shall rival that of Monte Carlo, and to erect a series of magnificent hotels along the shores of the beautiful bay.

The late Archbishop Temple's voice was not only rough of sound and Devonian in accent, but it was also devoid of all tune. On one occasion, when taking part in a London church service, as an ordinary worshipper, and singing a hymn lustily according to his wont, his next door neighbour, a mechanic, kept turning to him with evident signs of displeasure. But the Archbishop continued to make what he called "a joyful noise," until his neighbour, slamming his hymn-book down, said, "I say, guv'nor, chuck it. You're spoiling the blooming show."

One of the Methodist district synods in Queensland has requested the conference in that State to instruct the ministers of the church not to officiate at any wedding of Chinese men and white women. The reason given is that many of the Chinese who seek to marry European women have wives in China, and though Chinese marriages are not recognised in Australia, a second marriage is morally an act of bigamy, in which serious wrong may be done to women ignorant of Chinese customs and laws. The same synod has recommended that as many Chinese regard the rite of baptism merely as a part of a form of naturalising children as British subjects the ministers of the church be instructed to refrain from baptising Chinese children unless the parents or guardians have become members of a Christian church.

Indian papers report that the endeavours of the planters to bring about by new methods a larger yield, as well as to reduce the cost of production, have finally failed. The *Indian Planters Gazette*, after having given the information that the Chemist Rawson, who had been engaged by the Indigo planters, has left India and will not return, writes as follows :—"One of the most lamentable but significant signs of the times was the meeting of planters held on the 15th inst. (November, 1902) in Mozufferpore when it was proposed that owing to the separation of the B.T.P.A. Ld. (Behar-Tirhoot-Planters-Association, Ld.) from research work and the impossibility of providing sufficient funds, the Research Committee should be authorised to take the necessary steps for winding up the research operations at Pipra, and that all the employes should be paid up to the end of March, 1903."

Sixteen hundred workmen of the Vulcan shipbuilding yard at Stettin have telegraphed to the German Emperor a resolution dissociating themselves from the telegram of homage which the Emperor received from the workmen of Krupp's works at Essen. The Vulcan workmen state that the Essen workmen were forced to sign the resolution which the telegram conveyed, otherwise they would be likely to suffer pecuniarily.

Glasgow furnishes striking proof of the difficulty in estimating expenditure on municipal telephony. The Telephone Committee of the Corporation originally estimated that the entire cost of the telephone undertaking for the city would be £97,009. They have already spent £220,000 on their scheme, and have now decided to recommend the City Council to apply for powers to borrow another £80,000. A grand total of £300,000, or £303,000 beyond the estimate.

Professor Michael Pupin has sold his European patent rights to Messrs. Siemens and Halske, of Berlin. These include means and apparatus for transmitting telephone messages over long cables. The kernel of the invention is to insert inductance coils at intervals in the cable. This method has been found good in long distance telephony over land wires, but has not yet been applied to cables because it involves the manufacture and laying of special cables with the coils inserted at intervals. It is considered that in the comparatively shallow North Sea, Baltic, and Mediterranean such a cable is practicable, and that London might in this way be put in direct telephonic communication by cable with Berlin, Copenhagen, or Stockholm.

Mdme. Yvette Guilbert has just revealed Pierre Loti to her countrymen in a new light. We all knew him as a bit of an Orientalist. A Paris correspondent writes that nobody seems to have known what a perfect little Orient in miniature he has created for himself inside the externally dull old house he occupies at Rochefort. Mdme. Guilbert was amazed. One part is an Indian temple, and then a Mahomedan mosque ; a third a saloon fit for the Great Mogul ; and the novelist's own smoking-room is a perfect reproduction of the finest Court of the Alhambra. Flooring and walls everywhere are of the choicest marbles, Eastern curtains, hangings, and divans in the richest materials give colour and warmth ; and everything denotes magnificence and cultivated taste.

In an article in the current number of *Nature*, Mr. A. E. Shipley refers to the widespread belief among both whites and natives in West Africa that the presence of a particular plant in a room drives away the mosquitoes. Major Burdon, on his return from Northern Nigeria, gave some of the leaves of this iplant to Mr. Shipley, and it has subsequently been identified as "Ocimum viride," which occurs from Senegambia southwards to Angola and is specially abundant about Lokoja. The specimens seen by Major Burdon were about the size of geraniums and the plant itself appears to be a kind of Basil. The evidence for its power of driving away mosquitoes seems to be really strong, for Captain Larymore was able, by placing three or four plants round his bed at night, to dispense with a mosquito net in a place so infested with the insects as Lokoja. The peculiar properties of this plant are of the greatest importance in view of recent discoveries in regard to malaria.

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DEATH OF A FORMER YOKOHAMA DOCTOR.

Many Yokohama residents will remember Dr. William Tuberville Buckle, who acted as assistant to Dr. Wheeler from 1873 to the early eighties. Dr. Buckle was exceedingly popular here; an enthusiastic sportsman and a good runner and rider. The news of his sudden death will be received with regret by his old friends. It appears that he was found dead in bed at his residence, 5 Vicarage Villas, Church End, Willesden, on Nov. 27th. At the coroner's inquest it was stated by Colonel Buckle (his brother) that he was in good spirits the previous day and did not have any trouble. The deceased gentleman's housekeeper, who had been with him for seven years, said he suffered from ague and took chloroform at times. On the evening of the 26th he was very cheerful and did not complain of anything. She went to his bed room just before he retired to rest but saw no chloroform there then. She heard him go downstairs about half-past three in the morning but thought nothing of it as he often got up in the night. He did not ring for breakfast as usual and on going to his room she found him dead in bed. He was holding to his face a handkerchief saturated with chloroform and a bottle of chloroform was on the table by his side. A post-mortem examination showed that death was due to syncope from heart disease accellerated by the taking of chloroform. A medical witness testified that the chloroform would not have killed deceased without the heart disease. The jury returned a verdict of "death from misadventure."

THE KING'S DAUGHTERS.

A very pleasant entertainment was given on Wednesday afternoon and evening in the Public Hall by "The King's Daughters," whose efforts or behalf of charitable objects have been frequent and varied. On this occasion the proceeds are to be devoted to a most worthy purpose, namely that of the Ladies' Hospital Fund. For the children there was an entertainment of various kinds, Ping-Pong, Aunt Sally and other sports amusing to the youngsters. There were stalls beautifully decorated in various colours at which ladies dispensed sweetmeats and refreshments. A candy stall was under the supervision of the Misses Mendelson and Mrs. Kuhn, and Mrs. Manley and Miss Cameron tended a lemonade stall. At yet another stall cakes and such like delicacies were provided by Miss Abenheim and Miss Abbey. The hall was most tastefully decorated under the direction of Mr. Manley. In the evening a dance for adults took place, which proved most enjoyable. Doubtless the ladies concerned netted a substantial sum for their highly laudable object.

HARBOUR THIEVES IN YOKOHAMA.

The harbour police at Yokohama have furnished us with some details of the recent theft of two bales of raw silk from a French mail steamer in Yokohama harbour. It appears that a coolie named Hirano Kurakichi (26 years of age), was working on board the steamer *Indus* on the 4th December when he secretly entered the hold where some 600 bales of raw silk and waste silk were stowed. There he concealed himself till the evening, when he commenced to break into two of the raw silk bales, weighing 200 *kin* and valued at *yen* 2,100 in all. After he had unpacked two whole bales he opened a port-hole and gave preconcerted signals to his colleagues to come and assist him. These two, named Inagaki Otojiro (31) a so-called dry goods dealer living in Maganecho, and Kimeda Hanji (25) a coolie, always working at the Hatoba, came up in a boat to the steamer's side and stopped under the port-hole. Kurakichi threw down the raw silk in small lots into the boat and when he had finished crawled out himself and helped to take the junk out of harbour, where the thieves repacked the silk into two bags making it look like bales of Chinese rice. They then took the bags into the house of another dry goods dealer named Toda Eijiro (39), living in Wakabacho, Yokohama, where they again repacked the silk, this time into the usual semblance of packages of silk. The silk was eventually sold to a silk manufacturer named Daida Takejiro (56) living in the village of Ashigara Shimo-gun, Kanagawa Prefecture, for the price of *yen* 1,454. It is said that this buyer well understood how the men had secured the silk, though of course they pretended that they were raw silk brokers. After the man had purchased the stolen silk he brought it into Yokohama and sold it to a raw silk merchant, the Kojima-shoten, Minami Nakadori, 4 chome, Yokohama, for *yen* 1,886. The theft was not found out till the 21st ultimo, when Mr. A. Conil, Agent of the Companie des Messageries Maritimes, reported the theft to the harbour police. Mr. Conil had received a telegram from Marseilles to the effect that two bales were missing from the silk room, which had not been opened at any of the intermediate ports, after leaving Yokohama; and it was considered that the theft had taken place here. Since then Mr. Takahashi, Police Inspector, and Mr. Yada, a detective, have taken the matter in hand and through their efforts the four thieves were arrested on the 16th inst. Until further details come from Marseilles as to marks, etc., it will not be possible to decide to whom among the many shippers the stolen bales belonged.

LAW CASES.

MUKAI v. RUNGE & THOMAS.

The hearing of this case, which was adjourned on the 11th inst., was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato and two other Judge Associates on Thursday.

Mr. Miyata, barrister, was present for the plaintiff, a Japanese woollen cloth dealer; and Mr. Koide for defendants, Messrs. Runge and Thomas.

The plaintiff made two contracts in July and September, 1902, with defendants, to purchase some woollen cloth valued at *yen* 45,833.96 and *yen* 29,327.02 respectively, and deposited *yen* 5,000 as guarantee. The goods arrived here in October, 1902. The contract ran that plaintiff should take delivery of the goods within 90 days after arrival and the defendant took delivery from the firm of some cases to the value of *yen* 26,305.09. When plaintiff asked permission to take up further deliveries, in November last, defendants declined, saying that a cash payment would be necessary, while some of the cases had been sold to another customer but that substitutes could be delivered. Plaintiff asked the Court to summon two men, Hidaka and Doke, as witnesses, to explain the circumstances of the transaction.

The case was then adjourned till the 3rd March.

The hearing of the libel suit brought by Mr. H. Hoffmann, of Messrs. H. Ahrens and Co., Nachf., against Messrs. Minowa, proprietor of the *Hochi Shimbun*, Akiyama of the *Niroku Shimbun*, and Kuroika of the *Mancho-ho* will open on the 26th at 9 a.m. in the Tokio District Court.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mesdames Sufu and Taniguchi visited the Jizen Hospital, Negishi, Yokohama, on the 12th inst.

The steamer *Gairloch* has been totally wrecked near Plymouth, New Zealand. The crew were saved.

In the neighbourhood of Sydney on the 5th January, the temperature was 123 degrees F. in the shade.

Lieut.-General Oku and his suite will leave Singapore for Japan on the 15th inst. and are expected to arrive in Yokohama on the 14th March.

At Mr. John W. Hall's auction rooms on Tuesday, 25 shares of Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., were sold at auction by Mr. Hall, 10 shares for *yen* 33 and 15 shares for *yen* 36 each.

Among the passengers on the N.Y.K. steamer *Kasuga Maru*, which left Yokohama on Saturday, is Mr. C. D. Moss who, his friends will regret to learn, has been compelled by the state of his health to leave for Australia. A severe cold contracted at a farewell reception given to Dr. Masujima in December has been the chief factor of his illness. We wish him a safe trip and a speedy return in restored health.

On the morning of Feb. 13th Marquis Ito paid a visit to Marquis Yamagata at his villa Shoto-an, where he stayed till 5 o'clock afternoon. Thereafter he proceeded to Tonosawa, Hakone.

We have to acknowledge receipt of "A Church Calendar" for 1903, published by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. It contains much information of interest to both clergy and laity.

The following lines will be appreciated by those who take an interest in bacteriology:—

He boiled the water that he drank,
By rule he slept and ate,
He wore hygienic underclothes
To get the bulge on fate.
Thus science served him faithfully
And made him microbe proof,
But yesterday he met defeat
By falling from a roof.

We are requested to publish the following figures showing the results of the lecture given by Mr. Weston in aid of St. Hilda's Orphanage:—

	Yen.
Sale of tickets	306.00
Donations	21.00
	327.00
Expenses (hire of hall and advertising)	21.50
	305.50

Early on the morning of the 16th inst. a robber armed with a revolver entered the house of a farmer named Sekiguchi, in Tama village, Minami Tama-gun, Tokyo, and took away some *yen* 50.80 after threatening the family with his pistol. The man was, however, arrested the same day. On the night of the 15th, about 10.30 o'clock, a robber with a sword entered a house occupied by a merchant named Iida Sahei, in Atago-machi, Shiba, Tokyo. The intruder, however, was scared away through the family being awakened. About 10 minutes after this an armed robber entered a pawn-broker's shop situated in Karasumori-cho and obtained over *yen* 37.

News has been received in Kobe of the death of Mr. Robert Larkin, son of Mr. Larkin, who was for many years in the service of the Japanese Government. Some time since the deceased gentleman, who had a private income and was therefore under no necessity to take such a step, joined the Fifth Royal Irish Lancers. Whilst he was riding with his squadron at Colchester on December 30th his horse fell on a piece of ice, together with another horse which he was leading. Mr. Larkin was thrown, his skull being fractured. He died the same night. The unfortunate gentleman was born in Kobe, the *Kobe Herald* believes, and the news of his untimely death will be received with sincere regret by many of the old residents who knew the family here.

Among the Chinese passengers to Hongkong from Honolulu by the *City of Peking* was a leper, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, who was found to be suffering from the loathsome disease only when the steamer got to Manila. The man had his family aboard and was bound for Hongkong. He evidently was in the act of escaping deportation to the leper colony on Molokai Island, for he came on board the steamer at Honolulu. During the voyage he mingled freely with the other passengers, eating at the same table with them. How he escaped observation by the ship's doctor the local authorities were unable to comprehend, for his case was so pronounced that even a casual look at the man reveals to the practised eye, says a Manila paper, that he is a leper of the most hopeless kind. After the captain of the *Peking* was informed of these facts he ordered the man into segregated confinement until Hongkong was reached, where he was to be turned over to the health authorities.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

FOREIGN MISSIONS AND THE U. S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Some time ago there appeared in an article by the Washington correspondent of the *Japan Times* a statement that the interest in foreign missions in the U.S. was diminishing, and the contributions were falling off.

I do not know what was the source of such a statement but the various reports show that such is not the case.

At the recent Methodist Missionary Convention, held in Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Goucher called for a special gift from those present of $250,000 for missions. It was the largest sum ever asked in that way, and it was given in subscriptions faster than they could be recorded. The sum asked for was exceeded by $50,700, and it was proposed to bring it up to $500,000 within a week. One man gave $100,000 and would not let his name be known. The increase in appropriations for the foreign mission work was 15.½ per cent over that of the previous year.

(The Methodist Episcopal Church in the U.S. has just raised as a special thankoffering fund the sum of $20,000,000. This is in addition to the ordinary current expenses and is a gift unprecedented in history. This is to be devoted to permanent objects, or endowments, and not to the relief of any temporary emergency. The gifts varied from one cent to $400,000, and there were three million contributors in all.)

The average receipts of the American Baptist Missionary Union for the past six years were $661,599. The receipts for 1902 were $680,518, or $19,000 above the average for that period and $213,317 above the receipts for 1897.

The receipts of the American Board for the year 1902 were $46,482, in excess of those of the preceding year.

In a letter just issued to the churches by the Rev. A. H. Bradford, D.D., Moderator of the Congregational Council, he says, "The missionary spirit is clearly increasing, as is evidenced by the larger gifts, the number and the quality of new missionaries, and the more general interest in the missionary enterprise in its various phases."

From the official report of the Protestant Episcopal Board of Missions we quote "1901.—The gross receipts of the Society for the fiscal year which ended August 31st., were $1,004,349, being by far the greatest amount ever reported."

"1902.—The increase in contributions as compared with the previous year was $114,084; the number of parishes contributing was 791 greater than in 1901."

In closing their report for 1902 the Board of Managers use these words: "So great has been the increase during the past year in contributions that the Board sincerely believes that the Church at large is awakened to her duty with regard to her Mission."

Bishop McKim added to the above report: "I believe that the interest of all Christians in Foreign Missions is increasing rather than diminishing, and that this is an intelligent interest."

At the close of the year ending April 30th, 1902, the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions reports 749 missionaries, a gain of 34; 44,443 communicants, a gain of 2,884; 26,108 scholars in schools, a gain of 188, and 289,365 patients treated in hospitals and dispensaries. The number of patients has been nine times that of the number treated in the best of the hospitals in New York City, and the expense has been but one-tenth as great.

The receipts have exceeded those of any preceding year; the total being $1,086,341 as compared with $967,180 last year. From May 1st. to Nov. 30th 1902, the contributions for Foreign Missions were $44,718 in excess of those of the same period the year before. The appropriations for the current year, 1902, were $53,129 in excess of those for the year before.

Those are the principal Missionary Societies in the U.S. It is probable that they have not been more prosperous in proportion to their constituency than others.

In this connection it may be of interest to note some of the changes during the last century.

At the beginning of the 19th century the proportion of men to women in the churches of the U. S. was one to five. By the statistics of 1890 the proportion was one to two. In the Presbyterian Church alone, the growth in the church was 70 to 1, while in the population it was 15 to 1.

In 1802 the contributions of the Presbyterian church in the U.S. for benevolent purposes were $2,500. in 1902 the Eight Boards of the Presbyterian Church received $3,383,406, while $1,036,373 was contributed to miscellaneous purposes, and $612,575,456 for congregational expenses. The contributions for missions and benevolence in 1801 were 12½ cents per member. In 1901 it was $4.22 per member.

At the end of 1900 there were 27,360,610 members of all churches in the U.S., and 28,090,637 at the end of 1901, a gain of 731,027 or 2.67 per cent., while the annual gain in population from 1890 to 1900 was 2.18 per cent. During the last century the increase in church membership to that of the general population was as 27 to 9.

At the beginning of the last century there were said to have been only eleven church members among the students in Yale College. At the close of the century there were 295 students engaged in Bible study, and sixty-six per cent. of the seniors were Christians.

The total number of seniors in 52 colleges and universities from which reports were received in 1901 was 1839. Of that number 1156 were Christians. In eight of these the entire senior classes were Christians. Of 70,000 young men in American Colleges 38,000 are church members, and over 5,000 are candidates for the ministry.

The World's Students' Christian Federation includes Christian Associations or unions in over 1500 Universities, Colleges, and Higher Schools throughout the world, and has a total membership of 82,000 students and professors. At a recent Conference held in Denmark twenty-nine different countries were represented.

The first Young Men's Christian Association was organized in London in 1844 by George Williams. There are now more than 6,000 Associations, among fifty nations, speaking 35 languages, with half a million members and ten times that number in some direct connection with the organization. The Associations in the U.S. number 1439, with a membership of 252,000.

The first Christian Endeavour Society was organized in 1881. There are now 61,402 Christian Endeavour Societies, with a membership of nearly 4,000,000.

Of the enormous number of books sold in one of the department stores in New York during the holidays more than one half were Bibles.

In a recent copy of *The Pacific* is an article in which the author writes: "Christ's spirit pervades life and controls action more widely and more thoroughly than at any time in the past; and past and present presage still more glorious conditions for the future." Yours, etc. HENRY LOOMIS.

Yokohama, February 7th, 1903.

MISS HUHOLD AND DR. HARNACK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To-day's letter by Miss Huhold in the *Japan Mail* enables me at last to settle definitely the matter under discussion.

1. Miss H. did not herself falsify passages from Harnack's book. Not even "the words in parenthesis" are her own (*e.g.* that "Harnack's Christianity is only heathenism mixed up with a few Christian ideas.") The falsifyer is somebody else.

2. Miss H. has been too ready to believe what Harnack's opponents pretended to quote from his book as genuine. This is a regrettable inadvertence, but no grave fault. But to declare in a letter to a Japanese pastor that she knew Harnack's book herself, and to produce the impression in the *Japan Evangelist* that she was quoting from his book itself, seems to be a graver fault. In discussions of German Theologians at least such things are considered to be strictly forbidden. Full and absolute veracity and conscientiousness are too highly valued by modern German Theologians.

3. It is a pity that Miss H. destroyed the writings from which she had quoted. Since she had no other documents to rely upon when she entered the arena of public discussion, this destruction seems to be rather an incautious action. I should like, by the way, to know the name of the magazine or paper which she deemed worthy of destruction,

4. I am very sorry to be unable to make Miss H. rejoice by showing her that Harnack is orthodox enough to be considered by her as orthodox. But I have proved already sufficiently that in several cases Harnack's views are very different from the quotations Miss H. translated from her German source. To prove this was the aim of my letter to the *Japan Mail*, nothing else.

5. I am much more sorry that Miss H. therefore will be obliged to keep her promise to continue as she has been doing, namely warning Japanese pastors and others against the German missionaries who on their part do not warn any one against other missionaries because they differ from them in such unessential things as formulated dogmas and creeds. I leave it to the public and Miss H.'s conscience to decide which is more in harmony with the spirit of Jesus as revealed in Mark 9, 38-40: "John said unto him, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name: and we forbade him, because he followed not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a mighty work in my name, and be able quickly to speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is for us."

Faithfully yours, AD. WENDT.

Tokyo, Feb. 13th, 1903.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS IN CHINA.

Peking, November 24.

We have for some time past been speculating whether the Government would take the people into its confidence and disclose the somewhat unworthy way in which we have been treated by a friendly Power in the question of the Yang-tsze Valley. We wonder whether the visit of the German Emperor to England is to be accepted as a compensatory solatium for the unfriendliness displayed towards us in a recent German intrigue in China.

It will be remembered that on February 14, 1898, at a time when the policy of "spheres of interest" had some following, England obtained from China a written undertaking that China would never mortgage, lease, or cede any territory in the Yang-tsze region to any other Power. This was one of our diplomatic successes, or perhaps it was a Parliamentary advantage rather than a diplomatic gain. It served its purpose in persuading the people for a time to believe that we had in some way secured a position of advantage in the Yang-tsze Valley. The indication then given of our adherence to the policy of "spheres of influence" was followed by Germany, who on March 6, 1898, signed an agreement with China defining clearly her rights in the province of Shan-tung, and obtaining for herself throughout that province preferential rights that were virtually exclusive. We admitted these inclusive rights. The Wei-hai-wei Convention was signed on July 1, 1898, and a few days later Mr. Balfour made his gratuitous declaration, since regarded as a binding engagement, that no railway would be constructed inland from Wei-hai-wei, so that the exclusive railway rights of Germany in the province might not be interfered with.

Later in the same year France pressed for an extension of her Shanghai concession. We energetically opposed her demands, citing in defence of our action our agreement with China forbidding the alienation of territory in the Yang-tsze Valley. Though her demands were pressed with some show of force they were resisted by China, and the extension was never granted. France naturally did not forget this incident. Our policy then lost no opportunity of representing that our interests in China were identical with those of Germany. In every way that could be done assistance was given by us to the commercial expansion of Germany in China. In 1896 we had signed an Anglo-German loan to China of £16,000,000, in 1898 a second time we signed an Anglo-German loan for £16,000,000, and once more, on May 18, 1899, we signed an Anglo-German loan agreement with China for the construction and management of a trunk line of railway to extend through our respective spheres of interest from Tien-tsin through Shan-tung to Chin-kiang on the Yang-tsze. All three contracts were negotiated by Mr. E. G. Hillier, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Peking. No German could have hoped to carry these negotiations through successfully. The work was done by an Englishman with the prestige behind him of the powerful British bank, without whose assistance it is safe to say no China loan could have then been floated in Europe. We obtained these advantages and we shared them with Germany. And we have had our reward.

Last July the British Treaty Commissioner, Sir James Mackay, voyaged up the Yang-tsze to confer with the two Viceroys upon the final draft of the treaty that was then nearing completion. This was the object of his mission, his avowed intention, and it is difficult to understand how any other interpretation could have been suggested for a journey taken so openly. No one can allege that England does not faithfully fulfil her engagements. Less than two years before, on October 16, 1900, England and Germany had signed an agreement whereby the contracting Powers undertook not to make use of present complications to obtain for themselves any territorial advantages in Chinese dominions, and engaged to direct their policy towards maintaining undiminished the territorial condition of the Chinese Empire. This agreement was in existence at the time of Sir James Mackay's mission up the Yang-tsze.

Now it happens that Germany is represented in Shanghai by an aggressive official, Dr. Knappe, whose appointment to the chief centre of British interests in China was the reward of services rendered against England in Samoa. Dr. Knappe discovered to his own satisfaction that the mission of Sir James Mackay, though purporting to be connected with the new treaty, had for its real object the obtaining of the consent of the Yang-tsze Viceroys to England's conjoint occupation with China of Chin-kiang and the Kiang Yin forts. It is not possible that he could have believed this story. He made no attempt to verify it, but communicated it to his Government as a fact. A day or two later the German Chargé d'Affaires in Paris, acting under orders from Berlin, officially informed M. Delcassé, and on behalf of his Government suggested that, as the question of the evacuation of Shanghai would

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shortly arise, opportunity might then be taken to impose conditions upon China which would avert the threatened *coup*.

Shortly afterwards an incident occurred that assisted Germany in her intrigue. On August 15th two English missionaries were murdered at Chen-chau in Hu-nan province. The murder was opportune. The murder of two German missionaries in Shan-tung had led to the seizure of Kiao-chau Bay. Compensation, said Germany, would surely be demanded by England; some advantage would inevitably be exacted in the Yang-tsze Valley. France was easily persuaded to act with Germany in effecting the complete neutralization of the Yang-tsze.

It was agreed that the two Powers should send similar but not identic notes to China demanding conditions agreed upon. On October 5th the German note was sent to the Wai-wu-pu by the German Chargé d'Affaires, Baron von der Goltz, and it was followed on October 10th by the French note sent by the French Chargé d'Affaires, M. Casenave.

The French note said that France was desirous of giving effect to the provisions of the protocol of September 7, 1901, and was prepared to withdraw her troops from Shanghai simultaneously with the withdrawal of their troops by the other Powers, but that in the event of a re-occupation of Shanghai by any other Power, France would reserve her liberty of action. In view, however, of her withdrawal France must ask the Chinese Government to give her an assurance that it would not grant to any other Power any preferential advantage, diplomatic, military, or maritime, in the Yang-tsze Valley, and would not concede to any other Power the right to occupy any point dominating the Yang-tsze, whether below or above Shanghai by river.

On October 15, Prince Ching and the Wai-wu-pu replied. They quoted in full the words of the French despatch, and added that China, acting within her Sovereign rights, would undertake not to grant to any Power such advantages as were therein referred to, and willingly gave this assurance to the French Legation.

The German note differed from the French note in that the condition had been added that no economic advantage should be granted by China in the Yang-tsze Valley to any other Power that was not also granted to Germany. Chang Chih-tung, in commenting upon this condition when it was communicated to him in a despatch by Dr. Knappe, pointed out that in granting a railway concession to a British company Germany seemed to demand that a similar railway concession should be granted to a German company, which was a material impossibility. It was then pointed out in an explanatory despatch that economic (*wirtschaftlich*) was to be taken as applying to States, not to individuals.

When the German note was sent to the Wai-wu-pu it was accompanied by a minatory verbal message that the communication was to be kept secret from the British Legation. Thus, even on October 13, Prince Ching denied with an oath that Germany had imposed conditions for withdrawing her troops from Shanghai. Yet the same evening he wrote to Baron von der Goltz accepting the German conditions, and on the 15th he wrote to M. Casenave similarly assenting to the French conditions.

Then a curious thing happened. The German Chargé d'Affaires, presumably acting under the orders of his Foreign Office, communicated to his colleagues interested what purported to be the full contents of the note, but what, as a matter of fact, was only that portion of the note which said that, as the occupation of Shanghai was conjoint, in any subsequent occupation Germany would participate. He omitted the conditions which were the important portions of the note. At the same time, by a want of co-ordination in the members of the German foreign Legations, Count von Arco-Valley communicated the full text to Baron Komura in Japan. The full text had been already communicated to Lord Lansdowne in London, so that within a few hours the deception was discovered.

Catherine de Médicis once said, "A false report, if believed during three days, may be of great service to a government." By this false report Germany has deceived France, and estranged what lingering remnants of sympathy were still felt by Englishmen for German aspirations in China. We have been badly deceived, not by a Power whose interests are openly antagonistic to ours, but by the friendly Power in whose friendship we have been taught to trust, yet who has never lost an opportunity during recent years of blackmailing us when we have been in difficulty.

After sending the notes to France and Germany, China sent supplementary despatches declaring that the assurance applied not only to the Yang-tsze Valley, but to the whole of China, Manchuria, and Mongolia.

No doubt an explanation may be given that there has been a change of policy in Germany as there has been in England. Both countries started out with an adherence to the policy of spheres of influence. And both Powers have substituted for it a policy of the open door, but with this notable exception, that Germany changed her policy after she had secured her advantageous position in Shan-tung, while we abandoned our policy before we had secured any advantage whatsoever in the Yang-tsze Valley. It is a fitting corrollary to our policy that in an offensive German semi-official *communiqué* wired from Berlin on November 12th, it is announced that "England agrees not to try to obtain any privileges in the Yang-tsze Valley, with which promise Germany is fully satisfied."

It seems to us here that we need be in no hurry to withdraw our troops from Shanghai. China is not acting towards us with any spirit of good will. All our concessions are being blocked. She has granted to the Russo-Chinese Bank a concession to build a railway from Cheng-ting-fu on the Luhan railway to Tai-yuen-fu in Shan-si province, and she has granted it on better terms than a previous concession for the same railway which has become null and void through lapse of time. But she steadily blocks the way of both the British syndicates, and presistently evades the agreement which she formally entered into in September, 1898, to grant to British syndicates the right to construct certain railways in the Yang-tsze Valley, as well as a railway connecting the Shan-si coal-fields with the nearest navigable waterway.—*The Times*.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

VENEZUELA.

London, February 13.

The Allies have agreed to all three protocols being signed simultaneously, not anticipating one another, and they will appear at the Hague as one Power.

MACEDONIA.

Grave uneasiness is felt in Vienna owing to the report that Bulgaria contemplates mobilising two Army Corps in consequence of the massing of Turkish troops on the frontier.

ALASKA.

The Washington Senate has ratified the treaty providing three jurists on each side to settle the Alaskan dispute between Great Britain and the United States.

GERMANY AND VENEZUELA.

Later.

Germany has waived her demand for a cash payment down of £68,000 and Baron Sternberg has accepted proposals whereby Germany is to receive this money from Venezuela in five monthly installments.

MOVEMENTS OF TURKISH TROOPS.

Fourteen battalions of Turkish reliefs having head-quarters at Salonica, have been called out, ostensibly to replace 14 battalions called out last autumn.

PROSPEROUS BRITONS.

London, February 14.

Mr. Gerald Balfour, President of the Board of Trade, speaking at a public meeting held at Ipswich, said that there had been no sudden jump in the wealth of the country, but that progress had been steady, gradual and constant. The figures of last year showed that at present the country had reached a pitch of wealth and prosperity never touched before.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain arrived at Graffreinet, which is essentially the first Dutch centre touched by him in Cape Colony. The reception given him there has been distinctly cordial, the leading local members of the Afrikander Bond being present.

PIRATES IN THE RED SEA.

London, February 15.

The British torpedo-gunboat *Harrier* has captured three piratical *sambuks* in the Red Sea. Their crews numbered sixty.

VENEZUELA.

The Venezuela protocol was signed at Washington on Feb. 13th.

Mr. Balfour has announced that all difficulties with Venezuela are removed.

ARMY REFORM.

Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Hunter, one of the War Commissioners, thinks that the physique of the army will not be representative of the nation until there is conscription or better pay. He considers trafing (?) officers should be more numerous and better educated and paid.

THE BLOCKADE RAISED.

Later.

The admirals have been instructed to raise the blockade of Venezuela. The Venezuelan Government has made preliminary payments of £5,500 each to Great Britain and Germany.

A LITTLE EXPEDITION.

The expedition against the Emir of Kano (Nigeria) occupied Kano on Feb. 3rd after severe fighting. Two British officers and 12 rank and file were wounded; 300 of the enemy were killed. The Emir proceeded north with a force of a thousand.

VENEZUELA.

London, February 16.

The blockade of the Venezuelan coast has been raised.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

Mr. Chamberlain's tour continues to excite much interest, and has greatly increased public appreciation of his statesmanlike qualities, his masterly handling of facts about the situation and his plain out-spokenness to all parties, combined with a tone genuinely conciliatory, extorting admiration even of the Dutch.

THE BALKANS.

London, February 17.

Though the situation in the Balkans is still grave, it is believed in Constantinople that the presentation of the Austro-Russian reform scheme will clear the air.

THE ADEN HINTERLAND.

The *Standard* states that the Porte has decided to satisfy the British claims and has ordered complete evacuation of the Aden hinterland.

THE ATTACK ON KANO.

Later.

After a fruitless bombardment of the main gate of Kano, the British forced a smaller gate a mile distant headed by Dyer of the Guards, who was twice wounded. The enemy numbered 5,800. There was no street fighting.

Brig.-Gen. Sir F. D. Lugard, High Commissioner of Northern Nigeria, is now at Zaria (some 40 miles from Kano). He will probably proceed to Kano to instal the new king. The population of the country is tranquil. It has accepted the situation.

THE PHILIPPINES CURRENCY SYSTEM.

London, February 18.

The U.S. Senate at Washington has passed the Philippines Currency Bill, with an amendment submitted by Senator Paterson authorizing the President to invite the gold and silver standard countries to confer with the United States with the object of establishing a commercial relationship between the gold and silver countries.

PARLIAMENT RE-ASSEMBLES.

Later.

Parliament has re-assembled. The King and Queen went in State procession from

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Buckingham Palace to Westminster. The King's speech says that the progress of events in South Africa is satisfactory. Mr. Chamberlain's visit has already been productive of the best results.

Mr. Balfour, replying to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman in the debate on the address to the Throne, said that no dissent had been expressed from the British interpretation of the Sugar Convention.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

London, February 18.

Subject to the ratification of the treaty with Colombia the United States has agreed to purchase the Panama Canal Company's property rights for forty million dollars.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain has proceeded to Cape Town. On the way he stopped at the extreme Dutch centre, Paarl, (a few miles from Cape Town) and was given a lukewarm reception. He entered Cape Town on the morning of Feb. 18th and was greeted by crowds who warmly cheered him. Speaking in the market square afterwards he said he hoped all colonists would unite loyally in spite of apparently chronic antagonism, and he fervently appealed to all to forget the past and accept a prosperous future.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, February 15.

The Senate has voted to reduce the period of military service to two years.

It is announced from Vienna that the Archduchess, mother of the Queen of Spain, is dead.

An entente, it is announced from Washington, has been established on the subject of Venezuela between the Powers that signed the Protocol submitting the question to the Hague Tribunal of Arbitration. The blockade is raised.

MACEDONIA.

Saigon, February 17,

A numerous reunion has taken place at which politicians of all parties assisted, and called for France's intervention in Turkey in order to put an end to the attempts committed against the Macedonians and the Armenians.

NEWS FROM PARIS.

Saigon, February 12.

Deputy M. Deloncle has introduced in the Chamber a resolution inviting the Government to distribute the complete text of the agreements with China of Sept. 7th, 1901, and the diplomatic correspondence concerning the Anglo-Chinese Treaty of Sept. 5th, 1902, as well as about the evacuation of Shanghai.

The Committee of Foreign Affairs has heard M. Myre de Vilers, a former Deputy, and once Minister in Siam, as well as various other persons, who combatted the Franco-Siamese Convention. The Committee has decided, before continuing its work, to await the communication of the documents claimed from the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(From the "Japan Herald.")

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

London, February 12.

The cordial reply of Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, to the diplomatic toast at a banquet at the Carlton Club yesterday evening has given great satisfaction.

Baron Hayash i referred to the anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Empire, 2,563 years ago, and said he hoped the Anglo-Japanese Alliance would last as long.

"RAGGING" IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

London, February 15.

The recent disclosures as to "ragging" in the First Grenadier Guards continue to be much discussed.

It is generally admitted that Lieut.-Colonel Kinloch was aware of the practice, and also, possibly, those higher in rank, who made a scapegoat of Colonel Kinloch in deference to public opinion and to escape themselves.

THE VENEZUELAN COMPLICATION.

The *Globe* says that one great relief in the Venezuelan mess is that the conciliatory attitude of Great Britain has rather improved her relations with the United States.

Germany's recent anti-English spirit, however, has sowed a great distrust, and an Anglo-German Alliance is as repugnant as ever.

A VENEZUELA BLUEBOOK.

London, February 17.

A bluebook containing the correspondence in the Venezuela affair has now been published. It fails, however, to disclose the origin, character, or extent of Great Britain's engagements with Germany.

The *Times* says that the bluebook leaves the Venezuela mess where it stood before, and that the Ministers seem still to regard the disapproval expressed by the nation as simply resentment for the recent anti-British demonstrations in Germany.

"It is difficult to believe, however," adds the *Times*, "that the trend of German policy is favourable to British interests."

AN ECHO OF THE WAR.

London, February 18.

General Buller's evidence before the Commission on the South African War has raised an awkward question for Mr. Balfour.

Mr. Balfour in November, 1899, declared that the hostility of the Orange State was undreamt of two months before the war broke out.

It now seems, however, from General Buller's statements, that the invasion of the country by Great Britain was decided upon much earlier.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

It is reported that Lord Charles Beresford has been appointed to the command of the Channel Squadron.

MACEDONIAN REFORMS.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Times* doubts whether the Austro-Russian scheme of reforms in Macedonia will check the insurrectionary movement.

RUSSIAN WARSHIP FOR THE FAR EAST.

The *Novoe Vremya* says that if the trial trips are satisfactory, the Russian ironclad *Knyas Suvoroff* will sail for the Far East immediately.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

RUSSIA AND MACEDONIA.

London, February 11.

The Russian officers on reserve have received orders to be in readiness to join their respective regiments upon twenty-fours' notice.

The Sultan of Turkey expects that the Russo-Austrian programme concerning reforms in Macedonia will be submitted to him before long. The order for mobilization was issued for this reason.

THE VENEZUELA NEGOTIATIONS.

Mr. Bowen, the United States Minister to Venezuela, has consented to Great Britain's proposal for submitting the Venezuelan affair to the Arbitral Tribunal at the Hague.

TROUBLE IN GUATEMALA.

The Republic of Guatemala has declared martial law throughout the republic.

RUSSIAN WARSHIPS FOR THE FAR EAST.

The Russian warships *Retvizan*, *Bogatyr*, and *Pallada* and five torpedo-boats have passed Port Said for Chinese waters.

THE VENEZUELA QUESTION.

London, February 14.

The protocol of the Powers has at last been signed by the Representatives at Washington. Germany has reduced some portions of her claim.

The captured warships have been returned to Venezuela and the blockade is being raised.

Before the Arbitral Tribunal at The Hague the amount of the respective demands will be proposed.

DEATH OF A DISTINGUISHED OFFICER.

Field-Marshal Sir John Linton Arabin Simmons is dead.

THE VENEZULAN QUESTION.

London, February 6.

These has been rejoicing in La Guayra since the raising of the blockade. Great Britain and Germany have each received a payment of £5,500.

THE BALKANS.

The Bulgarian Government continues to arrest those who are partizans of Macedonia and to discourage the movements of the Macedonian Committee. The Porte is much pleased by the attitude of Bulgaria. The Parisians are dissatisfied with the mal-administration of Turkey and are creating complications.

THE KANO EXPEDITION.

The British forces have occupied Kano. The natives dispersed.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

London, February 17.

Their Majesties the King and Queen proceeded to-day to Westminster to attend the opening of Parliament. The King's Speech was most peaceful. The day was very fine and the public lined the streets to look on the procession.

RUSSIAN NAVAL EXTENSION.

The construction of five battleships of 16,000 tons each, is included in the Russian scheme of Naval Extension. The Government has approved the appropriation of twelve million roubles, and the Authorities are hurrying forward the building of those ships which are under construction.

THE BALKANS.

The Austrian Government has issued a circular note to the Powers with reference to the Balkan question, proposing that local administrative offices should be occupied by Christians.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION.

London, February 16.

On the 13th two leading Macedonians and some of the principal members of the Macedonian Committee were arrested in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. A group numbering over ten thousand have protested against the mismanagement of the Government, and claim permission to reorganize the Macedonian union.

It is rumoured in Vienna that certain Bulgarians are meditating opposition to the proposed Macedonian reforms, and intend seizing Ipeck (?) city, and driving away the new Russian Consul. A mob is proceeding towards Mitrovitch.

MR. CORTELYOU.

London, February 18.

Mr. Cortelyou, the private secretary of President Roosevelt, has been appointed Director of the Bureau for Commercial Affairs, to deal with trusts.

MACEDONIA.

It is believed in Constantinople that the action of the Bulgarian Government towards the Macedonian committee will provoke the revolutionists.

ADEN.

Five officers of the Dublin Fusiliers have been ordered to leave for Aden immediately, and the Regiment is to proceed to Dala, a place between the port and the Turkish territory, 70 miles distant N. W. from Aden.

(From the "Deutsche Japan Post.")

GERMANY AND VENEZUELA.

Berlin, February 13.

Germany's demand that the damages claimed by her from Venezuela should be considered first has been granted by Ambassador Bowen. The conclusion of the negotiations is near.

MACEDONIA.

In Macedonia committees have been formed who, encouraged by English and French papers, are openly making preparations for war. Russia and Austria one of these days will direct a joint note to the Sublime Porte demanding reforms. Germany in this matter supports the two Powers.

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THE POWERS AND CHINA.

In Peking the Powers insist upon the demand that China should give them partial bonds for the war damages.

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, February 14.

Germany and Venezuela have come to an agreement concerning the preference of the German claims for indemnification.

DEATH OF M. NOKK.

The former State-minister and President of the Ministry, of Baden M. Nokk is dead.

[Franz Wilhelm Nokk was born in 1839 at Bruchsal, studied for the bar, became President of the Ministry of Justice, Public Worship and Instruction in 1881 and, supplanting Minister Turb-n in 1893, State-minister and President of the Ministry of Baden.—Ed.]

THE VENEZUELA PROTOCOL.

Berlin, February 15.

The contents of the protocol signed in Washington by Germany and England is amazingly favourable for Germany. The German chief claim for indemnification will be paid in cash or by bills of exchange immediately. Among all the other Powers Germany has had the greatest success. The Berlin and London Governments are satisfied with the results of their joint action.

MACEDONIA.

The plan for reforms in Macedonia will be communicated in Constantinople on Tuesday next. The Powers sharply turn against the bellicosity of Bulgaria.

MOROCCO.

In Morocco the rebel army has been wholly cut up.

DETAILS OF THE PROTOCOL.

The protocol signed by Germany and Venezuela, on principle, acknowledges the German claims. The amount will be fixed by a special committee. Venezuela will assign to Germany 30 per cent. of the custom revenues of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello, estimated to be five and one half million Bolivares. The question whether the remainder of the custom revenues shall be eventually applied to the other Powers will be decided by the Hague tribunal. The Venezuelan Government bonds in the hands of Germans will be paid simultaneously with the settlement of the total sum due. At the same time the claims of the Germans who invested money in the Venezuela railway will be considered. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* dwells upon the general satisfaction felt in Germany that the joint action of England and Germany has been carried through without the slightest disagreement.

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, February 2.

The protocol signed in Washington by Germany and Venezuela met with great satisfaction in all German quarters and will help to strengthen the good relations of the German and U.S. Governments. The unveiling of the monument of Frederic the Great at Washington will take place this autumn or in the spring of next year.

PERSIA.

England has concluded a commercial treaty with Persia along the lines of the Russo-Persian treaty.

THE BALKANS.

Macedonia and Bulgaria are intimidated by Russia. If the Sultan will carry through immediately the reforms demanded by Russia and Austria, he will have free play, and the putting down of an eventual revolt will be vigorously backed-up by Russia.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

THE PROGRESS OF RHODESIA.

London, February, 6.

The Chartered Company has issued its report, in which it anticipates that the output of gold from Rhodesia will be doubled in the next two years, the increase being largely due to the extension of the railways to the Topping coal fields. The expense of living largely hampers the progress of Rhodesia, and the Chartered Company is therefore giving its freight contracts to companies outside the Ring.

VENEZUELA.

There is a strong feeling even in home circles in the United States that Mr. Bowen has been carried away by his sudden prominence to the point of exaggerating the importance of his position, and indulging in the "new diplomacy," communicating to the Press his proposals for a settlement before consulting the Ambassadors of the Allies.

ANOTHER BYE-ELECTION.

London, February 7.

Mr. Charles Craig, Unionist, has been elected for South Antrim by 4,564 votes against 3,615 given for Dr. Keightley, Independent.

NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO RUSSIA.

Mr. Cecil Arthur Spring-Rice, British Commissioner of the Egyptian Public Debt, Cairo, has been appointed to the Embassy at St. Petersburg.

(Before filling his recent post at Cairo, Mr. Spring-Rice was Secretary of Legation at Brussels, Washington, Tokyo, Berlin, and Constantinople.—Ed.)

FRENCH NAVY AND ITS WANTS.

In speaking on the Navy Estimates in the French Chamber, M. Pelletan, Minister of Marine, said that France has admirable bases in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, but nothing has been done to fortify them. If France were surprised by a declaration of war to-morrow, she would find herself without a naval basis. France had never been very enthusiastic over colonial expansion, but to-day her honour is at stake, and she must defend her colonies.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

London, February 9.

Mr. Chamberlain, at a banquet at Bloemfontein, said that it was a comfort to think that the object of his mission was accomplished beyond his expectations. He hoped and believed that Lord Milner would stop a long time in South Africa to witness the full fruition of his great policy.

VENEZUELA.

The negotiations about Venezuela continue, but the contradictoriness of the information obtainable renders the present phase of the negotiations obscure. One point is clear; that everyone concerned is desirous of bringing the matter to a close, which is retarded by Mr. Bowen's peculiar methods of negotiating.

NOTABLE DEATHS.

London, February 10.

Miss Edna Lyall, the authoress, is dead.

[Miss Edna Lyall was Miss Ada Ellen Bayly, of Brighton. She has written several popular novels, her reputation having been first established by "Donovan," published in 1882.—Ed.]

Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, K.C.M.G., has died at the age of 87.

[Sir Charles Gavan Duffy was arraigned for treason felony in 1848, but was never convicted. He emigrated to Australia in 1856, and rose to be Prime Minister of Victoria in 1871. He returned to Europe in 1880 and made his home at Nice.—Ed.]

THE CURRENCY OF THE STRAITS.

The *Standard* seems to be a little in doubt as to how the Straits Currency Commission will report. It is believed that the Straits Settlements will shortly adopt a currency analogous to that of India.

FRANCE AND ABYSSINIA.

The Paris *Temps* contradicts the report that the Emperor Menelik has broken off relations with the French Minister to Abyssinia, but admits the existence of disagreeable tension which has recently become more acute, being possibly influenced by recent negotiations. It declares, however, that it is a personal question.

RESIGNATION OF SIR J. W. PEASE, M.P.

Sir Joseph Whitwell Pease, M.P. for Barnard Castle, has resigned his seat.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, February 11.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at a banquet at Grahamstown yesterday evening, said that he was addressing all the colonies when he said that they were not doing what they ought with regard to their obligations to the Empire. The increased vote of the Cape for the fleet was not sufficient to keep the man-of-war *Good Hope* in commission for six months.

Mr. Chamberlain's observations are considered to foreshadow a money contribution from the Cape.

THE SHAH AND THE GARTER.

London via Bombay, February 11.

The British mission has left Teheran with the most cordial farewell from the Shah, who presented valuable gifts and handed Viscount Downe a letter for the King.

ARMY REFORM.

London, February 12.

Lord Roberts, in his evidence before the War Commission, said that he considered that future wars would require a much larger number of mounted men, while the cavalry must be trained to fight on foot and use the rifle, but they must be also trained in shock tactics. Individuality should be encouraged, and the infantry and mounted infantry should be largely increased.

ENTHRONEMENT OF ARCHBISHOP DAVIDSON.

London, via Bombay, February 13.

The new Primate has been enthroned at Canterbury.

REORGANISATION OF THE ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE.

London, February 13.

The War Office has decided to reorganise the Medical Corps, dividing it into four sections, Nursing, Cooking, Clerical, and General Duty. Revised rates of pay are under consideration, making the Nursing section the most important and attractive.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria 1	Tu. Feb. 24
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 2	Tu. Feb. 24
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru 3	Th. Feb. 26
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shiuane Maru 4	F. Feb. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa. Feb. 28
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Sim 5	Tu. Mar. 3
America	P. M. Co.	China 5	W. Mar. 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	F. Mar. 6
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Sa. Mar. 7
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	Su. Mar. 8
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 9
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. Mar. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Mar. 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Mar. 19

1 Left Tacoma on the 5th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst.
4 Left Seattle on the 16th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 13th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. Feb. 21
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hakata Maru	Sa. Feb. 21
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Sa. Feb. 21
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Tu. Feb. 24
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru	Tu. Feb. 24
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Feb. 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. Feb. 26
Europe	M. M. Co.	Anaam	F. Feb. 27
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Feb. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. Mar. 5
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Sa. Mar. 7
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Su. Mar. 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 9
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	Tu. Mar. 10
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Mar. 13
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa. Mar. 14
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Mar. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, D. P. Campbell, 13th Feb.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 21st Jan., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benvorlich, British steamer, 2,164, W. Thomson, 13th Feb.,—Rangoon, Rice.—Cornes & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 13th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 13th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 12th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Elita Nossack, German steamer, 1,161, Bruhn, 14th Feb.,—Hongkong, Rice.—Simon Evers & Co.

Gaa, Norwegian steamer, 625, M. Peterson, 14th Feb.,—Rangoon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 14th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 7th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, F. L. Pyne, 14th Feb.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 27th Jan., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thordis, Norwegian steamer, 2,415, Grani, 15th Feb.,—New York via ports, and Moji, 12th Feb., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hupeh, British steamer, 1,205, J. Meathrel, 15th Feb.,—Shanghai via Kobe, 13th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 15th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 14th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 15th Feb.,—Kobe, 13th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tonbridge, British steamer, 1,814, Zweiniger, 15th Feb.,—Rangoon, 21st Jan., Rice.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Preussen, German steamer, 3,278, E. Prehn, 16th Feb.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe 15th Feb., Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 16th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 28th Jan., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 16th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoe Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 16th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 15th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Velsky Kniaz Alexander Mikhailovitch, Russian steamer, 1,420, Kondratieff, 17th Feb.,—Chefoo, General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Malta, British steamer, 3,900, Claude L. W. Field, 17th Feb.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 16th Feb., Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

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Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 17th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 16th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 17th Feb.,—Kobe, 15th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Girard, 18th Feb.,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 17th Feb., Mails and General,—M. M. S.S. Co.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, W. Howie, 18th Feb.,—Australia via ports and Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,281, Rorison, 18th Feb.,—Hakodate, 16th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, Y. Yamanouchi, 18th Feb.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kitami Maru, Japanese steamer, 728, M. Wada, 18th Feb.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 18th Feb.,—Shimonoseki. General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 18th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 19th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, F. E. Beadnell, 19th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 18th Feb., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 19th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 458, S. Kawano, 19th Feb.,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 19th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 18th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, B. W. H. Snow, 19th Feb.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 18th Feb., General.—P. & G. S.N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Sithonia, German steamer, 4,239, Hildebrandt, 13th Feb.,—Singapore and Calcutta via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 13th Feb.,—Yokkaichi via Handa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

C. Ferd. Laeisz, Germah steamer, 3,799, Fuchs, 14th Feb.,—Havre, Hamburg and Bremen via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 14th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, D. P. Campbell, 14th Feb.,—Manila via Kobe and Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 14th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, H. Fraser, 14th Feb.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 14th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pakling, British steamer, 2,875, Couradi, 15th Feb.,—Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 14th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Banca, British turret steamer, 3,793, E. P. Martin, 16th Feb.,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kinshiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,459, F. L. Pyne, 16th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 16th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,533, K. Homma, 16th Feb.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 17th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Manila, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hupeh, British steamer, 1,205, J. Meathrel, 17th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 17th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 17th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 17th Feb.,—Kure and Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oregon (16 guns), U.S. battleship, 10,288, Captain W. T. Burwell, 18th Feb.,—Woosung.

Elita Nossack, German steamer, 1,161, Bruhn, 18th Feb.,—Moji Ballast.—Simon Evers & Co.

Gaa, Norwegian steamer, 625, M. Peterson, 18th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 18th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 18th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benvorlich, British steamer, 2,164, W. Thomson, 19th Feb.,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 19th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. J. D. Abell, Mrs. Harrison and baby, Baron K. Iwasaki, Mr. H. Shoda, and Mr. S. Sho, in cabin; Mrs. T. Yoshida and child, Mr. T. Miyasaki, and 1 Chinese, in second class; 18 Japanese, and 8 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, from Europe via ports:—Graf. U. von Hatzfeld, Mr. J. Kuhn, Mr. T. Loch-Trevoe, Mr. J. H. Bengen and servant, Mr. Hanck, Mr. C. Ehlers, Miss John Schrieber, Mr. W. Menke, Mr. Herm. Schenner, Dr. G. Eckstein, Mr. E. Fuller, Mrs. F. Fuller, Capt. Truemmel, and Mrs. Truemmel and child, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. V. Blydenburgh, Mr. L. H. Borton, Miss B. Drake, Mr. E. De Bavier, Mrs. S. D. Malpass, and Mr. P. H. Littler, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. T. D. Rust, and Mrs. T. D. Rust, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. E. Boyet, in cabin. For Manila:—Mrs. K. Heath, Mr. Herbert Heath, Miss Hazel Heath, Miss E. Reustadt, and Miss E. D. Oakes, in cabin. For Hongkong:—General E. S. Bragg, Mrs. Bragg, Dr. U. W. Seely, Mrs. Seely, Miss G. E. Seely, Miss E. D. Seely, Mr. T. C. S. Haly, Mr. Harry Hobbins, Mr. N. W. Underwood, Mr. Underwood, and Miss H. Seely, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Malta*, from London via ports:—Mrs. Bruce, Capt. Bruce Livingstone, Lieut. Bruce Livingstone, Staff Surgeon Moon, Mrs. Moon, and Mr. W. S. Foster, in cabin; Mr. Worsley, in second class; 2 valets in steerage.

Per French steamer *Annam*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Beguy and family (4). Mr. P. Seitz, Mr. Blessneau, Mr. P. de Vilmorin and family (3), Mr. F. Henry, Mrs. Roux, Mr. Carpentier, Mr. V. Lavacry, Mr. Boute, Mr. C. Brenner, and Mr. J. M. Roman, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Spencer Shelley, Mr. Wong Chow, Mr. H. Edmunds, Mrs. H. Edmunds, and Master Edmunds, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Captain Selfridge, U.S.N., Mr. J. G. Sutton, Mr. C. F. Davis, Capt. McKenna, Mr. G. Schultz, Mr. Chas. Rudolph, Mrs. A. Colton, Miss Leathorn, Mr. F. H. Holmes, and Miss M. Bonnell, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Capt. F. B. Andrus, U.S.A., Capt. G. G. Bailey, U.S.A., Major W. D. Bell, U.S.A., Baron Cotta von Cottendorf, Capt. H. W. Cowper, U.S.A., Lieut.-Col. M. C. Goodreel, U.S. M.C., Mr. M. H. Grossmayer, Mr. G. Hedemann, Mrs. G. Hedemann, Master Erling Hedemann, Miss Alice Hedemann, Mr. W. F. Hopkins, Mr. L. Mackauzen, Lieut. R. McLean, U.S.N., Mr. Yee Gim May, Mr. W. M. Milne, Mr. J. P. Pirotte, Mr. D. H. Rivers, Baron M. von Tessin, Mr. J. S. Walter, and Mr. G. P. Wynkoop, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Mr. J. W. Hall, Mr. Charles D. Moss, Mr. J. R. Barclay, Mrs. Charles Conaud and 2 children, Miss L. H. Bryan, Miss K. J. Flavelle, and Mr. Horace Inman, in cabin; Mr. A. Tsuda, Mr. Ho Kin Show, Mr. Ah Ki, Mr. Chin Sho Sai, Mr. Lim Zafea, Mrs. G. Javiee, Mr. F. Kintos, and Mr. F. Hilado, in second class; 8, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Consul E. S. Bragg, Mrs. E. S. Bragg, Mr. Th. de Berigny, Mr. C. E. Davies, Mr. E. Goyet, Mr. T. C. S. Haly, Mrs. V. Heath, Mr. Herbert Heath, Miss Hazel Heath, Mr. H. M. Hobbins, Mrs. R. B. McDenit and 2 children, Dr. J. R. McDill, Mrs. J. R. McDill, Miss M. Newstadt, Miss E. B. Oakes, Mr. K. Otatsume, Mr. T. D. Rust, Dr. R. Schiffmann, Mrs. R. Schiffmann, Dr. W. W. Seely, Mrs. W. W. Seely, Miss E. L. Seely, Miss G. E. Seely, Miss H. Seely, Mr. R. H. Sherman, Mrs. R. H. Sherman, Mr. H. W. Underwood, and Mrs. H. W. Underwood, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. N. Mogami, Mr. K. Asakawa, Mr. Cho San Sei, Mr. and Mrs. K. Shimamura, Mrs. Burwell, Miss Burwell, Mr. P. M. Papasian, Mr. F. B. Upham, and Mrs. Tozer, in cabin; Mr. K. Kaneko, Mr. M. Aichi, and Mr. Sho Yei Hyo, in second class; 20, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Banca*, for London via ports:—Waste Silk for Europe, 274 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Dealers' stocks of Yarns have reached a low ebb, and in consequence there is some demand for 2/60's and 2/80's gassed. The largest holders have formed a trust and it is expected that further sales will be at considerably enhanced prices. Very little has been done in Grey Shirtings; in Whites there has been some enquiry but producers are firm and business is restricted. Buyers of Fancy Cottons and Woollens have retired from the market and no business of importance is reported.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38¼ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

There has been a fair volume of transactions in Metals, particularly Iron and Steel Sheets and Plates.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward...	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron...	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1½ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.20 to 5.80
Brown Manila...	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.60 to 7.10
White Java and Penang...	6.90 to 7.70
White Refined...	8.80 to 10.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Small business in Raw Silk during the week, the market gradually declining. Buyers, however, still want lower prices before they will operate freely.

QUOTATIONS.	
Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y. 1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,090 to 1,100
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,040 to 1,045
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,050 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,010 to 1,015
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	990 to 1,000

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Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	1,060 to 1,070
Re-reels—No. 1	1,040 to 1,050
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,020 to 1,030
Re-reels—No. 2	1,000 to 1,005
Re-reels—No. 3	980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra	1,000 to 1,010
Kakedas—No. 1	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½	930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2	900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½	870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

There is no change in the Waste Silk market Buyers complain that quality offering is unsuitable for their requirements and for the moment little is done.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

No change.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 20.

London silver ⅛ higher and China sterliug quotations ⅛ higher have caused local rates on China to rule easier but all other rates remain steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0⅝
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0 7/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/0 13/16
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/0 13/16
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight.....	259½
— — 6 months' sight.....	260½ @ 1
Hongkong—Bank sight ..... per $100.	78*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	76⅛*
Shanghai—Bank sight	94*
— Private 10 days' sight	95½*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155⅝
America—Bank sight.....	49 3/16 @ ⅜
— Private 30 days' sigh	50 3/16
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight.....	212½
Bar Silver (London)	22 1/16

* Nominal.

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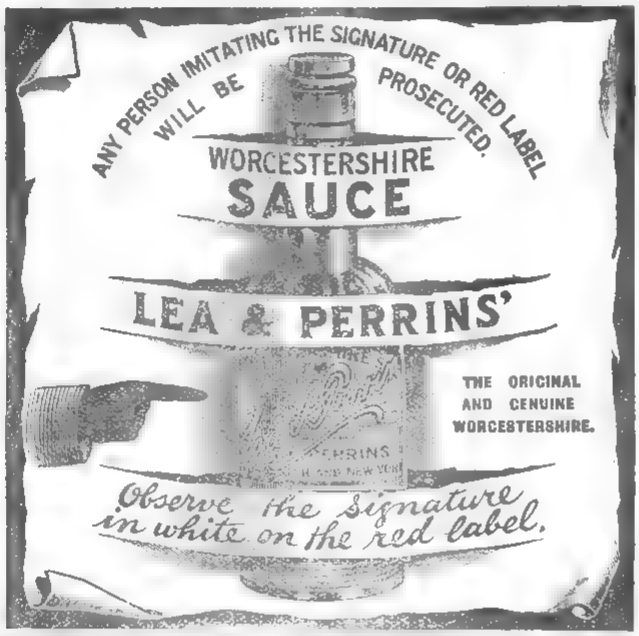
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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 1903.

BIRTH.

On February 20th, at 213, Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of S. KOMOR, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU was buried on Thursday with State honours.

ON the 24th the Tosei Bank in Kobe suspended payment for two weeks.

A SLIGHT shock of earthquake was felt in Matsuyama on Feb. 21st at 11 a.m.

A SLIGHT shock of earthquake was felt in Tokyo on the 23rd inst. at 12.56 p.m.

Two cases of small-pox were reported at Hiroshima on the 23rd instant.

THE Russian warship *Koreets* arrived at Nagasaki on the 24th from Masampo, Korea.

COLONEL A. F. BARROW, I.S.C., late Chief of the Staff to General Gaselee, in North China, died on the 5th ult.

THE damage to the Ashio Copper Mine caused by the fire on the 21st inst. is reported to amount to about *yen* 60,000.

THE railway tunnel between Ujina and Kure caved in on the 24th inst. One person was killed and five wounded.

A TELEGRAM from Nagasaki announces that on the 24th inst. a Chinese who had smuggled 56 boxes of opium from Shanghai was arrested.

Two shampooers fell into the canal near Maganecho, Yokohama, on the 21st and were in danger of drowning when a passer-by rescued them.

ON the 23rd, a coolie named Saga Asao (48) who was working on board the steamer *Itaura* fell into the hold through a hatch, and was instantly killed.

ON the 21st inst at 6.27 p.m. six cars of a goods train on the Kwan-sei Railway were derailed on the iron bridge over the Kawai river. Two cars fell into the river.

IT is reported that H.I.H. Prince Nashimoto has decided to pay a visit to the American and European continents. He will shortly ask the Emperor for permission.

IT is reported that a fish torpedo belonging to the Yokosuka Admiralty was recently lost off Shinagawa Bay. The authorities offer a reward of *yen* 50 to the finder.

ON the 20th at 1 p.m. two cars of the Keihin Electric Railway Company collided near Omori. A young man was seriously injured and some others were slightly wounded.

A GIRL named Sawamura Hana, 18 years old, living in Ichigaya, Tokyo, committed suicide by shooting herself with a revolver on the morning of Feb. 19th. She is reported to have been insane.

IT is stated that Mr. Matsumoto, Director of the Railway Industry Bureau, will be raised to the peerage with the rank of Baron. Mr. Matsumoto, as we have already reported, is still in ill-health.

THE steamer *Diamante*, which the Nippon Yusen Kaisha recently purchased at Hongkong, will shortly arrive in Yokohama. The steamer will be called the *Santo Maru* and run on the Hokkaido line.

THE Yokohama Electric Tramway Company, which recently ordered its rails and other materials from abroad, will have its head office in Takashima-cho. It will commence operations within a few days.

MR. HUNTINGTON WILSON, First Secretary of the American Legation, returned from leave of absence by the *Hongkong Maru* to act as Charge d'Affairs until the arrival of the new Minister, Mr. Lloyd W. Griscom, who will probably reach Japan in June.

A WOMAN named Kin, 39 years old, living in Shirogane, Shiba, committed suicide by hanging herself on the morning of the 19th. The cause has not been ascertained, but it is said that she believed herself to be suffering from incurable illness.

ON the morning of the 21st a child about 2 years old was found at Shimbashi Station. The officials stated that a woman about 27 years of age left it in the 3rd class waiting room and then disappeared. The child was sent to a foundling hospital.

ON the night of the 21st inst. an old man was found hanging on a tree in Uyeno Park, Tokyo. When the officials examined the body, a piece of paper was found stating that he was named Akiyoshi, 72 years old, and lived at Tawara-machi, Asakusa, Tokyo.

MR. HENRY NORMAN, M.P., the author and traveller, has been granted a divorce from his wife, Menie Muriel Dowie, the traveller and authoress, on the ground of the latter's infidelity. Lieutenant Edward Fitzgerald, of the Dragoon Guards, was named as co-respondent.

THE annual general meeting of the Nippon Bicycle Club was held at No. 42 on Monday evening when the following members were elected on the Committee for the ensuing year—T. M. Laffin, President; C. J. Helm, Captain; A. Kingdon, R. Meiklejohn, Jr., and Geo. Hood, Hon. Sec. and Treas.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Fukui announces that on the 21st the examination of female applicants for the telephone service took place in the Fukui Telephone call office. To test their health, the doctor and other officials, it is alleged, ordered the girls to strip naked. The local papers write very bitterly of the affair.

A TELEGRAM dated 20th inst. from Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul-General at New York, has reached the Authorities in Tokyo saying that there is no change in the raw silk market. The cotton market is very steady and prices show an upward tendency. As the weather in the South is not favourable, purchasers are active. There are in stock, 132,961 bales of cotton.

THE steamer *11th Kannon Maru* belonging to Mr. Oaki, Tokyo, which completed loading coal at Moji on the 17th inst and left for Yokohama, broke her propeller shaft during the voyage and was drifting near Oshima island, Izu province, when the steamer *Yamaguchi Maru* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha came up and took her in tow. The *11th Kannon Maru* in tow of the *Yamaguchi Maru* arrived at Yokohama on the 21st instant.

The Spirit of Missions for January, 1903, contain several articles interesting to missionaries working in Japan. We find the Editor writing upon St. Paul's College, Tokyo, and the need for enlargement. "A year's work at St. Agnes' School, Kyoto," by the Rt. Rev. Sidney Catlin Partridge, D.D., Bishop of Kyoto, is a very interesting sketch indeed, and so is the article "Why Japan Needs the Gospel," by the Rev. J. C. Ambler. We note that the Bishop of Kyoto is asking for ten ordained missionaries and ten women as soon as possible.

IT is said that an elector named Nishikawa, who is a keen supporter of Mr. Shimada, has reported to the police that Messrs. Hiranuma, Hattori, Suzumoto, Ogawa, and Takatsuji, who are supporting Messrs. Kato and Okuda, have distributed bribes among the electors. When these five gentlemen were examined at the police station, Mr. Takatsuji confessed that he had received money from Mr. Hiranuma on promising to vote for Mr. Kato or Mr. Okuda. It is not known yet whether the police have turned the matter over to the public procurator's office.

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Monday, Feb. 23.

There have been issued from the headquarters of the *Seiyu-kai* and the *Shimpô-to* identical instructions to local branches of the two parties, in the sense that although the Government has declared its intention of standing aloof from the elections and behaving with absolute impartiality, it is really watching for any opportunity to interfere. Already clear evidences of interference on a minor scale have been furnished in several districts. Had these acts been disapproved by the Central Government they would have been reprimanded and punished, but the fact that no such step has been taken show that they have official approval. Hence it can not be foreseen what degree of pressure will be exercised in the Cabinet's interests, and the supporters of the two Parties are therefore urged to close up their ranks and leave no possible opening for hostile attack or interference.

An amusing illustration of the devices resorted to in the interests of candidates was furnished on the night of the 20th inst. Newsmen hastened from street to street of the capital shouting the familiar cry, "Extra, Extra," and selling hundreds of copies of a small leaflet professing to emanate from the office of a newspaper called the *Shoko Shimpo*. There is no such newspaper in Tokyo, but men that buy extras do not pause to examine them: they pay their cash first and do the examination afterwards. Examination in this case revealed that the so-called "extra" was merely a list of the results of the polling in Tokyo on March 1st, as foretold by some anonymous calculator. At the head of the list stood the name of Mr. Minowa Shinjiro, a gentleman whose name we have never heard, and far down at the tail, quite out of the running even, were Dr. Hatoyama, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, Mr. Ebara Soroku and other men of eminent reputation. Such a manœuvre is not easily understood. If it was devised with the idea of discrediting the candidates whom it represented as defeated, it will probably prove a failure, for the sentiment created in the bosom of any person purchasing such a fraudulent "extra" must be one of indignation and indignation only. We should imagine that the law has power to punish the perpetrators of this dishonesty. The projectors, printers and distributors of the so-called *go-gai* were all engaged in a conspiracy to rob the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 24.

As the day for the elections approaches some symptoms of general interest make themselves apparent, though it must be confessed that the nation takes the matter very coolly. According to the *Jiji Shimpo's* estimate, there are 534 candidates in the field for the 376 seats. These candidates are divided thus:—

Seiyukai	248
Progressists	131
Imperialists	26
1902 Club (*Jinin-kai*)	21
Independents	108

With reference to this apparently large number of independents the *Jiji* says that several of them are really party men who by agreement have temporarily assumed an independent attitude though they will ultimately be found in their original ranks. Of the old members it has been decided to re-elect 313, some sixty having declined to stand again. Since, however, these latter have abandoned their place to men of similar political complexion or have been succeeded by the latter, there is no reason to suppose that the elections will produce any sensible change in the composition of the House. The *Jimmin* also publishes figures which agree substantially with those of the *Jiji*, but the former journal adds that there are altogether 162 new candidates in the field, and that 140 of the seats held in the last Diet will be occupied by different men.

Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Meetings continue to take place between Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Katsura, Baron Sone and other prominent politicians. In some quarters these meetings are interpreted to signify that Marquis Ito considers the time ripe for a decisive step on the part of the Cabinet, in view of the fact that the result of the elections can now be clearly forecast, and that the Ministry will unquestionably find itself confronted by just as solid a phalanx in the new House as in the old. Other observers do not speak so confidently, but all are agreed that something is in the air, though there are as yet no clear evidences of any weakening on the part of the Cabinet: its resolve to confront the House of Representatives and ask the Emperor to dissolve a second time if necessary is still supposed to stand firm.

Meanwhile considerable agitation is being fanned about the subject of official interference in elections. Three prefectures are specially indicated, namely, Yamaguchi, Niigata and Ishikawa. Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, the principal *Seiyu-kai* candidate in Yamaguchi prefecture, has command of the columns of the *Chuo Shimbun*, which is his own property, and we find a very large space in that journal devoted to descriptions of lawless acts on the part of the police and the local officials. The doings in Ishikawa prefecture have been brought to public notice by a clever verselet from the pen of Baron Suyematsu, and the employment of the Premonition Regulations in Niigata against a politician whose social position is said to remove him beyond all legitimate exercise of such laws, has caused some excitement. We presume that there must be fire at the base of so much smoke, but as every general election in Japan is accompanied by similar complaints, too much weight can not be attached to rumours circulated on the eve of the contest The election last year, however, having been conducted quietly and without any undue exercise of official strength, the Authorities have furnished a standard which they should endeavour to maintain.

CHINA.

Saturday, Feb. 21.

The Governor of Manchuria is said to have applied telegraphically to the Throne for instructions with regard to the doings of Russian military men who, employing the aid of experts, are engaging vigorously in mining enterprises in the region between the Amur and Kirin. General Tso is reported as saying that unless some resolute step be taken speedily, mining operations in that region will be monopolized by Russians. There is something very naive and attractive in the conception of a country where such freedom prevails that a stranger may come along, pitch his tent and begin to dig for gold or other valuables, without the slightest reference to any duly constituted authority, whereat the chief administrative official of the district wakes up, discovers what is going on, cries "hulloa, here are a parcel of chaps excavating for precious things," and then telegraphs for instructions how to deal with such a strange emergency. The incident constitutes a vivid illustration of the lamblike condition of China *vis-à-vis* the foreign wolf. And in Mongolia also it is rumoured that the Russians are going ahead similarly, which news has elicited from Peking a plaintive suggestion that the local merchants should combine to themselves attack such enterprises. What a futile appeal to that undiscoverable potentiality, Chinese patriotism! The Empress-Dowager, shrewd lady that she is, is reported to have said that associations of Chinese merchants for purposes of railway building or mine-working, are simply machines with a foreign hand on the driving gear, and so indeed they are.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent notes the great increase of Japanese enterprise on the Yangtse during recent years. Formerly the flag of this country was displayed on the great river by only the three steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha that plied between Yokohama and Shanghai, and by two vessels of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, the *Oi-gawa Maru* and the *Tenriyu-gawa Maru*. But now the big steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's American and European lines call at Shanghai, transporting large quantities of goods to and from the place; the Osaka Shosen Kaisha has established a line of 3 steamers between Shanghai and Hankow, and a line of two steamers between Hankow and Ichow. Further, the Nihon Shosen Kaisha has vessels running between Shanghai and Chusan. The Daito Kisen Kaisha has lines between Soochow and Hanchow, between Shanghai and Soochow, and between Shanghai and Hanchow. Then there is the Hunan Kisen Kaisha which will soon be running ships to the big lake Tung-ting and to Changsha. There are also coal-carrying steamers of the Mitsu Bishi and the Mitsui, and there are Japanese vessels transporting iron from the Tai-ya mines. Side by side with this development of carrying facilities, many Japanese, in the capacity of merchants, Government employes or projectors, may be seen travelling in the Yangtse Valley, and further the number of persons engaged in the translation of Japanese books into Chinese has increased in an extraordinary degree. To this account may be added a report sent by the correspondent of the *Jimmin*, who says that nothing is more remarkable than the popularity enjoyed by Japanese things and Japanese subjects. Up to the time of the China-Japan war, Russian influences were in the ascendant, but things have changed since then. There are now five large Chinese journals and some eleven smaller sheets in Shanghai, and they all show similar partiality for Japan. This correspondent says that a proof of the popularity of Japanese institutions is furnished by the rapid increase of Japanese terms in the Chinese vocabulary. He mentions the words *butai* (stage), *undo* (step), *seikatsu* (livelihood), *shakai* (society), *sekai* (the world, as in such expressions as *gakumon sekai*, *jitsugyoka sekai*), *keiji-jo* (immaterial), *kisho* (meteorologiy) and so on. Of course these terms are not pronounced in Japanese fashion, but the *Jimmin's* correspondent maintains that they represent Japanese ideas, or, speaking more correctly, Japanese renderings of Occidental ideas, and that though the Japanese borrowed from China the

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materials for constructing the idioms, the idioms themselves are now borrowed by China from Japan. Reverting to the *Jiji's* correspondence, we find it stated that Japanese engineering experts are much *en evidence*, about two hundred having been sent under the auspices of the *To-a Dobunkai*, of which Prince Konoye is president.

Monday, Feb. 23.

A story comes from Peking that the United States Government has urged a claim to have appointments in the Chinese Customs Service given in proportion to the volume of each country's trade with the Middle Kingdom. If that principle were adopted, it would seem to follow as a natural corollary that the Inspector-General should belong to the nationality having the largest trade, namely, England.

The German officers in Chili recently organized a military race for officers from Tientsin to Peking, sixty persons starting. Five Japanese entered for the contest, it is reported. The distance is 80 miles, approximately, but it is scarcely conceivable that such a crowd of contestants could travel simultaneously by a road which in many places is barely wide enough for a mule's cart. The result of the race was that a German, whose name is not given, came in first, accomplishing the distance in 7½ hours. Lieut. Ikegami, of the Japanese force, was sixth. Evidently the conditions prescribed were that only one horse might be used, for if a change had been permitted at Hoshimu the journey could easily have been performed in from 5 to 5½ hours or even less. On the occasion of Sir Harry Parkes' death in 1885, Mr. J. J. Keswick rode from Tientsin to the capital in less than 5 hours. With only one horse, however, it is a fine feat to cover 80 miles in 7½ hours over bad roads. The interest of the report would have been greatly heightened had we been told what kind of horses were used. The probability is that Lieut. Ikegami rode a China pony. Lieut. Kamei's horse broke down.

Viceroy Yuan is said to have decided upon the construction of several wooden men-of-war, which are to be built at the Hunan yard. It may be presumed that these are for the purpose of suppressing piracy in inland waters, as a wooden warship is no longer of any use for the fighting line.

Rumours are current that the *Ko-lao-hui* are beginning to show signs of restlessness in the Yangtse Valley. Orders have been issued to ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to examine into and report on the state of affairs.

From a report sent by Mr. Hayakawa Shinji, who accompanied Mr. Wu Ju-lun last year on the latter's return to Anhui, we learn that Wu had projected the establishment of a private school at Tung-ching in An-king-fu, his native place. Over a thousand candidates had presented themselves for admission, and seventy of these having been selected, the school was to have been opened on the 17th of February, when the project was completely upset by Mr. Wu's death on the 12th. He had worked very hard in connection with the organization of the the school and had obtained the support of the local authorities. Moreover, in addition to these duties he was kept constantly engaged writing prefaces for books or epitaphs for tombs. Li Hung-chang's epitaph in particular is said to have involved much thought and labour. All this toil, requiring, as it did, not only constant application but also much journeying hither and thither in bitterly cold weather, proved too much for a man of sixty-six. Wu was taken ill on the 6th of February and expired on the 12th. The trouble was inflammation of the bowels, and Mr. Hayakawa states that the American doctor who attended him, being a surgeon, was not familiar with the treatment of internal ailments. Since Mr. Wu's visit to Japan his earnestness in the promotion of educational affairs had become more marked than ever. Immediately after his return he repaired to Peking, and stated his views to the authorities connected with the University, but as he failed to obtain practical approval of his suggestions, he determined to abandon public life and devote himself to private instruction in his native province, Anhui. His only son was at the Waseda University when the news of the old scholar's illness reached Tokyo, and his only daughter is married to a high provincial official.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* account of the race from Peking to Tientsin on the 20th instant, supplies details needed to render the affair intelligible. It appears that the object was to try the speed and endurance of Chinese ponies, and that every one rode one of those animals. Twenty-six German officers started; eight French; six Japanese, and twelve members of the Race Club. The contest was won by a German member of the Race Club, who covered the distance in 7 hours and 33 minutes. Next to him—not sixth, as previously stated—was Lieut. Ikegami of the Japanese Cavalry, his time being 8 hours and 30 seconds. The officer commanding the German force presented a handsome silver vase to Lieut. Ikegami. It is added that the riders were much incommoded by a dust storm. Any one who has had practical experience of a dust storm on the plains of Chili will easily appreciate what the contestants must have suffered from such an adjunct, and how immensely it must have added to the fatigue of the horses.

Wednesday, Feb. 25.

It is expected that Chang Chih-tung will be restored to his old viceroyalty. This expectation is founded on the fact that in an Imperial Decree just issued, pronouncing eulogies upon Yung Lu and other high officials favourably regarded by the Throne, Chang's services are alluded to in flattering terms.

Viceroy Yuan is reported to have appealed to the British Representative to check the purchase of Chinese Inland Telegraph shares by British subjects. That would surely be a very fruitless application; so plainly fruitless that there is difficulty in ascribing it to a man of Yuan's perspicacity.

Thursday, Feb. 26.

There is another flood of spurious cash in the market at Tientsin. Viceroy Yuan is reported to have ordered that any one uttering the false coin shall be fined one hundred times the amount. But it may well be doubted whether any administrative measure can suffice to check this abuse when once it has passed into vogue. It is the coinage system of China which needs reform, not the manner of enforcing her laws.

The ice on the Peiho had broken up on the 24th instant, and the first vessel of the usual expectant fleet of trading ships was expected at Taku on the 25th. The vessel is appropriately called the *Vorwarts*, and is significantly German.

A telegram from the Japanese Consul in Chefoo says that hydrophobia is prevalent there, and that two foreigners have been attacked by the malady. It appears that many Chinese in the city have suffered, and that the people have petitioned the Authorities to take drastic measures.

THE LATE MR. E. H. HOUSE.

We are glad to see that an influential movement is on foot to do something in permanent memory of the late Mr. E. H. House, who worked so hard, so brilliantly and so conscientiously in a cause that he believed to be that of humanity. Apart from our own appreciation of Mr. House's labours and our conviction that they should not be forgotten, it is pleasant to see these evidences of grateful appreciation displayed by the Japanese of their own initiative towards foreigners who have deserved well of them, and whose lives were devoted to noble aims. Therefore we readily give publicity to the following appeal, and invite our readers' attention to the fact that it is endorsed by several eminent Japanese:—

The Japanese friends and former pupils of the late Mr. Edward H. House being desirous that some sort of memorial should be established to commemorate his personality and his friendship toward Japan, met together toward the end of last year and passed a resolution to the effect that a House Memorial Lectureship be established in English Literature and Music in order to promote the study and appreciation of these subjects in Japan, and subscriptions be solicited for the pupose, and that the money collected be given to the Tokyo Imperial University, or if the amount collected should be sufficiently large to justify such a course, be divided between the Tokyo Imperial University and the Academy of Music, Uyeno, in order to found the above lectureship. It is thought that such a lectureship would serve a very useful purpose in inducing distinguished literary men or musicians who may be living in Japan or who may visit Japan from time to time to give lectures and concerts, and that such lecture or concerts would aid in promoting some of the objects which Mr. House had much at heart. Among the promoters are Count Okuma, Baron Komura, Baron Kikuchi, Dr. Hatoyama, Dr. Hamao, Dr. Kato, Professors Hozumi, Sakurai, Watanabe, Mitsukuri, Kojima, Baron Kanda, Mr. Korekiyo Takahashi, Mr. Hikogoro Shimizu, etc. Subscriptions of 200, 150, 100, 50, 30 *yen*, &c. have already been promised. While the scheme is mainly the expression of the feeling of the Japanese toward Mr. House, foreign friends of Mr. House are cordially invited to join. Subscriptions may be sent to any of the committee: Mr. Hikogoro Shimizu, University Hospital, Prof. N. Kojima, the First High School (Kotō-Gakkō), Prof. K. Mitsukuri, Imperial University, all of Tokyo.

KOREA.

Saturday, Feb. 21.

Telegrams from Korea report that the Korean Government has refused the application of the Russian Representative for the concession of the Seoul-Wiju railway. Li Yong-ik is said to have been despatched to the Russian Legation as bearer of the refusal. The whole incident is singular. Mr. Stein must have been well aware that in lending his support to this application he was undertaking a task difficult to fulfil, and it would therefore have been in accord with the dictates of ordinary diplomatic prudence that he should contrive some means of over-coming those difficulties before openly associating himself with the enterprise. But it would seem, unless there is an unrevealed reverse to the picture, that he plunged into the undertaking without any preliminary arrangement, and the result is that he now finds himself associated with a failure. That is certainly not the way to promote Russian influence in Korea. It will suggest itself naturally to

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some observers that Mr. Stein may have asked for one thing with the intention of getting something else. One is deterred from accepting that theory, however, by the reflection that a concession for building a railway from Seoul to Wiju is a kind of stalking horse that ought not to be lightly trotted out. No one believes, however sanguine may be his habit of forecast, that the Seoul-Wiju line presents any prospect of commercial profit. It must remain for many years a purely strategical road. When the Russian Representative seeks to obtain the charter of such a line for a countrymen, and especially for a countryman with Mr. Ginsburg's connexions, a disquieting if not sinister aspect is imparted to St. Petersburg's policy, and from that point of view it is hard to conceive that such a business would have been deliberately chosen to serve the purpose of a tulchan. We observe that the *Yomiuri Shimbun* takes the view that in preferring this application Mr. Stein did not entertain any hope of direct success, his sole object being to forestall Japan should the latter, as was rumoured, demand the Seoul-Wiju concession by way of compensation for the bank-note veto. Such diplomacy could not be regarded with much admiration. The one result of the incident is a deepening of the conviction that Korea is the storm centre of the Far East, and that all the goodwill and good management of the Powers are needed to hold the evil elements in check.

The public has heard a great deal lately about the Nak-dong and the duties levied upon merchandise passing up and down it. This is the principal river in Korea. It connects Seoul and Fusan, and being navigable for a distance of about 120 miles above the latter place, it is largely used for purposes of transport in the absence of railways or good roads. At three or four places along its banks customs stations are established and heavy transit duties are collected. Thus rice and *azuki* beans have to pay 5 *sen* per *koku*; barley, 2 *sen*; *kanakin*, 3 *sen* per piece; cotton yarn, 14 *sen* per bale; kerosene, 3½ *sen* per case; matches, 5 *sen* per case; salt, 1½ *sen* per bag and so on. Everything, in short, is taxed in passage, and it results that a boat carrying 500 *koku* of rice—a common load—has to pay 100 *yen*. Very little of this money goes into the central treasury. Like Chinese *likin* it serves rather to enrich the collecting officials. So long as the Koreans levied transit duties on their own people and their own produce only, Japan made no objection. But when they began to levy the same charges on Japanese imports, they obviously violated the eighteenth article of the Trade Regulations of 1883, where it is laid down that "all goods imported into one of the open ports of Korea, on which the duties have been paid, may be transported into any part of Korea, without the payment of any tax or transit duty whatever." Moreover, the same Article protects Korean products destined for exportation. It is in connexion with the two latter classes of goods that Japan has been protesting as regards the Nak-dong river.

Monday, Feb. 23.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks that there will yet be trouble about the Seoul-Wiju Railway. Mr. Ginsburg certainly did not want to obtain the concession as a money-making speculation, and, for the rest, he is, universally recognised as a merchant very closely *lie* with the Russian Government. Hence there is no mistaking the significance of the application made on his behalf. If Russia does not build the railway herself, or get a lien upon it by lending money for its construction, she intends that no one else shall build it. When the concession was given to a Frenchman in 1896, the stipulations were that the work must be commenced in 3 years and finished in 10, and that the right of purchase after 15 years of working must be secured to the Korean Government. No attempt was made to commence building operations. When 1899 arrived and the charter was about to lapse by default, an offer was made to sell the concession to Japan, but the price asked being excessive, no business could be done. Thereafter the Government formed a railway bureau for the purpose of inspecting the work of construction, which was entrusted to a Korean company, on condition that work should be commenced within 5 years and finished in 15. But the plan was cut down immediately, the new programme being to build the southern section only of the road, namely, that between Seoul and Songdo, a distance of about 50 miles. Up to the present not more than 3 miles have been constructed and the narrow gauge is adopted. More than one country is willing to advance money for the work, but of course the security required would be of a very embarassing nature to Korea. Our contemporary notes the great political effects that must follow a junction of the Korean system of railways with the Russian trans-Asian roads, but that is a point not needing any elaboration.

In Korea politicians are said to take the view that the Russian Representative's recent application for the Seoul-Wiju railway concession, had no motive except to "head off" other projectors. If that be a correct interpretation, the plain inference is that Japan was the Power apprehended. Rumour attributed to her the design of preferring a demand for extended railway concessions by way of compensation for Korea's violation of the treaties in connexion with the bank-note veto, and certainly it is most improbable that any other Power could have been supposed to covet an enterprise which would bring no material gain and which has strategical value only.

The *Yorodu Choho*, which has now become a highly respectable journal, having abandoned the path of yellow abomination and assumed, in fact as well as in appearance, a hue of innocent pink, gives the following figures with reference to the foreign employees of the Korean Government:—Japanese 34; English 8; Americans 5; Russians 4; French 5; Germans 4; Danes 2 making a total of 62.

Tuesday, Feb. 24.

The Seoul correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* communicates an epitome of the application said to have been addressed by the Russian Representative to the Korean Government with reference to the Seoul-Wiju Railway. We find nothing in the document that might not have been anticipated. It recounts the circumstances of the grant of the charter to a French syndicate some years ago, and notes that when the charter lapsed owing to delay in commencing the work, a promise was given that, in case of need, French capital and French experts should be employed. Reference is then made to the undertaking of the work by the Korean Government and its abandonment last year, which state of affairs is contrasted with the vigour shown by Japanese *concessionaires* in pushing on the Seoul-Fusan road. The application further dwells on the absence of engineering difficulties, the probably profitable nature of the enterprise and the advantages that would accrue to Korea from its completion, and concludes by urging that the concession should be given to M. Ginsburg, or that at any rate the money needed for prosecuting the work should be obtained from him.

To this the Korean Government's reply is said to have been, first, that it had already itself undertaken the enterprise and held an official ceremony connected with the opening of the work; secondly, that it had announced to the Foreign Representatives its determination not to grant any more charters to foreigners for the building of railways within the Korean empire; and, thirdly, that having declared its resolve to have all such lines constructed by Korean subjects, there was now no possibility of adopting a different course.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent furnishes the information that a protest against the Russian proposal having been forwarded from the Japanese Legation, the latter was officially informed of Korea's refusal; and, further, the Russian Representative himself called at the Japanese Legation and intimated that the application had been withdrawn.

What Russia has accomplished in this matter is to throw a further obstacle in the way of the grant of any railway concession to a foreign syndicate in Korea. This is certainly advantageous for Korea's independence, supposing the maintenance of Korean independence to be possible, which is highly problematical. Russia has also furnished a further proof of her determination to have, and to actively exercise, a strong voice in the control of Korean affairs.

A new piece of intelligence is furnished by the Home and Foreign News Agency in connexion with this matter. It is that France has now stepped into the breach. France has a claim of three hundred thousand *yen* against Korea on account of injuries said to have been suffered by French citizens on the island of Quelpart last year. The Seoul Government has hitherto declined to recognise or satisfy this claim, and it is now said that the claim has been again advanced with an alternative proposal that Korea should renew the grant of the Seoul-Wiju charter to a French syndicate, and should further grant a gold-mining concession in the neighbourhood of Pyong-yang. It need scarcely be observed that the News Agency adds flavour to this intelligence by depicting Russia as a secret supporter or instigator of the French demand. One can not but speculate as to the source whence the alleged sufferers on Quelpart would derive solace if their claims were merged in enterprises of railway-building and gold-digging carried on by others.

The demand made by the Russian Minister on the Korean Government for a charter for the Seoul-Wiju railway has been publicly refused by the Government of Korea, according to a telegram received in Tokyo.

Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Work was commenced on the Seoul-Fusan Railway in August, 1901, operations being carried on from both ends. The total distance is 267 miles, and trains are now running over a length of 11 miles from either end. It is expected that by the end of this year 67 miles will be finished, and that during next year 66 miles will be built, namely 33 from either end, 133 miles being thus completed out of the total 267. The whole is to be

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finished in 1905, from which it would appear that work is to be prosecuted with exceptional vigour in the last year. The shareholders have just completed the payment of the second call on their shares, and have thus put up a total of 4,300,000 *yen*, which will suffice for the building operations of the present year and for payment of bills on account of rails imported from abroad. But for next year's work of 66 miles a further sum of 4 millions will be required. The Directors contemplate raising a loan of 10 millions abroad, but in order to do so it will be necessary to have the Government's guarantee, which can not be obtained without the consent of the Diet. In the meanwhile, therefore, it is proposed to raise a domestic loan of 4 millions at 7½ per cent., which will be repaid when the foreign loan can be floated. This question will be submitted to a meeting of shareholders on the 25th instant, when the purchase of the Seoul-Chemulpo Railway will also be discussed. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, from which we take these details, says that the Japanese Government has agreed to sell the Seoul-Chemulpo line for a sum of 640,000 *yen* in ready money, but we presume that the payment is to be supplemented by a number of shares, for six hundred thousand *yen* would not cover more than half of what the road has cost.

Mr. Ko Yong-hwi, the new Korean Minister to Japan, arrived in Tokyo on the 23rd instant.

The *Osaka Asahi* makes some interesting remarks about the bank-note affair in Korea. It alleges that in 1872 the Japanese Government took much the same view of this matter as is now taken by the Korean Government. What that view was our contemporary does not explain, but it goes on to allege that the Japanese Authorities made large purchases of the notes of foreign banks in Yokohama with the object of stopping their circulation. These notes were presented at the banks and exchanged for silver, after which they immediately went into circulation again. It appears, therefore, from the story told by the Osaka journal and translated into a Kobe English paper, that Japanese financiers in 1872 deliberately sought to deter foreign banks from issuing notes and that the method adopted was to make the notes a source of as much inconvenience as possible to the banks. Now it is plain that the privilege of issuing exchangeable notes ought not to be granted without providing due limitations and without subjecting its exercise to proper official supervision. Therefore the issue of such notes by a foreign bank which is exempt from the jurisdiction of the country where they circulate, may be justly condemned. But to this general principle treaties may make an exception by guaranteeing foreign trade against all obstacles. To stop the circulation of foreign notes where no other kind of trustworthy paper-money is in circulation, would surely be placing an obstacle in the way of trade. The Japanese Government seem to have seen the matter in that light. Hence they made no official attempt to veto the notes of the foreign banks. We hear for the first time of the strange device attributed to them in 1872 by the Osaka journal, and we take leave to doubt its truth, for its success could scarcely have been seriously anticipated. Late in the seventies the Customs authorities and the Government railways were instructed to decline foreign bank notes in payment of duties and fares. That was legitimate enough in consideration of the fact that Japanese officials could not possibly be expected to handle such paper with discrimination, and if public offices in Seoul advanced a similar objection to the First Bank's notes, no protest could be entered though, unless we are misinformed, these notes, being specially printed for use in Korea, are easily legible and distinguishable by Koreans. But the point is that the Korean Government suddenly and arbitrarily interdicted the use of the notes even by private persons, and as no other convenient media of exchange could be immediately furnished, the veto had the effect of completely paralyzing the commerce which the Government was conventionally bound to facilitate. It is beyond all doubt that if Japan had resorted to any such high-handed proceeding in the old days, she would have been peremptorilly recalled to reason. She could not have been required to permit the circulation of foreign bank-notes outside the foreign settlements, but within the settlement limits a special obligation devolved on her, as it does now on Korea.

As to officially sanctioning the circulation of such notes, that is another question, and if Korea, in the sequel of her imprudent proceedings, has been compelled to give a diplomatic engagement in the nature of a sanction, there is nothing to be said but that she has been penalized. As a matter of historical interest we may mention in this context that a foreign bank in Yokohama —a great bank in its era though no longer in existence—sought the Japanese Government's official permission at one time to issue convertible notes, pledging itself to keep a certain reserve of specie for their redemption and to lay its books open for official inspection at any time. But the application was rejected on the obvious ground that as the Government had no jurisdiction, it could not possibly compel the bank to implement its pledges. Issuing notes on its own responsibility and at its own risk, was one thing, issuing them with declared official sanction was quite another thing.

KIKUGORO.

The death of the great actor Kikugoro furnishes a theme for the facile pen of Mr. Fukuchi, whose name is prominently associated with the modern stage of Japan. The eminent critic recalls the fact that he always argued against the possibility of the old theatre surviving the universal changes that followed the fall of feudalism. He considers that the life of ancient fashions was preserved in this particular branch of art by the exceptional talent of Ichikawa Danjuro and Onoye Kikugoro. Danjuro is averse to extremes. He is not steeped in old-fashioned lye, neither is he irrevocably addicted to old customs and old fashions. But Kikugoro was essentially conservative: he took the past for mould and added thereto his own designs. Nevertheless both men by their remarkable skill and high reputation kept the past in vogue, not indeed without difficulty but yet successfully. Now Kikugoro is gone and Danjuro's impaired health practically removes him from the histrionic foreground. Therefore the days of the old theatre are numbered. The performance of the Kawakami troupe can not, indeed, escape much criticism, but in the main it is evidently adapted to the time. The man and his assistants may be far inferior to Danjuro and Kikugoro in point of histrionic ability, but the crowds that flock to see their performances are a plain proof that Society has turned its back on the old theatre and its face to the new. These players of to-day belong also to a different class from that of the frequenters of the former Kabukiza. They consist chiefly of the "High-Collar Party" and persons from the upper ranks of society. The tendency displayed by this crowd would have been manifested long ago but for the renown of of Danjuro and Kikugoro.

Comparing these two stars of the old stage, Mr. Fukuchi says that when Danjuro peruses the text of a drama, he knows immediately what parts would drag in actual representation, and can, without delay, indicate how they should be altered. Kikugoro, on the contrary, would take two or three days to think before he expressed an opinion. Similarly when it came to rehearsals, Danjuro would at once lay down the course to be adopted, whereas Kikugoro would try way after way with even troublesome minuteness. Moreover, Danjuro pays attention chiefly to the spirit of a piece, while Kikugoro devoted more care to its presentation. Thus each man was the other's complement. They made a perfect whole such as the old drama will probably never see again.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

A telegram from London to the *Jiji Shimpo* attributes to Russia the intention of multiplying her railway guards in Manchuria by five, thus bringing their number to 75,000. The reason of this proceeding is said to be that owing to the prevalence of brigandage in the regions adjacent to the lines, their uninterrupted construction and working are impossible without an increased force of guards. If this news be confirmed, it will doubtless be regarded as a plain evidence of Russia's aggressive tendencies. People will point with indignation to the fact that while nominally, and in accordance with international agreement, withdrawing her military forces from Manchuria, on one side, she is replacing them, on the other, by railway guards who are virtually troops. But what other course could she be expected to pursue? She has 1,555 miles of railway in Manchuria. That long extent of line must be effectually protected. Seventy-five thousand guards would mean, it is true, some 50 men per mile, a force too large to be regarded as destined simply for protective purposes. But very likely rumour has performed its usual process of inflation in connexion with the number. The actual complement of men does not matter, however, so much as the principle. Being free to exercise her own unfettered judgment concerning the establishment necessary, it is plain that whether she makes it seventy-five thousand or a hundred and seventy-five thousand, no one can justly interfere. She is complete mistress of the situation and complete mistress of Manchuria. Nothing remains for outsiders except to feel assured that when they take the overland journey to Europe from the Far East, the train they travel by will not be "held up" by Bazouks, and to wonder how long Russia will consent to offer cheaply for the uses of the public a service so enormously expensive as the Manchurian railway seems likely to become. When 50 soldiers have to be maintained for the defence of every mile—one soldier to every 35 yards—it will be difficult to obtain any return for capital invested. Russia will not find in all this a permanent inducement to leave Manchuria in China's nominal possession.

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THE LATE PRINCE KOMATSU.

It is stated that the widow of the lare Prince will continue to have the title of "Komatsu" during her life-time.

We take the opportunity of correcting an error made in our references to the late Prince's career. His Imperial Highness received the Grand Cross of the Bath some years before his visit to England in connexion with the Coronation.

The route taken by the funeral procession of the late Prince Komatsu on the 26th instant was as follows:—Leaving His Imperial Highness' residence in Aoicho at 9 a.m., the cortêge entered the Tora-no-mon, and passing thence along the Hibiya Park by the northern side of the House of Peers, turned to the north at the Kogyo Ginko and thence proceeded along the moat past the eastern side of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce: whereafter, crossing Kandabashi, it proceeded along Nishikicho, Ogawamachi, Sarugakucho and Misakicho, thence over the Suidobashi and in front of the Koishikawa Arsenal, whence the route continued along the Yedogawa, finally emerging into Suidocho and thus reaching Gokoku-ji.

Telegrams to Tokyo say that the London newspapers all contain highly appreciative notices of the late Prince.

Japanese newspapers publish translations of telegrams of condolence addressed by foreign potentates and statesmen to the Japanese Imperial Household in connexion with the death of Prince Komatsu. The telegrams are from King Edward, the British Secretary of Foreign Affairs, the King and Crown Prince of Siam, the King of Belgium and the King of Italy. It is further stated that the Emperor of Germany has delegated Count Arco Valley to act as His Majesty's Representative at the funeral. This is a proceeding hitherto unprecedented in Japan, and is alluded to with much appreciation by Tokyo journals. It need scarcely be said that although the telegrams textually published are limited to the above, the potentates of other friendly States also are referred to as senders of messages.

The family of the late Prince Komatsu has donated a sum of 500 *yen* to the poor of Asakusa, and another sum of ten thousand *yen* to the poor of Tokyo.

Several allusions have been made by Japanese newspapers to the fact that the German Minister in Tokyo has been authorized to represent the Kaiser at the funeral of Prince Komatsu, and that His Excellency, acting in that capacity, will take his place in the mourning ceremony immediately after the representatives of the Emperor and Empress of Japan, and before the representatives of the Prince and Princess Imperial. We do not know why so much attention has been called to this gracious act on the part of the German Sovereign alone, for it is understood that the British Minister has also been delegated by King Edward to perform a similar function.

We have received copies of the following cablegrams from the Imperial Household Department:—

London, February 19, 5.25 p.m.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Tokyo.

Deeply regret to learn of the death of Prince Komatsu, I pray your Imperial Majesty to accept and express to the Princess our sincerest sympathy in the bereavement which has befallen your Imperial House. EDWARD R. AND I.

Roma, 20/2/03, 9 p.m.

Empereur Japon
Tokyo

Apprenant décès du Prince Akihito Komatsu m'empresse présenter à Votre Majesté ainsi qu'à la famille Impériale mes sincère condoleances le souvenir ineffacable de chère visite en 1902 augment mes profonds regrets.

VITTORIO EMANUELE.

Wien, 21/2 03, 10.35 a.m.

A Sa Majesté l'Empéreur du Japon
Tokyo

Prenant une part bien vive a tout ce qui concerne Votre Majesté et sa Maison je m' empresse de lui exprimer mes condoleances les plus sincère à l'occasion du décès de Son Altesse Impériale le Prince Akihito Komatsu.

FRANÇOIS JOSEPH.

21/2/03.

To Prince Yorihito.

Much grieved at news of your great loss accept sincere sympathy and condolence.

CHULALONKORN R.
King of Siam.

RAILWAY FARES.

The Operating Bureau (*Sakugyo Kyoku*) of the Government Railways is said to have decided that from the 16th of March greater facilities shall be given to the travelling public. The first improvement will be in the matter of blocks of tickets (*kwaisu josha-ken*). These have hitherto been issued in blocks of 50 at a time, at a reduction of 20 per cent. as compared with ordinary fares, and have been available by their purchaser only. Henceforth they will be issued in blocks of 25, so as to bring them within reach of a wider circle of travellers, and not only will the reduction of price be carried as far as 30 per cent., but also the members of the purchaser's family and his domestics will be at liberty to use the tickets. The period of travel will be the same, namely 90 days. In the matter of season tickets (*teiki josha-ken*), these will continue to be issued to first and second-class passengers only, but whereas the maximum reduction has been 50 per cent., it will now be extended to 80 per cent. Moreover, purchasers of yearly season tickets will obtain a further reduction of 10 per cent. if they renew the ticket. In addition to this, monthly season tickets will be issued, whereas three months has been the shortest limit up to the present. There are also to be special concessions to students.

We are inclined to doubt the accuracy of these figures. If they be correct, the purchaser of a yearly season ticket will be able, during the first year, to travel for 20 *sen* where a *yen* has to be spent by an ordinary person, and during the second year his outlay will be only 10 *sen*. In other words, whereas a first-class ticket from Yokohama to Tokyo now costs 80 *sen*, it will cost only 16 *sen* to any one holding an annual ticket, and only 8 *sen* to any one renewing such a ticket. Thus during the first year, 5 journeys can be made at the present outlay for one journey, and during the second year ten journeys. That is scarcely credible. Japanese newspapers, however, accept the figures without question and strongly applaud the course taken by the Authorities. They point out that the tendency of the time is for well-to-do folks to move out of the crowded streets and establish their residences in the suburbs of cities, which wholesome movement will be greatly facilitated by the proposed reductions. The *Jiji Shimpo* remarks that one important effect of these changes will be to extend the privilege of cheaper and easier travel to the lower orders, whereas it has hitherto been limited to first and second-class travellers. The fact is that in Japan the shorter the distance travelled the higher the charge. Thus from Shimbashi to Yokohama, a distance of a little over 18 miles, the third-class fare is 30 *sen*, being at the rate of 1.6 *sen* per mile, whereas from Shimbashi to Kobe, 377 miles, the fare is only 4.13 *yen*, or 1.1 *sen* per mile. It is where the traffic is greatest that the authorities should offer most facilities. The *Jiji* urges private railway companies to follow the good example set by the Government. We add the comment that until the principal cities are properly furnished with electric railways so as to relieve them from the tyranny of the jinrikisha-drawer, there can be no considerable re-distribution of population on sanitary lines. A Japanese desiring to hire a *jinrikisha* from Azabu to Shimbashi can not possibly do so for a less payment than 15 *sen*, a charge which may not be extravagant considering that the *kuruma* is drawn by a man, but which certainly renders residence in the Azabu suburb impossible for a small official who has to go to his office in the city every day.

PRESERVATION OF EASTERN ART.

Lord Curzon made some interesting remarks to an audience of native princes at the opening of the Indian Arts Exhibition in Delhi. The *Nation* summarizes his lordship's views thus:—

He deplored the tendency to adopt European fashions of furnishing merely because they are European, and showed that the future of the finer industries of India depends upon the presence of a body of intelligent patrons, who will hold artist and craftsman to their best. The future historian of eastern culture will have a somewhat melancholy chapter to write on the decline and fall of oriental art. He will show how the western nations, among whom machine work had destroyed handicraft, filled the east with Brummagem manufactures. He will explain how the west dealt the east a still more crippling blow by requiring of the eastern artist the work of the western machine. The people of the nineteenth century, he will say, asked of China, Japan, India, Persia, Asia Minor, not their best, but their worst—anything so it bore the tag, oriental. Under this foolish demand, he will explain, the art of rug-making virtually disappeared from the Asian villages, while the potteries of Japan gave themselves to caricatures, "for export," of their older and finer products, and Japanese painters cast away the beautiful linear symbolism, to the perfection of which centuries had gone, and gave themselves to meaningless imitation of the painting of Paris.

A very few years will decided the fate of the apparently moribund arts of the east. Unquestionably, machine-made products will there, as elsewhere, increasingly replace the direct work of the artist's hand. Does this mean that beautiful handicraft is to perish out of the east as utterly as it has out of the west? Lord Curzon thinks he sees a remedy in the revival of national spirit and taste in the east itself. And, clearly, the redemption of eastern art must come in this way, or not at all. The artist artizan does his best only for the patron of his race, from whom he may count upon complete appreciation. The patronage of foreign connoisseurs is, on the whole, demoralizing to the craftsman.

There is surely a great deal of truth in these criticisms, but so far as Japan is concerned we think that Lord Curzon's view is somewhat exaggerated. It can scarcely be said that in any branch of Japanese art signs of permanent deterioration or of loss of capacity and instinct are discernible. There has been, and there is still, an immense output of greatly deteriorated work. It is destined for the foreign market. But the demands of the same market have also encouraged effort which might have languished altogether had it been obliged to seek incentive wholly in domestic requirements. We cannot for a moment agree, for example, that the potters of Japan have given themselves to "cari-

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catures for export" of their older and finer products. They do that kind of thing—less now indeed than they did some time ago—but they also do much that will bear favourable comparison with the finest of their old achievements. And, speaking generally, can it be claimed that among all human accomplishments art alone has the power to be conservative? Nothing in the history of Japanese art shows conservatism. There have been epochs of culmination and epochs of decadence, but on the whole the wave of progress has risen steadily to higher and higher levels, and its advances have always illustrated the truth that art, to be vital, must be in touch with its surroundings. It can not ignore the spirit of the time. The changes that Japan has undergone in modern times are not to be dammed off from the region of art alone. The changes that she underwent in ancient times were fully reflected in that region. Still such protests as those of Lord Curzon have great value. They help to stem the tide of brummagem at all events.

DR. GREENE ON THE STUDY OF JAPANESE.

Does it seem strange to any one that after nearly half a century of foreign intercourse with Japan, after hundreds of books have been written about the country, after numerous aids to the acquisition of the language have been compiled, and after many scores of missionaries and students have devoted long years of strenuous labour to mastering the tongue, there should yet be occasion for the Rev. D. C. Greene to publish a book indicating the wisest course to be followed by a foreigner seeking to study Japanese? It certainly would seem strange to us did not we possess a vivid conception of what is involved in the task that Dr. Greene here undertakes to lighten. And because of that conception we are compelled to differ from Dr. Greene when he writes:—"Of course, no foreigner can be independent of Japanese assistance when he undertakes composition in the Japanese language; but he may reasonably hope to acquire a degree of skill comparable to that to which a German or a Frenchman aspires when he sets about the acquisition of the English language." We fear that he can not reasonably aspire to anything of the kind. How many thousands of Germans and Frenchmen are there who can compose in the English language with sufficient skill for all ordinary purposes? How many foreigners are there who can accomplish anything of the kind in the Japanese language? Are there half-a-dozen in the whole wide world? The truth is that from multitudinous points of view, which we need not here enumerate, the interval between the Japanese language and any European language is almost unbridgeable, and one is tempted to affirm that success in building the bridge will always remain a rare exception. Meanwhile we are disposed to think that no better course of study can be pursued than that laid down by Dr. Greene, and we are quite sure that much gratitude is due to him for furnishing this valuable guide. He undertook the work at the suggestion of the Advisory Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association, and he has done it with all the conscientious thoroughness to which his many public efforts have accustomed us. What we feel inclined to doubt is whether the course he recommends could be followed in the time he allows for it, namely, three years. But perhaps a very earnest student could accomplish it. Men can not afford to do anything in a leisurely manner now-a-days, and we are therefore prepared to be told that a foreign student in his third year should be capable of tackling essays in ethical periodicals and leading articles in newspapers. At any rate he can try, and if he follows conscientiously the route mapped out by Dr. Greene he will certainly attain a high standard of Japanese scholarship though some disappointment in the matter of time may await him.

A JAPANESE ON SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Hisamizu, of the Japanese Consular Service, who has just returned from a journey to South Africa, thinks that some opportunities offer for Japanese enterprise in that part of the world. At present the total trade of Japan in Natal and at Cape Town does not exceed thirty thousand *yen* at each place. But it might easily be two or three times as much. Men of large capital must put their hand to the work, however, for so strenuously is British enterprisé directed to the region that unless a projector can put up at least a million *yen*, he is not in the running. There are now six Japanese subjects in Natal. They are all engaged in the business of washing, and as they employ a number of natives and drive a thriving trade, they are respected and treated like persons of consideration. In Cape Town there is one Japanese store, belonging to the Mikado Shô-kai, a firm of 3 members. In the Transvaal there are 3 Japanese, 2 of them being engaged as cooks in hotels at a salary of £4 a week. It was also rumoured that some Japanese lived in Kimberley, and that a Japanese woman was plying a disgraceful trade in Eastland, but Mr. Hisamizu found that both statements were false. He thinks that articles of furniture, especially decorative articles like lacquer, silks, &c., would find a market, as all such things now come from England and are very expensive. Mr. Hisamizu recommends the route *viâ* Southampton as preferable to the direct route from Bombay to Natal. He affirms that, in consequence of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, Japanese subjects are looked upon with great favour, and that many Chinamen are said to have cut off their queues and donned foreign garb in order to pass for Japanese.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The shareholders of the Bank of Japan held their usual semi-annual meeting on the 21st instant, the President, Mr. Yamamoto being in the chair. The following statement of accounts was read and passed:—

	Yen.
Net profit	2,277,918.304
Brought over from last account	470,111.244
Total	2,748,029.548
Dealt with as follows:	
First dividend (6 per cent. per annum)	900,000.000
Second dividend (do)	900,000.000
Reserve	350,000.000
Bonus, etc.	130,000.000
Carried to next account	467,029.548

It was announced that Mr. Hara Rokuro had resigned from the Board of Directors, and the President read his half-yearly address of which the following is an authorized translation:—

I have now the honour of submitting to you the report of the transactions of the Bank for the 35th year of *Meiji* (1902), and in doing so I shall avail myself of the opportunity to make a few remarks on the general economic condition of the country as well as on the main features of the Bank's business during the year under review.

In the 35th year of *Meiji*, although depression was said to be prevalent throughout the country and although trade and industry seemed inactive, yet the general economic situation was perfectly quiet, and it may be affirmed that the year closed amid signs indicating the gradual return of more favourable times. During the first half of the year, the money market remained under the influences operative in the preceding year, when the nation had begun to recover a sense of calm and security after a period of economic disturbance. Thus, considerable sums continued to be paid back to the banks, and the influx of specie increased month after month in consequence of a favourable turn in the country's foreign trade, so that the public began to be gradually sensible of an easier state of the money market. Nevertheless, economic circles long accustomed to an enervated condition could not be easily stimulated to fresh activity. The announcement of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, guaranteeing as it did the peace of the Far East, could not fail to affect vitally our various economic interests. It engendered a measure of healthy feeling in business circles and an upward tendency became noticeable for the time on the Stock Exchanges. Later on, however, circumstances did not prove altogether propitious to economic improvement. In consequence of long rains, untimely frosts and other adverse phenomena that visited the country in the late Spring and early Summer, anxiety began to be felt about the harvest of wheat and barley, as well as about the outcome of sericulture; with the result that the temporarily wholesome feeling was superseded by aggravated sluggishness. In the second half-year, the export trade of raw silk, proving to be highly flourishing, caused specie to flow into the country in increasing amounts, so that the rate of exchange on Europe and America rose to points seldom reached in late years. Moreover, the absence of any demand for money resulting from the depressed state of commerce and industry, as well as the practice of economy by the people, led to an increase of deposits in banks. In addition to this, about the beginning of October, the Government made arrangements with the Industrial Bank of Japan to sell in London Government Bonds held by the Treasury, to the amount of 50,000,000 *yen*. These circumstances would have fostered a revival of activity in business circles, had it not been that apprehensions of a bad rice crop were entertained from the time of planting out the seedlings. That fear was accentuated by storms and floods in Autumn, until it became impossible to hope for even an average crop. Besides, the experience of the past did not induce business men easily to change their attitude of cautious circumspection. Thus economic circles remained quiescent to the fall and the new year opened with an easy money market, the banks generally holding surpluses of loanable funds.

Seeing that the general economic condition had assumed such a complexion, the Bank considered the occasion suitable for lowering the rate of interest that had been maintained since the 33rd year of *Meiji* (1900). The first step in this direction was taken in March, and further reductions were made three times successively in June, October, and December. The amount of the Bank's advances to the market varied from time to time; but the general tendency was in the direction of decrease. Thus, the sum of these advances, which had exceeded 53,670,000 *yen* towards the close of the preceding year, fell in February to 30,230,000 *yen*. In the month of June money was demanded to some extent for the semi-annual settlement of accounts as well as for carrying on the silk industry, and the advances made by the Bank swelled momentarily to 39,550,000 *yen*. But, owing to the brisk export trade in silk the funds engaged in that industry were rapidly paid back. From August, the Bank's advances decreased month after month until in November the amount was reduced to 26,430,000 *yen*. Towards the end of the year, the usual demand for money carried the Bank's advances on the last day of the year to 43,080,000 *yen*; but the sums thus borrowed were paid back for the most part a few days after the opening of the year.

As regards the condition of foreign trade in the year under review, exports and imports of commodities ammounted to 258,300,000 *yen* and 271,730,000 *yen* respectively, the aggregate being 530,030,000 *yen*. These are unprecedented figures in the annals of our foreign trade. The exports and imports of specie were respectively 2,020,000 *yen* and 32,160,000 *yen*, the excess of imports amounting to 30,130,000 *yen*. Compared with the bullion movements of previous years, this must be considered a very satisfactory result. Such a favourable condition of foreign trade is doubtless attributable to an active demand in foreign markets; but at the same time economy in domestic consumption and a consequent increase of commodities available for export seem to have contributed not less to swell our over-sea trade. The fact that, in spite of stagnation in the home market, imports of commodities showed an increase over those of last year, is accounted for chiefly by in-

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creases in the imports of cotton and cotton cloth, and by the import of rice in anticipation of a poor harvest. As to the influx of specie, it was largely due to commercial operations necessitating import of gold by houses and foreign banks. This excess of specie imports enabled the Bank to increase its specie reserve in the course of the year from 71,350,000 *yen* to 109,110,000 *yen*, and thus to strengthen the basis of the system of convertible notes. One thing to be deplored in our foreign trade was the depreciation of silver, which greatly impeded commerce with China. Dealers in commodities, such as cotton yarn, coal and marine products, which are exported chiefly to the neighbouring Empire, were thereby placed in very embarrassing circumstances.

To sum up, our economic circles, which had been struggling under abnormal conditions for several years, seem at last to have returned to their normal state during the past year. It is true that few enterprises were either expanded or started. But nevertheless business men steadily strove to reconstruct their concerns, by making due adjustments in their debts, by amalgamating companies, by shifting the *personnel*, by economizing working expenses, and by simplifying business methods. These must be considered as steps of industrial improvement. Reviewing the past, it is to be observed that for some years the situation of our foreign trade was continuously adverse, with accompanying outflow of specie in considerable amounts. As long as this condition obtained, there was a fear that the security of the system of convertible notes might possibly be endangered, and it was with the object of safeguarding this system that the Bank saw itself obliged to maintain a high rate of interest for so long a period. But the nation is now to be congratulated upon the fact that it has tided over this difficult situation. As the result of their efforts to amass capital, our people have succeeded in obtaining a large amount of specie from abroad through the medium of commercial operations, and thus they are now in possession of funds available for a further step of economic progress. All this is an evidence of the economic strength possessed by our industrial society.

Turning to the future, there is not in sight any contingency against which special warning need be uttered. In consequence of the bad harvest of last year, the import of a large amount of rice will be inevitable. But, on the other hand, when we remember that the proceeds of the sale of Government bonds, effected in London last year, will be available, it may reasonably be hoped that the Bank's specie reserve will not be diminished at all events. The course of economic movements, however, is mainly shaped by the proceedings of business men. If, in reaction from the inactivity of the past few years, economic enterprises be rashly and extravagantly promoted, there is no guarantee that disturbance will not occur unexpectedly. But it may be trusted that our business men are sufficiently prudent to pay due regard to the lessons of the past and to give careful consideration to the future: and that, in projecting their undertakings, they will proceed with caution, each in wise accord with his own respective resources. In discharging the duties of the Bank, I hope to proceed on similar lines.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The trial of the Russian who had obtained money by false pretences in various places, was concluded in Nagoya on the 21st instant. It would seem that the prisoner is in a debilitated state, for he fell into a semi-cataleptic condition from hysteria at the commencement of the trial, and morphine had to be injected. He pleaded guilty on the main counts, and several instances of fraud having been proved against him, he was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment, a fine of 6 *yen* and police surveillance for 6 months.

The naval manœuvres are to last 31 days. They will commence on the 7th of March and end on the 7th of April, and the grand review will take place at Kobe between the 7th and the 10th of April. It need scarcely be said that the plan of the manœuvres and their exact locality are kept strictly secret, but according to present appearances we suspect that the Koreans will witness a naval display such as has not hitherto come within their field of vision.

We perceive that Mr. J. Conder has been elected Emeritus Professor by the Faculty of of the Imperial University of Tokyo in consideration of his services to architecture in Japan. This honour is well deserved, and while offering our congratulations to Mr. Conder, we also congratulate the University on having added the name of an eminent man to its roll of professors.

We find in the *Asahi Shimbun* a long account of experiments made under the direction of Mr. Okashima Narazo, a graduate of the High Industrial School in Tokyo, who has been working for several years with the object of introducing the use of petroleum refuse (*jiyu*) instead of coal at the various iron foundries and leading factories of Japan. Our contemporary writes as though Mr. Okashima had made some remarkable invention. It seems to credit him with having conceived the idea of employing as fuel the refuse left after distilling parafin from the crude oil. Very possibly Mr. Okashima may have done much in the way of adapting Japanese boilers for the use of this kind of fuel, but after all this is merely the old question of employing liquid fuel for boilers. It has been well known for the past twenty years that petroleum refuse forms an exceedingly cheap fuel, and that its calorific value per lb. is about one-third greater than that of coal. Long ago it superseded coal in the steamers of the Caspian and came into use for locomotives in the south-eastern part of Russia, nor should the *Asahi* be ignorant that a great English company, with a large fleet of oil-carrying vessels, has been endeavouring for some years to promote the employment of petroleum refuse in this way. We can not, from our contemporary's account, discover clearly what it is that Mr. Okashima has achieved over and above the record. Perhaps there is something, but our contemporary's article seems to have the ring of a false trumpet.

The *Coptic* on Saturday took away from Yokohama one of the most popular members of the foreign community in the person of Mr. L. Kennard Davis. Mr. Davis has gone home on well-earned leave and takes with him the good wishes of a host of friends for a pleasant sojourn in the old country. He will be greatly missed among amateur theatrical circles.

We invite the attention of the Editor of *The Japan Evangelist* to the fact that in the February number of that periodical, on pages 21 and 22, two long extracts from our December "Summary of Current Japanese Literature" are reproduced without any acknowledgement whatever. Of course we do not suggest anything like deliberate plagiarism, but it is only right to protest against these errors of editing. A similar complaint might be constantly preferred against other journals or periodicals published in Japan or abroad, but we content ourselves with an occasional protest when confronted by such flagrant cases as that of *The Japan Evangelist*.

The *Nichi Nichi* says that there are 140 households of Jews in Nagasaki; that hitherto they have been engaged in very inferior occupations, as the keeping of pot-houses and such trades, but that they are now emerging on a higher plane, and that they have formed an association, or club, which seems to be quite a prosperous affair. One would suppose from the tone of our contemporary's note that the Jews labour under some kind of social reproach, but surely that absurd state of affairs ceased to exist long ago.

Five more arrests are reported in connexion with the text-book affair. Among those apprehended is Mr. Omura Nobuchika, formerly Governor of Gumma prefecture, who had previously held the same office in Tokushima and Miye, and had also been Vice-Minister of Justice. The total number of arrests is now 151, and in 12 cases the accused have been remanded for public trial. It is expected that some 20 will be acquitted at the preliminary investigation and from 50 to 60 on public trial, leaving about 70 to go to the appeal courts. Evidently the case will not be concluded before the end of this year, even though no more arrests be made.

It is stated that the Formosan Administration has finally decided to tax imported tobacco, the rate levied upon Japanese tobacco being 50 per cent. *ad valorem*, and that levied upon foreign tobacco, 150 per cent. This question had been under consideration for some time, but the project encountered much opposition from persons engaged in the tobacco trade in Formosa. It appears, however, that the Formosan Government finds itself confronted by absolute necessity in the matter of raising funds, and that it has no immediate source of increased revenue except a tobacco tax.

The widow of the celebrated Prince Iwakura died on the 23rd instant in Tokyo in the seventy-seventh year of her age. This lady enjoyed in Japan a reputation scarcely second to that of her renowned husband. In the days of the Loyalists' temporary discomfiture, immediately before the *Meiji* era, she performed distinguished and highly valuable service at the cost of much suffering and risk to herself. Little has been heard of her since Prince Iwakura's death, but her noble acts are now vividly recalled.

The terrible disaster of 1901 at Awomori when 200 soldiers were frozen to death, has almost been forgotten. It is recalled to memory by an announcement that the total sum subscribed by the public for the relief of the survivors and to assist the families of those that perished, was 214,127 *yen*, including 2,698 *yen* in the form of interest. The final distribution of this money—namely, the distribution of the fourth installment—has now been made.

COLLISION.

We are informed by the Agents, Messrs. Cornes & Co., that they are in receipt of advice that the steamship *Empire* has been in collision with the steamship *Hakuai Maru* at Moji and received slight damage. She proceeded to Kobe for repairs.

A serious collision occurred in Moji harbour early on Sunday morning, the E. and A. liner *Empire*, bound in, having while at anchor, been run into by the N.Y.K. steamer *Hakuai Maru*, which left Kobe on Saturday morning for Shanghai via Moji and Nagasaki. The *Empire*, says the *Kobe Herald*, was cut into on the starboard quarter, a V-shaped hole some eighteen inches deep being made in the plating, &c. Fortunately the damage was above the water line and the *Empire* was able to come on to port where she arrived on Monday, landing her Australian passengers none the worse for their exciting experience. We understand that the Kawasaki Dockyard will execute the necessary repairs, which are not likely to seriously delay the Australian packet. The *Hakuai* does not appear to have sustained any serious damage. It is evident that the way of the Shanghai steamer had been almost stopped when the collision occurred.

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A CURIOUS PROSECUTION.

FOR the sake of the light they throw on the law of Japan and on the attempts made by some persons to exploit it, the following facts are worth recounting.

On the 27th of last September we reproduced verbatim from the columns of a Yokohama contemporary a paragraph attributed to the *Kobe Chronicle*, in which it was stated that "for thirty years the office of foreign adviser had been a constant source of irritation and estrangement between resident foreigners and the Japanese Government;" and in which it was further stated that if Japan's case, now about to be submitted to the Hague Arbitration Court, was won on technical grounds, "it would be won at the expense of antagonizing a large body of foreign residents." Taking this paragraph for text we commented strongly on the slanderous and false nature of the accusations preferred against the foreign employees of the Japanese Government, and against the unmanly attitude attributed to the foreign residents, who, having agreed to submit a certain question to arbitration, were nevertheless represented as ready to resent the issue of the arbitration should it prove unfavourable to themselves.

The editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* thereupon addressed to the editor of the *Japan Mail* a letter complaining that his article had been only partly reproduced by the paper from which we quoted, and that the omitted portion contained a paragraph which shewed that his accusations against the foreign employees were limited in scope and did not apply to the whole body, as charged in our criticism. He made no attempt to justify or withdraw his injurious analysis of the sentiment of foreign residents, and he accompanied his protest with an insolent attack upon the controversial morality of the editor of this journal. Finding from his persistence that he considered himself aggrieved, we gave publicity to his protest, verbatim, and we also inserted the portion of his article on which he sought to base his vindication. In doing so we did not for a moment acknowledge his right to demand the insertion of such particulars. Our previous criticisms had been based solely on the paragraph quoted from his article by a Yokohama contemporary, which paragraph we had reproduced in full. They were criticisms altogether justified, directly or constructively, by the language of the paragraph; that is to say, justified in our view. Nevertheless we went to the exceptional length of giving space to his protest and to the proof on which he based it, though after careful consideration we felt bound to "append our own opinion that the unscrupulous malice of his original article was on a par with the evasive subterfuge he employed in his defence."

It will be observed that an almost quixotic measure of justice had been conceded by our procedure. But we had drawn the line at one point. We had refused to give publicity to insolent abuse directed against the editor of the *Japan Mail*; abuse which had nothing to do with the question at issue.

The article containing the Kobe editor's protest and his evidence in support of it, appeared in the *Japan Daily Mail* of Nov. 24th, 1902. Two months later, that is to say, towards the close of January, 1903, the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* petitioned the public procurator to institute criminal proceedings against the editor of the *Japan Mail* for violating the press law, the alleged violation being that the editor of the *Mail* had refused to publish the letter of the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle*. It was prayed that insertion should be compelled and that suitable punishment should be inflicted for previous failure to insert.

Observe what this amounts to. The editor of the *Mail* quotes verbatim a paragraph written by the editor of the *Chronicle* and condemns it. The editor of the *Chronicle*, considering that some other writing of his rebuts the condemnation, forwards that writing and protests. His protest and the writing in rebuttal are published by the *Mail*, but the hospitality of the latter's columns is denied to the abuse that accompanies the protest. Then the editor of the *Chronicle* endeavours to have the editor of the *Mail* criminally prosecuted for consigning the abuse to the waste-paper basket.

That is sufficiently amusing. But if we look a little close, the action of the *Chronicle's* editor assumes a still stronger aspect. Evidently if the law were such as he imagines, all journalistic criticism would be impossible in Japan. For if a newspaper quoted the words of an author and commented on them unfavourably, it would at once expose itself, under pain of criminal punishment, to the necessity of admitting to its column any attack the angry author might choose to pen. Did such a law stand upon the Japanese statute books, the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* should labour for its repeal instead of seeking to take advantage of its monstrous provisions. But of course there is no such law. What the law provides is that a newspaper must give publicity to errors of facts (*Jiko no sakugo*) at the instance of the person concerned. There is no question, nor can there be any question, about an "error of fact" when an author's *ipsissima verba* are made the basis of the remarks to which he objects. Therefore it need scarcely be added that the public procurator refused to entertain the extremely silly complaint of the *Kobe Chronicle's* editor, who now stands in the humiliating position of having endeavoured to institute a vexatious and vindictive prosecution against a brother editor under pretext of a law which, as interpreted by him, ought to be condemned by every rational man.

PARLIAMENTARY INSTITUTIONS IN JAPAN.

THE immediate future of parliamentary institutions in Japan is evidently becoming a matter of much anxiety to Japanese publicists. What is to happen when the Diet assembles next May? No one undertakes to answer that question definitely. The experience of the past suggests that the Cabinet, having asserted itself by one dissolution, will not invite another collision with the Lower House, and that a change of Ministry will take place within the course of the next two months. But it has gradually come to be understood that no such intention is entertained in Ministerial circles; or, at any rate, that no such intention has yet been admitted. On the contrary, the Cabinet's resolve, so far as outsiders can ascertain, is to stand firmly in its place and resort to a second dissolution should the House of Representatives again prove obdurate. The significance of such procedure must be palpable to every one. It would be a blow delivered at the very foundations of parliamentary government, as Mr. KATO TAKAAKI stated in a recent speech. For the right of consent vested in the Lower House necessarily carries with it the right of dissent also, and if every attempt to exercise the latter right involves a dissolution, then plainly the House ceases to have any discretion and becomes a purely mechanical assembly, moving in accordance with official direction, not in obedience to the judgment of its own majority. In such circumstances popular representation, as contemplated by the Constitution, loses practical value, and the Constitution itself might as well be suspended, except in so far as its nominal existence creates a luminous point in Japan's polity. These things being quite palpable to the statesmen now holding the reins of power, the course apparently contemplated by them in the case of the next House of Representatives must be associated with a contingent resolve to suspend the Constitution should the House persist in defying them. It would thus follow that they regard the time as unripe, or the nation as unfit, for the full operation of representative institutions. But at this point a difficulty will present itself to every thoughtful observer, namely, that the working of representative government has not yet been put to a practical test in Japan. The course of events has always been arrested on the verge of such a consummation. It was very nearly approached in the case of the Okuma-Itagaki Cabinet; but the signal failure of that trial is to be ascribed, not to its premature character, but to the hopeless incongruity of the elements that were combined for the essay. There the present situation differs materially, for the *Seiyu-kai*, into whose hands the administrative authority would pass were events allowed to take their natural course, is a homogeneous body, comprising in its ranks all the talent necessary for managing State affairs. Then why should not the KATSURA Cabinet step down quietly and vacate the seats of power in favour of the *Seiyu-kai*? The answer is that such a course would be merely passing from one deadlock to another; since although a *Seiyu-kai* Mini-

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stry could surely command the support of the Lower House, it must equally count on the opposition of the Upper. As between the constitutionality of sending down the Lower House whenever it ceases to consent, and ignoring the dissent of the Upper House, which is an integral part of representative institutions, there is little to choose. Either procedure would be a practical suspension of the Constitution. Therefore, since the duty of every Japanese statesman is, not to try manifestly impossible experiments, but to contrive a working scheme of administration, the present Cabinet would not be properly discharging that duty if it quietly passed out of office and left an untenable domicile for its successors. Here then is the deadlock, namely, that no party of statesmen can reckon on the support of both Houses: which means that stable government has momentarily become impossible in Japan. Is there any line of least resistance along which an exit can be found from this deadlock? The House of Peers will suggest itself to Englishmen as such a line. Could the Upper Chamber's legislative role be reduced to the dimensions that it has in the British parliamentary system, all difficulties would be resolved. That, however, is out of the question. The Japanese Peers have been invested by the Throne with practically the same power as is delegated to the Representatives, and any encroachment upon the rights of the former in favour of the latter would be not less opposed to the spirit of parliamentary government than repeated dissolutions of the Lower Chamber for exercising its legitimate function of dissent. But it seems unlikely that the Peers will persist in their present attitude. They must see that persistence signifies the failure, temporary at all events, of representative government in Japan, since the only alternative to administrative paralysis would be suspension of the Constitution. If it were necessary to predict, then, our prediction would be a softening of the Upper Chamber's conservatism.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Island of Formosa, Past and Present, by James W. Davidson, F.R.G.S., Consul of the United States for Formosa; London, Macmillan & Co., Yokohama, Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

Mr. Davidson has produced what may be justly called a great work on Formosa. There was need of such a book, for no one had previously attempted to compile anything like an exhaustive account of the island, its inhabitants and its conditions. A few books were in existence dealing with special incidents in the history of the place, and from 1866, when the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs began to include Formosa in that invaluable series of yellow reports to which every student of Chinese affairs must now have recourse, the island and its concerns became better known to the world. But until Mr. Davidson took the matter in hand, Formosa was almost a *terra incognita*, and only by wide research and careful collation could one acquire any considerable knowledge of a place which nevertheless has long possessed much interest. The book now before us is a portly volume running to 646 pages of text, with appendixes and an excellent index. It commences with an account of Formosa's first known visitors; then describes the state of affairs under the Dutch in the 16th and 17th centuries; then speaks of the Kingdom of Koxinga; then of Chinese rule, with incidental reference to the visit of Benyowsky in 1771, which was one of the fiercely savage and lustful forays that effectually discredited the mediæval Occident in Oriental eyes. After that, in not unnatural sequence, follows an account of massacres and outrages that greeted the renewal of foreign intercourse in the 19th century, and then we arrive at more modern times, namely, the Japanese expedition of 1874, to which Mr. Davidson devotes three chapters, taking his materials mainly from an excellent brochure written by the late Mr. E. H. House, who accompanied the expedition. Then we have the story of Formosa's opening to foreign trade, which, of course, preceded the Japanese expedition by about a quarter of a century; then the incidents of the French campaign in 1884-5, during the war of reprisals; then a chapter on Formosa as a Chinese province, and then finally, we have what may be called Mr. Davidson's chief original work, namely, 14 chapters, comprising 384 pages, on the Japanese occupation, the Formosan republic, the tea industry, the camphor industry, the sugar industry, gold, coal, petroleum, sulphur, salt, Formosa's economical plants, its inhabitants and its present condition, the subjects discussed under the last heading being, administration, population, society, education, justice and crime, sanitation, finance, defence, internal communications, posts and telegraphs, shipping and navigation and foreign trade. The appendix contains notes on the comparative vocabulary of the nine savage groups, on the land-birds of Formosa, its mammalia and its climate. There are numerous photographic illustrations, and in the frontispiece a coloured picture of the renowned Mount Morrison, now called Nitaka-yama, though we expect and hope that the original term will never be entirely replaced by the new one. The type is tolerably good, but the paper is not of fine quality, though in saying so we find no fault whatever, being rather disposed to admire the enterprise of the publishers, Messrs. MacMillan & Company and Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, than to call attention to their necessary economy on account of a work which can not hope to be a paying venture for some years to come. We should like to follow Mr. Davidson at some length in his clear and accurate accounts of everything essential to one's knowledge of this interesting island, but it is hard to choose among such a mass of valuable material, and we have no course but to commend the work to our readers as a monument of careful labour and well exercised analytical power. One extract only we shall permit ourselves to make as illustrative of the author's style, and because of its special interest for the general public:—

> After the easy victory gained by the Japanese forces over thousands of Chinese regulars during the late war, it may seem incomprehensible that in Formosa they have been unable to put down banditti. A word of explanation is necessary. The difficulty is not fighting the rogues. That in itself would be an extremely easy task. It is in finding them. A village may be attacked at night; by daylight the robbers have fled into the hills. A force starts in pursuit. But the robber does not wait for them to come and take him. He and his comrades quite naturally take to another hill, and when the Japanese force, advancing with great labor, over unknown paths, through jungle and stream, has reached the reported position, the place is empty, or the troops may meet a few humble peasants carrying implements of peace, working about the fields. There is no external evidence that the latter were the banditti of the night before, and yet they may very easily have been so. From a whooping, murdering rebel to a smiling peaceful agriculturist is for the Chinese an easy transition, and after the transformation the Japanese are absolutely helpless! There is nothing to be done. It may strike the reader that, by availing themselves of the assistance of Chinese, the Japanese would be able to obtain information as to the whereabouts of bad men. This will no doubt be the ultimate solution of the difficulty. But, so far, the Japanese have found it almost impossible to obtain Chinese informants in whose statements they can place trust. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that innocent Chinese have lost their lives, that innocent people have been imprisoned, that property has been destroyed solely through the machinations of treacherous Chinese who would not hesitate to cause the death of one of their own countryman if a few paltry dollars were to be gained. It was unfortunately quite a common affair, soon after the arrival of the Japanese, for certain Chinese to demand blackmail of their wealthy countryman and to report them as rebels if they did not produce. The Japanese have now learned that it is not safe to place confidence in Chinese, and while interpreters are still employed, but little dependence is placed in their reports. There are honest Chinese, there are liberal minded, kindly disposed Chinese who would have the interests of their people at heart. It can scarcely be said that the streets are crowded with them still they exist, and the hope of the Japanese is that they may in time obtain the services of men of this class, who will not only assist in ridding the island of undesirable characters, but will give much aid in other matters of government. In fact it would seem that the happy administration of the island will be reached when Japanese and bright Chinese, educated in the methods of modern government, can work hand in hand.

Anglo-Chinese Sketches, by William A. Rivers; London, S. R. Menheneott; price 1s. net.

The treaty-ports of China have yet to await the advent of a writer who shall pourtray the idiosyncracies, the tragedies, and the comedies of life as lived by the foreigner in the land of Sinim as Kipling vitalized for home-staying folk the once equally *terra incognita* of Anglo-Indian circles. There is abundance of material. As to that there can be no question, but so far the many attempts to exploit this promising field must be written down as failures. Quite recently a little volume of sketches was published locally, which, though very promising on the whole, hardly reached the standard set by the editor of a school-newspaper. And in all sorrow we have tos ay the same of the small booklet which has just reached us from London. There is good material in all the seven stories, but the manner of their telling leaves much to be desired from a literary and artistic point of view. The writer, we believe, played at one time a prominent part in Chinese affairs and therefore should know his field thoroughly; he owns to 30 years' observation. The pity is that he is not gifted with literary powers adequate to his opportunities.

China Coast Tales, by Lise Boehm; Series IV., Nos. 7 and 8, Shanghai, Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

In the opinion of many foreign residents of China and Japan, men and women whose opinion is worth having and whose dicta on such things we hold in deep respect, the gifted writer who hides behind the pseudonym of Lise Boehm is really doing for China what Kipling did for India—tearing down

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the veil. But we must hold to the opinion expressed above. Lise Boehm has great literary gifts, a vivid power of expression, an almost uncanny insight into the working of minds diseased, but it is all so narrow and harsh, so lacking in the broader, sweeter sympathies, so devoid of the deeper humanity which sets the stamp of sincerity upon the Anglo-Indian writer's sketches of poor, frail human nature and all its vast possibilities for good and evil when placed amid novel surroundings. In the little volume before us two tales are told, one called "Two Women," the other "A-kuei." It would be difficult to say which is the sadder, which drives the harrow-fangs deeper into the soul as one reads. The shipwreck of a white man out East is always terrible. Lise Boehm enables us to trace one poor, erring soul as it wanders along the broad path which leads so swiftly to utter ruin, but we cannot say we thank the author for the pictures which are so skilfully conjured up before us. It is terribly true no doubt; the tale represents one phase of life as lived in the treaty ports of the China coast, and for its very truthfulness leaves all the bitterer flavour behind.

"A-kuei" deals with the life-history of a Chinese lad, who though entering a British Consul's service as table-boy, actually takes lessons from the Consul's wife along with the Consul's little daughter. A benevolent English lady who comes to China as a self-supporting missionary, falls a victim to this same A-kuei a little later, after he had been dismissed the Consul's service for tampering with the Consular safe and abstracting certain monies, and A-kuei goes to Scotland to receive a thorough medical education. His benefactress eventually secures an English wife for the unscrupulous Celestial and the pair are then shipped out to China. The rest of the story is soon told: it proceeds on conventional lines. On the death of his benefactress and the stoppage of supplies, A-kuei deliberately repudiates his wife and child. His old master, the British Consul, has to come to their rescue, but the poor girl after leaving Shanghai, ends her sorrows between Hongkong and Singapore —again in the conventional manner,—after having fallen in love with the young Irish doctor who marries the Consul's daughter. A-kuei is killed in a rising which he himself foments. There is no denying the cleverness of the story, the portraits of all the characters stand out sharply against the background of the Yangtse treaty port. We can realize all the scenes, recognise all the types—Consul, missionary, doctor, Consul's wife, daughter, etc.—but as in the first story, the after-flavour is harsh and bitter, and again we cannot thank the author for the tale, much as we admire the craftsmanship.

List of the Higher Metropolitan and Provincial Authorities of China, by Mr. W. P. KER. Shanghai, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

Now that this book has been compiled one is disposed to wonder that the want of it did not become unendurable at an earlier date. Presumably the Chinese Secretaries of H.B.M. Legation in Peking—by whom it has been prepared, the corrections being carried down to April, 1902, by Mr. W. P. Ker—have had such a list at hand for many years. But they only gave it to the public in 1900 and this fourth edition seems to inaugurate the work's general career. A very great boon it will be, for one of the perpetual difficulties besetting students of modern Chinese history and newspaper editors has hitherto been the identification of the Middle Kingdom's officials and the orthography of their names. It is curious that in the matter of romanizing Chinese names scholars have not come to an agreement as rational and as uniform as that adopted and practised by students of Japanese prior to the recent aberrations of the Imperial University's committee. But the fact is that after all these years great diversity continues to disfigure foreign orthography in Chinese matters. Even such well known names as Chien-lung, Kang-hsi, Jung-lu, and so on are written variously by various scholars. One good result of the "List" now published will be that it must largely help to bring about uniformity. The system pursued is to place the romanized names in alphabetical order; then to give the corresponding Chinese ideographs by which they can be identified; then to indicate the native place of each; and finally to add a list of all posts held from the outset of an official's career until the present time. Sixty-three pages suffice. They are followed by a list of the officials forming the *Wai-wu-Pu* (Board of Foreign Affairs); by a list of Chinese Consular and Diplomatic representatives abroad; and by a list of officials who have died or disappeared from the public records during the past two years. At the end of the book there is a genealogical table of the descendants of the Emperor Chienlung, which will solve a great many perplexities. We do not see how any foreign resident in the Far East can dispense with this book. If some one would undertake a similar work for Korea, the public would be grateful.

The Japan Advertiser Directory, which for many years enjoyed a large measure of popularity as Meiklejohn's, is somewhat behind its rival in point of time. We do not doubt, however, that it will commend itself to business people who can appreciate handiness and comprehensiveness. Its new features are a well drawn railway map of Japan and a plan of Yokohama and the Bluff which will doubtless be found highly useful. There is also a classified list of trades and professions; a conveyance directory has been added which will appeal to travellers; the Osaka Exposition has a department to itself; and the firm list of Yokohama is arranged alphabetically as well as in numbered order. These innovations, even though marred by some typographical errors, greatly enhance the value of the work.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

The game of Rugby football played on the Yokohama Cricket-ground on Saturday afternoon resulted, as everyone expected, in a decisive victory for the "Born in Japan"—four goals and two tries (26 points) to *nil*. It was rather a pity that the affair was so one-sided, though in justice to the players it must be acknowledged that all worked with a zest that is usually only developed in more evenly balanced games. The first half saw two tries made, the first by Allcock, the second by Drummond, neither of which Moss managed to convert, the angle being very difficult. On change of ends the luck went dead against "The Rest," the score piling up steadily and relentlessly against them. Allcock, who played a smart game throughout, secured the first two tries in quick succession, and Moss converted both into goals. Then the play got looser for a while, "the Rest" holding their own, until Drummond, by a speedy sprint, managed to get the leather behind the posts again. This try was converted, and then, just before the whistle blew Allcock made his fourth try during the match. Moss, judging the angle and the distance splendidly, put the leather again over the bar and the game came to an end.

Mr. J. H. Bathgate acted as referee; Messrs. F. J. Hall and E. Mendelson as linesmen; while the teams were:—

"Born in Japan":—Back, P. Mitchell; three-quarter backs, G. C. Allcock, E. W. Kilby, O. Strome, J. Drummond; half backs, J. E. Moss, H. W. Kilby. Forwards, W. J. White, F. Pollard, A. Kingdon, J. L. Graham, E. J. Moss Jr., A. W. S. Austen, W. Graham and W. S. Moss (Captain).

"The Rest":—Back, W. Goddard; three-quarter backs, E. G. Fradgley, W. Gordon, J. Cartwright, C. E. Libeaud; half backs, H. E. Hayward, S. R. Ford. Forwards, F. J. R. Ward, W. B. Waddilove, A. Hills, J. Marques, N. T. Marquetti, A. W. Read and F. O. Stuart (Captain).

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. BARDENS.

A farewell dinner was given at the Oriental Hotel, Kobe, on Feb. 20th to Mr. F. J. Bardens, who leaves for England in the *Hakata Maru* this week. The dinner was given under the auspices of the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce and the Advisory Committee, of both of which bodies the guest of the evening has been a member. The chair was taken by Mr. T. W. Hellyer, President of the Chamber of Commerce, while Messrs. A. Simon and F. G. Sale acted as croupiers. There was a large attendance.

The Chairman proposed the health of the guest of the evening and in the course of his opening speech said Mr. Bardens had done a great deal for the furtherance of commerce during his stay in Kobe.

They would remember he said (we quote the *Kobe Herald*) that even in the home lands commerce used to be looked down upon. Prejudices of that kind regarding commerce had prevailed in the principal countries for a considerable period, but the men of the present time had lived to see a complete change come over public sentiment on the subject. Now-a-days it was recognised that the commercial spirit was more important than the military spirit in maintaining the position of a country—(hear, hear), and they might therefore well do honour to one who during his sojourn amongst them had done so much to advance the interests of commerce. He trusted the example Mr. Bardens had afforded would not be lost upon others in the community. If everyone would realize that he had it in his power to help forward the country's interests by studying to promote trade, great results would undoubtedly follow. He had heard it stated from the pulpit, to which it was natural and right to look for truth, that it had been said that no man could be strictly honest while engaged in business. Such a statement was false and misleading and he was satisfied that many a man in Kobe would resign his career at once if he felt that in order to succeed in business it was necessary to be dishonest. If such a statement were true the business men of the country would not fill the important part in affairs which they now do. The men of this country had a better opinion of business men than that. Many could remember the days when the business man was despised in the land, but now the rulers of the country are proud to honour men of business, and they realize that if the country is to take its rightful position in the race of the nations the people must attain pre-eminence in trade and commerce. He ventured to say the foreign business men of Kobe could help in this development. He had no doubt that Mr. Bardens, as head of Messrs Samuel Samuel & Co., recognised this fact. In leaving Kobe Mr. Bardens would leave behind him a record of which he might well be proud. By his conscientious methods of work, by the zealous way in which he took up anything, by his willing sacrifice of time in the public interest, Mr. Bardens had won their appreciation and it was not surprising that to many had attended to pay him a very high compliment and to express their recognition of his many valuable services.—(Applause).

Mr. E. H. Gill spoke highly of Mr. Bardens' services as a member of the Advisory Committee. The health of the guest of the evening coupled with the name of Mrs. Bardens was enthusiastically drunk. Mr. Bardens briefly replied. Other speeches followed.

Miss F. C. Fairman, the well-known painter of animal subjects, has just issued a photogravure from her picture, "The Agreement: England and Japan, 1902"—a bulldog and a Japanese spaniel standing side by side with a Chinese ivory pagoda behind them.

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CHRIST CHURCH BAZAAR.

Under the above heading we must group not only the bazaar and its accompanying "shows" which took place in the afternoon, but also the Musical Tableau, the Musical Play, the Concert and the auction that were held in the evening of Saturday. The whole was for the purpose of raising funds to enclose the grounds of Christ Church with an iron railing on a brick foundation, and judging from the way in which business went on and the number of people who paid for admission the efforts of the promoters must have been attended by a large measure of success.

The bazaar was to have been opened by Lady MacDonald, but she, unfortunately owing to the bereavement in the Imperial family, was unable to perform the opening ceremony. The Rev. W. P. G. Field, the Incumbent, in declaring the bazaar open, said: I suppose we are all experiencing some disappointment that Lady MacDonald is not present to open this bazaar. The reason for her absence is, as you will have conjectured, the melancholy event which has plunged the Japanese Court and nation into sudden mourning. When we consider the intimate and friendly relations which existed between Prince Komatsu and our countrymen both at home and in Japan, we English people cannot but feel that their sorrow is ours also, in no small degree, When our committee invited Lady MacDonald to open this bazaar she at once responded most readily and cordially, and I am sure that only her deep sense of what was right and seemly under the circumstances can have induced her to forego her engagement to-day. I may add that she has given very substantial and practical evidence of her interest in our proceedings. (Applause.) I feel that you would all wish me to give expression to the gratitude which we feel for the generous interest she has taken. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Field then declared the bazaar open and hoped business would proceed briskly and merrily.

The stalls, which were ranged in the vestibule, presented a very brilliant and lively appearance. In one corner there was a Flower and Sweets Stall presided over by Mrs. James Walter and Mrs. F. S. James; next to it was the Art Stall of Mrs. W. K. Vincent and Mrs. A. Bellamy Brown. Opposite these Mrs. E. J. Moss had a Fancy Stall, at which she was assisted by Miss Sharp, Miss Trixie Sharp and Miss Waddilove. In a recess Miss Vincent gave demonstrations of the art described as Scissography, by which portraits are taken, finished and handed to you while you waited. Palmistry had an able exponent in Miss Wright. The Fancy Stall of Mrs. Field and Mrs. Weston, the contents of which included a number of articles contributed by the Sunday School children, came next; across the way was the Doll Stall of Miss Dodds; and adjoining this was the Art Stall of Mrs. Dodds and Mrs. Bonar.

It should be said that among those who contributed to the contents of the various stalls were Lady Hannen, Mrs. Fanny Hannen, Mrs. A. Winstanley, Mrs. John Robertson, and Mrs. J. F. Allen, all former residents of Yokohama.

The large hall was mainly devoted to the purposes of the other entertainments but in one of the corners had been arranged a stall where Mrs. Kilby and the Misses Kilby dispensed refreshments.

In addition to the stallholders a number of the younger people took part in the work. Thus, Miss Muriel Cain had charge of a Bran Pie, Miss Rhea Kenderdine of an Aunt Sally, and Miss Elsie Blundell of a Fish Pond, while Miss Elsa Doering contributed her share by acting as a Flower Seller. In the course of the afternoon the Misses McIvor performed a very graceful dance. The Gramophone was not the least interesting part of the affair, Mr. T. Addis superintending this performance, which was much enjoyed by all who heard it. About 5 p.m. "Cinderella," a Musical Play, words by Marion Adams, music by Stephen R. Philpot, was produced by a number of children. We give the cast:

DRAMATIS PERSONAE:

Cinderella.....Miss Bertie Cahusac.
Proudie ... Crosspatch } Her Sisters { ...Miss Maydie Cahusac. .....Miss Elsie Esdale.
Fairy Godmother.....Miss Winifred Hill.
Prince Charming .....Miss Norah Stone.
Sir Holiday, Sir Hector } Courtiers { .....Miss Dorothy Stone. .....Master Basil Cahusac.
Herald .....Master Barry Cahusac.
Chorus of Fairies { Misses Sophie Cahusac, Flossie Eagling, Doris Hill, Isabel, Amy and Edith Unite.

Scene I. Room in Cinderella's House. Before the Ball.
Scene II. Palace of Prince Charming.....At the Ball.
Scene III. Room in Cinderella's House. After the Ball.

OVERTURE AND INTERLUDES BY MISS ELSIE BLUNDELL.

Accompanist .....Miss E. Burdett Leach.
Stage Manager.....Mr. A. F. Cahusac.

The dresses and acting of the little performers were alike admirable, but specially deserving of praise was Miss Bertie Cahusac who, as *Cinderella*, sang with much animation and spirit, doing full justice to her charming voice. Masters Barry and Basil Cahusac were also most praiseworthy in their parts and the rest of the company looked nicely and did creditably. In the second act the duet by Miss Dorothy Stone and Master Basil Cahusac "The World is Wide" was so well rendered that they received an enthusiastic encore, and the topical song which they sang in the third act was similarly rewarded. The overture and interludes were capitally rendered by Miss Elsie Blundell.

Cinderella was repeated in the evening and went even better than before. It was preceded by a Musical Tableau from Tennyson's "Princess," Mrs. James Waker giving the song "Home They brought her Warrior Dead" (the music of which had been arranged and adapted by Mr. W. Karl Vincent) with great feeling and expression.

To explain the tableau we reproduce the song:—

Home they brought her warrior dead:
She nor swoon'd, nor utter'd cry:
All her maidens, watching, said,
"She must weep or she will die."

Then they praised him, soft and low,
Call'd him worthy to be loved,
Truest friend and noblest foe;
Yet she neither spoke nor moved.

Stole a maiden from her place,
Lightly to the warrior stept,
Took the face-cloth from the face;
Yet she neither moved nor wept.

Rose a nurse of ninety years,
Set his child upon her knee—
Like summer tempest came her tears—
"Sweet my child, I live for thee."

The central figure in this very effective scene was Miss Dodds and round her moved or were grouped Miss Ross, the Misses Strome, Miss Dorothy Kilby (splendidly made up as the "nurse of ninety years") and Miss Poole. The dead warrior was represented by Mr. Chester Poole, and little Miss Edith Unite was the child.

During the evening the Misses McIvor repeated their dance and then followed "Cinderella" and the Concert.

The latter opened with a pianoforte solo "Valse de Concert" (Tito Mattei) which Mr. Karl Vincent played in his masterly fashion. Mr. Atkinson sang by request and with much effect "Commissionaire" (Hastings). Mr. Brady gave a sketch "Our Bazaar," and later sang two coster songs, all being in his own inimitable style. The programme was unfortunately shorn of two numbers by the illness of two intending participants.

The Auction was, as usual when Mr. Brady undertakes the business of selling, exceedingly diverting and good prices seemed to prevail.

After the auction, that is about midnight, the Rev. W. Field ascended the vacant rostrum and proposed votes of thanks, first to the children for their charming little play and for the hearty manner in which they had thrown themselves into their work, also to the ladies and gentlemen who had taken part in the tableau and concert, and to the ladies who had presided and assisted at the stalls. Mr. Brady had given them a very laughable account of a bazaar conducted on the old bad lines but he (Mr. Field) thought all present would agree with him that there was no comparison between their bazaar and that so well described by Mr. Brady. No one had been fleeced, in fact, he thought all would say that they had had their money's worth. He hoped that the bazaar and its various entertainments had proved a source of enjoyment to all present and called upon them for a hearty vote of thanks to those who had so kindly assisted at it.

The vote was cordially given and the proceedings closed.

The Committee are now able to issue the following statement of accounts:—

		Yen.
By Cross Receipts, including donations		1,489.08
Expenses—		
Advertising	21.25	
Coolie hire for piano	4.00	25.25
Net proceeds		1,463.85

It is a matter for congratulation that the expenses are so small, the rent of Hall, cost of tickets, programmes and sundry small items having been separately provided for by friends interested in the Children's Play.

The thanks of the Committee are especially due to Dr. Doyne and the staff of the British Naval Hospital, Mr. & Mrs. Cahusac, Mr. Brady, also to Mr. A. R. G. Clark, of Messrs North & Rae, for Aerated Waters, Mr. Addis for a Gramaphone, the "Japan Mail," "Japan Gazette," "Japan Herald" and "Japan Daily Advertiser" for inserting advertisements at half price, Mr. E. V. Thorn of the "Box of Curios" for printing tickets and programmes at cost price, Messrs. C. Thwaites & Co. for lending a fine concert Piano, Mr. Motley (Hunter) for kindly giving his services at the door, and to all the many ladies and gentlemen who so generously assisted in every way to make the Bazaar a success.

CONSTANCE FIELD,
Secretary.

THE FAMINE.

FIRST LETTER FROM MR. WESTON.

The following letter from the Rev. Walter Weston on his arrival at Aomori has been received by the Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund. In a covering letter it is interesting to note his satisfaction with those who accompanied him on his benevolent mission, his expression being; "My companions are admirable—all able and keen."—His letter of first impressions reads:—

On Tuesday afternoon I left Yokohama with Mr. F. Parrott, and was joined at Uyeno Station by Dr. Sasaki and Mr. Okada. The latter, the Private Secretary of the Governor of Yokohama, had, through the intervention of the Vice-Minister for Home Affairs, obtained half rates for the journey to Aomori and we left Uyeno at 6 p.m.

At Shiriuchi, 60 miles before reaching Aomori, I was told that some 4,000 people were in distress in that part of the Ken, but it was difficult to get accurate details on this subject at most of the stations at which we made enquiries on the way north. How far the people's want of knowledge of such things or their lack of personal interest in them chiefly accounts for the difficulty of obtaining such information, I am unable to say. At the same time I believe that many who do suffer are not always ready to show it or to ask for relief.

I was struck with the miserable appearance of the peasants' cottages visible from the railway. Although there is much less snow than usual this winter, the region is so entirely mountainous that communication between the scattered hamlets off the mainroad (the Oshū Kaidō), and the railway, must be very difficult. It is therefore less likely that what happens in the more remote districts should be readily made known to the outside would.

On our arrival at Aomori, we were met by the agents of the Standard Oil Company, at the instance of Mr. Copmann, of Yokohoma, who had kindly instructed them to give any help they could. Immediately after tea at the hotel, we went by appointment to the private house of the Governor of Aomori Ken, who welcomed us most kindly, and expressed his readiness to help us in any way he could, offering to send with us one of his staff wherever we might wish to conduct personal investigations.

The substance of his information was to the effect that while he had received news of very considerable and widespread destitution in certain rural districts, it was difficult to obtain accurate details. The nature of the country where this exists renders the matter of investigation all the harder.

For the various causes of distress, the severity of last summer and the comparative mildness of this winter are chiefly responsible. The cold and wet of the summer months worked such havoc with the crops that from 45 to 60 per cent, less than the average yield resulted. With less rice to be got, the peasantry had recourse to various expedients,

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Horses were eaten, roots, and rice-straw made up in edible forms.

Root crops were largely rotted by the excessive rains, and the scarcity of rice straw told on the many whose chief means of livelihood in autumn and winter was in making straw mats, ropes, etc. The many charcoal burners on the other hand, through the milder winter season have had less sale for their commodity, and have suffered accordingly. The people having been compelled, moreover, to consume their store of cereals (for sowing purposes) as food, the last stage of destitution was reached in consequence.

The districts that have suffered most are said to be Kami-kita-gun, especially the Numasaki and Shichinohe neighbourhoods; Higashi Tsugaru gun; and Sannohe-gun. The last named includes the neighbourhoods of Gonohe, Sannohe, and Hachinohe.

In accordance with the Governor's suggestion, we have decided to carry out our plan of going to examine, as far as possible, on the spot, with a view to deciding in what way relief should best be given; and we propose to start on Friday morning for the first named district.

On Thursday the mayor of Aomori came to see us, but no additional information was obtainable from him on the points already mentioned.

The difficulty of moving about in these places off the railway, over snow covered tracks, in a hilly region, must make the work of investigation not an easy one. Still, information will be handed in to Yokohama, at whose instance this is being carried out, with as little delay as possible.

SECOND LETTER.

Another letter has been received in which Mr. Weston describes his operations. In his covering letter he emphasizes the fact that "these regions in winter are different from anything you or I are acquainted with and the diffieulties of getting about are very great":—

Aomori, Saturday, Feb. 21st, 1903.

On Friday morning the Guncho of this district called, and kindly offered to send with us one of his subordinates to help us in our visit to the nearest district of the three in which distress is said to be most severe, viz. that of Hiranai in the 'county' of Higashi Tsugaru.

Like the rest of the officials whom we have met he seemed to appreciate the help that was being offered and to be ready to do all he could to further our plans for investigation.

The nearest station to the district in question, which I ought to mention is the least severely affected of three I named in my previous letter, is Ko-minato, about 15 miles east of Aomori, and we started for it in a heavy fall of snow. On arriving there we proceeded to the *yakuba* (office) of the *soncho* (head man) of Naka Hiranai, about a mile from the Station, along a slippery track through 2 feet of snow. He received us very civilly, and readily placed all his information as our disposal. Shortly after our arrival, the *soncho* of the two adjoining districts of Higashi-and-Nishi Hiranai also appeared, and from them we were able to get details of the situation in their respective neighbourhoods.

The suffering there, as elsewhere, seems all to be due to the causes to which I have already referred, the bad weather of last summer, and the comparative mildness of the early part of this winter.

Specimens of the rice crop hung up on the wall of the *yakuba*, and told their own tale, clearly illustrating the statement that the usual yield of 729,000 *koku* had fallen to 380,000, involving a loss of 3,800,000 *yen*. With no less than a loss of 1,410,000 *yen* from the destruction of other agricultural products, one was not surprised to learn that the value of horses and cattle had depreciated by one-half.

The total number of sufferers, in this Aomori Ken, is put at 45,000, but of course there are varying stages of distress, and our first concern is with those in the acutest stage.

The three *Son ho* have statistics of names addresses, etc.,, of about 220 persons in their districts in this category, and were quite ready to give us the chance of seeing cases for ourselves. Nearly all of them are small farmers and farm labourers, whose condition naturally is not likely to improve before the end of winter. Fortunately no particular extent of sickness has at present broken out.

We were able to bring away with us specimens of the food, so called, upon which most of these unfortunate people are trying to exist, but a mere literal description would give no idea of its loathsome appearance, and one wonders what sustenance it can afford.

One is called *tofu-mochi*, a mixture of bean pods and bran made from ground rice-husks.

Another is *kusa-mochi*, made of the leaves of *yomogi* (mug-wort) and buckwheat meal.

A third, *matsukawa-mochi*, is made of the inner bark of pine-trees, mixed with buckwheat meal and rice-husks.

As to clothing, the destitute folk are said to be mostly in rags, and their bed clothes consist chiefly of straw.

After spending several hours at the *yakuba* we went off to visit several of the nearest cases, which afforded a chance of seeing various stages of destitution in the neighbourhood. One of these was in a miserable hovel in which a dog would have been poorly off. It consisted of a shelter (?) of straw matting and rough board, and when one could see into the inner darkness the dirt and rags proved to be the property of an old woman and two girls whose hunger and cold did not prevent them from giving us a polite welcome, and expressing the hope that we were well and strong! No complaints were made nor were any needed. Over a few embers some water was being heated, there being no food in the hut although they have a little given them at times by a neighbour better off. A single, ragged, thin *futon* constituted their entire stock of bedding, and one wonders whether the cold has not had a beneficial effect in numbing sensibilities of hunger and pain.

In a second hut an old woman, half blind, was preparing her meal of slices of daikon, and in a third a family of father, mother, and three children eke out a squalid existence in making *waraji*. A day's work at this results in some 10 pairs, on which a total profit of 10 *sen* can be made, where purchasers are obtainable.

Groping inside the inner half of this wretched hovel, I saw some rags, and the remnants of two or three filthy, *futon*, which with equally dirty straw matting, serves for bedding.

The above are specimens, taken at random, of a state of affairs which needs, I think, no further description. They will serve, however, to give a little idea of the present condition of several hundreds of peasants in this region, the least distressed. With regard to the question of relief, we decided to send for some supplies of *awa* (millet) and *miso*, the sorts of food agreed, upon after consultation with the three *soncho*, as most suitable for the emergency. A quantity of blankets to be used as bedding and clothing were also asked for in the telegram and despatched to Yokohama on my return to Aomori. The Governor, to whom we reported the outcome of our investigations, seemed glad to hear of our proposals, and gave valuable suggestions as to how to best ensure a trustworthy distribution of the supplies ordered.

At the same time, he emphasized the fact that what we had seen was only a part of the least severe distress in this Ken, and advised us not to run the risk of doing too much here when far more would be needed elsewhere.

To-day, Saturday, we are returning to Kominato to inspect further cases in that part, and on Monday hope to get down to the Numisaki district where the distress is said to be keener and more widely opened.

The deep snow, however, renders walking difficult, and communication, by any means whatever, so slow that it is impossible to investigate large areas in the time at our disposal.

In any case, we hope to be able to gain a fair idea of the worse conditions of affairs, to which I think our relief should be applied.

With regard to the large number of persons suffering less acutely, I have reason to think the local Government will shortly be in a position to afford a measure of relief.

The supplies already ordered from Yokohama are calculated to last at least 2 months, by which time we hope conditions will be ameliorated, with increasing prospects of work, and with decreasing severity of wintry weather.

THIRD LETTER.

Aomori, Feb. 22nd, 1903.

On Saturday, Feb. 21st, we again went by train to Kominato, and spent the day in visiting as many of the distressed households as possible.

At the *yakuba* of the Soncho of Haka Hiranai, we were joined by the Soncho of Nishi Hiranai, to whose district we were bound.

In a driving snow storm we pushed our way across the bleak and desolate country-side westwards for several miles, with the villages of Fujisawa and Yamaguchi as our principal objectives. A slippery track, along the road that lay some 2 feet deep in snow, made walking difficult, and the wind drove the falling sleet in our faces as we stumbled along.

Heaps of manure strewed the road side waiting for more open weather and snowless ground to be used by the peasants whom here and there we met dragging loads off on sledges to their fields.

At the hamlet of Fujisawa we went into a number of miserable places called houses, and the inmates in varying stages of destitution similar to those I have already described in my previous reports. But a very remarkable and universal characteristic of all these people was the entire absence of whining and suggestions for assistance. I have no time to dwell on the fact or to attempt to explain it, but I draw attention to it as a feature to be clearly remembered in one's views of all this suffering.

At Fujisawa we halted at the *yakuba* of the Soncho, and while our Japanese companions got their *bento*, my colleague and I ate our jam sandwich apiece and looked around us.

The dilapidated appearance of the *yakuba* was accounted for to us by the fact that the money that was to have been devoted to repairing it had been diverted to relief in the neighbourhood earlier in the winter. Trudging on a mile or two beyond Fujisawa we approached the foot of the hills that lay before us. The scattered cottages and hovels that constitute the hamlet of Yamaguchi climb up the lower slopes, and probably at a distance on a fine spring or autumn day would look quite picturesque. The interior aspect, however, was the reverse of romantic, and each cottage had its own story of wretchedness to tell.

In one an old grandmother was heating a mixture of poor looking *soba* and bad rice in an iron pot. There was about a pint of this and it formed the sole food for 4 people. Sometimes they had two meals a day of it, sometimes one, sometimes none at all. The bedding was represented here, as in other cases, by a heap of filthy looking rags, and straw matting.

In another house the father had a foot rotting with leprosy to which he said he couldn't attend as he was too busy in trying to gather food for the family. A son totally blind was making *waraji* to help. Their only food was some *hie*, and their stock of it was now nearly at an end.

In a second house, a family of four were subsisting on dried *daikon* leaves and *hie*. The latter had very bad eyes and could do no work. One thin *futon*, with the usual straw, formed their entire stock of bedding.

In a third house were grandparents, parents and seven children, eleven in all. Their united meal consisted of a quarter or so of *hie* and hot water.

The above facts are detailed in order to give an idea of the circumstances of those worst off in this neighbourhood. The large majority of "sufferers" are less miserably situated and we feel that our first efforts at least should be directed towards the alleviation of the acutest distress. The number of persons for whom we sent to Yokohama for supplies was about 220, and the food ordered will last them nearer three months than two. Until we have seen something of the two districts south-east of Aomori, near Numasaki and Sannohe respectively, we cannot tell what amount of funds will be needed to relieve such cases as come within the scope of our first obligations.

The constant snow-falls, and the roughness of travel from place to place in a winter-bound region will make the work of investigation necessarily slow, but the various *soncho*, who seem to have wonderfully detailed information of the circumstances of their people, are able to give us very helpful information, for which we always try to send on ahead before actually arriving on the spot which we propose to inspect.

As we have to rely in the main upon these *soncho* not only for information but also for practical help in the actual work of distribution of relief, I should like to clearly state that they are usually very reliable, and able men.

I have in my country journeys in out-of-the-way regions invariably found them most civil, trustworthy, and obliging, and am glad to feel that the work which will after we have left their districts, remain in their hands, may confidently be expected to be well and faithfully done by them under the ultimate supervision of the Governor of the Ken, to whom they will be actually accountable for whatever is entrusted to them.

They are elected by the *people themselves* and are not petty officials from afar, and consequently, their lives and interests being bound up with those of the peasantry they represent, their knowledge of and sympathy with them are usually real and serviceable.

Both the Governor and themselves seem genuinely grateful for the proffered help they are receiving, and they are all very willing to co-operate even with foreigners whom they can but imperfectly understand, in the work of relief.

On Monday we propose to start for Numasaki about 50 miles S.E. of Aomori, which will be our headquarters for several days whilst investigating in that district, which is said to be the second hardest hit of the three. We happened to meet the station master of that place yesterday in the train, and as he speaks English a little and wants to improve in it, we shall find him of practical help, especially if supplies have to be forwarded there from Yokohama.

The Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund have received the following telegrams from the Rev. Walter Weston:—

Aomori, February 20th, 5.40 p.m.

To-day visited least distressed district, condition of sufferers pitiable, send immediately ten bags *awa* thirty-five tubs *miso* and two hundred and twenty old blankets, address goods Weston,

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Aomori Station, shall continue investigations Saturday, details follow, Weston.

With reference to the above telegram the Trustees are despatching to Aomori the goods asked for.

Aomori February 21st, 5.15 p.m.

Have spent to-day in district nearest Aomori. Though this is said to be least affected of the three I named the results have been very painful. Details follow. Your wire just to hand; very glad. I Leave Monday for several days in districts south-east of Aomori, where distress is reported worse.

The Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund have received the following telegram from the Rev. Walter Weston:—

Visited Shichi-nohe district, Monday and Tuesday. Conditions similar to those already described, but larger numbers needing relief. Food supplies more readily obtainable here, therefore send *yen* 500 to Weston, Yasuda Ginko, to cover immediately-forthcoming expenses. Ask Robison send 1,000 blankets to Weston, San-nohe station.

WESTON.

The money was remitted by telegraphic transfer on Wednesday afternoon, and the blankets are being despatched at once.

The following is an extract from a private letter received by Mr. T. S. Baker from the Rev. W. Weston, dated Aomori, February 23rd:—

I have arranged with the Governor of the north west part of Aomori a system of relief tickets, to be distributed to those eligible, which will be presented to the relieving officers as receipts for food, etc., supplied. I think we have every reason to feel that the supplies will duly reach the needy ones, as from the governor downwards every one seems indefatigable in their efforts to further the work we have in hand.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	6,470.63
C. de C. Hughes	10.00
E. W. Townend	50.00
G. F. Gordo	5.00
F. Ribiero	3.00
J. C. da Costa	1.00
F. E. da Silva	2.00
L. V. Ribiero	1.00
J. F. Jesus	2.00
F. da Silva	1.00
J. P. Gutterres	1.00
F. Correa	1.00
W. L. Merriman	25.00
F. G. Woodruff	15.00
C. & J. Favre Brandt	100.00
L. Eppinger	20.00
G. C. Booth	5.00
J. E. B.	50.00
Chas. J. Helm	10.00
L. G.	5.00
C. V. Sale	250.00
Miss M. A. Spencer	5.00
Mrs. J. K. McCauley	5.00
Teachers and pupils of two S. Schools under the care of Mrs. G. K. McCauley	20.00
Carrie A. Heaton	5.00
J. R. Simon & Co.	50.00
A. J. McClure	25.00
G. G. Brady	25.00
Herbert J. Grant of Utah	100.00
Samuel Samuel & Co.	1,000.00
H. Litchfield	25.00
Bennett, Daniel & Co.	100.00
F. R. Daniel	50.00
A. H. Dare	50.00
A. Wilckens	25.00
Yokohama Modern School	12.00
Robt. Howie	25.00
T. M Laffin	25.00
Henry S. Godfrey	50.00
F. M. T.	50.00
Hutchison & Co.	100.00
Otto Reimers & Co.	250.00
Maurice Russell	30.00
Rev. H. L. and Mrs. Bleby	10.00
Rev. S. Painter	20.00
Singer Manufacturing Co.	25.00
F. Retz & Co.	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. C. H. H. Wolff	10.00
F. S. James	50.00
Marquis C. de Nembrini Gonzaga	10.00
H. Ahrens & Co. Nachf.	100.00
B. C. Howard	50.00
Strome & Co.	100.00
H. P. Wadman	25.00
J. Witkowski & Co.	50.00
Subscriptions collected in Nagasaki per "Nagasaki Press"	190.00
Reuter's Telegram Co.	25.00
G. B.	10.00
American Trading Co.	200.00
Jewett and Bent	100.00
H. W. Denison	100.00
Pupils of the Toyo Eiwa Jo Gakko, Tokyo	15.00
Collections per Hotel Metropole.	
W. B. McNaughton	25.00
Mrs. McNaughton	25.00
T. D. Addis	10.00
P. Nyffenegger, of the Hotel Metropole	20.00
Collection per Imperial Hotel.	
"Friend." £5 @ 2/0½	48.98
S. W.	25.00
Winckler & Co.	100.00
E. J. Moss	25.00
Heller Bros.	25.00
J. W. Copman	100.00
J. S. Happer	25.00
L. H. Abel	25.00
P. E. F. Stone	15.00
J. C. Jensen	10.00
P. W. Feichtner	5.00
Hugh Gunn	10.00
K. Dodds	5.00
F. T. G.	10.00
C. H. M.	10.00
K. v. R. S.	5.00
Carl Rohde & Co.	100.00
T. Thomas	25.00
Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China	1,000.00
Wm. Walker	5.00
Varnum, Arnould & Co.	50.00
Young Men's Bible Class	25.00
Arthur R. Morris	50.00
Grand Hotel, Ld.	100.00
J. L. O. Eyton	10.00
Mrs. W. Woodus Greene	5.00
Smith Baker & Co.	100.00
Anonymous	30.00
Compania General de Tabacos de Filipinas	200.00
A. J. Easton	25.00
Geo. H. Macy & Co.	100.00
M. Raspe & Co.	100.00
Rosenthal & Co.	100.00
W. B. White	10.00
M. A. Raza	35.00
M. N. Gobhai & Co.	35.00
S. Strauss & Co.	100.00
Siemens & Halske A. G., Tokyo	100.00
Alexander Clark	30.00
J. B. Bhesania & Co.	25.00
Simon, Evers & Co.	100.00
Further Collections per "Japan Mail."	45.00
Martin & Co.	100.00
King's Daughters Circle, Yokohama.	100 00
Some Portuguese Friends	47.00
Anonymous	30.00
H. C. G.	50.00
Bruhl Frères	50.00
Total	13,600.61

We beg to acknowledge receipt of the following sums on behalf of the famine-stricken people in Aomori Prefecture:—

	Yen.
Amount already acknowledged	741
Sympathiser	10
E. Rothesay Miller	25

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* comments in strongly appreciative terms on the remarkable charity shown by the foreign residents of Japan with regard to the Awomori distress. It is undoubtedly a noble effort, well deserving the gratitude and applause it evokes.

LAW CASES.

YAMADA v. SIMON, EVERS & Co.

The hearing of this case, in which *yen* 546, alleged losses in business, was claimed, was taken in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano and two other Judge Associates on Friday.

Mr. Fujiwara was present for plaintiff, a Japanese sugar dealer; and Mr. Yamada, for defendants, Messrs. Simon, Evers and Company.

The points of the claim are that on the 5th October, 1901, plaintiff made a contract with the defendants to purchase 3,000 bags of German granulated sugar, weighing 2,520,000 *kin*, at *yen* 10.60 per 100 *kin*. The sugar arrived here in March, 1902, and plaintiff further promised to take delivery of 3,000 bags within three months, commencing in March. On the other hand plaintiff sold 1,000 bags to a sugar-dealer named Watanabe at *yen* 10.85 per 100 *kin*, and 2,000 bags to another dealer named Komiyama at *yen* 10.80 per 100 *kin*, making a total altogether of *yen* 27,354.800. When plaintiff went to the Midoricho ware house where the sugar was landed from the steamer, to take delivery and to transfer the sugar to his customers, he found that the contents of the bags were stained with sea water and the quality of the goods much inferior to the samples on which the contract was made. Plaintiff informed defendants of the matter but the latter would not acknowledge the correctness of the facts. Plaintiff then gave notice of repudiation of the contract, to defendants through a bailiff on the 22nd May, 1902, and refused to take delivery of the sugar. Plaintiff now sued for the commission which he had lost in failing to make the sales with his customers, which he assessed at *yen* 546. Plaintiff added that if the defendants had imported the sugar bargained for in the contract, plaintiff would never have lost his profit on the business with his two customers.

Counsel for defendants proposed that the court reject the suit, saying that the contract had been properly carried out, the sugar which arrived being of the quality contracted for.

The Court, after consultation, rejected the application of defendants. It was agreed to examine the documents filed in the lower court and to summon witnesses.

The case was then adjourned till the 20th March.

SATO v. C. THWAITES.

The hearing of this case, in which *yen* 6,995.55 is claimed as damages, which was adjourned in December last, was resumed on Friday afternoon in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano and two judge associates.

Messrs, Yamanaka and Sasaki, barristers of Tokyo, were present on behalf of the plaintiff Mr. Sato, a theatrical contractor in Tokyo, and Mr. Ideura, barrister, for the defendant, Mr. C. Thwaites, of No. 61.

The plaintiff made a contract in September, 1902, with defendant that the latter should give "10 grand Magical Art Exhibitions" in Tokyo, the performer being a Mr. Davis, a professor of this art, and plaintiff agreed that the former should pay *yen* 200 per day for the services of Davis. On the 5th October, 1902, a stage was provided at the Kinki-kwan, a meeting hall, situated in Nishiki-cho, Kanda, Tokyo, under the contract, and the performances began. Davis however said he was unable to show the whole of the ten magical "illusions" and only six came off. The plaintiff further said that even the six illusions were imperfect and failed to attract the public, and the entertainment was closed after two days without continuing the performances. Plaintiff was therefore occasioned much loss.

An American citizen, manager of the Kyoto Branch of the Manufacturers Life Insurance Co., was summoned as a witness. Mr. Gregory, teacher in the Kanagawa Academy, was present as an interpreter

Witness in answer to questions of the Judge and the advocates, said he attended the performances at the Kinki-kwan as an assistant of Mr. C. Thwaites, but he did not know the exact terms of the contract made by plaintiff and defendant.

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He provided the stage at the Kinki-kwan on the 4th October last, and arranged four "illusions" on the front part of stage, one at the left of the hall, and two at the right. The other three could not be introduced upon the stage or in any other part of the hall because it was too narrow for such performances, some of which require large boxes, viz. 6 ft. by 8 ft. and a height of 6 ft. or more. At night, the lamps in the hall were insufficient in power to show the performances to the spectators. These defects were complained of to the plaintiff, who said he could not enlarge the room, but some two or three more lamps were provided. On the first day of the performance plaintiff paid to Mr. Davis *yen* 200, as his day's wages, but on the 2nd day, that is the 6th October, the opening of the performance was postponed for some hours, as plaintiff did not pay the wages to the actor as promised. On the 3rd day, witness took away all the arrangements on the stage under instruction from Mr. C. Thwaites.

Plaintiff asked the court to summon an expert to give an opinion upon the nature of the "illusions" which were condemned by plaintiff as imperfect. The court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till the 20th March.

GROSSER AND CO., AND E. POPP v. OGAWA KOJI.

This was a claim in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho arising out of a breach of contract in a peppermint oil transaction. The plaintiffs claimed payment of *yen* 27,210.

The hearing of the case took place on February 21st. Mr. Hirata appeared for plaintiffs but defendant was not represented.

Judgment by default was given against defendant, plaintiffs being authorized to carry out a provisional execution by depositing *yen* 14,500, Messrs. Grosser & Co., *yen* 7,500 and Mr. Popp *yen* 7,000.

P. SARDA v. A. BOSREDON.

In this case in the District Court before Judge Kato Mr. Sarda claimed *yen* 300.

Mr. Akiyama was present for the defendant but the plaintiff was absent.

Judgment was given in favour of the defendant.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL AND CO.

The camphor monopoly case, which was adjourned on the 3rd inst. was resumed on the 24th before Judge Kato in the District Court.

To decide the question whether Mr. E. C. Davis, one of the representatives of Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company, is responsible for the claim of the plaintiff, Professor Hijikata, of the Imperial University, was called in as an expert. The Professor gave it as his opinion that the "indenture" which was concluded by the parties, Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Company, and Messrs Samuel Samuel and Company was a contract made by way of "deed." The contract was properly made according to the law of the United States and Great Britain. Of the responsibility of Mr. Davis as one of the parties to the dispute the Professor gave it as his opinion that one who entered the partnership of a firm that already existed would not be responsible to third persons for what the firm had done before he entered the partnership.

The plaintiff, Mr. Hioki, the bankruptcy administrator of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Company, asked the Court to admit the documents which had been used in the proceedings of the case of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and Samuel, Samuel and Company *versus* Mourilyan Heimann and Company, and explained that in these documents the responsibility and rights of the third person and of Mr. Davis were clearly stated. The court agreed to his request.

The case was then adjourned till the 10th instant.

We have received from the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, the "List of the light, houses, light-vessels, buoys, and beacons on the coast and rivers of China for 1903," which has been corrected up to the 1st of December, 1902. The book is one that no Master Mariner serving on the China Coast should be without.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

To the New Year's number of the *Jiji Shimpō* Count Okuma contributed a long article, in which he reviewed the present situation of affairs and endeavours to determine how far the progress made by modern Japan is solid and thorough and how far it is merely superficial. The first part of the article goes over events that are too familiar to our readers to need reproduction here. Count Okuma in the second part of his article endeavours to determine how far the Japanese have actually been occidentalised. The adoption of European ways, manners, appliances and arts is not to be mistaken for the assimilation of European thought, observes the Count. He then goes on to observe that it is quite impossible to change the fundamental ideas of a nation in thirty-five years or even in a hundred years. It is constantly assumed that the changes effected in the Meiji era are more radical than they actually are. The Mombushō had been supposing that by the use of superior ethical text-books and by changing its system of teaching it was transforming the whole nation, when suddenly disclosures were made which showed that the ethical reform was a mere make-believe and that low principles and corruption prevailed almost everywhere. To change the ideas of a people fundamentally at least three generations are required. Before you can get an entirely new class of actions from people you must supply them with new minds. People are not to be renovated by laws and rules. We and our neighbours the Chinese place too much confidence in regulations of all kinds. Whenever we discover a defect we set to making new laws or rules, and think we have secured reform. No amount of law can change the state of mind which gives rise to abuses of various kinds. We are far too satisfied with mere correctness of form. In many of our affairs outward appearances are most deceptive. Men are found pretending to do what they cannot possibly accomplish just for the sake of show. How is it possible, for instance, that any single man can serve satisfactorily 3 or 4 big business concerns? It is quite out of the question. And yet some of our leading men take delight in having their names appear in as many places as possible. This is shallowness and pretence—the Oriental regard for mere form when there is no reality at its back.

Both the *Jiji Shimpō* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* have drawn attention to the superiority of the Chinese girls now undergoing education in Tōkyō under Miss Shimoda Utako. They are 10 in number and their ages range from 15 to 24 years. In many ways they are said to radically differ from Japanese girls of the same age. They are less shy and express themselves both in speech and writing with greater ease, dignity and force than their Japanese sisters, say these newspapers. But they are reported to be rather impatient under the discipline of the school and to be of opinion that more liberty should be allowed to them. In many of their ways of thinking and in respect of the things which female etiquette among them allows or condemns they differ considerably from Japanese ladies. Some instances of these points of difference are given by the above-named newspapers, which we cannot reproduce here. Their whole deportment forms an interesting study for Japanese girls. They are all from Southern China.

* * *

In the January number of the *Teikoku Bungaku* Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō writes "On the Choice of Subjects for Pictures" in the following strain:—Since the impression to be made on others by his picture is one of the chief objects an artist has in view, one would suppose that in all cases great attention would be given to the choice of subjects, but in reality it is not so as far as this country is concerned. Now whereas a real genius can give to his work certain qualities that will make his picture attractive even though its subject be unpopular, with ordinary artists success often depends entirely on a happy selection of a subject. In the Far East Buddhism and Taoism have largely influenced artists in the choice of subjects. Dharma and Arakan, hermits and recluses, have again and again been painted. Now there was a time when these religious subjects appealed strongly to mankind. But that age has passed. Yet we find certain modern artists still following the old models, as though art were incapable of inventing any new subjects. Rather than take odd, antiquated Indian or Chinese subjects, our artists would do well to select Japanese heroes around whose lives there is a certain halo of romance in the imaginations of the people. Any violent change which has taken place in a nation's history furnishes a suitable subject for art. Portraits are undoubtedly more popular than other kinds of pictures, but compared with foreigners Japanese artists do not as a rule excel at this kind of painting. Their shading is defective, their sense of proportion not accurate and their knowledge of anatomy insufficient. Japanese artists paint flowers and birds well, but these subjects are pleasing rather than inspiring, and no artists ought to rest content with subjects of such a limited extent. In painting such objects as I have now mentioned it is desirable to do something more than raise pensive emotions in the breasts of mankind. Pictures that appeal to the sense of melancholy only are enervating. The sorrowful tints so often given to nature by our painters are the remnants of Buddhism and Taoism in the minds of artists. I would have our artists abandon the fantastic shapes familiar to students of the Kanō-ryū und cease to worship gloomy desolation and extreme rigour as though these were nature's most valuable and most permanent characteristics. Let them also give up painting dragons and similar objects, for people no longer take any interest in such things. Art must to a certain extent represent the beliefs and thoughts of each age. To paint ghosts now is an anachronism. . . . . We want more than everything inspiriting subjects, and subjects in which men take a very deep interest. Art must help the nation to resolve and to accomplish great things. It should constantly stimulate, but never enervate. There is room for immense improvement in the choice of subjects by our artists as well as in the amount of life and suggestiveness they put into their pictures.

* * *

In the *Chūō Kōron* Mr. Yamagata Teizaburō, under the title, "Our national Class system," argues that there is no real reason for the retention of the term *shizoku*, which in the early years of Meiji was given to the *samurai* to make up to a certain extent for the loss of their swords. Mr. Yamagata maintains that the title no longer has any real significance, as the *shizoku* are in no way as a class superior to *heimin* or plebeians, and hence it should be abandoned and all men should be spoken of as citizens, *jimmin*. It is stated that in the 2nd or 3rd year of Meiji the number of families entitled to the rank of *samurai* was 406,209, who were the followers of the *Kyū, Buke or Kuge*. Coming to the subject of the nobility, Mr. Yamagata says that in 1869 they consisted of 148 *kuge* or court-nobles, 288 *daimyō*, 12 Shintō families of noble descent, 30 Buddhist families of the same class, making a total of 478 families. Their original emoluments were converted into Government bonds bearing a fixed rate of interest, and they were as a class designated 華族, *Kwazoku (hana no yakara)*. During the Meiji era a goodly number of new peerages have been created. According to an investigation made in February of last year the following was the list of peers:—Princes, 11; Marquises, 38; Counts, 100; Viscounts, 396; Barons, 306, making a total of 851 families. But last year in connection with the Anglo-Japanese Alliance 6 new barons were created, making the present total 857 families. Though I should like to see the nobility as a class abolished, says Mr. Yamagata, as this could not be effected at present, I would propose that with the exception of princes all peerages should be converted into life-peerages and that the practice of raising to the nobility mere politicians or persons who may have advanced money for public purposes be discontinued, and that titles be reserved only for those who in art, literature or other branches of learning have shown special proficiency. Thus would the families that bear

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the designation "the flower" of the nation (*hana no yakara*) merit the title. We attach no importance whatever to the argument that the present nobility should be retained as *Kōshitsu no hampei* (皇室), a fence around the throne. Our Emperor no longer needs such protection. The whole nation constitutes a *hampei* which will never be broken down. There is no longer any reason for the nobility to act as a barrier between the throne and the people. The time for this has gone. The closer the relations of Sovereign and people become the better for the empire.

* * *

We observe that some attempts are being made to revive interest in that once fashionable method of writing Japanese poetry known as the "New Style." Three newspapers offered prizes for "New Style Verses" at the beginning of the year. (1) The *Ōsaka Asahi Shimbun* put up 500 *yen* for this purpose, the subject of the poems sent in was to be "The City of Ōsaka." (2) The *Yorozu Chōhō* offered 300 *yen* and the subject it chose was "Life in this world." (3) The sum offered by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* is said to have been small, but the topic selected was inspiriting, which was *Dai Nippon Bōchō* (The expansion of the empire). The *Teikoku Bungaku* informs us that there have been numerous responses to the applications. In the opinion of a writer in that magazine the poems penned do not reach a high standard in regard to the ideas they express. Those on Ōsaka do not enlarge on the great industrial and commercial future which awaits that busy city; and those on the expansion of the empire are characterised by great vagueness as to how the expansion is to be brought about.

* * *

In the new year's number of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* appeared an article by Viscount Nagaoka, the Vice-President of the Tō-a Dōbunkai, on the "Future of China," of which the following is the substance:—It seems to me important that members of this society should not be content with acquaintaing themselves with the state of China only, they should seek to obtain a knowledge of the general tendency of affairs in the Western world. When in China last year the progress made in certain places surprised me very much. But I was also struck by the many complications caused by the presence of numerous foreigners everywhere, each seeking his own special interest. Thanks to the help given me by our Consul-general, Mr. Odagiri, and to the interpretation carried on by Mr. Segawa, our Wuchang Consul, I succeeded in consulting Chang Chi-tung and Liu Kung-yi as to the general situation. From them I gathered that our action in Northern China during the Boxer rising created a good impression everywhere, and we are regarded as China's near friend. . . . The opening of the various railways will bring about great changes in China. What is most to be desired is unity of purpose in the Government—a policy that is carried out in every part of the empire in a uniform manner. At present this is unknown. Every viceroy acts very much as he pleases, and if it happens that he personally dislikes any public works that may have been started by his predecessor in office, he orders their discontinuance.* Since China shows wonderful powers of organization and union in tradal matters and for general business purposes, there is no reason why a system of political solidarity should not be devised and made to work effectively in that country. Chinese business organizations are away ahead of any that exist in this country.† In reference to the intercourse between the two countries it cannot be said that Japanese are going over to settle in China in very large numbers. Those in Shanghai are mostly connected with the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha or the Specie Bank. The Ōsaka Shōsen Kaisha and the Daitō Kisen Kaisha have a few agents there. Beyond the employees of these companies the Japanese settled in Shanghai are very small fry. There is a need of more capitalists going to China. . . . Coming to education, there is call for great caution on our part in dealing with Chinese students. Some of them come over here and get hold of a number of wild notions, to which on their return to China they give expression in all sorts of indiscreet ways. Thus it sometimes happens that the impression is conveyed that our country is rather a dangerous place to which to send raw youths for education. Some of the students go back with the idea of turning things upside down in their own country, and the measures they recommend are altogether too radical. Some of the Chinese who come over here for education are of high rank and bring with them a certain sense of responsibility. With these it is easier to deal. . . . I think there is a great future for our medical science in China if we will but give attention to it. The Chinese object to obtaining their medical knowledge from the Medical Missionary. They prefer to have the medicine without the religion. Many of the leading Chinese are afraid of Missionaries. A certain Viceroy said to me not long ago, "The great trouble of my life is the arbitrariness of certain foreign missionaries." I said there is no way of meeting this but by educating the people. Among missionaries the Roman Catholics are specially guilty in backing their converts by appeals to the temporal power of their own Governments. We should like to see Dr. Satō Susumu set up a medical school in Peking. He is a man in whom the Chinese have great confidence.* It may be well to observe that the confidence of the Chinese is not easily won, but when once it has been obtained it is not affected by trifles. . . . . The attention of Chinese students seems to me to be rather too exclusively confined to military affairs, I should like to see more of them studying science, engineering, agriculture and medicine.

* * *

"The Conflict between Man as a member of the human race and Man as a national unit" is the title of an article contributed to the *Keisei* by Dr. Katō Hiroyuki, of which the following is the substance: Believers in religion and philosophers alike are actuated by humanitarian feelings and strongly object to the oppression or cruel treatment of the more savage or weaker members of the human race. But the fact remains that the civilised nations of the West habitually swallow up or overthrow by means of sheer physical force whole races of human beings and quietly appropriate their territory. Christians are fond of asserting that all men alike are God's offspring and hence are equal before Him, but no sooner does the nation to which one of these Christians belongs begin a war against a weaker State than we hear no more about the equality of human beings. The action of Europeans and Americans in China well illustrates this contradiction between profession and practice. Even some of the very missionaries themselves have sanctioned the appeal to brute force in dealing with the Chinese. When Queen Victoria's Jubilee was celebrated and again on the occasion of the Coronation ceremony held last year representatives from various English colonies attended and praised the reigning monarch. Thus did alien races commemorate their subjugation by a Christian monarch.† The belief in Christianity with its doctrine of universal brotherhood and the equality of all men and the practices of Christian monarchs and Governments can never be reconciled. They are as contradictory as any two principles could possibly be. Last year in the pages of the *Taiyō*‡ I appealed to religious devotees on this question. I asked them how they would act in case their country was to undertake a war that they felt to be unjust, inhuman, and contrary to the spirit of their religion? Would they support their Government, or condemn it and refuse to take part in such a war? Certain Buddhist journals replied that religous devotees should at first move heaven and earth to prevent the country from embarking on an unjust war, but added that in case their protests were disregarded their duty would be to give in and help their country to gain a victory over its foes. Christian journals took a bolder line and said that no considerations whatever would justify the doing of what is wrong. "What," said one journal "is a nation compared to right dealing?" It is quite plain from these two opposite answers that there are circumstances when all hope of acting in accordance with the principle of right and of fulfilling the ordinary dictates of patriotism must be abandoned. We may do one or the other, but we can't do both. With a man like Tolstoi there is no contradiction. His teaching is, "Follow the law of humanity and let nations fare as they will." Which principle are we as a nation to follow? Most certainly that of the patriot, and not that of the religious devotee or the philosopher. In deciding thus I am guided by three weighty considerations. (1) History shows that the conflict of races and nations with each other has largely contributed to the progress of the world. From the wars of ages has come a system of civilisation which in many respects is superior to anything known to our distant ancestors. (2) In nature has not the incessant war between one species and another ended in the survival of the fittest, in the evolution of that very high type of living being, man? (3) My ethical belief is that of the utilitarian who regards the State as one of the chief instruments for promoting the highest moral welfare of people generally. Every State has its own system of morality and should take steps to render it effective. Since upon the stability of the State depends not only the happiness, but even the morality of the nation, it is one of the highest duties of every individual belonging to that State to uphold its authority by sacrificing his life, should that be necessary. He knows no higher authority than that of his own Government, and that through thick and thin he must support, disregarding the charge that he is acting contrary to high moral principles. There are those who say that the tendency of the world's affairs and political influences is towards a universal empire, and that when that comes about human beings will all rank alike and be entitled to be treated alike. But this state of things is as yet far distant. When it is inaugurated, if that time ever comes, it will be soon enough to refer all moral questions to the standard of humanity taken as a whole. Till that happens we are members of a nation and nothing more, when it comes to final, decisive principles. To serve the great cause of humanity and to serve one's country being frequently impossible, we decide to aim at doing the latter only, and thus put an end to the conflict between two antagonistic principles.

* * *

官民衝突の危調, *Kwan-min Shōtotsu no Kyūchō* (The Critical State of the Friction between Officials and the Nation), is the title of a remarkably well-written little book, the author of which is Mr. Nishi Shii, one of the Professors at the Keiōgijiku. Into 59 pages Mr. Nishi compresses a very exhaustive history of the relations of the Diet to the Government during the whole period of the existence of the former. The work is issued by the Tenkō Shoin, Motozono-chō itchōme, Kōjimachi, and sells at 20 *sen* a copy. Apart from the importance of the subject treated, which is no other than the future of parliamentary government in this country, the book may be recommended to students of Japanese on account of its style. The combination of the ordinary Japanese newspaper style with classical Chinese is accomplished in a most masterly manner. While reading some of the passages of the book one is carried away by the even flow and striking lucidity of the language. The point of view of the author is

* Much of what the Viscount says is confirmed by an extremely interesting letter published in the *Times* of Jan. 7th, from the pen of the Rev. Gilbert Walshe, of Shanghai.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† Viscount Nagaoka describes the Tōkyō business folks as *ugo no shakai*, the assembling of a number of crows, with nothing to bind them to each other.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* He attended Li Hung-chang at Shimonoseki when wounded by the assassin who fired at the Marquis.—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY).

† Dr. Katō specially mentions English colonials as acknowleding their subjugation. This is of course absurd. The colonies are not kept subject to England by force. They obey her from choice. Some of Dr. Katō's remarks might apply to India, but are not true of the self-governing colonies.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

‡ Reproduced in these columns at the time.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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that of the scholar calmly reviewing in the light of reason the proceedings of successive Diets and successive Cabinets, but the tone which pervades the whole is decidedly earnest and reveals the fact that the author wishes to see parliamentary government made a success. Mr. Nishi is evidently a man of keen observation and the facts to which he has given the most prominence in his book seem to us to furnish the key wherewith to unlock the present political situation. As far as our space permits we furnish a few illustrations of this remark. (1) *Marquis Itō and Count Okuma join hands.* This, says Mr. Nishi, is rightly regarded as a remarkable political event. It means that the *Seiyū-kai* and the *Shimpō-to* are going to work together. Though Count Okuma developed rather earlier as a politician than Marquis Itō, the latter has in recent years succeeded in obtaining a world-wide reputation and is stronger to-day than he has ever been. Count Okuma is more impulsive and more inclined to be headstrong than Marquis Itō. The latter has always been against trying to force situations. His motto seems to be that "all things come to him who waits." It was this difference of temperament in the two men that led to the breaking up of the friendship that existed between them prior to the 14th year of *Meiji*. In that year it will be remembered the idea of opening a Diet was seriously discussed and Okuma was in favour of taking immediate steps to establish representative government. Itō thought the country was not ready for such a great change, and eventually the year 1889 was fixed as the earliest date for the opening of the Diet. This decision divided the two statesmen, and henceforth for many years they occupied opposite camps. Now they have renewed the old friendship. Some suppose that the chief reason for this is their mutual desire to overthrow the Katsura Cabinet. But that is evidently not the case. In order to make the present situation quite plain it is necessary (2) *To state the fundamental principles that have in the past guided the two statesmen.*—Count Okuma from very early days was in favour of making England the model of Japan's parliamentary government. He held to the opinion that the increase of popular power necessarily meant the decrease of imperial authority, and that Japan must be prepared for this result. To Marquis Itō, on the other hand, it seemed that an immediate change from the despotism of the old form of government to English democracy would be dangerously sudden, and he thought that in the German form of government he saw a well adapted middle way, which Japan would do well to follow. So he set about framing the Constitution on German models. In military affairs as well as in education Germany was scrupulously followed; so that at the present day the whole of the country's institutions are in a thoroughly Germanized state. In recent years the chief work of Count Okuma and his party has been to preach what has always seemed to them the more excellent English way of governing. The extensive influence of Marquis Itō is shown by the fact that he has succeeded in permeating the whole country with Germanism.* But the question is, is the German form of government Marquis Itō's final political goal, or has he always regarded it as a stepping-stone whereby to reach English democracy? The coalescence of the Itō party and the Ōkuma party would seem to indicate that Marquis Itō is prepared to make an advance towards Count Ōkuma's political ideal. All the friction between successive Cabinets and the Diet may be described as a conflict between *Kanken* and *Minken*, official authority and the authority of the people. What is now in the air is a compromise between the more despotic form of government borrowed from Germany and English democracy. If the harmonizing of the two opposite principles can be effected, parliamentary government in this country may still be made to work smoothly. It is with the object of modifying the German Imperialism which has been introduced into this country and thereby meeting the wishes of that large section of the nation that clamours for popular government, that Marquis Itō has for some years devoted himself to the task of organizing a political party, one of whose leading characteristics is moderation. (3) *In order to understand the situation better let us imagine what would have happened had Marquis Itō never parted company with Count Okuma.* With these two prominent men spending all their strength in preaching popular government, the feeling throughout the country in favour of it would have been so strong that the result would probably have been civil war; for the military party, the representatives of the great clans, would certainly not have given way. Itō's fame under these circumstances would not have been so great as it is to-day. The great merit that is attached to his political actions lies in the fact that what he has effected has been effected peacefully, without involving the nation in anything like a serious revolution. The Marquis realizes that the old and the new must be harmonized, that a coalescence between officialdom and the people must be brought about. . . The idea that the two great statesmen have combined to overthrow the Katsura Cabinet is absurd. In Marquis Itō's estimation Count Katsura is a very second-class politician. There would be no need to rely on Count Okuma in order to effect the overthrow of the present Government. The two great statesmen making a dead set on Count Katsura could only be compared to the combined attack of a tiger and a dragon on a poor helpless stag. Victory could bring no renown to the victors. As a politician, Count Katsura is not worthy of the steel of either of the veteran statesmen. Moreover, if Marquis Itō is the founder of the German political system in this country, Count Katsura is one of his disciples, and it is hence hardly natural that Marquis Itō should think of attacking him as a dangerous rival. Still it is related that Count Katsura made the following remark to the Marquis some little time ago:—"I have heard it said that in order to develop the strength of her cub a certain lion dropped it into a valley a thousand fathoms deep. Do you intend to act on the principle followed by the lion?" But a careful examination of the Marquis' attitude to Count Katsura would seems to show that there is no feeling of personal antipathy to the Count. What the Marquis does object to and what constitutes the point of union between him and Count Okuma is the Yamagata Budanha (The Military Party), which is more or less connected with the present Cabinet. The land tax question is altogether unworthy of being elevated into a standard around which the popular party are called upon to rally. It would be mere childishness if a trifling sum of 8 million *yen* were the real cause of the opposition of the Seiyūkai and Shimpotō to the present Government. This is a mere pretext . . . Count Katsura, acting on those German principles which have been instilled into him, may dissolve the Diet a second time. But it is to Marquis Itō's interest to effect a compromise before things are carried to extremes. By doing this he would gain the sympathy of all parties to the present dispute, and above all would conciliate the House of Peers, a step which is most desirable. But if the present Cabinet refuses to yield, Marquis Itō will have to come into office again and Count Okuma will no doubt accept a seat in the Cabinet. But then the task of dividing the spoils between the Seiyūkai and the Shimpotō will be no easy one, and the danger will be that the House of Peers will again show its deep-seated aversion to a Party Cabinet. All things considered, a peaceful compromise effected between this and the time of the meeting of the Diet will prove the best way out of a situation which has been caused by the conflict of antagonistic principles.*

The following books have recently been published and call for a passing notice.

Nihon Rekishi Jiten (Japanese Historical Dictionary) covers 1,000 pages and sells at 2 *yen* a copy. It is issued by the Hōbunkan, Minami Koga-chō, Surugadai, Kanda, Tōkyō. It contains maps and illustrations, geneaological and chronological tables, and furnishes a large amount of classified information on the chief events of Japanese history.

The *Hōritsu Keizai Jiten* (Law and Economy Dictionary), issued by the above-named publishing house, is a work compiled by Mr. Tanabe Keiya, and is said to be superior to any existing Law Dictionary. It sells at 1 *yen* a copy. As the title indicates, it makes a specialty of explaining the economic bearing and application of Japanese Laws.

The *Shakai Bungaku Jiten*, compiled by Mr. Sakamoto Kenichi, a University post-graduate and published by the Hōbunkan, is devoted to an explanation of customs, terms, ceremonies, proverbs, &c., and aims at becoming a reference book on social life. It professes to illustrate that part of Japanese literature which refers to social life. Hence the title.

The *Tetsugaku Kōyō* (綱要) issued by the same house and selling at 1 *yen* a copy is a compilation made by Mr. Tomonaga Sanjurō, founded on a German work written by a Berlin professor whose name we take to be Paulzen, on the chief elements of philosophy.

The *Taikokumin* (A Great Nation) is the title of a translation of a French work written by a University professor whose name in its transliterated form we cannot identify, on the enormous importance of cultivating an independent and self-supporting spirit such as is, according to the French professor, possessed in an eminent degree by the English people. The professor argues that both in France and Germany there is far too much reliance on State aid in the carrying out of great enterprises. Many of the facts adduced are said to find parallels in this country and hence certain professors at the Keiōgijiku have published a translation of it, which sells at 85 *sen* a copy. The French work now translated has attracted a good deal of attention in Japan. It was noticed at some length by Dr. Takata Sanaye in the Kyōiku Kōhō some weeks ago and also by the *Kokumin Shimbun*. There are many signs that the Japanese are beginning to realize that certain moral qualities are absolutely essential to success in the nation's competition with its many rivals; and Emerson's words, "The truest test of civilization is not the census or the size of cities, nor the crops,—no, but the kind of men the country turns out," express the inmost conviction of many leaders of thought in modern Japan.

FIRES.

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon of Saturday fire broke out in a house occupied by Mr. H. A. Scheuten at No. 227, Bluff, but it was subdued before serious damage was caused.

On the 21st at 11.30 p.m. fire broke out in the shop of a confectioner in Tsuruga, Fukui Prefecture, and 94 houses, 2 Buddhist temples, 13 godowns and 5 sheds were destroyed and 10 houses partly damaged. Five persons were burned to death and 3 are missing, while 1 person was severely wounded and 37 slightly injured.

On the evening of the 22nd, fire broke out in the Ashio copper mine and burnt two buildings Three men were seriously wounded.

On the 23rd inst. fire broke out in Asaba-machi, Mito, and many buildings were destroyed, including the Local Court and the Police Station.

* Mr. Nishi does not allude to the fact that Marquis Itō was enormously assisted in his undertaking by the presence in this country of a very strong party of extreme Royalists who would not hear of the curtailing of Imperial power for the sake of giving the people more authority. Upon these prejudices Marquis Itō worked, and it may be said then that his success was not owing to any intrinsic preeminence in the German political institutions, but owing to the fact that their introduction here suited the mood of the nation at the time of which we write.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* What does not seem at all clear is the extent to which Marquis Itō is prepared to go towards English democracy? It seems to us quite certain that he will not proceed to the length advocated by Count Okuma, and hence it remains to be seen whether the latter statesman will be satisfied with the modified Germanism of his confrère, or will be content to remain long in office with no hope of seeing his own ideal realized.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Ieyasu's death.—Reign of Hidetada.—Indiscreet zeal of some Religious.—Sad end of Date's embassy.—The Dutch pretend to have discovered letters revealing the existence of a conspiracy between the Japanese Christians and the Portuguese.—Rivalry of the Japanese merchants.—Persecution in Sendai.—Hasekura's death.—Remarkable conversions.—Iemitsu succeeds Hidetada.—The number of martyrs.—Uesugi has Amakasu and Nishibori, two of his leading *kerai*, put to death.—A last word about the Christian *daimyo*.—Constancy of several *samurai* of rank.—Martyrdom of Hara Mondo and Julian Nakaura.—Reward promised to the betrayers of the Christians.

The defeat of Hideyori was, so to say, Ieyasu's last deed. A short time after, he died in his residence of Sumpu, on the 2nd of June, 1616, at the age of seventy-four. According to his own desire, he was buried on the Kuno mountain, near Sumpu. But, in the following year his remains were transported to Nikko, where his son Hidetada had erected for him the magnificent mausoleum, which still to-day attracts crowds of visitors.

Hidetada, not a very striking character, had only to take over the control of affairs in the state in which his father had left them, and to continue his policy, which had been so ably organized (1), until 1623, when he judged it opportune to transmit the Shogunate to his son Iemitsu. The reign of Hidetada may be summed up in these words: he worked with all his might to strengthen Buddhism, which he endowed with magnificent temples, and he pursued with all his hatred the Christian religion. In acting thus he was only carrying out the last wishes of his father.

Unfortunately, the imprudence of some Religious furnished him with more than one pretext for attacking the foreign doctrine. At this critical moment, when a prudent effacement was necessary, a certain number of Religious of the different Orders then active in Japan, came, urged by a craving for martyrdom, from Macao and Manila, and began to exercise their ministry in public. This was a regrettable mistake. One can easily understand that old missionaries who, after long years of labour and unheard of privations, had finally succeeded in convincing their neophytes of the truth of their doctrine—one can understand that these Religious should be disposed to add still a last testimony in favour of their faith, by braving torture and death. The very mistrust of the Japanese character made it almost an obligation for them; for the neophytes would have been greatly scandalized at seeing their pastors abandon them at the moment of danger. But, if the sacrifice of these latter appeared really sublime, the untimely craving for martyrdom of the others can only deserve blame. For, such behaviour, far from convincing the obdurate persecutors of the truth of the Christian religion, made them believe it, on the contrary, the most dangerous thing in the world. Moreover, in provoking a more severe persecution, it compromised the salvation of thousands of the still staggering neophytes, and thus effected the ruin of the Church of Japan.

Then, again, the return of Date's embassy was hardly of a nature to calm the exasperation of Hidetada, who had become more and more suspicious. This embassy, after the example of that in Nobunaga's time, 1582, had been everywhere the object of princely honours(2). On their arrival in Spain, Philip III. had accorded the envoys of Date a solemn audience. (30th January, 1615). While approving Date's intention of becoming a Christian and having all his subjects converted, the King of Spain had nevertheless shown himself more than reserved with regard to the proposition of concluding an alliance with the *daimyo* of Sendai. He certainly knew what an insignifiant role was played by that personage, in a country where the Shogun exercised absolute power. It may also be that he had already been informed of the little trust that was to be placed on Date's too effusive promises. It is clear that Philip III. did not wish to conclude an alliance with anyone in Japan, not even with the Shogun himself. For, when Father Sotelo presented to him the letter, in which, some five years before, Hidetada had begged for an alliance, the Spanish monarch replied that such a question needed time for deliberation. All he seemed to wish in this affair was Japan's conversion to Christendom. With that object in view, he was pleased to assist with all his court at the baptism of Hasekura, which took place in Madrid, on the 17th of February 1615.(3)

After a sojourn of eight months in Spain, the ambassadors left for Rome, where, on the 29th of October, 1615, they were received with extraordinary pomp. The Pope, Paul V., carried off by the general enthusiasm, loaded them with presents and made them his own guests. Besides, he made a present of his portrait to Date, and, overjoyed by Sotelo's accounts, he created him bishop of Sendai.(4)

But scarcely had the ambassadors set out on their return to Mexico (1617), when disillusionment began to manifest itself on all sides. At first the King of Spain, pretending to be discontented with the Pope for raising Sotelo to the bishopric of Sendai without asking his consent, seized the Bulls appointing that Religious as bishop. (5) Then, when Sotelo arrived in Mexico, his superiors, warned by letters from Japan and Manila, that Date, seeking only his material advantages, had deceived the too credulous Sotelo, forbade him to return to Japan. To corroborate these evil tidings, the news that since the issue of Ieyasu's edict, in 1614. Date had suddenly cast aside the mask of hypocrisy, and waged war upon the Christians, had also reached Mexico; a fact which had the worst consequences for the unfortunate Sotelo.

Some foreign authors pretend that the Jesuits were the promoters of all these compromising rumours. Owing to the childish jealousy which exists between the different religious Orders, it may be that the Jesuits disliked to see an embassy under the leadership of a Franciscan. It is also true that Bishop de Cerqueira, a Jesuit, wrote to Europe that Date was only a subject of the King of Japan and that an alliance between such a man and Spain, as well as the arrival of more Franciscans in Japan would greatly exasperate the King of this country. Yet, far more compromising than the letters of the Jesuits, were those of the Franciscans and merchants of Manila.(6) The death-blow, however, was given to Sotelo by Vizcaino, the proud envoy of Mexico, who, at Sumpu as well as at Yedo had, to the great indignation of the Japanese, the Court ceremonial changed in his own way. Dissatisfied with Sotelo and incensed against the Japanese, whom he depicted as "the worst people in the world," Vizcaino made the most unfavourable reports to the government of Mexico and to that of Spain.

The disillusion was complete when, after their long voyage, prolonged by their sojourn at Manila, the ambassadors arrived, in 1620, at Nagasaki. A special envoy of Date awaited them, and the first word that he addressed to them was an order to apostatize on the spot. Strangely enough, of the sixty Japanese so fervent in Europe, and of whom several had manifested the desire to renounce the world and shut themselves up in a monastery, all conformed to this order on that very instant.(7) Thus came to an end this sad and shameful comedy, in which one of the greatest *daimyo* and several of his *kerai* displayed revolting dishonesty, or,—if perchance they had a moment of sincerity,—a cowardice and a lack of character not less degrading.

When, in 1613, Date's embassy left Japan, the Dutch were already greatly displeased. But, when after some time, they had heard of the splendid reception given to the ambassadors by the King of Spain, they feared that this might have consequences favourable to the commerce of the Spaniards and disastrous to theirs. They, therefore, resolved to strike a great blow, such as would kill all the subjects of that king, whether Spanish or Portuguese. With this object in view, they pretended to have found, on the junk of the Portuguese Domingo Jorge, captured near Sakai in 1617, letters addressed to the Religious who still lived hidden in Japan. These letters, written in Portuguese, exhorted the Religious to drive the Christians to revolt, promising help from the Portuguese ships, as soon as the insurgents would be sufficiently numerous (8). The Dutch denounced these letters to the Shogun, who, suspicious as he was, became infuriated, and resolved to cut short with all foreigners.

What about the origin of these compromising letters? The majority of foreign authors only see in them a trick of the Dutch, who had forged them and carried them themselves to the junk in question. Sir Ernest Satow even includes his compatriots in this hardly honest action, and maintains that it was "a well-supported story of English and Dutch treachery" (9). Dr. Riess admits, on the contrary, that these letters might have come from the exiles of Manila. According to him, the news of the brilliant success of Date's embassy had produced such an effect in the Philippines, that some of the hot-headed among the exiles, wishing to encourage the persecuted missionaries in Japan, had promised them prompt assistance (10). But this supposition is inadmissible. It is enough to recall, on the contrary, the bad impression which Sotelo's proceedings had, from the beginning, produced in the Philippines, to convince oneself of it. Then, if the news of the splendid receptions given to Date's envoys had arrived at Manila, other news of Date's duplicity and of the ill-will of Philip III. towards Sotelo had also reached this place. From whatever side the question is regarded, one cannot see either what exile would have addressed such letters to the missionaries in Japan, and still less the motives which would have led to the dispatch of such missives. Besides, the Dutch made, in the sequel, too much use of the trick of finding compromising letters, for it to be possible for one to reasonably believe in this discovery. Thus, Kaempfer cites an instance of one letter, which the Dutch found on board a Portuguese vessel, captured at the Cape of Good Hope, which bears the undoubted signs of an awkward forgery. A Japanese called Moro, chief of the Portuguese factory at Nagasaki, is thought to have addressed this letter to the King of Portugal, in order to demand his support. Among other things Moro quotes the names of the Japanese princes enrolled in the conspiracy, and announces that the Christians only await—the benediction of the Pope, to begin the revolt(11) Without speaking of the joke about the benediction, a joke which infallibly reveals its origin,—the author of this forgery was probably ignorant that there were at that time, no more Christian princes ready to rise against the Shogun.

As all dishonest action fatally leads to chastisement, it was not long till the Dutch were punished by the very means in which they had sinned. Having long desired to drive out all the foreigners engaged in commerce in Japan, the Japanese merchants employed with regard to the Dutch and the English the same weapons, of which the former had made such successful use in the case of the Portuguese and the Spaniards: they denounced them as being also Christians, and more or less inclined to propagate their religion. The Shogun then hesitated no longer; he ordered to banish all the foreigners, without distinction of nationality, from the cities of Yedo, Kyoto, Osaka and Sakai, and to restrict them to the only ports of Nagasaki and Hirado.

If European commerce suffered enormously from all these intrigues, the Christian religion received from them its mortal blow. Hidetada launched edict after edict, each one more severe

(1) See Ieyasu's political testament; To-shogun go ikun hyakkajo.
(2) Pagès p.p. 300-301.
(3) Pagès 330-331.
(4) Pagès, 331-335. Until recently this portrait was to be seen in a merchant's shop in Sendai.
(5) Pagès, p. 335.
(6) Pagès p. 335, 387.
(7) Pagès, p. 331. See the names of several of them, Pagès p. 332, note. Charlevoix, vol. V. p. 15-16.
(8) Nagasaki shi. Vertreibung der Portugiesen, p. 14 and 15.
(9) Transactions of the Asiatic Society, vol. VI., p. 44.
(10) Vertreibung der Portugiesen, p. 15 and 16.
(11) Kaempfer, liv. IV., p. 175.

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than the preceding. On pain of being burned alive, all Japanese were forbidden to have the slightest relations with the Religious. The same punishment was extended to the women and children, and even to the neighbours of those who had rendered themselves guilty of an infraction of this law. The *daimyo* were rendered responsible for the Christians that were discovered in their lands. From this period dates the real persecution. Date was one of the most relentless. Hasekura who had already apostatized, seconded his master by declaring everywhere that the Christian religion was only a vain dream. In this disposition he died a year after his return to Japan.(12) One of Date's first *kerai*, John Goto Magobe, raised a little the honour of the noblemen of Sendai, covered with so much ignominy. Having retired to his estate of Miwake, he publicly devoted himself to religious practices, despite the edicts of the Shogun and the threats of Date. He exhorted the Christians of the Church of Sendai,—they were about two hundred—, to constancy and invited the Religious to take refuge with him. Irritated at this resistance, Date ordered Goto to go into exile. The latter then retired to the Nambu province, where he remained till his death.

By an irony of fate, in the very family of the Shogun, there was a man courageous enough to declare himself Christian, just at this difficult moment. This was Yuki Tadanao, nephew of Hidetada. Tadanao had inherited from his father Hideyasu, who had died in 1607, the daimyate of Fukui (Echizen), and had distinguished himself at Osaka, in 1615, though he was then only eighteen years of age. But, instead of the income of a million *koku*, which Ieyasu had promised him, Tadanao only received a—tea urn. Had he the imprudence to show his dissatisfaction with this reward? Or did this treatment make him mad with dispair, as some historians affirm? At all event he was dispossessed, and his daimyate passed to his brother Naomoto. He himself retired to Kanazawa, where, in 1620, he was baptized by Father Fernandez(13).

Another remarkable conversion, towards the same time, was that of Nishi-no-maru, concubine of Satake Yoshitaka, *daimyo* of Kubota (Dewa). This women had learned by chance something of the Christian religion and had demanded baptism. Filled with rage, Satake drove her from his residence with all her companions, who had also become converted.(14) This rather amusing story had, however, the most tragic end. Whilst the former concubine married a good Christian, Monica, one of her companions, was repudiated by her husband, a leading *kerai* of Satake, and sent back to her family. Her parents, greatly annoyed at the return of their daughter, resolved to give her in marriage anew, to which Monica indignantly refused to consent. Knowing that she refused on account of her religion, they pressed her to apostatize; but, as their threats remained without result, they killed her. Monica was only twenty-seven years of age.(15)

However, if Hidetada was severe towards the Christians, his son Iemitsu, who succeeded him in 1623, showed himself to be much their most implacable enemy. Very authoritative, he could not imagine that there were in Japan men audacious enough to dare to have an opinion other than his. On the occasion of his succession, he had declared to the *daimyo*, assembled on account of this circumstance, that, being born their master, he would treat them no longer as equals, as his two predecessors had done, but as servants, and that consequently he would no longer go to meet them, when they came to Yedo to pay homage to him. Not one of the proud *daimyo* had dared to protest in favour of their ancient privileges so peremptorily annulled.

From this absolute character it is easy to understand the severity with which Iemitsu persecuted the Christians, who, despite his edicts and proclamations, dared to brave him, even to death. The more the Christians showed themselves constant in their faith, the more Iemitsu regarded them as rebels, obstinately persisting in a revolt against his authority. For this reason, his ferocity towards them knew no limits. At his instigation tortures, so horrible and so infamous that one would seek in vain for their like among the most savage peoples, were invented. He drowned the Church in blood, and during his long reign, (1623-1649) he never relaxed his fury for a moment, so that hundreds of Christians had to pay with their life for their attachment to their faith.

With regard to these martyrs, several historians allow themselves to be carried into fantastic exaggerations; there is, for instance, one authority who puts their number at more than two millions. The martyrology "Fasciculus e japonicis floribus," printed in 1646, and containing the names of all the martyrs with the date and place of their execution, from 1557, the time of the first confessors of the faith in Japan, till 1640, reckons their number at only about fourteen hundred and fifty. Supposing that the names of some martyrs escaped the Religious, who were the authors of this precious collection, and adding to their list the number of martyrs since 1640,—and that number is relatively small,—one reaches perhaps the figure of two thousand. It goes without saying that the unfortunate insurgents of Hara form a category apart, and cannot be assimilated to the martyrs properly so-called.

Thanks to the servility of the *daimyo*, Iemitsu was much assisted in the extermination of Christianity by the extraordinary zeal with which they seconded his wishes. Even those, who like Uesugi and Shimazu had constantly refused to lend themselves to the caprices of his predecessors, then became merciless persecutors. Thus, Uesugi Kagekatsu had invariably responded that there were no Christians in his dominions, though their number reached nearly three thousand. But his son, Sadakatsu, had not the same courage, he even persecuted his leading *kerai*. Amakasu Emon and Nishibori Shikibu experienced his intolerance. Amakasu was the lord of Shiraishi and enjoyed a revenue of 30,000 *koku*. Ordered to apostatize he refused, whereupon he was decapitated at Yonezawa, on the 12th of January, 1629, along with his two sons, their wives and children, and all the servants of the family. Nishibori, of no lesser rank, underwent the same fate with fifty other Christians (16).

Shimazu Mitsuhisa had such a dread of Iemitsu that he even ill-treated Catherine his mother-in-law, who, however, resisted all his threats.(17)

Sad to say, the apostate *daimyo* were the worst persecutors. Being more carefully watched, they went to the greatest extremes, in order to prove that they had entirely broken with the Christian religion. Arima, Terazawa and Goto distinguished themselves particularly by their zeal in persecuting the Christians. Matsura Takanobu, formerly baptized by his pious mother, Mencia, did not spare even the little children.(18) His mother was so grieved at this that she retired to Yedo, where she died in 1656.(19) Mori Takamasa at Saeki, Ito Sukehisa at Obi, and Ishikawa at Hida discharged with equal ardour the work of executioners. Kuroda Nagamasa and after him his son Tadayuki sacrificed several of their best *kerai* to the resentment of the Sogun.

The two sons of Hosokawa protecting the Religious even still in 1632, pressed their *karo* to put to death a certain number of Christians, in order not to incur the Shogun's blame. For the same reason their father Tadaoki had already, in 1619, deposed and then executed with all his family Kagayama Hayato, his leading kerai.(20) It was probably the apostacy of the Hosokawa that procured for them, on the disgrace of Kato Kyomasa's son, (1632) the important daimyates of Kumamoto and Udo. Their uncle Okimoto, who was transferred to Yatabe (Hitachi), is no more spoken of since that time. It is not known whether he remained to the end the fervent Christian he once was.

Hachisuka Iemasa died at Tokushima, in 1620, after having apostatized. His last years were entirely consecrated to the Buddhist cult: surrounded by a crowd of bonzes he passed his days reciting prayers in their company(21).

At Wakayama, Asano Yukinaga had already ceded his daimyate to his brother Nagaakira, and died in 1613. His brother, at first very favourable to the Christians, persecuted them, when in 1619, on the disgrace of Fukushima, he was transferred to Hiroshima. It was he who had burned alive there Tsukuda, Mataemon one of Fukushima's most illustrious *kerai*, and at the same time a fervent believer, who, after his master's fall, had remained at Hiroshima, where he supported the Christian community.

Ota Nobuo had died at Kyoto, in 1630,(22) and Peter Kinoshita Katsutoshi in 1650. Nothing is known about their religious belief at their death.

Tsugaru Nobuhira and the catechumen Gamo Hideyuki had also renounced the faith, and forced their Christian subjects to do the same. Inoue Shibioe, one of Gamo's *kerai*, and probably an apostate, became later on the first "Christian-bugyo," a magistrate charged with examining the books and objects having any connection with the Christian religion, and of making the persons, accused of professing that faith, undergo an examination. Inoue's residence being situated on a hill in the outskirts of Koishikawa (Yedo), this place has been since known under the name of "Christan-zaka," hill of the Christians.

The Otomo themselves, reduced to the rank of simple *hatamoto*, or *samurai* directly dependent on the Shogun, began to persecute the few Christian servants, who had remained with them. Thus it came that Yoshinobu, the grandson of Sorin, apostatized and delivered up fourteen Christians living in his residence at Ushigome (Yedo), when Ieyasu's first edict was published.

The Omura ceased to persecute, for this family had become extinct. Yoshiaki died in 1616, and his son Sumiyori in 1619. This latter had at first protected the Christians even against his father. But when, in 1617, during a visit he had made to the Shogun's court, Hidetada had manifested his displeasure at the young *daimyo's* religious feelings, Sumiyoshi apostatized and became a furious persecutor. At his death, he left only an infant of two years old. This did not, however, inherit the daimyate of Omura, though he lived until 1560. At the Shogun's order, Itami Suninaga, son of the *daimyo* of Tokumi (Kai), was substituted for him, and thus became the ancestor of the Omura of to-day.

The Kyogoku were perhaps the Christian *daimyo* who persevered longest. Must this extraordinary constancy be attributed to the pious Mary, their mother and their grand-mother, who, still, in 1612, directed her house like a monastery? Or did the services rendered by Jokoin, during the Osaka war, shut the Shogun's eyes to the conduct of this family? The two hypotheses are likely. But this state of things could not last: in the third generation the Kyogoku returned to paganism. The temple of Kompira, which Tadataka caused to be constructed, towards 1658, in Yedo, close to Tora-no-mon, is an irrefutable proof of this.

Such was the end of the Christian *daimyo*. For the most part sincere and full of good intentions at the beginning, they finally fell either before threats or before promises. In other words their lack of character, which is, by the by, the great national defect, led them to cowardly renounce what in a moment of sincerity, they had acknowledged as truth. Those who did not apostatize,—and they were very few,—retired completely from public life, in order to avoid disgrace. Not a single one of them

(12) Pagès, p. 443. In a memorial that Sotelo addressed later on to the Pope, he declares, however, that Hasekura died a fervent Christian. See Pagès, Annexe p. 150.
(13) Fuso-Taihei-roku. Pagès, p. 442. Bartoli, Vol. V. p. 391, and Vol. VI. p. 121.
(14) Pagès, 428, 448, 542, note.
(15) Pagès, 579, note.
(16) Relation de la persécution pendant 1628, 1629 and 1630. Pagès, p. 679 and 687.
(17) Pagès, p. 585.
(18) Pagès, p. 589, 592.
(19) Annals of the Omura family.
(20) Pagès, p. 416.
(21) Pagès, p. 440.
(22) Annals of the Ota family.

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had the courage to openly brave the anger of the tyrants, and to proclaim publicly his religious convictions.

Happily, several *samurai* of rank exhibited a little more dignity, and atoned, in some manner, for the discredit which the *daimyo's* cowardice brought on the military caste. The Koteda, near relatives of Matsura, sacrificed everything for their faith and preferred disgrace, exile, and even death to apostacy. Then, Ogasawara, *kerai* of Ieyasu, Asonuma of the house of Mori, Kagayama of the house of Hosokawa, Goto, a leading *kerai* of Date, Tsukuda, a *kerai* of Fukushima, Amakasu of the family of Uesugi, and so many others gave the example of constancy and disinterestedness. Their martyrdom remains as a protest in favour of the Japanese noblemen. It proves that, despite so many instances of baseness, there can be some among them capable of renouncing all, rather than act contrary to their religious convictions.

The very year of Iemitsu's accession, the 4th of December, 1623, another of these brave soldiers, Hara Mondo, formerly a leading *kerai* of Ieyasu, was executed at Yedo. In 1612, he had been dispossessed of this estate out of hatred for the faith, and sent into exile, after having had his fingers and toes cut off. Since that time, he had lived at Yedo in absolute retirement. But, betrayed by a servant and accused of having two Religious concealed in his house, he was condemned to be burned alive, with his two guests and some fifty other Christians. First led through the most frequented streets of Yedo, the martyrs were conducted to the place of execution, situated to the west of the town. Addressing the crowd from horseback, Hara Mondo protested his innocence, and confessed that for fourteen years he had endured the most atrocious sufferings because he was sincerely convinced of the truth of the Christian religion. These words as well as the inexpressible joy which was reflected on his face, caused such enthusiasm among the spectators, that three hundred of them declared themselves ready to share the martyr's fate. They had to be taken away by force, so great was their exaltation. A *samurai*, enjoying a revenue of 10,000 ducats, and five of his servants were the only persons whose desire to die with Hara Mondo, was granted (23).

Finally, Julian Nakaura, of the family of Arima, and the last survivor of the four ambassadors sent to Europe in 1582, died for the faith at Nagasaki, on the 18th October, 1633 (24). He was then sixty-six years of age, of which forty-two had been passed in the Company of Jesus. His torture consisted in being hung head-downwards in a ditch filled with filth. Christoval Ferreira, provincial of the Jesuits and several other Religious had been condemned to undergo the same torture. All, except Ferreira, persevered to the end. Overcome by the atrocious pain, Ferreira pretended to apostatize and was set free. For twenty years he led one of the most unhappy lives, acting as interpreter to the Dutch. But urged by remorse, he publicly retracted, and was put to death at the age of fifty-four.

The heroic example of all these martyrs of rank, made such an impression on the Japanese people, easily disposed to enthusiasm, that at the worst time of the persecution hundreds of Buddhists were found to declare themselves Christians and ready to die for the faith. It was then that Iemitsu, seeing that despite the most horrible punishments, he had not been able to triumph over the proscribed doctrine, had recourse to an expedient which was infallibly bound to succeed. He promised money, large sums of money to all those who would betray the Christians. For a Priest the reward was 300 pieces of silver; for a Brother 200, and for an ordinary Christian 50. Nothing could resist this bait. Parents delivered up their own children and children their parents; friends were emulous in betraying one another, and neighbour spied on neighbour with desperate obstinacy. The love of lucre broke the most sacred ties. From that time onward the Christians, distrustful of one another, retired, some into the mountains where, tracked like wild beasts, they perished in great numbers of cold and hunger. Others delivered themselves up of their own accord to their executioners, but the greater number apostatized. It was the beginning of the end. Already in 1626, the Religious numbered no more than 600,000 faithful (25). A terrible event came to precipitate the fatal denouement. It was the insurrection of Shimabara followed by the massacre of Hara.

(23) Pagès, p. 563.

(24) Mancio Ito and Martin Hara had already died in the Company of Jesus. Michael Chijiwa had at first left the Company, and then, it appears, apostatized.

(25) Pagès, p. 640.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The interest, *yen* 261,698, of the Chinese Indemnity, arrived at Nagasaki from Shanghai on the 23rd instant.

An enthusiastic spectator of the Durbar glories in Delhi, carried away by the impressions of the moment, writes to the *Speaker*:—

Call it no longer *India*, if you please,
Henceforth 'twill be the *Golden Curzonese*!

We are informed that the results of the recent Dance given by the King's Daughters in aid of the Ladies' Hospital Fund were as follow:—Receipts *yen* 301.35; Expenses *yen* 143.70; Balance *yen* 157.65.

Mr. F. J. Lias, who has been in charge of the interests of Messrs. W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd., at this port for some time past, is reported to have joined the ranks of local bankers, having, we understand, accepted an offer to represent the International Banking Corporation here. We wish Mr. Lias all success in his new sphere.—*Kobe Herald.*

The death is announced in home papers of Admiral d'Eyncourt. He had not quite reached ninety, but was a post-captain in the British Navy so long ago as 1849, and there are only five other naval officers living who held the same rank at that date. Admiral d'Eyncourt served with distinction at the capture of Canton in 1841, was wounded at the taking of the Bocca Tigris forts, and went through all the operations in the Baltic during the Crimean War. To the last he retained the keenest interest in all that concerned the Navy, and was remarkably abreast of the times in everything which related to it.

The annual meeting of the Union Church, Kobe, took place on Feb. 20th in the church. The attendance was small and numbered only ten or twelve people. The Rev. Ed. Makeham was in the chair. The statement of accounts showed that the balance brought forward from 1901 was *yen* 363.21 and that this had been increased during the past year to *yen* 481.56. The receipts from pew rents amounted to *yen* 390.00. The principal item of expenditure was the *momban's* wages which were *yen* 123.00. Gas, coke and fuel cost *yen* 63.48, insurance *yen* 37.50, repairs *yen* 11.68, ground rent *yen* 46 95 and the remaining items totalled *yen* 11.73. The report and accounts were adopted. It was decided to increase the trustees from three to five and Messrs. Makeham, De Ath, Albertson, Wicher and Bunge were elected.

On Monday morning about nine o'clock an occurrence took place on Camp Hill which might readily have had more serious consequences. Mr. J. P. Mollison was going to business in his carriage, which had began to descend the hill when, nearly opposite Jujiya's bookstore, the pony, ordinarily a quiet animal, started dancing and plunging, apparently kicking also at some part of the harness. Mr. Mollison sprang out to seize the horse by the head, and did actually keep hold for a moment or so, but the pony broke off and bolted down hill, being brought up, however, by both near wheels jamming in the gutter twenty yards further on. The betto, who had stuck to his seat was thrown under the carriage but his injuries are slight; Mr. Mollison was unhurt; the horse was easily secured uninjured, and the carriage is not greatly damaged.

LOVE AND THE STATE.

The touch of woman thrills the heart of man,
The sight of woman glads his longing eyes,
The voice of woman fills, as nought else can,
The ear with fond and pleasing melodies.
The taste of woman decks the house with pure
And simple scenes to lead the heart to joy.
Ah! tell me not there is no boon to cure
The lone heart's memories of girl or boy.

A father may with earnest words inspire
His son to noble deeds, to strife of war
Against injustice; or may light the pyre
That beacons nations—erring ships—to shore.
But yet within the mother's loving heart
Brood thoughts, words, deeds, which seem to be above
All earthly reason. She, with nobler art
Her children trains in purity of Love.

Love is the eyeflash drew them first anear;
Love is the doubt that drives to lands afar;
The longing for the truest, best,—that here
Sways man or woman, as the distant star.
Love is the fire that lights the light of mind;
It is the aching void that draws the flame
To burn more fiercely, till the heart shall find
An opalescent glory without name.

Love is the vast Ideal poet seeks,
And seeks for long, yet does not seek in vain.
Love guides the circling world, thro' days and weeks
And months and years, thro' sunshine and thro' rain.
It guides this globe when wandering far in space,
As hesitant philosopher descries;
And greets with joy, blood rushing to his face,
When first he sees, in truth, where wisdom lies.

Love is the central point, the great unknown,
Who pushes gently all men to the way
Wherein the orbs, as erring nations groan,
Force the lax rulers quick to think and say;
Then do, with overpowering swing of act
Self-chosen, yet apparently fore-doomed.
Love leads the doubter to descry the fact
That woman's is a mighty force, perfumed,

Yea, mystic, - terrible tho' weak,—
Drawing the peccant soldier from his work,
To yield the secrets which she came to seek,
Sucking the golden kisses, ere he shirk
With dried eyed doubt and dumb, distracted thought,
The path of duty lords and saviours set;
Left silent, shamed, from honours he had sought,
And wondering why his fate so late was met.

Love is a flame that, fanned by statesmen's hands,
Or delicately tended by their wives,
Can deft manipulate unruly bands
And lead to unity inconstant hives.
Love is the youth's, the maiden's, or the saint's;
It is the ascetic's, as it is the full
Unclaimed inheritance of him who paints
The martyred thousand lads as one John Bull.

Love is the editor's; it is the scribe's,
The scribbled at, and, just as much as theirs
Who seek for profit by bestowing bribes,
It is the solace of loved sons and heirs.
Love is the lonely student's, writing books,
Burning the oil, which, after, lights the flames
Of heavenly glow, and flushes forth in looks
At understood and well-remembered names.

Love is, beyond all others who may love,
The poet's,—for his healthy family,
Joined in a bond,—once loose, unwoven, rough,—
Now worked around with threads of thought so free,
So fine, so strong, so elementally true,
That all the world can see and comprehend;
A love that seems as if 'twere yours and you:
Love's the beginning, Love will be the end.

H. S.

February 14, 1903.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Mrs. Flora Annie Steel has joined the staff of the *Saturday Review*, and will contribute a weekly signed article dealing especially with social matters.

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Mr. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G., whose articles on things Malayan are ever sources of delight, is bringing out a novel entitled *A Free Lance of To-day*. The book will be published by Messrs. Methuen this month.

Sir William Des Vœux, G.C.M.G., a distinguished public servant, whose last post was that of Governor of Hongkong, has for some time past, the *Athenæum* says, been engaged upon his autobiography, which will be published shortly. It should be of interest to folks out East.

Indian music is receiving new attention as a result of the efforts of Mr. Arthur Farwell, the young American composer. The "Wa-Wan Press," which he established in Newton Center, Mass., a year ago, has issued during recent months a series of notable compositions based on Indian melodies and folk-lore.

Sir James Crichton Browne, who knew the Carlyles well, is writing an introduction to the additional letters of Mrs. Jane Welsh Carlyle which Froude did not print from various reasons, but which are to be published now. Sir James will give (says the *Athenæum*) his own reminiscences of the pair. He thinks that the wife could hold her own, even with the crabbed Thomas.

Mr. Justin McCarthy has nearly finished the book in which he is to recall the social and literary life of London as he knew it in the sixties. He has something to say of Charles Dickens, John Bright, O'Connell, and Sir Stafford Northcote. The once-familiar faces of the Emperor and Empress of Brazil will also be in his gallery. Mr. Fisher Unwin is issuing the book.

It is now over two years since Mr. Maurice Hewlett's last work, "Richard Yea and Nay," was given to the world. In the interval Mr. Hewlett has been engaged in historical research in some Italian cities and elsewhere, and is now at work on two works, one a volume which will be entitled "Impressions of Italy," and the other a novel, in which Mary Queen of Scots is the central character.

Dr. Furness, whom many will remember in Yokohama, has given the result of his residence in Sarawak to the world in a book entitled "The Home Life of Borneo Head-Hunters," published in Philadelphia. In company with Dr. Hiller he dwelt on the upper reaches of the Baram River, where they resided as the guests of a chief in the long-house of the clan. They accompanied a bloodless expedition, and took part in many other pursuits of their hosts.

We have already mentioned that under the title of "A Free Lance of To-day" Messrs. Methuen issued in the middle of February a novel by Mr. Hugh Clifford, C.M.G. We now learn that the scene is laid in Acheen, whose inhabitants have been at war with the Dutch for 30 years. The central figure is a young Englishman, who has become almost denationalised by long intercourse with brown men, and the story tells how and why he makes his way back to his own people.

Printing from type in Persia is not regarded with popularity. The last effort made met with no encouragement, and had to be abandoned. The unpopularity of type-printing in Persia is, according to *Health*, due to two principal causes: First, the straightness of the lines offend a Persian's artistic taste; and, secondly, in printed books the character of the letters is entirely lost. The Persian reader prefers a well-written manuscript, and, failing this, he contents himself with a lithograph, which it usually the facsimile of the writing of some fairly good scribe.

There are many illustrious examples of English lawyers who have made themselves by writing books, albeit others have thought scorn of that pathway to fame. Lord St. Leonards, Lord Justices Lush, Fearns, and Blackstone, not to mention three judges now on the bench, are mentioned by the *Law Journal*. But the most notable instance of a meteoric reputation thus acquired is Mr. Justice Buller. He published his "Introduction to the Laws Relating to Trials at Nisi Prius" the same year that he was called to the Bar—1772. Six years afterwards—1778—he was made a puisne judge of the Court of King's Bench at the extraordinarily early age of 32—the youngest judge on record.

The number of books published in the United Kingdom in 1902 exceeds that of 1901 by 1,000. The *Publishers' Circular* shows that 7,381 books were brought out, and these are divided into thirteen classes. Juvenile works and fiction head the list with 2,470 volumes; theological works rank second with 648 volumes; economic and trade publications come third with 593; educational ventures stand next with 572, followed by history and biography, 537. Sixth in the list are miscellaneous, 499 in number; seventh, art, science and illustrated works, 464. Year books, &c, stand eighth, with 408; 348 poetical and dramatic works take the ninth place; Belles Letters, Essays, &c., 271; medicine and surgery, 237; travels and geographical research, 200; and law and jurisprudence, 134, complete the classification. Of the miscellaneous publications it may be observed that 250 of the number were sixpenny fiction The number of law and educational works is lower than it has been for six years. In medicine the writings correspond in number with those of 1901.

The announcement of the death of Mrs. G. H. Lewes, in her eighty-first year, will have come as a surprise to the many who did not know that one of the chief figures in the most discussed episode in the life of George Eliot was living quietly in London. The event has led to a correspondence in the *Times*, which at least clears up one misunderstanding on the painful question of the relations between George Eliot and Mr. Lewes. Mrs. Lewes was the daughter of Mr. Jervis, of Chatcull, Staffordshire, in whose family Lewes had held the post of tutor. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lewes lived in the same house with Thornton Hunt, a colleague of Lewes's in the editorship of the *Leader*, and Mrs. Lewes left her husband because she had become attached to Thornton Hunt, whom "those who know" represent as a much finer character than Lewes. At this time Lewes and George Eliot had never met. This is stated on the authority of Lewes's son, Mr. Charles Lewes, who spoke in the most affectionate and grateful terms of George Eliot's devotion to himself and his motherless brothers, when two years later Lewes brought her to his home. This, at least, disposes of the assertion that George Eliot took Lewes away from his wife

Asked to say what were "the books of his childhood," Mr. George Bernard Shaw, the versatile author, journalist, critic, and Borough Councillor, wrote:—I have no more recollection of my first book than of my first meal. I cannot recollect any time when I could not and did not read everything that came in my way. The two literary sensations of my childhood were undoubtedly the *Pilgrim's Progress* and the *Arabian Nights*. This shows that I was as good a critic in my infancy as I am now, though I could not then give such clever reasons for my opinion. I seem to have been born with a knowledge of the *Ancient Mariner* and *John Gilpin*. Also with an unaccountable recollection of Baron Trenck and his escapes from prison. I had to be encouraged by my mother to persevere at *Robinson Crusoe* until he reached the desert island, after which he carried me with him unaided. I acquired a very boyish (not childish) taste for Shakespeare from snippets printed beneath Selous's illustrations. Children's books, from the accursed *Swiss Family Robinson* onwards, I always loathed and despised for their dishonesty, their hypocrisy, and their damnable dulness. My moral sense like my literary taste, was sound.

A magazine-writer has been discussing in Great Britain "the art of literary controversy," when he would have been better employed, many will think, in declaring all such controversy useless and a bore. It is true that controversy is not confined to the "littry gents"; it is not unknown, says the *Globe*, among theologians, philosophers, professors, and indeed every class in which differences of opinion are possible. In many cases the combatants are fighting for something of real importance to humanity; even out of the squabbles of the scientists good to the community may come. There are controversies which may tend, however they may result, to the benefit of the world at large. But what is to be said for the battles of the book-men—the men who contend for theories which are of no obvious importance to a soul? Does it very much matter whether Mary Queen of Scots was or was not privy to the murder of Darnley? If we were made certain to-morrow of the identity of the Man in the Iron Mask, by how much would the lieges be advantaged? There are still individuals who can get excited about the authorship of the "Letters of Junius" and very often they are persons who would be very much offended if you questioned their possession of the sense of humour. There is a weak spot in the armour of the wittiest of men—some small thing, of no moment whatever, about which they are ludicrously in earnest.

Some of the greatest men of this era have acknowledged their immeasurable indebtedness to Marcus Aurelius Antoninus. Everybody knows something of his "Thoughts," but as a rule, the knowledge is at the best vague and scrappy. This may be due in a measure to the somewhat "unpopular" way in which his philosophy has hitherto been given to the public; at least the publisher of "An Old Monarch in New Mantle" thinks so; and now Mr. James E. Wilson, 21 Cornhill, London, E.C., makes an attempt to remove this reproach and to present the reflections in a garb in which they should appeal directly to that mainstay of the publishing trade, the general reader. The aim of the publisher is to provide an appropriate place for everything essential in the work, of putting every such thing in its place; to present the pith and marrow of the Master's notes, "relieved from the surplusage of words and references unnecessary to his teaching, and of words of a biographical kind unlikely to interest the reader." In a word, it is Marcus Aurelius for the people, in a well-ordered, well-printed shilling edition. Following this plan, the "Thoughts" are divided into three chapters, and an excellent index is appended whereby the reader may at once get at the immortal Emperor's reflections on any particular phase of life or philosophy. The book should certainly stimulate the study of Marcus Aurelius among the very large class who are repelled by the length, obscurity, and intricacies of editions published hitherto.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. VON HOLLEBEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir.—In your editorial column of the 19th inst. you quote the Chicago *Post*, as quoted in the number of *Public Opinion* dated Jan. 22, *in re* Dr. von Holleben. Thinking that perhaps the enclosed from the editorial section of *Harper's Weekly* for Jan. 24th may not have fallen under your notice, I send it as what appears to be a possible explanation of the question under discussion.

May I also call your attention to the enclosed clipping from the January number of *The World's Events* (vol. 3, p. 3) "a monthly review of the world's news," a piece of information which I believe will be news even in Japan.

I am, Sir, Yours respectfully, A. W. COOKE.
Wakamatsu, Iwahiro, Feb. 20, 1903.

It is believed by well-informed persons in Washington that Dr. von Holleben, the German ambassador to the United States, has been recalled. Just how he has incurred the displeasure of the Emperor William II., or of Chancellor von Bülow, is unknown. It is absurd to suppose that he gave offence by the note in which he drew attention to the fact that Lord Pauncefote supported the Austrian minister in an attempt to bring about a joint protest of the representatives of the European powers against our war with Spain. Dr. von Holleben's note regarding that incident was published by the Berlin Foreign Office, and corroborated with additional evidence. It would also be unreasonable to blame Dr. von Holleben for Presi-

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dent Roosevelt's ultimate refusal to act as arbitrator in the Venezuela dispute. When Dr. von Holleben suggested that Mr. Roosevelt should be invited to act in the capacity, he had good ground for assuming that the invitation would be accepted. There can be, indeed, no doubt in the mind of any careful observer that his country's interests have been more effectively served by Dr. von Holleben than by any other German minister since the formation of the German Empire in 1871. We deem it probable that his recall is the outcome of an old quarrel between him and Baron Speck von Sternberg, who was formerly First Secretary of the German embassy in Washington, and who, in 1900, was sent as German commissioner to Samoa. Baron Speck's agreement to refer Germany's bombardment claims against the United States to the arbitration of King Oscar of Sweden was viewed with disapproval by Dr. von Holleben, because an adverse decision was expected. It is thought to have been due to the ambassador's influence that Baron Speck was transferred to a place of lower rank in the diplomatic service, namely, the post of consul-general at Calcutta. As it turned out, however, that King Oscar rendered a decision sustaining Germany's claims, Baron Speck was restored to Emperor William's favour, and seems to have convinced his imperial master that he (Speck) had been treated harshly by Dr. von Holleben. One effect of Dr. von Holleben's recall and the substitition of a new ambassador will be that Germany's representative will forfeit the coveted position of dean of the diplomatic corps, a post that is held by the ambassador who has been longest in residence.—*Harper's Weekly.*

ATTEMPT ON THE MIKADO'S LIFE.

It is not often that any news of importance is recorded from Japan. Late steamer advices tell of the military manœuvres of the Japanese army as being highly spectacular and successful. A notable innovation was the use of telephones and bicycles on the field, and several new ideas were gained in connection with cavalry fighting. The most important item, however, was concerning an attempt on the life of the Emperor while he was on his way to the manœuvres. A number of conspirators were engaged in the plot which was to blow up the Emperor's train. The police learned of the plot, but failed to capture any of the would-be dynamiters. The imperial train was held until an engine had been sent over the track to test its safety.—*World Events.*

"SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY."

The Janet Waldorf Company opened on Monday evening with a crowded house, and it may at once be said that they gave a fine presentation of "Sweet Nell of Old Drury." They deserve, and it to be sincerely hoped will, receive, the fullest support of the community during their stay here.

The piece which they chose to begin their season with need hardly be written of in detail. Its plot, indeed, has been described *ad nauseam*. Few English-speaking people have not read of that Nell Gwynne who, attracting the notice of a monarch, sprang at once from the situation of an orange girl to the lofty and important position of King's favourite. She is the most prominent character in the play, though the real plot concerns itself rather with the vicissitudes which attend the love affairs of *Sir Roger Fairfax* and *Lady Olivia Vernon* than with the strange fortunes of *Eleanor Gwynne*. Of this whimsical, tender, passionate, generous woman Miss Janet Waldorf gave quite a delightful representation. In every mood so absolutely natural as to make the listener and spectator forget that she is acting apart; possessing a fine stage presence and a splendid voice, she is equally fascinating as the orange peddler whom King, Charles II. meets outside the King's Theatre, and in her Pall Mall boudoir when she has become quite an important person in the Kingdom. It is difficult to conceive that this title role could be more happily filled. Next in prominence to *Nell*, in the play, comes *Charles II.* who found a worthy representative in Mr. Norval McGregor. His rendering of the regal roué was admirable, for he both looked and spoke the part—probably better, if one may put it so, than the original himself. *Lord Jeffreys*, the much hated and feared Chief Justice of England, is by no means an unimportant personage on the stage, for he disapproves of *Sir Roger Fairfax* as a sweetheart of *Lady Olivia Vernon*, and as the young lady is his ward and the *Chief Justice* has a good deal of power in those days he emphasizes his disapprobation in a striking fashion. Mr. Wilson Forbes gave a very careful and effective rendering of this part. Miss Ada Stanley was a very charming *Lady Olivia* and though it was not necessary for her to say or do very much—being indeed more spoken of than speaking—did and said what came to her share very gracefully and prettily. Mr. Ernest Macken made a capital *Sir Roger Fairfax* behaving just as a young gentleman of the period would have behaved in *Sir Roger's* difficult circumstances. Mrs. A Dow-Currier as *Lady Castlemaine* and Miss Edith Haye as the *Duchess of Portsmouth* had little to do but did that carefully and well and the same may be said as to the minor characters, whose exponents gave efficient support to the leading actors.

We read on the programme that the play was produced under the personal supervision of Mrs. Dow-Currier, so that we are afforded an opportunity of congratulating that lady on the result. The piece was well staged; both scenery and dresses were strikingly appropriate.

"THE LADY OF OSTEND."

The Janet Waldorf Company had again a good house on Tuesday night when they presented "The Lady of Ostend," and demonstrated that they are well able to deal with comedy of a light and sparkling sort. Briefly "The Lady of Ostend" is in three acts and the action takes place in the house of *Mr. Dick Whortles*, who during a trip to Ostend, "on a business matter of importance" has been caught by the camera indulging at the seaside in a tete-a-tete with an unknown lady. The irony of fate, however, impels him to take his wife and mother-in-law to an exhibition of the cinematograph, where this particular scene is depicted.

The result may be imagined, and when *Mrs. Whortles* and his mother-in-law recognise the picture a scene ensues, no power on the part of the luckless *Dick* being sufficient to appease their wrath. To crown all, the husband of this unknown lady, a pugilist of fiery temper and speech, appears, and in revenge bent seeks for the male figure. The *Baron de Longueville*, a chum of poor *Dick*, rejoices over his friend's discomfiture, but his joy is suddenly turned to sorrow when the next exhibit of the cinematograph reveals hituself paying the most ardent attention to *Dick's* late inamorata. *Dick's* father in-law, of "unimpeachable character" also falls a victim to the inquisitive camera, and fun is provided for the audience when *Dick's* mother-in-law discovers her "hubby" also sporting beside the fair lady of Ostend, her fury and indignation being better imagined than described. Then the fickle lady's husband, the pugilist, appears and in a fit of rage smashes furniture and makes a terrible fuss.

Miss Waldorf as *Mrs. Chortles* gave a charming rendering of the part; and Mrs. Dow-Currier was a real and natural mother-in-law,—as that much maligned lady is usually pictured. Miss Amy Stanley was à pretty niece and Miss Maude Vinci, taking the place of the young lady who was so suddenly removed by death at Shanghai, and her companions looked nicely and acted painstakingly. Mr. Norval McGregor was a very amusing *Baron*; Mr. Wilson Forbes a good representative of the old gentleman who was still equal to a night out, and Mr. Jean de Lacy quite satisfactory as a pugilist. Mr. St. Clair Bayfield was very clever as manager of the cinematograph.

HELM BROS., LIMITED.

Report of the Directors to be submitted at the Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Directors to be held at No. 78, Main Street, (side entrance) Yokohama, on Tuesday, the 3rd day of March, 1903, at 3 p.m.

The Accounts after writing off certain amounts for depreciation show a net Profit on the year's working of *yen* 21,676.06.

The Directors recommend that a Dividend of 10 per cent. per annum be paid to the shareholders, which will absorb *yen* 18,600, leaving a balance of *yen* 3,076.06 to be carried forward to new account.

Directors—Messrs. Helm and Johnstone retire from the Board but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors—The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. Hall and Morton and their re-election is recommended.

Yokohama, 23rd February 1903.

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Capital paid up		186,000.00
To Sundry Creditors—		
Julius Helm	10,000.00	
Yoong Hoon	1,000.00	
Sundry Accounts	1,895.35	12,895.35
To Profit and Loss account—		
Balance of Profit from 1901	3,099.57	
Profit for year ending 31st Dec., 1902	17,576.49	21,676.06
		220,571.41

ASSETS.

By Sundry Debtors	25,614.69	
By Government Bonds deposited with Customs as Customs Brokers Surety ...	5,540.05	
By Goodwill	4,000.00	35,154.74
By Stocks—		
Horsefood and Stores	1,528.56	
Coal	292.82	1,821.38
By Property—		
Fleet	98,000.00	
Landing Gear, Working Plant & Material	3,900.00	
Drays and Horses.....	8,397.00	
Office Furniture.....	1,700.00	
House Property.....	49,600.00	167,597.00
By Hongkong & Shanghai Bank	15,223.42	
By Mitsui Bank.....	3,369.81	
By Cash on hand	3,405.06	21,998.29
		220,571.41

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1902.

		Yen.
To Horsefood and Stores ...		6,630.18
To Fire Insurance.....		374.96
To Rent		2,781.65
To Clients adjustment Account		989.08
To Legal Fees and Taxes ...		2,425.95
To Directors' and Auditors' Fees		1,500.00
To Upkeep and Repairs		7,784.05
To Expenses		3,339.49
To Claims		970.72
To interest		199.76
To Salaries and Wages		19,724.37
" Fuel		3,391.75
" Amount written off Fleet a/c	2,000.00	
Goodwill a/c	1,000.00	
Landing Gear etc. a/c ...	753.18	
Office Furniture a/c	200.00	
		3,953.18
" Balance		21,679.06
		75,741.20
By Balance Profit from 1901		4,099.57
" Gross Profit for Year		71,641.63
		75,741.20
1902 January 1st, By Balance Brought down		21,676.06

J. JOHNSTONE,
Chairman of Board of Directors.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

F. J. HALL,
W. MORTON, } Auditors.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of this Corporation was held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on February 14, the Hon. R. Shewan presiding.

The Chairman said—Gentlemen, I congratulate you on the fine position which the report I have just read shows the Bank to be in, and on the results of the last six months' work, which allow of the usual dividend of £1 10/ and a bonus of 10/- per share, and also of $750,000 being added to the Reserve Fund. At our last meeting in August I pointed out that at the then rate of exchange of 1.8¾ it took $110 000 more to pay the same dividend than it did six months previously, and to do so now at the present rate of 1/7 requires $110,000 further, besides a relative increase of dollars to pay the 10/- bonus.

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In other words we are now paying in dividend and bonus $2,021,052.84 against $1,725,842 70 this time last year, or say 3 lacs of dollars more; while at the same time our position is now stronger than it ever has been before—(aplause). The uncertainty of the Silver market has made exchange operations a matter of much difficulty and no litle anxiety. It has been a busy time for all concerned, and to show our appreciation of the manner in which the matter has been faced by our Managers, Agents, and staff generally, we have had pleasure in voting them a bonus on their salaries of 10 per cent., which I am convinced will meet with your approval—(applause). Comparing the present report with that of 30th June you will observe an increase in deposits of about $20,000,000, chiefly in Gold accounts, and same has enabled us to reduce our liabilities under the heading of Bills Payable which are some Fourteen Million Dollars less; on the other side, Bills Discounted, Loans and Credits are 10 million dollars higher, and Bills Receivable have increased $8,000,000. There is no marked change in any of the other items calling for comparison. During the last half year we effected a sale in London, in conjunction with Messrs Baring Bros. & Co. Limitted, of Imperial Japanese Government Bonds which met with much success, and I am glad to say the result was mutually gratifying to the Japanese Government and to ourselves—(applause). The Import trade has been dull here, but in the North there are evidences that at the opening of the river a good demand will spring up for piece goods from Europe and America; the Chinese have again proved their capabilities as business men. and have mostly settled sterling exchange at the time they ordered their goods, thus insuring themselves against loss on falling Silver market. The commercial treaty made on behalf of the British Government by Sir James Mackay has been signed, but will not become fully operative until the other Powers concerned have also formulated the text of their treaties with the Chinese Empire on similar lines. As I said six months ago, it is a bold attempt to remedy many grievances. Article eight, with its abolition of Lekin and imposition of a surtax, is the one that blocks the way, but if the Chinese Government will see that all the conditions are faithfully carried out, the new treaty on the lines laid down should greatly facilitate trade and also prove beneficial to the country generally. One of the clauses of the new treaty is that China shall establish a national coinage that will be legal tender over the whole Empire. Gentlemen, if this is accomplished it will in my opinion greatly help and assist trade, but time must elapse before such a radical change takes place. From the way in which events are marching, however, it appears certain that some steps must be taken to deal with the currency question in China—(applause). Siam has already declared for gold, the Straits Settlements and other places around us are urging the adoption of a gold standard, and in this Colony also there are many whose opinion trends in the same direction. Personally I should be glad to see such a thing accomplished, but until China makes the change on her own behalf, it would, in my opinion, be prejudicial to our trade here to divorce ourselves from the common currency in use in that great Empire. The Anglo-Japanese Treaty which has been signed, is a measure for the common benefit and protection of our several interests. It should make for peace and promote commerce, and as such deserves and has our cordial approval (applause). As regards Hongkong and the South of China generally, business is, as you know, dull at the moment, but I think it rests on a sound and safe basis. Many changes have come over the situation—for instance Tea, in which formerly fortunes were made, has almost entirely left us, but on the other hand a variety of exports has arisen which our predecessors hardly ever thought of, and which promise to increase from year to year. Railways in China are now being constructed, and will soon be an accomplished fact, and with the opening up of the interior of one of the greatest countries in the world, must and will come larger opportunities, increased business, and, I do not doubt, increasing prosperity to your Bank—(applause).

There being no questions. The Chairman moved adoption of the report.

Mr. A. G. Wood—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts just placed before us, and I am sure they cannot fail to be satisfactory to the shareholders. It is also a pleasurable duty to recognise the ability on the part of the management and staff which has helped to achieve such a good result. I think we are all pleased to learn that this is being recognised in the bonus we are asked to vote for the staff—(applause).

On the motion of Mr. Orange, seconded by Mr. Hancock, the election to the Directorate of Messrs C. Michelau and G. Balloch was confirmed; and Messrs N. A. Siebs, H. E. Tomkins, and H. Schubart were re-elected as Directors.—*China Mail.*

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

GERMANY AND CHINA.

London, February 20.

Viscount Cranborne, referring to the German agreement with China prior to the evacuation of Shanghai, said that the Chinese Government, replying to Britain's refusal to recognize it, declared that it would not allow anything that had passed to prejudice British rights on the Yangtze. Consequently there was no reason for the British Government to be displeased with the result of the affair.

He added that the agreement with Japan had enormously strengthened Britain's position in China.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain has had a prolonged interview with Jan Hofmeyer and several leading Africander ex-Ministers.

CHINESE CUSTOMS AND CURRENCY PROPOSALS.

Viscount Cranborne states that the British Government has not modified its view concerning the future control of the Chinese Customs.

The Government has not yet received any invitation to participate in any conference on the subject of the Chinese and Mexican currency proposals, and has not in the meantime recommended China to introduce national currency coins in pursuance of the Anglo-Chinese agreement.

MACEDONIA.

London, February 21.

All the Powers have instructed their Ambassadors to support the Macedonian Reform Scheme.

THE AMERICAN NAVY.

Later.

The Washington House of Representatives passed the bill for the increase of the Navy, mentioned in the cablegram of January 19th.

THE POPE.

The Pope has celebrated the Jubilee of his accession. He bore the ceremonies without fatigue.

FEELING AT THE CAPE.

Judging by the Cape newspapers racial animosities seem more pronounced than ever.

SOMALILAND.

London, February 22.

The *Graphic's* correspondent at Garrero, writing on the 10th of February, said the Mullah had concentrated the whole of his force at Dohol, sixty miles south-west of Bohotle. Cholera was rife among his followers. This is a serious matter for the British advance owing to the danger of the wells being contaminated.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The last of the burgher camps in the Transvaal have been closed.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain received at Cape Town a Dutch deputation headed by Messrs. Hofmeyer and Merriman. The proceedings were of a most cordial description and the deputation before withdrawing thanked Mr. Chamberlain.

LABOUR PARTY'S PROGRAMME.

A National Labour Congress was held in Newcastle on the 21st. The Congress decided to create a fund in order to pay the election expenses of Labour candidates and thus render them independent of the Liberals, the Socialists, and Conservatives; and also to pay the Labour Representatives in the House of Commons annual salaries of £200.

THE BATTLE OF THE BOILERS.

The British Admiralty have definitely rejected the Belleville boilers and have decided to replace them by boilers of the latest cylindrical type.

MACEDONIAN REFORMS.

London, February 23.

The Russian and Austrian Ambassadors on the 21st instant, presented to the Grand Vizier a scheme of Macedonian reforms.

THE U.S. AS A WORLD POWER.

The foundation of the Army War College has been laid at Washington by President Roosevelt. In the course of his speech, the President remarked that the tread of events forced the nation to become a world-power, with responsibilities in the Occident and the Orient.

CHINESE LABOUR FOR THE RAND.

The Commissioner of the Johannesburg Chamber of Mines has started for China, *viâ* London and San Francisco, to investigate the conditions of Chinese labour. He will doubtless arrange to introduce the employment of Chinese into the mines in South Africa.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S TOUR.

London, February 24.

Mr. Chamberlain's mission is practically ended. The papers are unanimous is saying that no man could have done more to reconcile the two races. The Dutch address mentioned in yesterday's cablegram, asserted the unalterable attachment of the signatories to the British connection, and Mr. Hofmeyer added that the Dutch leaders had prepared an address in which they appeal to the Dutch to promote a good understanding. Mr. Chamberlain welcomed this as the hopefullest augury for the future.

MACEDONIAN REFORMS.

Later.

The Macedonian reform scheme recommends the appointment of an Inspector-General, approved by the Powers, with large independent authority; the organization of a *gendarmarie* by European officers, Christians being appointed to its ranks; and proposes various reforms of the judicial and taxation system. The Sultan has accepted the scheme of reform.

THE BURDEN OF EMPIRE.

London, February 25.

At a luncheon given at Cape-town by the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Chamberlain said that with the expansion of the Colonies the burden upon the Mother Country had become more than she alone could bear. The self-governing colonies had not borne a fair share; some, India included, had, but generally they must rise to a fuller appreciation of their duty. He appealed to the leaders of both sides to consider if the Cape Colony was doing enough.

THE BALKANS.

Later.

The *Times* correspondent at Moscow says that arrangements have been completed whereby 280,000 men join the colours at a moment's call. Exceptional activity is manifested at the Russian military head-quarters staff.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

THE FRANCO-SIAMESE CONVENTION.

Saigon, February 20.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcassé, declares that he sees it to be inconve-

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nient from a diplomatic point of view to communicate to the Committee on Foreign Affairs the documents exchanged with the Governor-General of Indo-China on the subject of the Franco-Siamese convention.

MACEDONIA.

The King's Speech at the opening of the British Parliament recognised the gravity of the situation in Macedonia.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

Saigon, February 23.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed the Committee of Foreign Affairs that the Government declines to communicate to it the documents demanded by it relating to the Franco-Siamese treaty.

FRENCH POLICY IN ASIA.

At the annual dinner of the Association of French-Asia, M. Etienne, Vice-President of the Chamber, as President of the Colonial Group in the Chamber,—at which dinner the Ministers of China, Siam, Japan and Korea were present—declared that France from reasons of amity and without any idea of conquest wished to live at peace with the Asiatic populations, and that she demanded only respect for her rights and her territorial and commercial interests.

(From the "Japan Herald.")

GREAT BRITAIN AND CHINA.

London, February 19.

Mr. Joseph Walton, member for Barnsley, has moved an amendment to the Address in the House of Commons on the question of Great Britain's relations with China.

Sir Edward Grey, member for Berwick-on Tweed, in discussing the amendment, condemned by implication such debates when they were raised upon imperfect information. He queried whether China could carry out the Likin Treaty.

Viscount Cranborne, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replied that although Great Britain's alliance with Japan greatly strengthened her position, the uncertainties and complications of the relations with China were very serious, though not so serious as the relations with Persia.

THE BELLEVILLE BOILER.

London, February 22.

Mr. H. O. Arnold Forster, member for Belfast West, Secretary to the Admiralty, replying to Sir William Allan, member for Gateshead, said the Admiralty was now fitting every new ship with a mixed type of cylindrical boiler, and the Belleville boiler had been wholly disregarded.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE EAST.

The London press does not regard Viscount Cranborne's exposition of British policy in the Middle East and Far East as reassuring.

The *Times* pessimistically remarks that the world does not want to see the pitiful story of China repeated in South Persia.

RUSSIAN LEGATION AT PEKING.

London, February 23.

The *Novoe Vremya* states that the Government has decided to increase the staff at the Russian Legation at Peking by a Second Secretary and two student interpreters.

M. DE LESSAR.

M. Lessar, who is suffering from ill-health, has left St. Petersburg for Monte Carlo.

REFORM IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

London, February 24.

All the papers are keenly criticising the debate in the House of Commons on the state of the army.

The *Times* says there is a remarkable unanimity of views among men like Captain Seely (member for the Isle of Wight), and Mr. George Kemp (member for Heywood), both of whom have recently seen active service, and also Sir Charles Dilke, and that the present organisation is not suited to the needs of the Empire.

Mr. Brodrick, adds the *Times*, fails to grasp that his scheme is fundamentally wrong. He thinks that he has made a complete answer to his critics if he shows that things are doing reasonably well, whereas he is aiming at a costly perfection of the wrong kind.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

THE LATE PRINCE KOMATSU.

London, February 19.

All the English papers contain expressions of condolence at the death of H.I.H. Prince Komatsu. They appreciate his brilliant services to his country.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

There is a proposal on foot to construct a wireless telegraph system between Hawaii and San Francisco.

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

The Russian authorities will commence works of construction on the railway between Kiring-fu and Kwang-yong-si, with the object of carrying grain to Port Arthur.

VENEZUELA.

American public opinion thoroughly appreciates the motives of Venezuela in increasing the customs duty.

RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

London, February 20.

The Russian Government has supported the Russo-Chinese Bank's proposal to construct a railway between Seoul and Wiju or to supply the capital needed. All the British papers strongly oppose the proposal.

PERSIA.

The *Times* writes gloomily upon the Persian question. The revised customs tariff of Persia exempts Russian products while imposing heavy duties on British goods. The British Government will probably take active steps.

Many British papers insist that now is the proper time to demonstrate the benefits of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS FOR MANCHURIA.

London, February 23.

It is rumoured in St. Petersburg that the Russian Government has decided to increase the force in Manchuria to 75,000 men, just five times the present number, to prevent the lawlessness of brigands who are perpetually disturbing the railway construction works in Manchuria. The number of officials in the Russian Legation at Peking has been increased.

THE BALKAN QUESTION.

A note by the Russian and Austro-Hungarian Governments has been handed to the Porte. In it the two Powers request an arrangement of the Custom Tariff to be made by Macedonia independently.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

MACEDONIA.

London, February 23.

It is reported from Belgrade (the principal town of Servia) that in the previous week, seven well armed bodies, each consisting of 250 soldiers, were organized at the request of Saratoff, one of the Macedonian Committee, who has gained his liberty.

The Albanians oppose the Macedonian Reform proposal on the pretext that it will act unfavourably upon the Mahomedans, and with partiality upon the Christians.

The members of the Turkish Committee have left for Albania to quiet them.

DEATH OF KATE VAUGHAN.

The once well-known actress, Miss Kate Vaughan, is dead.

(From the "Manila Cable News.")

DEATH OF REAR-ADMIRAL WILDES.

New York, February 9.

Rear-Admiral Frank Wildes, United States Navy, died at sea last Friday, while *en route* from Manila to San Francisco. The body was carried to San Francisco.

(From the "Deutsche Japan Post.")

MACEDONIAN REFORMS.

Berlin, February 20.

The plan of reforms to be made in Macedonia presented to the Sublime Porte by Russia and Austria, has been accepted by the Powers in the following order: Germany, France and Great Britain, while the decision of Italy is still expected. The Sultan, for his own interest, is forced to agree with the scheme. The demands of Bulgaria exceeding the Russo-Austrian plan have been rejected in Vienna and St. Petersburg.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

The French press appears very sorrowful on account of the agreement between Siam and Japan and continues to attack Minister Delcassé's Franco-Siamese treaty.

TRIPOLI.

The French budget report declares that Italy had no right to enter Tripoli.

VENEZUELA.

Germany has received from Venezuela safe drafts covering her chief claims.

GERMANY AND S. AMERICA.

The reports of the *New-York Herald* referring to Germany's actions against Columbia and Brazil are false.

RESIGNATION OF A PRIME MINISTER.

Berlin, February 20.

In Munich the Prime Minister Dr. K. Graf von Crailsheim, has tendered his resignation. The Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs and Public Instruction, v. Podewils, succeeded him.

GERMANY, ENGLAND AND VENEZUELA.

Berlin, February 22.

The joint action of Germany and England against Venezuela was wrongly interpreted by the English Liberals as due to a mutual understanding between the Kaiser and King Edward during the former's stay at Sandringham. The Venezuelan question was not touched on during their conversations.

It is confirmed that Venezuela has raised her custom duties. The increase is only intended for a certain period and as an exception

GERMAN AFFAIRS.

The accidental coincidence of the Pope's jubilee, an intolerant act of the Trier Bishop Korum and the resignation of the Bavarian Prime Minister von Crailsheim might induce people to believe that in Germany the clerical party is predominant, but this is not the case. The successor of Minister von Crailsheim is loyal, well liked in Berlin, and a personal friend of Count Bülow. There will be no change in the political affairs in Bavaria. The Kaiser declared in an open letter that he is a faithful believer in the Christian doctrine, but neither an orthodox nor a free-thinker. The letter made a great impression in Germany and met with much sympathy in most quarters.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

GOVERNMENT OF THE TRANSVAAL.

London, February 14.

The Government has offered Generals Botha and Delarey seats on the Transvaal Legislative Council. The two Generals have refused the offer, not because they were unwilling to work with the Government, but because they thought that the manner in which the new Council is to be formed will not conduce to the best interests of the country.

MR. BALFOUR ON THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

London, February 14.

Mr. Balfour, the Prime Minister, speaking at Liverpool, said that the Monroe Doctrine had no enemies in England, but it would be a great gain to civilisation if the United States concerned themselves more actively with preventing the recurring difficulties between European and South American Governments, by getting the latter to observe the principles of international comity.

THE GUARDS INCIDENT.

London viâ Bombay, February 16.

Col Francis Lloyd, C.B.,D.S.O., has been recalled from half pay to command the First Grenadier Guards in succession to Lieut.-Col. Kinloch.

[Col Francis Lloyd served in the Soudan Expedition of 1884-85 as signalling officer to the Brigade of Guards; and again in the Soudan under Lord Kitchener in 1898. For his services at the Battle of Khartoum he was mentioned in dispatches and received the D.S.O. besides the British and Khedive's medals. He served with the First Grenadier Guards in South Africa as Lieut-Col., and retired on half-pay with the C.B., on being severely wounded. He now resumes his former command.—Ed.]

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ANOTHER BRITISH CLAIM SETTLED.

London viâ Bombay, February 16.

The *Standard* states that the Porte has decided to give satisfaction to the British claims and has ordered the complete evacuation of the Aden hinterland.

THE LITTLE WAR IN SOKOTO.

London via Bombay, February 17.

After a fruitless bombardment of the main gate of the city of Kano, the British force stormed a smaller gate a mile distant, headed by Lieut. Stewart B. B. Dyer, 2nd Life Guards, West African Frontier Force, who was twice wounded. The enemy numbered 5,800. There was no street fighting. Brig.-Gen. Sir F. J. D. Lugard, K.C.M.G., High Commissioner of Northern Nigeria, who is now at Zaria, will probably proceed to Kano to instal the new King. The population of the country is tranquil and has accepted the situation.

NEW RICHES FROM THE NILE.

London viâ Bombay, February 17.

Experts allege the existence of extensive gold reefs of remarkable richness in the Nile Valley. The shares in a company formed to operate there, recently quoted at £3 5s., are now quoted at £10.

REOPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

London, February 18.

The Debate on the address in the House of Commons yesterday was marked by general listlessness. There were only some 340 members present out of the 670 who constitute the House.

THE LITTLE WAR IN SOKOTO.

The Blue-book relating to the Kano affair shows that the Government learned first from Reuter that the expedition was being organised; they cabled asking Sir F. Lugard whether the news was true. Subsequently Lord Onslow, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, wrote regretting that the Government was not kept better informed, but approving of Sir F. Lugard's action.

Later.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Postmaster-General, replying to Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., in the House of Commons denied that Lord Onslow's dispatch to Sir F. Lugard implied censure by the Government, who had absolute confidence in his judgment and experience.

HONGKONG AND ITS CURRENCY.

Hongkong, December 18.

The Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce resolved to-day by forty votes to twenty-five to approach the Government and ask it to request the Straits Currency Commission to investigate the question of the Hongkong currency with the view of its reform on a gold basis.

THE RELIEF OF LADYSMITH.

London, February 19.

In his evidence at the War Enquiry, General Buller said that his telegram of the 15th of February to the War Office, "Let Ladysmith go," did not mean that Ladysmith should surrender, but that he should cease attempting its relief. He thought that General Sir George White should break out and join him (General Buller), which was quite practicable.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, February 19.

Mr. Chamberlain has had a prolonged interview with Mr. Jan Hofmeyer and several of the leading Afrikander ex-Ministers.

Sir J. Gordon Sprigg, Prime Minister of Cape Colony, was vigorously hooted at Capetown on the occasion of Mr. Chamberlain's entry.

QUEST OF THE GOLD STANDARD.

Hongkong, February 19.

At a largely attended meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, a resolution was passed by 40 votes to 34 inviting the Straits Currency Commission to extend its researches to Hongkong.

THE SOMALILAND EXPEDITION.

Bombay, February 19.

General Manning proposes to commence the general advance from Muding on the 22nd instant.

THE FUTURE OF MOROCCO.

London, February 20.

The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* learns that M. Delcassé is anxious to arrange a definite accord with England regarding the future of Morocco.

He proposes to recognise the strip of coast from Tangier to Ceuta as neutral territory, in which fortifications shall be prohibited, and of which the administration might eventually be entrusted to Spain. France would then obtain a free hand in the rest of Morocco, though without any intention of extending her territories in North Africa at the present moment.

In its leading article on the subject, the *Standard* says that its correspondent is in a position to state that M. Delcassé has already approached Lord Lansdowne with this proposal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria 1	Sa. Feb. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. Feb. 28
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shi ano Maru 2	F. Feb. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa. Feb. 28
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Sim ns 3	Tu. Mar. 3
America	P. M. Co.	China 4	W. Mar. 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar 5	F. Mar. 6
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Sa. Mar. 7
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	Su. Mar. 8
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 9
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 6	Th. Mar. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Mar. 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	Th. Mar. 19
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. Mar. 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Mar. 26

1 Left Tacoma on the 7th inst.
2 Left Seattle on the 10th inst.
3 Left Shanghai on the 27th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 13th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 25th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 21st inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. Feb. 28
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. Feb. 28
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Sa. Feb. 28
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. Mar. 5
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th Mar. 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa. Mar. 7
Europe	N. Y. K.	Awa Maru	Sa. Mar. 7
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Sa. Mar. 7
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Su. Mar. 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. Mar. 9
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	Tu. Mar. 10
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru	Tu. Mar. 10
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	Th. Mar. 12
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Mar. 13
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kamano Maru	Sa. Mar. 14
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Mar. 18
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Mar. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Mar. 24

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, Purrington, 20th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 18th Feb., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 20th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 14th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 3,005, Robt. C. Thompson, 21st Feb.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 20th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 21st Feb.,—Kobe, 19th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 21st Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 20th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 21st Feb.,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bencleuch, British steamer, 2,679, Alex. W. S. Thomson, 21st Feb.,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 19th Feb., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 22nd Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Itaura, British steamer, 3,363, J. P. Babb, 22nd Feb., —Madras via ports Manila, 13th Feb., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 22nd Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 21st Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 23rd Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 22nd Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 24th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 5th Feb., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Verona, German steamer, 3,038, Spiesen, 24th Feb., —New York via ports, and Shanghai, 19th Feb., General.—C Illies & Co.

Seneca, British steamer, 3,171, C. R. Beynon, 24th Feb.,—New York via Hongkong, 16th Feb., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 24th Feb.,—Kobe, 22nd Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,786, H. Peterson, 24th Feb.,—London via ports, and Kobe, 23rd Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Changchow, British steamer, 1,202, G. Pearce, 25th Feb.,—Hongkong via Kobe, 23rd Feb., General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 25th Feb.,—Shimonoseki, 23rd Feb, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 25th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 25th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 24th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mars, British steamer, 2,469, W. Curtis. 25th Feb.,—Rangoon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Pyrrhus, British steamer ,2,281, J. Rorison, 20th Feb., —Marseilles and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 20th Feb.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 20th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 20th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thordis, Norwegian steamer, 2,415, Gram, 20th Feb., —New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Preussen, German steamer, 3,278, E. Prehn, 21st Feb.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,814, F. L. Sommer, 21st Feb.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaish.

Ceptic, British steamer, 2,744, Frank E. Beadnell, 21st Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 21st Feb.,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 21st Feb.,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 21st Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Velvky Knias Alexander Mikhailovitch, Russian steamer, 1,420, Kondratieff, 11st Feb.,—Uraga, Ballast.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Bencleuch, British steamer, 2,679, Alex. W. S. Thomson, 22nd Feb.,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 22nd Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 22nd Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 23rd Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, S. Yamamoto, 23rd Feb.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 24th Feb.,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 24th Feb.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, Purrington, 24th Feb.,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 24th Feb., —Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 24th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diomed, British steamer, 3,005, Robt. C. Thompson, 25th Feb.,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,473, W. Howie, 25th Feb.,—Australia via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Formosa*, from London via ports:—Mr. H. Barrett and Chinese servant, and Mr. Alf. Woolley, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Despard, Capt. Despard, Mr. R. H. Muntz, Mr. I. Z. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Betts, and Mr. A. S. Hay, in cabin. For Vancouver:—Rev. J. Firth, Mr. G. W. Carson, Mrs. C. S. Salmon, Mr. J. Boecher, Mrs. A. M. Clay, Rev. and Mrs. Fuessle and child, Mr. A. R. Murphine, Mr. J. Dawson, Mrs. Bissett, and Dr. Alexander, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Dr. M. Graham, Mrs. Palmer and infant, Mr. Morita, Mr. Forbes, Miss Hayes, Miss Waldorf, Miss Stanley, Mrs. Currier, Mr. MacGregor, Mr. Rente, Mr. Bayfrild, Mrs. Delercey, Mr. Delercey, Mr. Byan, Mr. Macew, Mr. Clarke, Mr.

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Campbell, Mr. Goldery, Mr. Bemuy, Miss Herrich, Mrs. Wisby, Mr. Wisby, Mr. Lewzey, and Rev. C. B. Moseley, in cabin; 5, in second class; 21 Japanese, and 21 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. D. L. L. Love, Mr. Thos. Kelley, Mrs. F. H. Pyne, Miss Kan Tan Bee, and Miss Kan Tan Ho, in cabin; Mr. C. Chandler, and Mr. K. Mikata, in second class; 45 Japanese, 34 Chinese, and 1 Korean, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. John D'Arcy, Rev. H. Hiraiwa, Dr. H. Ishihara, Mrs. M. Judge, Miss K. Judge, Mr. O. Shioda, Mr. F. S. Strattton, Mrs. Stratton, Dr. P. F. Tsurumaki and servant, Mrs. Robt. Waller, Mr. Huntington Wilson, and Major O. E. Wood, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. M. Elsasser, Mrs. Elsasser, Mr. H. K. Kempf, Miss M. Morrell, Rev. H. P. Shaw, and Mrs. Shaw, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. Ollie Blaser, Mr. H. A. Beeken, Mr. Coude d'Obidos, Mr. Eng Hok Fang, Mr. Leong Kam Ming, Mrs. K. Raymond, Mr. Henry White, and Mrs. White, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Dr. A. J. A. Alexander, Mrs. D. C. Bisset, Mr. James Boecher, Mr. Geo. W. Carson, Mr. Fred. W. Chase, Mrs. A. M. Clay, Mr. James Dawson, Rev. John Firth, Mr. Fuessle, Mrs. Fuessle, Master K. Fuessle, Mr. A. R. Murphine, Rev. F. L. Hawks Pott, Mrs. F. L. Hawks Pott, Master J. H. Pott, Master W. S. A. Pott, Master W. G. Pott, Miss O. H. Pott, Mr. Pow Chee, Mr. Pow Mun Choong, Mrs. C. S. Salmon, Mr. C. P. Stevens, Mr. W. H. C. Whigham, Mr. Wong Wai Gee, and Mr. Yam Kung, in cabin; Mr. D. Kungsun, Mr. W. G. Hardy, Mrs. C. S. Chung, Mr. J. Pearson, Mr. G. S. Ferguson, Mrs. G. S. Ferguson and 2 children, Mr. H. Fuller, Mr. L. E. Fuller, Mr. G. Tamamura in intermediate; 207, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. M. Fitzgerald, Mr. Wm. Lawrence Keane, Mr. F. Henry, Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mr. A. Woolley, Mr. E. de Bavier, Mr. Muller, Mr. E. Goyet, Miss Gregory, Mr. and Mrs. Easton, Mr. Hass, Mr. Harry Willner, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Godfrey and native servant, Mr. John H. Martin, Miss Fisher, Mrs. Hims, Mr. A. Pitroff, Mr. Roman, Mr. Chin Kwon, and Mr. John F. Hibbs, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. Baltzer, Miss M. Bonnell, Mr. Wong Chow, Mrs. Colton, Mr. C. F. Davis, Mr. L. Kennard Davis, Mr. E. H. Holmes, Mrs. E. H. Holmes, Capt. E. F. Horr, U.S.V., Mrs. Leathom, Capt. W. C. Le Compte, U.S.V., Mr. M. Mendelsohn, Mr. A. P. Meyer, Miss C. J. Miller, Mr. H. Langford Paxton, Mr. Chas. E. Pearson, Mrs. Chas. E. Pearson, Mr. Chas. Rudolph, Mr. G. Schultz, Com. J. B. Selfridge, U.S.N., Mr. Arthur Seymour, Mr. Spencer Shelley, Mr. J. G. Sutton, Mr. W. R. Townsend, and Mrs. W. R. Townsend, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakata Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. C. H. Thorn, Mr. C. T. Purvis, Mrs. King, Count Vay de Vaya, Miss H. T. Smith, Miss E. Curtis, Surgeon D. Uyama, Mr. G. Shibayama, and Prof. M. Kumekawa, in cabin; Mr. I. Kemmochi, Mr. I. Takamura, Mr. S. Nishio, Mr. K. Hayashi, Mr. Cho Ko Sen, Mr. H. Terao, Mr. T. Toda, Mr. K. Hirata, Mr. S. Doi, and Mr. S. Shimomura, in second class; 43, in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Nmpress of India*, for Vancouver:—

From.	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong	3,498	—	—	1,185	—	4,683
Foochow	152	—	—	—	—	152
Yokohama	1,218	394	—	—	—	1,612
Total	4,868	394	—	1,185	—	6,447

From.	SILK. New York.	Other Cities.	Total Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	15	—	15
Shanghai	218	—	218
Yokohama	591	—	591
Total	824	—	824

Per British steamer *Pleiades*, for Tacoma:—

	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong	—	—	—	276	—	276
Kobe	—	505	—	—	—	505
Yokohama	—	681	—	100	—	781
Total	—	1,186	—	376	—	1,562

SILK SHIPPERS.

Following were silk shippers per steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco on Feb. 21:—

	Bales.
Siber, Wolf & Co.	200
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	10
Total	210

Raw and Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Preussen*:—

	RAW. Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen.	WASTE. Genoa.	Milan.	Marseilles.	Trieste.
Sieber & Co.	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	—
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	—	135	—
Ulysse Pila & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	40
Total	40	—	—	—	33	10	178	40
	40				261			

Following were silk shippers per steamer *Riojun Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., Feb. 24:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	154
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	103
Doshin Kaisha	44
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	15
Sugawa & Co.	4
Total	320

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a moderate business but nothing of special note.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38⅛ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

A fair business passing.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1¼ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

No change.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market continues steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.20 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.70
White Refined	8.80 to 10.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

In Raw Silk there has been some enquiry and a few daily purchases have been made. Prices are easier and quotations somewhat reduced upon the week. The tendency generally seems to be towards ease and lower prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,025 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,045 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,010 to 1,015
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	1,060 to 1,070
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,020 to 1,030
Re-reels—No. 2	1,000 to 1,005
Re-reels—No. 3	980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra	980 to 990
Kakedas—No. 1	950 to 960
Kakedas—No. 1½	930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2	900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½	870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

There has been no change in the Waste Silk market, the condition remaining as last reported. A small business has been done; prices are well maintained and there is a lack of desirable quality.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Nothing to report.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE, SHARE AND STOCK BROKER; OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 25

Yesterday's total transactions were 16,990 shares.

MORNING. Feb.	March.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. Feb.	March.
78.95	79.70	Nippon Railway	78.80	79.50
24.15	24.30	Nippon R'way, 3rd	24.20	24.45
64.50	64.90	Sanyo Railway	64.30	64.55
49.35	49.70	Kansai Railway	49.10	49.45
62.85	63.55	Kiushiu Railway	62.85	63.25
81.55	82.20	Tanko Railway	81.15	81.95
39.20	39.80	Tanko R'way, new	39.40	—
25.05	30.35	Tobu Railway	25.05	30.45
—	62.70	Sobu Railway	62.70	63.20
—	—	Boso Railway	—	—
27.05	27.80	Narita Railway	27.45	27.80
12.75	13.00	Narita R'way, new	—	—
21.85	22.25	Kioto Railway	21.90	22.40
—	—	Hokuyetsu Railway	23.10	23.65
—	—	Hankaku Railway	—	—
111.50	112.00	Tokio Electric Car	111.30	—
75.25	71.00	Tokio Ele. Car, new	75.00	75.70
33.40	34.10	Tokio Electric Ra'y	33.85	34.20
—	—	Kei-hin Electric Car	—	—
86.£5	87.05	Nippon Yusen	86.20	86.80
35.65	34.50	Toyo Kisen	35.60	34.45
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—
30.00	30.40	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	30.10	30.45
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
83.30	83.95	Tokio Gas Co.	83.15	83.85
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new	—	—
70.30	71.20	Tokio Electric Light	70.40	71.15
—	49.15	Tokio Elec. Li., new	48.90	49.50
44.80	45.00	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	44.85	44 80
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new	—	—
—	142.50	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
180.50	180.80	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	179.60	181.20

Consultation Bureau: Yokohama.

No. 87, Main Street. Telephone No. 288.

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LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, February 25.

Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sellers at *yen* 108. Grand Hotels, a few shares can be placed at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, buyers at *yen* 70. Langfeldts, offers wanted. Kirin Breweries, sellers at *yen* 115. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Y. U. Club debentures sold at *yen* 107. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	Yrn.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	108 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	250 Buyers.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.	40 Nominal.
Japan Brewery Co.	115 Sellers.
C. Nickel & Co.	28½ Sellers.

Telephone No. 323

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 25.

London silver ¼ higher and China sterling quotations ⅛ to ¼ higher have caused local rates on China to rule easier but no change otherwise.

London—Bank T.T.	2 0¾
— — Bills on demand	2 0 15/16
— — 4 months' sight	2 0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0 13/16
— — 6 months' sight	2 0⅞
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight	259½
— — 6 months' sight	260½ @ 1
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	78*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	76¼*
Shanghai—Bank sight	93¾*
— Private 10 days' sight	93¾*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
America—Bank sight	49 15/16 @ ⅝
— Private 30 days' sigh	50 1/16
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	22¾

* Nominal.

MARUSE SHOTEN.

Telephone No. 1266.

DAILY OFFICIAL QUOTATION.

No. 76, MAIN STREET.

TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, February 25.

RICE QUOTATIONS, PER TEN KOKU.

MORNING.

	February.	March.	April.
1st Meeting	154.60	155.60	157.70
2nd Meeting	154.35	155.20	157.40
3rd Meeting	153.95	154.90	156.85
4th Meeting	153.70	154.43	156.70

AFTERNOON.

	February.	March.	April.
1st Meeting	154.07	153.40	157.25
2nd Meeting	153.95	155.00	156.95
3rd Meeting	153.50	154.80	156.50
4th Meeting	153.35	153.90	155.80

BOVRIL AT THE FRONT.

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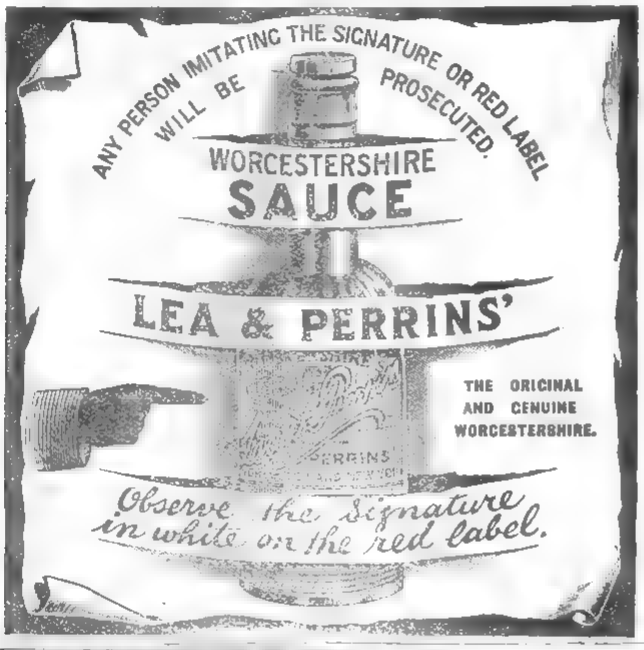

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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH, 1903.

BIRTH.

On the 28th February, at No. 118, Kitanocho, Ni-chome, Kobe, the wife of F. G. SALE, of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 18th February, at Trinity Church, Bay City, Michigan, U.S.A., ARTHUR TIRREL HELLYER to KATE CHAPMAN.

DEATHS.

On February 1st, 1903, at San Diego, California, U.S.A., Sarah Evellet, the beloved wife of Capt. PAUL ANDREAS DITHLEFSEN.

At 24-C Bluff, Yokohama, on the 31d inst., GEORGE C. CHARLESWORTH, in his 50th year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE British China squadron costs £1,430,000 for maintenance.

IT is said that Baron R. Rosen, the new Russian Minister, will arrive here about the 10th of April.

THE training ships *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate* left Hongkong for Singapore on March 1st.

H.I.H. PRINCE NASHIMOTO will leave Yokohama for Marseilles by the steamer *Indus* on the 27th instant.

THE authorities of the Home Department recently warned the Kanagawa Kencho to pay attention to the health of emigrants to Hawaii who come from localities in Saga and Fukuoka prefectures.

DURING February, there was an excess of *yen* 147,301 in imports at Shimonoseki and of *yen* 1,239,778 in exports at Moji.

HERR COATES, the German Consul-General at Yokohama, has been transferred to Bangkok to take the place of Herr von Saldern.

THE Kyoto Fine Arts Society will open an exhibition of ancient art works at the Fine Arts Hall from the 15th inst. to July the 15th.

THE Governor-General of Formosa has issued a notification that silver *yen* will be exchangeable at the rate of *sen* 78 per *yen* after the 18th ult.

TWO cases containing gold bullion valued at about *yen* 46,000 were brought to Shimonoseki by the steamer *Yokohama Maru* on the 28th ult.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Nagasaki states that Mr. Toyonaga, a parliamentary candidate, has paid out about *yen* 13,000 as his election expenses.

ON the 4th Okano Goichi, accountant of the Hojo Branch of the Tsuchiura 50th Bank, forged cheques and secured *yen* 6,500 from various banks. He then absconded.

TELEGRAPHIC intelligence from Shanghai dated the 4th states that there is a demand for cotton yarn, but there are no transactions as the price of the Japanese product is too high.

THE Minister for the Finance recently warned the Customs at all ports to pay careful attention to suspicious characters who are perpetually exporting counterfeit 5 *sen* nickel coins to Korea.

A PORTION of the interest on the Chinese indemnity was brought to Shimonoseki by the steamer *Hakuai Maru* on the 3rd. It was deposited in the Western branch of the Nippon Ginko

ON the 1st a jinrikisha coolie named Tsutsui found a gold watch with a gold chain attached on the road in Hayashi-cho, Koishikawa, Tokyo. He at once reported the matter at the police station.

ON the night of the 1st inst, a farmer named Asayama (70) suddenly expired at Shimbashi station on his arrival from Yokohama. A medical examination showed that death was caused by congestion of the brain.

A MAN named Oura Motosaburo, who was charged with stealing a dog belonging to Wright's Hotel in December last, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment with labour at the District Court on the 26th instant.

ON the 26th ult. eight passenger cars and one goods car belonging to the Sanyo Railway Company, were derailed at Furuta, near Hiroshima. One passenger was seriously wounded and many others slightly.

ON the 27th ult. a lighter collided with a warship recently finished at the Uraga Dock Yard, which was on a trial trip at the time. The former sank at once. Two men on the lighter were seriously wounded.

A MAN named Tomokichi, living in Yanaka, Shimotsuga, Tochigi Prefecture, on the 1st inst. murdered his mother-in-law and four others of the family. He informed the police himself of the crime. It is alleged that since the man was adopted into the family, the mother-in-law, his wife, and the children of her late husband treated him badly.

LIEUT.-GENERAL OKU and suite, who were present at the Durbar Ceremony in Delhi arrived by the steamer *Inaba Maru* at Kobe on the 4th. They will proceed to Yokohama by the same steamer on the 9th.

VITAL statistics for Tokyo-fu during last year show that 2,627 cases of epidemic diseases occurred in the city and 614 proved fatal; there were 1,057 cases in the suburbs, 256 of which were fatal. There were five fatal cases of pest.

ON the evening of the 28th ultimo, while a woman named Ichi (32), wife of a timber dealer, in Fukagawa, Tokyo, was praying at a Buddhist temple in Fukagawa Park, a robber appeared and despoiled her of *yen* 15.

THE Osaka Commercial Steamship Company intends raising *yen* 1,500,000 in debentures, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum. Out of this amount *yen* 500,000 will be used to repay old loans and the remainder on extensions of the business.

FROM March 1st all applications for permits to export will be made at the Examining Department of the Yokohama Customs instead of as formerly at the Entry Department. Applications for re-shipment and transport will be as before.

ON the 26th ultimo it was discovered that the cash-boxes of the automatic telephones situated at the front of Hiranuma station, Yokohama station and the Harbour office had been broken into and about *yen* 4.15 which they contained was stolen.

IT is stated that five torpedo boats belonging to the Maidzuru Admiralty were overtaken by a storm off Kyogasaki in Tango province, while on their way to Ohama, on the 2nd. Three of them entered Miyadzu and two returned to Maidzuru, all of them being more or less damaged.

A WEALTHY old woman named Oishi Mine (62) living in Hayashi-cho, Honjo, Tokyo was found dead in her house on the morning of the 4th. Having been examined by the police authorities, it was discovered that the woman had been hanged. She has no family or relatives and had never employed a servant.

ABOUT 300 villagers of Kawabe and Toshima, in Saitama Prefecture, met at Mugishimo on the morning of the 1st inst. They were about to proceed to the Kencho to petition for the construction of preventive works along the banks of the Hinuma River, when the police appeared and broke up the procession.

A THIEF named Yanuma (50) living in Kawataya, Kita-adachi, Saitama prefecture, attempted to murder his wife (39) on the morning of the 4th. The woman escaped, however, and gave an alarm. The man then committed suicide by cutting his throat. The man is stated to have asked his wife to sell some goods which he had stolen, but which she refused to do.

ON the 3rd at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, Baron Shibusawa received through a delivery agency a package which contained a human arm. It is not yet known who sent such a horrible present, but it is reported that on February 17th a workman named Kaneko Shozo (22) of the Ishikawajima Dock-yard, of which Baron Shibusawa is a Director, was injured on the right arm by some machinery. The arm was amputated at the Tamura Hospital, and there is a suspicion that it was sent to Baron Shibusawa as a hint that a pension should be paid the workman.

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CHINA.

Saturday, Feb. 28.

It is stated that the Japanese Consul-General at Tientsin has forwarded 200 tickets for the Osaka Exhibition to Chinese Princes and Viceroy Yuan.

There is to be a grand review of troops in the neighbourhood of Taku. Steps are now being taken to bring together some fifteen thousand men.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Shanghai to the effect that the negotiatious for the new commercial convention between China and Japan are making good progress, and that they will probably be concluded next month. The Chinese commissioners have refused to entertain Japan's proposal for the withdrawal of the veto on the export of rice, but in other respects they are showing themselves complaisant.

Monday, March 2.

Prince Tsai Chên, who is to come to Japan in connexion with the Osaka Exhibition, will leave Peking on the 7th of April so as to be in time for the official opening, the date of which is not yet definitely fixed, though it is tolerably certain to take place about the middle of April. Prince Chên will be accompanied by his Excellency Na Tung, a member of the Board of Foreign Affairs, and by a suite of fifteen.

The Japanese Representative, Mr. Uchida, accompanied by Major-General Yamane, proceeded from Peking to Tientsin on the 28th ultimo, and drove at once to the *yamên* of Viceroy Yuan, with whom he had arranged an interview.

The signing of the concession for the Nangking-Shanhaikwan Railway is said to be awaiting the arrival of Viceroy Wei at Nanking.

Shêng Kung-pao has started from Shanghai for Peking. The reason of his journey is not stated but the fact is regarded with some interest.

A telegram from Shanghai to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that Jung Lu's recently evinced desire to retire from office is due to the presentation of memorials and the receipt of messages advising his execution as a measure dictated by State necessities. These memorials and messages are supposed to emanate from Southern China, but it is also conceivable that they were born on the Shanghai bund.

Shanghai also telegraphs to the *Jiji* that the question of the metal in which the Indemnity should be paid is under discussion in Peking, that the various Ministers are communicating with their Governments, that there is a disposition to take China's difficulties into consideration, and that the German Representative is working vigorously in the cause of gold—a very unsatisfying tale.

Mr. Yamaoka, who was sent some time ago to China by the Government to investigate tradal affairs, has just returned. He animadverts in strong terms on the careless methods of his nationals in conducting commerce with the neighbouring empire. A Japanese manufacturer seems to think that if an article be destined for China, its quality at once ceases to be a matter of any importance. Cheapness alone is considered. But the Chinese do not want cheap, bad things. They are quite willing to pay a good price for a good article, and by ignoring that fact the Japanese are steadily losing the confidence of the markets. Moreover, no care is taken to study the needs and tastes of the Chinese. Anything and everything is thrown at their heads. Another point made by Mr. Yamaoka relates to trade marks. The Chinese are very particular about trade marks. They affect the use of certain ideographs signifying felicity, good fortune, and so on, and many of the marks employed by Japanese manufacturers seem offensive from a Chinese standpoint. Mr. Yamaoka urges that Japanese commercial agents be established at the principal ports; that museums be organized: that measures be taken to determine Japan's commercial policy towards China—a vague suggestion which we are unable to explain—; that practical men be urged to visit China; that a China Association be formed by men of influence in the business world; that students be despatched to China by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and so on. We seem to be reading a *resumé* of the kind of annual report formerly penned by certain British Consuls in the Far East.

Tuesday, March 3.

Viceroy Yuan appears to be undertaking a crusade against opium. He has enlisted the aid of the school faculties in Chili to interdict the use of the drug in educational institutions. In this effort he will have the sympathy of all humane persons, but it is hard to believe that any real success can attend his project.

In the middle of last month Viceroy Chang Chih-tung held a grand review of all the modern drilled forces in the Yangtse provinces, together with the Nanyang and a part of the Peiyang naval squadrons. As a military and naval display the affair, though comparatively petty in dimensions appears to have been successful. But its effects upon the population of the district were disastrous. What happened is thus described by a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

It was a sham battle, but to the natives occupying the country to the East and South of the Forts and battle lines it was a very serious affair. Absolute panic seized the whole population.

A map of the whole section was specially made by the Viceroy's men, occupying many days before the review took place. The map-makers industriously spread the report that Chang Kung-pao had asked for Tls. 400,000 from General Li, and been refused. Therefore he was coming with all his forces to thrash Liand his army. Soldiers were arriving from about the 10th in increasing number up to the 14th instant. The night of Friday the 15th the Viceroy arrived. The saluting that took place on his arrival was the beginning of a fearful struggle, to the ignorant farmers. By Saturday morning the price of rice, in the city, had fallen 500 cash per picul,—in the country in many places, as much as 2,000 cash per picul. By 4 p.m. in a large section of country it was half-price as compared with two days before: chickens, pigs and cows were being offered in the same way, but fortunately for the people there were few buyers. So great was the panic that suicide was resorted to. Further, it is reported, many children were drowned in order to get rid of them and allow their parents to run the faster. Sunday morning your correspondent rode ten miles through deserted villages and country hamlets. There was scarcely one in a hundred of the ordinary population left. The soldiers in the line added to the panic by repeated declarations that there was to be a battle and they would use real bullets. The sick, in many cases, were deserted; and in many others exposure aggravated the diseases with the worst results.

Events in China frequently remind us that her exercise of Sovereign power is limited in a manner difficult to reconcile with the idea of independence. Even her appointments of governors of provinces are subjected to a measure of foreign interference. The latest case of this kind was the selection of Yü Lien-san to be governor of Shansi. It was at Taiyuan, the capital of Shansi, that some of the most terible scenes of the Boxer uprising were enacted, and there seems to be a conviction in foreign official circles that all the elements of fresh disturbance exist in the province, and that the safety of foreign life and property depends largely upon the disposition of the governor. Hence, as Yü Lien-san was considered more likely to foment than to allay sedition, objections to his appointment were raised by certain foreign Ministers and the nomination was cancelled. There is good reason to regard this incident with satisfaction from the point of view of law and order, but on the other hand, it shows plainly that even in purely domestic affairs China can no longer exercise independent sway.

Wednesday, March 4.

The Peking Syndicate is said to be very busy. It has dispatched engineers to survey the routes of new lines in Shensi, Shansi and Honan, with a view to the extension from Paoting to Hsian, and other roads.

The Kwangsi rebels appear to be still a potent reality. At all events they have not yet been subdued by the Government troops, and though conflicting rumours arrive, the balance of intelligence seems to indicate that victory is with the rebels.

Yung Lu's illness seems to be of a serious nature. Telegrams to the *Asahi* state that one-half of his body is paralysed, and that grave fears are entertained. In fact there appears to be no longer any hope of his recovery. One report says that his condition was greatly aggravated by bungling treatment at the hands of a quack doctor. His final withdrawal from the political field would be an event of greater importance than even the death of Li Hung-chang.

It is said to have been finally decided that Chang Chih-tung shall visit Peking. We presume that the aged Viceroy has been induced to take this somewhat unwelcome step in consequence of the recently issued Imperial Decree in which his long and able services were eulogistically referred to.

It is reported that five Russian subjects have penetrated into Thibet, and that they do not bear the character of ordinary travellers.

The governor of Jehol has reported to Peking that there is a strong movement on the part of Russian subjects to start mining enterprises in that district. He advises that concessions be refused to all persons working with foreign capital, and that measures be taken to form combinations of Chinese subjects for the purpose of undertaking such work by means of Chinese funds only. It can scarcely be hoped, however, that if Chinese capitalists have not hitherto seen their account in mining enterprise in the Jehol country, they will be induced to make the essay merely for the sake of forestalling hypothetical foreigners.

Readers of journals dealing with Far-Eastern affairs have doubtless noticed that the question of the personnel of the Chinese customs staff has been attracting some comments of late. Attention centres above all on the post of Inspector-general. Sir Robert Hart can not reasonably be expected to remain much longer in office. He has already surprised every one by his tenacity and endurance, but the longing for rest

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must be growing almost intolerably strong in his bosom, and when he steps aside, the nationality of his successor affords food for much speculation. There is probably very little room for substantial doubt. The inspectorate-general has been held by a British subject from the beginning —Wade, Lay and Hart—and will be held by a British subject for many years to come, we believe. But the composition of the staff is apparently becoming less British year by year. The Shanghai correspondent of *The Times* stated recently in the columns of that journal, that out of 35 members engaged for the service since June, 1899, only four were British. Now it is not to be denied that if the principle of proportionate representation be admitted—and Great Britain is not likely to object to it—the growth of continental nations' share in China's trade should be reflected by a corresponding admission of their nationals to the customs staff. But what *The Times'* correspondent shows and what Mr. C. J. Dudgeon endorses, is that in the lower grades of the service a steadily diminishing proportion of Britishers is observable. Thus in the first rank of Fourth Assistants there are 39½ per cent. of British subjects; in the second rank of that class, only 32 per cent., and in the third rank only 21 per cent. Obviously the result of this must be that in the course of time the upper ranks also will be occupied by men of non-British nationality, a result of which Sir Robert Hart was not expected to lay the foundations.

The strikingly rapid displacement of Chinese tea in Europe by the teas of India and Ceylon is naturally attracting much attention. Of course the question is not new. Its importance has been recognised for several years. But the figures have become more startling of late. From a circular issued by Mr. E. J. Moss of Foochow and quoted by the Hongkong *Daily Press*, we learn that while the export of Indian tea grew from 145½ millions of pounds in 1896-7 to 183¼ millions in 1900-1, and while Ceylon's export, which in 1887 was only some 14 million lbs., increased to 108 millions in 1896 and to 146¼ millions in 1901, the exports of Chinese teas from Hankow, Shanghai, Foochow and Canton, which aggregated 39 millions of lbs. in 1896, fell to 25 millions in 1901, and is not likely to reach 20 millions for the year 1902-3. Mr. Moss thinks that advertising has much to do with the success of the Indian and Cingalese products, nor can we doubt that his analysis has some truth at any rate, for it appears that there has lately been circulated in Germany an advertisement which directs attention to the "disgusting," "filthy," "primitive" and "antiquated" way of preparing tea in China compared with the clean and modern methods of Ceylon. The advertisement, as quoted by our Hongkong contemporary says:—

"We in Germany drink hardly anything but China tea owing to old custom, but people would not stick to it obstinately if they had any idea of the improper manner in which the leaves are prepared by the Chinese, who, as everybody knows, have no idea of cleanliness."

It would seem as though China tea was doomed so far as concerns the foreign market: a strange result to those that can recall the days of the tea-clippers and the time when China had practically the monopoly of European markets. Three hundred and twenty-four millions of pounds exported from India and Ceylon against twenty millions from China, is indeed a striking reversal of past conditions.

A case of child-kidnapping came recently before the Mixed Court in Shanghai. The kidnapping took place in July, 1901, and the mother of the child, visiting the International Settlement, saw a womon whom she charged with the crime. A quarrel ensued, the two women were carried off to prison, and the one accused of kidnapping spent six months in jail, after which she obtained her release upon giving security. Then two city runners visited the house of a blind fortune-teller who, they alleged, had been engaged in the kidnapping. The man's mother paid them $160 to refrain from arresting her son. Two months afterwards the fortune-teller was actually arrested, but $60 to the runners procured his release, and 5 months afterwards he was bled to the tune of $100 by two more runners. Finally on the 16th of February, the woman originally charged, recognised another woman as the real offender, and the child was found in her possession. The unhappy fortune-teller appears to have been wholly innocent, though he had to pay $320, and the woman who spent 6 months in jail may possibly have been implicated though that remains to be proved.

Commenting on collisions between police constables and law-makers in Hongkong, the *Daily Press* says:—"Any observant resident must have noticed many cases in which soldiers and sailors (the latter, it must be remarked, of many nationalities) have come into collision with the police, Indian or Chinese. The Chinese usually exercisr that discretion which is said to be the bettee part of valour, but the Indian does not shrink from the fight. It might be argued that the soldiers or sailors, being under the influence of liquor, would in any case and in any country run up against the police. But it is to be noticed in Hongkong that the appearance on the scene of a British policeman has a most soothing effect as a rule on the previously turbulent resister of the law. Full of fight as long as the law is represented by a man of another colour, the brawler is apt to be perfectly amenable to reason when a countryman or fellow European arrives. Now it is of course impossible to maintain a purely white police force here, and the consequence is that there are inevitable misunderstandings between the policeman who has no English and the roysterer whose perception is dulled."

That is a state of affairs which exists also in this country. We have often commented on it, and the conviction forced upon us by observation is that most of the collisions that occur between the police and foreign offenders are due to the latter's inherent contempt for everything Oriental and reluctance to endure the aggravated insult of arrest at "native" hands. Happily less and less is heard of such incidents here and their diminution speaks well not only for the tact of the Japanese police but also for the improving mood of foreigners. The perception that Japan is now really clothed with permanent authority is beginning to find its way home to the average foreigner, and he develops a corresponding disposition to treat the representatives of her authority with greater respect.

Thursday, March 5.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes the following interesting note about Yung Lu:—

The "most powerful subject of the Throne," the Grand Secretary and Councillor, Yung Lu, according to a Peking dispatch, has once more been incapacitated by illness from attending the Grand Council meetings at the palace, in consequence of which the Empress Dowager, without waiting for the guide and counsellor to apply for it, has granted him a seven days' leave of absence from Court. This, it seems, does not, however, preclude Yung Lu from continuing to direct the machinery of State as he desires it. For so great is his influence with the present head of the States—the Empress Dowager—that his colleagues in the Grand Council dare not take the initiative in an important question, such as the appointing, or transferring of Viceroys, Governors, and Treasurers of provinces, without first consulting with him and asking his consent. Indeed, important matters concerning which the Empress Dowager's approval had already been obtained, but about which no reference had been previously made to Yung Lu, owing to his being on sick leave, have been known to have been immediately reversed upon the reappearance of that personage at Court after a few minutes' private interview with her Majesty. One instance like this is quite sufficient a hint for the shrewd old men who compose the rest of the Empress Dowager's immediate advisers and councillors, as whenever Yung Lu is "out" on sick leave, even urgent matters of State have to be either temporarily laid on the table or a deputation proceeds to Yung Lu's residence "for orders." As a matter of fact, Yung Lu's house, when he is "on leave," is a small edition of the Imperial Palace, and his waiting rooms are generally filled in the morning with high Ministers, Court and Metropolitan officials, and officials from the provinces who have come to Peking for Imperial Audience, but who for various potent reasons consider it more prudent to ask for preliminary audience first from the great Grand Secretary.

Friday, March 6.

During the Boxer outbreak some communities of Chinese native Christians saved themselves from threatened destruction by erecting mud walls around their villages and undertaking the duty of self-defence with vigour and courage. The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says that, according to trustworthy observation, a fort has been erected in the mountains not very far from Taiyuen in Shansi, the scene of some of the worst atrocities of Boxerdom. The fort has six rapid-firing guns and is presumably garrisoned by persons capable of working them. Our contemporary's correspondent inquires pertinently what France would do if Buddhist or Mohammedan missionaries erected strong fortifications on her territory and mounted quick-firing guns there. The story and the query aptly illustrate the singular state of affairs existing in China.

There is talk of establishing a Russian newspaper in Shanghai; not a newspaper written and printed in Russian, but a newspaper written and printed in English and edited in the interests of Russia. Such a project deserves support. Germany and France are both represented journalistically in Shanghai, but Russia is not, and there can be no question that Russia suffers eminently from uncontradicted misrepresentation. But what prospect is there that such a journal would find sufficient support? A very small prospect indeed we imagine.

MATTERS POLITICAL.

Monday, March 2.

Rumours are again rife about an arrangement between the *Seiyu-kai* leader and the Cabinet Ministers. Some journals allege that Marquis Ito has made a concession in the sense of a promise that if the land tax be restored to its original rate for one year, he will subsequently take measures to have it increased for purposes of naval expansion. His Excellency has further promised, it is rumoured that if this course be adopted, the *Seiyu-kai* shall be dissolved at the end of a year. But we need scarcely say that little or any credence attaches to such tales. They are probably the offspring, in great part, of the fact that the time is ripe for a settlement of

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some kind, if settlement be possible, since if the elections pass without some understanding between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Ministry, the latter's position will become still more difficult.

Meanwhile commotion continues and grows among the Opposition on the subject of official interference in the general elections. Other prefectures have been added to the list of constituencies where what are called petty manœuvres have been inaugurated, and the newspapers interested in discrediting the Government are making quite a commotion. On the 27th ultimo a deputation representing the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists waited upon the Prime Minister for the purpose of remonstrating. The Minister, being otherwise occupied, did not grant them an audience, but they were received by the private secretary, Baron Nakashima. There is talk of a bill being introduced impeaching the Cabinet when the Diet meets.

From various parts of the country come reports of arrests and punishments in connexion with violations of the law of elections. The offences charged in every case are the exercise of undue influence or the employment of corrupt means. Shizuoka prefecture seems to be conspicuous. No less than fifty persons, said to be agents of Mr. Sawada Mei, a *Seiyu-kai* candidate, have been apprehended there. In Miye prefecture also there is much commotion. The rival parties appear to have resorted to forgeries and falsehoods which have created much bad blood and it is feared that the trouble will not end with the election. In Yamaguchi prefecture the contest between Mr. Ooka Ikuzo and Mr. Toyonaga is very keen, but the *Jiji Shimpo* thinks that both candidates will be elected.

The document presented to the Prime Minister by delegates of the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists on the subject of official interference is very strongly worded, and its charges are illustrated by numerous details which seem, in some instances at any rate, to be based on solid evidence. The probability is that the police have occasionally exceeded their duty or abused their powers.

To the attention of Japanese journalists, whose complaints we have recorded about the tinkering procedure of the Government in connexion with the elections, the utterances of Colorado papers as to the Senatorial elections may well be commended. If the Democrats of that State read their own party's journals only they must be fully persuaded that the Republicans are abandoned rascals, and if the Republicans confine themselves to Democratic sheets, they much be equally horrified about the Democrats. Thus the *Denver Republican* accuses the Democrats of the most colossal, audacious and transparent frauds that ever disgraced an election in Colorado, whereas the *Denver News* (Democratic) finds that "revolution and disregard of the law and Constitution have marked the proceedings of the Republicans in the both Houses." Thus each side shows the other in a light as sombre as language can produce. Japanese political partisans have much to learn.

Thursday, March 5.

The question now widely asked is how far the coalition between the *Seiyk-kai* and Progressists is likely to carry them. Not far, we imagine. Marquis Ito, we may rest assured, has not entered into any combination such as would impose restrictions of any kind on his acts or his policy, and no working arrangement with the Progressists would be possible without a compact of some kind. Just at present the coalition derives a semblance of reality from the fact that the two parties, for the first time in Japanese parliamentary history, have refrained from opposing one another at the polls. But can we reasonably suppose that the Progressists will lend effective aid to place an Ito Cabinet in office unless some of the rewards of victory are assured to themselves; or can we reasonably suppose that the *Seiyu-kai* will consent to divide the spoils with coadjutors whose assistance is quite superfluous? The *Seiyu-kai* do not need the aid of the Progressists. It was a work of supererogation on the latter's part to range up in line with the big party. We discern nothing that can constitute a binding tie between the two.

THE ELECTIONS.

Tuesday, March 3.

The elections in Tokyo have resulted in the return of the following members :—

Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei
Mr. Taguchi Ukichi
Mr. Akiyama
Mr. Ebara Soroku
Mr. Minowa Shinjiro
Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo
Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei
Mr. Maruyama Meisei
Mr. Isobe Shiro
Mr. Kurizuka Shogo
Mr. Takahashi Tetsushiro

At 10 o'clock on Monday morning the ballot boxes were opened at the City Hall, Yokohama, and the returning officers began to count the poll. The counting finished at 2 40 p.m. and the result was declared as follows :—

	Votes.
Mr. Shimada Saburo	1,106
Mr. Okuda Yoshindo	430
Mr. Kato Takaaki	418
Mr. Uyeki Nakazo	1
Mr. Hiranuma Senzo	1
Mr. Minowa Hanzo	1
Non-effective	18
	1,975

After the declaration the supporters of Mr. Shimada gathered in front of Kimbei's photograph studio and loudly cheered the victor.

Wednesday, March 4.

It need scarcely be said that the result of the Yokohama election elicits much comment. Evidently the supposed union of the land-owners' and the merchants' parties was a mere make-believe, and when the moment of voting arrived, the merchants went solid for Mr. Shimada whereas the land-owners divided their votes in almost equal proportions between Messrs. Okuda and Kato. Suspicions are said to be entertained that there was some tampering with the ballots. A committee has been appointed to make inquiries, but of course no one can suspect that Mr. Shimada was a party to anything of the kind. Rumour says that Mr. Kato and Mr. Okuda were pledged mutually to stand or fall together, and that Mr. Okuda, though duly elected, will decline the honour in consequence of Mr. Kato's failure. In that case it will be necessary to hold another election in Yokohama. There is also a possibility that Mr. Okuda, having been independently returned in his native prefecture, Tottori, may choose to sit for that place, resigning his Yokohama seat to Mr. Kato. But would Mr. Kato sit in such circumstances? We greatly doubt it. The evident fact about Yokohama is that the two factions are not united, and so long as they remain at discord, no candidate, whatever his qualifications, can look for the suffrages of both.

It is as yet premature to make any statement as to the final figures throughout the country. Up to the evening of the 2nd instant the returns showed that 30 seats had been carried by the *Seiyu-kai*, 14 by the Progressists, 42 by the Independents and 3 by the Imperialists. It might be supposed from these figures that the Independents are likely to obtain a majority. But such is not the case. The Independents bulk largely at the outset simply because they represent the urban population, and the results of the city elections are always known first. We shall very soon see a complete reversal of the conditions suggested by the returns available on the 2nd inst. Meanwhile it is to be observed that the elections passed over very quietly. The two great parties had agreed not to compete and they kept their agreement, while the Government, on its side, refrained from any attempt to influence the result. There has been talk, it is true, of official interference, but obviously nothing of the kind was essayed extensively, and any improper procedure of that nature was attributable to influences not emanating from the Government itself. As to the final result no one imagines that there will be any material redistribution of parties. The Cabinet will find itself confronted as before by a hostile majority, and unless some compromise can be effected, or unless Marquis Ito consents to form a new Cabinet, another dissolution is inevitable.

Thursday, March 5.

The election returns up to the evening of the 3rd instant show that 183 representatives of the *Seiyu-kai* have been elected, 92 representatives of the Progressists, 14 Imperialists and 74 Independents (or Unaffiliated). This accounts for 363 seats, and leaves only 13 to be determined. It will be observed that the numbers of the *Seiyu-kai* have slightly diminished. They must carry 189 seats to have a majority of the whole House. If one-half of the remaining elections fall to them, they will occupy that position, and since, moreover, they may now count on the support of the Progressists for any anti-Cabinet purpose, it is plain that the Ministry is placed in a serious position.

Among the features of the election we note the return of Mr. Takano Takenori in Miyagi prefecture. This is the Mr. Takano whose transfer from the presidency of the High Court of Formosa, his refusal to proceed to his new post, and his consequent removal from office, created such a commotion some years ago. Mr. Takano has never laid down his arms. He continues to contend that he was unjustly treated, and now that he has won a seat in the Diet he will doubtless be in a position to renew the agitation, though the statesmen directly responsible for his removal are no longer in office.

In Yamaguchi prefecture, where Mr. Ooka Ikuzo complained so vehemently through the columns of the *Chuo Shimbun* that official interference was illegally exercised in the interests of his opponent, Mr. Toyokichi, both gentlemen have been elected, though it should be observed that Mr. Ooka stands easily at the head of the poll.

In Tokyo some surprise and amusement have been caused by Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei's emergence at the top of the poll. No one

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takes Mr. Iwaya very seriously. He is a successful tobacconist who has shrewdly exploited the art of advertising and has made a fortune. The last role in which the citizens of the capital expected to see him was that of legislator. He used to be conspicuous in bicycle races when old men were "up," but he may prove an excellent member of parliament for all that. Tokyo is thought to have done itself more justice when it returned Mr. Taguchi Ukichi in the second place among eleven. Mr. Taguchi is an independent. His very moderate fortune guarantees him against all suspicion of capturing votes by questionable methods, and those that know him are well assured that whatever his wealth might be he would not use it in that way. Hence his second place does honour to Tokyo. For the same reason Yokohama's attitude towards Mr. Shimada Saburo is highly creditable, though the credit must be discounted by observing that with Messsrs. Shimada, Okuda and Kato in the field, bribery and corruption may be assumed to have been completely absent. It continues to be uncertain what course Messrs. Kato and Okuda will pursue. If Mr. Okuda consents to sit for Tottori, Mr. Kato would become Yokohama's second member, supposing that he were willing to accept the seat under such conditions. But Mr. Okuda seems reluctant. Tottori is sending a committee to urge him. Meanwhile Mr. Kato is represented as saying that he leaves the whole matter in Marquis Ito's hands.

We observe that Mr. Hara Kei's name no longer appears among the representatives of Iwate prefecture. He may have been returned for some other place, but until the nominal returns are fully published that must remain uncertain.

Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune has been returned among the members for Kyoto. The loss of their seats by Messrs. Komuchi and Ebara in the general elections last July was one of the wonders of the day. Both gentlemen have now been re-instated, Mr. Komuchi by Kyoto and Mr. Ebara by Tokyo.

There has been no marked changes in the representation of the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists. All the prominent members will be found in their old places next May.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* observes that one of three courses is now inevitable; the dissolution of the Lower House, the resignation of the Cabinet, or a compromise. That scarcely needed to be stated. But our contemporary, as might have been expected, notes that in Germany and England alike the cry of unconstitutional procedure has been raised vehemently of late, and that it remains to be determined whether the blame of unconstitutionality rests with those that pushed their measures in the interests of the country and in spite of parliamentary sentiment, or with those that opposed them in the interests of sentiment and in spite of the country's cause.

We do not yet possess absolutely trustworthy returns as to the result of the elections. The various Tokyo newspapers differ more or less in their statements of figures. Perhaps the best plan is to place side by side the estimates of three of the leading journals :—

	Jiji Shimpo.	*Nichi Nichi.*	*Asahi.*	Last year.
Seiyu-kai	201	186	181	193
Progressists	106	87	97	106
Imperialists	17	17	17	18
Independents.....	51	78	64	52
Niigata Progressists.	...	7	...	7
Seiyu-kai Seceders...	...	...	13	...
Progressist Seceders.	...	...	4	...
	375	375	376	376

The fact that the totals of the *Jiji* and the *Nichi Nichi* amount to only 375 is accounted for by Mr. Okuda's election for two prefectures. The *Jiji* adds that 243 of the old members have been returned and 132 new members have been elected. We need not quote the figures of other journals.

THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

Falsehoods die hard. We recently found the old canard re-stated in a contemporary namely, that Count Matsukata, speaking of his experiences *en route* home from Europe last year, declared that travelling by the Siberian Railway was as bad as being in prison. Count Matsukata never said anything of the kind. What he did say was highly laudatory of the new line, and how his words were twisted into a sense diametrically different from their true meaning, remains unexplained. We now find in *Commercial Intelligence* the following account of the Siberian route by Mr. A. Moher, who writes from actual experience :—

To those who cannot afford the time or the money necessary for the Suez Canal route to the East, the new Siberian route appears as a great boon, it being now possible to go from Port Arthur, Southern Manchuria, to London in 18 days, £35 to £40 covering the total expenses, as against the steamer route of from 35 to 40 days and an outlay of £70 to £80 being required to cover expenses.

"The carriages of the tri-weekly express running across Siberia are the most luxuriously fitted up I have travelled in, and the train includes also a bath-room, a gymnasium, and a library, besides the usual dining car. The sleeping cars are of the corridor type, divided into coupes, which contain two beds, but only one of them is usually occupied, except in an occasionally crowded season; bed linen is changed every three days. The heating of all the cars is done by steam, and even in the coldest temperature we experienced, between Irkutsk and Tomsk (60 degrees below zero Fahrenheit, or Reamur *minus* 40 degrees) they were warmer than the ordinary English home—viz., Fahrenheit 60 degrees.

"Commencing on January 13, the expresses go straight through to Port Arthur (except for the change to be made at Lake Baikal, where passengers cross either by sleigh or steam ferry, distance across being about 30 miles), and the time from London to Port Arthur will be shortened to 16 days. The Wagon Lit Company, for the convenience of travellers, issue through tickets, so that the usual trouble of the booking-office in a foreign capital is entirely done away with, and travellers can at the same time stop off for a few days at any of the principal cities. . . . I might add that the second class have all the same privileges as the first class, and, as a fellow-passenger said, 'Really, the only difference between first and second is the colour of the upholstery.'"

THE KAISER.

It is undeniable that the Emperor of Germany's over-shadowing personality is beginning to provoke a certain class of his subjects. No less than three attacks were made last month on His Majesty in the Reichstag. The first was by Herr Schædler, a Bavarian member of the Centre, who condemned the Kaiser's telegram to the Prince Regent of Bavaria. His Majesty, in that telegram, express indignation at the Bavarian Diet's refusal to grant five thousand pounds for art purposes, and Schædler intimated that His Majesty's action might endanger the stability of the empire. The next day a Socialist, Herr Vollmar, sought to make the Emperor's defence of Krupp a subject of debate, but the President of the Chamber peremptorily checked him, and announced that in no connexion might the Krupp incident be mentioned in the Reichstag. This decision evoked vehement protests from several newspapers, usually favourable to the Government, and in the sequel the President of the House had to resign. On the day following Herr Vollmar's onset, the celebrated Richter entered the lists and averred that the country and the Crown alike were injured by the utterances of the Emperor when he spoke without consulting his Ministers. Count von Bülow, in answering Schaedler, had disavowed responsibility for any unofficial words of the Sovereign, but when challenged by Richter he made this spirited *riposte* :—

"In a constitutional state the leading statesmen must reckon with the individuality of the monarch. The stronger that individuality all the more is he inclined to influence the state's affairs, which does not always facilitate the statesman's official duties; but the strongly marked individuality of a ruler is a great advantage that cannot be underestimated. I have found many persons abroad that longed for a monarch of accentuated personality. Nobody should blind himself against the grand outlines in the character of our Emperor. He has a free and unprejudiced mind, as I can say without sycophancy, and there is nothing petty in him. Whatever you blame in him, he is no Philistine. If you wish to make attacks direct them against me."

These assaults upon the Emperor come mainly from politicians who are eagerly looking for pegs whereon to hang their discontent. But sovereignty so strongly accentuated as that of the present Emperor of Germany can not fail to arouse resentment in the bosoms of some of his subjects, and it is disquieting to hear voices raised in open representation of that feeling. We ourselves regard Emperor William as one of the greatest Sovereigns Europe has seen, and think that the possession of such a monarch is one of Germany's most signal gifts of fortune. At the same time there is no difficulty in understanding that his personality invades too many spheres to be consistent with universal popularity.

IRONWORKS IN INDIA.

From time to time fragmentary news has reached us from India with regard to the establishment of ironworks in the central provinces of India, and the subject has derived additional interest from the fact that Japan's eyes are now turned towards a similar development. We now take the following notice from a London contemporary :—

Mr. J. N. Tata, who has in view an important scheme for the development of the iron industry in the Central Provinces, has returned to this city after an extended tour in England and America, in which latter country he visited the Leiter works, where experiments were made to test the suitability of Warora coal for "coking." The difficulty that is said to stand in the way of developing the ore at Lohara is the trouble experienced in obtaining good coal for working the ore, and this drawback especially applies to the Warora coal, which, in the past, has been depended on for carrying out smelting operations. That being so, Mr. Tata's latest idea is to develop the coal mines at Ballarpur, for which he has been granted a concession. He proposes to carry the Lohara ore to and smelt it at these mines, and as ultimately the finished material will have to go to Calcutta, the removal to Ballarpur will only be taking it towards its ultimate destination. During his visits to the American steel works, Mr. Tata engaged the services of a Harvard expert, who is expected to arrive next month. So far the opinion of American experts who have tested samples of the Lohara ore has been in every way satisfactory and tend to confirm the opinion of Major Mahon that the Lohara hill contains two million tons of ore. It is computed that in India there is an actual demand for about 300 tons of steel a day, and if the experiments to be carried out shortly prove successful, Mr. Tata proposes to lay down plant capable of turning out 150 tons daily. He has refuted the rumours that during his tour he purchased plant valued at two millions sterling; and had associated Mr. Leiter with his scheme, and said the alleged Morganisation of the iron industry of India was a thing that existed only in the imagination of American newspaper correspondents.

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"OTHELLO" ON THE JAPANESE STAGE.

"Othello" on the Tokyo stage, admirably acted and enthusiastically applauded by crowded audiences of Japanese, is a histrionic event such as few of the old residents could have expected to witness though life were extended for them beyond the ordinary span. The fact, however, is accomplished. Shakespeare's great drama, "done into" Japanese and more or less transformed in obedience to the possibilities of the era, drew big houses to the Meijiza in Tokyo, and would doubtless have had a long run could the Kawakami troupe have extended its original programme. One would imagine that such a novel and interesting spectacle must attract many foreigners, not only from among the residents of the capital but also from Yokohama. It is not so, however. Foreigners are not altogether conspicuous by their absence, it is true, but their daily quota to the audience may be counted by two or three. It is a vivid illustration of two things; first, the indifference of the average foreign resident to things Japanese; secondly, the deterrent discomfort of a Japanese theatre. The Meiji-za is a poor, small and unattractive building at best. Even in a 10-*yen* box, which barely accommodates three persons, one is obliged to hire a rickety chair, the alternative being to sit, Japanese fashion, on dirty mats, and there being no contrivances whatever for heating the building, a cold day means misery to any spectator who can not embrace a brazier, or envelope himself in a fur-lined coat. The performance commences at half-past one and ends at half-past seven—six solid hours, during which, we venture to affirm, no ordinarily constituted spectators experiences a moment of *ennui*. Naturally the first question that presents itself to any Englishman is, "what manner of transformation has the text of the immortal bard undergone at the hands of a Japanese translator?" A very great deal, it must be confessed. The Japanese have no metre that corresponds, even remotely, to the stately iambic pentameter. Were the text of Othello rendered into any form of versification familiar to the people of this country, it would be necessary that the actors and actresses should dance their parts, for the jingle of Japanese metre must soon become intolerable in the mouths of men and women moving to the measure of every-day life. Thus from the outset the music of the Shakesperian drama is lost, and so, too, we are bound to confess, is much of the majesty of the language. We can not think that "Othello," translated and adapted by Mr. Emi Suiin, will ever find a niche in the literary shrine of Japan, and in saying this we do not intend to criticise Mr. Emi unfavourably, but merely to echo the hackneyed truism that only a poet can translate a poet. On the other hand, had Mr. Emi brought to his work the necessary spark of celestial fire, he would have produced a piece wholly unsuited for a Japanese stage or for a Japanese audience constituted as Japanese audiences are at present. With these limitations we have only applause for "Othello" in its Far-Eastern garb. The adaptations are in a certain sense radical. Europe disappears entirely, Formosa becoming the scene of the Moor's exploits, who is governor-general of the island. The *Duke* is transformed into a Japanese prime-minister—it need scarcely be said that the names are Japanese—*Othello* assuming the form *Lt. General Muro*; *Desdemona* that of *Tomone*; while *Iago* appears as *Lieutenant Iya Gozo*; *Cassio* as *Major Katsu Toshio*; *Brabantio* as *Count Fura*, *Bianca* as *Biaki*, and a geisha at that; the *Duke* as *Marquis Uyenishi*; *Montana* as *Mr. Monta*, head of the civil administration of Formosa, and *Roderigo* as *Rotori Ko*. A certain phonetic resemblance is preserved, it will be seen, but in other externals, as costumes and scenery, every detail is in accord with the dictates of the transformation. Perhaps the chief interest centres on Sada Yakko, whose acting made such a sensation in Europe, even the great "Sarah" having confessed her warm admiration. Sada was once a *geisha*. It is not on public record that she achieved any special success in that line, and when news reached this country that she and the ex-*Soshi*, Kawakami, had created a small histrionic *furore* in Europe, the intelligence suggested a low estimate of European taste rather than a high one of the two adventurers' capacities. In fact to this day the classical Japanese theatre-goer turns up his conservative nose at the pretensions of these upstarts, whose success implies the sacrilegious possibility of histrionic skill acquired without training from childhood. Success it is, however, beyond all question. *Desdemona's* role, as conceived by Sada, is that of a typical Japanese lady; gentle, self-effacing, regretful but never resentful in the presence of injustice and always uncomplaining and faithful. Most sweetly natural, most unaffectedly sad, Sada shows herself in this part. Simulation, dissimulation, straining after effect, addressing herself to the audience rather than to the incidents developing in her own life—not one of these blemishes does she exhibit in the smallest measure. Neither is there any display of passion or overwhelming emotion. Even at the supreme moment of her great unhappiness she meets death with the quiet resignation of a *samurai's* daughter rather than the protesting vehemence of a deeply injured woman. It is not until the curtain finally falls that her personality begins to detach itself clearly from the cruel events of her life, with such perfect congruity has she moved among her circumstances. That is high art, though we imagine that the general verdict will assign a still higher standard of excellence to *Iago's* wife, whose name appears as *Mrs. Gekkwa*, but who is known, and will for many generations be remembered as "Kumehachi," once a *geisha*, now a matron of seventy, but still incomparably the finest actress in certain roles that we have ever seen upon any stage. Her appalled pity when she finds *Desdemona* strangled by *Othello's* hand, her passionate vindication of the dead girl's fair fame, her denunciation of her own husband when a sense of his villainy dawns upon her, and finally her death—it is all magnificent acting. No lesser epithet applies. *Desdemona* and *Emilia* are the only women that take parts in the drama. For the role of *Bianca*—who is transformed into a Nagasaki *geisha*—falls to a male actor Yamada. It has been suggested that he exaggerates the part, but this certainly can be affirmed that no suspicion of his sex is suggested for an instant, and that his coquetry, thoughtoo obtrusive, perhaps, to be really attractive, is delightfully entertaining. Such personifications of feminine character by male actors are not be seen outside Japan. As for the chief role, that of *Othello*, we should hesitate to say that Kawakami's conception of it is great, though certainly it is good. Something is missing; something of the excruciating pang, the awful yearning, the almost invincible reluctance that Shakespeare must have intended to place among the sufferings of the unhappy Moor. That perfectly conceived last line, that stupendous interjection, "Oh, Desdemona, Oh, Oh, Oh!," does not appear in the transformed drama, and with it has disappeared also something of the poignant misery it expresses. The passion of Kawakami's *Othello* occasionally verges on petulance, and is not sufficiently relieved by glimpses of sorrow. Yet there may be those who will affirm that neither sorrow nor reflection could have found a place among the preliminaries to such a catastrophe. It is a matter of opinion. We can only say that though Kawakami's *Othello* is a fine conception, vividly and consistently portrayed, it is not altogether the *Othello* suggested to us by Shakespeare. Japanese critics condemn the drama itself at one place. They find that the last scene between *Othello* and *Desdemona*, the interview preluding her assassination, is over long. They are right, we think. The immediate preface of such a finale would be brief did nature write the play. But when we come to Takata's *Iago* there can be no hesitating verdict. The villain of the Japanese stage, and generally of the European stage, is a visible villain. He takes care to look his character, which is obviously unreal, for a man bearing obtrusively the hall mark of "scoundrel" could never find opportunity to be rascally successful. Takata's *Iago* is a handsome soldier, of commanding stature, well built, and differing from other folk solely in superiority of personal advantages. It is only when he smiles that one seems to gather a faint reflection of the remorseless schemer. Always quiet and self-possessed, he goes about his work with craft so consummate, and with such persuasive but never excessive courtesy and frankness, that an audience not enjoying privileged glances at the reverse of the picture would be deceived as completely as his victims. Japanese critics assign the palm among the male roles to this of Takata, and we can not but agree with them. A great deal might be said also about *Major Katsu Yoshio* (Fujisawa) about *Count Fura* (Matsumoto) and about *Marquis Ayenishi* (Gomi), but it must suffice here to note that all these minor parts are filled with the fidelity and success characteristic of the Japanese stage. The last performance in Tokyo took place on Saturday, after which the troupe moved on to Kyoto and afterwards to Osaka. We strongly advise the foreign residents of Kobe and Kyoto not to neglect their opportunity as Yokohama and Tokyo have neglected theirs.

AMERICA AND SAN CARLOS.

The American papers now to hand show that the bombardment of the port and village of San Carlos by German ships raised quite a storm of indignation in the United States. Language of an exceptionally strong nature was used to denounce the proceeding, "Wantonly reckless" and "outrageous," "brutal and unwarranted," "brutally indifferent to the claims of humanity and of the civilized world," are some of the epithets employed, and one journal declares that, "the course pursued by Germany, taken altogether, is gradually arousing a sentiment in this country which is akin to that which was created by the destruction of the *Maine* in the harbour of Havana barely four years ago." Doubtless such criticism is exceedingly exasperating to the Germans, and probably not a few Englishmen have smiled to find that the very first

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warlike operations undertaken by Germany since she sat in judgment on South-African history, has brought upon her head a storm of the kind she herself hurled against England. But really, before attempting to fix the blame, it would be well to acquire some accurate information as to whether the fort fired first upon the *Panther* or the *Panther* on the fort. If the attack originated with the fort, as Germany is understood to claim, can any fault be found with the *Panther* for accepting the challenge? Whatever kind of warfare be advocated by twentieth-century humanitarians, they will scarcely pretend that a country should sit with folded hands when its flag is fired on. Possibly the German ship would have been acting more discreetly had she avoided the vicinity of the fort altogether, but certainly her mere intrusion would not have aroused any indignation. It was against the use of cannon that American opinion rebelled, and until we know which side set the example of using cannon, it is surely an act of the grossest injustice to pronounce condemnation. One inference to be drawn from this readiness to denounce is that Germany's unpopularity in the States deprives her of any hope of getting justice; another is that public opinion is beginning to grow intolerant of all belligerent acts.

CREDULITY.

The story of "Count Rothenkirchen's" doings, as exposed in the Nagoya Local Court, suggests that the quality of simplicity is more abundant in this work-a-day world than cynical folks are disposed to believe. It appears that wherever the "Count" went he found people ready to listen to his tale The first person to whom he addressed himself, declined, it is true, to exchange the position of missionary for that of Russian Consul at Shizuoka, but did not decline either to pay a sum of 25 *yen* on account of a Japanese who accepted the post though lacking means to put up such a large amount as two pound ten for the purchase of an office worth some ten pounds a month, or to give the "Count" a letter of introduction to a brother missionary in Nagoya. The latter agreed to become a Russian Consul at 250 *yen* a month, and handed over to the "Count" a sum of 100 *yen* to buy a uniform, books and other official things." Then this new consul-missionary introduced the "Count" to a Japanese who should supply coal and provisions to the Russian ships of the future, and this Japanese also was persuaded to put up 68 *yen* on account of books and uniform. Similar success attended the "Count" at Fukui: he appointed a missionary to be Russian Consul at 300 *yen* per month, and he extracted 30 *yen* from the reverend gull.

Thence he made his way to Kanazawa, where he succeeded in borrowing 15 *yen* from a missionary who nevertheless declined the offer of a consulate; and thereafter repairing to Okayama, he appointed a missionary-consul and a missionary-consular-assistant, collecting from these two gentlemen 121 *yen* in all. Thus it appears that the "Count" addressed himself to six missionaries and two Japanese, from every one of whom he received substantial marks of confidence, though one of the Japanese paid by proxy for his credulity. Who would have supposed that such a record was possible?

FUNERAL OF THE LATE PRINCE KOMATSU.

It need scarcely be said that the funeral of the late Prince Komatsu was marked by all the solemnity and grandeur of a great state function. Before the coffin was placed on the bier and after its arrival at the cemetery a funeral address was read by Baron Hanabusa, chief of the ceremonial officials. Prince Kanin acted as principal mourner, and after him followed the Princes of the Blood and Baron Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household. The military escort consisted of a brigade of infantry with details of cavalry, artillery, engineers and land transport. Conspicuous among the floral offerings were wreaths sent in the names of the Emperor of Germany and the King of England, and a special feature of the occasion was that the bearers of the bier were sixty wrestlers, the late Prince having been a munificent patron of that national sport. The procession, over two miles in length, occupied 80 minutes in passing a given point. When the time came for offering *cleyera* branches before the bier, the British and German Ministers, representing the respective Sovereigns, performed the ceremony simultaneously and immediately after the representatives of the Emperor and Empress of Japan. Nothing could have been more perfect than the arrangements. Every detail had evidently been thought out with the most accurate prevision, so that no hitch or delay of any kind occurred. Minute guns were fired by the men-of-war in the Bay and by the Military on the Aoyama parade-ground. At various points along the route large bodies of students were marshalled as the cortège passed. They are said to have totalled about 5,000. The crowds of spectators along the way were enormous, and the students of the High Normal School provoked much criticism by occupying a space altogether out of proportion to their numbers and by thus adding materially to the discomfiture of the crowds in their vicinity.

THE OSAKA EXHIBITION.

The Welcome Society has compiled a short guide book for the use of foreigners visiting Japan on the occasion of the Osaka Exhibition. It is, of course, a pretty volume, tastefully bound and containing a number of beautiful photogravures. Apparently the funds for compilation and publication were furnished by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, but whether the volume is to be sold to the public and if so at what price we do not know. No information on those points is given. Indeed the publishers seem to have designedly abbreviated the facts usually presented to the world by booksellers, for they cut short even the title page, and substitute a coloured picture of the "Maple Dance" in Tokyo. Then follows a tinted photogravure of the "Miyako Dance" in Kyoto, whereafter the reader, having been thus delicately instructed that amusement should be his chief object in visiting Japan, is at once plunged into maps, followed by a gallery of land-scapes and sea-scapes, which serve as preface to the text. The latter consists of a notice of the Exhibition, its features and its arrangements, and a brief sketch of the principal places of interest in Japan, this sketch being abbreviated from Murray's Handbook. There is an appendix about touring and about the language, and it is observable that the author, true to his system of abbreviation, heads this section "Supplement To," as though the same sentiment of diffidence that made him dispense with a title page had also prompted him to conceal the relationship of the Supplement. We presume that this is the only guide-book which will be specially published in connexion with the Exhibition. It will serve the purpose very well, and it will have the advantage of remaining a pretty memento in the hands of a tourist after his visit to the place.

The Osaka Exhibition was opened on the 1st instant by Baron Hirata, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce. His Excellency noticed that the number of exhibits this year is 324,000, which is nearly twice the number shown at the last Exhibition in Kyoto. He also called attention to the fact that a department of foreign samples had been provided on this occasion, which is a new departure. After the opening ceremony the representatives of the principal exhibitors visited the various sections, and from noon the place was thrown open to the general public. It is stated that the preparations are in a remarkably incomplete condition and that the opening can not be said to have been more than a mere form. After the ceremony in Osaka, Baron Hirata proceeded to Sakai to open the aquarium, which appears to have proved a special attraction.

The National Phonograph Company of San Francisco has presented a magnificent phonograph to the Emperor of Japan in connexion with the Osaka Exhibition. The instrument has a silver stand on which is engraved an inscription announcing that the instrument is offered by Thomas H. Edison, in commemoration of the Exposition.

The Directors of the Sanyo Railway are showing their usual enterprise and liberality in connexion with the Osaka Exhibition. They have announced that free tickets will be granted to newspaper representatives, within certain limits, for the purpose of visiting and returning from the Exhibition. It is true that very few persons are likely to take advantage of this privilege, since the newspapers published south of Kobe represent a small number. We understand that persons in Yokohama who have received complimentary tickets for the opening of the 5th Domestic Exhibition in Osaka, can obtain reductions on their railway fares to Osaka by applying to the Kanagawa Kencho.

THE RICE CROP.

The actual yield of rice for 1902 has now been definitely ascertained and is indicated in the following table:—

Year.	Yield in *Koku*.
1893	37,267,418
1894	41,859,047
1895	39,960,798
1896	36,240,351
1897	33,039,290
1898	47,387,666
1899	39,698,258
1900	41,466,734
1901	46,914,943
1902	36,999,348
Average year	40,856,217

The figure for the average year is obtained by taking the seven-year period 1895-1901 and omitting the exceptional years, 1898 and 1897. It will be observed that last year's crop was 9,915,585 *koku* below the crop of 1901, namely, a decrease of 21.1 per cent., and that it was 3,856,859 *koku*, or 9.4 per cent., below the average.

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"ANTI-HUMBUG" AND HUMBUG.

A person writing to the *Hongkong Daily Press* over the signature of "Anti-Humbug" says.

After the unsuccessful attempt in 1900 to murder the foreigners in China Sir Robert Hart, to save his daily bread, not only by means of the public Press, applauded the "Boxer volunteers" for their bold attempt to murder us, but prophesied that next time they would be successful, and that in fifty years the world would be overrun by Boxers. This is, in my opinion, equivalent to an incitement to murder, and considering that this fatuous encouragement of the worst side of the Chinese character may have serious consequences to other people besides Sir Robert Hart, it is surely high time that steps were taken to let the true character of these wolves in sheep's clothing be generally known. The silly conduct of and mischief done by irresponsible people in high places cannot be left out of account when the time comes to form an estimate of their careers.

The journal to which this correspondent addresses himself justly condemns his language, but does not, we think, sufficiently note that "Anti-Humbug" is one of a genus not uncommon in China and Japan to whom an epithet shorn of the "anti" would be applied by all persons familiar with them. The stock-in-trade of such gentlemen is invariably limited to two articles, an accusation of mercenary motives and an assumption of spurious patriotism. It being impossible for them to look beyond their own narrow horizon, they can discern only one mainspring of conduct, namely, the hope of material gain, and they are clever enough to know that the quality of "patriotism" is never closely scrutinized by men invited to acclaim it. Sir Robert Hart endeavoured conscientiously to lay bare the true inwardness of the Boxer *emeute*, and to show that it had features which must be clearly recognised by all statesmen honestly desirous of understanding and dealing with the situation in China. The strictures applied to him by "Anti-Hamburg" display a critic so fatuous as to regard every unpleasant truth in the light of a crime. Such attacks can not injure Sir Robert Hart in the eyes of intelligent persons, though they may possibly cause him a moment's pain. They have their exact parallel, as we have said, in Japan, where some of the parasites of popular prejudice apply to any one that exposes the Japanese side of a question such epithets as *agent provocateur*, "embitterer of the relations between this country and foreigners," and so on, hoping thus to act successfully the part of which Judas set the model nineteen centuries ago.

BUSINESS FAILURES.

Every year *Bradstreet's* publishes tables showing the percentage of failures recorded in the American and Canadian business world and analysing the causes of failure. Immense labour is involved in the compilation of such statistics. That fact, not immediately apparent, is realized when we observe that the number of American failures in 1902 was 9,973; that their liabilities aggregated 105¼ millions of dollars (gold), their assets 50¼ millions; that every one of their cases had to be minutely examined, and that the records of the 1⅓ millions of solvent firms also called for revision and correction up to date. This is quite a stupendous undertaking, and *Bradstreet's* may well be pardoned if it devotes some space to a description of its own achievement. The first and most striking fact shown by the table is that the steady tendency is towards diminution of business embarrasments. This is true of actual figures, without taking into account the important circumstance that the number of business enterprises is increasing.

The following table, which we re-arrange for the sake of convenience, is eloquent:—

Year.	No. of Business Enterprises	No of Failures.
1896	1,162,048	17,208
1897	1,173,021	15,008
1898	1,182,093	13,085
1899	1,217,732	10,948
1900	1,262,257	11,249
1901	1,305,283	12,027
1902	1,345,072	11,068

The year 1899 may be regarded as exceptional; otherwise the figures all suggest a uniform improvement. Very remarkable also, and full of significance for Japan, are the statistics relating to the capital employed by those that failed. Out of the total of 11,068, no less than 10,289, or 93 per cent., had capital not exceeding five thousand dollars, and 9,905, or 89.5 per cent., were rated very low in the scale of credit. In commenting on these last figures *Bradstreet's* admits inability to determine whether they indicate the difficulties lying in the way of the petty trader now that the principle of trust and consolidation has been so largely developed; or whether they show that with increasing prosperity and expanding trade the number of insufficiently equipped adventurers grows. At any rate there is a warning lesson here for Japan where the organization of companies with petty amounts of capital constitutes a salient feature of the record. The following two tables appear to us to be the most interesting and valuable of *Bradstreet's* compilations:—

BUSINESS FAILURES IN THE UNITED STATES, CLASSIFIED AS TO CAUSES.

Failures due to	No.				Assets.				Liabilities.			
	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
					$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Incompetence	2,032	2,023	1,773	1,585	9,011,086	9,196,183	7,428,810	10,147,151	18,776,208	21,540,421	16,998,605	19,788,616
Inexperience	721	828	762	583	2,942,481	1,623,661	1,832,658	873,193	5,456,426	3,630,539	4,046,246	1,866,785
Lack of capital	3,048	3,223	3,168	3,333	12,990,428	13,797,244	15,019,949	11,845,203	25,665,340	28,795,739	30,231,352	25,052,339
Unwise credits	278	376	291	281	3,811,932	6,225,219	1,477,708	956,839	6,257,979	8,329,630	2,742,956	1,791,531
Failures of others	273	259	219	141	1,645,798	4,808,910	3,182,698	3,932,652	3,322,898	8,342,346	5,832,690	7,293,111
Extravagance	87	101	85	89	260,820	772,468	603,495	334,147	819,743	2,084,619	1,350,933	892,467
Neglect	305	322	341	280	790,196	554,719	868,993	526,219	1,713,168	1,674,701	1,344,439	1,236,194
Competition	354	466	595	521	757,033	1,529,653	1,544,810	4,046,304	1,797,043	3,173,396	3,582,861	8,499,919
Specific conditions	1,766	1,755	1,423	1,623	12,234,218	18,535,056	21,803,049	15,681,641	26,908,133	39,090,913	40,576,223	30,753,445
Speculation	102	141	131	94	3,434,811	1,380,644	3,681,624	8,865,501	6,238,405	4,380,810	10,626,875	12,004,496
Fraud	1,007	1,154	1,124	1,113	2,565,022	2,675,074	2,743,212	2,931,420	8,534,187	9,396,836	9,614,467	10,596,352
Totals	9,973	10,648	9,912	9,642	50,443,825	61,098,831	60,128,006	60,140,250	105,489,530	130,109,678	127,177,909	119,775,255

FAILURES IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAED,* CLASSIFIED AS TO CAUSES.

Failures due to	No.				Assets.				Liabilities.			
	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.
					$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Incompetence	134	134	137	124	402,779	1,654,272	628,712	507,980	888,555	2,984,416	1,485,898	1,154,305
Inexperience	44	45	38	36	40,574	65,250	59,898	47,410	93,162	133,917	118,039	138,428
Lack of capital	733	974	916	959	2,149,188	2,658,999	2,707,805	2,446,613	5,231,292	6,552,074	6,697,515	6,376,747
Unwise credits	9	9	19	11	37,230	22,050	53,300	1,021,600	60,721	42,750	138,266	2,239,900
Failures of others	4	19	13	5	9,700	205,950	34,900	25,000	19,000	649,646	85,080	49,400
Extravagance	7	13	13	5	94,589	19,600	38,910	10,300	281,050	54,900	67,500	21,600
Neglect	34	32	29	31	111,350	84,174	49,390	92,022	434,540	170,495	103,802	195,270
Competition	15	24	26	17	10,469	47,442	34,310	27,935	26,782	101,532	78,359	47,458
Specific conditions	48	58	71	59	130,773	175,289	316,183	256,642	328,775	345,670	923,017	448,360
Speculation	7	8	10	5	402,700	240,600	162,300	24,685	505,764	483,590	389,275	88,949
Fraud	60	63	65	54	213,200	91,825	161,025	74,871	686,724	273,837	698,950	249,074
Totals	1,095	1,379	1,337	1,306	3,602,542	5,264,551	4,246,693	4,536,058	8,546,365	11,783,737	10,785,601	11,009,491

* Also St. Pierre and Miquelon.

KOREA.

Saturday, Feb. 28.

It is reported from Seoul that the Russian Representative is strongly advising the Korean Government against the proposed purchase of a man-of-war. Our readers are aware that a decision in favour of purchase was said to have been formed, the projected expenditure being 550,000 *yen* and the commission being given to the Mitsui Company. Mr. Stein, it is alleged, urges Korea to eschew any such unproductive expenditure, and points out that in addition to the first cost of the ship, there will be the expenditure on account of her up-keep and on account of many foreigners who must be employed among her crew. What side the Japanese Representative takes is not started. Probably he is neutral.

Japanese journals recount, with evident gratitude, the fact that in the recent bank-note complication the British Representative in Seoul stood strongly on Japan's side, and that his influence contributed not a little to the speedy and satisfactory settlement of the trouble.

In consequence of representations from Japan, the Korean authorities have issued a notification, withdrawing the illegal taxes

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upon merchandise in transport by the Nakdang.

The Seoul-Fusan Railway Company, at a general meeting on the 25th instant, decided to purchase the Seoul-Chemulpo line by paying a sum of 641,580 *yen*, and taking over all the lines liabilities, including the debt to the Japanese Treasury, which has to be paid off by yearly installments. The Seoul-Fusan and the Seoul-Chemulpo lines will therefore be held to have been amalgamated from January 1st, 1902, but apparently the name (*Kei-fu* Tetsudo Kaisha) will not be changed. A sum of 800,000 *yen* will be raised by debentures for the purpose of the purchase, the surplus over 641,580 *yen* being devoted to building and repairing bridges. The interest will be paid off in 3 years, but the Directors are empowered to issue new debentures at a lower rate of interest before the expiration of the three years, for the purpose of paying off the old debentures. As to the source of funds for paying the debentures, the idea is to devote the whole earnings of the line over and above the sum required—90,000 *yen* yearly for 20 years—for discharging liabilities to the Treasury.

As to the Seoul-Fusan Railway itself, the meeting decided that 4 million *yen* out of a proposed total of 10 millions should be raised by debentures, at a maximum interest of 8 per cent.

The Cabinet has finally agreed to endorse the Company's debentures for the purposes of a foreign loan of 10 millions provided that the Diet sanctions such a step. These debentures will be issued through the Industries Bank at a maximum interest of 8 per cent. the difference between that rate and the Government's guarantee of 6 per cent. being paid out of the construction expenses unless the earnings of the line exceed 6 per cent., in which case the excess will be devoted to meeting the interest.

Monday, March 2.

The trouble about the electric railway in Seoul is said to have recently taken the form of a demand by the American creditors that the Government should buy up the line. It would seem that the construction of water works for the city, and the establishment of a central bank are associated with this electric-railway question, and that concessions of the three enterprises were granted to the same American syndicate. That, however, is inconsistent with previous intelligence, nor is it conceivable that any special privileges in connexion with a central national bank would have been granted to foreigners. Nevertheless the allegation is that the three enterprises are in American hands, and that the holders of the concessions asked the Korean Government to repurchase them for a million and a half of *yen*, to which the Government agreed. The Commissioner of Customs, however, declined to find the first installment—500,000 *yen*—and thus the project fell through. The telegrams conveying this intelligence add that the American syndicate has virtually abandoned the prosecution of these enterprises, but the whole story is confused and apocryphal.

The deferred ceremonials in connexion with the 40th celebration of the coronation of the Emperor of Korea are to commence on the 27th of April and to continue until the 6th of May.

It is stated by the *Chuo Shimbun* that on the 27th ultimo the new Korean Representative summoned to the Legation in Tokyo all the young men of his nationality now studying in the capital, and informed them that it had been officially decided to interdict the prosecution of their studies and that they must all return to Korea at once. The youths, 25 in number, were thrown into a state of consternation by this order. Some of them are on the verge of completing their educational course, and to leave Japan suddenly would mean the sacrifice of all their work hitherto. Further, it appears that a few of them have contracted debts. The sum allowed by the Korean Government for their maintenance and the payment of their school fees, has been only 11 *yen* each per month, and even that pittance has not been regularly paid. Thus they have had to struggle against poverty while pursuing their studies, and now their whole career is to be wrecked on the rock of official caprice. To complete their embarrassment the amount appropriated for each lad to square his accounts in Japan and pay his travelling expenses to Korea is 20 *yen*, an obviously insufficient figure. On the 28th ultimo they repaired to the Legation and petitioned that such of them as could maintain themselves should be permitted to remain in Japan, and that the rest should receive at least enough money to take them back to Korea. No attention seems to have been paid to this request. Of course the *Chuo* may be wrongly informed, but if the facts are such as it states them to be, the action of the Korean Government will be very severely condemned by all observers, quite apart from the retrogressive spirit it implies.

Wednesday, March 4.

The Seoul Authorities are said to be assailed with applications from Belgian, Russian, and Italian syndicates which seek mining privileges. Apparently the theory mooted some time ago by an American expert is gaining currency, namely, that an outcrop of the Klondyke auriferous stratum exists in the peninsular empire.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Osaka says that plans are under consideration for establishing connexion between the Korean railway system and the Sanyo line. When the road is opened from Fusan to Seoul, fast trains will be run from Chemulpo *viâ* Seoul to Fusan, covering the distance in 10 hours. From Fusan a special service of steamers will carry passengers and goods to Moji in 4 hours, and thence they will be able to reach Kobe in 15 hours by the Sanyo line. Thus Tokyo will be brought within 44 hours of Chemulpo.

Thursday, March 5.

There is a movement on foot to obtain funds for the support of the twenty-five Korean students from whom the support of their Government has been withdrawn. The fate of these unhappy students is evoking much sympathy and we do not doubt that the matter will be taken up by public-spirited men. The youths were in receipt of only 11 *yen* each per month, and no one believes that, however impecunious the Korean Government may be, it can not find 275 *yen* monthly to support these 25 students.

We observe that in a letter addressed to the *Nippon* on this subject, the expression "Pan-Asiatic" is used for the first time. Are we to have a "Pan-Asiatic" movement? One swallow does not make summer, but somehow the expression sounds as though it had come to stay.

Friday, March 6.

A curious story comes to the *Tokyo Asahi* from its Seoul correspondent. Last fall, we are told, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires addressed to the Foreign Office a despatch objecting to the payment of the Korean Government's Russian employees with notes of the First Bank (Japanese). Now, however, the same Chargé has officially withdrawn that objection, and has intimated that it is for the employees themselves to determine whether or not they will receive such notes. We find the story very doubtful.

To the same paper comes a statement that the Korean Government has decided to send ten students of civil engineering to Russia, allowing 80 *yen* each for payment of their expenses. If this prove correct, it will contrast suggestively with the withdrawal of the 25 students hitherto studying in Japan.

HONGKONG AND SILVER.

Tuesday, March 3.

Hongkong did not show itself very enthusiastic about the silver question at the special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held on the 18th of February. The meeting was not asked to consider any scheme for definitely adopting the gold standard. What was proposed was simply the desirability that the Straits Currency Commission should extend its inquiries to Hongkong with the view of ascertaining whether reform of the Colony's currency arrangements is advisable. Forty members voted in favour of the proposition and thirty-four against it, while thirty members seem to have left the meeting without recording their opinion at all. Moreover, among the thirty-four objectors there appeared the representatives of such prominent firms as Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Company, Jardine, Matheson and Company, Arnhold, Karberg and Company, the Chartered Bank of I. A. & C., the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the International Banking Corporation, the P. & O. S. S. Company, the Shell Transport and Trading Company, the Yokohama Specie Bank, the Agency of the P. M. S. S. Company and the O. & O. S. S. Company, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, Dodwell & Company, the China Sugar Refining Company, the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, the Mercantile Bank of India, the Russo-Chinese Bank, &c. It will be observed that the banks were unanimous in their opposition, from which fact various inferences will be drawn, but probably the true explanation is that bankers, having an exceptionally keen appreciation of what is involved in currency changes, are specially reluctant to associate themselves with any movement in that direction. And indeed it must be confessed that the idea of adopting the gold standard in Hongkong while China adheres to silver, does not commend itself to practical minds. What may be reasonably hoped, however, in that the inclusion of Hongkong in the scope of the Commission's inquiries will have the effect of focussing public attention on the problem, and thus the Chinese Authorities themselves may be brought to consider their position.

Wednesday, March 4.

In his excellent speech at the meeting of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce on the 18th of February, Mr. E. Osborne made two statements which challenge comment. Advocating the introduction of the English system of coinage, he summarily dismissed the objection that the silver tokens would be counterfeited in China, his avowed con-

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viction being that the same protection which guards the shillings and six-pences at home could be extended to guard them in Hongkong. That view can not be accepted without limitations, we think. For it is obvious that no check could be imposed on Chinese subjects in Canton, for example, who set themselves to manufacture shillings and six-pences, half-crowns and florins, and who carried them thence to Hongkong for exchange against gold. Up to the moment of uttering these counterfeit coins in Hongkong, the Colonial Authorities would be unable to exercise any supervision. When Japan adopted the gold standard, there were predictions that her subsidiary silver tokens might be counterfeited in China and transported to Yokohama, Kobe or Nagasaki, there to be converted into gold at a very much higher rate than that indicated by the intrinsic value of the silver. But it is evident that transactions of that nature could not be conducted on a scale large enough to be profitable: the customs' inspection is too rigid. In Hongkong, however, there is no customs' barrier. A Chinaman could import any quantity of silver tokens from the mainland. His risk would commence only when he attempted to put them on the market. The chief safeguard seems to be that he would have to limit his transactions to petty amounts. That is really what protects the silver subsidiary coins of all gold-standard countries, Japan included.

Mr. Osborne further said:—"If there be a danger of the sovereign becoming absorbed into China, I submit that this could be prevented by confining the currency to silver and copper tokens and banknotes, backed by an effective gold reserve kept in London." In other words, in order to change notes or silver into gold, sovereigns would have to be obtained from London. That appears to us a most unpractical proposition. Judging by Japan's experience, the quantity of gold circulating in the Colony of Hongkong were the English currency system introduced there would be virtually nil. But the convertibility of the notes would have to be an actuality, not contingent upon any such condition as Mr. Osborne suggests. Had he said that gold, being unrequired for currency purposes would not be in circulation, and therefore there need not be any fear of its absorption by the Chinese on the mainland, we might agree with him. But to suppose that the gold reserves might be kept at a place ten thousand miles distant, or that the tendency to absorb them into the interior, did such a tendency exist, could be checked by that device—these are ideas difficult to endorse.

MR. J. CHAMBERS.

We learn with much regret that Mr. J. Chambers, M.I.C.E. died in Shanghai on the 20th of February, after a somewhat protracted period of ill-health. Mr. Chambers was one of the early foreign employees of the Japanese Railway Department. His service in this country did not, so far as we can remember, date back to the days of Mr. Morrell, but he certainly belonged to the staff under Mr. T. Shervington when Mr. Galway was traffic-manager. Of these three Irishmen, all thoroughly competent engineers and universally popular, Mr. Shervington, the oldest, is now the only survivor. Mr. Chambers was a man of retiring disposition and his independence of character sometimes stood in the way of his own success. Leaving Japan in the sequel of events which need not have necessitated a step so drastic, he entered the service of the Chinese Customs, and immediately applied himself with exceptional diligence to the study of the Chinese language. Sir Robert Hart, appreciating his assiduity and ability, placed him in charge of the Light House Department during the absence of its regular head, but this preferment, instead of inuring to Mr. Chambers' advantage, led to a complication which became in his eyes a reason for resignation. He then settled in Shanghai as an architect and civil engineer, a career in which he earned success and many staunch friends. We have no information as to the nature of his malady. His age was sixty-one, and he leaves a Japanese wife and several children.

RED-TAPE.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes somewhat strongly about the red-tapeism of the time in Japan, the *hànpun jokurei*, of which there has been so much talk lately. Our contemporary gives a concrete example. On the 7th of February the principal of the Nakatsu Middle School in Oita prefecture wrote to Mr. Fukuzawa Sutejiro, proprietor and editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*, begging him to contribute to the library of the school one copy of each of his father's works. Mr. Fukuzawa, readily consenting, forwarded the volumes and received a grateful acknowledgement. He imagined, naturally, that the incident had thus terminated, but on the 28th of the same month another letter reached him enclosing a form of petition which he was required to address to the Governor of the Prefecture for permission to make a gift of the books. Thereupon he forwarded money to pay for the return of the volumes and said that, had he anticipated such troublesome procedure, he would have declined from the outset. We may add that, so far as our own experience goes, the plague of red tape threatens to become intolerable in Japan. Some such danger must have suggested itself to every reader of Japanese history, for in the course of their long centuries of what may be called family life the Japanese developed a degree of formalism unparalleled, so far as we know, in the annals of any other people. In every branch of their art as well as of their etiquette and observances, rules were piled upon rules, minutiæ heaped upon minutiæ, until there resulted systems remarkable chiefly for multiplicity of invisible effort. In short, to waste energy on trifles may be said to have become a moral epidemic throughout every class of the nation, and there can be nothing surprising in the fact that the same squandering of processes tends to make itself visible in the country's pursuit of its modern career. A host of virtually useless documents and a host of officials whose functions are derived solely from the waste paper they handle, draft, peruse, stamp and file, are an unhappy feature of Japanese official methods to-day.

A PUBLIC DANGER.

A well-known resident on the Bluff sends us the following:—

Last December I wrote you a letter signed "Prevention" calling attention to the dangerous practice of parading race-horses along the Bluff roads. I had hoped that my protest would have had some effect, but unfortunately beyond receiving, privately, approval of my sentiments from my neighbours, my words have had no effect. This morning a string of race-horses passed me as I was on the way down town. The Bluff road, as is well known, is narrow, devoid of sidewalks, and without a harbour of refuge of any kind, unless perhaps a friendly gateway. It is certainly due more to good luck than good guiding that serious accident has not long since happened to some foreign child, or possibly grown-up person. Why the recognised authorities for the protection of the public, whom I take to be the police, allow the dangerous practice to continue has always been a puzzle to me, especially as I happen to know that the matter was represented strongly to the Head of the Police Department more than a year ago, without, however, any steps being taken to stop it. We know, as I said in my first letter, that official circles move slowly and I refer to the matter again so that the necessary rules and regulations may be issued for the prevention of the grievance complained of. I feel quite sure if Governor Sufu's attention is once called to the objectionable, because dangerous, practice, that he will soon find a way of stopping it, and if a round-robin to endorse and strengthen my complaint were started I am equally sure that it would be signed by practically every Bluff resident, except possibly the owners of race horses. Nor would it be any great hardship to them because I judge that a man who is wealthy enough to indulge in a racing stable ought to be able to afford to have his Stable in the neighbourhood of the race-course, or at all events out of the Bluff and Settlement, so as to do away with the practice of which I, in common with so many of my fellow residents, have to complain.

Our correspondent's complaint is very reasonable and we hope that owners will recognize the justice of his remarks.

THE PRESS LAW OF JAPAN.

Referring to a criminal charge laid by the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* against the editor of the *Japan Mail* because the latter declined to give publicity to the abusive and irrevelant portions of a letter addressed him by the former, the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* now makes two assertions. The first is that as the case is still *sub judice* there ought not to have been any journalistic comment on it. He further assumes that we ought to be aware of the fact since we "could only have obtained our information from the Procurator's Office." That assumption is wholly incorrect. The course pursued by us was simply to consult the records of the Public Procurator's office, a step that can be taken by any one complying with the prescribed forms. We adopted the same course with regard to the records of the Tokyo Appeal Court, and in neither place did we find any indication that an appeal had been taken from the decision of the Public Procurator. Nor do we now learn, even from the *Kobe Chronicle's* article, that such appeal has been taken. In point of fact, there is no question of "appeal." If the *Kobe Chronicle* had any desire to repeat its frivolous accusation, the only method open to it was to lay a new action in the Tokyo Appeal Court. Upon that subject nothing could be learned from the Yokohama Procurator's Office. Therefore we consulted the records of the Tokyo Appeal Court, and found that no action had been instituted there. Hence, to allege that the case is still *sub judice*, is quite false. The case is ended unless the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* decides to institute fresh proceedings. We can not be expected to divine his intentions, nor will it be claimed, we imagine, that because he hopes to renew his frivolous and malicious charges at some future time the case is still *sub judice*.

In the second place, the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* asserts that we "show a marked objection to being made the subject of experiment in Japanese law." That is worse than persiflage. It is deception. We have never offered the remotest objection to being made the subject of experiment in Japanese law. What we have said, and said in English too plain to be perverted or misunderstood even by the *Kobe Chronicle*

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is that were the Press Law of Japan what the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* pretends to think it, he should endeavour to have it repealed instead of taking advantage of its extravagances. The Public Procurator of Yokohama, by rejecting the *Kobe Chronicle's* complaint, has shown that the law does not bear the extraordinary interpretation which the Kobe journal seeks to give it, and when the editor of the *Chronicle* interprets our comments on his false rendering of the law as an evidence of objection to submit to Japanese laws in general, he exceeds even his own very exceptional standard of tortuous deceit.

Finally the *Kobe Chronicle* tells a long story about alleged difficulties that have delayed its re-opening of the case. We quote it :—

> First the Procurator wrote asking if the papers should be destroyed or returned ; and on learning that a Procurator would not send on the papers himself to the reviewing authority, we asked for them to be returned, so that Tokyo could be reached by way of Kobe. Then the Procurator wanted to know, you know, through the local Court officials, whether we would come ourselves or send for the papers, or whether we would guarantee to pay the postage if forwarded. As it seemed rather a long way to go to Yokohama to fetch those papers, we were so reckless as to guarantee the postage, but though some weeks have elapsed they have not yet arrived. From this brief outline, it will be seen that when we are at liberty to tell the whole story from first to last, it is likely to prove of considerable interest as an illustration of Japanese law and procedure.

This tale exhibits extraordinary ignorance of legal procedure and equally singular lack of reasoning power. "On learning," says the *Kobe Chronicle*, "that a Procurator would not send on the papers to the reviewing authority." That is refreshingly naive. The want of knowledge it displays might have been expected on the part of a man who reads the press law as the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* reads it. But that any one should expect a public procurator to appeal for a revision of his own decision, is mere childishness. Then, having made that remarkable discovery, which a grain of the commonest sense should have previously revealed, the editor asked to have "the papers" returned. What "papers?" If the editor consulted the rules of legal procedure, he would be aware that the only papers returned in such cases are documents constituting proofs. Were there any such documents in this case. If there were, they consisted solely of two or three copies of the *Kobe Chronicle* and the *Japan Mail* and of the *Kobe Chronicle's* letters to the editor of the *Japan Mail*, for it need scarcely be said that the editor of the *Japan Mail* did not waste time replying to such frivolous communications. These, then, are the documents for the arrival of which the Kobe editor has been waiting "some weeks," and without which he apparently pretends that he can not re-open the case in the Tokyo Court of Appeal. He pretends, and expects the pretence to pass muster, that in the absence of certain copies of his own newspaper and of the *Japan Mail*, and in the absence of copies of two letters written by himself and now in his own possession, he can not renew his vexatious proceedings. He pretends, also, that he has not in all Yokohama so much as one person who would do him the kindness of applying direct to the Procurator's office in order to discover the fate of these precious documents. And while he is thus dilly-dallying, trusting to postal accidents and other subterfuges to rescue him from his unhappy position, he expects to be sheltered from all criticism by the plea that the case is *sub judice !*

A NEW DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

A new and very unexpected development is presented by the text-book scandal. It takes the form of an open confession published in the columns of the *Nippon* by Mr. Kobayashi Seiichiro, proprietor of the Shuyeido book-store. "There is no mistake about it," says Mr. Kobayashi, "I did give bribes. Nay, I gave bigger bribes than other book-stores did. But I am therefore entitled to public sympathy. For the present Examining Committee of Text-books has reached the extreme of corruption, and it has come to be almost impossible to sell a single volume without employing bribes. The book-sellers, unable to afford these bribes, reflected upon some plan for preventing the abuse, and in the sequel I finally conceived the device of swallowing up the book-sellers, which I set myself to carry out. My idea was that if I thus obtained control of the stores and secured a monopoly of text-books, there would no longer be any reason for giving bribes, and the text books would come to be, as it were, one class of nationally fixed volumes. Thus the money annually spent upon bribes being saved, it would be possible to sell good text-books at cheap rates. As for the folks who have received bribes, unless something very special occurs they will forget all about it; from which point of view the more thorough the investigation is the better. But unless it be stopped in good time, the end will be that additions will have to be built to the jails. The capital of the Imperial Book Joint Stock Company (*Teikoku Shoseki Kabushiki Kaisha*) established by me is 1½ million *yen*, and out of that sum about eight hundred and fifty thousand *yen* represents the copyrights of the combined stores, so that if the plan now mooted of nationalizing text-books be carried out, our loss will amount to 650,000 *yen*."

At first sight one is disposed to treat this confession as a device to throw dust in the eyes of the public. But closer inspection suggests that Mr. Kobayashi's explanation may be partially sincere. Certainly when we reflect that about 156 persons are now in jail, or out on bail, awaiting trial for accepting bribes in connexion with text books, we are inclined to believe that the dimensions assigned to the abuse by the head of the Shuyeido are not exaggerated. On the other hand, if Mr Kobayashi expects the public to believe that he and his fellow-booksellers resorted to bribery, not of their own motion, but because of a state of gross corruption existing among educational and local officials, he expects too much. It is quite plain that the abuse had its origin in the competition of rival book-sellers. Large gains were offered to those that could succeed in getting their text-books adopted, and they resorted to the common device of purchasing favours which they could not otherwise command. They found pliant material, however; so pliant that it could be manipulated by anyone and every one, and the process ultimately became intolerably expensive. In that situation the Book Trust's scheme of getting a monopoly of sales, would probably have been effective. So would the counterpart scheme of the Education Department, namely, the nationalization of text-books. To the latter course, however, there appears to be strong objection in many quarters, the idea being that the authorities can not be trusted to adopt a satisfactory pattern of ethics for the people at large. What is proposed, by way of alternative, is to abolish the Text-book-examining committee, and leave to school faculties the whole right of selection. By that means the area of operations would be so widened, it is said, that bribery must become virtually impracticable. We do not share the view. The only difference, so far as we can perceive, would be multiplication of the number of *douceurs* and diminution of the average amount. Each principal of a school, supreme within his own domain, would be in an admirable position to sell the privilege of supplying the students under his supervision, and where several thousands of *yen* have hitherto been spent to get a book adopted in all the schools of a prefecture, a few hundreds would suffice to have it adopted in one school. In the total, the book-stores would be merely bled whiter and the horizon of corruption would be greatly extended. Nationalization appeals to us as the only sound remedy. Should the Department of Education commit any flagrant abuse of the authority thus vested in it, there is always the Diet to serve as a court of appeal.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The Chinese Admiral Tsai Ching-ming is expected to attend the naval manœuvres in the seas off Tsushima next month. He will come in the *Hai-tien*, a cruiser of 4,300 tons. and will be accompanied by four other vessels, one of 4,300 tons, one of 2,950 tons, and two of 2,200 tons. The squadron will subsequently proceed to Taku to be inspected by Viceroy Yuan.

The death is announced of Mr. Mitsui Fukutaro, one of the prominent men of the great Mitsui Family. He had been ailing for some time with kidney trouble. Mr. Mitsui held an important position in the Mitsui Company's enterprises.

Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi, formerly Vice-Minister of Education under the Okuma-Itagaki Cabinet, and now Governor of Niigata, has been apprehended in connexion with the text-book scandal.

Professor Simon Newcomb is the latest contributor to the discussion about the possibility of the planet Mars being inhabited. It has long been supposed that deposits of snow are responsible for brilliant white regions observed encircling each pole of the planet in turn, disappearing under the influence of the sun, and re-appearing when his heat has been long removed. Where snow and ice are, there also atmosphere must be, and if there is atmosphere, no reason apparently exists against the theory of inhabitants. But on the other side of the account stands the fact that the outlines of Mars are always clearly visible from the earth, whereas if there were atmosphere on the planet there must also be clouds, and by these its surface would inevitably be obscured from time to time. Seen from Mars the earth's aspect must be constantly chequered by masses of floating fleece. Hence the conclusion is that if there is any water on the surface of Mars, its evaporation must be very slow, and that if there be any atmosphere it must be much rarer than that of the earth. In short, the supposed deposits of snow at the poles are probably nothing more than hoar-frost, and there is not enough water to produce extensive clouds. Nevertheless it does not follow that Mars has no inhabitants. Professor Newcomb admits the probability of its being inhabited, but adds that whether

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its people are rational beings and whether they are superior or inferior to ourselves, are indeterminable questions.

The Police Bureau in Tokyo has issued regulations for controlling the sale of extras. This has become a veritable abuse. Men run about every evening shouting out "extra, extra," without stating the name of the journal, and very often adding inventions of their own as to the nature of the news. It is now enacted that the name of the journal must be called out, and further that there must no attempt to exaggerate the contents of the extra or to make imaginary additions. It will give the police some trouble to enforce these regulations, but they must make the attempt, for the *gogai* has become not only a nuisance but a veritable swindle.

Captain Gühler, Naval Attaché of the German Legation, was received in farewell audience by the Emperor of the 27th ultimo, and left Tokyo by the 9 a.m. train *en route* for Europe. Captain Gühler, who earned much popularity during his period of service in Japan, has been decorated with the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure.

The following changes of local Governors have been made :—

Mr. Abe Ko, now Governor of Chiba, to be Governor of Niigata.

Mr. Ishiwara Kenzo, now Governor of Yamanashi, to be Governor of Chiba.

Capt. Oyama Tsunamasa to be Governor of Yamanashi.

Mr. Kashiwada, Governor of Niigata, who was recently arrested in connexion with the text-book scandal, has been removed from office.

Japanese newspapers report that Mrs. Eastlake, while staying at the Soyo-Kan in Katase, was plundered of all her belongings on the 20th of February by burglars. The value of the stolen property is said to have been 250 *yen*, and the police are of the opinion that the thieves had an intimate knowledge of the inn and its ways.

We are accustomed to consider that line-of-battle ships are the biggest things afloat. But they are nothing of the kind. The displacement of the largest battle-ships afloat is only one-half of the displacement of the two huge steamers of 32,000 tons now about to be laid down, one at the yard of Messrs. Vickers, the other at that of Messrs. Swan and Hunter. They are for the Cunard line. Each vessel will measure 760 feet in length and will have three separate engines of twenty thousand horse-power, the aggregate horse-power being sixty thousand and the contract speed 25 knots. The cost is estimated at 1¼ millions sterling for each vessel, but payment is to be on the basis of the actual outlay involved plus a per-centage of profit. It is expected that these boats will be ready for work in May, 1905.

A warm discussion is proceeding in England regarding the alleged inefficiency of the English Public School system, and to judge from the many able men who have taken part in the debate some good will eventuate by the letting-in of light upon a rather secluded corner of English life. But, as the *Spectator* succinctly points out, if the English public-school system is bad now, and if for years it has been bad, how has it happened that England, represented and mostly governed by men who have been educated at public schools, has done what she has done during the past century? Our contemporary answers its own question by observing that "the English people to-day, or at all events the thinking men of the people, are occupied with a fit of introspection. They see, or think they see, the commercial prosperity of England threatened by other nations, and they do right to ask themselves whether this merely means that their own country is, so to speak, finding its level after years of possession of a monopoly, or whether the success of other nations may not be due to better systems of training and education. Whatever answer they find, there is one point which they are apt to forget, and that is, that the material to be trained and educated remains the same. The public-school boy of to-day does not differ in character from the public-school boy of fifty years ago. The teaching may be better or worse than it was fifty years ago—it is not seriously claimed even by the fiercest critics of the public-school system that it is worse, and many sane men consider it infinitely better—but the boy remains the same. Is it not at least arguable that if in some ways we are falling behind, or rather, as perhaps it ought to be put, finding our own level, the reason is to be sought, not so much in the defective training given to the material, but in the character of the material itself?"

On February 16th, by Royal Command, Mr. G. M. H. Playfair, H.B.M.'s Consul at Foochow, presented Miss Annie Myers, daughter of the well-known Dr. Myers, with the decoration of the Royal Red Cross for distinguished services rendered under fire during the siege of Peking. A correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* appends the following verses to his account of the pleasant ceremony :—

"A CUP OF WATER."
(Mark IX. 41.)

All round the makeshift Hospital they lay,
The sick and wounded men, in piteous rows.
Without :—From early dawn to evening's close,
Again from fallen night till break of day,

Rattle of shell and crash of musketry.
Within :—The ministering angel goes
To soothe and hush, as only woman knows,
The restless moan, the cry of agony.

Devoted sisters ! in your helpful hand
So nobly equal, how class last and first ?
Yet to the fore stand those who did not fail
Day after day with an unfaltering hand
To bring, through whistling bullets' deadly hail,
"A cup of water" to the lips of thirst.

G. M. H. P.

The Emperor and the Empress-Dowager of China sent a message of sympathy in connexion with the death of the late Prince Komatsu. There was nothing specially profound in their Majesties' professions of grief, but it is notable that the message described the Prince as being, like the Chinese Sovereign, of Asiatic origin. There have been many indications during the past few years that the Chinese recognise the political advantages of giving prominence to their common continentalism with Japan.

It is officially announced that the Naval Review will take place at Kobe on the 10th and 11th of April. His Majesty the Emperor leaves Tokyo on the 5th in order to attend the Review. The scene of the manœuvres is to be the district adjacent to Kure, Saseho and Maizuru. Admiral Viscount Ito will have command in chief, and the two squadrons will be commanded respectively by Admiral Baron Inoue and Vice-Admiral Hidaka. The judges will be Vice-Admirals Shibayama and Arima. It is stated that 47 men-of-war and 26 torpedo craft will take part in the operations.

Mr. and Mrs. Messeyadoff leave Tokyo by the 6 p.m. train on Saturday and proceed by rail to Kyoto, whence, after a few days' stay, they will go on to Kobe, taking one of the *Empresses* to Nagasaki and thence travelling by a Russian steamer to Vladivostock, where a special car has been provided for their accommodation on the Trans-Asian Railway. Mr. Messeyadoff has served only a year and a half in Tokyo, and his removal to a European post after such a brief interval must be interpreted, we presume, as an evidence of the high appreciation in which his services are held by the St. Petersburg Government. His successor in Tokyo will be Mr. Boris Arsénieff.

PRESIDENT CHARLES CUTHBURT HALL.

The third lecturer sent to India by Chicago University to give the Barrows Lectures is Dr. Charles Cuthburt Hall, President of Union Theological Seminary, New York, who has just completed a most successful tour of India and arrived in Japan by the Imperial German Mail liner *Hamburg*. The first lecturer sent out by Chicago University for this lectureship was Dr. John Henry Barrows, the President of the World's Parliament of Religions at the Chicago Exposition. He visited Japan in 1897 on his return to America and was listened to with interest in many places. The second lecturer on this foundation was Principal Fairbairn of Mansfield College, Oxford. Principal Fairbairn could not be induced to take in Japan on his way home, much to the regret of many. It is an especial subject of congratulation that Dr. Hall has been persuaded to spend a month and a half in Japan and will speak in various parts of the country under the direction of the Standing Committee of Cooperating Christian Missions. He will at once on his arrival give a course of lectures at the Doshisha University, Kyoto, and later will speak in Yokohama, Tokyo, Sendai, and at other points. Special efforts will be made to have the lectures reach the students and educated classes of Japanese, for which classes they are especially designed. In India Dr. Hall has given the full course of Lectures in Calcutta and Lahore, Bombay and Madras, besides partial courses in Colombo, Benares, Allahabad and other cities. He is reported to have drawn large audiences of students and of educated Hindus. In some of the places visited the largest local audiences ever gathered were attracted in steadily increasing numbers for the successive evenings of the lectures. The general subject of the lectures is "Christian Belief as Interpreted by Christian Experience." In Lahore where at the close of the course the published lectures were first offered for sale, the entire temporary supply of 150 copies was taken at the door before the audience had left the hall. Leading representatives of college students, of Hindus and Mohammedans and of each of the reform movements in Hinduism sought and obtained private interviews with Dr. Hall. It is possible that Dr. Hall may give the course of lectures in Tokyo before English-speaking audiences and it is expected that in Yokohama and elsewhere single addresses will be arranged for so that the foreign residents may have an opportunity of listening to Dr. Hall, whose reputation as a public speaker is well known.

PING PONG.

The handicap Ping Pong tournament at the Boat House has resulted in victory for Mr. Figueido who, as it appears, was given an allowance altogether out of proportion to his powers. Of twenty-two games he won twenty-one and lost one. He gains the first prize, an ornate umbrella handle, presented by Messrs. Kuhn and Komor. The second prize goes to Mr. Schwabacher, who won twenty games and lost two.

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THE AWOMORI RELIEF FUND.

WE have been asked by correspondents to state what amount of aid has been given by the Japanese themselves for the relief of suffering in Awomori prefecture. The facts, so far as we know, are these. From the middle of January rumours began to be heard to the effect that owing to crop failures the people in that part of the country were in considerable distress, but it was not until the 4th of February that anything serious was suspected. On that day a notification appeared in the *Official Gazette* to the effect that collections of taxes were not to be made in certain districts, and on the 4th and 5th meetings of the prefectural assembly were held, at which resolutions were passed for inaugurating measures of relief, one of the steps indicated being that two *go* of rice should be given daily to persons in a condition of destitution. On the 6th Mgr. Bishop BERLIOZ made an appeal through these columns on behalf of the unfortunates, and as a matter of course we published it, for although we are aware that among the regular institutions of Japan there is included a famine relief fund to which a portion of the taxes is annually appropriated, and which is destined to meet emergencies precisely such as the present, it is always inevitable that official measures of relief, being essentially of a uniform and strictly limited character, must prove partial and insufficient. Private charity, therefore, can always find opportunities for useful exercise. But it did not immediately appear to us that the occasion was one calling for any great effort on the part of the foreign community, and pending further developments we judged that the charitable donations elicited by Bishop BERLIOZ's appeal would fully meet the situation. Thereafter the matter was taken up by several of the leading residents of Yokohama and our readers are aware of the noble response made by the community. But it can not be disguised that a feeling of uncertainty has grown up with regard to the action of the Japanese themselves. People are asking whether the foreign residents have not taken upon their shoulders a burden which the Japanese are making no effort to share. We fear that the answer must be in the affirmative. There is no longer any question that, in Japanese opinion, the occasion does not call for any strong exercise of private charity. The Japanese newspapers—apart from the *Japan Times*—by which subscriptions were invited, so far as we know, are the *Asahi Shimbun*, and the *Hochi Shimbun*, and the *Asahi* was evidently prompted by the fact that the intelligence sent by its correspondents from the centre of the alleged distress was notably minute. The *Asahi's* appeal, however, if appeal it can be called, elicited scarcely any response. Not one Japanese of any prominence sent in his name. A few *sen* came from one place, a few more from another, and we can not find that the donations on any one day exceeded 2 *yen*, or that they aggregated so much as a hundred *yen* from first to last; while the *Hochi's* appeal met with similar apathetic indifference. The *Japan Times* was more successful: it collected about 370 *yen*. But we do not find any Japanese names upon the list, unless they are concealed behind Roman initials. In short, only one conclusion is possible, namely, that the Japanese do not regard this Awomori trouble as an occasion calling for any large exercise of private charity. It is true that the Japanese have not yet adapted their ideas fully to the Western system of public subscription lists. They are not wanting in the instinct of charity, but their benevolence finds scope in a different manner. Nevertheless they do come forward sometimes, as witness their recent contribution of nearly a quarter of a million *yen* on account of the survivors and families of the 200 soldiers that were frozen to death in the winter of 1901. There is a possibility, of course, that foreign judgment is right in this instance and Japanese judgment wrong; a possibility that the state of affairs in Awomori justifies the really noble effort made by the foreign community. Mr. WESTON'S letters and telegrams indicate that there is undoubted scope for charity, though there may be question whether a visit to the remote regions of Aomori in mid-winter would not invariably reveal many evidences of privation and suffering. Before deciding, therefore, whether this community's charity has not erred on the side of excess, or whether the apparent indifference of the Japanese has not sinned on the side of neglect, the receipt of fuller information must be awaited. One fact can not be gainsaid, namely, that very startling figures were officially furnished; figures which, while they seem to account for a strong movement of sympathy on the foreign side, are very difficult to reconcile with the apathy of private Japanese, or with their almost complete reliance on the famine relief fund and other forms of public aid.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of St. George's Society was held on Monday evening in the rooms at No. 78. Mr. James Walter was in the chair and there was a small attendance.

The CHAIRMAN said the meeting was called under the articles of association for the purpose of passing the report and accounts, electing officers and committee and deciding upon the manner of celebrating St. George's Day.

On the motion of Mr. H. J. Sharp seconded by Mr. Flint Kilby the minutes of last meeting were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that there was a deficit of 75 *yen* on the last ball, which cost 700 *yen* more than its predecessor. They had a membership of 121, out of which only 97 subscribed to the last ball. Though the expenditure of the last ball was very heavy he did not know that they should be discouraged by that fact. As a matter of fact as the ball was given in the spring there was a large number of visitors who were only too delighted to be present and consequently there was a very large number of guests to provide for. At that time also there was generally a considerable influx of men-of-war, the officers of which were always glad to give their presence, which added brilliance to the ball. They were also willing to provide the services of their bands. He thought it would be a pity to give up the ball on account of the expenses last year; perhaps by greater economy they would be able to reduce the expenditure.

In the course of a discussion which was initiated by Mr. H. M. Arnould, Mr. Flint Kilby said the total number of persons present was probably about 530.

On the motion of Mr. Arnould seconded by Mr. J. Williamson Jones, the report and accounts were adopted.

In the matter of the election of officers and a committee Mr. Bellamy Brown proposed that the old committee with the exception of such as were going away be re-elected. It was pointed out, however, that the President, Vice-President, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary, as well as the Committee had to be elected at the meeting and that some of the old Committee were not present.

Mr. WILLIAMSON JONES added that it was desirable to have a working Committee.

Mr. FLINT KILBY proposed the election of Mr. James Walter as President, and of Mr. A. G. Morey Weale as Vice-President.

Mr. BELLAMY BROWN seconded, withdrawing his own proposal, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

Both the Chairman and Mr. Weale acknowledged the compliment.

On the motion of Mr. V. R. Bowden seconded by Mr. H. J. Sharp, Mr. H. W. Kilby (who at first refused but later consented to act) was elected Honorary Treasurer.

With reference to the post of Hon. Secretary,

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Sharp was leaving for home and the thanks of the Society were due to him for the onerous work he had undertaken. He had always had the welfare of the Society at heart and the members ought to be grateful to him for the work he had done. Mr. Walter concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Sharp for his services—(applause).

Mr. SHARP expressed his thanks, and for the office of Hon. Secretary proposed Mr. Arthur Bellamy Brown.

Mr. WEALE seconded and the proposal was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Williamson Jones, seconded by Mr. Kilby, the following were elected as the Committee: Messrs. C. Thwaites, P. de C. Morriss, F. J. Hall, H. M. Arnould, and L. J. Healing.

On the motion of Mr. Flint Kilby, seconded by Mr. Healing, it was resolved to celebrate St. George's Day by the usual ball.

Some other matters of detail were brought up, after which the proceedings terminated.

The report and accounts were as follows:—

The Committee beg to report that a very successful Ball was held on St. George's Day, 1902, the accounts for which are annexed hereto.

The Society is indebted to the Captain and Officers of the U.S.S. *Kentucky* for the loan of their band.

The List of membership has increased to 118 since the last annual meeting.

For the Committee,
HARRY J. SHARP, Hon. Sec.

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY IN ACCOUNT CURRENT WITH THE HONORARY TREASURER.

1902.	To Rent of Public Hall	¥	95.00
	To Cost of Band		45.00
	To Ball Decorations, &c.		344.82
	To Refreshments and Supper		1,675.81
	To Printing and Stationery		154.95
	To Sundries, Coolie Hire, &c.		23.85
	To Collector's Fee		45.00
1902.	By Balance from 1901 a/c	¥	245.68
	By 32 Entrance Fees		32.00
	By 118 Annual Subscriptions		118.00
	By 97 Ball Subscriptions and Guests.		1,681.00
	By 82 „ „ (Additional).		246.00
	By Sale of Roses		40.00
	By Balance carried forward		21.75
			2,384.43
1903.			
Feb. 23.	To Balance due to Hon. Treas.	¥	21.75

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 23rd Feb., 1903.
H. J. SHARP,
Acting Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with Vouchers and found correct,
E. FLINT KILBY.

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FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund :—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	13,600.61
Hakodate subscriptions, received from H.B.M.'s Vice Consul, R. G. E. Forster, Esq.	
Howell & Co.	100.00
Semenoff & Co.	100.00
J. Carey	5.00
Dr. Colborne	20.00
A. Denvigh.....	25.00
R. G. E. Forster	25.00
C. I. Fraser.....	25.00
Miss Jex Blake	10.00
E. J. King	50.00
K. Kleye	5.00
D. M. Lang	10.00
Mr. Marumiya	5.00
C. Nettleship	5.00
J. Scott	25.00
Mr. Uchino	5.00
J. W. Wadman	10.00
J. Will.....	5.00
Robert Motley	3.00
Walter Emery	3.00
Miss Winifred Hill	2.00
Miss Doris Hill.....	2.00
Master Ronald Hill	2.00
Mrs. Hill	5.00
F. W. Hill.....	5.00
W. Assomull	50.00
E. S.	5.00
E. Dun	25.00
C. C. Osborne	25.00
E. Curjel.....	10.00
S. P. Gracey	10.00
H. H. Beers	5.00
J. J. Woodruff	5.00
J. Lowry.....	5.00
Findlay, Richardson & Co.	100.00
Siber, Wolff & Co.	100.00
Worch & Co.	50.00
Varenne & Co.	100.00
G. Reiffinger	25.00
K. W.....	50.00
W. H. McGowan	25.00
Francis Owston	50.00
L. Stornebrink	20.00
R. C. Ross	10.00
C. Gibbens	25.00
E. H. Tuska	50.00
Bishop Awdry.....	50.00
Further subscriptions per "Nagasaki Press".....	375.00
Mrs. F. Biagioni.....	15.00
Compradore H. & S. Bank.....	50.00
Compradore, Cornes & Co. No. 50..	50.00
Kwong Sung Wo No. 144	15.00
Wing Yee Woo, No. 56.	15.00
Tung Tong Tye, No. 142	10.00
Soon Ho Chan, No. 186	10.00
Po Fong Chin, No. 1.....	10.00
C. Kwoong Chee, No. 164	10.00
Kwong Man Tai, No. 245.....	10.00
Tuck Loong, No. 141	5.00
Win Tye Loong, No. 166.....	5.00
Yee Hing Wo, No. 131.....	5.00
Kwong Sing Tye, No. 132	5.00
Hip Tye Yuen, No. 190	5.00
Fook Wo, No. 201.....	5.00
Compradore, Nippon Yusen Kaisha..	5.00
Lee Wai Chuen, No. 30.....	5.00
Chan Sing Fung, No. 216	5.00
Wa Sung, No. 129.....	5.00
Sun Loong, No. 130	5.00
Sun Nam Shang, No. 166	5.00
Bheat Yue, No. 192	5.00
Chong Wo Tye, No. 151	5.00
Wai Tye, No. 151.....	5.00
Chui Fai Fung, No. 71	5.00
Su Hing Tye, No. 162	5.00
Chesan Bros., No. 56.....	5.00
Wong Why Mok, No. 15	5.00
Lai Bing-woon, No. 9	5.00
Kun Kee, No. 180.....	5.00
Ming On, No. 154.....	5.00
Fook Sung Tye, No. 127	3.00
Kwong Ying On, No. 192.....	3.00
Chong Kee, No. 139	3.00
Tung On Kee, No. 192	2.00
Dai Sung, No. 160.....	.50
A Trio	10.00
Dr. G. Eckstein per Hotel Metropole.	10.00
Dhanamal Chellaram, No. 127	25.00
Averill & Co.	50.00
E. W. Frazar	50.00
B. M.	25.00
A. M. Knapp	20.00
Mr. Suzuki Benzo, Otamachi, Ichome	300.00
Total	16,029.11

The *Jiji Shimpo* has sent a representative to Awomori to examine and report the state of affairs in the regions where suffering is said to prevail. We presume that if the report shows any serious distress, the *Jiji* will open a subscription. Up to the present time the conviction of the Japanese in Tokyo appears to be that the occasion does not call for any exceptional exercise of charity. It has been suggested publicly that their failure to contribute for relief purposes must not be taken as an indication of callousness. The true explanation, we believe, is that the nature of the calamity is not appreciated by the Japanese or has been over-estimated by foreigners. Certainly Mr. Weston's letters do not yet show a state of affairs which can be regarded as consistent with the alarmist rumours circulated at one time. That there is much suffering can not be doubted, and it is equally certain that an opportunity offers for benevolent aid. But we begin to doubt greatly whether the foreign community were called on to make an effort second only to their noble display of charity in connexion with the Gifu earthquake and the Kamaishi tidal wave.

Meanwhile the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has invited contributions, and has already received 257 *yen*, Count Katsura and Mr. Hattori Kintaro contributing 100 *yen* each. The *Niroku Shimpo* takes occasion to criticise its countrymen very severely for allowing their defective benevolence to be thus contrasted with foreign generosity, and for making such a poor display of the celebrated *yamato-damashii*. But it appears to us that if fault be discovered, its origin will probably prove to be ignorance rather than callousness. The *Jiji Shimpo* evidently does not yet believe that there is urgent need of public charity. The report of its delegate will be received with much interest.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of the following sums on behalf of the famine-stricken people in Aomori Prefecture :—

	Yen.
Amount already acknowledged	776
J. C.....	10

The *Kahoku Shimpo* acknowledges receipt of *yen* 11 sent by the Rev. A. Morris, No. 141, Bluff, Yokohama, though the Rev. H. S. Jeffreys, in aid of the suffering people of Tamatsukuri.

The following further telegrams and letters have passed between the Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund and the Rev. W. Weston :—

Aomori, 27th February, 4.55 p.m.

Relief of severest distress in this ken will cost about *yen* 11,000, for two months. Have not yet ascertained conditions further south, but believe them less serious. Shall we complete work in Aomori ken before proceeding elsewhere? As investigation occupies much time, wire instructions to enable work to proceed.

WESTON.

Yokohama, 26th Feb., 10.30 a.m.

To WESTON, Aomori.

Matter is left to your judgment but our opinion is better complete relief work Aomori. Total subscriptions sixteen thousand.

TRUSTEES FAMINE FUND.

Letter from Imperial Post & Telegraphic Office, Yokohama.

Dear Sirs,—We are in receipt of advice from intermediate office to the effect that the 26th text word in your Aomori telegram No. 3 dated 26th instant addressed to. . . . . Yokohama should read as 5,000 and not 500. Please correct your copy and oblige.

Yours faithfully,

Posts and Telegraphs, Yokohama,
(Signed) Per S. ISHIU,

Yokohama, Feb. 26th, 11.30 a.m.

To WESTON, Aomori.

Your first telegram yesterday mutilated, read 500 only, since corrected reading 5,000. Balance 4,500 shall be remitted by telegraph to-morrow. All banks closed to-day.

TRUSTEES FAMINE FUND.

Aomori, 26th Feb., 12.30 p.m.

Your reply received. Will proceed accordingly. Please increase credit by nine thousand five hundred.

WESTON.

Yokohama, 27th Feb., 12.40 p.m.

Japanese Bank will not transmit by telegram over two thousand a day. Have telegraphed to-day two thousand Yasuda Ginko. Rest will follow.

TRUSTEES FAMINE FUND.

The Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund have received the following telegram from the Rev. W. Weston :—

Aomor, 27th Feb., 5 p.m.

Thanks for wire. Just back from distributing food and blankets in first district. Officials worked admirably. Much gratitude expressed by sufferers to foreign community for generous help. Address after Saturday will be—Post Office, San-nohe, Aomori-ken.

WESTON.

Aomori, Wednesday, Feb. 25th, 1903.

On Monday morning we went by train to Numasaki, 40 miles S.E. from Aomori, where we were met by the Guncho of Kamikata Gun, and one or two other local officials. Some time was spent, at the inn near the station, in discussing the condition of the people in that part of Aomori Ken, and we learned that some 1,700 were in severe distress such as I have already described in the case of the districts further north.

The Guncho added that the resources of the local authorities had been a good deal drained by expenses incurred some 2 years ago on account of an outbreak of dysentery. Moreover last autumn's bad harvest had told especially on this Gun.

We at length chartered two vehicles, drawn by horses, to convey ourselves and our luggage to Shichi-nohe, some 7 or 8 miles westwards, the principal village in this part of the gun, in order to enable us to visit several villages between that place and the railway. It was a new method of progression to us, and consisted of a shallow wooden box, with a roof of wood supported on light poles, and enclosed with canvas. There were no springs, and instead of wheels it rested on iron runners like Norwegian *ski*. From the way it jolted over the snow-concealed stones of the so-called road, it well deserved the name of *jishin-basha* "earthquake car." Snow fell heavily, as usual, during our 4 hours' journey, and each time we got in after stopping at and inspecting the hamlets en route, a good deal had to be shaken off.

Of the numerous cases we saw, I will only notice a few as examples of the rest, for there is very little to differentiate one from another, excepting a more or less severe degree of wretchedness.

In nearly every case the bedding consisted of rags and straw or straw-matting. In one cottage 11 persons live, their food being the stems of an edible fern, and the roots of the paper mulberry.

In another of 7 persons, there was no food in the house, but the head of the family being "caretaker" of two horses in an adjoining shed, they were allowed to share the animals food.

In still another of 7, a five months old baby could not be fed by its mother as she herself was in a starving condition.

The above are some of the worst cases, but the majority are little better off, and it will be some time before any of the relief, in the way of work, proposed by the Ken Government can take effect on their condition.

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At Uwano-mura we stopped and had some talk with the *Soncho* of that place, and then visited in turn the villages of Saichida and Tokumanzai, before reaching Shichi-nohe about 6.30 p.m. The cold was very severe, and the canvas sides of our *jishin-basha* were frozen as hard as boards. Our inn was clean and neat but very cold, though the host did his best to minimize the discomforts.

On Tuesday morning we were up early and walked about 4 miles over the snow to visit two hamlets to the east of the Oshu-Kaido, Nakaguki and Hanamatsu. At one cottage we found the husband had gone to find work in Hokkaido, a course that a number of men seem to be adopting, though with what prospects of success I am unable to say.

In a household of 9 a woman was weaving a kind of hempen cloth at a rude loom. A length of 30 feet can be made in 3 days or so and will fetch 50 sen, but the preparation of the thread for this quantity occupies 2 months of fairly steady labour.

After a depressing round of a number of the cottages, we returned to Shichi-nohe, the dazzling glare of the snow being very trying to one's eyes. At one time the sun was so hot as to almost compel one to take off one's coat, and a moment afterwards a piercing wind came driving down from the snow-clad hills on the West and South and called for extra wraps. As we neared Shichi-nohe the roads began to thaw, and progress was slippery and slow. Shortly after reaching our inn, we had a call from the Mayor of the place, the chief of police, and the Guncho of the gun. The last named told us that the Ken government will provide seed-corn, when the time for sowing comes, to those who need it.

In closing this report, which necessarily much resembles the previous ones, I should like to add how much we have been struck with the universal accordance of the facts we witnessed with the descriptions previously given us by the local officials beforehand. We have every reason to believe that they are thoroughly trustworthy, and may be fully relied upon to deal fairly with their people, and honestly with whatever may pass through their hands in connection with our measures for the actual distribution of food, etc., to the distressed peasantry.

Aomori, 28th Feb., 11.55 a.m.

Please send seven hundred twenty piculs cheap rice Numasaki Station. Also one thousand eighty San-nohe, quick delivery urgent, send receipts Weston care of Station-master at Numasaki and San-nohe respectively. Wire probable date of delivery. We leave Sunday for San-nohe, address communications San-nohe Post Office, Stop further remittances to Aomori. WESTON.

The bulk of the rice ordered for Numasaki left by goods train early this morning and the remainder together with that for San-nohe has been delivered to the railway authorities for despatch as promptly as possible.

The following is Mr. Weston's last letter :—

Aomori, Friday Feb. 27th, 1903.

We have just returned from the Hiranai district, the first of those inspected at the end of last week, where we have at length been able to start the work of actual distribution of food and blankets to those eligible for them. Owing to the non-arrival of supplies telegraphed for a week ago, we have been delayed for several days, but we succeeded in getting what we needed from local sources, yesterday, and to-day we had it transported to the centre of distribution.

Going by train this morning, (leaving our inn at Aomori in the usual snow storm) to Kominato, we were received by the three *Soncho* of the district, and proceeded to the *Yakuba*, or local office, which will, in each case, be the gathering ground and distributing centre of the supplies we bring.

While waiting there for the assembling of the recipients of the food, we heard, in the room above us, a lecture being delivered on practical agriculture by a representative of the Ken-cho, to above 80 farmers of the neighbouring country-side. This takes place every day from February 25th to March 5th, when the lecturer moves on to another centre. It seems a practical scheme and proof of the efforts of the Ken Government to help the people to help themselves.

When the people were at length ready, I spoke to them through Dr. Sasaki, and explained the object of our coming as the representatives of the foreign communities living in Japan.

I explained that it was the story of their distress that had led to the effort being made on their behalf, and expressed the hope that the food would help to make them stronger and fit to work to help themselves and that the next harvest would be so good that there would be no further sufferings amongst them.

The Governor's representative, who has been with us during the whole of our work of investigation, &c., and most indefatigable in his efforts to help us, then added words of caution. He impressed upon them the duty of thriftiness, &c., assuring them that those who were too idle to work would have no right to expect help, and further urged them to let this kindness of the foreigners be written in their hearts and always remembered.

We then proceeded to the actual distribution of the *awa*, *miso*, and blankets, and I shall not readily forget the way the pinched faces lighted up when they were each handed their share of the food or the covering so sadly needed.

All, however, was received with a quiet dignity, as well as genuine gratitude that was most striking.

Our regular plan with regard to distribution, briefly is as follows :—

When, after personal inspection of the actual cases of destitution and consultation with the local *Soncho* we have learnt the number of those whose acute distress gives them a claim to share in the relief we are administering, a representative of each household is provided with a ticket specifying in full detail the amount of food, etc., to which they are entitled.

On presenting this at the *Yakuba* of the *Soncho* every morning, the specified amount is handed to them. This is noted both on the receiver's ticket and in the *Soncho's* account book. These accounts are most carefully kept, and are handed in to the Guncho and by him to the Governor of the Ken, from whom I am to finally receive them for presentation to the Trustees of the Relief Fund.

I should like to again emphasize my belief that all these officials are worthy of the most thorough confidence, and that the Subscrivers who have so generously contributed to the Fund may rest assured that their gifts will have been dealt with in the way they would have wished.

In order to obviate the risk of people either consuming too quickly, or selling their share for money or drink, had all been handed to them at the outset, we arranged that *daily* supplies only should be distributed as far as possible, a course which affords the further advantage of keeping in touch with the current condition of the recipients.

The total amount gives each one a fair day's rations for a period of two months, at the end of which time it is confidently hoped they will be in a position to once more support themselves.

I may add that in our rounds of investigation, wherever we found need of immediate help in the way of medicine, &c., we made arrangements on the spot with the *Soncho* for its relief.

In this way my companions, from their professional acquaintance with medicine and nursing, afforded invaluable aid.

The local newspapers contain reports from time to time, I found to-day, of our movements and express great satisfaction and gratitude at the measures thus taken by the foreign communities in Japan for the relief of their suffering fellow-countrymen. On Saturday I hope we shall be able to transfer the centre of our investigation to San-nohe, the district where, owing to the peasantry living more in the hills, the suffering is said to be most severe of all. Meanwhile we are gathering supplies of food, etc., for actual distribution in the Kamikita-gun, which we visited at the beginning of this week.

Unless anything unexpectedly delays us, I hope we may get the whole work in Aomori Ken finished by the end of next week, though the work in the mountain districts will probably be much harder and slower than what we have yet had to deal with.

The following is an extract from a private letter to one of the Trustees of the Famine Fund from the Rev. Walter Weston, dated Shiriuchi, Monday, 2nd March :—

. . . . I will try to give you a report to-morrow before leaving for Go-nohe and Herai-mura, which we understand to be the worst places we have heard of. We left Aomori yesterday (Sunday) morning, and got to San-nohe, a walk of two and a quarter miles from the station of the same name, about 3.15 p.m. The rest of the day was spent chiefly in making plans and preparations for the forthcoming journeys, etc. To-day we had a tramp of a dozen miles in the hills, over the most awful roads I have ever travelled on. This time the usual snowstorm did not start with us, but met us on the way back, and we arrived with mackintoshes soaked through.

We visited several villages and inspected a number of cottages, and made full inquiry into the condition of the peasantry. The evidence of distress is similar to that I have already described elsewhere; and, as I mentioned in previous reports, the *degree of severity* of the distress we find from our personal investigations has been *by no means exaggerated*.

To-morrow, as I have said, we are to leave for the more remote and (as we understand) most distressed neighbourhood, and shall probably be absent from Shiriuchi at least three days.

Shiriuchi, March 3rd, 1903.

Saturday, Feb. 28th was a busy day, for we had a good deal of work with local tradespeople and others from whom we had bought some of our supplies for the district nearest to Aomori. It is difficult to make quite clear to others the many and various delays and worries in the purchase of supplies, etc., from provincial dealers. In the case, for instance, of *awa*, after completing all our calculations which from the nature of the case were rather complicated, we were told that each district had a different way of calculation that commodity. In Hachi-nohe 'one bag of awa' might contain 100 lbs., in Noheji 85 lbs. and so on—so that all our reckonings had to be made over again. The dates of delivery of goods ordered, moreover, were a more uncertain quantity still. All Friday and Saturday were taken up with works of this kind, adjusting and readjusting plans, receiving visitors, correspondence, paying bills or deposit money on fresh contracts, in order to ensure as prompt delivery as possible etc., etc. However, by 11 p.m. on Saturday, after our return from a farewell visit to the Governor, we felt we had earned a night's rest.

On Sunday morning, on going to the Station for our departure to the South, we found the Governor and the Guncho waiting to see us off, and it was a great satisfaction to be again assured by them, as we had been so frequently already, that the efforts of the Foreign Community on the behalf of their distressed people were so greatly and genuinely appreciated. Indeed the same sentiments had been everywhere freely expressed. It is unfortunate however, that the all-absorbing topic of the general elections should at the present time be so distracting the mind of the general public, that there seems little chance of the severe physical distress of a large number of out-of-the-way peasantry competing, for a share of the attention of others, with political exigencies. At the same time, in a small way and unobtrusively, help is here and there being given privately by some of those who can afford it, to alleviate suffering, or there would have been good cause for even worse stories of distress; but this is wholly inadequate to meet the severest cases in the more secluded regions. One measure of relief adopted is of a negative kind, viz. emigration to Hokkaido, and we have several times lately met train-loads of peasants on their way to embark from Aomori for that purpose.

We arrived at San-nohe Station at 3 p.m., and had a walk of 2¼ miles along a road nearly ankle deep in mud and melting snow, to the long rambling village of that name, putting up at an inn called Takko. The remainder of the day was as usual given to making those arrangements, which can only be done on the spot at the point of departure, for our work of investigation in the valley of the Sarube-gawa. It was bitterly cold on Monday morning when, after performing our ablutions on the icy floor of an outhouse, and cooking our breakfast, we set off for a dozen miles' tramp in the mountains.

Two miles of steady trudge took us over a hard and slippery track to the top of the Shirazaka-toge, although no indication of such a route appears on the ordinary Topographical Survey map. In a hollow in the hills on the opposite side of the pass lay a collection of miserable hovels, known as Bunji-yashiki, one of the various hamlets forming Sarube-mura. Some of the others are Kakkobira and Januma, a number of the cottages of which we inspected. The average number of persons in each cottage was about 6, and their conditions of poverty various, but much resembling what I have described in previous reports. In one an old woman of 77 was living alone, her husband and children being all dead, and her former means of support, in the person of her only grandson, was now unavailable since he was doing his time as a soldier. A cousin, we were told, living near by, brings her help from time to time, but at present she is half crazy with her solitude, and her howls as she approached the empty cottage, waiting for her, were distressing in the extreme.

The acutest degree of distress, I was assured, in this valley, is to be found at Sayama, a mile or two further on, but we had not time to reach it.

One is not much surprised to learn that the unusual distress of these secluded valleys is so little known to the outside world, and that as a consequence no general effort has been made by the native public to alleviate it.

After a rest of half an hour at a dilapidated cottage for lunch, we started back for Sannohe, which Mr. Parrott and I reached nearly an hour before our Japanese companions, who were rather done up by the roughness of the route and the severity of the weather. The usual snowstorm that hitherto had started with us on nearly every outing, was to-day not in time, but it met us on our return, to some purpose. The tracks were so deep now in black, slippery mud that we were glad to find that the storm of rain and sleet had worn a channel in the pathway, as it was easy to walk up the more even surface thus washed out, even though against the stream. Our rubber boots, knee high, and oil-paper helmets keep extremities dry, but the stoutest Mackintosh cape was soaked through long before we got in to Sannohe.

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We had time there to pay our bill, make tea, repack, and get over the 2½ miles to the station, catching the train to Shiriuchi.

We have seen less of the *soncho*, etc., on this journey than usual, as the elections claim first attention (and few people seem to think of much else); although everywhere representatives were sent to greet us and to express the great gratitude of officials and people alike for the welcome help that our coming represented.

At Shiriuchi we are conducting further enquiries to-day (Tuesday) and on Wednesday, while Mr. Parrott stays behind to see after the gathering together of the supplies we have ordered from Yokohama and elsewhere. I propose going on with Mr. Yukita, our constant attendant (from the Governor of Aomori Ken) since the outset of our work, to visit Go-nohe and Herai Mura, which neighbourhood is said to be the most remote and severely distressed of all those we expect to see.

Hachi-nohe, 5th March, 10.20 a.m.

Four cars of rice arrived at Numasaki and four at San-nohe. Nine hundred blankets at Aomori. Arranging distribution.

PARROTT.

THE FAMINE FUND ENTERTAINMENT.

The concert and theatricals given on Thursday evening in the Public Hall proved eminently successful and Mrs. J. Pender Mollison, who has been the prime mover in this matter, will, we doubt not, have the pleasure of handing a substantial sum to Mr. Weston for distribution among the Awomori sufferers.

The concert opened with a piano duet which Mrs. J. G. Doering and Mr. A. Mason rendered with much effect. Following this came the grand "Scena" from "Lucia di Lammermoor" (*Regnava nel Silenzio*) with which Mrs. Mollison greatly delighted the house. This was one of her happiest efforts and the splendid number was deservedly appreciated by the audience. The fair singer was recalled and in response sang a German ballad in a most charming fashion. The 'cello solo was played by Mr. Rudolphe Schmid in his usual brilliant fashion, earning a recall, and Mr. Maitland's songs, both new to Yokohama, we believe, suited his voice admirably and were successfully rendered. Mr. H. A. Poole played a violin solo with excellent taste and had to repeat the last movement, so persistent was the encore, and this part of the programme concluded with a brilliantly executed piano solo, Chopin's well-known "Polonaise," by Mr. W. Karl Vincent, for which another encore was demanded.

After an interval the curtain rose upon "Dr. Mondschein, or The Violent Remedy," a light and very amusing comedy-farce, in three acts. It is interesting to know that there is now in Yokohama a lady who knew the authoress of this Boston production and saw her play in it. Though greatly localised, especially in the matter of incidental songs, "Dr. Mondschein" betrays its nativity all the time. It has a plot, which is more than can be said for some of the works that have recently been presented to us. We have a couple, *Mr. and Mrs. Backbay*, who are somewhat divided in opinion, the lady being much given to dancing while the husband strongly disapproves of such goings on. As *Mr. Benjamin Backbay* Mr. Brady may be said to have surpassed himself, his make-up was excellent and his portrayal of the crabbed character delightful. His grumbling evokes from his wife a declaration that the sweetest thing on earth is the "German," meaning the dance of that name, but the repetition of the word awakens *Backbay's* suspicions and he is at length quite willing to believe that his wife is infatuated with a Count of German nationality. Mrs. Mollison, who took the part of *Julia Backbay*, acting and singing throughout with the utmost grace and brightness, had occasion to introduce the following song (of which the words were written and the music adapted locally):

Had I my way, love,
Soon would I teach it thee,
Main Street and business all,
Given up should be.
Never mind your rates and bills,
Never mind the Bankers' frills,
Dance, and you'll find all ills,
Waltzing away.

I too have trials, love,
Housekeeping's such a teaze,
Earthquakes shake all my nerves,
How Cooks all squeeze.
But let a Waltz begin,
Round, round I gaily spin,
Then I don't care a pin,
No, no, not I.

If you'll but come, love,
Once to St. Andrew's Ball,
There you will see a dance,
That beats them all.
Youth and beauty will be there,
Ladies dark and ladies fair,
Scots, in kilts, will make you stare,
Waltzing away.

Next you must come, love,
Once to the German Club,
Where you'll find that every Chief
Says *prosit* to his sub.
Supper there is such a treat,
Brawne-brod and wurst so sweet,
Herring zaled, hard to beat,
Then waltz away.

The result of this domestic squabble is that *Backbay* proceeds to lay his troubles before *Julia's Aunt*, while *Julia*, torn by conflicting emotions, but mostly by nerves, decides to call a physician of the homeopathic kind. It is not possible to imagine a better *Aunt* than Mrs. Hubbard presented; it is not merely that she looked the part but she spoke and acted with complete naturalness. Meantime *Julia*—shown seated at a table—sings with appropriate action "Sewing shirt buttons on," to the air of "When the Swallows Homeward Fly." *Dr. Mondschein* (excellently personated both as to make-up and speech by Mr. Maitland) appears in answer to *Mrs. Backbay's* summons and *Mr. Backbay*, resorting to a little eaves-dropping, hears some horrifying things. It is now plain to him that this is the particular "German" with which *Julia* is infatuated, the impressive manner of the doctor and the lady's agonized references to her heart convincing the maddened husband that they are enamoured of each other. Moreover, the physician promises to provide a medicine which will despatch the disturber of her peace, and *Backbay*, fully convinced that his happiness has been wrecked and that he is to be poisoned in a few hours, gives himself up to despair in the most diverting fashion, till, pulling himself together, he resolves to foil the conspirators by neither eating nor drinking. A very taking song, music from the German operetta "Frau Luna," is sung by *Dr. Mondschein*, who brings his promised medicine, but is confronted by *Backbay* who, revolver in hand, compels him to quaff a draught of the stuff, *Julia* being similarly forced to drink what the doctor had really intended for her husband. But after the husband has ejected *Mondschein* "to go and die in the Public Gardens," the wife explains the misunderstanding and, the doctor being brought back, all ends happily. The duet by *Julia* and *Backbay*, adapted from the "Belle of New York," went capitally and the piece wound up with a topical and very attractive solo by *Julia*, to music adapted from the "Runaway Girl," the other characters joining in the refrain. We give the words:

Kind friends all met together,
Many from the land of heather,
We thank you for your presence here to-night.
We thank you for responding,
To the cry of the desponding,
You may be certain you are doing right.
You know the tragic story,
Of the poor at Aomori,
The very urgent nature of our call.
You also know of Weston,
Who I think, beyond all question,
Deserves the greatest credit of us all.

For: He rises with the lark,
And he toils from morn till dark,
He's a man that there's a lot of wear and tear about,
So, in the usual way,
Please approve of what I say
And show that he's the sort of man you care about.

Our little play is ended.
And the moral that's intended
Is, that if you leave your wives at home to mope,
In search of admiration,
Or a little mild flirtation,
They may take up with a German and elope.
We hope you've had some pleasure
And in your hearts will treasure,
Sweet memories that you will oft recall.
Without any hesitation,
Or the slightest reservation,
We extend the hand of welcome to you all.

For: We've risen with the lark,
Had rehearsals after dark,
We're a quartette there's a lot of wear and tear about.
So if you like our play,
Why, just come another day,
And show that we're the quartette that you care about.

We have written already of those who assumed the characters; it only remains to be added that the part of *James* was taken by Mr. Cameron, who, if he had not much scope certainly made no mistakes; that the piece went excellently; that the musical part of the business reflects every credit upon Mr. Mason, and the stage management under the direction of Mr. Beart was, as usual, practically perfect.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR MISSIONS.

The Tenth Annual Conference of Foreign Mission Boards in the United States and Canada, which met in the Bible House, New York, on January 14-15, decided to invite the Christian people in the two countries to unite in a week of special prayer for the evangelization of the world. The time selected is April 5-12, inclusive. This period, which ends with Easter Sunday, is felt to be a peculiarly appropriate time for simultaneous prayer on behalf of missions.

The Conference of Foreign Missions Boards in the United States and Canada issuing this call is composed of the officers, and representatives, annually appointed, of some thirty to thirty-five missionary Boards. It includes Baptists, Congregationalists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Moravians, Presbyterians, Reformed, United Brethren, Christians and Disciples. The members of the Committee appointed to represent the Conference are: Rev. Wm. I. Haven, D.D., Chairman; Rev. H. K. Carroll, LL.D.; Rev. A. W. Halsey, D.D., Mr. Robert E. Speer; Rev. Henry N. Cobb, D.D.; Mr. J. W. Conklin, Rev. Arthur S. Lloyd, D.D.; Mr. J. W. Wood, Mr. W. Henry Grant, Secretary.

FOOTBALL.

The deciding match in the Sixes Competition on Monday between teams captained by S. Wheeler and O. Strome resulted in victory for Wheeler's team by one goal to nil. This leaves Wheeler's team winner of the competition, the result of which appears in the following table:—

Name of Team.	Won.	Drawn.	Lost	Goals. For.	Goals. Against	Points.
Wheeler	3	1.	1	4	2	7
Kilby	3	1	1	6	5	6
Read	2	1	2	8	7	5
Moss	1	3	1	4	2	5
Fradgley	1	4	1	3	5	4
Strome	■	2	3	2	6	2

Kilby has the same number of points as Wheeler and a greater number of goals has to be credited to him, but, other things being equal, the decision goes on the average gain in goals "for" and "against."

HELM BROS. LTD.

The fourth annual general meeting of Helm Brothers, Ltd., was held on Tuesday at No. 78. Mr. J. Johnstone presided and there was a small attendance of shareholders. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Knapp, the report and accounts, including a ten per cent. dividend, were passed.

Mr. Dodds, asked some questions concerning the efficient maintenance of the company's fleet, and was assured that this had not been lost sight of. The sum of *yen* 7,784 had been expended on upkeep and repairs, but in order to pay a ten per cent. dividend, they had written off only *yen* 2,000 from the fleet account.

Messrs. Helm and Johnstone were re-elected directors, and Messrs. F. J. Hall and N. B. Morton auditors.

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EGYPT TWENTY YEARS AGO.

A Personal Reminiscence.

The following paper read at a recent meeting of the Ladies' Monday Society in Tokyo attracted so much attention that we have obtained permission to publish it :—

Before commencing my personal experiences it may be of interest if I sketch, very briefly, and so as not to tax your patience, the why and wherefore of the stirring events which took place in Egypt 20 years ago. As many of you are aware, the Khedive of Egypt, Ismail Pasha, had brought his country to the verge of ruin by a reign of the most reckless expenditure. He had succeeded in 15 years in raising the national debt of Egypt from £3,292,000, at which his predecessor had left it, to over £90,000,000. As one item of expenditure I may mention that the fêtes which attended the opening of the Suez canal alone cost over £2,000,000. Ismail was deposed in 1879 and was succeeded by his son Tewfik Pasha, a genial, and kindly, ruler and an honest straightforward man ; he did what he could to repair the faults of his father but his disposition was of too kindly and gentle a nature to deal with the evil and turbulent elements which the misrule of his father had created, and the country was, before two years were over, in a state of revolt. The revolution was mainly headed by Arabi Pasha, Minister of War. This man had risen from the lowest ranks, and was possessed of little education, but he had a certain amount of rude eloquence, he was a big, burly man and could quote extensively from the Koran. It is related of him that on one occasion when Captain of the Guard he was rather noisy under the windows of the Palace and Ismail Pasha ordered him to be removed and punished, remarking that he was much less useful, and a great deal more noisy, than the big drum.

Matters went from bad to worse, and on the 11th June, 1882, a cruel massacre of Christians took place at Alexandria, the principal port of Egypt. Early in July the British Government decided, as Egypt was on the highway to India, to interfere and restore order ; on the 11th July the forts at Alexandria were bombarded and reduced to ruins by the English fleet, the town of Alexandria was promptly set on fire by Arabi's soldiery, and the greater part of it, including many beautiful buildings, sacked and destroyed. An expedition of some twenty thousand men was despatched from England, and upwards of two thousand from India, all under the command of General, now Lord, Wolseley, and I took part in the expedition as Captain of No. 4 Company of the 74th Highland Regiment of Foot.

I was then, well, twenty years younger than I am now ; it was also my first experience of active service, and I was looking forward to the "fun" as I then thought it, with all the zest of a school boy. I can remember, as if it was yesterday how proud and interested I felt marching through the still smoking ruins of Alexandria, proud, because I was in personal command of a company of 100 men on "real business," and interested, because everything was new and strange and for the first time in my life I saw what war really meant.

It was piteous to see the wanton destruction which had taken place, houses gutted, with fragments of furniture scattered about in the gardens, or down the mable steps, once beautiful, now smashed and charred with fire ; here a piano which had been hurled, out of sheer wantonness, from an upper window, lay half buried in a bed of crushed and trampled flowers, there, an empty cradle tilted up on its end, with "dolly" lying disconsolately gazing with glassy eyes at the soldiers hurrying past in the direction of the lines of Kafr Dowar, behind which the enemy had entrenched themselves, and whence came at intervals the boom of a heavy gun, showing that the "fun" had commenced in grim earnest. My regiment marched out and took up its position in front of the lines. Our General did not mean to attack the enemy here, but it was most important that they should think that they were going to be attacked, for which purpose two infantry regiments were marched out every day to be shot at, a disagreeable and unpleasant pastime.

Two little incidents occurred whilst we were encamped before the lines of Kafr Dowar, one interesting, and the other amusing, which I think may also interest and amuse my hearers. The regiment encamped next to mine was the 42nd, also a Highland Regiment, and one which for the last two hundred years has been in almost every fight in which the British arms have been engaged ; amongst others it took part in the battle of Alexandria in 1801, when we had a slight difference of opinion with our good friends the French, who were commanded by Napoleon, the greatest military genius of his own or any other time, and we had for commander Sir Ralph Abercromby, who was mortally wounded in the fight ; the 42nd on this occasion lost many killed and wounded. Though few, if any, of us knew it, we were on those blazing hot days of August, encamped on the very spot where nearly 100 years before the two armies had met in deadly strife. A sentry of the 42nd whilst walking up and down on his post, kicked up what he thought was a piece of square money ; he put it into his haversack and when he got back to his tent, soldier-like, set to work to polish it up. What was his surprise to find it was not a piece of money but a silver buckle, and still greater was his surprise to find inscribed on the buckle "42nd Highland Regiment of Foot"! On looking back at the old pictures of the Regiment it was found that this pattern of buckle was worn at the commencement of last century by pipers of the Regiment, and it must have lain there all those years to be found at last by a man of the same Regiment. The buckle has been suitably mounted and now forms the music programme holder, when the pipers of the Regiment play at mess after dinner.

So much for the interesting incident, and now for the other one. Our outlying pickets were somewhat harrassed at night by mounted Arabs and Bedouins on camels and our men were pretty well kept on the alert. Some 300 yards in front of the picket of a certain regiment, which shall be nameless, there was a small wood which the enemy used to visit sometimes at night and exchange shots with our soldiers. One night the picket was suddenly called to arms by two shots in succession from the advanced sentry who declared that the wood was full of the enemy who were doubtless collecting, preparatory to a charge. The officer peered through the night with his glasses, and in the fitful moonlight thought he also saw some movement amongst the trees ; he therefore gave orders for his men to fire two volleys, which was promptly done. Hardly had the echoes of the second volley rung out, when into the still night air, and up to the starry firmament, rose the remonstrative bray of an aggrieved and tethered donkey! When morning broke it was found that the fortunate donkey had escaped without a scratch, although the trees all round him had suffered considerably. The story leaked out and the officer in charge of that picket was so chaffed, that he wished he had never been born.

We were here, being occasionally shot at, for about 10 days. Just before we left to commence what turned out to be the real business of the campaign, a midshipman from the Fleet, a smooth cheeked and good-looking boy, was entrusted with a letter from the Admiral to carry to a distant part of the lines. He missed his way, wandered into the enemy's lines, and was immediately made prisoner and taken before Arabi, who treated him well and sent him up to Cairo. A rumour got about that the English Admiral had been taken prisoner, and immense crowds gathered in the picturesquely oriental streets of Cairo to see him led captive. The youthful appearance of the Admiral caused much derision amongst the populace, who thought, I presume, that if the English Admiral was so juvenile, the rest of the force would come up in perambulators armed with nothing more formidable than feeding bottles. Doubtless on account of his youth this fortunate young gentleman was put in charge of the Turkish ladies of the Palace, who treated him with much kindness, and, so it was said, spared no pains in teaching him Turkish. At any rate when the English eventually reached Cairo he rebelled strongly against leaving his fair teachers and going back to his ship.

However, to return to my story. Towards the end of August my regiment was hastily embarked in a transport and, together with the greater part of the Expeditionary Force, we were taken round to Ismailia, on the Suez Canal, from which point the real advance on Cairo was to take place.

On the 6th September we received orders to land, and were told that we were to march across the desert to a place called Kassassin, and thence, after the whole force had been collected, to march and attack Arabi and his army, which lay strongly entrenched across the road to Cairo at a place called Tel-el-Kebir. Before commencing the march strict orders were given that the men were to have their water bottles filled, and every precaution taken against the sun ; they were also told that if they fell out or halted from exhaustion on the march they would in all probability be pitilessly killed by the Bedouins who were sure to hang on our flanks and make short work of stragglers.

Each man carried three days' rations of biscuits, and tea, and a tin of preserved beef, also a hundred rounds of ammunition, and wore his great coat round him bandolier fashion. He carried of course his rifle, belts and ammunition, amounting in all to a pretty considerable weight. To show that on such occasions the officer who goes out to fight is not provided by his country with any unnecessary luxuries, I may mention that as I was looking after my men to see that everything was in order, my soldier servant came up to me and said in broad Scotch, "Your three days rations is on your bed, Sir." After I had seen to my men, I went down to my cabin and saw, lying on my bunk, a sheet of whitey-brown paper on which was heaped about two handfulls of brown sugar, a handful of tea, which had got all mixed up with the sugar, some half dozen large round biscuits, which I subsequently discovered would need a hammer to break, and an enormous 2lb. tin of salt preserved beef, and this was to keep me going, marching and fighting, for three days in the desert. However, I purchased from the ship's stores two tins of cocoa and milk, and some biscuits of respectable size and hardness, also some Liebig and some sticks of chocolate, and bequeathed to my country my "three days rations," which I left "lying on my bed," where for all I know they may be now, for I cannot imagine anybody wishing to acquire them.

At 3.30 in the afternoon we started, and directly we left the welcome shelter of the few trees which then bordered the streets of Ismailia, found ourselves in the desert. We were now in the hottest month of the Egyptian summer, and the sun beat down upon the sandy waste like a burning fiery furnace on a polished brass shield. Before very long the doctors were busy endeavouring to restore the men who were struck down with the heat ; it was not only the sun which heat mercillesely down on our heads and shoulders, but the dazzling reflection from the burning sand which flashed into and scorched our faces and eyes, while the hot wind which swept across the burning plain seemed to scorch the very marrow of our bones. The men struggled on manfully, and only gave in when they fell unconscious on the sand. I cheered my company as best I could, through before long I was rendered altogether speechless by the heat. As the sun sunk low in the horizon, far away we saw the glint of water, and this put fresh courage into every one. We hurried on and shortly after sunset came upon the bank of what is known as the Sweet-water canal, which runs from Cairo the Suez by way of Ismailia. Never shall I forget the joy of that moment ; the men simply threw themselves down on the banks and drank the water which, though called "Sweet" in contradistinction to the salt water of the Suez Canal, was thick and muddy ; however to us it was nectar. I had left fifteen of my 100 men stretched out unconscious on the burning sand and I never expected to see all them again. However, as the night wore on and I waited anxiously under the stars, by two's and three's they came staggering in. With one young

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soldier, a lad of 20, I watched through the night; he was quite delirious and talked incessantly about his mother and sisters away in Scotland. The next morning he was still unconscious and had to be sent back with other sick by boat to Ismailia.

The second day was even worse than the first. However, as the sun was setting we reached Kassassin, where a depot had been formed, and here we rested three days preparatory to the attack on the trenches and redoubts of Tel-el-Kebir, where lay the Egyptian Army which was to dispute our passage to Cairo. By the second day of our stay at Kassassin tents had been sent up from Ismailia, so that on our last night at that place we had the luxury of sleeping under canvas; here also we got fresh supplies of food.

At seven o'clock on the evening of the 12th September, 1882, the tents of the camp, some two thousand in number, were "struck" to the sound of a single note on the bugle. It was the weirdest and most uncanny sight imaginable. The utmost silence prevailed, when into the stillness of the quickly closing night sounded a single bugle call, taken up by one answering note—and then slowly, like ghosts laying themselves down to rest, the white canvas tents faded away, and the desert seemed suddenly to have grown darker, while high overhead the sad-eyed stars shone out with brighter light!

The enemy's scouts, who had, of course, been watching us, rode back in hot haste to Arabi to tell him that the English were on the move, and that shortly after midnight the blow must fall. Instantly the enemy's trenches were manned by over twenty thousand riflemen, while the gunners in the Arab redoubts stood to their guns ready to give us a warm reception, but in this was our salvation—although the tents were struck, it was only to form up the men in battle order and march them out to a place called "Nine gun hill," some two miles distant, ready to start from there so as to arrive at the trenches a few minutes before the dawn. At "Nine gun hill" the attacking force, which consisted of some 13,000 men, was formed up. I will not trouble my audience with details, suffice it to say that the force was in a long line some three miles in length with supports and reserves marching behind. The strictest orders had been given beforehand that no one was to speak and all the words of command were to be passed down the line in a whisper. Of course there was to be no smoking, and when the trenches were struck, which we were promised they would be at dawn, they were to be taken with the bayonet, not a shot was to be fired. Everything was ready shortly after nine o'clock and the men lay down with their rifles by their sides. For some time I chatted, in low whispers, with a cheery young officer in my regiment a great friend of mine, the brightest and merriest of us all, and then overcome with sleep I passed into the land of dreams. It seemed to me that I had been but two minutes away from Egypt, and everything connected with it, when I was awoke by the movement of men around, and found that it was past one and the orders had come to stand to attention, and march. The night was pitch dark, though the stars shone out, and guided by them the Naval Officer, Lieut. Rawson who piloted the attacking force, led us on steadily and surely. Nothing was heard but the scrunch, scrunch of feet along the desert sand, and but for this there was nothing to show that thirteen thousand men were creeping nearer and nearer to the enemy, ready to spring when the faint light of dawn stole into the Eastern sky.

And then occurred one of the most extraordinary instances of a terrible disaster averted by rigid discipline, with a certain amount of good luck thrown in, which it has ever been my lot to witness or indeed hear of. Lieut. Rawson, who was directing from the centre of the line, thinking we were getting too near the trenches and should reach them before dawn, gave the order to halt. The centre of the line stopped, but as the word of command had to be passed from one officer to another it was some eight or nine minutes before it reached the end of the wings, which, in the meanwhile, had been marching on. The line consequently became a crescent, the two horns of the crescent gradually approaching each other quite unconscious of the fact. Our orders were, that whenever we struck the trenches, or saw the enemy, we were instantly to fix bayonets without further word of command, and attack. I happened to be in the extreme left of the line and consequently formed one of the horns of the crescent, and as we marched on, eye and ear alert, suddenly in the gloom in front I saw figures moving towards us. My men had evidently seen them too, for instantly I heard the bayonets whip out, and the click, click, of their being fixed into the rifles. In the nick of time we saw that they were our people, and on running out found that they belonged to the regiment on the extreme right of the line, who had also seen us and were in the act of charging. At once the order was given to turn right about and wheel back into line. This was done steadily and silently and a terrible disaster quietly averted, for had we charged into each other, not only should we have suffered loss at our own hands, but the enemy who had grown tired of waiting for us and were for the most part going, or had gone, to sleep would have wakened and opened a heavy fire on us, which would most probably have ended in the defeat of the attacking force.

When we were in line once more we again slowly and silently crept on. I was just beginning to think that we must have missed the trenches altogether when suddenly, right ahead in the darkness, I saw a flash as if some one had struck a match and then another, and another, and instantly three bullets whistled over our heads. Then there was a pause. The night was still quite dark, and I could only distinguish some twenty or thirty yards on either side, but I saw that our men were alive to the fact that we had found the enemy at last, for bayonets were flashing out in every direction. The piper of my company struck up the "Campbells are coming" and without further word of command the men started to run in the direction of the shots. At that instant, right in front of us, we heard the sound of many bugles, which were carried to right and left till they seemed to fade away in the distance, and instantly, as far as the eye could see the trenches of Tel-el-Kebir blazed into light. It was a truly magnificent sight, for four miles there was one continuous line of rifle fire, except at intervals where the redoubts were placed, and here the big guns flashed out, and the gunners could be seen running their guns through the embrasures, firing and running them back. But there was no time to admire the beauty of the sight, for instantly the air was alive with the hum and whiz of bullets and the scream of shells. By the light of the firing we could see that right in front of us, some 200 yards distant, was a large redoubt, and for this we ran. For a second I thought, "Well this is a real fight, but no one seems any the worse," when suddenly one of my men fell head long to the ground with a crash and then another, and another, but there was no stopping and on we went and fell pell-mell into the ditch. After a little pause we scrambled up the parapet and through the embrasures, killing the gunners at their guns. As the sun rose the Egyptian army was in full flight and the fight was won. In the short run up to the redoubt, three officers of my regiment had been shot dead, and 23 men; five officers had been wounded and 53 men; a sixth of the regiment had been put *hors de combat* in as many minutes. Amongst them, within a yard of the front of the redoubt, lay my young friend, with whom I had chatted at "Nine gun hill," with two bullet holes in his forehead, and on his lips a quiet smile.

THE LATE MR. CHARLESWORTH.

Many residents, especially those who have spent some years in the country, will learn with melancholy interest that Mr. G. C. Charlesworth has passed away. Of Irish parentage, Mr. Charlesworth was born in London and came to Japan in 1871 with his father, who brought out the steamer *Washi (Eagle)* in that year, and whose name may be known to some as the commander of the well-known *Westward Ho*. The youth entered the office of the Locomotive Superintendent of the Government Railway at Shimbashi and spent eight years there, after which he joined Messrs. Kelly & Walsh and later Mr. E. Kildoyle, becoming, when the business of the latter developed into the Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, Secretary of the latter concern. From this he retired some four years ago. Mr. Charlesworth has been in ill-health for a long time and the end was not unexpected. The deceased gentleman in early manhood was a noted athlete (old residents will recall his record pole jump). Though of quiet and retiring disposition he made many friends, by whom his removal at a comparatively early age, will be deeply regretted. Mr. Charlesworth is survived by a widow and two sons, with whom much sympathy will be felt.

The remains of Mr. Charlesworth were consigned to their last resting place in the General Cemetery on Thursday. Rev. E. S. Booth performed part of the funeral ceremony at the residence of the deceased, after which a procession was formed and the coffin was conveyed to the Cemetery. As chief mourner Mr. Charlesworth's son walked behind the hearse, and the pall was borne by Messrs. R. Ward, J. Stewart, F. Winfield, R. M. Varnum, W. K. Tresize, and E. Kildoyle. A very large number of friends, both foreign and Japanese, joined in paying the last tribute to the memory of the deceased, and there were many Japanese floral tributes, though in accordance with Mr. Charlesworth's last wish no flowers were sent by foreigners. At the grave side Mr. Booth performed the remainder of the service, concluding with a prayer on behalf of the bereaved family, and this brought the obsequies to a close.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held on Friday evening at the Van Schaick Hall beginning at 8.30 o'clock, when the following attractive programme was presented:—

PART I.

"SPIRITUALISM,"

By Neil Gordon Munro, Esq., M.B., C.M., Edin.

PART II.

Pianoforte Duo..."Allegra ma non troppo".....Beethoven.
(1st Movement from Pastoral Symphony.)
Miss Elsie Blundell and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

Vocal Duet ....."The Rose of Love".....Cowen.
(From the "Rose Maiden.")
Mrs. E. C. Irwine add Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Piano Solo..."Prelude," Op. 3, No. 2...Rachmaninoff.
Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

Vocal Trio....."Hast thou wandered" ..... Cowen.
(From the "Rose Maiden.)
Mrs. E. C. Irwine, Miss Burdett Leach, and Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Song..... "To Anthea".....Hatton.
Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Piano and Harmonium { "Adagio" from Clarinet Concerto, Op. 15, No. 10.. } Mozart.
Miss Griffin and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

FIRES.

A conflagration occurred at Misaki (in Miura) on the morning of the 28th ult., and 180 houses were destroyed.

About 7.30 o'clock on the evening of the 28th ult. fire broke out in a house occupied by Takahashi, Aoto, Kameao-mura, Minami-katsushika, Tokyo. Two houses were destroyed and one partly injured.

Fire broke out soon after 4 p.m. on Monday in a building at No. 130 Yamashitacho, occupied by Chinese, the flames beginning in the kitchen. By means of buckets the fire was put out with little damage.

On the morning of the 3rd, fire broke out in Matsushima village, Miyagi prefecture, and destroyed over 60 buildings, including the village office.

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THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Causes of the insurrection of Shimabara: Governorship of Hasegawa; deception of Matsukura Shigemasa, the would-be conqueror of Manila; torture on Mount Onsen; excesses of Matsukura Shigetsugu.—Final cause of the outbreak.—Revolt at Amakusa.—Masuda Shiro, the chief of the insurgents.—The insurgents besiege the citadel of Shimabara.—Their refuge in the Hara castle.—Arrival of Itakura, the general of the Shogunal army.—His exploits and his death.—Matsudaira is named commander-in-chief.—Blockade of Hara.—The succour of the Dutch.—Desertion of several insurgents.—Yamada's treason.—Defeat and death of the insurgents.—Fate of their wives and children.—Punishment of Matsukura and Terazawa.

Before giving the details of this insurrection, which was the prelude to the fall of Christianity in Japan, we may take a retrospective look at the different events which provoked this bloody drama. A single exposition of these events will throw sufficient light on this delicate affair, in which Japanese history lays all the blame on the conquered.

It may be remembered that, on the transfer of Michael Arima to Hiuga, in 1614, Hasegawa Sahioe, Governor of Nagasaki, was entrusted with the charge of the vacant daimyate, and that for some time he governed the peninsula of Shimabara. Hasegawa, formerly a Christian, had, on the advice of Ieyasu, apostatized, an act which had gained him the Shogun's favour. Hasegawa had testified his gratitude by subjecting the Christians to unheard-of violence. As Ieyasu was very kind to his devoted servants, he promoted Hasegawa governor of Sakai, where, however, accused of malversation, he was disgraced soon after(26). About the same time Matsukura Shigemasa, ex-*kerai* of the Christian *daimyo* Tsutsui, obtained the peninsula as fief. In the beginning Matsukura was tolerant towards the Christians, and even a friend to the Religious. But, called to order by Iemitsu, he became an out-and-out persecutor. Wishing probably to rehabilitate himself entirely in the esteem of the terrible Shogun, he conceived, it appears, the idea of conquering the Philippines and of driving the Spaniards from these isles. Previous to 1630, he had already sent thither several of his *kerai* who, under the pretext of re-establishing commerce with the Spaniards, were sent to spy out the country(27). This idea, foolish as it was on the part of a petty *daimyo* like Matsukura, won him, nevertheless, the glory of a national hero. Japanese historians exalt Matsukura's courage in this regard, and seriously regret that the valiant *daimyo* did not put it into execution(28). Iemitsu, however, having a strong dislike for heroes of this kind, immediately ordered Matsukura to abandon his idea of conquest and to devote himself solely to the extirpation of Christianity in his own dominions. From that time the *daimyo* of Shimabara employed all his genius in tormenting his Christian subjects. With this object in view, he invented a new torture, which consisted in plunging the unfortunate victims into the boiling springs of Mount Onsen. This method must have succeeded very well, for, some time after, he recommended it to Takenaka, Governor of Nagasaki, who just then was at a loss how to overcome the constancy of the Christians of that locality(29).

This Mount Onsen, rising to a hight of 2,500 feet, is situated in the middle of the peninsula of Shimabara, nearly all the surface of which it covers with its innumerable off-shoots. From time immemorial, its sulphurous waters have been celebrated all over Kiushu, and are still visited in our days. The frightful sound, as well as the sulphurous odour emanating from one of these springs, had so struck the popular imagination that it had been named "Great Hell." It was thither that Matsukura caused the Christians to be conducted. Some had the boiling water poured over them: others were thrown into the gulf itself.

(26) Pagès, p. 318, note 2.
(27) Pagès, p. 723.
(28) Shogyoshi p. 563.
(29) Pagès, p. 701. Relation du Japan, 1628, 1629, 1630.

When, towards 1630, Matsukura in dying left his daimyate to his son Shigetsugu, the situation of the inhabitants of this district became such that a revolt was inevitable. The reason of this was that Shigetsugu, far from contenting himself with torturing only the Christians on account of their faith, employed every means to extort money from his subjects, whether they were Christians or not. A drunkard and a libertine, the revenues of his small domain could no longer suffice for his extravagances. And while he enjoyed life to the utmost at Yedo, his intendants at Shimabara had to have recourse to the worst exactions, in order to cover the deficits. Sometimes, when the unfortunate peasants found it impossible to satisfy the rapacity of their oppressors, the latter made them put on a "Mino," a sort of straw mantle generally used by the country people, and then set fire to it. The desperate contortions to which the unhappy victims delivered themselves during this torture, seemed so diverting to the executioners that they ironically named it "the Mino-dance." The *samurai* themselves were not safe from the *daimyo's* violence: they were obliged to work as common labourers in his salt-works.(30)

To put the finish on their misery, the oppressed people had to endure these monstrous abuses, without uttering the least complaint; an appeal to the Shogun would have brought down on them misfortunes greater still. The terrible Iemitsu, who did not heed even the claims of the Mikado,(31) regarded the complaints of the people as an act of revolt. Nothing could make him relax in this severity. When, some years after the insurrection of Shimabara, the *daimyo* of Sakura delivered himself to similar abuses, a peasant, of the name of Sogoro, had the audacity to present to Iemitsu a petition in which the cruelties of the *daimyo* were denounced. For this daring act the imprudent Sogoro was, without any form of trial, crucified with his wife, while his three children were slain before his eyes.

For years the subjects of Matsukura resigned themselves to their unhappy lot, but finally their cup overflowed. Their long repressed anger burst out all at once with such violence that victims and oppressors perished in the same catastrophe. A last act of savagery was the spark in the powder magazine. A peasant had, in order to escape the torture of the exactors, taken refuge in the mountains. Thereupon they seized the fugitive's daughter and, after having exposed her quite naked, burned all her body with flaming brands. On learning of this barbarous treatment the father, together with some friends, attacked the residence of the tax-collector and slew everybody who fell into his power.(32) This happened on the 17th of December, 1637, and was the signal for the insurrection.

Sano Yashichizaemon, a *samurai* of Matsukura, who, in 1669, wrote the memoirs of his master, with the object of rehabilitating him, gives a religious cause for the final outbreak. According to him, the intervention of Matsukura's officials, on the occasion of a Christian funeral, had already provoked the revolt, on the 11th of December. It may be that this incident had had also something to do with the outbreak, but it was certainly not the principal cause of it. It must not be forgotten that there were thousands of non-Christians among the insurgents, who would certainly have had nothing to do with a religious ceremony.

Whatever might have been the final cause of the insurrection, like a devouring fire the effervescence had in a few days spread over the whole peninsula.(33) Thousands of insurgents, Buddhists as well as Christians, threw themselves on the town of Shimabara, which they partly burned, and prepared to attack the citadel. Seeing that he could not repel the assailants, the Governor despatched in all haste messengers to Nabeshima of Saga and Hosokawa of Kumamoto, the two nearest *daimyos*, begging them to come to his assistance. But they excused themselves, giving him to understand, and with good reason, that without a special order of the Shogun, they were not permitted to send troops into the state of another *daimyo*.

(30) Pagès, p. 842-843.
(31) See chapter XVIII.
(32) Pagès, p. 845.
(33) Henceforth all the details of this insurrection are taken from the "Amakusa Nikki," and the "Amakusa Gunki," both most valuable documents on this question.

While these events took place at Shimabara, the inhabitants of the Amakusa islands, also driven to extremities by the compulsion of Terazawa Katataka, son of the apostate *daimyo*, rose to the number of 5,000 men. Here, the insurgents had at their head several veteran *samurai* of Konishi, Kato and other fallen *daimyo*, and thought of nothing less than overthrowing the the tyrant Terazawa, and to put in his place a *daimyo* of their choice. A false rumour of the death of Iemitsu had encouraged them to attempt this risky enterprise. They had already designated their future *daimyo*. It was a young man of sixteen years of age, called Masuda Shirō, and believed to be a descendant of the Arima family. When the news of the Shimabara insurrection reached them, there was an explosion of enthusiasm in Amakusa. The insurgents marched immediately on Tomioka, the principal citadel of these islands. The Governor of the place, warned in time, had gone to meet them with 3,000 men, but, beaten in a first combat, he had to take refuge in the citadel.

This first victory of Shiro led the Shimabara people to immediately send a message to the young chief, inviting him to come and put himself at their head. Shiro after having vainly tried to seize the castle of Tomioka resolved to leave the Amakusa islands, in order to join the Shimabara insurgents. He embarked therefore with 1,000 men, and, on the 8th of January 1638, landed under the walls of Shimabara. Reduced to the last extremity the besieged were then disposed to throw themselves on the mercy of the insurgents. Already from the commencement of the siege, several *samurai* of Matsukura had deserted the castle and joined the besiegers, so that the Governor, wishing to prevent a complete desertion, had decapitated a hundred and forty one of his *samurai*, who were suspected of maintaining relations with the besiegers.

Just at the very moment, however, when the besieged were thinking of surrendering, the insurgents departed with their arms and baggage. What, then, had happened? It had been announced to them that the Shogunal army was no more than a few days journey from the theatre of war, and the effect of this news was such that the insurgents, in learning it, gave way to consternation and disarray. Instead of making a little effort to gain possession of the castle of Shimabara, they took refuge in Hara, a place about eight leagues distant. There, as an impregnable promontory, rose the ruins of the ancient castle of the *daimyo* of Arima. In a few days the insurgents had raised the fallen walls, cleared the moats, built fences and huts, and collected there as large a quantity of provisions as possible. At the same time 2,000 other men arrived, in sixty junks, from Amakusa, and thus augmented the number of the insurgents. The junks were broken up and their fragments served to make palisades. On the 17th of January all was finished: nearly 37,000 human beings, men, women and children were enclosed in the Hara castle, whence all retreat had henceforth become impossible.

Certainly, for Japanese peasants, accustomed to regard themselves as the slaves of their *daimyo*, the insurgents of Hara had exhibited an unheard-of intrepidity and courage. It may be that their compatriots will one day venerate them as the first champions of the people's rights. But, unfortunately, their exploits were limited to this momentary explosion. They had neither a fixed plan, nor a single chief with some decision of character, to enable them to attain any object whatever. Moreover, they lacked, from the beginning, a sufficient quantity of munitions and provisions of every kind.

However, the Shogunal army, with an effective force of 30,000 men, commanded by Itakura Shigemasa, had arrived at Shimabara. During the whole campaign, Itakura's conduct was inexpli-

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cable. He was either a general of extraordinary incapacity, or else he did not wish to pursue the insurgents, the greater part of whom he knew to be Christians. Being a brother of Itakura, the benevolent Governor of Kyoto, it may be that he felt rather pity for the insurgents than wrath. Anyhow, after having lost a great deal of time in making perquisitions in Amakusa, whence the insurgents had already disappeared, he finally decided to lay siege to Hara.

Meanwhile, strange rumours had disturbed at Yedo the Shogunal residence. The Christians, it was said, led by an extraordinary chief, advanced on Nagasaki, whence a foreign fleet was to bring them to Osaka and thence to Yedo. Itakura having been denounced as incapable of resisting the rebels, Iemitsu named as commander-in-chief the *Rōju* Matsudaira Nobutsuna, and ordered him to set out at once for Kiushu. Itakura secretly warned of this change, wished to strike a crushing blow, before the arrival of Matsudaira, who was to inform him of his disgrace. On the 14th of February, he tried to surprise the castle during the night, but he sustained a severe check. Six hundred dead and three thousand wounded were left under the walls of Hara. Itakura himself fell, pierced by several bullets.

Eight days after, Matsudaira, at the head of a great number of *daimyo*, and of more than 100,000 warriors, appeared before Hara. Among these *daimyo* were the apostates Kuroda Tadayuki and his brothers; Hosokawa Tadatoshi and his son Mitsutoshi; Terazawa Katataka and Michael Arima. Matsudaira had at first called upon the insurgents to surrender, but, on their refusal, he began a regular siege, his design being to reduce them by famine. A considerable fleet, confided to the care of two *daimyo*, was to prevent all escape by sea. Moreover, more than fifty pieces of artillery were, either from ships or from the summit of towers erected in front of the castle, to keep up a continual fire, and thus to hasten the surrender of the place. This bombardment did not, however, produce the least effect: not a single bullet hitting its mark.

Then came the foreign fleet, which had so much frightened the Shogun and his people But, curiously enough, it was not with the rebels that it sided; on the contrary, it helped to crush them. Needless to say, there were, at that epoch, only Dutch ships in the seas of Japan, and one of them, the "De Ryp," came to the succour of the Shogunal army. Already at Itakura's arrival, the Dutch, wishing to please the general, had sent him five cannons and six barrels of powder. Then, at Matsudaira's request, they ordered the "De Ryp" to set sail for Hara. This ship had more success than all the engines of the Japanese. Besides a battery placed on the shore, it rained projectiles on the besieged, of whom several were killed or wounded. From the 24th of February to the 12th of March, the Dutch did not cease to bombard the castle. While responding to the fire of the Dutch, the insurgents sent, by means of their arrows, letters to Matsudaira accusing him of cowardice, and reproaching him with having called in the aid of the foreigners, in order to reduce a handful of peasants. These reproaches, so at least it is said, irritated the proud *daimyo* and *samurai* so much, that Matsudaira was obliged to send away the Dutch to Hirado.

The situation of the insurgents became, however, more and more difficult. Provisions and ammunitions commenced to fail. The non-Christians forseeing a fatal issue, deserted in large numbers. Matsudaira gave them a good reception, and ordered to be thrown into the castle, by means of arrows, a great number of letters promising honours and riches to all non-Christian deserters. To the Christians, on the contrary, he announced that the Shogun's order was to spare nobody, not even the little children. In spite of this implacable order, Matsudaira made, however, an exception in Shiro's favour; he declared that, on account of his youth, he would be pardoned if he surrendered the place. With this object in view, he had caused the mother, the sister, the brother-in-law and the nephew of the young chief to be brought from Udo (Higo) into his camp. Kohei, the nephew, a child of about six years old, was made to carry letters to Shiro, letters which expressed to him the offer of Matsudaira, and the desire of his mother to rejoin her son. Shiro, or rather the principal leaders of the insurgents, sent back the lad with the answer that death appeared to them preferable to surrender. In fact, they even wished to run to meet death in projecting a desperate sortie. On the 4th of April, at two o'clock in the morning, they were to throw themselves on Matsudaira's camp and conquer or die. They had hoped to surprise the enemy, but what was their dismay when they found him ready to meet the attack: one of their own men had betrayed them.

This traitor, Yamada Emosaku, had been for a long time in communication with Matsudaira. He had declared to the latter that he was not a Christian, and had only taken part in the insurrection because he was carried away by the general movement. Matsudaira had promised to pardon and amply reward him, and from this moment Yamada had betrayed all the secrets of the insurgents. The traitor was all the less suspected that, from the beginning he had displayed remarkable intrepidity and had, besides the command over seven hundred men, the general supervision of the castle. It was only by chance that Yamada's treason was discovered. The day after the miscarried exit, a Christian sentinel had picked up an arrow bearing an invitation to Yamada to repair, without delay, to Matsudaira's camp. The chief of the insurgents being at once informed of this treason, had Yamada arrested and kept in sight.

From this moment, the little confidence, that the insurgents had yet left, vanished, like so many other projects, and they understood clearly that all was lost. Already before that, when Matsudaira had summond them to surrender, they had answered the general that they had compelled nobody to take refuge in the castle of Hara, and that consequently they did not oppose the desertion of anyone. Now, they even exhorted their non-Christian followers to leave the castle as soon as possible. It was from these deserters that Matsudaira learned that famine and sickness raged to such an extent, among the insurgents, that they would be in no condition to resist an attack. It was not until then that Matsudaira ordered a general assault, which took place on the 12 of April.

The first ranks of the assailants, composed of *samurai* of an inferior class, carried bundles of bamboo and enormous bucklers which, while sheltering them from the projectiles, enabled them to reach the foot of the ramparts. But, these precautions were useless: the insurgents had already deserted the first enclosure. The fight was only to begin next day, when Matsudaira attacked the two last enclosures. Fearing to fall alive into the hands of an enemy without mercy, the insurgents run to the point where the danger was greatest. The struggle lasted two days, and, on the 14th of April, Matsudaira entered the last enclosure in triumph. None of the insurgents had escaped death. On the 15th of April, the castle was razed to the ground, and the heads of the insurgents were exposed on bamboo stakes; the corpses were thrown into the sea. Shiro's head as well as that of his mother, that of his sister and that of his brother-in-law were sent to Nagasaki, to be exposed there as trophies of this victory. Moreover, Matsudaira had transported thither the heads of over 3,000 insurgents, in order to terrify, in this way, the foreigners of this port, as well as all the Japanese, who still cherished any thought of revolt (34).

It was probably these heads that gave rise to the belief which pretends that Matsudaira had caused the prisoners to be conveyed from Hara to Nagasaki, in order that they might be thrown from the top of the Papenberg, a rock situated at the entrance to the port of Nagasaki. Even in our own days many foreigners believe this error, and naively imagine that the church, which is seen near the Papenberg, is dedicated to these good martyrs.

At the fall of Hara castle, several thousands of women and children were made prisoners. Matsudaira gave them the choice between apostacy and death. Unanimously they asked to share the fate of their fathers and husbands, a favour which was granted them on the spot. Terutsuna, the son of Matsudaira, who had followed his father during this campaign, and who had noted all its details in the "Amakusa Nikki," a diary of the Amakusa war, expressed his admiration for the Christian religion, which alone, he said, could inspire this heroic resolution. Nevertheless, excusing his father for this massacre, he concluded that these wretches, being Christians, merited such a cruel punishment.

Thus finished the insurrection of Shimabara. Matsudaira had bought his laurels at the price of his own soldiers' blood: the number of dead and wounded was as many as 13,000. Before leaving Kiushu, he ordered Matsukura to commit *harakiri*, for having provoked by his exactions this revolt. Terazawa was deprived of the half of his domains. But, implacable justice judged this punishment too light: it delivered Terazawa a prey to insanity, so that in an access of madness he put himself an end to his life.

(34) Kiyo-kiroku. Nagasaki Annals. See also the relation of Koeckbacker, chief the Dutch company.

LAW CASES.

YAMADA v. SIMON, EVERS & CO.

The suit instituted against Messrs. Simon, Evers and Co. by a Japanese sugar dealer named Yamada, claiming *yen* 4,966.96, which was adjourned on the 3rd inst. was resumed on the 26th in the District Court before Judge Kato.

The plaintiff amended his claim to *yen* 4.924.18. A witness named Yasui was rejected on the ground that he is an employé of the plaintiff.

Mr. Yamada, for the plaintiff, introduced some evidence. This included a copy-book which contained copy of a letter dated 12th April, 1901, to the defendants saying that the quality of 3,000 bags of sugar ex steamers *Savonia* and *Serbia* was of such bad grade that he would decline to take delivery. If any defect in quality was found after inspection and analysis by an expert, other goods should be supplied. There was also a letter dated 2nd May, 1901, from Mr. James Dodds addressed to the defendants saying that he had inspected the sugar at the Midoricho bonded warehouse by request of the plaintiff and found that the quality was not bad. The outside of the packing was stained by the contents, but not by sea water. To prove his inspection, the writer attached the analytical certificate of Mr. W. Mueller, of the Normal Dispensary, to his letter. The defendant further insisted that from 1st April, 1901, consumption tax was imposed on imported sugar and the plaintiff seemed to have declined to take delivery of the goods to escape the heavy tax. The goods had at last been sold by auction in July as the firm could not keep them longer in the warehouse.

Mr. Fujiwara held that the quality of the sugar was not in accordance with the contract. Further he introduced a letter of Mr. Masuda Masuzo, a prominent sugar dealer in Yokohama, stating that the quality of granulated sugar was not the same in each bag and the brilliancy was impaired by the staining.

Messrs. Simon, Evers and Co. asked the Court to summon Messrs. James Dodds, Masuda, and Matsuda Kintaro, manager of the warehouse as experts. The Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned *sine die*.

OKANO v. MENDELSON BROS.

In the same Court before Judge Kato this case, in which the plaintiff claims *yen* 2,859.88, which was adjourned on the 12th inst., again came up for hearing.

The plaintiff showed an order note which had been delivered to Okano requiring him to supply *Habutai* silk, by Yoshikawa, the buyer of the defendant firm, and insisted that the plaintiff had supplied to Messrs. Mendelson Bros. the silk after receiving the order note, through a dealer named Akai who had no right to receive money from the defendant against the silk. The defendant, however, paid the money to Akai on the due day. The defendant denied that Yoshikawa

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had any right to make a contract with any body in the name of the firm, and the order note of a Japanese employé could not bind the firm. The firm received the silk from Akai and gave him a receipt for the same, and also delivered back to him those pieces of silk which were rejected. Showing to the Court many old cheques of the Chartered Bank, the Specie Bank, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the defendant stated that hitherto the payments had been made to Akai, and that the cheques were duly endorsed by him in receipt of money from respective banks. The firm never paid Okano, who did not supply the merchandise.

The case was adjourned till the 3rd March at 1 p.m.

On Feb. 26th in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, before Judge Suyenaga, presiding, and two Associate Judges, the hearing was resumed of the action brought by Messrs. C. Nickel & Co., Kobe, stevedores, against the Koyei Shokai, a forwarding agency at Sakaye-machi, Kobe, for the payment of *yen* 184.90 for the landing of goods from certain steamers. Plaintiffs claimed payment for landing about a hundred tons of paper from the steamer *Gtenogle* on the 30th December, 1901; and 103 casks of soda ash, and other goods from other steamers on the following day. After hearing counsel at considerable length the Court adjourned in order to have the evidence of Mr. A. G. Price.

JOVANSEN v. CLUB HOTEL, L'TD.

Before the hearing of this case was resumed, Mr. Sawada for the defendants, applied for a change in the constitution of the Court on the ground that the presiding Judge had denied his request to summon further witnesses. The Court at once adjourned till the 24th.

OKANO v. MENDELSON BROS.

On the 3rd, judgement in this case was given dismissing the plaintiff's claim, with costs.

J. HELM v. HIKIDA.

This case, adjourned on the 12th ultimo, came up for re-hearing on the 3rd.

Mr. Sato, civil engineer, was summoned as witness. He stated that he read the contract made by Mr. Helm and Mr. Fujita, the owner of the Maruo gold mine, in Kaga province. It was guaranteed by Mr. Hikida, who had previously defrayed some money in experimental mining. The contract showed that the parties intended to work the mine on joint-stock account. Under instruction of the parties he attended the trial working of the mine as superintendent from June, 1901, down to the end of January, 1902. On Oct. 31st, 1901, he received *yen* 500 from Mr. Helm as expenses needed for coolie hire and for refining the ore. Very often he forwarded quantities of pure gold to Mr. Helm, but he did not remember how much. He only remembered that during January, 1902, he sent Mr. Helm a quantity valued at about *yen* 300. He received from Mr. Helm some cases containing implements necssary for mining works, including fastenings of engine boilers, beltings, files, wire and other things, valued at about *yen* 1,500. These he had ordered from Mr. Helm direct. The work at the mine was very good so that 8 *momme* (1 *momme*=4 grammes) of pure gold average was produced per 100 *kamme*=6 kilogrammes of ore. On June 10th, 1901, Mr. Helm obtained a quantity of sample ore from the mine and submitted it for analysis to Mr. Mueller of the Normal Dispensary. He did not know the results of this analysis but he believed that it was found good. He did not make any contract with Mr. Helm for salary but plaintiff promised to pay compensation.

A hardware dealer named Watanabe was present as witness and stated that he sold to Mr. Helm the implements detailed in the list before the Court and forwarded them to the Maruo gold mine. He also sent a mining workman to the place at the request of Mr. Helm. The expenses had of course been paid by Mr. Helm.

Plaintiff asked the Court to call Mr. A. R. Weigal and a Japanese named Tamei, employed by the owner of the mine. This was agreed to.

The case was then adjourned till the 17th.

MUKAI v. RUNGE & THOMAS.

The hearing of the case, which was adjourned on the 20th ult., was resumed on the 3rd before Judge Kato in the Yokohama District Court.

A witness stated that on receiving a letter from Messrs. Runge and Thomas urging the taking of delivery of woollen cloth by plaintiff, he went to defendants' on behalf of plaintiff. This was in November, 1902, and he saw Mr. Runge when that gentleman told him that he would confiscate the money deposited if defendant would not take delivery of the whole of the goods which were stored in the firm's godown, and imported as per contract. Witness replied that deliveries could be made within 90 days after arrival as expressed in the contract while as a matter of fact some of the goods did not arrive at the stated time.

Hidaka, the next witness called, said that he saw Mr. Runge in Nov., 1902, and asked him to deliver a part of the cases, but he declined but offered to deliver the whole on payment of cash. The value was about *yen* 35,000. Next time he called on Mr. Runge he intended to pay *yen* 15,000 and to ask him to wait a day or two for the remunder, but this time he did not see him.

The plaintiff asked the Court to call Takano Kumazo as a witness and the Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till the 26th.

DOERING v. KANNHAUSER.

The hearing of the case was resumed on the 3rd before Judge Kato in the District Court,

The plaintiff asked the Court to summon Mr. W. Hagen, of the German Consulate, as witness and the Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till the 19th.

KUROKAWA v. BOWDEN BROS. & CO., LD.

This case, instituted by Kurokawa, a sulphur merchant, against Messrs. Bowden Bros. and Co., Ltd., was called in the District Court before Judge Kano on the 4th.

Messrs. Akiyama and Ikeda were present for the plaintiff, and Mr. Sawada for the defendants.

Plaintiff claimed against defendants *yen* 331.72 and stated that the former made a contract on September 4th, 1902, to sell him 200 tons of sulphur—100 tons in bulk at *yen* 39 per ton, and 100 tons in case at *yen* 38.50 per ton—and to deliver it on the 20th of the same month. The defendants failed to make delivery of the sulphur on the day named, giving as a reason that the ship on which the sulphur was loaded had not arrived in Yokohama. The contract was prolonged till November 9th, 1902, when delivery was completed and *yen* 7,911.07 paid, but interest, *yen* 116.29, storage charges, *yen* 127.80, and premium on fire insurance *yen* 23.73, besides transporting charges, making *yen* 331.72, were not yet paid to defendants.

The defendants held that the contract was already null and void because the wording of the contract provided that it should be non-effective after the first date had passed. All that defendants asked of plaintiff in the course of conversation was whether he cared to take the sulphur when the ship, the *Australian*, arrived at the end of October. The defendants, therefore, were not responsible for any claim.

Plaintiff asked the Court to summon two Japanese as witnesses, to which the Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till the 9th inst.

A COMMISSION CASE.

In this case, instituted by a Chinese named Leong-Chung against Fêng Ju Kong, claiming commission on a loan arranged by plaintiff at the request of defendant, Mr. A. C. Hutton Potts was summoned as an expert to the District Court before Judge Kano, on the 5th. He stated that he followed the profession of a sharebroker in Yokohama, and had been resident here about six years. He did not often take up such business as arranging loans for customers but he knew the rate of the commission in such transactions, viz: 1 per cent. for every *yen* 10,000 and half per cent. for sums about *yen* 20,000. These were fixed rates customary in this city. Of course there were other rates which might be arranged between the parties concerned.

The court then adjourned.

CUSTOMS APPEAL.

Yoshida Toyokichi, an importer, on December 5th, 1902, imported 10 cases of tinfoil, containing 1,000 lbs., by the steamer *Strassburg*, and applied to the customs to grant a permit of import at the rate of 9.64 pence per pound. On examining the article, the appraisers found that the price should be more than the value stated and declared it at *sen* 47.4 per pound, on which they imposed the *ad valorem* duty. A protest was sent in by the importer against this decision and the Director of Customs called in an expert to value the goods, according to Art. 63 in the Customs Duties Law, when the valuation was placed at *sen* 54.9. Upon this decision judgement was given, on February 27th.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the Summary of the Religious Press published in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of November 8th we gave a short account of Dr. Katō Hiroyuki's recently expressed views on religion. The last part of his essay having now been published in the *Chūō-Kōron*, we are in a position to complete our epitome of his opinions. Dr. Katō's views on religion, in addition to being the honest convictions of a philosophical mind, are marked by a very strong vein of commonsense. Though, like many other intellectual men in every part of the world, he does not himself feel any need for religion, he realises that there are many people who do feel the need, and he has made a special study of the conditions subject to which and dependent on which successful religions have been propagated, and he gives us in this essay the results of his inquiry. Having already noticed five distinct points touched on by Dr. Katō we now come to the sixth, which is, *Religions undoubtedly can only be founded by great men.* The Association of Young Buddhists known as the Seito Dōshikai, having the *Shin Bukkyō* (New Buddhism) as its organ, aims at developing an entirely new form of Buddhism. Some little time ago in opposition to Dr. Katō the *Shin Bukkyō* asserted that the founders of great religions were not recognized as great men by their contemporaries; and that both Buddhism and Christianity owe their prosperity to the enthusiasm of later generations of men and women. Dr. Katō refuses to admit this. He says that the fact that Christ was crucified was a proof of his greatness, was a proof that by his teaching and exemplary life he had attracted the attention of the leading men of his day and had excited the enmity of the authorities, both Jewish and Roman. Shaka, too, was no mere scholar. He had great force of character and by this means impressed his doctrines on a number of disciples. The Seito Dōshikai asserts, says Dr. Katō, that what is wanted is a religion to suit the times; that religions need modification and alteration in order to be made to harmonize with the new developments of thought and the new discoveries of mankind, and they go on to maintain that the reform proposed by them is in accordance with the spirit of the times. But is not the spirit of the times against religion altogether? Is it not true that for a long time past religion has been on the decline in Europe? It prospered most in the days when ignorance was almost universal. Superstition and ignorance go together. The people who believe in religion do not wish to see it changed as the new Buddhists propose to change it. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō's idea that a religion can be founded that shall be principally ethical is based on a misapprehension. Religion and ethics are quite different. Though it is natural that a religion should contain a great deal of ethical teaching, its ethics are subordinate to soul-comforting doctrines concerning man's connection with God or with divinities. To give to a mere system of ethics

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such as Dr. Inoue proposes to elaborate the name of religion would be a misnomer. (7) *Great men such as appeared in ancient times are no longer forthcoming.* The world has progressed so much and general intelligence has reached such a high level that the appearance of great men is no longer to be expected. Perhaps we may say that Napoleon and Bismarck were the last really great men that Europe knew. This remark referring to the non-appearance of great men applies to religion as well as to other things. Take our own country. The two greatest religious teachers we have had were Shinran (the founder of the Shin sect) and Nichiren. They both found in the hearts of the warriors of the Kamakura era congenial soil for the truths they proclaimed. The knights of those days were men of very limited knowledge and intelligence and hence they were easily led. But the generation of men with which modern Buddhists have to deal are by no means a docile set. For a long time past among educated people, while Buddhist philosophy has been accepted, Buddhist religion has been rejected as incredible. The Seito Doshikai aims at patching up this doctrine and that and mixing a little modern science with the old teaching; but they will effect nothing this way. If they can preach the old doctrines with new vigour they may do some good, but noisy controversy over mere theories or points of view does more harm than good.

* * *

In a former Summary we gave an extract from the *Chūō Kōron* in which under the title of *Musekishu no Shukyō-kan* (The religious views of persons not belonging to any Denomination) the opinions of Mr. Tokutomi Iichirō were given. The last part of Mr. Tokutomi's lengthy essay has now appeared in his own newspaper, the *Kokumin Shimbun*. Condensed, this is Mr. Tokutomi's confession of faith. (1) *Faith.*—There is nothing in this wide world more sacred than a man's religious belief. For two people to argue about their individual belief is quite futile. To attempt to force our belief on others is wrong. Though in many things there is a certain amount of agreement, when we come to minor points, no two men think alike. It is as our saying has it, *Jūnin, to iro.* (Ten men and ten colours. *Tot homines, quot sententiæ*). Hence *toleration* is a virtue that must be cultivated by us all. Many of our differences are mere nominal discrepancies. Men of faith must realize that they are the world's doctors, and for doctors to be wrangling among themselves while the sick are perishing for lack of treatment is very unseemly. (2) *The attitude of the man of faith to society.* The religious believer is concerned principally with two things only. One is his self-development as an individual; the other is the reform of society. Neither of these duties should be allowed to absorb a man's whole energy and attention. They must co-operate. In order to benefit society we must understand its real state. There are some good people who are quite ignorant of the real state of the world in which they live and so, instead of leading, they are invariably led in a number of things of daily occurrence. One of the great signs of the vitality and influence of religion, when they exist, is the manner in which religion takes the lead in finding a solution for the pressing problems of each age. There have been times in the history of both Buddhism and Christianity when they have been far ahead of society generally, and times when they have lagged ignominiously behind. Take the progress of political ideas in our country. It is a remarkable fact that the first attempt to place the plebeian on an equality with the *samurai*, or gentleman, in this country was made by the Shin sect in the Kamakura era. The idea has during the past thirty years been taken up by our politicians and run for all it is worth, but as far as we Japanese are concerned it had a religious origin. There were times in Europe when Roman Catholicism fell into disrepute owing to its opposition to the spirit of the age and to scientific progress; and it was this fact principally that gave an impetus to Protestants for a while. But in recent years the tables seem to have been turned, and it may be said that both in Europe and America the Roman Catholics understand social questions much better than the Protestants, and in all the principal reforms undertaken they take the lead. It is a significant fact that in England when the capital *versus* labour controversy was at its height no man's opinions carried greater weight than those of Cardinal Manning. W ecall Roman Catholicism *Kyūkyō*, the Old Religion, and Protestantism *Shinkyō*, the New Religion, but in many respects Roman Catholicism is newer than Protestantism, in that it succeeds better in keeping abreast of the times. Religious teachers can only lead society when they are better informed than the people whom they are seeking to lead. The world will bow to superior knowledge combined with great earnestness of purpose and purity of motive. (3) *The connection of religion and the Government.*—The notion that religion will be benefited by any help that Government can give it is false. It was this notion that disfigured the action of the Buddhists under the Yamagata Cabinet. Religion may benefit politicians in many ways, but when a Government begins to patronize a creed, that creed is no longer proof against corruption. Whenever religion has been a real power in the world, as was Buddhism in the days of Shinran then it has occupied a superior position to that filled by secular authorities. It rules in those regions of mind into which no political potentate can intrude. When religion has ceased to feel its own sanctity and superiority to the political "powers that be" its decline has begun.

* * *

The religious periodical which for some years past has borne the title *Tōkyō Maishū Shinshi* has now been re-christened, and from January 1st was published at Osaka under the name of the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* (*Christian World*). This is the fourth time this organ of the Kumiai Church has changed its name. About 20 years ago it first made its appearance under the title of the *Tōkyō Maishū Shimpō*. Not long after it received the name of the *Kirisutōkyō Shimbun*, a title which it retained for many years. For what reason it again incorporated the term "weekly," an addition to its title which has now again been dropped, we can not tell, but a few years ago it assumed the name *Tōkyō Maishū Shinshi*. Mr. Kozaki Hiromichi is the present editor, and the following is the substance of his enunciation of the principles which are to guide him in his management of the paper. The present age is characterized by the appearance in the religious world of all manner of strange doctrines on the one hand and by an attempt on the other hand to represent ceremony and the adherence to traditional religious customs as the must essential part of religion. In a word scepticism and Pharisaism are both in evidence among us. We have no objection to articles of faith or to religious ceremonies, but what we insist on is that Christ is greater than all such things, and that in estimating the value of the Christianity of various individuals and bodies, these forms and formularies are of little count. What we want to see is the development of independence and self-reliance both in churches and in individuals. Liberty of belief should be allowed as far as possible, and the self-support of each church should be an end striven for by all.

* * *

Whether Mr. Ebina Danjō is not beating a dead horse when in a recent article he attacks Japanese nationalistic feeling is a question we are not competent to settle, but the essay which appears in the January number of the *Shinjin* under the title *Shin Nihon no Seishinteki Kokuze* (the Psychology of the Nationalism of New Japan), contains so much that is pertinent to the times that no apology is needed for reproducing it in an abbreviated form here. What may be called the national policy of modern Japan is one of continual progress. If asked what is the fundamental principle on which all our future efforts must be based, we reply, it is no other than the fact that Japan has abandoned her racial and insular exclusiveness and has adopted broad cosmopolitan views on all subjects. The progress we have hitherto made has all originated from our readiness to be taught by the great outside world. In science, in law, in philosophy, in ethics we have borrowed largely from Europe and have been correspondingly benefited thereby. It comes to this, that whatever is cosmopolitan is advanced and enlightened. The limited scope and applicability of our three native religions constitute a great weakness. Shintoism is a cult that could not be transplanted to any other country. Its sole *raison d'être* is the ancestral worship which it encourages and superintends. Our Buddhism, too, has been localized and has been so largely mixed with Shintoism that it has lost the power possessed by a thoroughly cosmopolitan creed. Confucianism is permeated with Chinese localism and that is one reason for its not replacing Shintō here. The Chinese regard it just as many of us regard Shintō. Although in the Confucian writings we meet with the terms Heaven, God and Humanity, yet Confucian morality is purely national and without great modifications cannot be utilized in other countries. Thus we see that our three traditional religions are all out of harmony with the spirit of the times. In Christianity, not in the form in which it is practised in Europe and America, which contains large mixtures of local tradition, but in a form that though modified shall retain all its original essence, we find just what at her present stage of progress Japan needs. Japan having adopted a pronounced cosmopolitan line in things material, her proper course is to do the same in things spiritual; and Christianity contains the elements that she needs to make her mental equipment complete.

* * *

As stated in a former Summary, Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō has recently published a "Life of Shaka Muni." We have been favoured with a copy of the work and now proceed to review it in as far as the space at our disposal permits. In the preface Dr. Inoue informs us that he was induced to undertake the compilation of the work by the following considerations. In Japan there is no reliable life of Shaka Muni, or Gautama Buddha, as he is sometimes called. Those known to Buddhist scholars are full of mythical stories about his miraculous doings. Other accounts of Shaka written by ardent Confucianists misrepresent him in various particulars. In foreign languages there are numbers of excellent lives of Buddha, but these are quite inaccessible to the ordinary Japanese reading public. Since the whole of our literature and art has been deeply affected by the Buddhist religion, even from a purely literary point of view, the lack of a trustworthy account of the life of the founder of that creed has for some years past been much regretted. Dr. Inoue's book covers 286 pages and sells at 60 *sen* a copy. His comparison of Shaka with Christ, though by no means in all parts new, will no doubt interest many Japanese readers. In accounting for Shaka's influence in the world, says Dr Inoue, it is important to note that it proceeded from two causes, one external or circumstantial, the other internal or mental. Among the circumstances that contributed to Shaka's success was the fact that he was not a Brahman by birth, but a Kshatria. It is hardly to be supposed that he would have taken such a strong stand against Brahminism had he been born a member of that proud caste of thinkers. The Kshatrias were bent on reforming, and their minds revolted against the orthodox creed. Shaka was not a priest, and that he, a layman, should have succeeded in founding a new religion reminds one of Christ, whose humble origin proved no barrier to his influence as a teacher. Both these great men confronted a self-satisfied but corrupt priesthood. Both were born at a time when religious abuses had reached a point beyond which it is hardly conceivable they could have gone. Both found themselves in a world ripe for reform. Coming to Shaka's teaching, the doctrine which of all others drew men towards him, was that which proclaimed the social and religious equality of all men. There is neither Brahman nor Kshatriya, Vaisya nor Sudra, said Shaka; we all belong to one universal brotherhood. Christ's attitude to the outcasts of society, the poor, the weak and the despised was precisely the same as that of

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Shaka to the oppressed races of India. Brahmanism and Pharisaism, too, had many points of resemblance and the state of mind produced by the two systems was much the same. In the matter of birth and education Shaka possessed advantages not enjoyed by either Christ or Confucius. In the preparation for their life-work Shaka, Christ and Mahomet all encountered Satan in solitude and overcame the temptations that he placed before them. The account of Shaka's 49 days of meditation and temptation under the *pippala* tree in Buddhagaya reads very much like the Gospel record of Christ's 40 days' fasting in the wilderness, with its subsequent combat with the Devil. And of Mahomet the same kind of thing is stated. In a cave at Hira he devoted himself to the religious meditation that led to the founding of the great Islam faith. Just as Buddhism was Brahmanism reformed, so was Christianity Judaism reformed. When we come to compare the amount of teaching which these two great founders of religions carried on, continues Dr. Inoue, there is a most striking difference. Shaka taught for at least 45 years, Christ only for about 3 years. That the latter should have been able to impress his fellow-countrymen in the way he did in such a short time is most remarkable. His doctrines carried with them a force that swept everything before it. Their action may be likened to that of some powerful explosive like dynamite. The teaching of Shaka was of a milder kind, and hence it took longer to lay hold of men's minds. The fearless attitude of Christ to those in power shortened his career. But the cruel death that he suffered did more than anything else to elicit sympathy from the religious world of that time and made the success of his teaching more rapid than it would have otherwise been. In another way Shaka won the hearts of men. He had been born a prince and might have passed his life in luxury and ease. But he chose a life of abstinence and hardship, and thus showed the world that he was in earnest. Both these great teachers stamped their individuality on the religions they founded. To this day Christianity is more spirited, penetrating and combative than Buddhism. It is a fact worth noting that Christ, Shaka and Mahomet all had the same experience when they endeavoured to enlighten their fellow-villagers or fellow-townsmen. They had no honour in the places where they were born.

Dr. Inoue has succeeded in producing a very readable work, which deserves to have a wide circulation in a country where the interest in Buddhism can never die out. The Sanscrit terms in the book have all passed under the eyes of Dr. Takakusu, who was one of the late Professor Max Müller's pupils.

* * *

The views on religion of Marquis Saionji formed the subject of much comment in the *Tōkyō Maishū Shinshi* that was and have now been reverted to in the *Kirisutokyō Sekai*. In the last number of the *Tōkyō Maishū Shinshi* the following account of the Marquis' views is given by one of the staff of the paper, who had interviewed him. The Marquis dwelt upon the necessity of religion in Japan and said that Christianity was in every way much more suited to the needs of modern Japan than either Buddhism or Confucianism. But he went on to say that the method of evangelizing as now carried on by the Churches was a mistaken one, and that there was a great dearth of men of character in the Churches. Christian pastors and evangelists work chiefly among the lower orders and seem to be expecting to reach the higher orders in this way, said the Marquis. But the proper course to be followed is to begin at the top of the social ladder and work downwards. This will lead to the rapid conversion of the lower orders. It was the adoption of this method that gave such an impetus to Christianity in ancient times. When once there were believers among Cæsar's household it was not so very long before the faith found its way into a powerful monarch's heart. European Christianity in France, England, Russia and Germany was spread in this way. It is because in this country the opposite method is persisted in that progress is so slow and the results seen in no way correspond to the efforts put forth. But in order to carry out the plan I propose, suitable pastors and evangelists are needed. There are numbers of insignificant men among the Missionaries (*kudaranu gwaikoku senkyōshi amata ari*). These persons can effect nothing, and among the Japanese pastors I have not yet seen any really great man. The spread of Christianity in Japan is solely dependent on the efforts of men of character, and since these are not forthcoming there can be no rapid progress just at present. The *Maishū* endorses very decidedly the views of the Marquis as expressed above and the *Koye* (Roman Catholic) takes up the subject very warmly and asks whether the upper classes can be induced to admit the light of Christianity into their houses.

In the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* appears a letter addressed to Marquis Saionji on this subject which after recapitulating the Marquis' opinion as given above goes on in substance to say:—You, sir, have undoubtedly hit us in a sore place. I feel as though you had put a nail through my head. But is this dearth of men of character confined to the religious world? Is it not a characteristic of the times in which we live. Why lay all the blame of this at our doors? And if professing Christians are lacking in the qualities that make for the success of their creed, why do not men like yourself come forward and lead the way? Do you not regard the present situation with too much unconcern? If an effort should be made to influence those near the throne, why does not your Excellency himself take the lead in making this effort? Then the letter goes off into the third person thus. Some years ago the Marquis expressed himself in favour of a non-Christian cosmopolitanism (when he was Minister of Education). But nothing whatever came of it. How would it be were the Marquis to attempt to supply the deficiency of which he complains? He possesses the social rank that could give him access to those lofty regions (*kumo fukaki atari*) of society where he contends the standard of the Cross should be planted, let him show his courage by planting it there. Instead of complaining of the apathy of others, let the Marquis stir himself.

* * *

For many months past complaints have occasionally been made that the work carried on by the Salvation Army and others among prostitutes has been productive of evil; as in many cases, it is asserted, no employment is found for these women after they have left the brothels, and this has led to their going back to the old life. On this subject the Rev. U. G. Murphy, of Nagoya, has written a letter to the *Fukuin Shimpō*. This communication deals with the remarks of Mr. Tomeoka Kōsuke, who contends that simply to release prostitutes from their engagements to the owners of brothels and place them on the streets is by no means the way to get rid of prostitution. To this Mr. Murphy replies that there are places prepared by the Salvation Army to which the released girls may go if they please. Some of them return to their homes. Others get married. Others there are, through not many, who prefer to be left free to act as they please. Having released these girls, it is quite impossible in every case to control their after movements. It is true that there is no workshop or factory in which to employ them. Mr. Murphy gives the following statistics bearing on the results of the anti-prostitution movement. In the Hyōgo Ken in 1900 there were 867 cases of punishment for unlicensed prostitution. The following year, as a result of the crusade against prostitution, the figures fell to 316. In 1899 the number of prostitutes in the Ken numbered 2,800, but two years later it had fallen to 1,200. In Tōkyō the amount of private prostitution carried on had undoubtedly diminished. Mr. Murphy further states that according to investigations made 8/10 or 9/10 of the released prostitutes have taken to respectable ways of earning a living. He adds that instead of coolly criticizing, Mr. Tomeoka and others would do well to come forward and help those engaged in the movement to remedy what defects there are in their organization.

In the *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church), No. 532, Mr. Yamada Toyohiko notices at some length Bishop Schereschewsky's translation of the Bible into Chinese. As stated in these columns some little time ago, the printing of the Bishop's version was done in Tōkyō. Mr. Yamada says that only first-class Chinese scholars in this country are competent to pronounce an opinion upon the merits of the translation as a whole, but the line adopted by the Bishop in rendering certain important terms deserves the attention of Japanese Christians and of missionaries generally. Mr. Yamada refers to the similar work being carried on by Bishop Nicolai, whose version of the New Testament has already been published, and who is now diligently engaged in translating the Old Testament. Some of the translations of terms adopted by Bishop Schereschewsky are given by Mr. Yamada and favourably commented upon by him. The Bishop has translated *diabolos*, *daimon* and *daimonion* by 魔, *Ma*, avoiding the term 鬼, *Ki*, as likely to convey wrong impressions to the Chinese mind. The term for altar is not 祭壇 *Saidan*, but *Saidai* (台); the Bishop being of opinion that as far as possible it is well to avoid using terms that are apt to mean something quite different from the Bible signification to the Chinese who hear them. Temple, when referring to a very sacred place, is rendered by 殿 *den*. Other buildings used for religious purposes are called 堂, *dō*, or 聖堂, *Sei-dō*. *Grammateus*, or scribe, is rendered 經士, *Keishi*, and not 士子, *Shishi*, as heretofore. This translation lays stress on the fact that the scribes were not mere penmen, or recorders, but were students of the scriptures. In the case of *gehenna* and *paradeisos* the original terms have been retained, the Bishop being averse to adopting the Buddhist terms *jigoku* and *gokuraku*. In an interview with Mr. Yamada the Bishop expressed himself as strongly in favour of transliterating the original terms in all cases where suitable and safe equivalents were not to be found in Chinese. He went on to say that in theology and philosophy alike it was very frequently misleading to make existing Chinese compound words the medium of conveying quite new ideas. Some of the translations made by the Jesuits in China in the middle ages were most odd. *Cherubim* was rendered Tengu, and 神文, *Shimpu* was explained as *Deus Nyorai* 如來.

The *Seikyō Shimpō* informs us that Bishop Nicolai has just finished translating a very bulky volume of prayers and that the work is now in the hands of the Greek Church christians.

* * *

In the Roman Catholic organ the *Koye* appears an article entitled "The Perpetual Changelessness of the Doctrines of the Catholic Church and their Development and Progress," of which the following is an epitome. The Protestants complain of the Roman Catholics that they cling to traditionalism and from age to age never change. Now it is quite certain that there are certain things connected with Christianity that can never be changed. If Revelation were capable of being altered by man, it would cease to be Revelation, and so it is with all the great cardinal doctrines of the faith. Truth is always truth, and never can undergo any change. But nevertheless there are many things connected with our faith which were obscure in one age but were made clear in another, and there are certain particulars in which teaching may be altered to suit the age. But to assume as the Protestants do that a man like Luther or Calvin is at liberty to put his own interpretation upon the words of scripture and elaborate a creed of his own is subversive of the authority of the Church and opens the door to all sorts of abuses.

* * *

In the *Koye* l'Abbe Ligneul attacks Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō under the title *Shirite nochi*

* The *Jimmin Shimbun* a short time ago published an article entitled *Kyūteigun no Zaiaku* (The Sins of the Salvation Army). Of course it is not improbable that the assertions made in that article were false but it is undeniable that there is apprehension in some quarters that the arrangements made for dealing with the released women are inadequate.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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Katarubeshi (One should know before talking about things). M. Ligneul says that though Dr. Inoue writes much on both philosophy and religion, the Doctor is neither a theologian nor a philosopher. If he knew what religion really is he would never talk about manufacturing one for others. There are three questions the Doctor should put to himself and answer. (1) Has man a body only, or has he also a soul? (2) If man has a soul, what will become of it? What will be its final destiny? (3) If there is a destiny for the soul what steps should be taken to fulfil that destiny? Religion answers these questions. The religion that gives a true answer to these queries is a true religion. Men's natures are all alike. What one needs another needs, and therefore to talk of preparing a religion to suit any given class of people is absurd. No other answers can be given to the above questions than those that have already been given. The Doctor cannot change human nature, neither can he alter man's destiny, nor can he change the means by which this destiny can best be fulfilled.

BANK OF FORMOSA.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

On Thursday evening at the Bankers Club, Mr. Yagyu, President of the Bank of Formosa, invited to dinner Mr. Sakatani, Vice-Minister of Finance, and a number of the principal shareholders of the bank, including Baron Shibusawa, Mr. Kihachiro Okura, Mr. Soyeda, President of the Industrial Bank of Japan, Mr. Soichiro Asano, and Mr. Kenzo Ikeda. After Mr. Yagyu's address on the business conditions of his bank, Mr. Sakatani spoke as follows:—

"Gentlemen:—We, the official supervisor and principal shareholders of the Bank of Formosa have been invited by President Yagyu of that Bank to listen to some statements from him on the business conditions of the Bank. And we wish to express to him our sincere satisfaction with the accurate and detailed statements just made by him.

"The Bank of Formosa is the largest bank established in our newly-acquired territory. And owing to the short time that has elapsed since its establishment and the remoteness of the location of its Main Office, its President has wisely considered it advisable to hold an informal gathering of the principal persons interested in his bank, in order to offer, in addition to the statements made at the general meeting of shareholders, more detailed information on the business conditions of his bank. That is how we are here this evening. We highly appreciate the thoughtfulness of the President. According to the report just given by him the success achieved by the Bank exceeded all bounds of expectation. We can easily imagine that the bank has been of great service to the Government of the island; and we should all heartily endorse the intention of the President to extend the wholesome influence of the institution beyond the bounds of the island and thus bring Formosa into closer relationship with the neighbouring continent. We also wish to assure the President that the prudent and thoughtful measures recently taken by him in connection with the extraordinary depression in the value of silver have given us deep satisfaction. The establishment of the Bank of Formosa was one of the most important undertakings devised by the Government for the amelioration of the condition of the island. It is therefore the sincere hope of the Government that the President and officials of the Bank will never fail to do their utmost for the achievement of the object for which it was established.

"Now while I am speaking of the administration of Formosa, which is not far from the English Colony of Hongkong, I cannot help being reminded of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. It was just one year ago that the conclusion of the Alliance was announced. It is scarcely necessary for me to say that the diplomatic arrangement in question has been of very great service in ensuring the peace and tranquillity of the Far East, in strengthening the position of the two countries in this part of the world, and in promoting the civilization and welfare of mankind in general. Even before this compact was put down in black and white, an alliance had practically been in existence between the two nations. Not only has there never existed any conflict of interests, political or commercial, between them, but there has been notable similarity of the social customs prevailing in each. Especially with regard to language which is the most important instrument for human intercourse. English has been taught in almost all our public and private schools in addition to our national tongue. This is one of the important influences at work for the furtherance of intimate relations between the two people. The real value of the Alliance does not exist in the written document by which it has been concluded, but rests on the sympathy existing between the two nations. Well disposed as this nation had always been towards the English, its sentiments towards them have wonderfully increased in warmth since the announcement of the Alliance twelve months ago—a fact which is noticeable even among the people of the lower classes and even the little boys and girls. This is a very auspicious circumstance for the sake of the two nations in particular and of the Far East in general. Formosa being very near to Hongkong, I may safely say that its economic progress and development will naturally lead to the growth of its tradal relations with that important British possession in the Far East—a trade which cannot fail to be of great advantage to both nations. I trust that this point will not be lost sight of by our host in his strenuous endeavours to promote the economic development of Formosa.—*Japan Times.*

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Hwfa Mon, the venerable Archdruid of Wales, to his great regret, has been compelled by ill-health to relinquish his romantic home beside the "sacred Dee," and reside at Rhyl. When not engaged in the performance of "Archidruidical functions" Hwfa Mon is a Nonconformist minister with a characteristically Cambrian patronymic.

Mr. Albert Chevalier, the singer and entertainer, who was photographed the other day "in his library," seems ambitious of literary fame. Not long ago he published his autobiography, under the title of "Before I Forget," and now he has given us a little book of "Limelight Lays." Some of his dramatic pieces range from fantasy to burlesque. The theatrical scribe is nowadays quite a "common object" on the literary shore. Mr. R. G. Legge, the author of the new play at the Shaftesbury Theatre, "For Sword or Song," has thought sufficiently well of it to publish it in book form.

Mrs. Annie S. Swan has contradicted the ridiculous report that she was in receipt of a yearly income of £20,000 from her literary earnings. Her whole earnings, she takes the trouble to say, put together over that period fall very far short of that sum. She is quite right to observe that such a statement shows utter ignorance of the subject. "Fortunes are not made in the literary life," she says, "except, perhaps, by the very few at the top of the tree. For the rest a fair competency is all that can be reasonably hoped for, and that even must ever be a precarious quantity. To be accredited with fabulous wealth lays one open to serious misrepresentations."

There is a striking international sameness about the language in which all peoples address animals. Almost all Europeans, when they wish to stop a horse, say "Whoa!" In like manner the old Greeks and Romans said "Oh!" and the Hindoos, as far back as 3,000 years ago, said "You," which is a Sanskrit, word and means "stop." An English milkmaid, when she starts to milk a cow, says "Soh!" and in Sanscrit the word "Sah" is the imperative of the verb "to keep still." Some shepherds, when they call their flocks, cry "Caday!" and in the old Anglo-Danish tongue "Cade" signified "lamb." They also called a calf "bos" or "bossy," and "bos" is the Latin name for an ox.

In the "Black Books" of Lincoln's Inn may be read for more interesting things than are recorded in most volumes bearing the same name. The fourth volume of the records of the Inn, just published by the Benchers, contains, for instance, the touching story of an infant found abandoned in the Inn in 1775. The Benchers clothed and boarded the youngster, and the various charges for his juvenile clothing have their allotted place in the Treasurer's accounts. A mad cat bit the boy when he was five years old, "and one guinea's worth of powders are bought to cure him." This lavish supply of powders having achieved the purpose with which it was purchased, the boy was sent to school in Durham, where his board and education cost the benevolent Benchers £7 12s. a year. At the age of sixteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter in the neighbourhood of the school, and the Benchers continued to show a generous interest in his welfare by making him an allowance of pocket-money of 40s. a year. Who shall say that lawyers are wanting in the finer instincts of humanity?

By the death of Mr. Minchin, the little band of survivors of those whom Haileybury sent out to govern India is still further diminished. He united in a very remarkable degree a talent for letters with great practical ability as an Anglo-Indian administrator, and, what is perhaps rarer still, he was at once a poet with a real note of his own and one of the best amateur chess players of the century. In his prime he was almost equally good at translating Dante and riding down pig, but it was a little unfortunate that to all these accomplishments he should have imagined Nature had added the gift of oratory, which certainly was not his, and which he might have been well content not to attempt.

M. Maeterlinck contributes to the January *Pall Mall Magazine* an article on the Battle of the Spurs, that great struggle on the plain of Groeninghebeek, which saw "the whole of the chivalry of Philip the Fair, fighting under the orders of Robert of Artois . . . annihilated." M. Maeterlinck describes the battle with vigour and picturesqueness; the scene moves and glitters; but M. Maeterlinck can never be wholly detached, and in the concluding words we get back to his old note: "It was the first great defeat of mediæval chivalry, and one of the first victories of the mysterious justice which quickens that strange harmony of spiritual and moral forces which is called Mankind."

Mr. G. E. Thorley, who is this term resigning the Wardenship of Wadham College, has long been an invalid, and is not a familiar figure to the present generation of Oxford undergraduates, but some years ago he was a potent personality in the liberal development of the University. The son of Commander Thorley, one of Nelson's old "sea dogs," he has passed his entire academic career in the service of the picturesque little college founded by Dorothy Wadham, which has had during the past half-century a rather chequered history. The English Positivist movement originated among the Fellows—Mr. Frederic Harrison still retains his connexion with his old college as an honorary Fellow—and this curiously synchronised with a religious movement among the undergraduates, of which one of the leaders was the late Father Maconochie, of St. Alban's, Holborn.

Miss Henriette Corkran, in her "Celebrities and I," sketches of noted persons she has known, gives interesting glimpses of Robert Browning. She says that Browning thoroughly enjoyed the good things of life. He was affectionate, almost gushing, to people he liked, and had a number of lady worshippers—young, middle-aged, and elderly; they were mostly widows. It amused me to watch his behaviour to each and all. He liked them for different qualities and varieties of disposition. They were all wealthy women, and he managed to get the best from all of them. He paid them visits at their different beautiful places on the Continent, was always pleasant, and tried to make others happy. His exuberance of manner, which amounted to gush, was a part of himself; mere acquaintances were often deceived by it, imagining that Mr. Browning, for some unaccountable reason, had taken a particular fancy to them. I recollect one afternoon when visiting mutual friends, a wealthy American widow rushed in, exclaiming, 'I thought till to-day that Mr. Browning only cared for me platonically, but such is not the case, I assure you.' We all laughed, remarking that the poet's manner was generally affectionate; that it meant nothing but hearty genial goodwill towards most women. This particular widow did not relish this interpretation. She had secret hopes of being the successor of the great Elizabeth Barrett Browning; but time showed that the poet never intended marrying again.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Bluff Lot No. 22, belonging to the estate of the late Julius Witkowski, containing 949 *tsubo*, with the buildings thereon, was sold at public auction by Messrs Eyton & Pratt at their Sale Rooms on Monday afternoon and fetched *yen* 10,700. Mr. Fr. Retz was the purchaser.

Mr. Jno. W. Hall sold at public auction on Wednesday morning the following shares :—

10 Shares	Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, L'td.....	Yen. 107.00 each
15 Shares	Helm Bros., L'td.	42.00 "
15 "	Langfeldt & Co., L'td....	30.00 "

We regret to learn that news has been received by Messrs. Ahrens & Co. Nachf. announcing the death, very suddenly, on Jan. 13th at Hamburg a few hours after the arrival of his vessel, of Capt. Paul Lueneschloss, the very popular commander of the H. A. L. steamer *Kiautschou*. The deceased was a man of splendid physique, and had only attained his fifty-third year at the time of his death. He leaves a widow, with whom much sympathy will be felt.

News recently reached Japan that William Wilson, a paymaster in the Manila Administrative Office had stolen $600,000 belonging to the Government and absconded to Japan. The Manila Authorities therefore requested the Japanese police to arrest the fugitive and offered a substantial reward. This request reached the Settlement Police Station through the Foreign Department on January 19th. After thorough investigatiou, the police found that Wilson took a room at Wright's Hotel on the 10th of January, and two days later, on the 13th left by the steamer *Shinano Maru* for Seattle. Recently the Manila Authorities informed the Japanese Foreign Office that Wilson has been arrested at Seattle.

Dr. Herbert Canton, Staff-Surgeon, H.M.S. *Tamar*, who had many friends in Japan, died on Feb. 21st at the Naval Hospital, Hongkong, and was buried in the afternoon at Happy Valley with impressive naval honours. The deceased, whose seniority dates from 21st August, 1895, was formerly Fleet Surgeon on H.M.S. *Immortalité*. In 1895 he went home on leave, and during his stay in England he married, afterwards returning to Hongkong and being appointed on 20th August, 1900, to the position he held at the time of his death. Dr. Canton was on the eve of departing for England with his wife, upon whom the blow must have fallen with terrible violence.

A golf club has been formed in Kobe. Mr. A. H. Groom," who presided at the meeting of those who decided to form the club, said the idea of a Golf Club could never have been carried out if intending members had not come forward and put up the funds. One or two "philanthropists" had volunteered, with the result that the necessary money had been guaranteed. The expense of buildings, pavilion, &c., was estimated at *yen* 3,000, to include a sinking fund, and a sum of *yen* 730 had been forthcoming which would cover the rent for ten years, for which period a lease had been obtained. The subscription would be *yen* 10 per annum. By the end of next month the links would be in order. At present they had only four greens, but they hoped to have others ready by next month, and the pavilion would be completed by the middle of May, when they hoped to have their formal opening ceremony.

Despite the financial depression in Australia, due to the long drought, that country is planning a large development in her railway system. The South Australian Government has projected a road which, by running from South to North and connecting the railways already built, will connect the Indian with the Southern Pacific Ocean. This line is to be 1,200 miles long, and will be built and equipped in such a way as to accommodate trains running at a speed of twenty miles an hour, stoppages included. The estimated cost is $30,000,000, and tenders are to be invited from Australia, the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany, eighteen months being allowed for their preparation. What are apparently the most liberal terms will be offered by the Government. The company contracting to build the road will be granted, in return for their outlay, territory along the road amounting to 75,000 acres per mile, or in all 90,000,000, a territory larger than the whole of Great Britain and Ireland. This land will not be taxed by Government for ten years. The company also receives a title to whatever gold and other minerals are found in the territory granted them. A considerable part of the road, however, will run through territory which is practically unsettled, so that the cost of running trains will be heavy. The drought, which has been so disastrous to Australian prosperity, is at last broken, and for several weeks there has been a heavy rainfall in the country.—*The Independent.*

THE FURNESS RAILWAY DISASTER.

All indications conveyed by the telegrams suggest that the storm which visited the British Isles on the 27th February was a south-westerly gale. Indeed, in reading the dispatches, one is irresistibly reminded of that terrible accident which, over twenty years ago, thrilled all readers of the newspapers and sent sorrow to many a household. In the case of the Tay Bridge a passenger train was blown off the rails and up against the girders, after which a considerable portion of the bridge fell with the train into deep water, not a soul surviving. On that dreadful night there was great damage elsewhere and much loss of life and many narrow escapes. Take the case of the Atlantic liner *Britannic*, which, in command of Capt. Perry, left Liverpool on the Saturday and during the height of the storm steamed at full speed six long hours off Great Orme's Head without shifting the light one point. That was a south-westerly gale, and as we have said there is reason to suppose that the storm now reported was from the same direction. On this supposition the experiences of the *Resolution* steaming south from Holyhead and meeting the full send of the Atlantic; of the *Collingwood* (a ship of very low freeboard) running to the eastward before the storm, and of the *Lucania*, which found herself unable to heave-to for the landing of passengers at Queenstown, are explained. So also is the storm wave that visited the French coast. And, lastly, the disaster to the train on the Furness Railway would be most likely to happen with a westerly to southerly gale. To other than north of England readers it may be necessary to explain that to avoid a long diversion round the head of the estuary (an arm of Morecambe Bay) into which the river Leven empties the waters of Lake Windermere, the line crosses sea water by means of stone embankments and a long bridge. The greatest depth at high water is probably fifteen feet; at low tide the bay is almost dry except for the channel in which the Leven runs and which affords so-called navigation to the people of the all but dead port of Greenodd. It is impossible to say whether the train was blown off the bridge in the middle, or off the embankments, but in no case would the fall exceed forty feet, though it is highly probable that with such a storm the waters of the Irish Sea would be piled high in Morecambe Bay and its inlets.

AMERICAN TOPICS

Indianapolis dispatches say that the United Mine Workers' Union is considering the raising of $2,000,000, which will make its total strike fund now available over $3,000,000.

Mr. Carroll D. Wrigbt, Commissioner of Labor, is quoted as saying that the wages now paid in the United States are higher than ever before in the history of the country. The highest level up to the present time, he says, was made in 1892.

Maine shipyards turned out in the year 1902 merchant vessels aggregating 37,201 tons, net register, compared with 47,146 tons in 1901, a decrease of 9,945 tons. Bath leads all other districts in the extent of operations, having this year 25,517 tons, compared with 26,392 tons in 1901, a loss of 875 tons net, although the gross tonnage was greater than that of 1901.

Bradstreets says that the right of Americans to prospect for gold and other minerals in Eastern Siberia has been granted within an area of 200,000 square miles, bordering on the Behring Sea. A concession has been granted an American company.

The most valuable article entering the port of New York during the year 1901-02 was coffee, according to the report of the Chamber of Commerce. Coffee to the value of $58,329,401 was imported, manufactures of cotton coming next, with the total valuation of $36,144,677.

The British Admiralty has decided to strengthen the North American and West Indies station by the addition of three cruisers, with an additional admiral. The squadron will be divided into two parts, northern and southern, the latter having its base at Kingston, Jamaica.

Ex-Insurgent General Gonzales, formerly opposed to General Bell in the Batangas province of Luzon, is now a fourth-class inspector of police under the U.S. Government. He is considered a valuable addition to the constabulary, as he knows every man, woman and child in the province.

Augustin Daly's estate, which, according to an appraisement which has just been filed, lacked at the time of his death almost $30,000 of an amount sufficient to pay his debts and the expenses of administration, has since increased in value until all the provisions of his will can be met and a balance of $250,000 will remain for distribution among the heirs. Mr. Daly died on June 7, 1899, in Paris. The gross personal estate was estimated at a valuation of $332,986.

The annual report of the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce shows that the aggregate trade of Canada exceeded that of the previous year to the extent of a little over $37,000,000, while the increase over the year 1895 has been, in round numbers, $199,500,000. Deputy Minister Parmelee points out that Canada leads the procession in trade increases, as is evident from the following percentage :—Canada, 96.05; Japan, 89.06; Australian Commonwealth, 62.21; United States, 48.08; Netherlands, 43.8; Italy, 39.01; Germany, 32.45; Belgium, 32.08; Argentine Republic, 30.91; United Kingdom, 24.77; France, 18.16; Spain 3.65; Cape Colony, 2.62. Further Canada's trade, during the year, per capita of population, figures at a little over $77; that of the United States at between $30 and $31; Great Britain, $102; France, between $53 and $54; Germany, about $41.

Congress has acted tardily, indeed, in voting to increase the salaries of the federal judges, and the increases made are inadequate, but it has at last done something in the right direction. The House in January passed the Senate bill providing for an advance in the salaries of the judiciary. Under this bill the salary of the chief justice of the Supreme Court is increased to $13,000 and that of the associate justices to $12,500. The salary of circuit judges is raised to $7,000 and that of district judge to $6,000. This measur increases the salary list of the judges by about 25 per cent. *Bradstreets* has advocated an increase in the compensation of the members of the federal judiciary for many years, and we feel that Congress might well have made the increment larger in each of the cases mentioned. Even under this bill the chief justice of the Supreme Court of the United States gets only a little more than two-thirds of the salary paid to a justice of the New York Supreme Court in the First Department. A high rate of compensation should be paid to judges of the court of last resort in the United States if it is to continue to attract the best equipped minds of the American bench and bar.

The Supreme Court of the United States has held, in the case of Blackstone vs. Miller *et al.*,

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that the state of New York has the power, under the Inheritance Tax law, to tax the estate of the late president of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company upon money deposited by him with a trust company in New York city, although he was domiciled in Illinois and the estate had paid a succession tax in that state. The court, speaking through Mr. Justice Holmes, said: "No one doubts that succession to a tangible chattel may be taxed wherever the property is found, and none the less that the law of the situs accepts its rules of succession from the laws of domicil, or that by the law of the domicil the chattel is part of a universitas and is taken into account again in the succession tax there. * * * No doubt this power of two states to tax on different and more or less inconsistent principles leads to some hardships. It may be regretted also that one and the same state should be seen taxing on the one hand according to the fact of power, and on the other, at the same time according to the fiction that in successions after death mobilia sequuntur personam and domicil governs the whole. But these inconsistencies infringe no rule of constitutional law."

Some surprise was occasioned recently by the news that an Inspector of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry had been arrested and fined by a local court in Massachusetts on the charge of cruelty in killing cattle under condemnation as being infected with the foot-and-mouth disease. The Inspector, as it appeared, refused to pay the fine imposed by the court and was confined in jail in consequence. The imprisonment of an authorized representative of the Agricultural Department under circumstances which made it his duty to kill cattle naturally led to the intervention of the Department, and the unusual spectacle was presented of representatives of the law departments of the National and State Governments, respectively, appearing, the one to oppose and the other to support the imprisonment of a national official by the order of a State tribunal. The issue was not long in doubt. Justice Brown, sitting in the United States Circuit Court at Boston, discharged the Inspector from custody, holding that the act of Congress appropriating money for the extermination of the foot-and-mouth disease embodied authority for the extinction of infected cattle; that the killing was done by the Inspector under proper instructions as a federal officer, and that the State court had no jurisdiction in the case. It seems odd that this ruling was required to be made by a court, but things sometimes happen that way remarks *Bradstreets*.

Under the title "Debtors to whom the Venezuelan Affair may serve as a Warning," the London *Financial Times* publishes the following list of defaulted payments on debts of South American states:—

	Principal outstanding.	Approximete interest: arrears.
Argentina—	£	£
Municipal loans.....	1,051,500	710,638
Provincial cedulas...	*15,858,688	—
Colombia	2,700,000	155,250
Costa Rica.....	2,000,000	132,625
Guatemala.....	1,482,800	207,592
Honduras	5,398,570	13,826,418
Santo Domingo	3,885,350	†
Venezuela	4,571,167	690,910
Total.....	36,948,075	15,723,433

* Including interest, etc., in arrear. † Unknown.

Honduras, the *Financial Times* points out, has a debt of £33 per head, or more than double the per capita debt of Great Britain. Colombia has been in arrears since January, 1900. Costa Rica defaulted in 1874, 1895, and last October: Santo Domingo in 1872, 1892, 1879 and 1899. Of Argentina this paper observes:—"The debt in that case consists of the Santa Fé and Cordoba city loans, and the cedulas of the Mortgage Bank of the Province of Buenos Ayres."

In an address delivered before the Rice Association of America, recently in session at Houston, Mr. F. N. Gray observed that the fact that the people of the United States do not eat rice is shown by the statistics that a population of 80,000,000 consume less than five pounds per capita per annum of the 400,000,000 pounds of clean rice now produced annually in the United States. That this population will eat rice is shown by the fact that wherever this cereal has been properly introduced a great demand has been immediately created. Among those of the south who are familiar with rice, the per capita consumption is 100 pounds or more per annum. It has been practically demonstrated by a great railway corporation that there are no less than 200 different ways in which rice can be cooked in a most palatable form. "Rice properly manufactured," the speaker declared, "could enter into competition with wheat, oats and other cereals universally sold and known as breaktast foods. Moreover, rice flour, made of broken or cheaper rices, compounded with certain proportions of low or cheaper grades of wheat flour, will make a bread white, nutritious, wholesome and acceptable to any man's table. These are questions which are destined to play a most important part in the economy of future rice development. The manufacturers will solve and utilize for the most part all the rice that can be eventually produced in the United States. Already nearly all of our imported rices, which are now largely of the lower grades or broken rices, are used by brewers who cannot get enough of the domestic product known as 'brewers' rice' for the manufacture of beer. With rice entering into bread making and also into various preparations of breakfast foods, it will readily be seen how consumption can be increased far in excess of the limitations of production in the gulf-coast rice belt, which comprises the rice-producing area of America." Here it may be noted that the progressive methods employed in the rice producing sections of the United States are causing the old world growers to speculate as to the probable future ability of the United States to take entire care of its own home demand.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ECHIGO OIL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have now before me the weekly edition of your paper in which appears an article on the Echigo oil. What you say in it would seem to imply that the real cause of the International Oil Co.'s unfavourable state at present is the obstacles put in its way by Japanese companies. In my opinion, this does not quite hit the mark. Having made a visit to the Echigo oil districts just at the time when the company in question made its advent, and studied some aspects of the business on the spot, it was my conclusion that it was highly doubtful for the company to realize its expectations according to the policy it then adopted. Exactly the opposite course should have been taken, viz., it should have begun with ensuring to itself a supply of crude oil by boring its own wells. Doubtless, it has exploited the field and seems to have been satisfied by the geological formation of the ground so far from scientific and technical standpoints of view. But oil well-sinking is an affair in which theory and practice find it most difficult to harmonize with each other. Practically speaking, the company's wells have failed one after another. Yet simultaneously, the refinery was in process of building on its present scale. The two leading Japanese companies possess a greater majority of wells worth working. Therefore they are able to carry on their business with profit. Otherwise, it is very, very difficult for a big oil company in Echigo to subsist. In the case of the International, however, they set out with their work before they could assure themselves as to the sources whence they could get the raw material. Perhaps they may have safely felt that the concessions they secured will yield any amount of oil required by the refinery. Or, still further, they may have had an eye on the small companies and intended to pursue the same policy as the mother company did in the United States. If so, they misunderstood the characteristics of the Echigo people who have the real mastery of the industry at present. I should think that it is a great pity that the Co.'s managament did not take into consideration these delicate points. Even a Japanese company could not have expected to succeed under similar circumstances. The Co.'s refinery is capable, as I understand, of refining a far greater quantity than the total output of Echigo oil wells. It would seem to an outsider a bold step to start such an enterprise before performing either one or the other of the necessary arrangements I have set forth above.

As to the concluding sentence of your article that foreigners' enterprise in the interior must anticipate enormous difficulties, I generally agree with you and may in the future take the liberty of addressing you on the subject from my experience.

Yours faithfully, A JAPANESE OUTSIDER.

Yokohama, February 23, 1903.

THE FAMINE IN THE NORTH.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In order to endeavour to enlist the practical sympathy of the Japanese in the sufferings of their fellow countrymen in the North, on behalf of the firm which I represent, I beg to offer to the "Awomori Relief Fund" the sum of one hundred *yen* provided one hundred separate subscriptions of a similar (or larger) amount be forthcoming from Japanese and acknowledged by the press in Yokohama and Tokyo.

I am making a similar offer in Kobe, to be applicable to subscriptions acknowledged by the Japanese press in Kobe and Osaka.

Perhaps your contemporaries published in the vernacular will give publicity to this offer.

Your obedient servant,

F.

THE RECENT IMPOSTOR CASE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of Feb. 28th, under the caption "Credulity," you imply that the missionaries who were unfortunate in their relations with "Count Rothenkirchen," contemplated exchanging "the position of Missionary for that of Russian Consul." This, I know, was not true in the case of one, and I have every reason to believe was not true of any. The fact is that the position offered was not that of Consul, but Vice-Consul and according to representations would require only a nominal portion of time; an assistant was to be provided for all the work excepting that involving special responsibility. The thought of the missionaries concerned probably was that they could do practically the same amount of service, at the same time relieving their Missionary organizations of a certain amount of financial burden.

It is certainly regrettable that in calling attention to this affair, more courteous language was not employed, since subscribers and supporters of your paper were among those concerned.

Respectfully yours, VERITAS.

A RECENT DISCUSSION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With the simple purpose of applying a few correctives to the discussion on Harnack between Miss Huhold and Mr. Wendt, kindly allow me to add a few further remarks. I take the points in Mr. W.'s letter in the *Japan Mail* of Feb. 17th, seriatim.

1. After granting that Miss H. did not "falsify" he makes the assertion, "The falsifier is somebody else." But he adduces no proof to sustain this contention either. To do this he would have to prove a universal negative,—a proverbially difficult feat. That is, since Miss H. has in effect admitted the inadvertence in attributing all her quotations to Harnack's own book,—an admission acquiesced in by Mr. W.—, he would have to prove that in none of Harnack's innumerable writings do the quotations occur. For, that the German critic did not limit himself to this one book is quite evident.

Again, Mr. W. cannot mean us to believe on his mere *ipse dixit* that an opinion like "Harnack's Christianity is only heathenism mixed up with a few Christian ideas," is a falsification. We may not agree with such an opinion but there are other able men who share similar ideas and they are not to be called falsifiers on that account. Even Dr. Spinner, the founder of the German mission in Japan, once expressed himself in private to the effect that Ritchlianism (of which Harnack is a leading exponent) was too negative to satisfy the greater demands of Christianity.

2. There is no evidence that Harnack's critic pretended to quote from this one book. This had already been clear from both Miss H's and my own reply to Mr. W. Miss H. was caught in an inadvertence, a very minor fault, even venial in this case, since it is evident that her quotation of another's quotations have not been proved "falsifications," but, to say the least, are in general accord with Harnack's opinions. Moreover, she did at once the proper thing in acknowledging her error when pointed out,—evidence of a genuine Christian grace.

That Mr. W. now resorts to a private letter to a third party and bases on it a very grave charge without however taking the public any further into his confidence, introduces an element of very doubtful propriety. He has now left his original charges,

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these having been deprived of their basis, and yet repeats essentially the grave charge on a basis not produced. But in view of his previous failure, the inference is clear unless convincing proof comes to light.

The lecture about "full and absolute veracity and conscientiousness. . . . by modern German theologians," can be left until it is proved that the occasion calls for it.

3. Here a nuance is given to the word "destroy" which is not implied in Miss H's use of the word in her acknowledgment. On this kink in the word a change or two is wrung. Logic, too, at times becomes moral.

4. Here Mr. W. in confessing his inability to prove Harnack orthodox in the historical meaning of that word, admits that for substance Miss H's communication to the *Japan Evangelist* did not falsify Harnack's position. (It is an interesting concomitance that in the same issue in which I proved that Miss H's quotation "There are no Miracles," did no violence to Harnack's position, the *Religious Summary* should refer to a recent work by Mr. W. in which he defends a similar position on this touchstone of Christianity according to St. Paul.) Mr. W. says that his only aim was to prove that Harnack's views are very different from Miss H's. quotations. Such being his aim, he could have proved his point far better by less sonorous epithets, if he had calmly shown the contradictions to the undivided Harnack and left personal vehemence out of sight. As it is we hardly see the forest because of the trees and so Mr. W. is now so kind as to point it out to us.

5. As for warning, Christ also exercised that grace and so did Paul and even St. John, the Apostle of love. Warning is not yet persecution, nor indeed necessarily out of harmony with love's deepest behests. Besides it often evinces true courage and sturdy, even manly, conviction. Moreover, the implications in Mr. W's. use of the passage quoted (Mark 9.38-40) are so peculiar, so naive and withal so flattering to one's self-sufficiency, that one would like to insert here a chapter on hermeneutics. Finally, on whose authority has Mr. W. the idea that creeds are "such unessential things?" A student of history would hardly conjecture that the Christian church is of the same opinion. No doubt Harnack has attempted an elaborate proof but even he may get out of date in time notwithstanding the splendid specimen of tendency criticism in history afforded by him, and one which is bound to have its influence as similar efforts like those of Strauss, Bauer, Renan and many minor light have had, and have left the church only more securely grounded in her great teachings, dogmas and creeds.

Let me only add that to my mind Mr. W. seems too ready to impute motives,—motives which it now seems he mistook. "Charity thinketh no evil," is a great man's opinion, and we are all too ready to fall below that wonderful chapter of his (I Cor. 13) in our effort to put that grace into action. Mr. W's peculiar disquisition on the doings of the Fukwin Domeikwai, might be adduced here as another case in which zeal perhaps outran direction.

Thanking you for your courtesy in inserting the above,

I am yours truly, GAMMA.

Feb. 23, 1903.

THE LED RACE-HORSE NUISANCE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I thoroughly endorse all that "Prevention" writes on the subject of walking strings of race horses on the Bluff roads, and I think it is a disgrace to the responsible authorities that such a gross *misuse*, I may say *abuse*, of this public highway is permitted. It would not be for a day in any other part of the world, and I am equally surprised with "Prevention" that the police have not taken the matter in hand long ago. It ought not to be necessary, but if need be I will gladly aid "Prevention" in getting up a round-robin by way of showing what the feeling of Bluff residents really is on the subject.

Yours truly, PARENT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In order that so commendable a movement as that suggested by "Prevention" should not again be abandoned for lack of encouragement, I also, under your kind favour, would assure "Prevention" of yet another supporter in the contemplated crusade against the above-mentioned very real nuisance.

Yours truly, A BLUFF RESIDENT.

Yokohama, March 5th, 1903.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail,"

Sir,—I was very glad to see in your columns the letter of a well known Bluff resident, and another one signed "Parent" in your to-day's issue, regarding the public danger of leading strings of race-horses along the Bluff. It is a crying shame that this state of affairs has been allowed to go on till now. Only last week, while driving out with my wife, we met the usual string of race-horses, and as we passed, one of them kicked out viciously with both hind legs, the hoofs passing my head by only half a foot. Imagine being kicked in this way while quietly riding in your carriage. Yesterday, we had to stop the carriage, opposite the General Hospital, because another kicking-match was going on. My little child often comes home telling of narrow escapes she and her playmates have and how they have to enter other people's compounds to escape being trampled on. If an accident should happen, and it certainly will if matters are allowed to go on without change, the owners of the horses should be brought up for manslaughter, for they have had only too many warnings. I sincerely trust that this time the matter will be taken up properly and the nuisance abated, for it is ridiculous that a whole community should be kept in terror for the convenience of a handful of race-horse owners.

Yours truly, ANOTHER PARENT.

Yokohama, March 5, 1903.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I was rather surprised to see that you endorsed the remarks of your correspondent in your yesterday's issue on the subject of expelling race ponies from the public roads on the Bluff. Are there any other roads he would like to make semi-private? Can you imagine race horses in England being warned off the public roads. It would be hard to draw the line, even supposing such a law existed here, for some of the owners of these docile racers ride them as hacks, and many others that are seen walking with race horses are roadsters. Carriage and saddle horses have to be walked out for exercise if not in work. Your correspondent suggests making all these owners buy land and build stables in the country. Those not taking part in the "Sport of Kings" in this country imagine that it is an expensive pastime. Most owners here are not well off but they keep a race pony so as to enjoy the healthy amusement.

The real danger in the narrow roads on the Bluff is the driving of the hired carriages; and in a less degree the riding of bicycles. A pedestrian when hearing a carriage approach generally has to stop and stand on one side of the road to let it pass in safety. With a noiseless bicycle you are taken suddenly from behind. I have seen on the Bluff both a man and a woman knocked down by a bicycle, but I have never heard of a race pony doing such a thing on the Bluff roads.

Yours, &c., NERVES.

5th March, 1903.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE IRISH QUESTION.

London, February 26.

Mr. John Redmond, M.P., leader of the Irish Party, moved an amendment to the Address urging the fullest performance of the promises held out in the Land Conference Report, mentioned on January 5th. He said that he and his friends hoped and believed that the Government was framing a great measure of justice for the appeasement of Ireland.

Mr. Wyndham, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, said that he considered Mr. Redmond's speech conveyed hopeful portents.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN LEAVES FOR HOME.

London, February 27.

Mr. Chamberlain sailed for England on th 25th of February. He had an enthusiastic farewell.

THE PHILIPPINES CURRENCY.

The Washington House of Representatives has passed the Philippines Currency Bill without the Paterson amendment. The Senate agreed to the Bill as passed by the House.

HONOURS FOR LADY MACDONALD.

Lady Macdonald, wife of the British Minister in Tokyo, has received the Royal Red Cross for her services in nursing the sick and wounded during the siege of Peking.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

Later.

Mr. W. S. Caine moved an amendment to the Address regretting that no reduction of the military expenditure in India had been effected. Lord George Hamilton, Secretary for India, declared that the military expenditure in nearly every great country in the world had increased, except in India, where the military establishment was the smallest in the world in proportion to the population.

The amendment was negatived without a division and the Address was adopted.

SIR MICHAEL HERBERT DECORATED

London, February 28.

It is reported that the Hon. Sir Michael Herbert, British Ambassador at Washington, has received the cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George for his conduct of the Venezuelan negotiations.

DUKE AND DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught left India on February 27, their tour being ended.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

London, March 1.

The United States Senate has amended the Navy Bill by providing for the construction of four battleships and two cruisers.

SOMALILAND.

Colonel Manning, with a flying column, left Obbia on February 22nd to occupy the Galkawa wells and establish there a chief supplies depot as a preliminary to the general advance.

DESTRUCTIVE GALE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

MANY WRECKS: MUCH LOSS OF LIFE.

London, March 1.

One of the most destructive gales ever known swept over the British Isles on the 27th February, extending from the Channel Islands to the Shetlands. The destruction of the land telegraph lines is greatly delaying cables to the Far East. There has been an enormous amount of damage done and much loss of life. Churches, houses and chimneys were wrecked and many persons were killed thereby, besides hundreds injured. The coasts are strewn with wrecks.

A tidal wave flooded a portion of the French coast.

The wind overturned a train on the Furness railway as it was crossing a viaduct, and 32 persons were injured and 4 are missing.

London, March 2.

The battleship *Resolution* had a terrific experience in the gale. She left Holyhead on Thursday morning and reached Plymouth on Sunday afternoon. Her steering gear was broken down and there were many repairs to her machinery.

The Atlantic liner *Lucania* was unable to land her passengers at Queenstown, and had to proceed to Liverpool.

London, March 3.

The divers have found that the battleship *Resolution* has lost her rudder entirely.

The battleship *Collingwood*. from Bantry, has entered Plymouth in a leaky condition.

THE HEALTH OF THE POPE.

In Rome there is anxiety about the health of the Pope who when receiving the Jubilee deputation manifested difficulty.

MACEDONIA.

Tilmi Pasha has beeen appointed Inspector-General of Macedonia, to superintend the reforms.

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AMERICAN POLITICS.

London, March 4.

President Roosevelt has summoned a special session of the Senate, to meet on the 5th, in order to secure the sanctioning of the Panama Canal and Cuban Reciprocity Treaties.

VENEZUELA.

In the course of a debate in the House of Lords on the subject of Venezuela, Lord Lansdowne explained that the United States Government were made fully acquainted with the intended action of Great Britain from the first. The United States Government had been perfectly friendly throughout.

THE GALE.

The storm has been renewed with increased violence, particularly in the (English) Channel. There have been numerous disasters and much loss of life. A Dominion liner has gone ashore at Queenstown. The Calais packet with two hundred passengers was disabled. but succeeded in entering Dover. The seas engulfed the extension of the Admiralty Pier at Dover and three lives were lost.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE.

London, March 5.

The Pope's Jubilee celebration passed off most successfully. The Pope was elated and was received with enthusiastic acclamations. He blessed the kneeling crowd at St. Peter's where fully fifty thousand were assembled.

BRITAIN AND VENEZUELA.

Great Britain has restored to Venezuela the captured warships.

A COTTON FLURRY.

There is great excitement in New York on the Cotton Exchange where the selling orders have been heaviest since the attempted corner in 1894, being estimated at $800,000 (?)

THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

It is reported from Aden that the Russian squadron has just sailed from there for China. It will probably visit the Persian Gulf.

MR. BALFOUR AND GIBRALTER.

Mr. Balfour, replyiug to Mr. Bowles, in the House of Commons said that the great expense which was entailed by building a harbour to the east of Gibraltar was not justified by the requirements of the Empire.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

MACEDONIA.

Saigon, February 26.

The Sultan has accepted and promised to cause to be carried out the plan of reforms in Macedonia proposed by Russia and Austria, and supported by France and the other Powers.

FRANCO-SIAMESE TREATY.

Saigon, February 26.

M. Delcassé, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has intimated by letter to the parliamentary commission on the Siamese Treaty that he had received from M. Beau, Governor-General of Indo-China, a proposal, the executiou of which would require previous negotiation with the Government of Bangkok. M. Delcassé on the other hand had written to the Minister for the Colonies asking him for certain information which would permit him to take a resolution. The Minister of Foreign Affairs therefore asked the Commission to be so good as to wait until he is in a position to furnish them with definite information. The President of the Commission, M. Etienne, replied that the Commission would adjourn until it could recommence its labours usefully.

FRANCO-SIAMESE CONVENTION.

Saigon, February 27.

The Chamber has adopted the proposition of the Minister of Foreign Affairs demanding adjournment of the examination of the Convention with Siam, though Mr. Delcassé adds that such a step would not mean the withdrawal of the Convention.

The Minister considers that before ratifying the Convention it is necessary to regulate the economic relations of Siam with French Indo-China, for Siam has not given any proof of good will, as she promised at the moment of signing the Convention.

On the subject of these economic relations Mr. Delcassé intends, he says, to ask Siam for the prolongation as far as Bangkok, *viâ* Oubône and Korat, of the projected railway from Hué to Bassac, and for the construction of another French line on the right bank of the Mekong as far as Hongkai.

In diplomatic circles objections on the part of Siam are expected.

The newspapers publish an interview with Mr. Fr. Deloncle, deputy from Cochin China, who says that Siam will refuse any considerable changes, in the hope that Mr. Delcassé will depute Mr. Beau, Governor-General of Indo-China, to conduct new pourparlers.

THE FRENCH ARMY.

Saigon, March 2.

The Senate has read for the first time the project of military service for two years.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, March 4.

The deputy M. Deloncle is going to address a question to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject of the intention attributed to Great Britain of annexing Muscat.

A violent tempest has taken place in the Atlantic and the British Channel. There were two shipwrecks in England and some victims in France.

(Received at the Foreign Office in Tokyo.)

OFFICIAL NEWS.

Mr. Takahira, Japanese Representative in Washington, telegraphs under date of the 7th instant, that the amended immigration law passed the Senate on the 28th of February. The provision relating to an educational test is abolished, aud the poll tax is fixed at two dollars (gold). As this bill has already been once rejected by the House of Representatives, it will have to be debated at a conference of the Houses, but there is little doubt that it will pass.

The Consul at Newchwang telegraphs that the ice on the Liao River broke up on the 1st instant.

(From the "Japan Herald.")

THE ARMY DEBATE.

London, February 25.

The *Times* says that notwithstanding the majority in the division on the Army debate was the largest of the session, the weight of argument was distinctly against the Government, and hence Mr. Balfour's allusion to the Government's decisions not being irreversible.

The *Standard* gives prominence to a letter charging the *Times* with inconsistency, and comparing yesterday's article with that appearing on the 3rd November, 1901.

BARON HAYASHI A FREEMASON.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister to London, has been initiated as a member of the Empire Lodge of Freemasons. He is the first Japanese Representative.

TRUSTS IN THE STATES.

An important decision of the Supreme Court of the United States indicates that Congress already has power to curb trusts.

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

London, February 26.

The Grand Duke, Nicholas, Inspector-General of Cavalry, leaves shortly on a tour through Manchuria.

BRITISH INFLUENCE IN CHINA.

The *Globe* regards Chang Chih-tung's degradation as a plain endeavour to further undermine British influence in the Yangtse Valley, and is very severe on the passive attitude of the Foreign Office, which it hopes has filed remonstrances.

Great Britain and Japan should secure his reinstatement, adds the journal, as "we are in honour bound to protect him."

THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

London, February 27.

According to the Brussels correspondent of the *Standard*, the manager of the Peking-Hankow railway declares that Mr. Coltman's apprehensions as to another Boxer rising are unfounded.

This coincides with other reports received by the Belgian Government.

CONSULAR JURISDICTION AT SHANGHAI.

Mr. Joseph Walton, Member for Barnsley, speaking in the House of Commons, asked Viscount Cranborne as to the *modus vivendi* agreed upon by the Powers regarding Consular jurisdiction at Shanghai.

Viscount Cranborne, in reply, said that the arrangement was provisional, but he would lay the agreement before the House if it was moved for.

THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

London, March 2.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times*, discussing the persistent rumours of troubles in China, says the peace of Europe is as much risked from affairs in the Far East as from the trouble in the Balkan Peninsula.

The *New York Herald* considers that Russia's undoubted military activity is due to the former rather than to the latter cause.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

BRITISH ARMY REFORM.

London, Feb. 25.

The House of Commons has had a strong discussion regarding the reform of the Army. The members who introduced the motion to amend the Bill and their supporters were Conservatives. The debate was practically a question of confidence in the Ministry. The Government, however, gained a majority of 116 votes. The Irish members did not vote.

AN ENGLISH FREEMASON.

Viscount Hayashi, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in London has been admitted to the Empire Lodge of Free Masons. He gave a dinner party at the Criterion. The speech which he delivered was warmly applauded. In it he dwelt upon the benefits of the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S RETURN.

A farewell dinner to Mr. Chamberlain has been held in Cape-town and proved a brilliant affair. He will leave to-day for England. The tour has rendered more friendly the relations between the Dutch in South Africa and Great Britain.

JAPANESE BONDS.

Japanese new 5 per cent loan bonds have risen 1¾ per cent.

REFORM SCHEME FOR MACEDONIA.

London, February 27.

According to intelligence given out by the authorities, Turkey has consented, without making any objection, to the Reform scheme proposed by Russia and Austro-Hungary. The nature of the proposal has already been described. By it, the Governor-General of Macedonia will be placed under the protection of the Powers. Russia has warned the Balkan states to avoid disturbing one another.

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FRANCO-SIAMESE TREATY.

The Franco-Siamese Treaty has been rejected and M. Delcassé, Minister for Foreign Affairs has requested time to amend it.

NEW PORTUGUESE CABINET

London, March 1.

A new cabinet has been formed at Lisbon with Sen. E. R. Hintze Ribeiro as Premier.

THE FRANCO-SIAMESE TREATY.

The Temps of Paris has published an editorial expression on the Franco-Siamese Treaty, which is still not ratified, and insists that as a Japan-Siamese Treaty has been arranged the Siamese Government is adopting an obstinate attitude towards France. France must therefore give further proofs of her goodwill to Siam.

It is believed that the policy of M. Delcassè includes the question of railway extension.

THE VENEZUELAN TROUBLE

The Venezuelan rebels continued the battle for twelve hours and occupied Caluhano, plundering the city. The German refugees have asked the Captain of the German cruiser *Gazelle*, which is now at Trinidad, to interfere in the matter.

THE POPE'S JUBILEE.

London, March 3.

To-day, the 25th anniversary of the conseçration of Leo XIII was joyously celebrated in Rome. Fifty thousand persons were invited to the Vatican, which was most brilliantly decorated. The Pope was in good health.

AFGHANISTAN.

In reply to an enquiry of the Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Dilke, Viscount Cranborne, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, contradicted, in the House of Commons this evening, the rumour that Russian military officials have directly communicated with the Ameer of Afghanistan.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

ANGLO-SIAMESE AFFAIRS.

London, March 1.

The British Government has proposed to Siam, that the former should appoint British advisers for the purposes of administration in the States of Kelantan and Tringanun according to the Anglo-Siamese Treaty concluded last Autumn.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Shawmut 1	Sa. Mar. 7
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Korea 2	Su. Mar. 8
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 3	Tu. Mar. 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 4	Th. Mar. 12
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru 5	F. Mar. 13
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Mar. 14
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. Mar. 16
Europe	M. M. Co.	Indus	W. Mar. 18
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Olympia 6	Th. Mar. 19
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. Mar. 19
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 7	Su. Mar. 22
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Mar. 26
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. Mar. 30

1 Left Kobe on the 5th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 4th inst.
3 Left Vancouver on the 24th ult.
4 Left San Francisco on the 21st ult.
5 Left Seattle on the 24th ult.
6 Left Tacoma on the 16th ult.
7 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa. Mar. 7
Europe	N. Y. K.	Awa Maru	Sa. Mar. 7
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Sa. Mar. 7
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Su. Mar. 8
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Tu. Mar. 10
America.....	P. M. Co.	Korea	Tu. Mar. 10
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru	Tu. Mar. 10
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakusi Maru	Th. Mar. 12
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	F. Mar. 13
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. Mar. 13
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kinnano Maru	Sa. Mar. 14
America.....	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Th. Mar. 19
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Th. Mar. 19
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Mar. 20
Honghong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Mar. 24
America.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. Mar. 28
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Tu. Mar. 31

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 26th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 25th Feb., Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 26th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, 25th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 27th Feb.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 20th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 27th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, 21st Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 27th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 28th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 28th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Harry Mowatt, 28th Feb.,—Vancouver, B.C., 9th Feb., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 28th Feb.,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 7th Feb., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Chingwo, British steamer, 2,517, H. W. Evans, 28th Feb.,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 7th Feb., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Newton Hall, British steamer, 2,675, A. Hostler, 28th Feb.,—Rangoon, 4th Feb., Rice.—Samue. Samuel & Co.

Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Kirchner, 1st March,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 24th Feb., General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tremont, American steamer, 6,195, T. W. Garlich, 1st March,—Tacoma, Wash., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 1st March,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 1st March,—Yokkaichi, 27th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Hunter, 1st March,—Uraga, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, Shimizu, 1st March—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,276, G. W. Long, 2nd March,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 1st March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hyades, American steamer, 2,932, G. Wright, 2nd March.,—Tacoma, Wash., 4th Feb., General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 2nd March,—Kobe, 28th Feb., General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 2nd March,—Yokkaichi, 1st March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 3rd March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 3rd March,—Yokkaichi, 2nd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 3rd March,—Yokkaichi, 3rd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ningchow, British steamer, 4,879, James Riley, 3rd March,—Tacoma, Wash., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Obra, British steamer, 3,496, T. Johnston, 3rd March,—Rangoon via Singapore, 15th Feb., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hamburg, German steamer, 6,597, E. Burmeister, 4th March,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 3rd March, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

China, American steamer, 2,422, D. E. Friele, 4th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 13th Feb., Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Dupuy-Fromy, 4th March,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 3rd March, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Nippon, Austrian steamer, 3,999, R. Klausberger, 4th March,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 25th Feb., Mails and General.—Pollak Bros.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, R. Nunome, 5th March,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 5th March,—Kobe, 3rd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 26th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 26th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 26th Feb.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kitami Maru, Japanese steamer, 728, M. Wada, 26th Feb.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 26th Feb.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Girard, 27th Feb.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Itaura, British steamer, 3,363, J. P. Babb, 27th Feb.,—Madras via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 27th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 27th Feb.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Changchow, British steamer, 1,202, G. Pearce, 26th Feb.,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Neck, German ship, 2,121, A. H. Kerjös, 28th Feb.,—Royal Roads, Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 28th Feb.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 28th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, Harry Mowatt, 28th Feb.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 28th Feb.,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 1st March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, German steamer, 3,038, Spiesen, 2nd March,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tremont, American steamer, 5,195, T. W. Garlick, 2nd March,—Manila via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Formosa, British steamer, 2,616, B. W. H. Snow, 2nd March,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 2nd March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 2nd March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 2nd March,—Otaru via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyades, American steamer, 2,932, G. Wright, 3rd March,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,796, H. Petersen, 3rd March,—Yokosuka, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seneca, British steamer, 3,181, C. R. Beynon, 3rd March,—New York via ports, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 4th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 4th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 4th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, D. E. Friele, 5th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 5th March,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,276, G. W. Long, 5th March,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Chingwo, British steamer, 2,517, H. W. Evans, 7th Mar.,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

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PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. B. Sullivan, Mr. C. W. Callahen, Mr. W. J. Mayson, Mrs. Such, amah and child, Com. U. R. Harris, Mr. J. W. Hamilton, and Mr. L. de Ridder, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Capt. C. L. Andrews, Mr. F. Muller, Mr. Louis C. Rhein, Mr. F. S. Carter, Mrs. J. R. Hykes, Mr. J. M. Hykes, Mr. H. Hykes, Masters E. and R. Hykes, Mrs. F. Y. King, Hon. Mrs. A. Sugden, Mr. S. S. Dease, Mrs. S. S. Dease, Miss Dease, Mr. F. Acocks, Rev. J. W. Robinson, Mrs. J. W. Robinson and 2 children, Mr. W. P. Bentley and 3 children, and Mr. Roger C. Jones, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. K. Sekido, and Mr. P. A. Smith, in cabin; Mrs. M. Nishimiya, and Mr. Y. Osawa, in second class; 6 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. E. J. Cooper, and Mr. Frank Hallam, in cabin; Mr. J. R. Montgomery, Mr. W. B. Blossom, and Mr. E. J. Burns, in second class; 19 Japanese, and 3 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. J. Welch, Mr. J. B. Wetmore, Mr. H. J. Lowler, Mr. J. Bagler, Mr. Engel, Mr. T. Miyasaki, Mr. M. Naruse, Mrs. T. Takeda, and Miss M. Takeda, in second class; 14 Japanese, and 21 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. T. Wyatt, Mr. D. R. Dwyer, Mr. C. E. Herron, and Mr. E. W. Walters, in cabin; Mr. W. T. Glen, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. W. C. Willox, and Miss Edwards, in second class; 1 Chinese and 1 Japanese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. H. T. Wyatt, in cabin; Mr. Walter T. Glenn, Mr. Brown, Mr. Willow, and Miss L. Edwards, in second class; 1 Chinese, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Kodomull, Dr. Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, 2 children and amah, Major and Mrs. Isacke, Mr. and Mrs. Blake and baby, Mr. P. R. Simmonds, Colonel Heron, Mr. J. Alles, and 10 Chinese, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hamburg*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Schinzinger, Mr. and Mrs. Morehouse, Mr. and Mrs. F. Perkins, Mr. A. Philippi, Miss Th. Gisenhofer, Countess L. von Arco-Valley, Count Arco-Valley, Mr. and Mrs. Labouchere Hillyer, Miss Cunliffe, Mr. Hohenthal, Mr. A. Whitney, Mr. B. Brewmer, Mr. and Mrs. Easton, Miss Gregory, Mrs. D. Buller, child and servant, Mr. R. D. Robison, Mr. H. F. Helm, Mr. and Mrs. A. Riveira, Mr. Wistenhagen, Mr. P. Pribetzky, Miss MacCormac, Mr. L. Fonggaok, and Dr. G. Nakamura, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Capt. R. M. Berry, Mrs. R. M. Berry, Hon. Arthur Boyer, Hon. Sydney Fisher, Mr. T. K. Doherty, Lieut. E. C. Gudger, U.S.N., Lieut. F. R. Holt, U.S.N., Mr. Max Kirdorf, Mr. C. H. Lazard, Mr. Y. Onizuka, Mr. G. Pereire, Lieut. J. A. B. Smith, U.S.N., Miss Mary E. Tracy, Mr. A. Vortisch, Mr. E. H. Potter, Mrs. E. H. Potter, Mr. M. Innes, Mr. H. Sanderson, and Mr. E. W. Mills, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. C. G. Dennis, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Dr. Emma Osborn Beaver, Mr. B. Legrange, Mr. L. A. Kinsey, Mrs. L. A. Kinsey, and Mrs. Ella Palmer, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. J. S. Van Buren, Mr. Claude King, Mr. E. Beebe, Mr. W. A. Dempsey, Mr. Russell Gates, Miss Hulit Trapp, Miss H. Noyes, Mrs. W. P. Shattuck, Mr. H. H. Stratton, Miss H. C. Wilson, and Mr. W. C. Hartridge, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Ollie Blaser, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Mr. Coude d'Obidos, Mr. M. Elsasser, Mrs. M. Elsasser, Mr. Eng Hok Wang, Mr. H. H. Kempff, Mrs. Anna B. Kennon, Mr. Laong Kam Ming, Miss M. Morrell, Mrs. K. Raymond, Mrs. Helm H. Rice, Miss Rice, Mr. E. Shaw, Mr. E. Shaw, 2 children and amah, Rev. H. P. Shaw, Mrs. H. P. Shaw, Mr. Henry White, and Mrs. Henry White, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. M. Hamada, Com. K. Matsui, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Inman, Mr. C. Holgate, Mrs. Palmer and infant, Dr. Moore Graham, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. S. Sugiura, Mrs. N. Sugiura and infant, Mr. Y. Fukagawa, Mr. S. Midorikawa, Mr. K. Yoshimoto, Mr. Ko Yin Zen, Mr. K. Spon, Mr. W. Ting, Mr. T. Kao, and Mr. Rion Kun, in second class; 23, in steerage.

Per French steamer *Annam*, for Marseilles via ports:—Consul Max Kutschera, Mr. W. Richter, Mr. and Mrs. Richarme, Miss Matsu Nakano, Miss Shiozu Nakano, Miss Mizu Matsuda, Miss Naka Matsuda, Mr. P. Domange, Mr. R. L. Brett, Mr. J. Legebore, and Mr. A. Manguion, in cabin; 5, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Franklin Acocks, Capt. L. C. Andrews, U.S.A., Mr. St. Clair Bayfield, Mr. Thomas Benning, Mr. W. B. Bentley, Mrs. W. B. Bentley and 3 children, Mr. H. L. Campbell, Mr. F. S. Carter, Mr. A. L. Clarke, Rev. S. S. Dease, Mrs. S. S. Dease, Miss Dease, Mr. E. Delacey, Mrs. E. Delacey, Mrs. A Dow-Currier, Miss N. Curtis, Mr. Wilson Forbes, Mr. Albert Goldberg, Capt. Gubler, Miss Edith Hayes, Mrs. S. Horii, Mr. Henri Hubert, Mrs. J. R. Hykes, Miss J. M. Hykes, Miss H. Hykes, Master E. Hykes, Master R. Hykes, Mr. Roger C. Jones, Mrs. F. R. King, Mr. I. Kitano, Mr. K. Kurata, Mr. Ernest Macken, Major T. S. McCaleb, U.S.A., Mr. Norval McGregor, Capt. F. B. McKenna, Mrs. F. B. McKenna, Master Francis McKenna, Mr. F. Muller, Mr. W. Reule, Mr. Louis C. Rhein, Mr. J. M. Robinson, Mrs. J. M. Robinson and child, Miss Ruth Robinson, Miss Amy Stanley, Hon. Mrs. A. Sugden, Mr. H. B. Sullivan, Mrs. T. Tanaka, Miss Janet Waldorf, Miss M. J. Wallis, and Mr. M. Yamada, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Formosa*, for London via ports:—Mrs. K. F. Crawford, infant and amah, Mr. K. F. Crawford, Mr. H. A. Ahrens, Mr. Gaisberg and valet, and Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Addis, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. E. Beebe, Capt. E. M. Berry, U.S.N., Mrs. E. M. Berry, Dr. Emma Osborn Cleaver, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Mr. W. A. Dempsey, Mr. C. G. Dennis, Mr. Russell Gates, Paymaster E. C. Gudger, Mr. W. C. Hartridge, Mr. A. S. Hay, Paymaster F. R. Holt, Mr. Claude R. King, Mr. L. A. Kinsey, Mrs. L. A. Kinsey and maid, Mr. B. Legrange, Miss Harriett Noyes, Mrs. Ella Palmer, Mr. E. H. Potter, Mrs. E. H. Potter, Mrs. W. P. Shattuck, Rev. H. P. Shaw, Mrs. H. P. Shaw, Paymaster J. A. B. Smith, Mr. H. H. Stratton, Mrs. Such and native servant, Miss Hulit Trapp, Mr. J. S. Van Buren, and Miss H. C. Wilson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Hartland, Mrs. Peoples, Sub-Lieut. N. Mizoguchi, Capt. R. Yatsushiro, and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Waite, in cabin; Mr Y. Saito, Mrs. S. Saito, Mr. K. Horikiri, Mr. S. Hata, Mr. S. Ikeda, Mrs. Y. Ikeda, Mrs. K. Hijikata, Miss A. Hijikata, Mrs. H. Saito, Mr. K. Sasanuki, and Mr. Robt. Laidler, in second class; 32, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste silk shipped per steamer *Annam*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	France.	Lyons.	Milan.	Russia.	France.	Marseilles	Austria.	Shanghai.
Longin & Co.	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co..	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	—	107	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	45	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	—	—	—	—	—	53	—	32
Ulysse Pila & Co...	—	18	—	—	—	71	—	—
	—	133	—	—	—	169	—	32

Per British steamer *Formosa*, for London via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 76 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 161 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Yarn market is strong, plenty of enquiry but reluctance to pay holders' prices. Little doing in Shirtings, no change in Fancy Cottons and Woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.	2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches		2.80 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...		2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...		3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannels	Y.	0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....		0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...		0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches		0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...		0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...		0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb		0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...		9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...		0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...		1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...		2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.	
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y.	135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles		145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles		150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...		150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...		165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...		Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed		228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed		278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed		400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...		29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...		24.00 to 25.00
Chinese		24.50

METALS.

A fair business passing in mild steel bars.

	PER PICUL.	
Round and square ½ inch and upward...	Y.	4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted		4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron...		4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets		10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted		6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box...		7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3		2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅛ inch)		5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

No change.

American		$2.84
Russian		2.70
Langkat		2.60

SUGAR.

The market is quiet; little doing.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	Y.	5.20 to 5.80
Brown Manila...		5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong		4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton...		6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang...		6.90 to 7.70
White Refined...		8.80 to 10.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

In the Raw Silk market there has been some revival of demand, with a moderate business passing at quotations. Prices remain unchanged except for Extra Filatures and Extra Kakedas, which are a turn dearer. Consuming markets still ask for lower prices, but holders here are firm for the time being, believing that buyers must eventually pay their prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y.	1,090 to 1,100
Filatures—Extra, Fine		—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse		1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		1,025 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine		1,045 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		1,010 to 1,015
Filatures—No. 2, Fine		980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse		—
Common—Coarse		—
Re-reels—Extra		1,060 to 1,070
Re-reels—No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1½		1,020 to 1,030
Re-reels—No. 2		1,000 to 1,005
Re-reels—No. 3		980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra		990 to 1,000
Kakedas—No. 1		960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½...		930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2		900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½...		870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

The Waste Silk market is still in the same condition: a small business, firm prices and a lack of desirable quality.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best		190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good		175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best		—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good		—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium		—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best		—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good		—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best		175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...		165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium		155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best		125 to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good		115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best		155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second		145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good		70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair		55 to 60

TEA.

Nothing to report.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 5.

London silver unchanged, Shanghai sterling quotations ¼ lower, Hongkong $\frac{1}{16}$ higher, and local rates on China irregular, whilst other rates keep steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/03⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/03⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/03⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/03½
— — 6 months' sight	2/03½
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight	259½
— — 6 months' sight	260½ @ 1
Hongkong—Bank sight ...per $100.	78¾*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	77*
Shanghai—Bank sight	93¾*
— Private 10 days' sight	95¼*
India—Bank sight	151
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
America—Bank sight	49⅜ @ ¾
— Private 30 days' sigh	50¾
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	22⅛

* Nominal.

TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 5.

Yesterday's total transactions were 9,200 shares.

MORNING. March.	MORNING. April.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. March.	AFTERNOON. April.
79.00	79.60	Nippon Railway ...	—	79.40
24.85	25.05	Nippon R'way, 3rd.	—	—
64.30	64.10	Sanyo Railway	65.05	6.380
48.80	47.75	Kansai Railway ...	48.70	47.75
65.70	61.40	Kiushiu Railway ...	62.75	61.40
81.50	82.20	Tanko Railway.....	81.45	82.05
39.30	—	Tanko R'way, new..	39.30	39.70
—	—	Tobu Railway	—	—
—	—	Sobu Railway	—	—
—	—	Boso Railway	—	—
—	—	Narita Railway.....	—	—
—	—	Narita R'way, new..	—	—
—	—	Kioto Railway	22.00	22.35
—	—	Hokuyetsu Railway.	—	—
—	—	Hankaku Railway..	—	—
—	112.80	Tokio Electric Car...	112.00	112.50
77.20	90.30	Tokio Ele. Car, new	76.90	90.2
—	—	Tokio Electric Ra'y.	—	—
—	42.00	Tokio Street R'way.	41.60	41.80
86.85	87.00	Nippon Yusen	86.25	86.80
34 50	34.85	Toyo Kisen	34.35	34.50
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—5
—	—	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	30.20	30.40
30.30	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new.	—	—
70.00	70.30	Tokio Electric Light	69.90	70.50
—	—	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	—
44.20	44.50	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	43.95	44.30
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new ...	—	—
144.80	—	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
181.00	182 40	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	179.80	182.00

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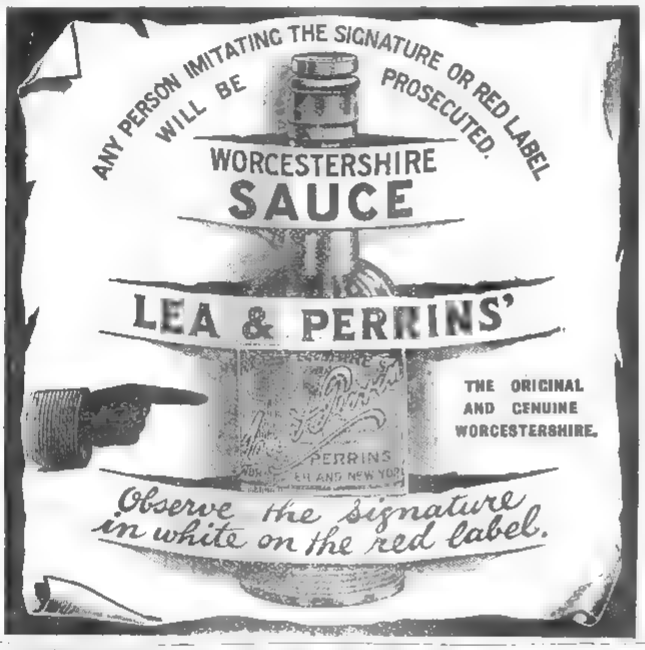

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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH, 1903.

BIRTHS.

At Shimonoseki on March 6th, the wife of Rev. C. GRAHAM GARDNER, of a daughter.

At No. 8, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on March 11th, the wife of Mr. RICHARD J. KIRBY, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

On March 8th, at Marseilles, AGNÈS MAZERY, the beloved wife of VICTOR FAGA, lately of Yokohama and Shanghai.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

JOSEPH TANAKA, a Japanese, has been granted American naturalization papers hy Judge Tuthill in Chicago.

A MAN named Takikawa Kamekichi (43) who stole some fish plates, bolts and nuts from the railway line between Tomioka and Nagatsuka stations in September last year has been arrested in Fukushima prefecture and sentenced to seven years' major confinement.

THE shareholders of the Naigai and the Yedo Fire Insurance Companies have decided to amalgamate.

VISCOUNT TODA, a Master of the Board of Ceremonies, died on March 11th from meningitis and consumption.

THE *Tokyo Hinode Shimbun* has been suspended by the police on a charge of having violated the canons of good morals.

NINE of the English cricket counties are against the proposal to widen the wicket. Three are for it; and one is neutral.

IT is stated from Chemulpo that Chinese forged notes have appeared in circulation and are supposed to have been brought from Shanghai.

ADMIRAL BARON ITO, Inspector-General of the Grand Naval Manœuvres, will leave Tokyo on March 14th for Saseho *via* Miyajima and Takefu.

THE principal shareholders of the Osaka Watch Manufacturing Company, which was wound up and is now in liquidation, have decided to start a new business of the same kind.

THE Japan Tea Merchants Guild has presented a silver tea set to Mr. Sydney Fisher, Canadian Minister for Agricultural Affairs, to commemorate his visit to Japan.

VICE-ADMIRAL TYRTOFF, a former Russian Admiral on the Far Eastern Station, and commanding the Black Sea Division of the Russian fleet, died at Sebastopol on 24th Jan.

A BUDDHIST priest, Sudo Kyocho (28), who murdered his wife's brother and sister in Yamanashi prefecture last year was executed on the 7th in the Ichigaya jail in Tokyo.

A ROBBER, on the morning of the 5th, entered the house of a man named Arai, in Imado-machi, Asakusa, Tokyo, and stole *yen* 2.50 after having threatened the family with a sword.

SIR THOMAS JACKSON has been appointed on the Mansion House Commission to report on the question of removing S. Bartholomew's Hospital or rebuilding on the present site.

THE shareholders of the Bantan Railway Company held a meeting on March 9th in Osaka and decided to sell their property to the Sanyo Railway Company for *yen* 1,400,000.

ON March 10th Mr. Miwa, who has been elected to the Diet for Shiga prefecture, and several other prominent gentlemen were arrested on the charge of having forged private letters.

THE ladrones are giving the Americans a good deal of trouble all over Luzon. A miniature rebellion has been started in Malabon, where houses have been looted and set on fire.

DR. G. Specka, interpreter of the German Consulate-General at Yokohama, who has been appointed to the same post in the consulate at Nagasaki, left Yokohama on March 10th.

ON the night of March 9th a number of men were gambling in a room at Minami-nakadori, 4-chome, Yokohama, when the police appeared and arrested seven. The others fled.

THE *Official Gazette* gives statistics which have been prepared by the Finance Department to the end of February showing that the banks in Japan numbered 2,357 their whole capital being *yen* 532,835,329. Comparing these with the figures for the end of January, there are now five banks fewer, but an increase in capital of *yen* 720,000.

A TELEGRAM from Hakodate announces that the steamer *Ryoha Maru* (gross tonnage 90 tons) sank off Teshio province on the morning of the 7th and two of the crew were drowned.

MESSRS SUDO and Iwasaki, members of the Yokohama City Assembly, arrested on a charge of infringing the Election Law, were transferred to the District Court by the police on the 5th.

ON March 7th the Hokkaido Colliery Railway Company held a general meeting in Tokyo and decided to raise debentures for *yen* 2,000,000 to be used in coal mining and railway business.

Two lighters loaded with foreign rice, being towed by a tug to Tokyo, sank on the evening of the 7th near Haneda point where they met a violent northerly wind. The crews were saved.

ON the examination by the Metropolitan Police Office of a dead rat found in a drain near a dwelling house at Yokokawacho, Hongo, Tokyo, it was, on March 9th, decided that the pest bacillus was present in the body.

THE Silk Spinning Trust of Kyoto has proposed to the Yokohama Cotton and Silk Spinning Company to purchase the whole property of the latter for *yen* 250,000, paying with shares of the former.

MR. N. P. KINGDON, one of Yokohama's oldest residents, was thrown from his *jinrikisha* by collision with a dray on Thursday morning, but fortunately escaped with a few contusions and the loss of a tooth.

THE seven Chinamen who violently entered the Chinese School of Tai-tong Ko in Yokohama on Jan. 14th were sentenced on Tuesday in the Yokohama Court to imprisonment with labour for from one month to thirteen days respectively.

ON March 9th an employe of a transport agent in Shiga prefecture who stole *yen* 3,500 belonging to his employer on the 4th and absconded in the company of a young woman, was arrested in Yokohama by the Tobe police authorities.

OWING to the shortage in the tobacco crop last year, the Tobacco Monopoly Bureau were anticipating that the supply would fail to meet the demand. But the authorities have now found that there is a surplus of over one million *kwamme* (1 *kwamme*=6 kilogrammes) in the stores throughout the country. There is no doubt that this surplus has risen through extensive smuggling.

THE British Foreign Office is about to issue a new regulation which will make it clear that members of the diplomatic service must not publish observations on service matters or information obtained in the course of their official duties without the consent of the Foreign Office, and further that the obligation of secrecy continues equally after retirement. This is in consequence of Sir Horace Rumbold's article in the *National Review*.

AN umbrella dealer named Kato, living in Nakano, Toyohama-gori, Tokyo, was arrested on March 10th on the charge that he destroyed a promissory note of *yen* 100 which he made on Feb. 16th and had endorsed by a friend named Enomoto, and with which he obtained money by way of loan from a man named Iidzuka. On the due date, when the creditor asked for payment, showing the note, the debtor tore it up to escape payment of the debt.

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THE ELECTIONS.

Saturday, March 7.

Some attention is called by leading journals in Tokyo to the political blindness of the urban populations. One of the great objects kept in view by the framers of the new Election Law, especially by Marquis Ito, was to secure a juster measure of representation for the urban populations, and though the rural elements in the Lower House declined to be altogether fair in the redistribution of seats, they agreed at last to allot 76 members to the towns and cities. If might have been supposed that these urban constituencies, on an occasion like the present, would have voted solidly for men opposed to the reduction of the land tax, for everyone knows that there is no genuine fiscal reason for such reduction, and every one can foresee that if the parties consisting of rural res presentatives obtain complete control of the situation, they will one day use their power to protect the products raised by themselves, namely, food stuffs, a measure fatal to the country's industrial development in which the cities are vitally interested. But the inhabitants of the cities appear to be almost indifferent to these facts. At all events, the result of the elections does not indicate any very clear perception of the situation. The *Kukumin Shimbnn* publishes these figures :—

URBAN REPRESENTATIVES.

	Present House.	Former House.
Seiyu-kai	26	32
Progressists	9	15
Imperialists	2	3
Independents	38	24

This list is not quite complete, but it shows that there has been no radical change of representation. Forty-six old members are returned against twenty-nine new, and thirty-five representatives have been sent up who are pledged to vote for abolishing the increased rate of land tax.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* analysis of the election returns differs somewhat from the analysis already published in these columns. It puts the *Seiyu-kai* at 187 against 193 in the former House, a loss of 6 seats; the Progressists at 96 against 106, a loss of 10; the Imperialists at 17 against 17, and the Independents at 76 against 60, a gain of 15 seats.

Our contemporary, while admitting that the general result of the elections leaves the situation without any material change, calls attention to some alterations, such as that the Independents have increased from 60 to 76, and that in certain constituencies, hitherto ruled by party men, there has been a breaking away from the old lines. It may thus be alleged that some increase of disposition to come to an understanding with the Cabinet will be shown by the new House, though on the whole the *status quo* has been virtually preserved.

Monday, March 9.

Mr. Okuda has definitely decided to decline the choice of the Yokohama electors, but it is not yet certain whether he will accept the Tottori nomination. Neither can it yet be positively alleged that Mr. Kato will agree to sit for Yokohama. Marquis Ito's view is said to be that in such a case some consideration is due to the constituencies. Unless Mr. Okuda consents to represent Tottori, another election must take place for that prefecture, and the same is true of Yokohama if Mr. Kato refuses the nomination. Obviously the simplest plan is that each gentleman should quietly accept the situation, Mr. Okuda taking the seat for Tottori and Mr. Kato that for Yokohama.

We observe that this incident is represented by a local contemporary as a "comedy of errors," but such an epithet does not appear to have any applicability. It is not an infrequent occurrence in Western countries that a man should be elected for two constituencies simultaneously, and that he should have to take his choice between them. Even in Japan a similar incident has taken place in the past. We can recall one case, that of Mr. Motoda Hajime, and another is certainly on record though the name escapes us at the moment.

We observe, also, that the result of the Yokohama election is regarded in some quarters as a triumph of independence and integrity over party servility and the corrupt force of wealth. How supremely ridiculous it is that such a view should be taken when the supposed representatives of the evil qualities and influences are Marquis Ito, Mr. Kato and Mr. Okuda! Mr. Shimada Saburo is to be congratulated on his victory, but he is not to be congratulated on the tactics he employed to secure it. His appeal, formulated from the very first, against the force of wealth and political combination was unworthy of him, and though he returns to Parliament to enrich it with his remarkable eloquence, he has not added to his reputation for sobriety of judgment. Indeed, while greatly admiring his ability and independence, we regard him as a very dangerous factor in Japanese politics, for unless every indication be erroneous he is marked to be the founder of Japanese socialism. As for the Yokohama election, we do not regard it in any sense as a triumph of integrity and independence over opposition and corruption. We regard it simply as a re-assertion of the old hostilities that have kept the community divided for so many years. Unless the two factions could be reconciled, it was quite obvious that their votes must be cast for different candidates, and since their electoral strength is nearly equal, the issue of such antagonism could only be such as it has been. Had Mr. Kato or Mr. Okuda alone entered the field in opposition to Mr. Shimada, the strength of one section would not have been dissipated by scattering, but when the landowners had to divide their votes between Messrs. Okuda and Kato while the merchants went solid for Mr. Shimada, the issue became a foregone conclusion. Moreover, before applauding the merchant section, we should like to know how many of them broke their pledges. Certainly up to the last moment it was confidently believed that many of them would support Messrs. Kato and Okuda, and their own engagements must have been responsible for the belief. At all events, when there is talk of the power of wealth and such things, level-headed people understand that they are in the presence of one of those shibboleths that ranting radicals delight to proclaim.

There was a large crop of offenses against the election law in connection with the polling. No less than 53 cases came before the tribunals, and they involved 234 persons. Shizuoka heads the list so far as the number of incriminated persons—37—is concerned, but Saitama's record is the worst, for it has 9 cases and 31 defendants. It is noticeable that in these returns Yamaguchi prefecture and Ishikawa prefecture do not appear at all. Of course opposition journals allege that the immunity enjoyed by electioneering agents in these prefectures was due to the wilful blindness of the police towards offences committed by friends of the pro-government candidates, but is it quite conceivable that if the police show partiality so glaring as that laid to their charge, they would have confined themselves to minimizing the offenses of their friends without attempting to magnify those of their foes? With regard to the results of the elections in these prefectures, it may be noted that Yamaguchi returned 3 *Seiyu-kai* candidates and 3 independents, while Ishikawa returned 4 *Seiyu-kai* supporters and one *Seiyu-kai* seceder.

A deputation of leading citizens of Yokohama waited on Mr. Kato Takaaki on the 8th instant and begged him to accept the nomination for that place. Mr. Kato has shown the greatest reluctance to sit for Yokohama under the circumstances. In fact, up to the afternoon of the 7th instant his resolve to decline seemed immutable. After an interview with Marquis Ito, however, an interview which took place in the sequel of much indirect pressure applied through Mr. Sameshima, confidant of the Marquis, Mr. Kato at length showed signs of yielding, and when the deputation from Yokohama arrived to urge him, he finally consented to sit. Under these circumstances Mr. Okuda also agreed to abide by the result of the Tottori election. It appears that in Tottori also, as in Yokohama, local politicians have been hitherto divided into two bitterly hostile parties, the *Shinwa-kai* and the *Minyu-kai*. In Tottori, however, these factions agreed to make the elections an occasion for burying the hatchet and uniting to return Mr. Okuda in the public interest. Yokohama had not the magnanimity to adopt a similar course. However, the result may be regarded as satisfactory for all parties. The House of Representatives will enjoy the benefit of having Messrs. Kato, Okuda and Shimada among its members. Our readers will perceive that statements hitherto published about Messrs. Kato and Okuda having agreed to accept the nominations for Yokohama and Tottori respectively were premature. The thing was not settled until the 8th instant.

THE KAZUSA SYSTEM OF WELL-BORING IN INDIA.

Mr. F. J. Norman seems to have "struck oil" with his importation of the Kazusa system of deep boring for water into India. Last year we reviewed at some length his pamphlet on this subject, and we now observe that *Capital*, a leading Calcutta journal, speaks in the highest terms of the system's adaptability to Indian conditions. The Japanese device has been set working in the Presidency Jail of Calcutta, and though the Viceroy was unable to make a personal inspection of the apparatus, he has instructed Mr. Norman to sink wells in some selected districts, probably Bankipore and its neigbourhood. *Capital* notes that a complete turn-out of American or European well-boring apparatus costs Rs. 12,000, whereas the Kazusa tools can be obtained for 200. "If water is to be had underground" it writes, "the ryot need not wait for the advent of a big Government irrigation scheme brought to his fields at immense cost. For a couple of hundred rupees, he and his neighbours can water their crops and their cattle at their own doors."

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AWOMORI FAMINE.

Monday, March 9.

The delegate sent by the *Jiji Shimpo* to Awomori to investigate the state of the people there, reports from the Kami-kita district that very bitter distress prevails. Whole families have been living for some time on roots and husks, and no less than 631 persons are threatened with starvation, while 1,320 may possibly be able to hold out until the spring. These figures, it must be observed, apply only to the region where the distress is most acute. In the hamlets of Shintate, Oura and Uyeno, out of 500 households more than 300 are nominally in the hands of bailiffs. In fact, judging from this report, the distress has not been at all exaggerated, and the apparent indifference hitherto shown by the Japanese must be attributed to ignorance of the cruel conditions that really exist. The *Jiji* announces the following subscriptions :—

	Yen.
Baron Iwasaki Hisaya	10,000
The Mitsui Family.....	10,000
Mr. Masuda Ko	100
Mr. Dan Takuma	100
Mr. Asabuki Yeiji	100
Mr. Hayakawa Senkichi	100
Mr. Takahashi Yoshiwo	100
Mr. Watanabe Senjiro	100
Mr. Hadano Shogoro.....	100
Mr. Iida Giichi	100
Mr. Ariga Kagabumi.....	100

Meanwhile the contributions to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* fund amount to 632 *yen* and those of the *Hochi* to 400 *yen*. The *Asahi's* total thus far is not accessible. The *Chuo Shimbun* also has opened its columns for subscriptions.

Tuesday, March 10.

The Rev. Walter Weston and Mr. F. Parrott have returned to Yokohama from their journey to the famine-stricken regions of Awomori and adjacent *kens* on behalf of the Trustees of the fund raised among foreigners by the H. and S. Bank. They have some stirring tales to tell of the terrible conditions which prevail in the bleak districts of north-eastern Japan. The weather they encountered was very severe. Day after day they had to perform their work of mercy amid blinding snowstorms and in a temperature that almost froze the marrow in their bones. The poverty of the peasantry in this portion of Japan is something difficult to describe: the wonder is that men and women can go on living under such terrible conditions. Yet large families are the rule not the exception, and a spirit of cheerful content with their cheerless surroundings seems characteristic of the people. There can be no doubt that the help given by the foreign communities in Japan is keenly appreciated by the suffering people, and the charity commissioners feel repaid for all the hardships of their journey by the many expressions of heartfelt thanks which came spontaneously from the lips of the famine-stricken in the course of the expedition. The assistance which Mr. Weston and his co-labourer in the good work were able to afford will help the peasants to tide over a considerable portion of the time till the snow clears from the land, though in some places this will not be until the end of April at the soonest. Then with the inauguration of a series of public works throughout the district, a happier time should dawn for all.

Wednesday, March 11.

An amusing though somewhat virulent attempt has been made by a foreign local contemporary to prove that, with regard to the distress in Aomori, the *Japan Mail* "was unwilling to accept the word of an English gentleman of Mr. Weston's high standing, and that of his coadjutors, men of excellent reputation, but preferred to await the verdict of an unknown Japanese reporter." To this curious charge our contemporary adds :—"Such doubt of foreign veracity, thus deliberately expressed, is nothing less than a studied insult to Bishop Berlioz, Mr. Weston and their foreign constituents." Bishop Berlioz, Mr. Weston and their foreign constituents will doubtless find this very entertaining, though their amusement will be tempered by regret that an occasion such as this exercise of fine benevolence should be disfigured by slanders and by displays of racial prejudice. It appears to be fated that the racial question must be dragged into every page of the relations between foreigners and Japanese. Accepting that, however, as inevitable, we proceed to quote what actually appeared in these columns, and what constitutes the basis of this extraordinary accusation that we have offered "a studied insult to Bishop Berlioz, Mr. Weston and their foreign coadjutors" :—

"JAPAN MAIL," FEBRUARY 28TH.

Mr. Weston's letters and telegrams indicate that there is undoubted scope for charity, though there may be question whether a visit to the remote regions of Aomori in mid-winter would not invariably reveal many evidences of privation and suffering. Before deciding, therefore, whether this community's charity has not erred on the side of excess, or whether the apparent indifference of the Japanese has not sinned on the side of neglect, the receipt of fuller information must be awaited.

"JAPAN MAIL," MARCH 3RD.

Up to the present time the conviction of the Japanese in Tokyo appears to be that the occasion does not call for any exceptional exercise of charity. It has been suggested publicly that their failure to contribute for relief purposes must not be taken as an indication of callousness. The true explanation, we believe, is that the nature of the calamity is not appreciated by the Japanese or has been overestimated by foreigners. Certainly Mr. Weston's letters do not yet show a state of affairs which can be regarded as consistent with the alarmist rumours circulated at one time.

That there is much suffering can not be doubted, and it is equally certain that an opportunity offers for benevolent aid. But we begin to doubt greatly whether the foreign community were called on to make an effort second only to their noble display of charity in connexion with the Gifu earthquake and the Kamaishi tidal wave.

Then followed the detailed reports sent by the *Jiji Shimpo's* special correspondent, and on perusing them we wrote :—"In fact, judging from this report, the distress has not been at all exaggerated, and the apparent indifference hitherto shown by the Japanese must be attributed to ignorance of cruel conditions that really exist." The heinous insults that our excited contemporary finds embodied in these words, insults to the veracity of Bishop Berlioz, Mr. Weston and their foreign constituents, and the accusation that "while our foreign doubt was being resolved," we were "doing our best to discourage foreign subscriptions and thus leave Japanese to starve and suffer"—all this deserves only one epithet, namely "delirious." At the same time, we are disposed to make some allowance for our contemporary. We seem to remember that when Bishop Berlioz first addressed the *Japan Mail* on the subject of the distress and suggested the advisability of contributing funds and placing them in the hands of the local authorities to be used for public works, the *Japan Gazette* very vehemently sought to throw discredit on the Bishop's suggestion, and maintained that if any relief were given by foreigners, it must be direct relief, distributed by foreigners themselves. We have no objection to our contemporary's attempts to "cover up" that incident even though it employs vituperation of ourselves for the purpose.

The *Chuo Shimbun's* special correspondent, sent to investigate the circumstances, reports virtually in the sense of the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondence, but estimates the number of persons who may find difficulty in supporting themselves until next autumn at over forty thousand, instead of a hundred and fifty thousand as computed by other observers. The *Chuo* has accordingly opened a subscription list, to which, however, only 33 *yen* has thus far been sent. The *Nichi Nichi's* list now amounts to 992 *yen* and the *Jiji's* to 21,432 *yen*.

The Osaka Municipality has resolved to head a movement for collecting subscriptions. Several banks and offices are indicated as places where contributions may be made, and all subscriptions of 50 *sen* and upwards are to be acknowledged in the three leading journals of that city.

The Sanyo Railway Company has followed the example of the Japan Railway Company in undertaking to forward, at reduced rates, stores of food and other articles for the distressed persons.

Thursday, March 12.

The Governor of Awomori seems to be taking very practical measures with regard to the distress in the prefecture. He is endeavouring to make arrangements for the emigration of the most distressed to the Hokkaido fisheries; for the employment of others upon the Akita Government railway-works; for the establishment of communal orchards and vegetable gardens, the prefecture granting one half of the necessary capital and the communes the remainder; and for the inauguration of extensive operations of road-making and riverine improvement by means of a fund of 300,000 *yen*, raised in the form of a prefectural debt. It appears from the statements of Tokyo journals that men from Awomori Prefecture have a bad reputation for idleness, and that, consequently, they are not welcomed as immigrants in Hokkaido or as employees on public works. The Governor's idea is to warn them that any one who, after being helped to find work, shows signs of laziness, will be precluded from all claim to further employment. Meanwhile the Tokyo newspapers continue to collect funds in aid. The contributions to the *Jiji* now total 23,340 *yen*; those to the *Nichi Nichi* 1,852 *yen*, and those to the *Chuwo*, 87 *yen*. The *Asahi* also is collecting but it does not give aggregate figures. The *Chuwo* has a note written in an excellent spirit. It declares that the Japanese people should be ashamed of being outdone by foreigners in this matter of charity, and it quotes the comments of the *Japan Gazette* as not only justifiable but also calculated to bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of its nationals.

The following letters are self-explanatory :—

No. 118-A, Bluff, Yokohama,
11th March, 1903.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The following is a statement of Receipts and Expenses connected with the Entertainment at the Public Hall on the 5th inst. in aid of the Aomori Famine Relief Fund :—

Receipts. Yen.	Expenses.	Yen.
967.00	Rent, Public Hall.....	60.00
	Scenery	47.40
	Labour and other Hall expenses	15.60
	Ticket Collectors	11.00
	500 Programmes	3.00
	Balance	830.00
967.00		967.00

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In accordance therewith I have handed to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for the Fund Trustees a cheque for *yen* 830.00, as per copy of letter enclosed.

I take this opportunity of publicly taking the numerous kind friends who assisted me in the sale of tickets, the *Japan Mail*, *Japan Herald*, *Japan Gazette* and *Japan Advertiser* for advertising free of charge, the *Box of Curios* for donating the tickets and printing the programmes for a nominal sum, and Messrs. C. Thwaites & Co. for supplying the piano and giving their services gratuitously in the sale of tickets and booking seats.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) S. MOLLISON.

11th March.

To the TRUSTEES, AOMORI FAMINE RELIEF FUND.
CARE OF HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in handing you cheque for *yen* 830.00, representing the net proceeds of the Entertainment given at the Public Hall on the 5th inst. in aid of the Aomori Famine Relief Fund.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and oblige,
Yours faithfully,

For S. Mollison,
JAMES P. MOLLISON.

On the 4th the Osaka City Assembly held an extraordinary meeting to discuss a motion regarding the collection of funds to relieve the Awomori famine. The proposal was passed unanimously.

CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, March 7.

Yung Lu's illness is said to have assumed a very grave complexion. On the 5th inst., according to a telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo*, he lost consciousness, and although he recovered for the moment, nothing like permanent amendment can be hoped for. As to the nature of the illness there are conflicting reports. One story is that an unskilful doctor committed a blunder in the use of acupuncture and thus produced an incurable complication. Another account assigns creeping paralysis as the cause of the trouble. It is scarcely necessary to say that Yung Lu's death would produce a great effect in Chinese political circles. Such varied statements have been made about him that it is difficult to know whether he is a libelled patriot or a disguised traitor, but all observers agree that his influence at Court is paramount, and that he gained rather than lost power from the defeat of Boxerdom. How the latter fact can be reconciled with the theory that he secretly favoured the Boxers and fomented anti-foreign feeling it is not easy to understand, but many things in China's politics suffer from obscurity.

Monday, March 9.

Mr. Wang Chih-chung, Governor of Kwangsi, sends to Peking a report which suggests an explanation, strange but not incredible, of the continually unsettled state of affairs in Kwangsi. He accuses the officer in command of the troops, General Su Yuan-chun, of being altogether incompetent, and the troops of being quite undisciplined. Men to-day found among the rebels are to-morrow wearing the uniform of regular soldiers and *vice versâ*, so that the complication has assumed an interminable character. The Governor declares that unless General Su is removed, nothing can be accomplished. He asks that the sole authority be entrusted to himself, and that, should he fail to restore order within two months, the strongest measures should be adopted to punish him. Meanwhile the telegraph says that the French Representative in Peking has been making very urgent requisitions about the necessity of quelling the rebellion speedily lest dangerous unrest be produced on the Tonquin frontier, but the Ministers of the Wai-wu Pu are said to have treated his remonstrances somewhat cavalierly, their view being that he greatly exaggerates the situation. A report sent to the *Asahi Shimbun* alleges that the Representative left the Wai-wu Pu in anger.

Tuesday, March 10.

It is reported by telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* that the Roman Catholic Church at Pehtang-kou, Tientsin, has been destroyed by Boxers, and that an investigation has been ordered by Viceroy Yuan. The news is of the briefest description, though its significance may be considerable. Another message to the same paper says that the native Christians at Pehtang-kou are subjected to attacks by Boxers and that the latter threaten to destroy the church. Thus the news is evidently contradictory and we must await further details. There have been some confident prophecies of another Boxer *emeute* this spring, especially in Szchuan, where the Roman Catholic missionaries represent the existence of a very unquiet state of affairs. But from Szchuan to Tientsin is a far cry.

Shanghai telegraphs that the circulation of forged notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank having been discovered, the Bank was subjected to a run on the 6th and 7th instant.

The *Nippon* repeats the strange stories recently related by the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent with regard to the behaviour of members of the foreign Corps Diplomatique when visiting the Court at the New Year's audience. We have already alluded to these tales: how the Empress led the ladies into her own private apartment; how one of them slapped her on the shoulder; how another drew her chair into contact with that of Her Majesty; how a third stared at the Emperor through a lorgnette; how a fourth put cake into his mouth, and how several of them helped themselves to refreshments. To these details the *Nippon* now adds statements that at the reception on the 6th of February—the ladies of the Corps Diplomatique were received on the 10th—, the German Minister wore his overcoat throughout the proceedings, there being no stove in the audience hall, and that two or three of those present carried kodaks with which they deliberately took photographs of the Emperor. The *Nippon's* correspondent says that the policy of the Imperial Court towards foreign Representatives and their wives erred on the side of exclusiveness prior to the Boxer troubles of 1900, but that since that time their Majesties have gone to the opposite extreme, casting etiquette to the winds and sacrificing their own dignity and their country's prestige for the sake of creating an impression which is likely to be injurious rather than serviceable. We reproduce these allegations because they would probably remain wholly ignored had not Japanese correspondents taken up the question. It is quite possible that the whole story may be false, and it is more than probable that there has been much exaggeration. In either case those that are in a position to contradict or confirm will be heard from with interest.

Wednesday, March 11.

It appears that a daughter and a niece of Kang Yu-wei, who have hitherto been supported by an English resident of Hongkong and are now passing through Japan *en route* for America, have called upon Count Okuma, and expressed very strong opinions about the necessity of reform in China. These young ladies desire to study the science of administration, but not finding any school suitable for that purpose in Japan, they are proceeding to the United States. Kang Yu-wei's daughter is said to have been much affected when speaking to Count Okuma about the state of her country.

A telegram received in Tokyo says that Wei, Viceroy of the Two Kiang, arrived at Hankow on the 7th instant, and that having rested there for two days, he was to proceed to Nanking to take over the seals of office from Chang Chih-tung. The latter will then return to Wu-chang, and having remained there a week, will go up to Peking, following *en route* the line of the Lu-Han Railway, which he will inspect.

Thursday, March 12.

The telegraph announces that the disputes about the collection of customs dues at Dalny have resulted in the temporary admission of imports duty free. There is a natural reluctance on the part of the Russian Authorities to undertake the function of collecting, and the Chinese are unwilling to do so in the face of Russia's claim that the administrative power is in her hands. One is reminded of the complication at Shanghai during the early stages of the Taiping rebellion, when the city being in the hands of the insurgents and the river dominated by foreign vessels, one side had not physical competence nor the other legal right to collect the treaty dues.

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a telegram from Tientsin dated the 9th instant, to the effect that the Russian soldiers at Pehling and Liau-yang are all declaring that preparations for war with Japan are now fully completed. Nothing is said as to the cause of this imaginary war. If the calamity should ever occur, much of the responsibility will rest on the shoulders of newspapers and their correspondents.

Friday, March 13.

Apparently the system of students' supervision organized by the Chinese Government is not efficient. The *Jiji Shimpo* refers to the matter editorially. It says that there are some 900 Chinese students in Tokyo, of whom 800 are nominally under the control of the recently appointed inspector, Mr. Wang, and the remainder are entirely uncontrolled. Even in the case of those under Mr. Wang, however, there is very little discipline, for they obey or disobey his mandates just as they please. This is distinctly an unsatisfactory state of affairs, considering the events of last year, and considering how nearly they led to the withdrawal or removal of all the Chinese students studying in Tokyo. So long as a student is in the preparatory school of the military college, his discipline is justly well assured, but when in other institutions he enjoys an amount of freedom entirely inconsistent with Chinese customs and very perilous to his moral equilibrium. The *Jiji's* idea is that some system should be concerted between the Chinese Government and the Japanese Authorities. It would certainly be most regrettable should the educational advantages which Japan offers be rendered inaccessible to the Chinese owing to such a cause.

A telegram from Shanghai dated March 10th states that since silver exchange has fallen, there is no demand in the cotton market pending an expected drop in prices.

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SILVER COINS.

If the silver monetary tokens of silver-using countries could be converted into subsidiary coins of gold-standard countries, the same stability of international ratio could be established as that existing domestically between shillings and sovereigns in England. That appears to us to be the gist of the proposal made by Mexico and China to the United States, and submitted by the President to Congress with a recommendation "that the Executive be given sufficient powers to lend the support of the United States in such manner and to such degree as may be deemed expedient to the purposes of the two Governments." Whatever may be said or written on this subject, the question ultimately resolves itself into one of two things, a ratio founded on the intrinsic values of the two metals, or a ratio founded on a value arbitrarily assigned to one of them in terms of the other. There is no conceivable third way; no *via media*. Stated otherwise, the proposal advanced by Mexico and China is that a system of universal currency should be established among all nations, in which system the gold coins would circulate at the value of the units of yellow metal they contain, and the silver coins would circulate at a fictitious value assigned to them in terms of gold. Such a system is wholly out of the question unless the silver coins be exchangeable for gold at the arbitrarily fixed price. Who is going to undertake the duty of exchange? Is it contemplated that any one carrying Mexican dollars from Mexico or Peking to Washington shall be able to hand them into the United States Treasury and, to receive a certain weight of gold in return? If nothing of that kind be on the programme, there is no resource except to provide a gold reserve in the central American republic and in the Far-Eastern empire, so that exchanges may be effected *in loco*; which means, on the other hand, that neither Mexico nor China need ask for any assistance from the United States. We find it very noticeable that none of the journals publishing news of the appeal from Mexico and China attempts to elaborate the project into a working theory. When that is done we inevitably arrive at the bed-rock essential of mutual exchangeability between the two metals, and there can not be mutual exchangeability unless gold is available for the purpose of exchange.

NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION AT THE PEKING PALACE.

The *Asahi's* Peking correspondent sends to that journal a curious story, dated the 13th of February. He says that when the twenty-five ladies of the Corps Diplomatique, accompanied by the United States Representative and nine interpreters, visited the Palace at the Chinese new year, they were received by the Empress Dowager, the celebrated eunuch Li Lien-yung being in attendance. The Empress-Dowager shook hands in the warmest manner with Mrs. Conger and Mrs. Uchida, showing special pleasure at meeting the latter and expressing much regret that Mrs. Uchida's absence in Japan had kept her away from Court. She greeted the other Japanese ladies with scarcely less *empressement*, and as they were able to reply in Chinese Her Majesty evinced much satisfaction. She then took Mrs. Conger and Mrs. Uchida by the hand and led them into her sleeping chamber, a course pursued in the case of relatives only, according to Chinese etiquette. The Japanese ladies were careful not to trespass upon the Imperial lady's condescension. They kept their seats at a distance of at least three feet, and did not forget what was due to the Sovereign. But—and it is here that the correspondent becomes specially interesting—the foreign ladies showed no such sense of etiquette. They pushed their chairs close to that of the Empress-Dowager, and one of them actually patted the Imperial shoulder as she would have done to an intimate friend of her own station. Moreover, these ladies helped themselves to refreshments, and behaved altogether in a manner so unbecoming that onlookers were disagreeably shocked. Having slung this heavy missile at the head of the gentle diplomatists, the correspondent passes to censure the Empress-Dowager for her treatment of the Emperor. He says that whereas she beamed all over with affability towards her foreign visitors and spared no effort to win their goodwill, her eyes gleamed like lightning in a midnight sky when she turned them towards the Emperor, whose unhappy and constrained mien in the presence of the great dame inspired pity and sympathy in the bosom of all beholders. Her Majesty handed him a cake of which she had already consumed a part, and he dutifully ate it. His sole thought seemed to be self-effacement and escape without sowing the seeds of a subsequent rating. In fact, he behaved like a terrified child in the presence of a stern parent. The correspondent notes some of the measures taken by the Empress-Dowager to show civility to her guests, but he opines that only a very wise man could say whether the Imperial lady will succeed in adapting the diplomatic dames to her own ends, or whether they will be the adapters and she the adapted.

GRAND TRUNK PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Very great interest has been aroused by the announcement that the Grand Trunk Railway Company of Canada intends to build a transcontinental line, 2,500 miles long, starting from Gravenhurst or North Bay, traversing Manitoba and the Territories, and forking from Edmonton so as to reach the Pacific at Port Simpson and Bute Inlet, the cost being estimated at 75 to 100 millions of dollars. There is already a road to Edmonton, namely, the Canadian Northern, which, after forming a loop with the Canadian Pacific between Port Arthur and Winnipeg, runs from the latter to Edmonton. But the line now projected would pass to the north of both these routes, and would run nearly parallel with the Canadian Pacific through a great part of the latter's course. It is not intended however, as a competitor of the Canadian Pacific. The claim is that Canada's growing prosperity demands an extension of her railway system and that the new line will tap areas not served at all by the Canadian Pacific. These districts have immense grain-growing capacities which can not be developed without transport facilities, and they offer a trade of almost limitless dimensions in coal and lumber, to say nothing of other minerals. Of course there is nothing new about the Grand Trank Railway. It is, on the contrary, one of the pioneers of railway enterprise on the American continent. Its first line, 297 miles long, from Montreal to Portland, Me., was opened in 1853; it has now a total mileage of 4,182 miles under one management; it is celebrated for the beauty and artistic tastefulness of its various publications no less than for the comfort of its trains and the magnificent scenery through which they run, and when this new project is consummated, which will be in 5 years, the system will extend to some 7,000 miles. But what has special interest for folks in the Far East is that the pushing of the Grand Trunk's system to the Pacific will doubtless be followed by the establishment of another line of steamers from the Canadian coast to China and Japan, which means another step in the commercial development of this part of the world, and the opening of another route homeward *viâ* the Highlands of Ontario. It is just 33 years since the first trans-Pacific service of steamers—side-wheelers they were—was established between East and West. To-day there are four services and now we are promised a fifth.

JOURNALISTIC AMENITIES.

The editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* has addressed to two Yokohama journals a long letter of reply to our recent comments on his vexatious proceedings at law against the editor of the *Japan Mail*. We see no occasion whatever to follow him through the tortuous mazes of his arguments. He is apparently much aggrieved, but he ought to have anticipated that issue did he possess any faculty for accurately distinguishing right from wrong. Only one comment seems to be called for by his latest performance. It refers to the question of *sub judice*. In the first article evoked by our condemnation of his attempt to twist the law of the land to perverse purposes, he roundly accused us of contempt of court and of breach of journalistic etiquette, the basis of his charge being that we had discussed a matter while it was still *sub judice*. He now admits that the plea of *sub judice* had no validity, inasmuch as no further action had been formally entered, though several weeks had elapsed since the rejection of his complaint by the office of the public procurator in Yokohama. Nevertheless he re-asserts his intention of carrying the case to a higher tribunal, and then deliberately proceeds to comment on the matter through two columns of the newspapers to which he addresses himself! That is certainly a striking illustration of respect for sub-judicial restraints. When we wrote there was no possibility of knowing that further action was contemplated, unless indeed we had possessed some means of divining the innermost thoughts of our assailant. When he writes, he does so after blaming us for not suspecting that the case might be still *sub judice*, after admitting that no steps had been taken to place it *sub judice*, and after declaring that he intends it to be *sub judice*. Yet he discusses it through two columns of small print.

Moreover, while explicitly admitting that no step had been taken to carry the question before the Procurator of the Tokyo Appeal Court, though several weeks had elapsed, and while constructively admitting that we could not have anticipated any step of that nature, he now pretends to think that we showed "nervous anxiety to influence the decision of the Procurator at Tokyo;" nervous anxiety to influence the decision of an official whose decision had not been sought, and whose decision our assailant did not appear to entertain the least intention of seeking?

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JAPAN AND CANADA.

Mr. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in Canada, is now on a visit to Japan whither he has come for the purpose of seeing the Osaka Exhibition. Interviewed by a representative of the *Jiji Shimpo*, he notes that there are now some five or six thousand Japanese subjects in Canada, and that they are engaged chiefly in fishing and forest industries. British Columbia's efforts to restrict their immigration have hitherto been unsuccessful, and are not likely to be immediately repeated, though a rumour in the opposite sense found currency recently. Mr. Fisher, alluding to the fact that whereas Canada imports Japanese goods to the value of three million *yen* annually, she exports to Japan only twelve hundred thousand *yen* worth, expresses surprise that Canadian flour does not find greater favour in this country. It is, he affirms, the best in the world, and quantities of it are mixed with the inferior flours of America and Australia. Something similar may be said about Canadian timber, which, being grown in a comparatively cold climate, is closer in the grain and harder than the lumber of tropical or sub-tropical regions. In the matter of paper-making pulp, there is an absolutely inexhaustible supply of the best possible material in Canada, whence great quantities are beginning to be exported to the United States and elsewhere. Probably Japan buys from Germany and the United States quantities of paper made with Canadian pulp imported into those countries. It would be much more economical for her to import the pulp herself and become her own manufacturer of paper.

PRIVATE THEATRICALS & BALL IN TOKYO.

A very delightful performance of private theatricals followed by a dance was given in Tokyo on the 10th instant at the residence of Viscount and Viscountess Aoki, where exceptional facilities offer for such entertainments, the building being furnished with a spacious ball-room in which arrangements exist for the erection of a stage. The pieces represented were "Uncle's Will" and "A Pair of Lunatics," the cast for the former consisting of Dr. Mechlenburg, Mr. Parlett and Miss Aoki, and that for the latter of Mr. Sewall and Miss Evans. As usual Miss Aoki's rendering of her part was at once engaging and convincing. She wins fresh laurels on each occasion of her appearance in public. Tokyo society had enjoyed only one previous opportunity of seeing Miss Evans on the stage, and her acting in the charity theatricals at the United States Legation last year, had not suggested the great ability she showed on Tuesday evening. As *Clara Manners* she achieved a genuine success, and her *vis-à-vis*, *George Fielding* (Mr. Sewall) acted almost up to her standard. Mr. Parlett in the role of *Lieut. Charles Pashmore*, did thoroughly well. The comment generally evoked by his acting is that the part suited him, which is perhaps the most delicate and significant compliment that could be paid. To Dr. Mechlenburg (*Mr. Barker*) a somewhat uncongenial role was assigned, but he managed to invest it with much humour and to win hearty rounds of applause. The whole performance and the dancing that followed constituted a specially bright incident of Tokyo festivities this season.

INDIAN AND JAPANESE ART

It would appear that the same cause is operating to vitiate art in India and Japan, namely, the mercantile demand of foreign countries. Lord Curzon, in a recent speech, spoke of Japanese art as already greatly deteriorated, his idea being that the artists in this country no longer drink from the pure springs of native inspiration, having fallen into the evil habit of seeking their motives abroad. And he thinks the same of Indian artists. But his criticism has moved some men to speak who claim to have studied the subject more closely, and their verdict is, not that there has been any loss of art instinct, but that technical skill has become a thing of the past. Now technical skill is the last capacity that might be expected to disappear. What is the explanation offered of such an unwonted result? The explanation is that the trade in art objects has fallen into the hands of middle-men who think chiefly of cheapness and quantity, and who have discovered that it pays best to work on a basis of small outlays to craftsmen. They do not want fine objects on which large sums have been spent, because they are quite uncertain of finding connoisseurs competent to appraise such gems. What they want are cheap things with an obtrusive flavour of Orientalism. Precisely the same kind of demand threatened at one time to do serious injury to Japanese applications of art, and indeed it may now be truly said that the best Japanese art objects are not made for foreigners. But the technique of the Japanese was saved by the re-birth of an active demand at home. The munificent patron no longer exists, who supported a number of artists from year to year, content if they occasionally produced a really notable specimen; but the wealthy connoisseur has come again to the front, and is as exacting as ever in his demand for highest finish and severest obedience to established canons. We gather that no such connoisseur saves the situation in India, though why he should have entirely disappeared there we can not tell. And what is still less explicable is that the English writer who undertakes to direct matters into a groove of renaissance, pronounces this dictum:—"The native must first be taught that finish and accuracy will sell his wares more readily than the design, however artistic it may be." That is not true of Japanese art objects, we think. Finish and accuracy are not the chief desiderata for capturing the average foreign buyer. On the contrary, finish and accuracy are usually unappreciated by him. Witness the fate that has overtaken silver ware destined for European and American buyers. Finish and accuracy have wholly ceased to be characteristic of it. What is demanded is an elaborate or striking design suggesting richness and brilliancy. It is the same in every branch of applied art. There are, of course, rare Occidental collectors whose desires can not be satisfied without exhaustive application of technical skill and exercise of artistic ability. But for every one of these exceptions that prove the rule there are ten thousand that illustrate it. Thus, in fine, two distinct classes of objects are produced: objects for the domestic connoisseur and objects for the foreign dealer or decorator. Perhaps the latter will ultimately invade the domain of the former and swamp it. In the meanwhile, however, Japan is saved from serious decadence, and such being the case it is suggested that Japanese art artizans should be invited to work in India so as to supply the technical skill now absent from its ateliers. The idea has at all events the recommendation of novelty. One point is mentioned which shows that some phases of the subject have been well studied by the critic. It is that colour effects are marred and deprived of all durability by using cheap and gaudy German dyes in place of the soft, rich and lasting vegetable dyes of former times.

THE TEXT-BOOK AFFAIR.

Monday, March 9th.

Strange rumours are circulated to the effect that the booksellers' trust is threatening the Educational Department with all kinds of exposures unless the intention of State compilation of text-books be abandoned. The members of the trust stand to lose something like seven hundred thousand *yen* in the form of money actually expended if the Department's resolve be adhered to, but considering the methods confessedly employed by them to obtain the adoption of their text-books one can not sympathise with their misfortune. Certain Tokyo journals represent the Education Department as being greatly perturbed by the booksellers' threat, but no attempt is made to give substance to the latter by interpreting it.

Another statement published is that the Educational Society has taken part in the complication. Newspapers report that the Society recently held a meeting to which some journalists were specially invited, and that the meeting having passed a resolution totally condemning the system of State compilation and advocating the entrusting of the power of choice to governors of prefectures, Mr. Tsuji Shinji, President of the Society, openly asked the journalists to lend their assistance. They refused to pledge themselves, and the Society was thus placed in an embarrassing position which may imperil its own stability.

We publish these rumours for what they may be worth, but for our own part we attach little value to them. This text-book scandal is too big and too far-reaching not to beget an aftermath of troubles, and since the book-sellers were so ready to spend money for the sake of securing prospective gains, they will spend it with at least equal readiness in order to avert threatened losses. Under existing circumstances it is scarcely credible that they would have hitherto failed to utilize any lever available for putting pressure on the Mombusho, and their threats of future assaults are probably to be measured by the impotence of their past attitude.

Mr. Hara Ryosaburo, proprietor of the book store Kinko-do, has been arrested in connexion with the text-book scandal. It is not yet known what charge is preferred against him, for being a private individual without any official connexions the use of bribes would not be criminal in his case.

The course of the judical investigations tends to show that Baron Funakoshi and Viscount Seki were engaged as transmitters of *douceurs*, and the *Niroku Shimpo* opines that they will be deprived of their rank for having brought the title of nobleman into disgrace.

Wednesday, March 11th.

The first judgment in the text-book scandal was pronounced on the 9th instant in the case of Iwaya Naojiro, a school-inspector of Miyagi prefecture. He was found guilty of receiving bribes and sentenced to ten months' imprisonment with hard labour together with a fine of 7 *yen*. He is also required to return the sum of 300 *yen*, dishonestly received by him.

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KOREA.

The new Korean Representative in Tokyo, Mr. Ko Yong-hwi, is to present his credentials on the 9th instant.

We can not find that any public sentiment has been aroused by the *Nippon's* appeal to the public to help the 25 Korean students who are obliged to leave Japan and abandon their education owing to the determination of the Seoul Government to contribute no more money for their maintenance. The truth is that even the paltry sum of 11 *yen* monthly allowed nominally by the Government for the support of these students has not been paid, and the result is that they supported themselves by contracting debts. The First Bank (Japanese) in Seoul appears to have acted as paymaster, and as it has now a claim of 25,000 *yen* on account of the education of Korean students, it begins to think that a halt must be called. Korea is obviously hopeless in such matters. The Sovereign spends hundreds of thousands on an empty pageant or on the renovation of a palace, but he can not afford anything to educate his people. Doubtless the story of the ten students who, according to rumour, are now to be sent to study in Russia, will have the same sequel, and if the Russo-Chinese Bank is to be paymaster in their case, it will find the function equally expensive.

On the 8th instant 124 Korean subjects, including 17 women and children, embarked at Chemulpo for Hawaii. It appears that Korean labourers are steadily gaining favour in Hawaii, and there is said to be prospect of quite a considerable emigration to the sugar plantations there. These that know the Koreans well pronounce them to be altogether inferior to the Chinese individually, yet it would seem that the planters of Hawaii find Koreans preferable to Chinese in a subordinate position.

The ceremonials in connexion with the fortieth anniversary of the coronation of the Emperor of Korea are to extend over seven days, commencing on the 28th of April. There will be receptions, dinners, an evening party, acts of worship and a review, to say nothing of other functions more essentially Oriental. It has been decided that Japan shall be represented by Prince Yamashina, who is now serving on board the *Yakumo*. It is also expected that Sir Claude MacDonald will proceed to Seoul as Great Britain's representative.

DEBENTURES.

The debentures issued by the *Kwangyo Ginko* (industries encouragement bank) have been subscribed nearly twice over. The amount to be issued was a million *yen* and the subscriptions aggregated 1,980,000 *yen*. This is the Bank's seventeenth issue, and it has obtained permission from the Finance Department to make an eighteenth of similar amount, the interest being at the rate of 4½ per cent., and the prizes being four in every thousand *yen*.

With regard to the *Kogyo Ginko's* (industries bank) issue of 3 million *yen* worth of debentures at 6 per cent.—its third issue—, the Imperial Household Department has taken one half of the total amount.

Various other issues of debentures are announced as having been actually made or being in contemplation. Thus the Kokuyetsu Railway Company and the Kawasaki Dock Company have issued debentures to the amount of a million *yen* each; the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company is about to issue a similar amount; the Hokkaido Tanko Railway Company is preparing to issue two millions and the Kinshiu Railway Company has summoned a meeting of shareholders to discuss the issue of six millions.

It is not thought that all this means a correspondingly marked improvement of business enterprise. What it signifies is that the various companies are introducing order into their affairs, and are taking steps to replace with cheap money the borrowings made by them at high rates of interest during the feverish times that followed the war of 1894-5. Most of the funds now obtained by issuing debentures will go to the banks in re-payment of advances previously obtained from them, and not until further supplies of cheap money are drawn from the market will it be possible to anticipate a revival of business activity and a return to prosperous times.

THE SPECIE BANK.

The Specie Bank's half-yearly general meeting was held in Yokohama on the 10th instant, when the following statement of accounts was read and passed:—

	Yen.	Yen.
Gross Profits for the half-year ended 31st December, including 495,073 *yen* brought over from previous account		6,333,449
Gross Expenditures during the same period		4,397,597
Net Profit		1,935,852
To Ordinary Reserve	150,000	
To Silver Capital Reserve	200,000	
Dividend (namely 6 *yen* per share of old, new and second new shares, and 3 *yen* per share of third-new shares)	1,080,000	1,430,000
Carried forward to next account		505,852

The gist of the address delivered by the President, Mr. Soma, was this:—The economic situation during the half-year was not flourishing. The rice crop was bad and a sharp depreciation of silver took place so that trade showed no briskness and the money market was dull. Speaking generally, however, a quiet state of affairs may be said to have prevailed. In foreign trade, exports aggregated 258,300,000 *yen* during the year, and imports 271,730,000 *yen*, the total being over 530 millions, an unprecedented figure. During the first half of the year the import of commodities exceeded the export by 21,920,100 *yen*, but during the second half the excess was on the side of exports by 8,490,000 *yen*, so that, on the whole, the figure for imports did not exceed that for exports by more than 13½ millions. Turning to specie, there flowed into the country during the first half of the year 6,630,000 *yen* more than the amount going out, and during the second half the figure was 23,490,000 *yen*. It resulted that the specie reserve of the central bank reached a full amount, the gold-standard system being correspondingly strengthened. Further, the sale of 50 million *yen* worth of bonds in London greatly contributed to restore public confidence. The Bank's accounts show that the net profits, together with the sum carried over, aggregate 1,935,852 *yen*, which must be called a satisfactory result in view of the unfavourable circumstances. But as the Bank is obliged to have a part of its capital in silver for the purposes of the China trade, the danger of loss owing to the depreciation of the white metal can never be lost sight of. Thus, in the first half of last year, provision was made for that contingency by setting aside a reserve. In the second half of the year, however, the depreciation of the white metal was very acute, so that whereas the average price of silver in London had been 27⅞ pence in 1901, the corresponding figure for 1902 was 24⅛ pence, and in November and December it actually fell to 21 pence. Of course the Bank lost correspondingly. This loss was partially covered by the reserve previously set aside, but a considerable appropriation had to be made from the profits also for the same purpose. As for the future of silver, it is to be feared that there will be a further fall, and the accumulation of a suitable reserve to meet depreciation seems inevitable. For that reason the rate of dividend for the half year has been reduced by 1 per cent.; a step which is regrettable, but which is dictated by consideration for the Bank's security.

Mr. Soma concluded by a sympathetic reference to the death of Mr. Nakai Hōnan, a Director of the Bank and Manager of the London Branch. He asked the meeting to agree to an appropriation of 2,000 *yen* on account of his funeral and 10,000 *yen* as recognition of his good services.

COURTESY IN CROWDS.

A traveller by the 4.10 p.m. train from Yokohama to Shimbashi on the 9th instant observed this incident:—Among the people passing the wicket towards the platform of the Tokyo train, a tall, burly foreigner—we refrain from indicating his nationality—found his progress suddenly checked by a Japanese who, turning as he was about to pass the wicket, directed his steps towards the adjoining entry. There was nothing even remotely brusque or rude on the part of the Japanese, who, for the rest, was a man well on in years and evidently of good position in society. The foreigner, however, impatient that his own approach to the wicket should be arrested even for the brief moment occupied by this change of direction on the part of the Japanese, seized the latter by the shoulder and thrust him aside violently. Of course the answer to such procedure had an Occidental been thus assaulted, would have been a blow or an appeal to a policeman. The Japanese, however, did not actively resent the insult. He went on his way quietly, but he was observed to regard his assailant once or twice with evident astonishment and some show of indignation. Another foreigner, witness of the scene, accosted the Japanese and offered an apology on behalf of the boor who had assaulted him. We may add that this representative of Western good manners was a first-class passenger, that he wore the garb of a gentleman, though little entitled to the disguise, and that he accompanied a lady. Of course nothing more will be heard of this incident. Nothing whatever would have been heard of it had it not been accidentally observed by one who reports the facts to us. But suppose the actors reversed; suppose the assailant a Japanese and the assailed a foreigner. Would not the welkin of local journalism be now ringing with complaints about anti-foreign feeling and with other detonations from "patriotic" pop-guns? We are glad to say that this specimen of travelling etiquette was not an Anglo-Saxon, but of course all nationalities alike have reason to thank him for his contribution to the fair fame of their manners and customs.

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WEDDING OF MISS FRASER.

On January 5th, at the Church of St. Stephen, West Ealing, by the Rev. J. Tupholme, assisted by the Rev. W. Tupholme, Mr. Barry Cort Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Thompson, of Grantham, Lincolnshire, was married to Miss Ethel Florence Fraser, daughter of the late Mr. John A. Fraser of Yokohama, and Mrs. Fraser, 14, Denbigh Road, Ealing. The service was choral. The bride came up the aisle on the arm of her brother, Mr. Alan S. Fraser, but was given away by her uncle, Mr. W. S. Fraser. She wore a handsome gown of ivory satin, the long train covered with graduated gathered flounces. The yoke was of clear tucked silk muslin, as were also the large puffs from the elbow. She wore a tulle veil over a wreath of orange blossom, and a pearl, topaz and enamel pendant, the gift of the bridegroom, as was also her beautiful shower bouquet. She was followed by seven bridesmaids, Miss Alice Fraser (sister of the bride) Miss Harriet Fraser, Miss Dorothy James and Miss Brenda Read (her cousins), and Miss Violet Thompson and Miss Coston (cousins of the bridegroom), and Miss Phyllis Melhuish. The five elder bridesmaids wore elegant gowns of pale blue crèpe de chine, with white silk muslin fichus, and large white Gainsborough hats of beaver, trimmed with white plumes and blue velvet, and carried shower bouquets of yellow roses, the gift of the bridgroom, as well as the double heart pearl brooches that fastened the fichus. The two tiny maids wore white velvet Kate Greenaway dresses, with fichus and white beaver "Granny" bonnets and feathers, and carried pretty posies of roses.

Captain Heycock, R.M.L.I., acted as best man, and after the ceremony Mrs. Fraser held a reception at the Victoria Hall, Ealing. Here a large gathering—some 150 old friends—assembled to wish all happiness to the bride and bridegroom, whose health was proposed in a few appropriate words, by Mr. A. C. Read, the bride's uncle. Amongst many old Japan residents were Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Melhuish, Mr. and Mrs. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Read, Master Brian Read, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Reid and Miss Reid, Mr. and Mrs. d'Iffanger, Mrs. Hunt, the Misses Thomas, Mrs. W. G. Nelson, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Mitchell and Miss Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Rickett and family, Mr. and Mrs. Brent, Mrs. Healing, Mr. E. Coutts, Mr. Garfit, Mr. Winstanley, Mr. B. Hannen, Mr. W. J. S. Shand, etc., whilst many others were kept away by distance and the bad weather. The presents numbered over 200 and were very handsome. They included some lovely jewelry to the bride, several cheques and beautiful glass, silver, and antique furniture. The happy pair left later in the afternoon for Bournemouth, the bride wearing a brown cloth coat and skirt, with ermine muff and stole—one of her presents—and a large white hat with shaded feathers. The bride's mother looked well in a costume of grey cloth—with handsome lace appliqué—and wore a grey bonnet with steel trimmings and white ostrich tips. She carried a lovely bouquet of Parma violets.

THE "TANSAN" QUESTION.

There is now sitting at His Britannic Majesty's Consulate in Yokohama a commission appointed to take evidence with regard to Mr. Clifford Wilkinson's suit to restrain the sale of any *Tansan* except that bottled by him at Takarazuka. Several Japanese witnesses have been summoned to give testimony, and the plaintiff is represented by Mr. H. C. Litchfield, the defendant by Mr. Hirata Iiyei. Commenting on this matter, the *Asahi Shimbun* says that in the absence of a special reciprocity convention, the summoning of Japanese subjects by an English tribunal in Japan, the administration of an oath to them and their examination, represent an anomalous procedure; and that, considering the constantly growing bulk of the transactions and relations between Japan and Great Britain, such a convention ought to be concluded without loss of time. Of course the *Asahi* knows, we presume, that witnesses are not "summoned" by a commission of the kind. They are only invited to attend, and their compliance with the invitation is purely voluntary.

THE RELIGION OF THE SHANS.

Among the most striking figures amid the many gorgeously arrayed princes and potentates who attended the great Durbar at Delhi, when King Edward was proclaimed *Kaiser-i-Hind*, were the representatives of the old nobility of the Shan States, those little known countries which border on China, Siam, Burmah and India. They came long distances, some having to traverse over 500 miles of forest before reaching the rail-head that links their land with Mandalay, and at the Durbar they wore the ancient costumes which were *de rigueur* at the Court of the Kings of Burmah, their golden head-dresses in particular attracting attention. These head-dresses had a deep symbolical meaning and many an observer noticed the likeness between them and the adornments which old Indian craftsmen used to enshroud the heads of Buddhist saints. The Shans, indeed, belong to the great family of Buddhist believers, though many have doubted the fact. A recent writer in the *Baptist Union* conveys some idea of the state of religious and ethical feeling among them. He says:—Several times I have seen in print the statement that the Shans are *hpea* (or spirit) worshippers with a veneer of Buddhism. This is a statement far from the truth. Originally they were *hpea* worshippers, and traces of the belief still linger, but their religion is certainly Buddhism. Fear of the *hpeas* clings to them much as the fear of ghosts does to us. They will wind threads round their houses in case of sickness, make paths crooked or block them with thorns to keep *hpeas* from following them, or tie little offerings to the posts of houses being built to propitiate the spirits; but the vast majority of their offerings, all their public ceremonials, and their entire hope for eternity rest on the Buddhist law. The child is taught to bow before the image of Gautama; the boy of twelve or fourteen is dressed in the yellow robe and enters the Buddhist monastery for six or eight weeks as a kind of start in life. When too old to work, in addition to their regular religious duties, old men may be found at the monasteries reading aloud by the hour or the day, books that they do not understand, or at night repeating over and over formulæ which they have learned, or telling their beads in endless succession. When they die a Buddhist priest must bury them if they are not to become wandering spirits, and even when left in the graveyard Buddhism still comes to their help, for, a few days after the funeral, the relatives make a feast, the merit of which is supposed to "follow after" and help the one who has died.

AN INTERESTING ACTION AT LAW.

Some months ago we alluded to a strange case that had occurred at the Hospital of the Imperial University. A lady was operated on for some stomachic trouble, and the operator sewed up the wound without having removed all the lint used for purposes of dressing. Great suffering naturally resulted, and after six months' illness the foreign body came away, its expulsion affording the first conclusive explanation of the cause of the patient's protracted illness. The lady's husband, concluding that such an example of careless operating should not go unpenalized, instituted legal proceedings against the responsible surgeon and the case is set for hearing immediately. Meanwhile public interest has been sharpened by the publication of a plea compiled in the interests of the incriminated operator; a plea which quotes the statement of an eminent French practitioner that no less than 108 cases of failure to remove all the dressing before closing a wound after operation are on record, and which takes the ground, in effect, that such accidents are virtually inevitable, and that they ought to be included in the same category as errors of diagnosis or ordinary mistakes of treatment. On the other hand, this attempt to influence the result of a case still *sub judice* is condemned by some publicists, and surprise is expressed that official notice has not been taken of it. Doubtless the excuse would be that the general question of medical responsibility can be journalistically discussed without any violation of the proprieties, even though a special illustration of it is awaiting judicial consideration. Whatever be the rights or wrongs of that matter, the result of the pending trial will be of great importance.

CATATYPY.

Expert photographers deny that any purely mechanical process can be successful in printing a photograph. Their point is that even in the same picture different parts often require different treatment, whereas the treatment mechanically given is necessarily uniform. Nothing of that kind is suggested, however, in the following account of the new process of catatypy, which we take from the columns of *Commercial Intelligence*:—

The chemical phenomenon of catalysis was first observed a century back by a German apothecary named Kirchhof, and it has been reserved for a contemporary German, Professor Ostwald, of Leipzig University, to take the lead in teaching us how to dominate that phenomenon. Catalytic bodies, as every chemist, and doubtless many of your readers, know, are such as possess the power of effecting decomposition in a body by the mere force of their presence, and without themselves undergoing any change; they are the magicians, as it were, which wave the wands and produce the transformation. "When one reflects," remarked Ostwald in a speech before a congress of scientists and medical men at Hamburg in 1901, "that the acceleration of reactions through catalytic means goes on without consumption of energy—consequently, in this sense, gratis, and that in every province of technics, so also in the chemical, time is money, it is seen that from the systematic employment of catalytic expedients, changes of a sweeping character in technics may be looked for and expected." The Professor, assisted by Dr. Gross, has now applied "catalytic means" to the art of photography, and placed the photographer in a position to dispense with light in the final stage of the development of photographs. Hence the new process has worked its way into publicity under the designation, "photography without light." Such a description is, however, only half of the truth, for the negative is produced in the camera in the usual way. The Professor and his assistant call their method "catatypy," which signifies a process for reproducing without light photographs and other pictures whose picture-substance (silver, platinum, brown-stone,

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&c.), consists of those bodies which chemists call "catalysers" that is, as already stated, bodies which decompose others without themselves being decomposed. One of the numerous ways in which "catatypes" can be produced may be briefly explained; it will be amply sufficient for the purpose of demonstrating the "acceleration of re-action" referred to in the speech. Suppose a negative to have been prepared in the customary manner on silver bromide. Silver is a "catalyser," and it is this property which is turned to account. The negative is washed with a solution of peroxide of hydrogen in ether, which, after evaporation, leaves behind an even layer of the peroxide. Straightway the silver unmasks its catalytic batteries, and splits up the hydrogen di-oxide into its constituents, water and oxygen. In places free from silver the peroxide remains, and hence an invisible "picture" of hydrogen di-oxide results, which can be easily printed off on ordinary paper in a few seconds or minutes, and then developed in almost any colour according to the chemical employed, ferrous sulphate (green vitriol), for instance, producing a light yellow picture. If the picture is examined under a magnifying-glass the fine lines of the original are found to have been reproduced in all their sharpness. Should gallic acid be used, the resulting reproduction is violet; and since this acid forms stationer's ink, which, as everyone, is aware, lasts for centuries, the new process thus solves the problem of photographic permanency. Henceforward the up-to-date photographer will be more than ever independent of the weather for the printing of "that half-dozen"—for him the sun may sulk as long as it pleases when once the negative is made; in two or three minutes, without any costly material or machinery, his "catatypical" reproductions are ready for the customer. "Catatypy" may be termed Germany's New Year's present to the photographical industry. What does not the scientific world owe to those "shameless Huns" on the Continent!

A TAX ON SINGLE-BLESSEDNESS.

A member of the New York State Legislature has caused some merriment by introducing, with all gravity, a bill entitled "An act to impose a tax upon all able-bodied bachelors and spinsters who are found to be deliberately persistent in their celibacy." The act, remarks *Public Opinion*, mercifully provides, however, that "should it appear to the satisfaction of the assessors that the celibacy of the bachelor or spinster listed for taxation is enforced and not intentional, the assessors are authorized to remit such tax." The New York *Times* gleefully enlarges on the prospect that the passage of this bill would open; "the lobbies of the assessors, now crowded with eager abjurators of personal taxes, will then be thronged with unhappy celibates going before the assessors to tear open their old cicatrized wounds of the heart and set them bleeding afresh. The conscientious assessors may order the backward bachelor to 'pop' then and there to the waiting gentlewomen in the lobby. If he refuses, his 'deliberate persistency' is manifest. If he accepts and the lady declines, his contumacy is transferred by that fact to her. Either way swells the revenues of the 'foundling and orphan asylums' to which, by a particularly keen and cruel stroke of irony, the proceeds of the tax are allotted." The Brooklyn *Times* suggests that the result of the bill might be to place part of the responsibility for prematrimonial activity on the women. "There are thousands of men who drag along lives of solitary woe simply because they have never been able to summon up courage enough to ask a woman to take them in charge. The menace of a tax might inspire the women with the resolution to do the proposing themselves, and base indeed would be the slave who would refuse such a proposition."

It is stated that the imports of foreign rice into Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Nagasaki and Moji during ten days ending the 28th ultimo increased greatly in volume. The total amount of imported rice for the five ports during January and February reaches *yen* 9,914,115.

OSAKA EXHIBITION.

Telegrams from Osaka state that the admissions to the Exhibition during the first week totalled 127,250 persons, being an average of 18,179 daily. This is considered a very satisfactory figure, being more than three times as great as the Kyoto average in 1895. The entries at the Aquarium in Sakai during the same time were 20,078.

His Excellency Mr. Leng, who is *en route* for Washington, where he replaces Mr. Wu as Chinese Representative, visited the Exhibition on the 6th instant, attended by a suite of 40 persons.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is expected that the Imperial Decree summoning the Diet to meet for its eighteenth session will be issued on the 24th instant, and that the Houses will come together on the 5th of May. The period of the session will be thirty days, but it may be prolonged according to the progress of business.

The Red Cross Society, after considerable deliberation, has invited His Imperial Highness Prince Kotohito, Kanin no Miya, to succeed the late Prince Komatsu as President of the Red Cross Society, and the Prince is said to have accepted the nomination.

Lieut.-General von Janson, Commander of the Stettin Division of the German Army, who is now on a visit to Tokyo, was received in audience by the Emperor on the 5th instant, being introduced by Count Arco Valley. On the same occasion Captain Trummler, who succeeds Capt. Guhler as Naval Attaché to the German Legation, was also presented to his Majesty.

It is said that a party will be given on board the *Shikishima* at Kobe after the naval review. The Emperor will be present, and invitations will be issued to about a thousand persons, Japanese and foreigners.

A cruel murder has been committed at the Chiba villa of Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei, the wealthy tobacconist who was returned at the head of the poll in Tokyo in the last elections. The victims were a lady whose relation to Mr. Iwaya is variously stated, two old people who acted as caretakers and a girl of three, grand-child of the latter. The lady seems to have been roasted to death; the others were stabbed. Three of the corpses were thrust into a cupboard, and that of the little girl was buried under the verandah. It appears that no clue to the murderer has yet been obtained.

The section of railway to which *Deutsche Japan-Post* telegram refers is part of the German Bagdad Railway. This enterprise has been projected for some time, the idea being to lay rails from Konieh to Adana, Mosul, Bagdad, and Busrah, with many branch lines and an extension to Koweit. Apparently a start is about to be made at the Konieh end, and the first section will be less than one hundred miles in length.

It appears that the Senate of the United States endeavoured to introduce a more liberal element into the Japanese Immigration Law which has just passed both Houses and received the President's confirmation. The Senate wanted to change the word "travellers" and substitute "immigrants" in the article providing that a poll-tax of two dollars (gold) shall be imposed upon Japanese arrivals. But the Committee of the Houses restored the term "travellers," so that it will henceforth be necessary for every Japanese to pay the tax. On the other hand, the education clause has been altogether excised, so that a Japanese subject coming to the States will not be required to undergo any test of literary attainments. This Law does not apply to Chinese immigrants, nor yet to Japanese subjects crossing into the States from Canada. It appears to be a very emasculated measure, for it can not possibly exercise any really restrictive influence, and it must therefore be classed as a vexatious piece of legislation. One very strong clause is embodied, however; namely, a provision that any one introducing Japanese females into the States for immoral purposes shall be liable to a maximum penalty of a year's imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of five thousand dollars. That is drastic but decidedly comical. It suggests that American legislators have taken a contract to whitewash the sepulchre.

The *World's Fair Bulletin* keeps us duly posted as to the progress of the buildings for the Louisiana Exposition and the gradual completion of other arrangements. That publication's last number contains an elevation of the Varied Industries Building, which is now nearly finished. It is a structure at once magnificent and graceful, yet it is only one of nine buildings all of which are already in hand. Simultaneously the work of road making, railway building, landscape gardening and so forth proceeds space. We read that 3 miles of macadam and telford roads are complete and 3 miles additional are laid out, and that 10½ miles of railway tracks are in operation and nine miles are under construction. The contributions thus far voted by 27 States and Territories aggregate 3,850,000 dollars (gold).

The *Official Gazette* announces the birth of a prince in the house of His Highness Kuni no Miya. It will be remembered that the marriage of His Highness Prince Kunihiko to a daughter of Marquis Nabeshima took place last year.

We most heartily endorse Mrs. Alice Meynell's criticism of Dickens, though we should have phrased the comment differently. Mrs. Meynell says that the great author sometimes "yields to applause and breaks the strengthening laws of nature down." Our inclination is rather to say that he yields to emotion, and forgets the materials with which he is working. At the death-bed of little Paul, for example, we are introduced to one of the most pathetic and artistically described scenes on record, until suddenly at the very close of the drama, our sense of congruity is shaken and the whole effect of the picture is marred by the dying child's vision of his dead mother, by his wholly unchildlike criticism that the print is "not divine enough," as well as by his fancy that "the light about the head is shining on me as I go." Evidently Dickens' sense of the restrictions of his subject was obscured by the sadness of the image he had himself conjured up. But how small and how few are these blemishes! Do they trouble us for a moment when we find ourselves in the presence of that wonderful gallery of unforgettable characters his pen has bequeathed to English-speaking peoples?

Paymaster-General Ishiwara, of the Imperial Japanese Navy, has addressed a memorial to the Authorities advocating the building of three dock-yards for purposes of naval construction. He recommends as sites Tsune-miya in Echizen, Tani-

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gawa harbour in Osaka Bay, and Nagaura in Tokyo, and he suggests that the sums allotted by the Treasury for the three dock-yards should be twenty millions (*yen*) for each of the first two, and ten millions for the third. Some of the Tokyo journals condemn this project in very strong terms, their view being that until Japan can utilize the factories already built by her at heavy expense for purposes of naval construction, she had better hold her hand; advice which commends itself to all thoughtful persons.

The oldest bridge in Tokyo built after a foreign design was that known as Meganebashi in the Kanda district. It has now had to be replaced and the new bridge was opened on the 8th instant under the name of Yorozuyo-bashi. The new structure is of iron and granite. It has been thrown across the river at a point 120 feet above the old bridge, so as to suit the general plan of city improvements. It has a length of 84 feet and a width of 60 feet, the clear space for vehicles being 39 feet, the rest of the width being devoted to trottoirs. The estimate of outlay was 80,000 *yen*, but the actual cost has been only 61,000. The opening ceremony was marked by the ancent custom that the first to cross the bridge should be the oldest couple in the district, followed by representatives of the second and third generations. In this case the lead was taken by a man of 90 and a woman of 89, who were followed by a man and his wife aged respectively 85 and 63.

It was M. Jules Ferry, nearly twenty years ago, who frankly assigned to France the duty of bequeathing to the next generation a wider heritage than she herself received from the last generation. In pursuance of that policy she has made large additions to her colonial possessions, but some of her publicists are now beginning to ask whether this growth does not constitute a source of weakness. It certainly does entail a constant drain upon her purse. For whereas she spends upon her colonies 1¾ millions sterling annually, her total trade with them does not exceed 5¼ millions. England's record is very different, her outlay, indeed, is 2½ millions but her colonial trade is 215 millions. No one imagines, of course, that France can not easily afford to devote a few millions yearly to colonial expansion if her ambition points in that direction. The only question is whether the future has promise of a more economical state of affairs. M. Pauliat, a Senator, discusses the matter in the *Journal d'Outre-Mer*. As Chairman of the Colonial Budget Committee M. Pauliat's opinions deserve the fullest attention. But, on careful perusal, they scarcely fulfil our expectations. After commenting on the reluctance of his countrymen to settle abroad, a fact evidenced by the records which show that only 4,000 emigrants went from the mother-land to the colonies in the past six years, the Senator suggests that France should buy entirely from her own colonies the 240 millions sterling worth of colonial products that she consumes, and that above all that she should protect herself from foes within and without by building up a strong military power in the colonies. He would have native regiments recruited to their utmost possible strength, inasmuch as the presence of the soldiery would constitute a bulwark of the home Government's power and authority. So it would surely, but how would it improve the economical situation?

It continues to be argued by some observers that the Emperor William's object is to sow seeds of dissension between the United States and England. The *Vorwärts*, as translated by *The Literary Digest*, gives strong expression to that view, but it also declares the attempt to be hopeless, for the somewhat occult reason that America regards herself as the heir of the British empire. Why that should have the effect of inspiring friendship we do not see, unless it be contended that America cherishes the very far-sighted policy of allowing the British to develop the heritage peacefully until the propitious moment arrives for the legatee to enter into possession. On the other hand, the *Vossiche Zeitung* contends that nothing is further from the Kaiser's thoughts than to sow seeds of dissension between America and England. What His Majesty wants, according to that authority, is the closest possible relations with the two great branches of Anglo-Saxondom. But if that be the Emperor's design, he certainly did not show it in the business of the evacuation of Shanghai or in connexion with the Dardanelles problem, and moreover, the attitude of the English people towards the Venezuelan question must have taught the Kaiser that for all purposes of practical politics an understanding between Germany and England would not have the approval of the present generation of the British nation. In the face of that discovery, supplemented, as it has been, by a very striking display of indignation on America's part with regard to German doings in Venezuela, His Majesty must have concluded that few more difficult tasks present themselves than the achievement of this triple entente.

Two vacancies in the ranks of Field Marshal have been caused by the deaths of Marquis Saigo and Prince Komatsu. The former's rank was naval, the latter's military. Various rumours are circulated as to the names of the officers likely to receive these high appointments. Count Kabayama would probably be named for the naval post had he not retired from any active part in political or national affairs. Hence it is thought that Admiral Viscount Ito, of Yalu fame, will be the fortunate recipient. As to Prince Komatsu's successor, public opinion seems to point unanimously to General Viscount Nozu.

Many cheap witticisms have been exercised at Germany's expense because, after years devoted to the somewhat grandiloquent pursuit of the celebrated *welt-politik*, she at length possesses one colony that pays its way, namely, Togo. When, however, the matter is soberly considered, as in the following paragraph which we take from *The Mercantile Guardian*, it appears that what should be noted is not the solitary exception of one paying colony, but the solitary exception of one colony that does not show an improvement in financial conditions:—

An improvement is anticipated in the general financial position of the German colonies during 1903. The grant in aid to be made by the Imperial Government to the colonial administrations is estimated at 27,400,000 marks, a decrease of 1,600,000 marks, the cause of this being the increase in the separate colonial revenues. All the German colonies have contributed towards this result except German East Africa, the revenue of which has decreased by 90,000 marks. German South West Africa, on the other hand, can point to an increase of 347,380 marks, Cameroon to 51,400 marks, and Togoland to 554,500 marks. The case of Togoland is the most remarkable, for the revenues of this protectorate have increased 50 per cent., and, whereas in 1902 it required an Imperial grant in aid of 1,015,000 marks, the estimates for 1903 do not provide for any assistance from Imperial sources. The Carolines, with the Pelew and Marianne Islands, have added 90,500 marks to their income, the German possessions in New Guinea (Kaiser Wilhelmsland) 7,500 marks, and Samoa 20,000 marks.

The following three gentlemen have been appointed Honorary Instructors in the Imperial University:—Professor Miyake Shu, Professor Furuichi Kintake and Professor Tomii Masaaki.

The death is announced of Lieut.-General Baron Kurokawa, formerly Superintendent of the Office of the Crown Prince's Affairs. Baron Kurokawa had been ailing with heart disease since last year. He expired on the 6th instant at Komatsu in Ehime prefecture.

It turns out, as we ventured to predict at the time when the rumour reached us, that Sir Robert Hart has no intention whatever of resigning. According to popular report he has been on the point of quitting office at any time during the past twenty years, but he is to-day as far from doing so as he was in the early eighties. Long may he enjoy health and inclination to preside over a service which, under his able direction, has become an instrument of so much national and international benefit.

DOES GOLD GROW?

The fairy tales of science eclipse in these latter days the fairy tales of fancy and it is hardly surprising therefore to find a sober scientific journal like *Popular Mechanics* giving the hospitality of its columns to a writer who demonstrates that gold, under favourable conditions, does grow. Here is what he has to say:—

"It has been found that gold nuggets under favourable conditions actually increase in size. Gold is known to have grown on mine timbers which have long been immersed in mine water. In the California State Mining Bureau Museum there is a specimen of a piece of jointed cap and post taken from the Comstock, where it had been under water for years, in which gold has formed in the joints and pores of the wood. Gold is constantly being formed in rocks and veins and placers. Just what it is that the baby gold formation feeds on to effect its growth is not known; if it were, a new and wonderfully lucrative industry might be born and all other kinds of farming save the growing of gold might temporarily be abandoned. The formation and growth are due to mechanical and chemical action. As in the case of the animal or vegetable, existing gold has existed in some other state before assuming its present form. Waters which percolate through the earth's crust are said to contain substances from which gold is formed. Thus gold, like the animal and vegetable, must have water in order to thrive. The gold in the water is deposited when it meets the proper precipitant. The precipitant may be an earth current of electricity, some vegetable growth or chemical in the rocks. It has been claimed that the nuggets found in placers are the formations from the waters that percolate through the gravels and are not from decomposed quartz as generally supposed. Those who so contend cite the fact that in the centre of nuggets can be often found a small grain of iron sand. This was the nucleus around which the earth current of electricity created or deposited gold from the substance in the waters, just as it is deposited in electro-plating. During long ages this influence was at work causing the gold to form around the little grain of iron ore and then grow to become a bright, shining nugget of gold much larger and purer than any ever found in the veins of ore."

FAST DISCHARGE OF CARGO.

It is worthy of note that a record was made in connection with the discharge of the cargo brought by the Austrian Lloyds steamer *Nippon* (Messrs. Pollak Bros., agents). The vessel arrived in port on the 4th but too late for cargo to be worked. The stevedores (Helm. Bros.) began on the morning of the 5th and by the evening of the 7th had finished discharging 6,000 tons. Each day's work was suspended at 9 p.m.

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RUSSIA'S ADVANCE.

IT is often affirmed that during the past century, or at any rate for many decades, Russia has pursued an unvaried and deliberate policy of conquest in Eastern Asia; that every step of her advance has been part of a great programme conceived in St. Petersburg and carefully carried out by able officers, and that her diplomatic foresight has been as remarkable as its results are stupendous. History does not, we think, bear out that view. On the contrary, what history seems to show is that the forward impulse has been derived from the man at the front, and that St. Petersburg, far from inspiring and pointing onward, has been disposed to check and beckon back. In the seventeenth century there undoubtedly was a movement of Russian enterprise towards the Amur. But failure resulted, and during two hundred years the attempt was not renewed. Three overland routes essayed in the early days, all proved over-difficult, and when the mouth of the Amur was reached over-sea in the middle of the nineteenth century, the St. Petersburg Government had so little anticipation of the immense things in store, and so little disposition to inaugurate an aggressive scheme, that it was reluctantly persuaded to sanction the establishment of the first petty station at Petrofskoe. But it happened that remarkable men composed that little band of naval pioneers. Working with laughably small materials, they accomplished notable results. "VLADIMIR," in his excellent work "Russia on the Pacific," describes how NEVELSKEY had only 30 men and six officers when he started from Cronstadt in 1848, and how his first settlements were almost of toy dimensions—8 men at Mariinsk, 3 at Alexandrofsk, 8 at Constantinofsk and six at Ilinsk. All the while, too, instead of being assisted from St. Petersburg they were opposed, for PUTIATIN and NESSELRODE strongly discountenanced any occupation of the Amur or the continent, and predicted that if hands were laid on Saghalien Japan would be antagonised. Thenceforth the story is one of splendid conceptions by MURAVIOFF, equally splendid preparations on his part to carry them out, and steady resistance in St. Petersburg, even at the hands of the Emperor NICHOLAS, and above all at those of the Asiatic Department, whose officials appear to have worked deliberately for the defeat of MURAVIOFF'S designs. There is every reason to think that had it not been for the Crimean War the foundations of Russia's vast edifice of empire on the Pacific might not have been laid for many years. But when that war broke out, there devolved upon MURAVIOFF, as commander of the military forces in Eastern Siberia, the duty of protecting against maritime attack such portions of the Pacific coast as Russia had acquired, and he saw that the only route by which reinforcements could reach the region was the Amur, hitherto unnavigated. The doings of MURAVIOFF in this emergency constitute one of the most romantic pages of history. But they do not fall into the context of our present thesis, which is merely to insist on the fact that the huge strides of conquest then made in Eastern Asia were by no means the outcome of a fixed policy, so far as St. Petersburg was concerned, but were due to the initiative of the man at the front, and that the difficulties he had to overcome in the Russian capital were nearly as great as those he encountered at the scene of his active exploits. MURAVIOFF'S achievements may be said to have settled the question of Russia's future in the Far East. They launched her on a career of aggrandisement to which it became thenceforth impossible for her to set limits. She might have recoiled at the outset, but after the work of MURAVIOFF and NEVELSKEY, her destiny took charge of her, and thenceforth she had no choice but to obey it. To what goal her present movement will lead her, constantly expanding and gathering fresh force as it goes, no one can venture to predict. Is there any reason to suppose that the Yangtse or the Yalu will stop it since the Amur and the Sungari failed to do so?

THE TOKYO LADIES' MUSICAL SOCIETY.

On the afternoon of March 7th the Tokyo Ladies' Musical Society held its second special meeting of this session at the house of Viscountess Aoki, who kindly lent her rooms for the occasion.

The subject of the meeting was "Wagner," ably treated in a paper given by Mr. W. Karl Vincent, the well-known organist of Christ Church, Yokohama. Mr. Vincent, in a clear and incisive way, first sketched the life of Wagner and then supplemented it by general remarks on the style, the philosophical ideals, the dramatic and musical aims and achievements of the great composer. He spoke with much sympathy with, and appreciation of, his subject and as one having a close acquaintance with Wagner's works. Some of the points which he touched upon were—the late development of Wagner's musical genius, as compared with that of most composers, his inattention to and apparent non-aptitude for the study of music while in his boyhood, and how his musical awakening came at last to him when as a youth he first came under the influence of Beethoven's music and seriously began his musical training by copying out on paper the orchestral scores of that great master, a plan which by the way might be followed very good results by young musical aspirants of the present day. The Society's hearty thanks are due both to Mr. Vincent and to Mr. A. H. Atkinson for the musical selections they contributed after the reading of the paper.

Mr. Atkinson's rendering of "O Star of Eve," from "Tannhäuser," and of one other vocal number was easy and sympathetic and his voice had the pleasing quality, so often wanting in that of Wagnerian vocalists, of being "in time." Mr. Vincent at the pianoforte in the "Spinnelied" from "The Flying Dutchman," and in the difficult song accompaniment, showed his mastery of musical feeling and his skill as an executant. At the close of the programme he gave by request, the brilliant prelude in C. Minor by Rachmanikoff.

Tea was served at 5 p.m. and the meeting broke up with expressions of regret that time had not allowed of a greater number of musical selections from Wagner's works, by the two gentlemen who had so kindly given their services on this occasion.

FAREWELL TO MR. H. J. SHARP.

A farewell tiffin to Mr. H. J. Sharp—who leaves Yokohama by the P. & O. steamer *Malta* on short leave in the old country—was given at the Grand Hotel on Saturday. Nearly forty sat down under the presidency of Mr. James Walter, the vice-chair being filled by Mr. E. Flint Kilby. At the close of the repast the Chairman rose and proposed the health of the guest of the day. Mr. Sharp had ever been among the foremost to support any project that inured to the public welfare. Many of those present had worked with him on various committees of public associations and societies, and knew what his work had been, there were others seated around the table who knew but as a real, good friend. It did not become him (the Chairman) to speak of Mr. Sharp's work in Masonic circles, because he did not belong to that body himself. He had often desired to join the Masonic fraternity but the opportunity for doing so had never presented, but he could speak of the work which Mr. Sharp had done on other committees with which he (the speaker) was connected. He could testify to the generous way in which Mr. Sharp had given his time and devoted his abilities to the public welfare. No one could be more generous; no one could be more ready to place his time and give the benefit of his experience for the good of his fellow-men than Mr. Sharp; and it was a source of gratification to him, as chairman, that so many had assembled that day to join in a public farewell to one who had worked so hard and so unselfishly. (Hear, hear). Mr. Sharp, as they all knew, was a bookseller and it carried his (the Chairman's) recollections back to a time, now many years distant, when, as a youth, he made his first investment in books, with the very first money he ever had at his command. This money was spent in the famous bookshop of Mr. Bernard Quaritch, and the books he acquired were Kæmpfer's History of Japan and Medhurst's Vocabulary. In course of time—after a voyage of some six months—he arrived in Japan, but not at Yokohama. His ship, as luck would have it, stuck fast in the mud of Missisippi Bay and there he (the speaker) had occasion to use the knowledge he had gained though Medhurst's Vocabulary. Unfortunately, as matters turned out, the English language would have been of more service—(laughter)—for the boat-men who came to their assistance failed to understand the request to be taken ashore when put in the phrases of Medhurst's Japanese, but readily understood what was required when it was stated in the bald but expressive language of the Occident. (Laughter). Kæmpfer's History of Japan turned out a much more profitable investment for after making a long excursion into the country with the heavy volume in his knapsack he was able to dispose of it for the sum of forty *yen*. (Hear, hear.) But to return to the subject of his toast. They all knew what Mr. Shaep had done on the various public committees upon which he had served; they had all appreciated his work in amateur theatricals; his public recitations, and his unselfish work in many a charitable cause. (Hear, hear.) He therefore called upon the company present to drain a bumper to Mr. Sharp, to wish him a pleasant voyage, a happy and prosperous time in the old country—for he was, he understood, combining business with pleasure—(hear, hear)—and a safe return to Japan. (Loud Applause.)

Mr. N. W. McIvor begged leave to supplement the Chairman's eloquent remarks. Mr. Sharp was known and appreciated by all present as a dear good friend. (Hear, hear.) No one in this community was more ready to place his services, his advice, and his wide experience at the disposal of his fellow residents than Mr. Sharp. When any case deserving of charity arose they could turn to him knowing that so far as in him lay he would do all that good, sensible advice would avail, and beside as far as his pocket would allow, place that also at charity's service. (Hear, hear). Mr. Sharp, as the chairman had remarked, was a seller of books, but he was also a reader of books, and to a book-lover that conveyed a good deal. (Hear, hear.) He even read the novels that he sold, but in

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his (the speaker's) opinion Mr. Sharp's own advice upon novels was better than many a novel itself. (Hear, hear.) As a man, as a public-spirited member of the community, they bade farewell to Mr. Sharp with regret; but their regret was tempered with the hope that his trip home would be one of pleasure, of benefit to his health, and a business success. (Hear, hear.)

After a few words from the Vice-Chairman,

Mr. Sharp in feeling terms returned thanks. He felt that he had not deserved all the kind things that had been said of him. But on his return, God willing, he would do his best to deserve all that his friends had said that day. After ten years spent in Yokohama it was rather an idle phrase to say "going home." His home and friends were here and it would be really "going home" when he set out on his return to Yokohama. (Hear, hear.) Still, a trip to the home country was pregnant of pleasant anticipations, and in conclusion he would wish all present, health, prosperity, and good fortune till such time as he met them all again. Till then he bade them "au revoir. (Applause).

Mr. E. Flint Kilby proposed the health of the Chairman, and Mr. Walter having replied the pleasant function was at an end.

"BETSY."

Sir F. C. Burnand's farcical comedy "Betsy" was produced on Wednesday evening at the Yokohama Public Hall by the A. D. C., with great success. True to their promise the management began the play promptly at 9 o'clock, by which time the house was well-filled. A few stragglers still continued to enter but fortunately their entrances did not mar the proceedings to any appreciable extent, and the play proceeded merrily. For "Betsy" is a good, laughter-making piece, most innocent and innocuous, with just a *soupcon* of wildness faintly suggested by the frantic efforts made by certain of the characters to get ladies into and out of rooms where, it is to be gathered from the despair of all parties concerned, the poor things had no sort of business to be. The plot of the play chiefly turns round *Adolphus Birkett*, son of Mr. Birkett, his love affairs, his studies and his adventures generally, though the maid *Betsy* enjoys prominence such as is bestowed upon few young persons in her station of life. *Betsy*, in fact, is the villain of the piece, a designing female, who spends most of the time that should be given to household affairs in shaking her fist at *Adolphus* and in uttering gloomy threats. *Adolphus* (*Dolly*) we learn in the first act, has inadvertently committed himself to a promise of marriage in the form of a declaration written upon a photograph of *Betsy*, and though the youth avows his preference for *Nellie Bassett* and a fervent desire to forget past relations with *Betsy*, the latter holds the photograph as a means of coercing him into marrying her. *Mr. Birkett* and *Mrs Birkett* are greatly concerned about their son's education, and *Mr. Dawson* (a tutor of sorts) is engaged to take him in hand. A fiery Irish officer, *Captain McManus*, and his wife are introduced early, and as friends of the *Birketts* have a share in the movement of the play, *Mrs McManus* being, in fact, one of the ladies who have to be concealed under circumstances which, judging from the horror which threatened discovery evokes, are of the most gloomily suspicious character. Very good business is the scene in *Dolly's* study where he and that graceless youth *Dick Talbot* receive lessons of a somewhat profitless nature from *Mr. Dawson*. The latter, incited thereto by the frivolity of his pupils furnishes strong evidence of having been a sad dog in his time. A good deal of talk refers to a *Madame Polenta*, and this lady, who enters with *Nellie Bassett* and *Clara Peyton*, eventually gets locked up in a room by *Capt. McManus*, whose efforts to convey the fact to *Dolly* without attracting his wife's atttention is highly diverting. *Dolly*, however, in the absence of the *Captain* of course, makes love to *Mrs. McManus*, during which interesting occupation danger manifests itself by means of a distant voice and she also has to seek refuge in a room. There is a good deal of misunderstanding which is finally cleared up and the villain—that is to say *Betsy*—is unmasked. Thinking to make a triumphant *denouement* she produces a photograph which she imagines to be her own, bearing *Dolly's* promise, but which, having been taken from the wrong pocket, proves to be that of her sweetheart "in the Guards" and bears a strong declaration by herself. That disposes of her in a very summary fashion, and everybody else is made happy, *Dick Talbot* pairing off with *Clara Peyton*, *Dolly* with *Nellie Bassett* while the various incidents are explained to the satisfaction of everybody concerned.

The characters were filled with much success. Mrs. Whitney gave a very bright and sprightly rendering of *Betsy*, the maid whose contemplated raid upon *Dolly's* peace of mind came to nothing, though her costume was scarcely what we usually associate with an English maid-servant. Mrs. McWilliams was very happy in the role of *Mrs. McManus*, acting throughout with all the finished grace that we have become accustomed to associate with this lady's public appearances. Mrs. Doering took the part of *Mrs. Birkett*, and represented a quietly dressed, somewhat subdued, middle-aged lady,—a rather thankless role, but filled with great care and appreciation. The part of *Madame Polenta* is not particularly exacting, but Madame Henkler filled it successfully. As for the other young ladies, *Nellie Bassett* (Miss Ross), and *Clara Peyton* (Miss Rosie Cameron) they had little to do but look nice, and that they did to the extreme satisfaction of the spectators. The ladies were all charmingly "gowned," —as the fashion writer's phrase goes —and when all were together on the stage the *mise en scene* was very fine.

Of the gentlemen Mr. G. G. Brady undertook the part of *Capt. McManus*, and with that perhaps enough is said. It may be remarked, however, that he played the character to the very life, that he had an excellent brogue,—which, perhaps, is not matter for surprise—and that his appearances on the stage invariably created admiring laughter. The scene in which he strove to notify *Dolly* of *Madame Polenta's* concealment in one of the rooms was capital. Mr. E. P. W. Skrimshire was *Mr. Birkett* to an eyebrow. Not merely in make-up (which was excellent), but in all respects he gave a fine rendering of the old gentleman's part and it is not too much to say that his was one of the characters most appreciated by the audience. As *Mr. Dawson*, the tutor, Mr. Aslet deserves great praise. It is a good part and he acted up to it well —the result being a clever and finished impersonation. Mr. Hunt also scored a success in the character of *Adolphus*, and Mr. F. W. R. Ward as *Dick Talbot* was quite a rollicking young blade on the few occasions that one saw him. The scene in which the two (*Dick and Adolphus*) take lessons from *Mr. Dawson* was decidedly good. Mr. O. M. Poole, the *Hairdresser* and Mr. W. D. Cameron, the *Servant*, did with credit what was required of them.

As we have said the dresses were striking yet appropriate, and for much of the success of the play we have to thank Mr. E. Beart who acted as Stage Manager, and Mr. C. F. McWilliams, who superintended the Scenery and Properties.

THE POET OF "THE TIMES."

A FRAGMENT.

The scene detailed below bearing the above title is copied from a slip of paper lately to hand in this office, the colour (rather green) seeming to be that of the *Westminster Gazette*; it may, however, be that of the London *Sun* at noon, early edition. It seems to be worth production in view of recent poems in the London *Times*. It runs thus:

"The following poem, which has reached us with a well known sign, is presumably by Rudyard K——ing,—the only other man who could have written it having passed away from this life, and, leaving the Shades, is doubtless now amongst the Immortals in the Lands of Sunlight. Its form, as will be seen is, however both R. K.—ic and Shake-sphere-an!

DAVID, PRINCE OF POETS.

ACT. I.

Scene: A Printing House in a Square.

DAVID, a ruddy stripling, is discovered in a newspaper office, face to face with the old SPIRIT OF THE TIMES.

DAVID.—And I who, in this drunken, sottish age,
First took up pen to turn the world to truth,
Took verbs, that once through village, park and town
Were used but for obscene and angry hest,
And twisted these to mighty Empire's task,
Made teem with beauty and a virile voice—
Have, with my own slight verses, so beturned
This vexed and quivering age, pointing with scorn,
That doubts which lived but as the throttled steam
Lives in the bowels of imprisoning caves,
Leading to earthquake shocks, great tales of woe,
Upheavals, vanities, million-edged frauds,
Now die in innocent concussions.
While you,— you who with smooth and well-filed phrase
Should light the pathway of each errant knave
That with rag-bundle, stick and war-worn hose,
Strives to attain the gentle path of peace—
Now bandy words for hot and saucy foods
That you may quicker raise the devil's own steam
And sooner reach perdition!
Oh, fye! It is a villain, stinking age,
A pit, whose yawning gulf but hides the depths
Of wickedness infernal. O God, O God!
I'd rather be a bothy-keeper, clad in starch
With tun-round belly, dangling thick with chains
And hell-warmed guineas,—than be such a coof!
Were not the labour of mine host in vain
At quarter day, when he pays all in rent.
Am I, then, but a piece of butcher's beef
To stew in juice and let the rest go hang?
Why was I born? Did I not work long nights?
Swore I not oft to learn the trick of rhyme?
Vowed me to glory and that radiant realm
Where great men, now immortal, dwell serene?
Saved my poor pence to purchase dictionaries,
Treasured old plays, copied ill-blotted poems,
Or begged a novel tome to write review
So I might keep the copy! Haunted stalls,
Fingering my pence in hesitant desire?
And all for what?—To have achieved my fate,
To work at words, like jeweller his stones,
To know the will of lord, and man's desire,
Ay, and a woman's too—till syllables
Could form me metal of the true-fleshed sort:
And then!—
O God, let me not think of it!
That I, this age, for a mere dustman's pittance,
Sit slavering praise to pride's ill-gotten filth,
And send the poor to Hades?
I'll not do it. No!
It will not and it cannot come to good,
My voice yet once shall fly aloft and sing
Halcyon, as in the palmy days of old.
Faugh! A thinker, dreamer, poet, a creator,
Wallowing in crimes! I'll leave this world.
It stifles me. Sinks low the sun in blood.
I'll to the East: and when again it rises
As, perforce, it must, I will be there to see.

The SPIRIT OF THE TIMES *rises to try and stop him.*

SPIRIT (*protesting*) Go to!

DAVID. Nay, where's my hat? I must be gone. Goodbye!

SPIRIT (*forcibly*). Go to—the East! (*Slowly begins to go upstairs*).

Enter, suddenly a radiant Maiden, his promised Bride, his darling Muse, who kisses him in front of her Father, and then leads him away,—to dinner.

After, an Old Man's voice is faintly heard above, saying, in the tone of a Chinese sage:

"Heaven, when about to save thee,
Will protect thee with a tender Love!"

Exeunt omnes,—old spirit to West, David and his Bride, the New Spirit, to the East.

CURTAIN *falls, to music:*

"Rule Britannia, Britannia rules the Waves."

End of Act I.

H. S.

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LAW CASES.

CARL ROHDE & CO. v. KURITA.

In the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kano, on the 6th inst. the hearing of an action adjourned on Feb. 9th was resumed. Mr. Akao was present for plaintiff and Mr. Makusawa for the defendant.

Counsel for plaintiffs said that the predecessor of defendant, on February, 1900, made a contract with plaintiffs to purchase 64 pieces of woollen cloth measuring 1,921 yards, at the rate of 62 pence per yard and to take delivery within thirty days after arrival from abroad, and if any delay occurred, interest, storage, and fire insurance premium would be charged. The goods arrived in July and August, 1900, and the defendant took delivery, on September 12th the same year, of ten pieces measuring 355½ yards and paid cash for them, while the remaining 54 pieces measuring 1,565½ yards, costing *yen* 3,992.226, are still left, on plaintiffs hands. Plaintiffs claimed payment of costs with interest at 8 per cent. per annum *yen* 4,215; storage, *yen* 3.360 and fire insurance, *yen* 93.151; total of *yen* 4,864.192 towards which defendant paid *yen* 500 on February 20th, 1902, reducing the claim to *yen* 4,364.191.

Defendant held that his predecessor in the business died on September 4th, 1900, and he did not know anything about the transaction; he only recognized the contract by the signature and the stamp of his predecessor. As he was unable to take delivery of the goods under the contract, he paid *yen* 500 on February 20th, 1902, as penalty for breaking the contract.

The case was adjourned till the 16th.

J. W. HALL v. STANILAND.

This action, instituted by Mr. J. W. Hall against Mr. F. Staniland, was heard in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on March the 9th.

Mr. Sawada was present for the plaintiff while the defendant was not represented.

The plaintiff stated that he undertook to sell property belonging to the defendant at request of the latter last year. The property was sold for *yen* 30,000 and the commission at the rate of 2½ per cent. was *yen* 750. For advertising and sundries there were paid out *yen* 42. The total made *yen* 792, which was claimed against the defendant, and costs.

Judgement was given in favour of the plaintiff.

KUROKAWA v. BOWDEN BROS. & CO. LTD.

The hearing of this case, which was adjourned on March 4th, came up on Monday in the District Court before Judge Kano.

A Japanese witness named Kase Mototaro was called. He stated that in November, 1902, at the request of the defendant he carried some bags of sulphur from a Miyoshicho godown and a shed at the Japanese Hatoba to lighters which were lying by the sea side. For this work he hired nine or ten coolies, the charge being *sen* 2½ per bag, including weighing. He did not remember how many bags were transported per day, because the pest being prevalent that year close to his residence his books were burnt at the disinfecting station.

The plaintiff deposed that he was prepared on the due day to receive delivery of sulphur (that is on Sept. the 20th) but defendant failed to deliver. According to provisions of the contract between the parties, the contract was in such a case to be null and void, but defendant asked for delay in delivery until such time when he might be enabled by the arrival of a ship on which the cargo was to deliver the goods. It was thus considered that a part of the contract was changed but the whole was still in force. The interest, the storage and the insurance premium which had thus been caused by the delay in delivery should be borne by defendant.

The defendant held that the contract was null on the due day of delivery when he declined to deliver the goods. He, however, asked plaintiff to sell the sulphur at a convenient time for taking delivery and it was settled in conversation between them that another contract should be made. He could not help the various charges for which plaintiff claimed.

The case was again adjourned till March the 13th.

P. SARDA v. CHAUVIN & CO.

The case instituted by Mr. P. Sarda against Messrs. R. Chauvin & Co. in which judgement was given, on Feb. 24th, in favour of the defendants, was brought up again by appeal of the defendants, in the District Court before Judge Kato on March 10th.

Mr. Ishiwara was present for plaintiff and Mr. Akiyama for defendants.

The defendants informed the Court that the name of the firm had been changed to Boyer, Mazet, Guilliée & Co.

The plaintiff repeated particulars of the claim for the expense of certain work done for defendants and explained the details of construction. He then proposed to call four Japanese witnesses, but the Court refused.

The case was adjourned till March 14th.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. YAMADA.

The hearing of this case, instituted by Messrs. Simon Evers and Co., against the Japanese sugar dealer Yamada was resumed in the Yokohama District Court on March 12th, before Judge Kato.

Mr. James Dodds, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, was called in as an expert witness and he stated that at the request of Messrs. Simon, Evers and Company, on May 2nd, 1902, he inspected 1,000 bags of sugar brought by the steamer *Saxonia*, at the Midoricho godown. The bags were marked "S. A. C." and contained German granulated sugar. He went to the godown accompanied by an employee of Messrs. Simon, Evers and Company and he asked to have the godown opened in which the sugar was kept. The sugar was stored in a pile and he found by the marks that the sugar belonged to the plaintiff. He duly made inspection and took out some small quantities, 2 ounces to about 4 ounces. The bags looked stained, and he understood the goods had been stained and wetted. He took some samples from bags which were very badly stained to examine the change in colour, but he did not find any change in colour. Then he cut off a part of the covers of the most badly stained bags to see whether the staining was done by sea water. Upon examination, he found the staining was caused by the contents merely passing through the tropical zone on the voyage to the East. The samples of sugar and the pieces of bag covers were submitted to Mr. Mueller, a German pharmaceutical chemist at No. 77, who gave to witness a certificate of analysis proving that the staining of the bags was not due to salt water. Two months after, on July 2nd, he inspected another lot of sugar numbering 1000 bags, marked also S. A. C., ex steamer *Servia*, also at the Midoricho godown. This time the bags were being transferred to lighters and he could examine them more minutely than the previous lot. He found them more badly stained and wetted, about half of the whole number. He took some samples and pieces of bag covers and sent them to the same chemist for analysis and it was confirmed that the staining was not caused by salt water. These were the only two lots he inspected.

Mr. Masuda Masuzo, a prominent sugar importer living at Honcho 3-chome, Yokohama, was next called. He stated that by request of defendant he examined the sugar which is in dispute and stated his opinion in a letter which was brought before the Court. In his opinion the sugar was stained and the colour changed to a grayish hue by a cause on which he could not give any opinion, as he did not test the sugar in an analytical way.

Witness showed four bottles of samples of sugar with which he gave further explanations, showing the difference between good German granulated sugar and stained sugar.

The case was then adjourned till March 26th or 31st.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

The hearing of the camphor monopoly case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on March 12th.

The plaintiff submitted to the Court a document which had been used in the proceedings of the Local Court and insisted on the responsibility and right of Mr. E. C. Davis against third parties, and explained the fact that the bankrupt firm, Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Company, had borrowed from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation *yen* 22,625 and supplied this to Messrs. Samuel, Samuel and Co., who had deposited the money with the Formosa Government as security in the camphor monopoly.

Argument by the advocates for the respective parties followed, the points turning upon the question whether Mr. Davis should be a responsible party in this case.

The case was again adjourned till March 17th when judgement will be given.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On the night of the 5th a policeman named Sakuma was murdered by a robber at the railway station at Nagasaki. The murderer absconded.

An employee named Ito (25) of the Tokai Bank in Tokyo, has been arrested on a charge of having embezzled over *yen* 8,000 from the bank.

Two supporters of Mr. Sakamoto, the parliamentary member for Okayama, were arrested on the 7th on a charge of breaking the Election Law.

The Judges of the Gifu District Court on the 7th searched the office of the *Nabi Nippo* in connexion with alleged infringements of the Election Law.

Mr. Takashima, editor of the *Shimane Shimpo*, and Mr. Haneda, a writer on the same paper, were arrested on the 5th charged with having obtained money by blackmail.

The many friends of Mr. C. D. Moss will be glad to learn that a letter has been received from him at Hongkong and that he is in capital spirits and improved health.

A telegram from Chemulpo states that Korean emigrants numbering 124, including 17 females, left there on March 8th for Hawaii, by the steamer *Jinsen Maru*.

Mr. Hamada, superintendent of the Yokohama Central Police Station, has indicted the *Minato Shimbun* on a charge of having broken the law in an editorial note referring to Mr. Okuda.

The fund established by the *Globe*, a London evening newspaper, for the loyalists of South Africa who suffered losses in the war, has been closed, the total amount raised being £13,877.

About 7.30 p.m. on the 7th a robber entered the shop of a *sake* dealer named Inouye Kametaro, at Sotodecho, Honjo, Tokyo, and stole *yen* 4, threatening the family at the same time with a short sword.

We are informed that Mr. A. Lewis, of Messrs. Sale & Co., Ltd., has been granted the degree of Yakuzaishi (Pharmaceutical Chemist). Mr. Lewis is a graduate of the New York College of Pharmacy.

On March 9th at 5 p.m. the Norwegian steamer *Deodes* (?) collided with a Japanese vessel loaded with coal, off Hikoshima, near Shimonoseki with the result that the latter sank, the crew being rescued.

Some of the supporters of Mr. Hamano, who has been elected to the Diet for Chiba prefecture, numbering over 40, have been arrested on the charge of having broken the Election Law. Their trial began on March 9th.

About 2 o'clock on the morning of the 5th, a goods train from Shimbashi collided with another goods train at a point near Gifu station. The engines of both trains were derailed and over ten cars of the down train were overturned and seriously damaged. Both engineers, the conductors,

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and others were injured. The damaged permanent way was repaired by 2 o'clock in the afternoon. The cause seems to have been negligence on the part of a pointsman.

An interesting article entitled "Progress at Nara and the Neighbourhood," appears in the February *Spirit of Missions* from the pen of the Rev. J. H. Correll, D.D.

A supporter of Mr. Kurihara, who tried to purchase the vote of an elector in Ashigara, Kamigun, Kanagawa prefecture, for *yen* 2 has been sentenced to a fine of *yen* 20 and to two years suspension of civil rights.

Lady Henry Gordon-Lennox, who had been seriously ill for some time, died at her residence in London on Feb. 6. Lady Gordon-Lennox had the reputation of being the best dressed woman in English society and was a great beauty as well.

The Siemens-Halske and Schuckert Electrical companies of Berlin have decided to unite, subject to the approval of the stockholders. An impulse towards amalgamation was given by the Allgemeine and Union combination on December 22.

The members of the Central Tea Guild, numbering fifty-six, on March 10th held a cosmopolitan dinner party at the Maple Hall, Shiba, Tokyo, to which they invited Mr. Sydney Fisher. The party also included Mr. Chinda, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Sugimura, Director of the Bureau of Commercial Affairs.

The Crown Prince and Princess, on the morning of the 8th, proceeded to Okitsu where they paid a visit to Prince Arisugawa at the latter's villa. By train at 3 46 p.m. they returned to the Imperial villa at Numadzu. The Princess was to return on the 9th to Tokyo.

Abu Bakar, late captain of the *Boon San II.* has been sentenced at Singapore to six months' rigorous imprisonment for failing to stand by the *Kian Yang*, after collision, and attempt to rescue the passengers and crew. Some of the passengers were picked up, floating on wreckage, two days after the collision.

King Edward has been pleased to give and grant unto Mr. William Henry Stone, Foreign Secretary in the Department of Communications of Japan, His Majesty's Royal licence and authority that he may accept and wear the Cross of Commander of the Royal Danish Order of the Dannebrog, conferred upon him by his Majesty the King of Denmark in recognition of valuable services rendered by him on the occasion of the visit of his Royal Highness Prince Valdemar of Denmark to Japan.

The following changes of officials in local governments were made on March 10th:—Mr. Odagiri, secretary of Yamagata prefecture to be secretary of Tochigi prefecture; Mr. Kubo, chief police superintendent of Shimane prefecture to be secretary of Yamagata prefecture; Mr. Ota, chief police superintendent of Miyazaki prefecture to be chief police superintendent of Shimane prefecture, and Mr. Ohama, a police inspector in the Metropolitan police office, to be chief police superintendent of Miyazaki prefecture.

The report to be presented at the thirty-fourht general meeting of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited, shows the working of the company as follows:—1901 Account.—This account shows a profit of $199,315.46, which sum, subject to the approval of the shareholders, it is proposed to deal with as follows, viz.:—Bonus to Contributing Shareholders, $1,394.50; Addition to Reserve Fund, $19,920.96; Dividend of $22.25 per Share, $178,000.00; total, $199,315 46. 1902 Account.—The balance at credit of this account is $299,299.15.

We acknowledge receipt, through Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, of a copy of the "Directory and Chronicle" for 1903 published by the *Hongkong Daily Press*. This work, now in its forty-first year, is a splendid source of information on all important matters relating to the Far East. It contains every treaty or trade convention in these countries, Orders in Council, the various Hongkong Acts, etc. The directory section is very full, and so far as we can judge fairly accurate. The book has special recommendations to the business man, for it is so arranged that reference to it is greatly facilated. We close our brief remarks by awarding a meed of praise to the high-class lithographic work which the Directory now contains.

Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company supplement the information already published by stating that the Commander of the British India S. Nav. Co.'s steamer *Onipenta*, which arrived here on Friday evening sighted a derelict, (a barque or schooner) on the 3rd at 11 a.m. when in Lat. 29° 6′ North and Long. 131° 47′ East, with upper deck awash. The vessel is supposed to have been drifting about some months. The set of the current on the 3rd inst. was N. 14 E. 19 miles; on the 2nd inst. the current was S. E. 13, and on the 4th inst. E. N. E. 22 miles.

The *Official Gazette* on Saturday contained a notification of the Kanagawa Prefectural Government stating that on and after March 2nd the time of exact noon at Yokohama is denoted by the falling of a black ball exhibited upon a white tower at the French Hatoba. The situation of the structure is north latitude 35°. 2640988 and east longitude 139°. 390330. The ball usually rests upon the lower truss and is hoisted (except on Sundays and holidays) to the masthead about 5 minutes before noon. The ball is lowered by electric signal from Tokyo, and should there be any mistake in the signal or should the apparatus be deranged the signal flag "W" of the International Code will be hoisted on the yard.

A batch of Australian griffins which arrived on the steamer *Benalder* were drawn for on Saturday afternoon at Messrs. Durand and Co.'s stables with the following result:—

Messrs.	No.
H. Keswick	23
F. Wada	5
K. Mori	7
B. Suzuki	18
F. L. Elliott	28
Decimus	26
K. Ikeda	3
R. Yezoye	17
C. de C. Hughes	16
N. Kawakita	24
Cosmopolis	10
F. M. Tegner	22
P. Kummei	9
K. Mori	25
R. D. Robison	1
R. J. Ward	20
H. Kashinagi	11
R. Yezoye	14
S. Hiranuma	12
B. Runge	13
S. Hiranuma	2
Sir Claude MacDonald	6

(No. 19 not drawn.)

We learn from *The Spirit of Missions* that Bishop Partridge is energetically spreading a knowledge of the spiritual needs of Japan among American Churchmen. On the evening of January 17th he was the guest of honour at a dinner given by the laymen of the city parishes at the Merchants' Club, St. Louis. "His account of the Church's success in Japan, and the methods by by which it has been won, aroused much enthusiasm, and a group of laymen present decided that they would like to give at least $1,000 to aid the Bishop in building and equipping an administration office which the district sadly needs, in order that its records may be properly kept and the Bishop have a suitable place for carrying on his work of directing the forces in the field. At the present time the only place available for the Bishop's use as an office is so small that when he is working with his Japanese secretary, the latter is compelled to sit on the veranda outside the room where the Bishop has his desk. On the following Sunday Bishop Partridge was called on to speak to five congregations. The last service of the day was in Christ Church Cathedral, which was crowded to the doors."

AMERICAN TOPICS.

On the 7th a telegram from Mr. Takahira, Minister to Washington, was received at the Department for Foreign Affairs, stating that Congress rose on March 4th. The Senate, however, will be temporarily re-opened on the 5th to discuss and ratify the treaties relating to the Panama Canal and to Cuba. The Bill regarding the customs duties for the Philippine Islands has been rejected by the Upper House.

A Vancouver paper reports what it may well call "a marvellous escape." A guest at the Metropole Hotel in that city, on the afternoon of Sunday, Feb. 22nd, was seen by several persons to lurch forward from a four-story window where he had been leaning, and fall a distance of 65 feet. In spite of this tremendous drop he rose apparently unhurt and walked into the hotel. He was taken to the hospital and put under medical observation, and thirty-six hours later was resting easily, suffering no internal injury, but from swollen ankles. The man follows the occupation of a bar-tender, but it is not suggested that either his fall or his immunity from serious hurt is attributable to over-indulgence in drink.

On February 9th the merchants of the city of Paterson celebrated the anniversary of the fire which destroyed over $6,000,000 worth of the most important property of that city. One of the speakers referred to the fact that Paterson was 110 years old, and in that time it had become a great city, with iron for its king and silk for its queen industry. But one year ago the labour of year was reduced to ashes in a few hours. To-day, however, larger and handsomer business houses and bigger and more lucrative business exist. A year ago, on February 9, a territory equal to ten city squares in the heart of the city was a centre of ruin, but to-day new buildings cover more than one-half the area of the fire swept section. Indeed, it is said a new and more attractive city has arisen from the ashes of the old—a great city of modern buildings with architectural attractiveness and many conveniences not possessed by the tenants of the old buildings.

We note that the U. S. Hydrographic Office has in view the publication of meteorological charts of the South Atlantic and of the South Pacific Ocean, similar in scope to the present monthly Pilot Charts of the North Atlantic and of the North Pacific. According to the plan out lined the proposed charts will be published quarterly instead of monthly, the first to appear being the chart of the South Atlantic Ocean for the autumn months of 1903. It is hoped to have this ready for distribution on July 1, 1903. Successive seasonal charts of this ocean will appear at quartely intervals until the entire year has been included, after which a like series will be taken up for the South Pacific Ocean. The U. S. Hydrographic Office earnestly requests the cooperation of mariners navigating these waters in the preparation of these charts. Blank forms for meteorological observations, with instructions for taking the same, will be furnished upon application either by mail or in person. The charts will be furnished free of charge to cooperating observers.

THE "FOREST HOME."

A STARVING CREW.

News has at length been received of the missing schooner *Forest Home*. She put into Honolulu on Feb. 14th in distress, having lost her sails and encountered heavy westerly gales off the Japan coast. The crew had nothing but a cup of rice by way of food after January 8th and the supply of rice even was exhausted two days before the ship got into Honolulu.

It is doubtless in the memory of our readers that the *Forest Home* left Hakodate on Dec. 17th bound for Yokohama, where her agents were Messrs. Pollak Bros.

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FIRES.

About 11 o'clock on the night of the 4th, fire broke out in a house occupied by Mr. Iwai, chief officer of the steamer *Kasuga Maru*, and destroyed three houses, three others being damaged.

On the morning of the 6th fire broke out at the yarn spinning mill belonging to Komori Tokuhachi, in Osaki village near Shinagawa, and destroyed four buildings. About the same time, fire broke out in a dwelling house in Kanda, Suzuki-cho, Tokyo, and burnt down three houses.

On March 9th at 6 p.m. fire broke out on a junk which was lying in the Kamakura-gashi Canal at Tokyo, and destroyed the cargo of kerosine oil which had just been taken in.

Fire broke out about 2 p.m. on March 12th in a single-storey, stone-faced, tile-roofed godown, owned by Mr. Wing Hing Loong, near the old British gaol in Yokohama. The various police brigades and the Satsuma-cho Fire Department turned out promptly and four branches from hydrants were soon in use. The supply of water was good, but in spite of the firemen's efforts both godown and contents were badly damaged. Supt. Morgin says the cause of the outbreak is unknown.

Mr. Geo. Hodges has written to Supt. Ikariyama warmly commending the police and fire brigades for their good work in extinguishing the fire and preventing it from spreading to the buildings on Lot No. 155.

FOREIGN ENTERPRISE IN JAPAN.

The above is the title of a leading article that appeared in the *Tōkyō Asahi Shimbun* on January 20th. Thinking that there are a great many business men who wish to know exactly what is the general opinion of the Japanese as to the introduction of foreign capital, we have taken the trouble to make a literal translation of the *Asahi's* leader; and here it is:—It is a fundamental principle of our laws and treaties that foreign enterprises in this country should occupy the same rank as those carried on by our own countrymen, and that only such restrictions should be placed on them as are absolutely necessary. From a foreign point of view it is considered desirable that foreigners should be granted the right of owning land and mining rights. In order to extend the area of their business there are many of them that desire the removal of all existing restrictions. It cannot, however, be affirmed that because these restrictions exist therefore our laws in regard to commercial and industrial enterprises treat foreigners and Japanese in a different manner. And, regarded from an economic point of view, the connection of their profits with ours becomes closer every day. If it be desired to gradually add to the number of foreigners who take an interest in our affairs, then surely we ought not to repress their various enterprises. There is business that needs doing which is not done by us. If, taking advantage of this, foreigners step in and as far as the Law allows invest their capital here, who is there that has any valid ground for objection? If foreign enterprises be compared with those started by ourselves with our own capital, it becomes quite evident that in the matter of rights and profits there is great difference between us and them. But if there are any that think that foreign enterprise means a monopoly by foreigners of all the profits accruing from any special business, we cannot but be amazed at the narrowness of their views. Are not foreign enterprises dependent on Japanese labour? And do we not take the lead in furnishing such things as are required for carrying on these enterprises? And, moreover, shall we not be among the chief people who profit by the material prosperity which makes itself felt far and wide as a result of the starting of great enterprises? But what it is most important to note is, that the law being as it is and the treaties as they are, leaving altogether out of consideration the question of our interests, the entire abolition of foreign enterprise, as demanded by some, is not a measure that can be adopted in practice. We have hitherto supposed that such narrow-minded ideas were only entertained at the dawn of the *Meiji* era. It is hardly conceivable that there should exist to-day persons who have so little faith in our national vigour as to be scared by the business enterprises of a handful of foreigners. But it is a fact that such persons do exist. It is quite common to find in society generally great hostility to all international business combines. There are many people who while acknowledging that enterprises carried on exclusively by foreigners can no longer be avoided, and that under fixed conditions certain manifest profits are to be obtained by us from these, express themselves as deadly opposed to Japanese and foreign joint stock companies and to the joint management of business. It may be said that such hostility is hard to explain. But nevertheless its existence is a fact. Were there necessity for it we could furnish numerous instances of persons who entertain such feelings. Although in the absence of all the facts bearing on the case we are not able to pass final judgment on the Tōkyō Electric Railway Company affair, it appears to us quite plain that the adverse criticism that has appeared in the press is to a large extent the result of the existence of a strong feeling of hostility to foreign enterprise in this country. The Tōkyō Electric Railway Company question is a case of a specially licensed business and hence is considerably more complicated than if it were of a more general kind. But unreasonable hostile feeling has been mixed up with it and has obscured the issue. We recognize most clearly amid all the clamorous controversy which is going on that this is not a pure business question. Feeling such as that now displayed, on a former occasion appeared among us in the shape of opposition to the introduction of foreign capital. But to-day the question whether subject to suitable conditions foreign capital should be introduced is no longer open to discussion. It has been decided in the affirmative. On this account each case of proposed introduction of foreign capital must be discussed separately on its own merits and must be decided one way or the other according to the plan subject to which the proposed business is to be carried on. We regard this affair as a case of two trunks having sprung from one root. The original idea was the same in both cases.* If our people determine the plan to be followed in conducting a given business and foreigners only supply the capital, then the class of debaters to which we now refer would certainly express their satisfaction. And we ourselves should deem this to be the most perfect way of introducing foreign capital. But as things now are in Japan, the introduction of foreign capital is a step which can only be taken by a Government in which we have confidence and is not a thing that can as yet be expected of the public generally. But there is certainly no need whatever to unconditionally condemn international joint stock companies and measures for joint management of businesses as a general rule. We do not care to associate ourselves in this matter with those who advocate unbending opposition to combination with foreigners, and still less with those who are actuated by unreasonable hostility of feeling towards all such schemes as the one now under discussion.

THE LATE PROFESSOR PARIS.

The telegrams from England announce the death of Professor Paris, the well known philologist and author. We take the following sketch of his life from *Men and Women of the Time*:—

Paris, Gaston, French philologist, the son of Paulin Paris, was born at Avenay, Marne, Aug. 9, 1839. He was educated at Rollin College, and at the Universities of Bonn and Göttingen, and studied the Romance languages with Professor Diez. On his return to France he entered the École de Chartes, pursuing at the same time the study of law, and took the degree of Docteur-és-lettres in 1865. On May 12, 1876, he was elected a member of the Academy of Inscriptions in the place of Guigniaut. Among other interesting and curious works he published "Étude sur le rôle de l'Accent latin dans la Langue francaise," 1862; "De pseudo-Turpino," 1865; "Histoire poétique de Charlemagne," 1866; "Le Petit Poucet et la Grande Ourse," 1875; "La Poésie du moyen âge, leçons et lectures," 1888 (2nd edit., 1889); "La Littérature française du moyen âge," xi.-xiv., 1888 (2nd edit.), 1890. He gave editions of several old French works: "La Vie de Saint Alexis," 1872 and 1889; "Les Miracles de notre Dame par personnages," 1877; "Deux rédactions du Roman des sept Sages de Rome," 1879; "La Vie de Saint Gilles," 1881; "Merlin," 1886; "Trois rédactions de l'Évangile de Nicodème," 1889. He founded, together with Paul Meyer, the *Revue Critique*, 1866, the *Romania*, 1872, and the *Revue Historique*. He was elected a member of the academies of Munich, Rome, Vienna, Berlin, &c. He was promoted officer of the Legion of Honour in 1886. His chief work was the study of the romances connected with the name of Charlemagne, in which he combined accurate learning with power of making dry bones live again. In 1896 he was elected to the French Academy, and was offered a medal, as a memorial of his election, by professors and students of Old French all over the world—a school that he practically founded single-handed. He was Administrator of the Collège de France and Director of the École des Hautes Études.

* There is considerable obscurity, it seems to us, in this part of the article, but we give the writer's words as they stand.—(TRANSLATOR).

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	16,029.11
Employes Messrs. Singleton Benda & Co. Ltd.....	36.75
C. M. S. Missionaries in Tokyo ...	36.00
A. M. Essabhoy.....	51.00
H. M.....	20.00
Tokyo (several)	10.70
Nihon Kirisuto Kyokwai	2.00
Further subscriptions per *Japan Mail*	16.17
H. K.	100.00
Messrs. A. A. Vantine & Co.....	50.00
M. A. Gafoor	7.00
F. W. Horne	25.00
Sulzer, Rudolph & Co.	50.00
Collections in Kobe to date	4,400.00
Proceeds of Mrs. Mollison's entertainment on 5th inst.....	830.00
Butterfield and Swire (2nd instalment)	100.00
Captain Trennt	10.00
Captain Petersen	5.00
G. Arone	50.00
	21,828.73

COLLECTED AT KOBE.

The following subscriptions have been received by the *Kobe Chronicle*:—

Amount previously acknowledged...	1,496.00
S. Y. French	10.00
Total	1,500.00
Amount collected by H. & S. Bank, Kobe	2,726.89
	4,232.85

COLLECTED PER "NAGASAKI PRESS."

Amount previously acknowledged...	597.00
S. Sawayama, Esq.....	5.00
Total	602.00

The Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund have received the following telegram from the Rev. W. Weston:—

Hachi-nohe, 6th March, 2 p.m.

Supplies ordered all received. Distribution now proceeding. Genuine gratitude expressed everywhere. Hope to leave for Yokohama Saturday night. Stop letters.

WESTON.

Shiriuchi, Aomori Ken,
Friday, March 5.

On Wednesday morning in accordance with plans made over night, I left for Gonohe and Herai-mura, while Mr. Parrott agreed to remain behind, looking after the supplies we had been hopiug to hear about from Yokohama and investigating cases of destitution in the neighbourhood.

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By way of gaining a little time I asked for a *basha*, to transport my companions, the representatives of the Governor of Aomori and of the Guncho of Sannohe Gun: myself and baggage from Shiriuchi to Gonohe.

Shortly before 7.30 we got off, but the dreadful state of the frost-bound quagmire of 10 miles to Gohone made riding for me too violent an exercise to be long indulged in, though my companions remained in the dray and held on to the last.

Gonohe, on the Oshu Kaido, was reached at 11.15, and after a rest for food at the rough little inn, we left at 11.53, under the guidance of a local village assembly man, and set out on foot for Herai-mura, a walk of 10 miles up the valley whose condition was the occasion of the letter from Bishop Berlioz when some weeks ago he spoke of the famine-stricken plight of the peasantry.

It would be impossible to convey, especially in the limits of a brief report like this, any adequate idea of the appalling character of the road between Gonohe and Herai, and I little wondered that the first request for relief from the district should be for funds to build a decent road. The first 2 miles led across a poor country, through clusters of the most squalid huts and cottages imaginable. The black slippery mud being nearly ankle deep; the only alternative to it was to walk along an incline of smooth ice that ran from the mud up the bank at the side. At length we found ourselves suddenly descending a steep declivity into the valley of the Gonohe Gawa, the stream which flows down the valley of Herai.

It was with the intensest relief that after nearly 3½ hrs. of the severest labour I have ever had of the kind, we reached Herai, where at Kanegasawa, the keeper of the Post Office kindly put me up for the night. Everyone seems so genuinely grateful, without servility, that it helps to counterbalance the disagreeables inseparable from such a journey. I was just about to get my evening meal when two school teachers of the Sho Gakko of the valley, and also the ex-*Soncho* were announced. The gist of the conversation of the former was that the School-children were so badly off for food that only two-thirds could come to school, the rest not having food to bring with them for their lunch. The next day I was up at 6 a.m. and after cooking my breakfast, etc., set out 7.15, accompanied by the *Soncho* of Herai-mura, my friends of yesterday, and a steady downpour of rain. The icy state of the track, when the mud gave way to smooth frozen snow, made "going" very hard. Our destination was the last inhabited cottages at the head of the valley of the Gonohe Gawa, called Hainai, about 5¾ miles distant and on the way back I wished to examine the condition of as many of the peasantry as possible. My companions were quiet and good-humoured, and took the toil philosophically.

After going as hard as we could for 2½ hours, we reached our furthest point, up to which I was told no foreigner had yet penetrated. I see no reason why anyone should ever wish to come. The hamlet of Hainai consisted of 7 miserable cottages, inhabited by persons in various stages of destitution and dirt, though, on the whole, the depth of want seemed hardly as severe as the worst of that further north in Higashi Tsugaru-gun. In one of them a man lived alone, his only child, a blind boy of 17, having gone to stay with a relative elsewhere as he had no food for him. He himself was feeding on *se di*(?) a sort of weck, and his bed was a small pile of filthy rags and straw. Some of his neighbours were better off, and in return for taking care of the horses and cattle that shared the same wretched roof, were allowed to share their food, and a little *hie* was an extra.

As we passed down the valley on our return to Herai, I went into many of the scattered huts and hovels, whose inhabitants varied in number from 3 to 11. Some of them had been given a little *hie* by the *Gunyakucho* three days before, otherwise their plight would probably have been worse than when Bishop Berlioz drew attention to it weeks ago.

After a depressing return journey of three hours, Kanegasawa Post Office was once more regained, and I had just time to change, get a little food, and start off in falling snow for Gonohe, with inspections on the way, by 2 o'clock. The places I visited were similar to those I have spoken of already, the *hie* being sometimes supplemented by *warabi* roots and grasses of various kinds.

The impoverishment of this curious valley is very real, and one cannot but feel that the authorities, who seem anxious to do all they can to relieve it, have a very hard task before them. The failure of the crops last year lessened the food supply to such an extent, so the *Soncho* of Herai-mura told me, that the people were frequently obliged to eat their horses and cattle, or rather such of them as had not already been sold for a merely nominal price in order to obtain food. On one occasion the *Soncho* said he saw a man who had not only eaten the flesh of his horse but who was then also engaged in *pounding up the bones* for the same purpose! In another case, to avoid the police regulation that forbid eating horse flesh over 13 years old, the unfortunate owners of an animal over that limit had escaped into the hills with it and killed and consumed it outside police observation.

These incidents are of course exceptions, but this valley has suffered a great deal, and in spite of whatever little help individuals may at present get, it will be long before anything like normal conditions (though they are never very enticing) are revived.

After a disagreeable night at Gonohe, I left on my 16 miles return journey to Shiriuchi, at 7.20 a.m. over an iron-bound icy road, my two companions following in a *basha* and driving snow, a keen north-east wind blowing as we went. By dint of going hard we succeeded in reaching our distination about 10 o'clock, and I was thankful to find that my colleague, Mr. Parrott, had, through two days' hard work, been able to get a great deal done. The rice and blankets anxiously waited for having arrived at Sannohe and Numasaki and we hope to start the work of distribution to-day and to-morrow respectively.

WALTER WESTON.

The Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund have been furnished with the following further reports from the Rev. W. Weston and Mr. F. Parrott:—

Shiriuchi, Aomori Ken, March 7th, 1903.

On my return yesterday from my visit of investigation in the valley of Herai. I was delighted to find that all the food and blankets ordered from Yokohama and elsewhere had arrived at their respective destinations. I was therefore able to arrange for the work of distribution of supplies in Kami-kita Gun and Sannone Gun to proceed at once. In order to economize time, therefore, I left Mr. Parrott to kindly superintend operations at Shiriuchi, which we had settled upon as the distributing centre for Sannohe Gun, while I myself went northwards up the line to Numasaki, the nearest station to Urano-date, centre for Kami-kita Gun.

On arriving at Numasaki I set out with my usual companion, Mr. Yukita (the representative of the Governor of the Ken), in a driving snow storm to the village of Urano-date, where the *Yakuba*, or office of the *Soncho*, is situated, about 4 miles from the railway. A number of the starving people whom I had visited in their homes 10 days before were gathered together here, and I was forcibly struck with the strange contrast presented by their appearance with that of the *Soncho* and his staff. The poor peasants were bigger men altogether, but their shrunken forms, livid faces, and the curious numbed drawn look on them, together with their scanty rags, told an eloquent tale of privation and suffering.

They were sitting round a fire in the floor near the entrance when I reached the *Yakuba*, but afterwards they were brought into the office, and listened attentively while the *Soncho* explained to them the meaning of the gathering. At every mention of the help which they were told the foreign community in Japan had sent me to bring to them, they all bowed with grave politeness and it was no imagination on one's own part that lent a look of contentment and gratitude to their pale faces.

With the help of Mr. Yukita I then gave them a few words of greeting and good wishes from the *Gaikokujin*, after which Mr. Yukita spoke to them about the necessity of not always looking to outside aid, but to practise providence when better times came. Finally various supplies were opened and I began the formal work of handing over the allotted portions to each, leaving the rest to be periodically distributed at the appointed intervals.

As I left the *yakuba* to return to the station all the people came out into the road in the driving snow-storm to offer their final greetings and thanks, and it was with a feeling of intense satisfaction that one felt that the help one had looked forward to handing to them was at length in their hands.

On my return to Numasaki I joined Mr. Parrott at Hachinohe, 6 miles eastward, on a branch line where the *Guncho* of Sannohe lives and where the nearest telegraph office is situated. The next morning we returned to Shiriuchi and spent the remaining hours of our time in finishing up a number of business details before leaving for Yokohama.

A few figures will now help the subscribers to the Relief Fund to understand more clearly the scope of the work they have done us the honour to confide to our care.

In the official statement of the number of starving people (as the official report of the Japanese authorities told us at the outset), the total was stated to be 145,688 of whom 45,480 were claimed by Aomori Ken alone. As it was understood that in this Ken the *degree of the severity* of the suffering was keenest, the Trustees of the Relief Fund asked me to go there with my colleagues and start work with such supplies as that Fund placed at our disposal. Any subsequent operations would naturally depend on the amount available and the claim that other Ken might seem to have upon our help. After consulting the Governor of Aomori-ken, on our arrival at Aomori, we went to as many of the districts as we could, where the suffering was said to be most severe, as we felt that the worst cases must be dealt with first. Our investigations, details of which I have indicated in my previous reports, resulted in the providing of blankets and two months' supply of food to sufferers in the various Gun visited in the following proportions:—

Higashi Tsugaru Gun	1,084
Kami Kita Gun	1,700
Sannohe Gun	2,561

In addition to the above, I have been able to arrange for supplies to be distributed in similar proportions and in the same way to a number of deserving cases in Nishi Tsugaru (in the north-west of the Ken). Investigations were being carried on at my request by Mr. St. George Tucker, of Hirosaki, who had been with me several days in Kami Kita-gun, in order to learn the lines on which we were working. I have not yet heard the exact number for that district but understand it will bet a least 670, thus bringing up the total of these, the worst sufferers in Aomori Ken, to whom the Foreign Community's Fund has brought relief, to nearly 6,020 persons in direst distress.

As I look back upon what I witnessed of the condition of these people and the prospects staring them in the face, it is difficult to see what alternative there was for them—unless help had come from some other source—but actual starvation. It is very difficult to know where to draw the line, but we did it to the best of our ability (having regard to the limits of our resources) after we had seen for ourselves and after consulting the Governor and those officials, whose wide general knowledge of the condition of the suffering population, as a whole, put them in a position to pronounce a judgment on the comparative degrees of need. Though a great deal doubtless might well be done for those in an inferior category of distress, it is a great privilege to have been made the means of bringing the help of one's fellow-Foreigners in Japan to a proportion, however small, of the *neediest*, and the *genuine gratitude*, not merely conventional courtesy, with which the effort has been received by all interested, from Governor Yamanouchi, himself a kind-hearted, able, and devoted worker, down to the most pitiable sufferer, has been eloquent testimony to the need of the work.

Shiriuchi, March 4.

On Wednesday, March 4th, with the *soncho* of Kaminaganowashiro and one official from the Gunyakusho of Sannohe I visited a number of families representing some of the distress in this *Gun*

In passing, I would say that the scale of living in this *Gun* is rather above the average of that in Kamikita and Tsugaru *Guns*, so that the keeness of privation is felt more acutely, if possible, here than in districts farther north and west.

The first house we visited was the abode of an old couple whose united ages amounted to 149 years. The husband, a farm labourer, endeavoured to maintain existence by beating straw which younger fellow-labourers made into foot-gear. Their only food, day by day, consists of a black mess in the usual iron pot which upon inspection proved to contain old daikon leaves and bark from cedar trees ground to powder.

Another house contained three people, hard at work, the father and son plaiting rice straw of the year before last which they had had to take from the side of the house, where it had been hung in more prosperous times to keep out the cold.

It is well to say that we were not "taken" to the houses we write of, but simply accompanied by the officials who would often, I am sure, have been glad to escape the rough and tumble of such cross-country at the foreigner's pace.

One of the worst cases I have met I found in a hovel containing a man, his wife and six children. The husband was quite helpless; his face, eyes and nose obliterated by disease, fearfully emaciated by privation, and consequently a burden to his wife, who broke down in tears (almost the only case of visible emotion we have witnessed) while answering the few question we put to her. The infant wailing at empty breasts was evidence enough of the extremity of the need which your help is happily now supplying.

One could write of many more individual cases but time does not permit.

Poverty even relatively is more or less the lot of the poor in this *Ken*, and beyond a small radius from the railway stations little is seldom known, even in the towns, of the life of these country people. Our visit leaves no doubt in our minds of the need of outside help to those whose poverty has increased to extreme privation, and, what is more important, that such help in very many cases is needed at once.

We have endeavoured as rapidly as possible, to get the actual distribution of the food and clothing commenced and have in several instances wished that photos of the scenes we witnessed could be conveyed to the subscribers. At the *Yakuba* this morning (Friday) I was present when the rice and miso, with the registered number of blankets, were given to holders of tickets. A few murmurs of thanks from

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each one was all one heard, but many a tear fell as the recipient hastened away to hungry ones at home.

I will write no more, as probably Mr. Weston will be able later on to send you down an account of his visit to hamlets further off the beaten track, as we decided that he should go to Herai-mura while I remained to assemble the supplies for Shichichow, He, and Uranodate.

At Mr. Weston's suggestion the Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund forwarded to Mr. Tucker the sum of 4,000 *yen*, which will enable relief to be provided for 1,500 people, thus raising the total relieved to nearly 7,000.

The following letter has been received by Mr. Weston from Mr. St. George Tucker, who, as Mr. Weston mentioned in one of his earlier reports, accompanied him on one of his journeys of investigation in the east of Aomori Ken. The district here referred to includes the north-west part of the Ken, which Mr. Weston was unable to visit but which Mr. Tucker investigated on his behalf:

I have just got back from a three days' trip in North Tsugaru. The Guncho and one official who has charge of affairs concerning the farmers in that Kori accompanied me and I was afforded every opportunity for a thorough investigation. We examined the northern part of the Kori, especially the villages along the shore of the lagoon. This is the worst district in this section. The land is poor and there are no hatake, so the people are entirely dependent upon the rice crop. Thirty "hyo" (I belive that's the word) is the amount which a single farmer ought to produce. This year 15 hyo was the highest yield and in this section the majority made only 5 or 10, and many none at all. The Uchigata village rice fields for example had practically no crop.

We examined three clusters of villages, Takeda, Nakazato, and Uchigata. The food was very poor: daikon leaves, acorns, azami grass. In many houses we found nothing else. In some there was a small amount of very poor rice, which they mixed with the leaves. The houses themselves are miserable affairs. For covering they nse a futon made of seaweed or straw. In nearly all the houses we found people suffering from eye trouble (tori-numa, I believe they call it) and we found an astonishingly large number of blind people. This, they tell me, is due to the fact that owing to the fierce winds, the houses are built practically without any outlet for smoke. They burn a green wood and I could't stay even a minute in some of the places. This naturally brings on eye trouble. We found a good deal of sickness, especially amongst children. In one place two children had died, from lack of nourishing food. The chief means of support at present is rope and waraji making. Naturally the price has fallen and they can only earn from 4 to 10 sen a day, according to the number of workers, and with this they have to buy food sometimes for 8 or 9 people. In Uchigata there are many charcoal burners, but as the price this year has fallen from 12 to 4 *sen*, they too are in great distress. In many places the men of the family have gone to Hokkaido for the herring fishery. They receive 25 *yen* in advance. Of this they give about 12 *yen* to the family for four months' support, but owing to a lack of foresight on the part of such people, we found that most of this had already been used up. The rest of the money the men take with them and generally drink it up. They receive nothing more until the end of the season. This will give you some idea of the financial condition of the section. We saw many most pitiable cases. In many places all the workers were sick or blind. We also found several cases of leprosy. I should say that the distress in this section is very acute and the need of help most urgent. I am confirmed in this opinion by the Guncho, his clerk, and all the Soncho whom I met. I heard that help was being given to the people in North Tsugaru. I inquired particularly as to this. In Uchigata one man gave 50 *yen* in November and this is all the help they have gotten so far. In Takeda there have been incendiary fires. The distressed people applied to the land owners for help and as it was refused some of them tried to burn down the landowners' houses. There are 815 people in North Tsugaru in great distress. The Gunyakusho report gives 2000, but at my request the Guncho cut it down so as to include only the very worst cases. We had a long "sodan" as to the kind of help. The Guncho thinks that a poor quality of rice is the best thing to give, as the people are accustomed to nothing but rice. Ordinarily it takes 5 sen a day for this support, but he thinks that 3 sen a day (on an average) in addition to what they can earn is enough. He wishes to make them earn their own support as far as possible. The guncho was very kind and his views impressed me as being exceedingly sensible. The clerk had made a tour of the district 3 weeks before, examining every house, and so he gave us very valuable assistance. He concurred in the above opinions. I have written rather a long letter, but thought you would like to know the exact condition. I have about one hundred *yen* to apply to this district, but it will not do much towards relieving the distress. I hope that you may have some funds left to devote to it. I believe I wrote you before that the number of people in West Tsugaru is 673, which, added to those in North Tsugaru, makes nearly 1500.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of the following sums on behalf of the famine-stricken people in Aomori Prefecture:—

	YEN.
Amount already acknowledged	786.00
Nippon Seiko-kai, Sapporo	6.17
Japanese converts of Dai-ichi Bifu Kyokai, Shizuoka	1

THE CHRISTIAN DAIMYO.

CHAPTER XXV.

State of the Christian Religion after the fall of Hara.—Attempts of the Religious to penetrate into Japan.—End of Thomas Araki, the apostate priest.—Exclusion of the foreigners. Embassy of the town of Macao.—The Dutch at Deshima.—The Japanese forbidden to leave the country.—The arrival of the Americans, in 1853.—Discovery of the descendants of the Christians.—The future.

Mortally wounded at Hara, the Christian Religion dragged out, for several years after, its painful agony till, towards 1650, it may be regarded as quite extinct. The Christians, who had survived this final disaster, were a prey to such a persecution, that nearly all gave way, in face of the frightful tortures they were made to undergo, and apostatized, at least externally. Be it said in excuse of these unfortunate people, that in no country in the world have the Christians been the object of a persecution so systematic and so inexorably carried out. The Shoguns, always afraid of seeing themselves swept away by some revolt of the Christians, redoubled their severity from year to year. Each instant the *daimyo* received orders to seek out and execute the followers of the proscribed religion. As for the rewards promised to those who would denounce the Christians, they attained, in 1711, the figure, enormous for this epoch, of five hundred pieces of silver for a priest, three hundred for a lay-brother or a catechist, and one hundred for an ordinary Christian. The very name of Christian had so inflamed the imagination of the rulers, that all malefactors were indiscriminately ranged under this title. To give only one instance, in 1651, two adventurers, Yui Shōsetsu and Marubashi Chuya, united together a considerable number of *rōnin* and other individuals greedy for pillage, and marched on the town of Sumpu. Betrayed by their own partisans, they were defeated and the chiefs condemned to death. The Shogun, Ietsuna, had thankgivings offered to the gods for having delivered him from the Christian rebels. It goes without saying that neither the chiefs, nor any of the rebels had ever professed the Christian Religion.

As all these severe measures did not, however, succeed in reassuring the Shoguns with regard to the Christian Religion, their officials invented the "E-fumi," a formality which consisted in trampling under foot religious images.(35) This profanation was particularly practiced in Nagasaki and in the provinces of Hizen and Bungo, where the Christians had been very numerous. Men, women and children were obliged to place their feet on a sacred image, and this act was considered as an act of apostacy. This ceremony was renewed yearly, and, for greater certainty, the Buddhists themselves were obliged to perform it. Later on, in 1716, the Shogun Yoshimune imposed on all Japan the "Shumon-aratame;" a prescription having for its object the ascertaining, at the time of the census, of the particular religion to which each person belonged.(36) Finally, the bonzes, whose duty it was to superintend all the funerals, examined the corpses carefully, in order to make sure that they bore no token of the Christian Religion.

While fulfilling, however, all these odious formalities, and even while declaring that they had broken with the foreign religion, the Christians remained attached to their creed. They sighed after the arrival of some missionary, who would reconcile them with God. But, they waited in vain; for all the Religious had already either died for the faith, or gone into exile. From Macao, however, and from the Philippines several attempts were made to penetrate into Japan, and to come to the help of the dispersed flock. In 1642, five Jesuits, disguised as Chinese, left Manila for Japan. They were shipwrecked on an isle of Satsuma province. As soon as they were discovered, they were conducted to Nagasaki, where after a long torture they were put to death.(37) The following year, five other Jesuits, among whom Father Chiara, arrived at Yedo, where they died for the Faith, or perished miserably in prison.(38) A little later, in 1647, five Dominicans had also attempted the voyage to Japan, but a violent tempest drove them back to the Philippines. Then, in 1708, Father Sidotti made a last effort to land in this impenetrable country. He was arrested, however, as soon as he landed, sent to Yedo and imprisoned at Christan-zaka. He died there, after a captivity of six years, during which time, he had frequent discussions on religious matters, with the famous historian, Arai Hakuseki. From this moment no Religious put foot on this inhospitable soil, and silence the most complete prevailed with regard to the state of Christianity in Japan. Thus, after an existence of almost a century in this country, the Christian Religion was banished from it for more than two hundred years. After a commencement so glorious, promising to win over all this people so eager for the foreign doctrine, who could have foreseen so sad a denouement?

Thomas Araki, the apostate priest who, by his inexplicable hatred of foreigners, had contributed much to the ruin of Christianity, could then see what disastrous results his insane accusations had wrought. After having preached, in Kiushu, distrust with regard to the Religious, he had gone to Yedo and there, in the course of an interview that he had with the Shogun, he denounced the Religious as spies of the Spanish army, and affirmed that, during his sojourn in Spain, he had often heard the Religious talking of the conquest of Japan. Araki's awakening was of the most terrible description: he understood into what an abyss he had fallen. Tormented by remorse, he then retracted publicly the calumnies he had directed, for thirty years, against his benefactors and brothers-in-religion. While assisting one day, at Yedo, at the torture of fourteen Christians, he threw himself into the midst of the martyrs, demanding the favour to die with them. The soldiers, believing that they had to do with a fool, tried to drive him away by blows of their lances. But, as Araki asked them with tears to include him among the martyrs, the soldiers conducted him to prison. Nothing is known of what afterwards became of this unhappy priest.

Araki's retraction was, however, useless; useless also were the protests of the dying martyrs that the Christians had never plotted with the foreigner, and that the Religious had never incited them to revolt: the calumnies, whether of the Dutch or of the Japanese, did their work. Even to-day these calumnies are believed and taught in all the schools. Ashamed of the exaggerated fear, which national heroes like the Taiko and the first Tokugawa experienced in face of two or three hundred foreigners, the Japanese historians try to show that the intrigues of the Jesuits, who wished to drive their neophytes into rebellion, necessitated the most severe measures for the safety of the country. It is a most regrettable error, which is even believed by many foreigners. Undoubtedly the Religious exhorted the Christians to persevere in their Religion, despite all the prohibitions of the Shoguns. But, never did any of them, even the most enthusiastic, entertain the absurd idea of persuading the Christians to ally themselves with

(35) Literally E-fumi signifies trampling of images.
(36) Shumon-aratame means inspection of religions.

(37) Pagés, p. 872-876.
(38) Pagés, p. 878. Father Chiara died only in 1685, in the Muryo-in temple, where his tomb is still to be seen.

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the foreigners against their own country. They knew the Japanese too well to make such an egregious mistake.

Besides, the Religious were not the only persons to be the victims to these calumnies; all the Europeans, who were not Dutch, had to endure their consequences. The English, says the Shogyoshi, had in 1623 to break off all relations with Japan, because it was discovered that they were the emissaries of the Pope.(39) The fact is that the English, victims to a thousand annoyances on the part of the Dutch and the Japanese, especially after the death of Adams, (Hirado, May 16, 1620) were the first who had to leave Japan. In spite of their favourable beginning, they were, of all foreigners, the most unfortunate in this country. During the ten years that they carried on business there, they experienced more reverses than benefits. Accused by the Japanese merchants of indulging in religious propaganda, they had to abandon their factories at Yedo, Sumpu, Kyoto and Osaka, and were confined to the single port of Hirado. There they had to endure all imaginable abuses, through the machinations of the Dutch acting in concert with the Japanese. Adams himself was ill-treated by Japanese sailors, and even attacked in his own house. For three years,—from 1617 to 1620,—not a single English ship came to Japan, excepting those that the Dutch, then the bitter foes of the English, captured at sea, and conducted in triumph to Hirado.(40)

The Spaniards had to cease trading with Japan towards the same epoch. The continual influx of Religious from Manila, which went on, in spite of the absolute prohibition of the Viceroy and of the Archbishop of the place, had so irritated the Shogun that he resolved to break off all relations with the Spaniards. On this account, he did not even wish to receive their envoys coming to his court, in 1623, to announce the accession to the throne of Philip IV. He let them know that, instead of being of any material advantage to Japan, relations with them had only soiled that country with their diabolical religion.(41) Thus, when religious exaltation oversteps the limits of prudence, instead of convincing, it necessarily provokes persecution.

After having in this way got rid of their English and Spanish rivals, the Dutch were equally successful in getting the Portuguese excluded. The latter, enclosed at Deshima, a little concession they occupied in the port of Nagasaki, received on the 4th of April, 1639, the order to leave Japan. All contravention of that order was to be punished with death. Even the children that the Portuguese had by their Japanese wives, were regarded as dangerous and sent to the number of 287 to Macao. The death penalty was pronounced against those who concealed one of these children. Their mothers were kept in Japan and sent far away from Nagasaki.

The closing of Japan was a terrible blow to Portuguese commerce. The inhabitants of Macao being unable to resign themselves to this loss, sent, on the 22nd of June, 1640, an embassy composed of four of their most notable citizens and a suite of seventy-two persons, in order to renew with the Japanese the relations that had been so suddenly broken off. On the 6th of July the embassy arrived at Nagasaki. The Governor of that town immediately took possession of the Portuguese vessel, caused its rudder and cannons to be removed, and sent a messenger to Iemitsu to inform him of what had taken place. The Portuguese had hoped that their submissiveness to the Japanese would convince them of their friendly intention, but they were greatly mistaken in this regard. For, Iemitsu at once ordered all on board to be put to death, with the exception of a dozen sailors, who were allowed to return to Macao, to warn that city of the reception reserved for every Portuguese, who dared to land in Japan. Despite this unheard-off severity, in regard to their embassy, the Portuguese made several efforts afterwards to bring about an understanding with the Japanese, but all was useless. The more the Portuguese showed themselves conciliatory and inoffensive, the more the Japanese became arrogant and hostile (42).

The Dutch were then the only foreigners who remained. At first they took up their quarters at Hirado, but when, in 1641, their factory in this locality was destroyed by order of the Shogun. they were closed up in Deshima, which the Portuguese had quitted some time before. The humiliations which the Dutch had to put up with, in this prison, will remain for ever a blemish on the reputation of this people. Under pain of death it was forbidden to them to leave Deshima unless under a Japanese guard, which kept them in sight. The children that were born of their Japanese wives were exiled and transported to Batavia.(43) All relations with the Japanese were rigorously forbidden to them: to a few officials, carefully chosen by the Governor of Nagasaki, they were only allowed to speak. These officials, says Kaempfer, acted on the principle of deceiving the Dutch in all circumstances, and injuring them as much as possible. To experience for these foreigners the least kindness was regarded as a lack of patriotism and contrary to the will of the gods of the country. Hence, making them pay extravagant prices for the objects they bought, stealing from them, restricting their liberty were all incontestable proofs of loyalty towards the country. In consequence these officials acted as veritable brigands, whether in the unloading of the Dutch vessels, or in delivering their goods to the Japanese merchants. Sometimes, driven to desperation, the Dutch complained to the Governor of Nagasaki, but the latter always found them to be in the wrong, or, if the guilt of the Japanese was too evident, he allowed the matter to drag out so long, that the Dutch had to give it up themselves.(44)

As to the religious belief of the Dutch, which some foreign writers have wished to point out as one of the principal causes of their antipathy to the Catholic Spaniards and Portuguese, it never existed. Not only had they renounced every exterior mark of Christianity, but they even lent themselves to acts of apostacy. Twice a year, says Kaempfer, they were obliged to trample under foot the image of our Saviour attached to the cross, which was the incontestable proof that they had renounced for ever the Christian religion (45). This Protestant author was so indignant with the Dutch for their baseness, that he stigmatized them in the following terms:—"Their avarice and love of gold had so much power over them that, sooner than abandon so lucrative a commerce, they have suffered voluntarily perpetual imprisonment. They have consented to put up with the most humiliating treatment at the hands of a pagan nation. They have patiently and basely tolerated the outrages of these arrogant infidels, which is the most revolting thing in the world for a man with an upright soul" (46).

Through the commerce of the Dutch, the Shoguns judged that they had sufficient relations with Europe to take from it whatever seemed good to them. The Chinese, who were also admitted to the port of Nagasaki, procured them, besides, all products of their country. It was useless, then, to permit the Japanese themselves to trade outside the country, and thus expose themselves to the danger of picking up ideas judged to be dangerous by the suspicious Shoguns. All voyages to foreign ports were consequently forbidden. In 1636, Iemitsu published an edict condemning to death any Japanese who left the country, as well as all who returned, after having lived abroad for a certain time.(47) As, despite this severe prohibition, the Japanese secretly undertook voyages, Iemitsu, in order to make all such attempts impossible, ordered the destruction of all ships of a certain size, leaving only junks, whose low tonnage prevented any voyage abroad. This was to annihilate, at a single blow, the flourishing commerce that Japan carried on, in the 17th century, with sixteen foreign nations, and to deprive this poor country of the wealth which had commenced, at that period, to flow into it. It was at the same time to arrest the progress of Japan towards Occidental civilization, to separate her from the entire world, and condemn her to consume herself in inaction.

It goes without saying that, during the Tokugawa regime, the historians strove to present this retrograde movement as a happy event, securing the peace and safety of the country. But, that even in our own days the great majority of the Japanese persist in this regrettable illusion, and that—stranger still—they continue to admire as chivalrous exploits the ridiculous dread, not to say the cowardice, that the first Tokugawa experienced before a handful of inoffensive foreigners, this is only one proof the more of the deleterious influence, which the Tokugawa regime has exercised on the intelligence of this people.

Certainly, under the Tokugawa regime, peace reigned in all Japan, the least quarrel between the *daimyo* being punished with deposition and exile. Still more, it was forbidden under the severest penalties for the *samurai*, until then so changeable in their ideas, to pass from one *daimyo* to another. Hence one cannot very well see in what their pretended loyalty consisted.

Having thus become completely useless, at least for military purposes, the *samurai* were divided into an infinity of little officials, one of whose principal occupation was the study of the Chinese characters. To be able to read the books of Confucius and, above all, to interpret them, was the highest degree of glory to which they could aspire.

It was, moreover, in this arena alone that they combatted for more than two centuries. It even seemed that the struggle became so hot, that under the Shogun Ienari, (1784-1837), a law had to be passed making anyone, who did not admit the interpretation adopted by the State, incapable of holding any public position. What is truly comic in all this is that, in spite of these peaceful occupations, the *samurai* had continued to carry very gravely two enormous swords in their belts.

Such was the state of Japan, when, in 1853, Commodore Perry came to knock at the door of the slumbering country. The whole nation awoke with a start. The Shogun, forced to open the door to the Americans and, after them, to the different nations of Europe, was regarded as a traitor and had to abandon a charge, which his ancestors had held for 268 years. The Emperor, forgotten for more than seven centuries, was replaced on the throne and has since ruled Japan. The fall of the Shogun led to the abolition of feudalism and to the abolition of the military caste. Owing to its state of servitude, this caste had so degenerated, that the greater number of the *samurai*, especially those who depended directly on the Shogun,(48) were incapable of providing for their needs, and fell into the greatest misery. Just like birds brought up in a cage, once they are set at liberty and abandoned to themselves they are condemned to die of hunger.

With the arrival of the foreigners, Christianity made its second appearance in Japan. The missionaries of all nations and of all creeds lost no time in flowing thither. What was the joy of the Catholic missionaries to discover, in the environs of Nagasaki, nearly 50,000 descendants of the Christians of yore. These poor people, for the most part fishermen or peasants, had, from father to son, preserved the faith of their ancestors. Owing to their possession of some books, that had escaped the searches of the persecutors, and especially owing to the information transmitted orally, they knew the principal truths of the Christian religion. Baptism had been administered to them by the chiefs of villages, who alone were in possession of this mysterious secret. It was from them also that the believers learned certain prayers, which they recited secretly. Many errors had necessarily found their way into the doctrine thus transmitted. Moreover, every year at the time of the "Shumon-aratame," these Christians had to declare themselves members of one of the numerous Buddhist

(39) Shogyoshi, supplement Hirado, p. 2.
(40) Riess, William Adams, p. 250-251.
(41) Pagés, p. 585-586.
(42) Pagés, p. 853-863.
(43) Shogyoshi, p. 580.
(44) Kaempfer, vol. II. liv. IV. p. 209-211.
(45) Kaempfer, vol. II., liv. IV., p. 202.
(46) Kaempfer, vol. II., liv. IV., p. 186.
(47) Shogyoshi, p. 568.

(48) The *Hatamoto*, whose number was nearly 80,000.

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sects, and thus commit an act of apostacy. What these unfortunate people had particularly retained of the instructions of the ancient missionaries was, that the preachers of the Christian religion must be in communion with the Supreme Chief of Rome, must honour the Blessed Virgin, and not marry. After having been assured that these three conditions were fulfilled by the Catholic Missionaries, more than thirty thousand declared themselves their believers. The rest, held back by their chiefs, who being jealous of their venerable privileges, still hesitate to declare themselves entirely for the faith of their ancestors.

Will they one day take the decisive step? And then, carried away by their example, will the Japanese people one day enter the great Christian family? Or, in default of religion, will diplomatic and commercial relations, progress and our civilization succeed one day in bridging the abyss that separates us, even at this moment, from this strange people? These are some of the questions which occupy a great number of people, Japanese and foreigners. Although it were dangerous to play the role of prophet, in wishing to predict what the future holds in reserve for us, it may, nevertheless, be affirmed, without temerity, that neither civilization, nor diplomatic, nor commercial relations, nor even alliances are capable of working this miracle. These different factors will never change the Japanese character, by ridding it of its racial prejudices, enormous prejudices, which manifest themselves, every instant, whether by puerile jealousy, or by an inexplicable hatred. Some old residents even pretend that the Japanese only dream of expelling the Occidentals, not only from their country, but from all the Far East. Our sciences, say these pessimists, our progress, and above all the division which exists between the Occidentals, will admirably assist the Japanese in realizing this dream, cherished, besides, by the entire nation. From this side, therefore, ameliorations are not to be hoped for, but perhaps very disagreeable surprises.

On the other hand, the Christian religion contains within itself everything that is necessary to smooth away the difficulties. In the first place the idea that all men are equal before a supreme God, who commands us to love one another, flatters not only the vanity of the Japanese, often wounded when they compare themselves to the white race, but answers entirely to the character of this people, who are sentimental and prone to affection. On one side, Christianity will enlarge the narrow spirit of the Japanese, and on the other, it will guide that people's excessive sentimentality towards the true end.

Unfortunately two obstacles, identical with those which, in the seventeenth century, arrested the progress of Christianity, oppose to-day also its diffusion: the narrow-mindedness of some missionaries, and the distrust of the Government. A great number of missionaries, instead of showing by their conduct that they are truly the disciples of Jesus Christ, seem to have come to Japan to play the role of detractors. In place of rivalling in charity, in abnegation and in devotion, they only think of denouncing, as a danger to Japan, those who do not believe exactly as they do. Let these reckless people understand once for all that the insane calumnies, which they direct against any Christian missionary, do harm to the entire cause of Christianity. Distrustful as the Japanese are, they will be convinced that a religion, which is a prey to such discord, and which has ministers who possess so little tact, must be bad.

The distrust of the rulers *vis-à-vis* of the Christian religion is another obstacle. Incapable of conceiving the idea of a Sovereign God, arbiter of the entire world, they cannot any more understand the personality of the individual, responsible for his acts to this universal God. Hence, their fear that such a doctrine would destroy patriotism and compromise the safety of the country. It is on this account that it is so rare to meet with a Christian in higher circles: the neophytes apostatize generally in proportion as they attain to important position. Poor students, orphans and lepers are willingly left to the missionaries. A portion of the common people will even be abandoned to them, but the best society will be for a long time to come closed to them. It will now be understood why not a single one of the numerous descendants of the Christian *daimyo* has yet had the courage to embrace a religion for which their ancestors formerly showed so much enthusiasm.

M. STEICHEN, M.A.

FINIS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

RACE HORSES ON THE BLUFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To come down to the root of the evil your correspondents "Prevention," "Parent," "Bluff Resident." &c., complain of, the narrowness of the Bluff roads in general will, I take it, be admitted as the first and prime factor.

Now seeing that that is a drawback, the inconveniences of which have to be shared in common, it appears to me that concession rather than compulsion, is the line to adopt in any attempt to study the good of the greatest number. My suggestion therefore is this:—That owners of race horses should be asked to prohibit their bettos (and to see their instructions carried out) against leading horses in a string. Led singly or in couples, the danger of their charges becoming restless or unmanageable is materially minimized. Such a request can easily be conveyed to owners through the Club of which they are members and would, I am certain, meet with attention, if only from the fact that it is as much to their own interest as anybody else's to avoid accidents. Otherwise, I fail to see how the end your correspondents have in view can be accomplished.

Race horses are not the only danger on the Bluff and it is manifestly impossible to interdict to owners the right of thoroughfare shared by the general public.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

"NON-OWNER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Nerves" tries to minimize my grievance by suggesting that it only applies to an occasional race *pony*, led carriage ponies and hacks. This is disingenuous on his part, as he must know, if an owner as I presume he is, that what I complain of is the long strings of big Australian and other horses that parade the Bluff highway practically at all hours of the afternoon.

Led hacks and led carriage ponies could probably be counted on the fingers of one hand. "Nerves" also attempts to divert attention from the main issue by referring to carriages and bicycles as equally dangerous to pedestrians. I cannot agree with him. Driven horses are under the control of the drivers, and bicycles under the control of the riders, but a led race-horse is under virtually no control, when he takes to plunging about and kicking viciously as so many of them do. Whether legislation or regulations for the government of road traffic can stop the nuisance complained of, I trust it may be unnecessary to discuss. I would rather appeal to the consideration of owners for the feelings of their fellow residents and ask them to minimize the danger complained of as much as possible, by instructing their bettos to avoid the Bluff highway between the top of Jizozaka and Jackson's Hill as much as possible, which could easily be done by leading the horses from the stable by the nearest way to the circular road, returning to their stable the same way instead of along the Bluff high road. In this way horses from two stables at least, would practically never be seen on the most frequented part of the Bluff road whilst the other more centrally situated stables could reduce the stretch of Bluff road they use to a minimum. I would commend this suggestion to their earnest consideration.

Yours, etc., PREVENTION.

THE FAMINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The local press here having stirred us up to save our brethren from starvation; when we have given all that we can we are brought to our knees in prayer for those whom we cannot help. There are people who can pray to their own satisfaction without any previous preparation; but there are others, heartless formalists, etc., who think that forms are useful. As we get older we get somewhat hypercritical about our prayers, and I must confess that the form in the American Prayer Book does not fit my spirit. The English form is a little better, but this form from the Irish Book is the best that I have been able to find. Perhaps some ghostly father may be able to improve upon it, or bring forth from the treasuries of the past something better.

As ever, Yours in the Common Service.

HENRY SCOTT JEFFERY.

No. 8, Moto Kaji-cho, Sendai, N.E. Japan Church Missions House, March 5th, 1903.

IN THE TIME OF DEATH AND FAMINE.

O God, merciful Father, who, in the time of Elisha the prophet, didst suddenly in Samaria turn great scarcity and dearth into plenty and cheapness; Have mercy upon us, that we who are now for our sins punished with like adversity, may likewise find a seasonable relief: increase the fruits of the earth by thy heavenly benediction; and grant that we, receiving thy bountiful liberality, may use the same to thy glory, the relief of those that are needy, and our own comfort: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GULLS AND GULLIBILITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read a proverb about people who live in glass houses not throwing stones, so I suppose your informant, or informants, who supplied you with the information for the article on "Credulity" on the editorial page of the issue of Saturday, Feb. 28th, was one of those clear-headed, shrewd, discerning persons who never has been gulled. There are such people I believe. In the case of "Count Rothenkirchen" and his adventures, however, it appears that though missionaries may be "reverend gulls," they are not the only gullible people. If your informant led you to think so, then I fear he has been stuffing you—I would not like to call you an "editorial gull" but it looks as if you were very nearly gulled when you received the information on the strength of which you penned that editorial. I happen to know that the "Count" struck several missionaries who were not "gulled," and it is not a secret that he tapped two—not "reverend gulls" but teachers of Koto Gakko—one a shrewd, clever Englishman and the other a cautious, profound German and he found the "credulity" just as much in evidence as he did among missionaries. Moreover, one of these "pedagogical gulls," if I may borrow and slightly modify a phrase from your editorial, has been in business in one of the large ports of Japan for several years and, if I am not mistaken, is somewhat or somehow related to a foreign newspaper published in Kobe or some such place. It really seems, judging from the "Count's" experiments, as if any class, even editors, will sometimes bite a haited hook.

Your humble servant was not tempted, never having met the "Count," but he has heard that the Kanazawa missionary whom you report as having lent the "Count" 15 *yen* thought that the man was mad and after a short interview asked to be excused for a few minutes and returned with a loaded revolver in a handy place. Perhaps he felt that lending the adventurer—if he lent him money—15 *yen* was the cheapest and easiest way of getting rid of him.

A friend of mine who had met the "Count" and entertained him for some hours—dinner included without extra charge—wrote me warning me against him. Though a private letter, I take the liberty of quoting a few lines to show his estimate of said "Count" even before he was arrested. After describing the "Count's" appearance he says: "If the duffer had only fooled me (and he did so only for a short time) I would not give him credit for much. But to bamboozle old stagers like——and——and——" (my friend here gives names of missionaries and non-missionaries—all foreigners)—"then I ask you to accept it that we have been honoured in entertaining one of the cleverest, most gentlemanly, high-headed, strong-nerved, angels of darkness that walks these regions. He is simply magnificent in his capacity and if there is anything in the 'survival of the fittest' theory he ought to have survived. I wish you could meet him—with a gun. He has done me good—I have laughed more over this than all my laughing for two years." Though my friend who wrote me as above is a missionary he did not accept the tempting offer of Russian Consul which the impostor pretended to have in his hands to give.

Though your editorial does not compare missionaries with men in other callings, yet, because it only tells part of the truth, it seems to be slightly invidious so far as missionaries are concerned.

Pray pardon such a lengthy letter on such a trifling subject from a missionary who wasn't tempted to go skating and didn't fall in.

Yours sincerely, X.Y.Z.

March 6th, 1903.

[We took our information from the published report of the trial at law.—ED. *J.M.*]

HARNACK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The letter of "Gamma" you published on the 5th inst. compels me to trouble you once more

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with a communication. "Gamma" maintains that I am under obligation "to prove that in none of Harnack's innumerable writings do the quotations occur"—otherwise there would be no proof that falsification has taken place at all. I politely decline to comply with this strange request of "Gamma" for three reasons: firstly, because I have at least as much right as "Gamma" to ask him to prove that the quotations do occur somewhere in Harnack's innumerable writings; secondly, because we have to deal here with one book of Harnack only, *i.e.*, the book "Das Wesen des Christentums" the translation of which caused Miss Huhold's communication; and thirdly, because I have proved already that falsification took place in several cases.

Miss H.'s communication to the *Japan Evangelist* intended to produce the impression that the quotations were all, without exception, taken from the said book of Harnack. She introduced the quotations by the following sentence:—"Not knowing which parts of Harnack's book you may have read yourself, allow me to put a few sentences before you. Harnack says"—(follow quotations). If any one is obliged to inform the public where all the quotations occur, it is Miss H. or her source, not I. Therefore in my first letter I requested her to do so. Moreover Miss H. speaks of Harnack's book, not of his books, and in her preceding words unmistakably points to that book of Harnack only which has been translated into Japanese. It would not be "most proper to quote from his other writings" while pretending to quote from one special book exclusively. Therefore I was obliged to show that I could not find some of the quotations in the original and that in some of those quotations which I found, not only the words but also the substance of the original were changed. I wished and still wish to emphasize that honesty requires everybody who takes part in public discussions not to misrepresent the views of opponents either in substance, or, if quotation is resorted to, even in words. Miss H. pretended to quote. She used the introductory words, "Harnack says" and put the "quotations" in inverted commas. Every one who is familiar with the rules of literary honesty cannot but admit that therefore Miss H. or her source was absolutely forbidden to put in inverted commas something else than Harnack's own words quite verbally, or, in the present case, as faithfully translated as possible.

Now if I am able to prove that in some of those quotations which are undoubtedly taken (as they pretended to be) from the book in question, not only the words but also the substance of what Harnack really said, are changed very considerably, I think I am justified to speak of falsification without troubling myself about the remainder of the quotations which I could not find where I was obliged to look for them. And if there were only one single case like that ostensible quotation concerning Harnack's view about Luther (in which Harnack is represented to have written nonsense), or concerning his view about the Self-consciousness of Christ, where the quotation not only seems to contradict Harnack, but really, in words and substance, is entirely contradictory to the original—only one such single case would be sufficient to reveal the evil intention of the compiler of the quotations. For what purpose did the compiler, by omission and addition of essential words and sentences, represent Harnack to have written what he never wrote? Apparently, nay evidently, in order to make Harnack appear much worse than he really is!

Falsification and arbitrary misrepresentation have really taken place. My first letter proved this beyond any doubt concerning several quotations which are really, as intended, taken from Harnack's book "Das Wesen des Christentums." I thought it my duty to point out these misrepresentations and falsifications, although I am not myself a follower of Ritsohl and disagree more or less with Harnack, having rather the theological standpoint of Dr. Spinner. By the way I may be allowed to state here that Harnack and Dr. Spinner at present work harmoniously together as members of our Mission-Board.

"Gamma" represents me to have stated "that an opinion like 'Harnack's Christianity is only heathenism mixed up with a few Christian ideas' is a falsification." I never wrote such nonsense. In my first letter I called these words "words of ugly fanaticism" which fall under the judgement of Matt. 7, 1—5 and Luke. 18, 9-14. But the term "falsification" of course can be reasonably applied in the present discussion to some of the quotations only, not to remarks of the quoting critic.

Further "Gamma" seems to believe or intends to make the public believe that "a very grave charge" is based by me only on a private letter that Miss H. wrote to a third party. Every unprejudiced reader of the introductory remarks by Miss H. in the *Japan Evangelist* cannot but admit that she really produced the impression that she knew Harnack's book and was quoting from the book directly. The charge has sufficient foundation in her letter to the *Japan Evangelist*. The private letter corroborates it. Because since the middle of December I was in possession of a copy of her letter to a Japanese pastor (I copied it from the original myself) in which she claimed to know Harnack's book, I had to be convinced that that impression of her introductory remarks in the *Japan Evangelist* was intended. If "Gamma" will be kind enough to let me know his name and address, I will at once send him a copy of her letter and he may do with it what he pleases.

"Gamma" then represents me to have written in my second letter that my only aim was to prove "that Harnack's views are very different from Miss H.'s quotations." Here he is guilty of a slight inadvertence which I cannot leave uncorrected. I wrote "that in several cases Harnack's views are very different from the quotations." This is something else, I think; for the portion is not the whole. And this contention of mine has absolutely nothing to do with the question whether Harnack is "orthodox" or not. Miss H., of course, is quite right in maintaining that Harnack is not orthodox "in the historical meaning of that word," and if she or her source had maintained this in an unobjectionable way I would never have objected. In my first letter I myself unequivocally classed Harnack among the "liberal" theologians. It is therefore absolutely misleading and a specimen of quite an extraordinary kind of logic if "Gamma" says: "..... Mr. W. in confessing his inability to prove Harnack orthodox in the historical meaning of that word, admits in substance that Miss H.'s communication to the *Japan Evangelist* did not falsify Harnack's position."

The question we have been treating here is not so much a theological one as one of literary honesty. Mere carelessness will never cause such misrepresentations as can be found in some of the quotations. Intended misrepresentations, however, are falsifications. Perhaps it is my fault ("a common German fault") to be over-concientious in matters of religious conviction and truthfulness in general, and therefore too much of a "Protestant." I really cannot help it.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the kind permission to use the columns of your paper.

I remain, faithfully yours, AD. WENDT.

Tokyo, Koishikawa Kamitomisaka 23, March 7.

FIRST AMERICAN COMMODORE TO VISIT JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Learning through the medium of the press of this country that a distinguished Japanese scholar contemplates writing a history of Modern Japan, I venture to offer a brief contribution to the subject, which may prove of interest to him, and, possibly, to some of the readers of the *Daily Mail*.

As far as can be ascertained from official sources the question of the United States Government opening communication with Japan with a view to negotiating a Treaty of Commerce originated with Mr. Caleb Cushing, one of the most eminent jurists and scholars of his day.

In 1843 Mr. Cushing was appointed Commissioner to China and negotiated the first treaty between the United States and that Empire.

During his sojourn in China Mr. Cushing conceived the idea that Japan might be induced to follow the example of China and throw open her ports to American commerce. His views on the subject were communicated to the President. In answer to his letter he received the following reply from the Secretary of State, Mr. John C. Calhoun, under date of August, 1844:

"The President has taken into consideration your suggestion in your private letter to him, of the propriety of giving you authority to treat with Japan should an opportunity offer. It is apprehended that little probability exists of effecting any commercial arrangements with that country, but as you think it may possibly be accomplished, a full power to treat with the Japanese authorities is herewith transmitted to you in accordance with your desire."

It does not appear that any results followed Mr. Cushing's proposition.

Under date of April 15, 1845, the Secretary of State, Mr. James Buchanan, in his letter of instruction to Mr. Alexander H. Everett, who succeeded Mr. Cushing as Commissioner to China, said in part:

"A full power was, at his request, sent to Mr. Cushing in August last, to enable him to negotiate a commercial treaty with Japan, should an opportunity arise, of effecting such an arrangement. A like authority is now furnished to you for the same purpose."

Mr. Everett was to take passage to China in the U. S. S. *Columbus*, a ship of the line, and one of the largest and finest vessels of war known to the maritime world of that day. The *Columbus* bore the broad pennant of Commodore James Biddle, U. S. Navy, a distinguished veteran of the War of 1812.

The instructions from the Secretary of the Navy, the Hon. George Bancroft, under date of May 22, 1845, to Commodore Biddle were, in part, as follows:—

"An important commercial treaty, entered into with the Emperor of China, having been confirmed by the Senate, you will receive on board the *Columbus*, as passengers, A. H. Everett, Commissioner to China, and family, and land them as near to Canton as the *Columbus* can conveniently approach.

"You will hold the Squadron at the disposal of the Commissioner for the purpose of conveying him to any part of the Coast of China or Japan, which he may have occasion to visit in the execution of his instructions."

Mr. Everett was taken sick, on the way out, and left the ship in Rio de Janeiro, his functions as Commissioner thereupon devolving upon Commodore Biddle.

The instructions to Commodore Biddle went on to say: "In an especial manner you will take the utmost care to ascertain if the ports of Japan are accessible. Should the Commissioner incline to make the effort of gaining access there, you will hold your squadron at his disposition for that purpose. Should he decline to do so, you may, yourself, if you see fit, persevere in the design, yet not in such a manner as to excite a hostile feeling, or a distrust of the Government of the United States."

One can scarcely fail to note the very friendly attitude towards Japan assumed by the United States Government on this occasion.

Commodore Biddle was careful to carry out the spirit of the instructions, and from his report to his Government it may be readily seen that by his courtesy and conciliatory bearing towards the Japanese officials a most favourable impression was made and one which could not fail of predisposing them to look with favour on those Americans who might subsequently visit Japan.

The *Columbus*, accompanied by the *Vincennes*, sailed from the Chusan Islands on the 7th of July, 1846, and on the 20th anchored in Yedo Bay.

Before reaching the anchorage a Japanese officer, accompanied by a Dutch interpreter, came on board the *Columbus* to inquire as to the object of the ships visiting Japan. He was informed by Commodore Biddle that he came as a friend to ascertain whether Japan had, like China, opened her ports to foreign trade, and, if she had, to arrange by treaty the conditions on which American vessels might trade with Japan. The officer requested that this answer might be put in writing, which was done.

On anchoring, the ships were at once surrounded by a vast number of armed boats. The ship was soon thronged with Japanese visitors. They were permitted to come on board in large numbers, that all might be convinced of our friendly disposition.

Permission to land was denied. We did not land nor was any attempt made to disregard the wishes of the local authorities. There were but two exceptions to this rule. Objection was made to our boats passing between the *Columbus* and the *Vincennes*. On the impracticability of this restriction being explained, the restriction was withdrawn.

The morning following our arrival a Japanese officer, apparently of higher rank than the one of the preceding day, came on board. He stated that foreign ships, upon entering Japanese ports always landed their guns. He was told that it was impossible for us to do so, to which was added the assurance that we were peaceably disposed. He then informed the Commodore that his letter of the previous day had been transmitted to the Emperor, who was at some distance from Yedo, and that an answer would be received in five or six days. Upon being asked why we were surrounded by so many boats he replied "that they might be ready in case we wanted them to tow the ship." This was a mere subterfuge. The real reason was to prevent us from communicating with the shore. When our boats were sent out at some distance to take soundings some distance from the ships Japanese boats followed, without, however, attempting to molest them. During our entire stay these boats continued about the ships day and night.

On the 27th a Japanese official of rank, accompanied by a suite of eight persons, came on board with the Emperor's answer, which, as translated by the interpreter, ran as follows:

"According to Japanese laws, the Japanese may not trade except with the Dutch and Chinese. It will not be allowed that America make a treaty with Japan or trade with her, as the same is not allowed to any other nation."

"Concerning strange lands, all things are fixed at Nagasaki, but not here in the Bay, therefore, you must depart as quickly as possible and not come any more in Japan."

The officer was informed that the United States wished to make a treaty of commerce with Japan, but not unless Japan also wished a treaty. Having ascertained that Japan was not ready to open her ports to foreign trade, the officer was further informed that the ships would sail the following day.

On the 29th of July both ships got under way. As the wind was very light the Japanese boats took our lines to tow us out.

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Drawings were made of the ships as they appeared at anchor; and while being towed out. On reaching the United States these drawings were lithographed. Two of these are now in my possession. Quite recently I have had them photographed and copies sent through the usual official channels to the Japanese Government. As these pictures have a certain historical value, I trust you may see them.

Such is the history, in brief, of the efforts of the United States Government to negotiate a treaty of commerce with Japan previous to the visit, some seven years later, of Commodore Perry.

There can be no doubt but that the interchange of civilities between Commodore Biddle and his officers, and the Japanese officials, and the total absence on the part of the American officers of any hostile intention, must have impressed the Japanese officials with our friendly disposition and disposed them to receive with favour the overtures of the American officers who visited Japan a few years later.

My interest in the events just recited lies not merely in the fact that I was one of the junior officers of the *Columbus*, and to this day retain a vivid impression of the dignified bearing of the Japanese officials, their affability and polished manners; but in my desire that, in any history of modern Japan that may be written, due recognition be given to the able and tactful manner in which the negotiations referred to were conducted by the distinguished officer, Commodore Biddle, under whom I had the honour to serve.

Very truly yours, S. B. LUCE,
Rear Admiral, U.S.N. (retired).

15 Francis St., Newport, R.I., January 26th, 1903.

DIVIDE THE HONOURS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—When I read your article "Credulity" in last week's issue, I had to shake myself once or twice to make sure that I was reading, not one of the missionary-baiting periodicals to be found here and there in the Far East, but the eminently fair and courteous *Japan Mail*. What has happened? The only thing I can imagine is that your reporter at the trial and another through some mistake have made an exchange of copy, and so you have inadvertently published a surprisingly inaccurate and unfair article.

Will you allow me to supplement what "Veritas" has said in this connection?

First, "Veritas" is absolutely correct when he suggests that none of the missionaries who met "Count Rothenkircher" was asked "to exchange the position of missionary for that of Russian Consul." I am one of a number of missionaries who, though approached by the "Count," escaped his blandishments. I saw enough of him and have since learned enough from the several victims to know what he proposed. The services he asked were all but nominal, the post he offered to support so liberally all but a sinecure, and not to interfere with missionary duties.

Secondly, your description of those who gave the impostor "substantial marks of confidence" is incorrect—"six missionaries and two Japanese." The corrected tale would stand; four missionaries, two Government school teachers, two Japanese. The credulous were thus by no means missionaries alone,—though the great majority of foreigners to be met in the interior are missionaries. Two of the six were clear-headed laymen, one of them a gentlemen of many years' experience in business life in one of the ports.

This correction is worth making for the reason that of all those who fell under the spell of "Count Leon's" uniform, decorations, his six feet two or three inches of height, his aristocratic bearing, the grace of his salute, and the plausibility of parts of what he said, the missionaries were the only ones who had no selfish interest in the matter. According to well-known and universal mission rules, a missionary's earnings outside of his mission salary go to his Board. To the non-missionary "Vice-Consuls" the appointment meant gold easily earned. To the missionary it meant possibly some prestige which would help in his work; also an opportunity to pay back to his Board in a salary earned without any material interference with his missionary activities, an amount exceeding what the Board was paying to support him.

Then, Mr. Editor, remember that we are unsophisticated people up country. We meet a Japanese rogue now and then but no foreign ones. In fifteen years in the interior, the "Count" has been my first, and others of longer experience have met none. So do not be hard on us —— and divide the honours!

Yours sincerely, J. D. DUNLOP.
Kanazawa, March 9th, 1903.

THE TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your weekly edition of Feb. 21st, in speaking of the progress of the Text-book Scandal, you state that the inadequacy of the emoluments of educational workers naturally renders them easy prey to the dispenser of bribes. I have noticed expressions of the same tenor in your columns before. I have neither the time nor facilities to go into the subject exhaustively, but, while disavowing any knowledge whatever of affairs in the capital, I would like to state the opinion that in the provinces, while teachers' emoluments may not be as high as desirable in an absolute sense, they are relatively quite good.

"The principal of an elementary school in a provincial district receives emoluments amounting to the splendid figure of about 40 *yen* monthly, which is less than he could earn as a stone-mason." This may be so if the stone-mason be a worker in the capital. Comparing the teacher's 40 *yen* with the income of artisans, government officials and the class of men with whom he associates in the provinces, I doubt if he can be called underpaid. Indeed, due to the competition among schools, I incline to the opinion that he is somewhat better paid.

The teaching profession in most countries stands at a disadvantage in matter of dollars and cents as compared with other professions, but in view of the congeniality of much of the work, the respect accorded to the office, the rather disproportionate leisure enjoyed, and in Japan at least, the secure tenure of office, the pecuniary disadvantage can be readily overlooked, and it is only unusual conditions that keep the demand greater than the supply. If teachers' emoluments in Japan are proportionately low, Japan is in this respect only on a par with other countries.

I will venture the further opinion that if the question were put to the foreigners acquainted with affairs as they are in the prefectural capitals and especially in smaller towns, they would agree with the above. Let it be remembered, too, that in this Text-book affair, the chief sinners are not those actually engaged as teachers, but those who are in the ordinary official classes.

Yours very truly, SOJOURNER.
Kagoshima, March 6.

SPIRITUALISM.

[Read before the Yokohama Literary Society by Neil Gordon Munro, Esq., M.B., C.M., Edin., on Friday, March 6th, 1903.]

The Earth, in its continued flight through space, bears upon its surface a host of living beings, formed of its substance and organised in obedience to the laws which govern its chemical and physical manifestations.

From that epoch remote, when the first living matter thrilled with the parting heat of the Earth and Sun, these forms of life have come and gone with ever increasing diversity as the ages passed and the geological records marked the flight of time. For over a hundred million years they have come and gone, each year with its countless billions of individual lives, but they have come only to go again, to die, to decay and to dissolve into the earth which gave them origin.

We, the members of that race which crowns the work of Evolution on this planet, have emerged from the close struggle for existence with other types of animal life, and in the pride of our ascendancy are apt to imagine that we are made of different clay and belong to another order of existence. Scientific investigation, however, reveals the fact that man and the lower animals are essentially alike, both in structure and organic function. The elements of which we are built up, are, like those of the whole animal and vegetal kingdoms, taken from the outer crust of the earth, and the atmosphere which covers it. It is true that we cannot, like the plant build up our tissues from these elementary substances, so that we are forced to recruit our bodies by the destruction of vegetal and animal life. We appropriate this material for our use, we absorb it, to some extent we alter it to suit the purposes of our human existence, but it is well to bear in mind that it is material borrowed from other lives, material which existed on this planet long before life began, and will continue to play many parts in the drama of the living, for untold ages to come.

It is indeed no wild supposition that each one of us here to-night, carries in his body sundry atoms which have been, at some time or other, partners in myriads of different life forms, and it is more than likely that if these atoms could tell their tale, it would shew that each human being is a compound of the constituent particules of nearly every variety of life which has hitherto existed on this globe.

When we consider further that our bodies do not retain these atoms during the whole of our lifetime, but that the greater portion of them are being continually thrown out of our systems, to make way for others, and that this incessant change is a *sine qua non* of each personal existence, when we reflect that the atom of hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus or sulphur which one day builds up a mushroom, might on the next be assisting in the brain work of a Darwin or a Kant, it is quite evident that the idea of individuality or personality is based, not on the identity of our material particles, but on the unity which persists in spite of the incessant change on the part of those atomic constituents.

Individuality of form exists just so long as the unity upon which it is dependent persists. When the vicissitudes of our human existence disturb the unity of action which maintains our vitality, when the end comes and that quietude which we call death replaces our former activity, when unity of form gives way to dissolution and disintegration, then also the individuality of form becomes non-existent, and nothing can recall it but a renewal of those conditions which constituted a living being.

The atoms which have wandered forth into space, or become part and parcel of other living organisms, are gone beyond recall; how then can the dead reappear?

The belief in the reappearance of forms simulating the dead and otherwise conveying the impression of their continued individuality, goes back to the infancy of the human race. I should say that the acute sense of loss which overwhelms humanity at parting with those near and dear, a feeling which is shared, and sometimes shewn by the lower animals, is accompanied, probably indeed preceded and caused, by the uprising within us of vivid mental pictures of the dead. These mental pictures are especially apt to be called up at the sight of some object peculiarly associated with the deceased, such as a toy, a book, a strain of music, a familiar place, or it may be that some less evident association serves to recall the dead to mind and to renew our grief. Primitive man, when torn from the companionship of those whom he loved and protected, felt perhaps as keenly as we do, that overwhelming grief which accompanies the first vivid memories of the dead. I think it is even likely that his thoughts were more vivid than our own, being infinitely more simple and restricted in their scope. They were in fact chiefly recollections of nature and his immediate surroundings, and must have occupied more of his attention, both during their formation and revival within his mind. His wants and implements were few and neither the complicated mechanisms of the twentieth century nor its abstract conceptions had a place in his wildest dreams. It is fair to assume that in proportion to the simplicity of his ideas they were more vivid and probably more liable to be mistaken for the actual occurrences of his surroundings. To him, the outer world, beyond the pale of personal contact, was another world, full of mystery, if not of terror. The shadows which moved with the flickering light of his evening fire, reached into the obscurity of the forest, whence came his rivals and his enemies. We can imagine him in his affliction, turning from his fire, wherein perhaps he saw a picture of the happier past, and looking sadly towards that recess between the trees, where the pathway leads to the river and where she last smiled a welcome home. A faint misty light comes before him, and out of the mist a human form is quickly shaped which looks at him with her eyes, no longer smiling but plainly reflecting his grief. He springs forward, but the vision is gone, and there remains with him only the firm conviction that the dead has revisited him.

He does not know that on turning from the light of his fire to the dark background of the forest, there was formed in his brain, a something which is now known as the after image, and which is frequently the starting point of hallucinations, whether they take the shape of phantasms of the living or of the dead. The mechanism of such hallucinations will need further consideration, but I wish now only to suggest that early man, with his limited but vivid ideas and his incapacity for abstract reasoning, was probably less able than we to differentiate his dream and waking visions from the actual realities of his environment. I would not say that even now we have attained to any great power of discrimination in this respect. The material progress which man has made is very much in advance of his self-knowledge, and notwithstanding the progress in metaphysics and especially in psychology during the past fifty years, there is not one person in a thousand who realises the nature of the bond between himself and his surroundings. Our ideas, however, are on a vastly wider and more complicated scale than those of our primitive ancestors. The use of language enables us to substitute written or spoken symbols in the process of thinking, for the cumbersome shifting of mental scenery, not entirely, but to such an extent that we become, in regard to our surface consciousness at least, largely independent of these pictorial aids. In order thus to account for the fact that all peoples in a state of primitive savagery, believe in the existence of embodied and disembodied spirits, I put before you with some diffidence, the view that they think in simple but vivid pictures of their surroundings, and I shall presently try to shew you that such pictures tend to appear as outside realities in proportion as they become more vivid.

Whatever the reason may be, however, the fact is

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evident that what has been called "primitive animism," that is to say, the belief in what we now call "spirit influence," prevails amongst all primitive peoples and originates in a state of society where intelligence is of a rudimentary order and hallucinations are more easily produced than explained. We are the physical heirs of our ancestors. We have inherited the brain conformation of those primitive people, and although the grey matter which covers the modern brain and which is the seat of the psychical activities, that is to say of thinking, feeling and willing, although this grey matter is an enlarged and revised edition of that of the primitive human brain, it retains the general characters of the former, and doubtless some of its habits. It would not be very surprising if it were found that the manifestations of modern spiritualism bore some resemblance to those of "primitive animism," even when engaging the attention of highly intellectual and cultured persons, and this proves to be the case. Professor Jastrow states: "These belief tendencies, accordingly, have an anthropological significance and an historical continuity which Mr. Lang thus presents:—'These instances prove that, from the Australian blacks in the Bush, who hear raps when the spirits come, to ancient Egypt, and thence to Greece, and last, in our time, and in a London suburb, similar experiences real or imaginary are explained by the same hypothesis. No 'survival' can be more odd and striking, none more illustrative of the permanence in human nature of certain elements. To examine these psychological curiosities may, or may not be useful but, at the lowest, the study may rank as a branch of mythology or folk lore.'" Mr. Tylor fully concords with this view:—"The received spiritualistic theory," he says, "belongs to the philosophy of savages. . . . Suppose a wild North American Indian looking at a spirit-seance in London. As to the presence of disembodied spirits, manifesting themselves by raps, noises, voices, and other physical actions, the savage would be perfectly at home in the proceedings, for such things are part and parcel of his recognised system of nature."

The cult of modern spiritualism took its origin in certain mysterious rappings which occurred in the home of the Fox family in a suburb of New York, some fifty odd years ago. These rappings were evidently guided by an intelligent force, for when the device of reading out the letters of the alphabet was employed, answers were obtained, announcing the presence of the spirit of a murdered peddlar. It is needless to say that a great sensation was caused by these phenomena, and the natural human craving for communication with the unseen resulted in the formation of numerous circles of enquirers, amongst whom similar, and even more astonishing manifestations occurred. Movements of tables, chairs, and other articles of furniture, noises vocal, instrumental and nondescript, the passing of forms and the protrusion of hands and faces through the obscurity of the darkened rooms, were of daily or nightly experience. It was soon found that certain persons shewed more ability than others in the production of, or capacity for witnessing these wonders. The former class came to be known as mediums, while the latter though less gifted, were recognised as passive mediums, or as possessing the mediumistic temperament. From the former class were recruited the army of professional mediums, and miracle mongers, whose performances in the way of occult phenomena, to wit, raising of apparitions, exchanging signals with the dead, reading the past and foretelling the future, not to mention the frequent exhibition of topsy-turvydom in defiance of the force of gravity, and the cohesiveness of solid matter, have, in various times and places aroused the wonder of civilized man.

In the meantime, within four years of their inception, in the Fox family, the raps, or "percussive phenomena" were clearly proved to be due to the clicking sounds which the gifted young ladies of the house were capable of producing in their joints, and what one may, with due respect, call the "kitsune" theory, was in the case of the lady Foxes, disposed of by the confession of both sisters, forty years later, that the whole thing was a hoax, conceived in the days of their youth, and not intended to be taken seriously.

If, however, the jocular origin of modern spiritualism raises a smile, there is a serious side to this great movement which merits our close attention. I say great movement, because whatever views we may entertain with regard to the genuineness of its phenomena, or of the validity of its theory, it is in itself the greatest psychological event in the history of humanity. It has captivated the minds of many hundreds of thousands. It has gained adherents from amongst all classes of society and these not all ignorant nor unintelligent, but numbering in its ranks thousands of more than average culture and even a few, it must be said, a very few of the foremost minds of the age. The latter, probably, do not all adhere to the commonly accepted spiritual hypothesis, but they regard the phenomena, in selected cases, as genuine objective manifestations, and have to choose between this hypothesis and that of transcendental powers of the human mind. Such an attitude should meet with our sympathy and not with the contempt which is frequently shewn toward it. If the phenomena have an objective reality, whether resulting from the action of external intelligences operating in the unseen, or due to transcendent powers latent in the mind of man, then humanity has urgent need of this knowledge To lift the veil which shrouds our future fate, to learn from those who have gone beyond the grave, something of the great mystery of living, surely this would be a subject for earnest study and investigation. Those of us, who have lost in the grave our heart's desire, who have yearned for a "touch of the vanished hand, for a sound of the voice that is still," what would we not give if we could recall the loving and the well beloved?

It was with a sense of the supreme importance of the problem to our common humanity, and an earnest desire to examine the evidence in an impartial and liberal spirit, that, some years ago, I approached the study of spiritualistic phenomena. In giving you the result of my investigation, I ought to say that although my experience of the professional seance is not very extensive, I have witnessed some phenomena where intentional fraud was out of the question, and have made many experiments on the supposed psychic force and telephathy. In fact it is twenty years since my first experiments on the latter were published in the *Quarterly Journal of Science*, then edited by Professor Crookes, so I feel as if I were rather an old hand at this kind of enquiry. I did not then know that Professor Crookes had made numerous experiments with Home, the famous medium, and had not even heard of the wonderful "Katie King" whose alleged materialisation through the mediumship of Florence Cook is still regarded as one of the most unassailable proofs of the spiritualistic hypothesis. The experiments of Crookes were conducted on a scientific method such as one would expect from this great chemist and physicist. To test the accuracy of Home's assertion that a new form of energy, capable of producing visible motion in solid bodies, emanated from his person, Crookes tested him with a spring balance, connected to a clockwork mechanism in such a way as to register the movement of the balance on a strip of paper coated with lampblack. That definite movements took place there cannot be the slightest doubt, and that Crooks firmly believed that Home attained this result without contact, or with contact arranged in a manner which entirely obviated pressure upon the apparatus, is not open to question. It may be doubted however, whether the attitude of mind towards such singular and mysterious phenomena does not unfit one for the role of an accurate observer. The mere fact that the experiment is arranged to test the validity of a new force supposed to be of psychic origin, but hitherto unknown to mankind, the notoriety of the medium as a worker of marvels, the tendency of the human mind to form judgements in the lower or primitive strata on matters beyond ordinary experience all conspire to disturb that continuity of observation upon which alone accurate description depends. In the case of these experiments with Home, it is worthy of note that the depression of the lever attached to the balance did not always immediately follow the placing of his hand over it. It must be supposed that Home was desirous of a successful demonstration on every occasion, but the results were attained in a haphazard and irregular fashion sometimes only after long waiting, and sometimes not at all. This irregularity creates the suspicion that Home was watching for an opportunity to distract the attention of the experimenter, and there is no doubt that this state of expectation is one which, even in the absence of fraud, is favourable to the production of hallucinations. I have many times attempted this experiment, and on more than one occasion, when the feeling that results were about to be attained came over me, I found that in a moment of abstraction, when my attention was concentrated on the balance, my hand, which was originally placed on the far side of the fulcrum, had, unknown to my outer consciousness, quietly wandered inside, and was engaged in pressing down the lever.

It is, of course possible that the manifestation was of the nature of a static electrical discharge, but it is hardly likely that Crookes would have failed to detect it had it been so, or would have claimed for it an occult origin. It seems to me more likely that the experimenter, whose attention was probably divided between his registering mechanism and the hand of the medium, failed to notice the sly movements of one who is known to have been an expert conjurer, and whose personality was such as to inspire confidence in his integrity.

The well known story related, by Lord Crawford if I remember rightly, that Home was seen by several persons to float horizontally out and in of the window of a second storied room, was negatived by his cousin, who stated that while this was going on, Home was quietly sitting in a chair. Now, no one would impugn the good faith of Lord Crawford, or suggest any but an honourable desire to state exactly the truth, but the fact is that Home did not leave his chair, and there can be no question that the supposed levitation, which is said to have taken place in the moonlight, was a hallucination, induced by the suggestion of the medium.

The materialisation of "Katie King" through the agency of Florence Cook, was also the subject of much investigation, by Crookes, who, during a long period of enquiry never succeeded in discovering any fraud. This fact would be entitled to much consideration, were it not that in the case of this learned investigator there is reason to suppose that *vis à vis* such manifestations, his subliminal activity was unduly active. I give the fact, however, for what it is worth, and shall only state that this medium was detected on a later occasion in the act of personating another "spirit." Florence Marryat, whose romantic book, "There is no Death," contains an account of her experiences with "Katie King" and her medium, was equally convinced of the genuine nature of this famous materialisation, but no one can read her account without a smile. To quote only one paragraph: "on another very warm evening she (Katie King) sat on my lap amongst the audience, and I felt perspiration on her arm. This surprised me, and I asked her if, for the time being, she had the veins, nerves, and secretions of a human being, if the blood ran through her body, and she had a heart and lungs. Her answer was, 'I have everything that Florrie has!' That, I think was true."

Those of you have read the work of the well known German physicist Zöllner, which appeared in its translated form under the title "Transcendental Physics," must have felt, as I did, that here there appeared to be actual facts of sufficient weight to be ranked as serious evidence in favour of the existence of abnormal powers in man. While reading these experiments, however, I could not help wishing that the conditions under which they took place, had been more fully stated, and was also conscious that many details were omitted which might have made the results more conclusive, or the reverse. There was a looseness of description, combined with an assertiveness, almost emotional, which made one hesitate about forming a definite opinion about these manifestations. None the less these seances are highly interesting. Quite astounding feats were performed, in the presence sometimes, of other witnessess of high scientific and intellectual attainments, namely Weber, Scheibner and Fechner. These manifestations included the tying of knots on a length of string, the end having been previously tied and sealed, the materialisation of hands on, and around the table, slate writing (a specialty) the levitation of the medium and the movement of objects in his neighbourhood, and especially in contact with him. A tall order indeed. It reads like a page out of the "Thousand and One Nights," or "through the looking glass house." Mr. Slade, floating about in the darkness near the ceiling of the room, might have inspired those beautiful and touching lines:—

> Twinkle, twinkle little bat
> How I wonder what your at
> Up above the world so high
> Like a tea tray in the sky.

According to Jastrow, it appears that Zöllner was not in a fit state to carry out such experiments with calm and impartial judgement. In his book, entitled "Fact and Fable in Psychology," he states: "After all the prominence which has been given to the Zöllner sittings and the importance attached to them by reason of the eminence of the participants, it is somewhat unexpected to read in the report of a reliable observer who interviewed Zöllner's associates, that 'of the four eminent men whose names have made famous the investigation, there is reason to believe one, Zöllner, was of unsound mind at the time, and anxious for an experimental demonstration of an already accepted hypothesis (the fourth dimension of space) another, Fechner, was partly blind, and believed because of Zöllner's observations: a third, Schiebner, was also afflicted with defective vision, and not entirely satisfied in his own mind as to the phenomena: and a fourth, Weber, was advanced in age, and did not even recognise the disabilities of his associates.' None knew anything about conjuring, and deservedly honoured as these men were in their own specialties, they were certainly not fitted to compete with a professional like Slade."

Slate-writing, formerly the *piece de resistance* of many professional mediums, is not so much in vogue now-a-days, as it has fallen into disrepute, on account of frequent exposure. Slade, who confessed to a medical friend of mine that he was a woman in disguise, was perhaps the best known exponent of the art, although by no means the most expert. Indeed, probably none of the professionals ever attained to the perfection attained by Mr. Davey, the great amateur, whose slate-writing seances, performed without the glamour which attends an alleged spiritualistic exhibition, are fully recorded in the "Proceedings" of the Psychical Society of Great Britain. Invitations were issued on the understanding that a written account would be handed in to

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Mr. Davies within a stipulated time, I forget whether it was twenty-four or forty-eight hours. Those invited were simply asked to witness something curious, and no reference was made to spiritualism. The best summary of the proceedings is that given by Mr. Podmore which I shall now quote, with the remark that each statement conveys the impression which the seance made upon a particular witness of it: "Writing between a conjurer's own slates in a way quite inexplicable to the conjurer: writing upon slates locked and carefully guarded by witnesses: writing upon slates held by the witnesses firmly against the under surface of the table: writing upon slates held by the witnesses above the table: answers to questions written secretly in locked slates: correct quotations appearing on guarded slates from books chosen by the witnesses at random, and sometimes mentally, the books not touched by the 'medium,' writing in different colours mentally chosen by the witnesses, covering the whole side of one of their own slates: message in languages unknown to the "medium", including a message in German, for which only a mental request had been made; and a letter in Japanese in a double slate locked and sealed by the witness: the date of a coin placed by the witness in a sealed envelope correctly written in a locked slate upon the table, the envelope remaining intact: a word written between slates screwed together, and also corded and sealed together, the word being chosen by the witness after the slates were fastened by himself, etc. etc. And yet though 'autographic' fragments of pencil were 'heard' weaving mysterious messages between and under and over slates, and fragments of chalk were seen moving about under a tumbler placed above the table in full view, none of the sitters witnessed that best phenomenon, Mr. Davey writing." Mr. Davey kept careful notes of each sitting, so that he was enabled to compare the written description of each visitor with actual occurences of the seance, and he was thus in a position to know exactly where and how the error in observation and in description took place. The result proves how very imperfect are the powers of human observation, under circumstances of this nature, and how treacherous the memory of details when an atmosphere of mystery pervades the investigation. It warns us also to avoid placing implicit reliance upon after descriptions of these and kindred marvels, without in any way reflecting upon the general trustworthiness of the narrator. Davey, who worked his marvels by sleight of hand, and the adroit misdirection of the attention of his visitors, was never actually seen to change the slates, or to write upon them. Slade, Eglinton, the accomplice of Blavatsky, Patterson, all have been detected over and over again, in the most bare-faced fraud, and this exposure has been so general on the part of the slate writing mediums that, as I have said, this special performance is quite out of fashion. Indeed it may be said of both slate writing and materialising mediums, that very few have escaped detection at some time during their career. When the professional medium gets over his surprise at the gullibility of his regular constituents, he becomes less wary, and in a moment of over confidence he exposes himself to observation, or is caught in a snare laid by some sceptic. Painful explanations follow, and it is astonishing how these are accepted by the majority of his, or her, clients. Thus it is now accepted as an axiom amongst the ardent believers in spiritualism, that the materialised spirit is compounded of particles taken from the body of the medium, while in trance, assisted by particles from the bodies of the spectators. If the medium is caught outside the cabinet, he or she is said to incur great danger, inasmuch as the remaining particles in the cabinet are thus forced to join those outside, and the shock thus produced by the clashing together of the molecules, I presume, is attended with great danger to the life of the medium. Nothing is said about the heat that would be generated by such a concussion, which does not seem to be enough to raise a blush. It would not be at all surprising if the medium, during a long course of successful impersonation, became impressed with the idea that some emanation, or occult influence from the assembled spectators, clothed him with the semblance of their dead friends and relatives. That, I think, is a possible explanation of the enthusiasm which sometimes seems to cover both the medium and his dupes. The suggestion which, in the dimly lighted or almost darkened seance chamber, is conveyed by the medium to the expectant visitors, reacts, through their responding emotion and exuberance of fancied identification, upon his own imagination, and he sees in himself, the nucleus of another personality. To this extent we may apply the saying of Paracelsus, that Logos creates what it affirms.

Before closing this brief account of the marvels of the professional medium, I ought to mention the name of Eusapia Paladino, perhaps the most interesting figure that has appeared on the stage of spiritualism. An account of her mediumship is contained in "L'exteriorisation de la motricite" by Albert de Rochas, from which, and from the reports of the Psychical Society, I glean the following: She was born, in a family of obscure peasants, in the neighbourhood of Naples. At the age of eight years, she was subject to a hallucination, and at fourteen the first movements of objects in proximity were noticed, with other so called mediumistic phenomena. For about eight years she abstained from these manifestations, and she was twenty-two years old, when in the state of trance, she was possessed by the spirit of "John King" said to be the brother of "Katie King," the "Katie King" who sat on the lap of Florence Marryat on that warm summer evening, and allowed the perspiration to materialise on her arm. Eusapia has been subjected to close scrutiny by many observers, amongst whom are such well known names as Lombroso, Bianchi, Schiaparelli, Lodge and Richet. The principal manifestations seem to be the levitation of tables and other objects in her vicinity, the materialisation of hands in the dark, which left impressions on sculptor's clay, which are said to have differed from casts of her own hands, the levitation of her medium, the appearance of luminous forms, and the hearing of strange sounds. She was examined by a committee of the British society of psychical research at Cambridge in 1893, and detected in several fraudulent attempts to produce phenomena. It was explained that the English climate was inimical to such manifestations, but she has been caught in places where the climate is not so critical, and I think we may conclude that "John King" is not a reliable character. Logically, it is of course perfectly correct to say that the fact of certain manifestations having proved fraudulent does not disprove the genuineness of others. Still, in dealing with these unusual phenomena, it is quite logical to consider them from the point of view whence we regard all other occurrences, and it will presently be shewn that we take most of our perceptions of things on trust, without seeing them in their entire detail. This being the case, it would be fatal to these perceptions if this confidence were destroyed, and we would naturally stop all further drafts on the bank of our imagination. So with regard to these manifestations, while admitting that some might possibly be of a genuine nature, we, knowing that vulgar motives of gain and notoriety actuate the professional medium, will be chary of giving them our credence. At the same time it may be admitted that professional mediums exist who are not without belief in their powers, especially those who are known as trance mediums, and possibly even such as Eusapia may sometimes lose their personality in a hypnotic state and act subconsciously, without a waking memory of their actions. It is known that in the hypnotic condition, the senses may be very much more acute that normal, and possibly the co-ordinated movements of the muscles which are guided by these senses, may likewise become so nimble and alert, that the difficulty of detecting them is enormously increased. This, I think may be the reason why ordinary vigilance frequently fails to trace these movements to their real source.

I am the more inclined to think this, because the problem of the amateur medium is one which cannot be always solved by a declaration of fraud, even where materialising phenomena are in question. Take the case of the Rev. Stainton Moses. The astounding manifestations achieved by this gentleman, though only witnessed in private by three or four persons, became known to the outer world before his death, and were of such an extraordinary nature that some cynical person asked "Where was Moses when the candle went out"? The classical answer to this question, however is not entirely apropos, as according to the testimony of Dr. and Mrs. Spier, the phenomena were frequently carried on in a kind of luminous atmosphere which filled the room, after the candle was out, or gathered into phosphorescent forms, now assuming the shape of a ball again that of a cross, illuminated letters, etc. Voices were heard, exquisite music and delicious perfumes filled the air, while a concourse of spirits materialised on a scale so lavish that the mention of it would turn a professional medium green with envy. There are some discrepancies in the accounts of the Spier family, which do not always tally with the diary of Stainton Moses, published after his death. As we have seen, this is to be expected in dealing with events of a weird or emotional kind and does not invalidate their claim to be considered conscientious witnesses. Had there been a conspiracy between Stainton Moses and his "circle" to create a public sensation, it would have been an easy matter to make one account entirely corroborate the other. We have still however to face the following questions: was this retired clergyman an intentional impostor, seeking notoriety? was he a crank who passed, on slight provocation into a state of divided consciousness, and in that condition "personally conducted" a ghost performance, without memory of it in his waking state? Was the whole thing a hallucination of the Spier family induced by the suggestion that Moses was in a trance? Or were the phenomena genuine materialisations of the dead?

The first supposition is unlikely, and the last cannot be maintained on the strength of any testimony that has yet been brought forward in favour of these, or kindred phenomena. In the whole range of spiritualistic manifestations which have taken place during the past fifty years, there is not one which is inexplicable on the supposition of either conscious fraud, divided consciousness, or hallucination. Amidst all the millions of messages which have been given out as communications from the "other side," whether obtained through the trance medium, from the voices of so-called materialised spirits or from table rapping, or other percussive sounds, there is not one which bears internal evidence of other than human origin. It is to be admitted that certain statement or replies have coincided with certain known facts, and those who look for causal relations in what are probably chance coincidences, may require some such hypothesis as telepathy to explain them. The Psychical Society has collected a very considerable body of evidence in favour of telepathy, and certain facts have been brought forward, which, if correctly stated, require such an hypothesis for their explanation. We know that the brain is the seat of electro-chemical energy and of what is called nerve motion. The recent discoveries in electrical radiation, practically illustrated by the Marconi system of wireless telegraphy, furnish an analogy, which to some minds no doubt, appeals with irresistable force. Still I must ask you to consider that analogy can never do more than lend an air of probability to a hypothesis already based on fact, and that telepathy is not yet sufficiently grounded in experimental demonstration to benefit by a parallel illustration of this kind.

If the materialisations of professional and amateur mediums were actuated, as they claim to be, by the minds or souls of those who have died, we should expect to derive some reliable information from their communications. Has one sentence been uttered which sheds a ray of light beyond the grave? Not one. We hear of mansions, of ladders of light, of the blue flowers which grow in the other land, between the intervals of overturning furniture; and we are treated to gushes of maudlin sentiment and dreary platitudes; but when we press for definite information about the future state, there is always the same reply "Oh it is so mysterious."

I do not think that Stainton Moses was guilty of deliberate imposture, at any rate that supposition is not necessary in order to explain the occurrences at his seances, any more than is a belief in the reality of the phenomena. To most of you it may seem a still more absurd proposition that we human beings are unconscious of most of our thoughts and actions, and I am sure that I would exhaust your remaining stock of patience were I to do more than point out that we do sometimes have ideas, and perform acts of which we are not conscious.

Instances of this are to be found in dreams, in reverie, in crystal-gazing, in automatic writing, and in the hypnotic state, and a little digging below the surface reveals the fact that the ordinary waking state is not free from unconscious thoughts and actions. Holding as I do the belief that consciousness is the unity of differences, and may be regarded from our standpoint as existing in varying degrees of unity, from the simplest chemical combination up to the Universal Mind of Cosmos, I ought to state that the degree of consciousness of which we are now speaking is the consciousness of our normal waking personality. In our waking moments this personality is made up of a series of associated memories, which are linked together to form a chain of waking experience. In sleep this chain ceases to be formed, but it is not broken, it merely halts until fresh impressions from our surroundings perpetuate its existence as a conscious personality.

Sleep, the waking personality may persist as a spectator of other scenes, derived, wholly or piece-meal, from our previons surroundings, but it is a matter of common experience that in dreams, we do not always retain our waking personality. Perhaps the most fantastical instance is recorded by De Quincey, where he dreamed that he was an oak, that had reared its head for centuries, while the moss grew upon it and generations passed away under its shade. This alteration of personality is so common in dreams, that it is needless to dwell upon it, but it also occurs, I will not say in the waking state, but under conditions that are not far removed from it, such as hypnotism and reverie. In the waking state this tendency to form other personalities does not obtrude itself, but it may be detected in what is known as automatic writing, which any one may become quite expert in with a little practice. A pencil, held in the hand, is placed on a piece of paper, and we try to abstract our thoughts from the hand. Slight movements follow which are recorded on the paper, and if the tendency to the formation of a secondary personality is strong, after a little while, words, and even sentences will be written down. These sentences are governed by an intelligence which is not that of the ordinary waking personality, and it is this subconscious intelligence which works the wonders of the amateur spiritualistic seance.

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Rather than think that Stainton Moses was a deliberate cheat and impostor, I believe that he belonged to that class of persons, call them imaginative, mediumistic, hysterical, or what you please, who are capable, by a process of auto-suggestion, of passing spontaneously into a condition where the waking personality is overshadowed by another, or others. In that condition, he may have personated the dead, or De Quincey's oak for that matter, without the slightest after knowledge of it.

If this be the case, however, why was he not detected? Night after night the Spier family were around him, deeply impressed by the unearthly sights which they witnessed, and apparently unable to discover any fraud. Neither was Crookes with Florence Cook, Zollner with Slade, nor Wallace with a host of rank impostors. The same glamour which covers the performances prevents their detection. Why? Obviously because the spectators are themselves in a more or less subconscious condition. They do not, like Stainton Moses have the personality to *do*, but the personality to *see* these wonders.

The problem of hallucination will occupy us but a few minutes longer.

The prevailing idea, that we see with our eyes, hear with our ears, smell with our nose, taste with our tongue, and feel with our skin, represents a small part only of the truth about our sensations. It would be more correct to say "through" than "with," for in truth these sense organs are little more than the channels by which the impressions of the outer world reach the percipient brain. It is true that on the sense organs the wave motions of the outer world are transformed into another form of motion before they reach the brain. We know also that fairly correct images of our surroundings are imprinted on the sensitive retina, which forms the back curtain of the eye, and bears the same relation to it that the photographic plate does to the camera; but there is no reason to suppose that the image formed on the retina is transmitted to the seeing region of the brain. The wave motion which actually passed along the nerve to the seeing centre, probably writes an ideograph, or analogue upon that centre, but of the process involved, we are entirely ignorant. We only know that something gets there which is capable of continued existence.

Some years ago, I put forward the idea that this something might consist in the transformation of the wave movement in the nerve to a whirlpool or vortex movement in the brain, and thus acquire a permanence which is denied to wave motion in itself. I sought in this manner for a basis upon which to build a conception of a mind or soul whose unity of differences might exist as conscious individuality even after the dissolution of the physical body. You will understand that it is a mere speculation based on the fact that the wave motions of the outer world do become permanent within us, and, like the hypothesis of telepathy, has no further support than the shifting sands of analogy.

It is quite certain however, that, between the *something*, let us call it a vortex motion, or what you like, that is implanted in the brain, and the corresponding idea or picture of which we become conscious, there is a difference of level so great that the human mind is utterly incapable of ever connecting the two. All that we can truthfully say is, that various forms of wave motion strike our organs of sense; that from thence corresponding but modified impulses are transmitted to the brain, and that simultaneously a conscious idea or picture arises *within* us. The knowledge that the object seen is *outside* of us, is not conveyed by the mere vision of it, but is an act of judgement on our part, and involves the uprising within us of other ideas which we have formerly associated with this act of vision, namely of touch, temperature, taste, smell or hearing. Even with regard to the visual act alone, much depends upon former associations. You will notice in this diagram, (No. 1) that the crosses on the top and sides appear rectangular, when in reality they are oblique figures. So strong is the tendency however, to view things in perspective, that it is quite easy for the mind's eye to view an oblique cross as a rectangular one. That you may now do by fixing the attention on any of these crosses, which I have placed as far as possible from the figure shewing them in perspective. Here again is an outline drawing of a flight of steps leading upward from right to left, but the moment we fix our attention on the right hand corner B, and imagine it to be solid, the whole thing turn upside down, and we find ourselves looking at an inverted series of steps, which is a condition of things rarely seen, even after a St. Andrews Ball. The next diagram, designed I believe by Zöllner, shews two lines which appear to approach each other at one end, but as a matter of fact they are parallel lines, and the illusion is due to the suggestion conveyed by the short crossing lines. In a similar manner the distance from A to B in this figure, seems longer than from B to C, because it is filled space, while the other is empty.

Many other illustrations might be given, but they would only confirm, what is after all a matter of daily experience, that we have a greater tendency to see objects that are in our heads, than those which are unfamiliar to us. How often do we fancy that we see in the face of a stranger, a likeness to some one we know? How often do we imagine that we have seen an acquaintance in the street, when no such person has been there? I have even seen an elderly gentleman seize an old lady from a railway train and give her a hearty kiss under the mistaken impression that she was his mother-in-law, whom he adored, but could not identify in broad daylight. When mistakes such as these are of daily occurrence, it is not to be wondered at that the state of expectation induced by the spiritualistic seance should result in striking instances of mistaken identify. Dr. Furness, the chairman of the Seybert commission appointed to investigate the phenomena of spiritualism says, "Before me as far as I can detect, stands the very medium herself, in shape, size, form and feature true to a line, and yet, one after another honest men and women at my side, within ten minutes of each other assert that she is the absolute counterpart of their nearest and dearest friend; nay, that she is that friend, . . . can it be that the faculty of observation is rare, and that our features are really vague and misty to our best friends?"

The explanation, I think, lies rather in the fact that in any act of perception there is a two-sided process, one consisting in the reception of impressions from without, and the other, which is equally important, in the revival of impressions, from within the brain. The new impressions are generally supposed to be more vivid than the revived ones, and thus are judged to be outside of us, in this way enabling us to distinguish between our ideas and the realities of our surroundings. This is the view held by Herbert Spencer and by some psychologists of a very different school, but it does not cover all the ground. It is true that the more vivid our ideas are, the more they seem to be projected from us, and to assume the place of external realities. On the other hand, it is a matter of daily experience that we are not conscious of more than a small fraction of the environment with which we are in contact, while it is equally certain that all our ideas, however faint, appear to be outside, instead of inside our heads. We have only to shut our eyes, and try to recall any object to the mind's eye to assure ourselves of this fact. In a darkened room these ideas are, relatively, more vivid, because they are no longer held in check by the more active incoming impressions, and by a little practice they may become so realistic that they are not easily distinguished from the things of the outer world.

I need scarcely remind you that such practice is apt to lead to an unsound condition of mind and should never be indulged in.

It is the common belief that a hallucination is a rare and untoward phenomena, but from what has been said, you will have no difficulty in understanding that the word "hallucination" does not represent an isolated and mysterious fact, but is simply an idea which has assumed a relatively active and vivid aspect. The only difference between an object seen, an illusion, and a hallucination is only one of degree, and in the spiritualistic seance all the conditions are present which are favourable to the production of the last.

In this necessarily brief and imperfect outline of the phenomena of spiritualism and their explanation, I have not ventured to touch upon the possibilities of a future existence, but only to shew that the evidence which has been brought forward in favour of a return of the dead to this earth, is either inadequate or irrelevant. In the beginning, I pointed out that the life forms of this planet do not enjoy an individual monopoly of the matter which builds them up, but have utilised the same material as common property for untold ages, and will continue to do so. Although the process of growth in some forms of life, such as the mushroom, is more rapid than that of others, such as man, there is not one solitary instance known to science of a fully organised being, suddenly coming into existence by the attraction of haphazard molecules, from other objects, living or dead. That this can happen in defiance of the known laws of physics and chemistry and contrary to all knowledge regarding the processes of biology, would require some stronger proof than is afforded by capering tables, furtive movements of furniture and alleged materialisations in darkened rooms under circumstances which make for imposture and hallucination.

But could such things be, they would, in the absence of intelligent communication, fail to connect with the proper conception of spiritualism, inasmuch as these manifestations belong to a gross and material order of things which cannot be given a spiritual interpretation.

I take it that the word spiritualism implies the existence within us of that spirit of living thought which knows and wills, and which is not merely an association of wave motions from the outer world, but is the conscious parallel to this association, at an utterly different level. In this sense I am a spiritualist, but to go beyond this fact of consciousness and either assume its existence beyond the grave or to deny its immortality is a task beyond my powers.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

A CORRECTION.

London, March 6.

In a previous telegram [referring to the New York Cotton Exchange] read 800,000 sales not dollars.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

Mr. Brodrick, Secretary for War, announced in the House the appointment of a Royal Commission to enquire into the condition of the Volunteer forces.

MILITARY DEFENCE.

Mr. Balfour moved that the growing needs of the Empire require the establishment of a permanent defence committee, the results of its work to be handed to the Government, so that thus may be secured continuity of policy hitherto non-existent. The motion was received with enthusiasm.

The House adopted the Army Estimates, amounting to £34,245,000 for 235,761 men exclusive of India.

THE POPE.

The Pope is suffering from a cold and has been ordered to take complete rest.

SOMALILAND.

The column advancing on the Galkawa wells has arrived unopposed at [a word mutilated in transmission] where the lines of communication end.

THE POPE RECOVERS.

Shanghai, March 7.

The Pope has recovered.

THE BRITISH ARMY QUESTION.

Earl Carrington has moved in the House of Lords for the reconsideration of the Army Scheme. In view of the experiences in South Africa, he advocated making South Africa a military base.

The motion was defeated by 51 votes to 15.

NEW BRITISH NAVAL BASE.

Mr. Balfour, the Leader of the House of Commons, has announced in the House that a new naval base will be established at Saint Margaret's Hope, on the north side of the Firth of Forth, near Queensferry.

RUSSIAN SPIES AT ADEN.

A Russian naval officer has been arrested while spying the British fortifications at Aden near the key of the defence wherefrom the concealed batteries are worked.

The British officers escorted the prisoner aboard the Russian warship, where he was released.

The British garrison is intensely irritated at the event, the Russian officers having been treated as distinguished visitors.

THE MACEDONIAN REFORMS.

London, March 8.

The *Standard's* Constantinople correspondent has interviewed the Grand Vizier of Turkey and learns from him that the reforms in Macedonia will be executed to the letter. A new and selected staff is being gradually formed. New roads are in course of making; and German officers are re-organizing the gendarmerie. Austria has obtained a Consulate at Mitrovitza where previously only Russia had a Consulate.

THE HARNESSING OF THE NILE.

On the 7th inst. the Khedive opened the barrage at Zista midway between Cairo and the sea. It cost half a million sterling and

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forms the complement of the barrages at Assiout and Assouan.

THE QUEENSFERRY NAVAL BASE.

It is understood that the preliminary expenditure on the Queensferry naval base will be 2½ million pounds sterling, which includes the Arsenal and the fortifications as well as extensive stores for war material. This step has created a disagreeable impression in Germany where it is regarded as a countermove to German naval activity.

CANADA AND THE ATLANTIC SERVICE.

London, March 9.

The Dominion Government is inviting tenders for a fast Atlantic service of steamers having a speed of 18 to 21 knots. The vessels are to be British owned and must not call at foreign ports.

BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES.

London, March 10.

The British Naval Estimates show a gross total of £35,836,841, being an increase of £3,202,000, mainly for shipbuilding, repairs, and materials. The programme includes the commencement of 3 new battleships, 4 first class cruisers, 3 protected cruisers, 4 scouts, 15 destroyers, and 10 submarines. The establishment of officers and men is fixed at 127,100, being an increase of 4,600.

BOERS REFUSING TO TAKE THE OATH.

London, March 11.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said that 800 Boer prisoners in India refuse to take the oath or make the declaration of allegiance. General Botha is sending a messenger to explain to them the desirability of making the declaration.

SOMALILAND.

The Mullah has fled to Galadi, 50 miles from Galkaya. Only the Scouts engaged the enemy as he retired before the advance of the British column. The Boer brigade did good work.

NEW NAVAL SQUADRON.

Lord Selborne has decided to sever West Africa from the Cape Station, and to form a new squadron, called the South Atlantic fleet, for service along South-east American coasts.

THE BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES.

The heavy increase in the Naval Estimates is the universal topic of discussion. A disposition is, however, displayed to acquiesce in the demand and treat the increase as inevitable, combined as it is in the public mind with forebodings concerning the instability of the prevailing armed peace. This condition of affairs, it is felt, necessitates such sacrifices from the nation.

ADEN.

The *Daily Telegraph's* Aden correspondent says that the situation in the hinterland is less satisfactory. The Resident proceeded to Atdhala, where the boundary commission is at work, but when within ten miles of that place had to withdraw to the coast owing to the opposition of the tribal chiefs.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN ILL.

London, March 12.

Mr. Chamberlain has been laid up at Madeira for four days suffering from gout. He is now better.

OIL TRAIN CATASTROPHE.

An oil train was wrecked and its freight was ignited at Olean, New York. A crowd was watching the blaze when a terrific explosion occurred which deluged a number with liquid fire. Scores were killed and forty were injured.

BRITISH PILGRIMS AND THE POPE.

A party of British pilgrims, consisting of four bishops, and 62 delegates including several peers, all headed by the Duke of Norfolk, has presented to the Pope an address of devotion.

THE ARMY VOTE.

The House of Commons has agreed to the vote of 235,761 men for the Army.

DEATH OF FORMER BRITISH CONSUL.

Mr. Patrick J. Hughes, former British Consul at Shanghai, is dead.

RECALCITRANT PRISONERS.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain states that at present there are thirty prisoners in Ceylon who refuse to take the oath or the declaration of allegiance. They will not be sent home unless they do. Any applications to go home or to other countries will be considered.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

BATTLE IN MOROCCO.

Saigon, March 8.

Official advices from Tangiers announce that the imperial forces, after a bloody combat on the 26th of February, beat the pretender, who took refuge in the neighbourhood of Tetuan.

COLONEL TOUTÉE.

Saigon, March 10.

The newspapers say that Colonel Toutée—formerly an explorer in Africa—will replace M. Lagarde as Minister Plenipotentiary in Ethiopia.

THE HUMBERT SCANDAL.

Maria Daurignac has been set at liberty provisionally.

MACEDONIA.

The movements of troops are becoming accentuated in Salonica. Numerous soldiers coming from Asia are sent to the Bulgarian frontier.

ADVISER TO THE KING OF SIAM.

Saigon, March 11.

Mr. Strobel, Professor of Law at the University of Harvard, has been selected as legal adviser to the King of Siam.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

BRITISH MILITARY ESTIMATES.

London, March 10.

The estimates for the British navy and army for the coming fiscal year have been submitted to the House of Commons, the total amount being £74,000,000. The navy estimates exceed by more than £3,000,000 the previous year's. Earl Selborne, First Lord of the Admiralty, said it was the intention of the Government to employ private dockyards as the Government dockyards' could not overtake the work; and explained that three battleships, four armoured cruisers, thirty-two torpedo-boats and other craft are under construction, and that the Admiralty has decided to continue to use the water tube system of boilers. Mr. Brodrick, Secretary of State for War, explained the proposed reform in the training of officers.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION.

Vesuvius is in eruption.

MACEDONIAN REFORM.

The Turkish Government has employed German officers to organize the gendarmerie in Macedonia.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

London, March 10.

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs said in a speech that it is the intention of the Government to make a friendly settlement with Russia about the Persian question and other matters.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich 1	Sa. Mar. 14
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 2	M. Mar. 16
Europe	M. M. Co.	Sydney 3	W. Mar. 18
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Olympia 4	Th. Mar. 19
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 5	Th. Mar. 19
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 6	Su. Mar. 22
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Lyra	M. Mar. 23
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Mar. 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	F. Mar. 27
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tenyo Maru 7	F. Mar. 27
America	P. M. Co.	[illegible]	M. Mar. 30
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. April 2
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. April 7
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 16

1 Left Nagasaki on the 12th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 11th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 10th inst.
4 Left Tacoma on the 28th ult.
5 Left Hongkong on the 11th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.
7 Left Seattle on the 10th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa. Mar. 14
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	W. Mar. 18
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Saikio Maru	Th. Mar. 19
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Th. Mar. 19
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. Mar. 20
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Mar. 21
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kamakura Maru	Sa. Mar. 21
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Mar. 24
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	Tu. Mar. 24
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Lyra	Tu. Mar. 24
Europe	M. M. Co.	Sydney	F. Mar. 27
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. Mar. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. Mar. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Tu. Mar. 31
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. April 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. April 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 16

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 6th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th March, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Nestor, British steamer, 2,417, A. D. Baker, 6th March,—Liverpool via ports, and Kuchinotsu, 3rd March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 6th March,—Shanghai via ports, 28th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, C. K. McIntosh, 6th March,—London via ports, and Kobe, 5th March, General.—Cornes & Co.

Ontpenta, British steamer, 3,420, D. F. Lee, 6th March,—Rangoon via Singapore, 4th Feb., Rice. —Samuel Samuel & Co.

Andalusia, German steamer, 2,499, von Doehren, 7th March,—Hamburg via ports, and Nagasaki, 7th March, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Indrasamha, British steamer, 2367, R. J. Craven, 7th March,—Portland, Oregon, 11th Feb., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rossija, Russian steamer, 1,374, G. Stenius, 7th March.—Saigon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Kamor, Norwegian steamer, 824, F. Muus, 7th March, —Port Arthur, 28th Feb., General.—Grosser & Co.

Achilles, British steamer, 4,483, O. P. Williams, 7th March,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 6th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shawmut, American steamer, 6,195, Wm. Smith, 7th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 6th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 8th March.,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 7th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,881, E. W. Haswell, 8th March,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, and Kobe, 7th March, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 8th March,—Hongkong via ports, 7th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bombay Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,830, T. Murai, 9th March,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 7th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 10th March,—Vancouver, B.C., 24th Feb., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, W. Bainbridge, 10th March,—London via ports, and Kobe 9th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 11th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 21st Feb., Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

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Rugby, British steamer, 2,110, Sheppard, 10th March, Rangoon, Rice.—Otto Reimers & Co.
Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 12th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 10th Mar., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Calabria, Italian cruiser, 2,200, Capt. Costiglia, 12th March,—Jaluit.

DEPARTURES.

Mars, British steamer, 2,469, Wm. Curtis, 6th March, —Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Ningchow, British steamer, 4,879, James Riley, 6th March,—Kobe and ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1882, S. Kawamuro, 6th March,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hamburg, German steamer, 6,597, E. Burmeister, 7th March,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,911, N. Trennt, 7th March,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 7th March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Bamberg, German steamer, 2,660, Kirchner, 7th March,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Newton Hall, British steamer, 2,675, A. Hostler, 7th March,—Moji via Wada Point, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Nestor, British steamer, 2,417, A. D. Baker, 7th March,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 7th March,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Shawmut, American steamer, 6,195, Wm. Smith, 8th March,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Kamor, Norwegian steamer, 824, F. Muus, 8th March,—Kobe, General.—Grosser & Co.
Nippon, Austrian steamer, 3,999, R. Klausberger, 8th March,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.
Achilles, British steamer, 4,483, O. P. Williams, 10th March,—Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 10th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 10th March,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 10th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Benalder, British steamer, 1,958, C. K. McIntosh, 10th March,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.
Malta, British steamer, 3,960, Claude L. W. Field, 11th March,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Andalusia, German steamer, 3,499, von Doehren, 11th March,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Bombay Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,830, T. Murai, 11th March,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Obra, British steamer, 3,496, T. Johnston, 12th Mar., —Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Rossija, Russian steamer, 1,364, G. Stenius, 12th March,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 12th March,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. G. C. Hewes and 2 children, Rev. F. R. Feet, Mrs. J. E. Woodward, amah and three children, Capt. W. B. Fawckner, R.N., Capt. Grahame and valet, Mrs. Grahame and maid, and Miss Roosen Runge, in cabin; 68, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Ise Miye, in cabin; Mr. Tong Yug su, and 2 Chinese, 33 Japanese, 15 Chinese, and 3 Russians, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumano Maru*, from Melbourne via ports:—Mrs. R. J. Simpson, Mrs. R. Hart, Mr. Poolman, Miss B. Hooper, Mr. H. A. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. H. Nelson, Mrs. H. Thomson, Mr. E. Bentley, Mr. T. Carter, Rev. Dr. Gallagher, Miss Armstrong, Rev. Dr. J. Higgins, Rev. and Mrs. Goodrich, Dr. Knaggs, Mr. A. Marks, Miss Poolman, Mr. E. Matsuyama, Mr. G. G. Crespin, Mr. A. F. Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. S. Wand, Mr. J. A. Brown, Mr. S. Pile, Rev. Dean Slattery, Mr. W. D. Armstrong, Mr. K. Iriye, Mr. E. Sariano, and Mr. J. C. Wilkinson, in cabin; Mr. T. de los Reyes, Mr. Mak Kemg Lop, Mr. Lo Kwan Chui, Mr. Mak Fung Son, Mr. Mak Chun San, Mr. T. Hoshino, Mr. G. Nomura, Mrs. M. Nomura, and Mrs. C. Takayashi, in second class; 2 Japanese, and 13 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Iyo Maru*, from Hongkong, via ports:—Mr. W. McMillan, in cabin; Mrs. K. Hiroki, in second class; 12, in steerage. In Transit.—Rev. J. Brownton, Mr. Rene Devink, Mr. M. L. Foster, and Mrs. H. F. Gibben, in cabin; Mr. McPherson, Mr S. Hattori, Mr. and Mrs. Suphernoff, Mr. Emanuel, Mr. Y. Yamaguchi, Mr. S. Otori, and Mr. I. Nagashima, in second class; 126, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Allen, Mr. K. Blickle, Mr. S. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. J. McIsaac, Mr. W. H. Murray Campbell, Mr. H. C. Pearce, and Miss Riley, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Hamburg*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. C. S. Averill, Mr. R. Seel, Mr. W. B. Scott, Mrs. Pope, Mr. and Mrs. R. Pfister, 2 children and amah, Mrs. Strome, Misses Strome (2) and Chinese servant, Mrs. Key, Mr. and Mrs. M. de Oliveira de Lima and native amah, Dr. T. Sato, Mr. W. A. Panoff, Mr. Guseff, Mr. Barovkoff, and Mr. Bliesenick, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Awa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. M. Mishima, Major T. Nara, and Staff Paymaster I. Minuma, in cabin; Mr. W. Nakamizo, Mr. Kissumail, Mr. A. Kumamoto, Mr. Auguste La Boulanger, Mr. S. Tasaki, Mr. S. Miura, Mr. T. Hirao, Mr. Y. Okada, Mr. C. Inagaki, Mr. M. Hosomi, in second class; 26, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. James Blake, Mrs. James Blake and child, Capt. W. B. Fawckner, R.N., Rev. F. R. Felt, M.D., Rev. Geo. C. Hewes, Mrs. Geo. C. Hewes and 2 children, and Mr. R. H. Muntz, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. R. E. Abenheim, Mr. Paul Ancel, Mrs. C. M. Bauer, Hon. J. R. B. Balfour, Mrs. N. F. Bayley, Miss J. Bayley, Mr. W. T. Beardsley, Mr. Carl Bodiker, Mr. H. Braman, Mrs. H. Braman, Mr. B. Braymer, Mr. F. W. Bryan, Mrs. F. W. Bryan, Mr. R. T. Bryan, Mr. C. W. Callahan, Mr. Allan Cameron, Mrs. Allan Cameron, Miss E. W. Case, Mr. J. F. Chang, Mrs. J. F. Chang, H. E. Sir Chentung Liang Cheng, Chinese Minister to the United States, Mr. Y. W. Cheong, Mr. Chang Cheung, Mr. S. T. Chu, Mr. C. C. Chu, Mr. B. S. Chung, Mrs. J. L. Cowan and servant, Master J. S. Cowan, Miss Margaret Cowan, Mr. D. C. Crowell, Mr. W. Delany, Mr. Jos. Downey, Mrs. Jos. Downey, Com. Drake, U.S.N., Mrs. Drake, Mr. R. W. Duke, Mrs. H. Erlanger, Miss Erlanger, Mr. Chun Fai, Sen. P. L. Flanigan, Mr. G. G. S. Forsyth, Mr. Y. K. Fung, Miss Ella Gardner, Mrs. A. Gartley, Paymaster M. R. Goldborough, U.S.N., Mr. H. Hohenthal, Miss Helen L. Holden, Mr. H. I. Holm, Mr. W. A. Hones, Mr. Liang Hsin, Mr. Jen Huan, Col. Geo. A. Hughes, Judge Ide, Mr. P. C. Jones, Mrs. P. C. Jones, Miss Alice H. Jones, Mr. R. J. Keeler, Mr. J. Kern, Mr. K. Kishi, Mr. S. Kitamura, Mr. S. Kojima, Mr. Kostemacher, Mr. H. Krusi, Mr. Yung Kwai, Miss Yung Kwai, Mr. Sam. Lamb, Jr., Mr. A. Laumann, Mr. K. C. Lee, Mr. F. H. Li, Mr. K. P. Li, Mrs. B. A. Li, Miss Y. Li, Mr. K. C. Liang, Mr. P. K. Liang, Mrs. P. K. Liang, Master C. Liang, Master T. Liang, Mr. L. K. Liang, Mr. W. C. Liang, Mrs. Liao and 2 children, Mr. S. C. Liu, Mr. K. C. Liu, Com. A. Marix, U.S.N., Miss Marix, Miss M. E. Melton, Mrs. C. E. Meyer, Mr. A. Mitchell, Mr. P. Moeller, Mr. Yung Pang, Mr. E. J. Parrish, Mrs. E. J. Parrish, Miss L. V. Parrish, Miss F. D. Patton, Capt. F. Postniker, Mr. G. W. Playfair, Mrs. G. W. Playfair, Lieut. C. B. M. Pingle, R.N., Mr. F. Reinecke, Dr. D. W. Rulison, Consul M. Saito, Miss J. Sanders, Mrs. C. C. Sesco, Mr. K. T. Shok, Mrs. K. T. Shok and infant, Miss H. Shoh, Mr. J. S. Shun, Mr. Jie Sien, Mr. Chang Din Sing, Com. C. S. Sperry, U.S.N., Mr. T. M. Sullivan, Mr. Fang Sun, Mr. F. C. Sun, Mr. J. W. Sun, Mr. S. Y. Sun, Mr. Y. K. Sun, Mr. K. Y. Tam, Mr. H. K. Tetsuka, Mrs. H. K. Tetsuka and child, Mr. Leu Au Toa, Mr. Y. U. Tong, Mr. Y. L. Tong, Mr. M. Y. Tong, Mr. M. C. Tong, Mr. P. W. Tong, Mr. K. S. Tsai, Mr. S. J. Tsu, Mr. A. Tuska, Mr. Y. S. Wang, Mr. Y. Y. Wang, Lieut.-Col. C. H. Whipple, U.S.N., Mr. A. Whitney, Mrs. L. L. Whitney, Mr. Jas. Williamson, Mr. W. J. Wilson, Jr., Mrs. W. J. Wilson, Jr., infant and servant, Mr. R. R. Wolf, Mrs. R. R. Wolf, Mr. K. J. Wung, Dr. Hamilton Wright, Mrs. Hamilton Wright, infant and amah, Miss Elizabeth W. Wright, Miss M. Yezoye, Mr. Lo Po Yin, and Mr. Yung Hien Yin, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Dr. J. Specka, and Mr. F. Parrott, in cabin; Mr. T. Yamashita, and Mr. Chun Sing, in second class.

Per British steamer *Malta*, for London via ports:—Mr. H. J. Sharp, Mr. H. Barrett and native servant, in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, for Vancouver:—

From.	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong	844	—	—	459	—	1,303
Kobe	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total...	844	—	—	460	—	1,304

From.	SILK. New York.	Other Cities.	Total. Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	80	—	80
Shanghai	180	—	180
Yokohama	594	—	594
Total	854	—	854

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is not much business passing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

Nothing special to report.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

No change.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is quiet and the volume of business is not large.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.20 to 5.80
Brown Manila	5.20 to 6.55
Brown Daitong	4.65 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.10
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.70
White Refined	8.80 to 10.80

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is a small daily business at quotations. With a little ease on the part of sellers more business would be done but in consideration of their firm attitude purchases are confined to small proportions.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,090 to 1,100
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,025 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,045 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,010 to 1,015
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 990

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Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	1,060 to 1,070
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,020 to 1,030
Re-reels—No. 2	1,000 to 1,005
Re-reels—No. 3	980 to 990
Kakedas—Extra	990 to 1,000
Kakedas—No. 1	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½	930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2	900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½	870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

No change to report. Small purchases of suitable parcels continue at quotations, but there is no feature of interest in the market.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 510 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Nothing doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 12.

London silver ⅛ lower and China sterling quotations ⅛ lower have caused local rates on China to rule higher, but all other rates remain steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¾
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0⅞
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¾
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/0¾
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight.....	260½
— — 6 months' sight.....	262
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100.	79¼*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	77½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	93½*
— Private 10 days' sight	95¼*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight.....	49⅝ @ ¼
— Private 30 days' sigh	50¼
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ½
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Bar Silver (London)	22¾

* Nominal.

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Warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, gentle anointings with CUTICURA OINTMENT, to instantly allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, to be followed in the severer cases by mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (see below), to cool and cleanse the blood, are all that can be desired for the alleviation of the suffering of skin-tortured infants and children and the comfort of worn-out, worried mothers. A single set is often sufficient to cure when the best physicians fail.

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Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itchings, and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, especially mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated) are prepared to meet the wants of delicate women, and sensitive children, and are pure, sweet, and tasteless. They are beyond question the most successful blood purifiers and humour cures yet compounded.

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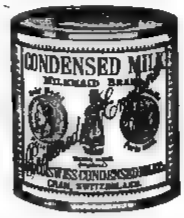

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST, 1903.

BIRTH.

On Thursday, March 19th, at No. 16, Tatsuoka-cho, Hongo, Tokyo, the wife of the Rev. HARPER H. COATES, of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

At No. 6, Bluff, Yokohama, at 10.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 14th, HAROLD MILTON ISSACS, aged 8 years, beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Issacs

At St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo, on the 16th inst., at 8.40 p.m., MARGARET DENBIGH, sister of George Phillips Denbigh, of Vladivostock and Hakodate.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE gun-boat *Uji* has been completed at the Kure Dockyard and was launched on March 14th.

GENERAL KODAMA, Governor-General of Formosa, left the island on March 17th, for Tokyo.

THE Japanese residents in Dalny now number over three hundred. They have organized a Club, renting a building for that purpose.

THE Japanese training squadron, consisting of the *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate*, left Singapore on March 14th for Batavia.

A LIGHTER carrying over a hundred workmen of the Mitsubishi Dockyard, Nagasaki, sank on March 14th, with the result that three men are still missing.

A MAN 92 years of age, named Yoshimura Seishichi, living at Mikunihichi, Echizen province, has just married a woman aged 63 years, living in the same place.

A GOODS car and two passenger cars were derailed on March 18th at 8.47 p.m., between Tomita and Nagoya. The cars were overturned with the result that some passengers were slightly injured. A broken axle-tree of one of the passenger cars was the cause of the accident.

THE German flagship *Hansa*, of the Asiatic Squadron, arrived at Kobe on March 18th. She will stay there until the grand Naval manœuvres.

SOME goods cars of a Tokaido train were derailed between Oyama and Ashigara on the morning of March 16th. An iron bridge was damaged.

A NURSE named Sugihara Gin of the Tokuyama Hospital in Yamaguchi prefecture who murdered her own child, was sentenced to six years' minor confinement on March 14.

THE Kawasaki Dockyard, Kobe, has received an order from the Korean Government to construct a warship of a gross tonnage of 1,050 tons, and with a speed of 14 knots.

ON March 11th the Kanagawa Prefectural Agriculture Assembly applied to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce for a subsidy of *yen* 2,500 for the present year.

MR. CARL HELM, a German subject, living at No. 12-A, Bluff, Yokohama, has applied to the Kanagawa prefectural authorities for papers of naturalization as a Japanese.

THE marriage of Miss Haruko, daughter of Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain to His Majesty, to Viscount Matsudaira, a member of the Bureau of Hunting Affairs, will take place on March 26th.

A TELEGRAM dated March 13th, from the Japanese Consul at Seattle, states that the U.S. House of Representative rose on the 12th. No bill relating to Japanese emigrants was introduced during the session.

THE proprietor of the Yokohama *Minato Shimbun*, who has been charged with infringing the newspaper regulations was on March 14th sentenced to a fine of *yen* 20 in the District Court.

A MAN named Kawase Seibei (37), living at Hara-machi, Kita-Adachi-gori, Saitama prefecture, who altered a cheque for *yen* 21.65 into *yen* 201.65 and drew the money from the Kojimachi Bank, Tokyo, on Feb. 23rd, has been arrested.

A POLICE officer named Shiwohara, of the Yokohama Harbour Station, on March 11th received a medal granted him by the Czar. He rescued a sailor belonging to a Russian cruiser, who fell into the sea from a lighter on Feb. 5th last year.

THE engine of a train was derailed between Komuro and Tanaka in Nagano prefecture on the night of March 17. No injury was sustained by the passengers. It is said that a large stone had been laid on the rails with the intention of derailing the train.

THE preliminary trial of Mr. Iwasaki, representative of the Yokohama City Assembly, and one other supporter of Messrs. Kato and Okuda at the recent election, together with six electors, has concluded. They were found guilty in the Yokohama District Court, but were released temporarily on bail.

KAWAI, a steward of Viscount Doi, who forged a document for *yen* 50,000 under the name of Marquis Tokugawa, and embezzled the money from a certain merchant in Nagoya, was sentenced on March 17th in the Nagoya District Court to five years' imprisonment with hard labour, and fined 50 *yen*, with six months' police surveillance. His accomplice named Hiromura, a steward of Viscount Katano, received three years' imprisonment with hard labour, a fine of *yen* 30, and six months' police surveillance.

A TINSMITH named Maekawa (37) and his wife named Teru (28) living at Sueyoshicho, Yokohama, committed suicide on March 11th by cutting their throats and inflicting other wounds with a kitchen knife. The cause is said to be poverty.

MR. MATSUMOTO, Director of the Railway Industrial Bureau, who is very ill—it is supposed that he died on Wednesday—was promoted on March 18th to the 3rd class of the Senior Rank and decorated with the first class of the Sacred Treasure.

FROM the beginning of January to the end of February the receipts of the Yokohama Customs, including import duties and tonnage dues, amounted to *yen* 1,029,938. Comparing these figures with those for the same period last year, there is a decrease of *yen* 10,976.

A RUSSIAN subject named Vladislaf Stanislavovitch Bibershtein Trembunsky, 24 years old, who is charged with being a thief in Nagasaki, and absconding from there, was arrested at the Shamrock Hotel, No. 137, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, by the Kagacho police, on March 16th. The warrant was sent from Nagasaki and the man will shortly be sent there for preliminary examination.

H.I.H. PRINCE NASHIMOTO will leave Yokohama on March 27th for Marseilles by the M.M. steamer *Sydney*. He proceeds to Paris where he will attend the naval college for some months and then extend his tour to Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Austro-Hungary, Spain and other countries. Returning again to Paris, he will investigate the conditions of diplomatic affairs. His tour will last about three years.

A TELEGRAM dated March 13th, from Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul-General in New York, says that transactions in raw silk are active and prices very steady. Owing to late bad weather in the Southern States, the price of cotton has an upward tendency, but at the present time indications are apparent that it will soon turn downward. There are now 88,214 bales of cotton in stock.

ON March 13th five coolies engaged in removing water-pipes from the compound of the late dwelling-house of Mr. Ichihara, Mayor of Yokohama, met their death through the ground suddenly caving in. The pipes had been laid at a depth of 24 ft. and the embankment under which they were placed had become sodden with rain-water during the past few stormy days, thus causing the accident.

A USURER named Tada Rinzo, living at Nakayamate-dori, Kobe, and six others were arrested on Feb. 21st on a charge of having forged some five *yen* paper notes of the Chinese Commercial Bank. The work of the forgers commenced in the middle of June last year and the amount involved totalled *yen* 200,000. Some of the forged notes have already been sold to Chinese living in Kobe, Niigata, Yokohama and Nagasaki.

AT 9 a.m. on March 16th, two men and a woman were executed at the Ichigaya jail, Tokyo. The woman, Seki (52), wife of a farmer living in the Ibaraki prefecture, entered into illicit intercourse with a man named Tanaka (32), living in the same place and the pair murdered the woman's husband. Another man named Kobayashi (28), living in Nagano Prefecture, also misconducted himself with a woman named Nobu, wife of a dyer living in the same place. He murdered the dyer. This occurred in 1895.

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CHINA.

Saturday, March 14.

The rioters who recently burnt down a Church school building at Pehtang-kou, near Tientsin, have been arrested by the Chinese authorities and committed for trial.

The West River, according to the correspondent of the *China Mail*, is already in flood and is registering 30 degrees above zero at Wuchow. Many of the oldest boatmen say they are unable to remember having so much water in the river before the end of April or May. Last summer there was a very high river, and many people had their crops destroyed; and now the same thing is happening to the spring crops. This has been the wettest winter up country on record. In December the North River came down in freshet, causing great inconvenience to shipping, and rafts have been unable to enter Sam Shui unless towed by a steam launch, as the current has been running out all the winter. At one time, there were about 2½ miles of rafts anchored outside Sam Shui waiting to get in.

A Canton correspondent, writing to a Hongkong paper, says that there is no authentic information there or at Wuchow regarding the rebellion in Kwangsi Province, about which so much is heard from Shanghai. Numerous predatory bands overrun the province, giving the authorities a good deal of trouble, and it is believed that only a competent leader is required to crystallise the move into something worthy of the name of a rebelion.

L'Opinion of Saigon sums up the Hanoi Exhibition in the following terms:—

"We do not, however, much regret what has been done. If a lot of money has been expended, we can hope, by the great publicity that has resulted for Indo-China, that we have effected there an advance of capital which will be soon regained. Besides, has not M. Beau himself in his numerous speeches, affirmed his sympathy with regard to the labourer and promised his assistance to all those who are disposed to co-operate in the development of the riches of the Colony. Let us then have confidence and resolve, by our combined efforts, to make still greater this Indo-China of whose infinite resources we know to-day."

A telegram dated March 12th from Peking states that Viceroy Wang Si-chung has asked the Military Bureau to increase the number of the military force in Kwangsi, but Chang Chih-tung is said to have declined to second the request. It is reported that the riots have spread to the localities of Kwan-tung-chow and Liong-chow.

The negotiation of the China and United States Treaty will be postponed till the Chinese delegates are vested with the right to act without consultation with Governor-general Chang Chih-tung or others on the subject. For the same reason the negotiations of the Japan-China Commercial convention will be retarded. Comparing the latter with the British-China Convention only two or three points of difference appear.

The contract for constructing the railway between Nangkin and Shanghai has been concluded but the sanction of the Court has not yet been granted.

Monday, March 16.

The Governor of Kwangsi, Wang Chih-chung, is reported to have tendered his resignation alleging that he finds the task of suppressing the insurrection now disturbing the province to be beyond his powers. He has a friend at Court in the person of Wang Wen-siao, who backs the Governor's request by forwarding a representation to the Throne in which he declares that Wang Chih-chun, though a man of signal fidelity and pure patriotism, is yet not quite the person to grapple with riots that have assumed such dimensions as those in Kwangsi.

The Taotai of Shanghai is said to have applied to the Foreign Consuls to assist him in enforcing the restrictions upon the export of rice, alleging that the recent rise in the price of the cereal as well as the large increase of its secret export is causing great suffering among the poorer classes.

The latest rumour from Peking says that the great Shêng Taotai is regaining some of his former influence at Court, having won over to his side the chief eunuch Li Lien-ying, the bitter opponent of Yuan Shih-kai. Yuan is the man who is said to have contributed to Shêng's temporary eclipse. The winning over of Li must have cost Shêng a tidy fortune, but it is said that he has obtained Imperial sanction to levy taxes on salt brought from Mongolia into China proper, a commodity hitherto passing free, and that this concession was obtained through the influence of the notorious Li Lien-ying. Shêng, if this report is true, will establish salt customs houses at Chang Kia-kow and other places.

Surgeon Makita, of the Japanese Army, who is now in Peking, reports that he recently visited the Grand Secretary Yung Lu, at the Secretary's own request, and after submitting him to a thorough medical examination, found that nothing was wrong with the illustrious patient, beyond a slight attack of rheumatism. It seems that Yung Lu has been greatly upset by recent reports circulated to his detriment by his enemies. This occasioned a slight nervous collapse and so gave rise to the alarming news of the Grand Secretary's condition. In this connection we note that the *Shanghai Mercury* translates a paragraph from a Chinese paper which says that Yung Lu's attack of nervous prostration was due to the receipt of a telegram from some Reformers requesting him to commit suicide for the benefit of China and her people.

Dr. Morrison, in an interesting contribution to the *Times* on "Manchuria and the Russian Railway" says:—Rouble notes circulate in Manchuria literally in millions. They are the most favoured currency. They are easily carried and easily concealed and are familiar from one end of Manchuria to the other. It is virtually a currency that has been given to the Chinese in Manchuria.

A Peking dispatch printed in the *N.-C. Daily News*, states that, owing to the repeated memorials of Tsêng Ch'i, the present Tartar General of Fêngtien (Lower Manchuria), to be allowed to resign, it is reported that Yung Lu is thinking of asking the Empress Dowager to appoint his uncle, K'uei Chun, to take Tsêng Ch'i's place. As Yung Lu is a strong Russophile the above may turn out true after all, which will give Russia a much freer hand in Manchuria in the future.

The *Jiji's* Tientsin correspondent says that the various Powers are keenly watching the progress of events, and one who has no soldiers in the foreign garrison is said to be attempting to instigate the Viceroy to move in the matter of the evacuation of the city. But up to the present Yuen Shih-hai does not see his way clear to follow the advice so kindly tendered and remains discreetly silent.

The *North China Daily News* translates the following notes from Southern Chinese contemporaries:—

News has been received to the effect that the rebels have divided themselves into three principal divisions, with the object of converging upon Kueilin, the provincial capital of Kwangsi, from as many points. In the meantime the rebels have almost completely cut off that city's communications with the rest of the world, whilst all routes leading to Kueilin, through which food and other supplies could be obtained, are now in the hands of the rebels. The position of Kueilin may therefore be considered as critical. Official dispatches from various parts of Kwangsi all join in saying that the rebels seem to be making preparations in earnest with the object of attacking the provincial capital. Cut off as it will soon be from outside succour, Kueilin can easily be starved into subjection without taking into consideration the fact that the city garrison is discontented and wavering in its allegiance. The high authorities of Canton have received a dispatch from the authorities of Yunnan and Kueichou provinces, stating that the influence and power of the Kwangsi rebels have become such that the borderland of the two provinces touching the Kwangsi frontier is now in complete sympathy with the rebellion. As a matter of fact the mere appearance before a Yunnan or Kueichou border city of a band of Kwangsi rebels was quite sufficient to bring about the opening of the city-gates by the city officials and gentry themselves, who turn out to welcome the enemy, the object being, of course, to save their own lives and property from plunder. In some instances the rebel leaders in view of this voluntary submission, respected property and lives, whilst in others, it turned out to be the contrary; everything depending upon the character and patriotism of the leaders of the invading force. To show the exact condition of the province of Kwangsi, towards the end of the last Chinese year (latter part of January last), Governor Wang Chih-chun being desirous of passing the Chinese New Year in Kueilin, left his cantonments at Nanning, and marched his army in the direction of Liuchou, a prefectural city not many miles distant from Kueilin. The Imperial forces soon found themselves greatly harrassed on all sides by the rebels, who almost surrounded the former and effectively prevented them from getting to even a reasonable distance of Liuchou. Governor Wang Chih-chun had therefore to return to Nanning covered with ignominy and the loss of many hundred men and a couple of thousand Mausers.

Regarding the recent discovery of forged bank notes in Shanghai, the *North China Daily News* says:—

The detection of counterfeit notes of the Imperial Bank of China and of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has, as is well known, caused a great deal of uneasiness among the Chinese, and the suspicion inevitably excited has now extended to the Russo-Chinese Bank, notes to the value of $50,000 or more having been taken to that bank for redemption in silver on Saturday morning. There is not, however, we are glad to say, any widely-extended scare among the Chinese. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was kept open for the cashing of notes the whole of Saturday afternoon, but, notwithstanding the large circulation its notes enjoy, the total amount presented in the last three days of last week did not reach $300,000, and among them less than fifty counterfeits, all for $5, were discovered. The counterfeits can be easily detected by rubbing them with a wetted finger, or by looking at the printers' name, which is mis-spelt.

Mr. Demetrius C. Boulger, writing in the *Contemporary Review* on "Railways in China," refers to the agreement signed a couple of months ago for the construction of the Shanghai-Nanking railway, and describes the project as the most important and the most likely to prove pregnant of durable results in the evolution of China. Politically and commercially, he says, it is impossible to conceive a more important enterprise, and if the mercantile community in China, and the British investor at home will take full and prompt advantage of the concessions secured they will be adopting the surest course to establish on a firm basis the predominance of influence to which Great Britain is entitled in the Yangtze Valley.

A Shanghai telegram says that the de-

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mand for native cotton yarn continues strong, but Japanese yarns are dull, there being no demand, and prices are nominal.

Mrs. Uchida, wife of the Japanese Minister to Peking, entertained the Imperial princesses at dinner on March 14th.

The Japanese concession at Tientsin is to be enlarged in accordance with a treaty shortly to be ratified. The concession will then extend to the banks of the Peiho. Among the conditions is one that the concession shall not be handed over to another Power; Chinese are to be permitted to purchase any land within the concession, but such land may afterwards be retransferred to Japan in cases where such land is needed to again extend the concession; within the limit of the concession, water-works and other public works may be carried out with Chinese capital, but nationals of other Powers are not to be allowed to undertake such work without the concurrent consent of Japan; the Chinese Government is to repair roads in such part of the concession as have been given back by Japan; and after Japan has built roads to the borders of the concession, the Chinese Government is to make roads to join them with the Chinese thoroughfares.

On March 13th five thousand rifles were found in a godown in Kennedy Road, Hongkong. They were confiscated by the authorities. The owner has not yet been found but it is surmised that the rifles were intended for the rebels in Kwang-si.

Tuesday, March 17.

On March 15th Chang Chih-tung asked the Imperial Court to appoint General Yei Kwong-tung to direct military affairs in Kwangsi. He said that the condition of affairs was so urgent that unless the appointment was made speedily the rioters would get completely out of hand. Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai has replied, however, that the desired appointment can not be made until he has had a consultation with Chang on the latter's return from Peking.

A big dinner party was given by the German Admiral at Tientsin on the evening of the 13th to the Grand Duke and Duchess Rupert of Bavaria who are now touring the Far East. The next day a tiffin party was given to those officers of the foreign garrison who were not present at the evening festivities.

Viceroy Wei Kwong-tao has at last arrived at Nanking and will at once take over the seals from Chang Chih-tung, who will then leave for Peking. It is said that their Imperial Majesties are eagerly looking forward to Chang's arrival at Court. The great man does not appear to relish the honour quite so keenly.

Mr. Uchida, Japanese Minister at Peking, gave a dinner party on the night of the 14th inst. to which were invited many of the Imperial Princes and Princesses.

The batch of 49 Chinese students, whose coming has already been heralded, arrived at Nagasaki on March 16th from Shanghai.

Thursday, March 19.

The *Pekin and Tientsin Times* of the 7th says that the Tartar-General of Fengtien, having wired to the Throne that as he was unable to control the mounted brigands the Russians proposed to take the work off his hands, has been ordered to enrol the brigands as Imperial troops.

Serious news come from Tientsin under date of March 17. It appears that the foreign banks have been refusing credit to several of the native exchange shops and this, combined with a scarcity of sycee, has led to the suicide of ten Chinese bankers. They ended their lives by the usual Chinese resource—opium. Viceroy Yuen Shih-kai, anticipating disorders, has increased the police force in the city, and meanwhile the Mint has issued some 30,000 *yen* worth of copper coins to avert the dangers of a panic. The Peiho is now ice-free, but trade is very dull, importers fearing a business crash at any moment. Imports from Japan are only half what they were at the same period last year.

A telegram from Shanghai to the *Asahi Shimbun* states that three Japanese residents in that port have been arrested on a charge of having forged convertible notes of the National Bank of China and notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

The *Shanghai Mercury's* correspondent at Changteh, Hunan, writing on the 13th ult. says:—

Indications are getting rather frequent that Changteh is in the mind of steamship companies as an objective point of the trade of western Hunan and the whole of Kueichow. Further evidence to this fact has been furnished by the recent visit of Captain W. Smith, representing Butterfield and Swire, to this city. A very few words may serve to tell the story of Changteh's connection with the outside world by means of steam. The first boat propelled by steam to this city was the British gunboat *Woodlark*, which made the trip in the summer of 1899. In 1891 the *Woodlark* paid a second visit, and at the same time also two Chinese companies began running launches from this capital to this place, but for some reason these were discontinued after several months. The Anglo-French Mining Co., of Kueichow province, has two launches which have made a number of trips since 1901, they being run from Shansi. Last year the British gunboat *Snipe* and the German *Vorwarts* were both here, the *Snipe* making two trips. This is in brief the history of steam navigation up the Yuen River. The trade of this section is quite well known to the various steamship companies, and once a waterway for the greater part of the year is found, they will be quick to start steamers in this direction. The object of Captain Smith's trip was to ascertain if a passage could be found for light-draft steamers at this season of the year.

The plague returns for Hongkong are slowly increasing as the spring advances. For the week ended March 17th the Medical Officer of Health reported 19 cases, of which 17 were fatal. Since Jan. 1st up till March 9th there have been 52 cases and 50 deaths.

The *Universal Gazette*, of Shanghai, gathers that reports are rife that secret society men along the Yangtse have again banded themselves to create an uprising, and that their secret signets, containing two characters, have been discovered. In consequence the Higher Authorities along the River have instructed their civil and military subordinates to be on the alert.

The *Sin Wan Pao*, of Hongkong, gathers that since the Taku forts were demolished, the Peiyang Squadron lost a parade ground. Recently Viceroy Yuen, of Chili, and Governor Chou Fu, of Shangtung, have been consulting as to making the Chefoo Forts a parade ground for the crews of the Peiyang warships as the forts at Chefoo are by the sea and have long become obsolete for the purpose they were originally constructed. The Viceroy and the Governor have now come to an agreement and decided to have the garrison of the Chefoo Forts transferred to some other port, so that the forts, barracks and grounds might be used for this new purpose. Instructions to that effect have already been issued by the Viceroy to the Admiral and Vice-Admiral of the Peiyang Squadron.

The *North China Daily News* says that the Chinese Commission to St. Louis is to be headed, as is perhaps already known, by Prince P'u Lun as Chief, and H.E. Huang K'ai-chia as Vice-Commissioner. It is stated from Peking that Prince P'u Lun asks for at least Tls. 600,000 for expenses, etc., of himself and staff, while the Government is only willing to give Tls. 200,000. Upon Prince P'u Lun refusing that amount the Empress Dowager offered to allow him Tls. 100,000 more from the Privy Purse, but the Prince still sticks to his demand for Tls. 600,000.

Friday, March 20.

Some slight but nevertheless encouraging progress has been made in the crusade which is being carried on in China against the custom of foot-binding. We read in Shanghai papers that the report for 1902 of the T'ien Tsu Hui, or "Natural Foot Society," has been circulated. It records a year of quiet progress, unmarked by any specially striking occurrences. The Society printed and distributed 10,000 copies of the Dowager Empress's anti-footbinding Decree, using for this purpose a donation of £10 received through the Society for the Diffusion of Knowledge from Mr. Oliver Jones of Liverpool. Another 5,000 copies are in course of printing. Writing from Shanghai, the Hon. Secretary (Mrs. Reid) says:—"From what Mrs. Woo, who is the head of the native Society here, tells us, the Edict has had at least some effect on the women of the poorer classes in Shanghai. She says that when she speaks to the women she meets in her work on the subject of unbinding their feet, they reply that they know it is a very bad custom, and that now the Empress has published an Edict against it, many of them are unbinding their own and their children's feet. In fact, Mrs. Woo says the majority of women she speaks to are now giving up the practice." The local Secretary at Canton thinks it "no exaggeration to say that the women there by the hundred have let out their bound feet," and similarly hopeful reports have been received from other parts of the country. The organising Secretary (Mrs. Archibald Little) has been successful in engaging the co-operation of the Roman Catholic Bishop at Ichang, with his clergy, and also induced the Viceroy of Chêngtu to write a letter for general publication concerning the evils of foot-binding.

With reference to the Boxer rising in Yütienshien, Chihli, chronicled in the Native Notes of the *North China Daily News* a short time ago, a correspondent now states that upon receiving information of the rising, Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai sent a detachment of troops to suppress it and arrest the leaders. When the troops got to Yütienhsien they were opposed by the Boxers, who, however, after losing seven killed, fled on all sides. Eventually ten of the principal Boxers, amongst whom were three women, were captured and after trial executed. The troops also lost several men in the fight. About the same time news was received that Boxers were training in some villages in Fêngjênhsien, to the north-east of Peking, with the result that troops have also been promptly sent there at the orders of Viceroy Yuan. The Boxers of Chihli are now finding out that they have a very different Viceroy to deal with from the late effete Yü Lu.

Our senior Shanghai contemporary prints

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the following obituary notice of the late Mr. Patrick Hughes :—

Mr. Patrick Joseph Hughes, F.R.G.S., whose death is reported this morning, was an M.A. of the Royal University of Ireland. He joined the Consular Service at Foochow in 1854 as supernumerary interpreter and in 1860 was appointed interpreter to the Expeditionary Force in China. After being for a period British Magistrate and Member of the Allied Commission in Chusan, he was sent as Vice-Consul to Kiukiang in the same year, being promoted to be Consul there in 1867. He went to Canton as Acting Consul in 1871 and was transferred to Shanghai in 1880, and promoted to be Consul-General in 1884. He retired on a pension in 1891. Mr. Hughes was not especially energetic, but in social life he and Mrs. Hughes were very much liked and respected. He was eminently judicious and was popular with the Chinese officials with whom he came in contact. He had been ailing for a year or more, and the death of his brother, Mr. Thomas Francis Hughes, Commissioner of Customs, was a great blow to him. He will be regretted by a large circle of friends in China and at home.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *North China Daily News* throws some light upon the financial conditions now prevailing there, which are causing some anxiety in Japan. He says :—

Following up my recent communication regarding the Viceroy's official bank, you may be interested to know that the bank in question is now closed. The real reason is of course that Yuan Shih-k'ai took counsel neither with himself or any-one else as to whether the laws of finance and trade could be subverted by force of will and the impossible be effected by a turn of the wrist. So with the country side swept bare of silver he opened his bank and piped for sycee to come. Like many a misguided genius before he of course piped in vain, and no one but himself is surprised at the shutters going up. His own version of the matter is not quite thus wise, and since publishing his official explanation an attempt has been made to assert that the bank's closing is a false report. It is nevertheless quite true, the business ceasing on the 1st of the 2nd Moon.

The official explanation was in the following terms :—"On account of the bad state of trade in the city, and the scarcity of specie and cash, also because the cash was so bad, I tried to find ways and means to relieve the financial situation, and I opened the official bank in order to draw money from the province. I also sent officials to closely investigate any cases of false coinage. Now there is more money in the place, and the banks promise to go on all right, and the police have been strictly warned not to allow any money to be exported. There is, therefore, no longer any need for my bank and it was consequently closed on the 1st of the 2nd Moon. The daily rate of exchange will hereafter be regulated by the native banks and posted up, and not be controlled by me. Any notes of the official bank still in circulation will be duly cashed."

Two more of the leading native banks are shaky, and one has closed for the present. Nothing has been done. Fortunately little import cargo is arriving as the godowns are already full to overflowing. Prospects for the season are altogether gloomy at the moment, but a turn of the wheel may effect a change. Added to the trade conditions there is the incessant demand for money being made by the Court. Yuan has been asked to furnish Tls. 240,000 for the mausolea trip and has begged off. The necessary funds for the new college at Paoting are said to be wanting, and the Salt Commissioner has been approached with a view to a loan of some Tls. 25,000 from the indemnity fund. Rather a dangerous game to start.

A telegram dated March 18th from Tientsin reports that a new bank will be established by influential merchants with the object of alleviating the present troubles. Four prominent men have subscribed 1,500,000 taels and the same amount is to be put up by the Government. With the total amount of three million taels, as a reserve, the bank will issue paper notes convertible in silver.

Shanghai confirms the report that a monetary panic prevails in Tientsin. Thirteen native banks and several exchange shops have closed their doors.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* hears that more trustworthy particulars of the great martyrdom at Tai Yuan in 1900 are now coming out. The refugees, it seems, were all put in a room together the day before the massacre, and feeling the critical nature of their position spent the day in prayer. Next morning they were brought before Yü Hsien who demanded first of Mr. Farthing :—"Who are you?" "I am an Englishman (Ta Ying Kwoh jen) the latter replied. Then putting loud accent on the 'Ta,' Yü said, with great emphasis, 'Ta⁴ Ying Kwoh jen are you? Ta³ Ta³," (kill kill) and Mr. Farthing was at once done to death.

The report of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ld., for the second half of 1902 shows a divisible balance of $93,272. It is proposed to pay a dividend of 12 per cent, transfer $10,000 to repairs and renewal account, write off $10,000 from furniture, etc., and carry forward the balance $272.

News has been received in Shanghai of the appointment by the R. W. Grand Master of Massachusetts Grand Lodge of F. and A.M., of the Rev. Dr. J. R. Hykes as District Deputy Grand Master for China under the Mass. Constitution, vice M.W. A. W. Danforth, whose term has expired. Mr. Danforth received the appointment early in 1895, in succession to the late Mr. D. C. Jansen, and has held office since Under a new rule of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, its Grand Master holds office for only two years, unless re-elected. The election of a new Grand Master, who took office on the 31st Dec. last, was followed by the appointment of Dr. Hykes, the senior P.M. of the Ancient Landmark Lodge in Shanghai, to the position of Deputy District Grand-master.

The Empress Dowager has, according to the *P. & T. Times*, written two large characters representing "happiness" and "longevity" and presented them to Jung Lu's principal "secondary" wife, thereby raising her to the rank of first wife, the original lady being long since dead.

A new Peking University is to be built from the designs of a European architect, to contain about 1,400 rooms and cost Tls. 500,000.

As the cost of running the Shanghai Public School is increasing out of all proportion to the increase of pupils, the Municipal Council is to bring the matter before the Ratepayers at the next public meeting. The attitude of the Council is shown by the following :—It is the opinion of the Council, that the support to be extended to the School out of the public funds should properly be confined to the provision of a suitable building and of a strictly limited grant-in-aid; it is held to be contrary to sound administration and prejudicial to the best interests of local education that the School should rely upon the Ratepayers to make good any and every deficiency between expenditure and receipts.

It is reported that the French authorities, after considering the project for some three years, are about to commence the construction of new lighthouses on the coast of Annam, and notably at Cape Varella. The recent loss of the *Binhthuan* and the *Hélene* has hastened this decision.

It is reported that the Government at Peking received a telegram on March 18th from Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to the effect that the preliminary examinations of certain high officials accused of bribery have been concluded, with the result that General Kiu and Inspector-general Yang Fung-tai will be dismissed from office, while eight others will be punished.

For the indemnity to be paid to the French Minister (40,000 taels), and on account of the Church in Moukden (156,612 taels), General Song-kee asked the authorities to furnish the necessary money. Accordingly, on March 17th, 200,000 taels was remitted to the General from the Tientsin Customs. It is stated that the total amount to be paid to the French Minister was 1,359,500 taels, of which 400,000 taels was paid in January last. The remainder will be handed over in nine instalments.

The foreign representatives at Peking held a meeting on March 17th to discuss the indemnity question, but nothing was decided.

KOREA.

The Foreign Legations in Sōul have been furnished with the programme of the forthcoming Jubilee celebrations. They begin on April 28 and end on May 7. The details are :—

April 28.—The Emperor receives the foreign Envoys attending the Jubilee.
April 29, 8 p.m.—Court dinner given to the Envoys.
April 30, 9 a.m.—The Emperor proceeds to the Circular Temple.
May 1.—The Emperor receives Korean subjects, and gives a dinner to them at 7 p.m.
May 2, 8 p.m.—Dinner to foreigners and Koreans.
May 4, 2-6 p.m.—Garden party.
May 5, 2 p.m.—Military review.
May 6, 4 p.m.—Tea party; 8 p.m., Foreign Ministers' evening party.
May 7, 8 p.m.—Farewell audience to the Envoys

As we have already noted, Sir Claude MacDonald will attend the Jubilee as special Envoy of King Edward, while Japan will be represented by Prince Yamashina.

If a Japanese press message from Sōul is to be believed, Italy is backing the proposal of one of its nationals for the right of working a gold mine in the peninsula. The correspondent says that the move is made to place Italy on an equal footing with other Powers in Korea, a bit of embroidery inseparable from rumours emanating from Korea.

The correspondent of the *Kokumin* at Sōul reports that Li Yong-ik, on the 10th inst., forwarded a draft of the proposed regulations of the Central Korean Bank to the Department of Finance for consideration, after which they are to be submitted to the Cabinet for final approval. It is said that *yen* 3,000,000 of the amount required for capital, has already been obtained, while there will be no difficulty in finding another *yen* 2,000,000 as a reserve. Altogether the prospects of the Bank's flotation are considered roseate.

Telegraphic intelligence from Chemulpo says that on March 13th some Japanese residents quarrelled with the townsfolk of Haichow, in Kwonghei Tai, and the disturbance became so violent that Japanese police constables were sent for. They arrived by the steamer *Amakusa Maru* from Chemulpo the same day and restored order.

The *Asahi Shimbun*, on the strength of a telegram from Soul, under date March 17, says that an Imperial decree has ordered the establishment of conscription throughout Korea on the lines of European Powers. Five Army Divisions are to be established.

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THE TEXT BOOK SCANDAL.

Saturday, March 14.

The preliminary examination of the following persons concluded on March 12th, with the result that Chijisaki Kumenosuke, teacher of the Ibaraki Normal School, was found guilty of obtaining bribes to the amount of *yen* 300 on Jan. 27th, 1900, from the Kinkodo book-store, on a promise to adopt a certain text book published by the latter; he afterwards paid the money back when the book was rejected by the authorities of the prefecture; Nakamura Tameo, teacher of the Awomori Normal School, of having obtained bribes of *yen* 300 in November, 1900, from the Kokukosha, promising to adopt a certain text book; Hirata Yoshitaro ex-inspector of Education in Tokyo, of having received *yen* 300 in April or May, 1900, *yen* 200 in December, and *yen* 1,000 at the end of that month from the Shuyei-do, *yen* 300 in Dec. 1900 from the Kinkodo, *yen* 300 in Sept., 1900, from the Kokuko-sha, promising each to adopt their books; Nakamura Jitsutaro, an official of Yamaguchi prefecture, of having received *yen* 100 in Dec., 1900, from the Kokukosha on a promise to inform the latter of the result of the Conference in which the merits of the various text books were discussed; Kanakubo Yoshimasa, teacher in the Kasama school, Ibaraki prefecture, of having received *yen* 100 in Jan. 1900 from Kinko-do on a promise to adopt a certain text book published by the latter, though he paid back the bribe when the text book was rejected by the educational conference; Awoyama Masao, principal of the Yamaguchi Normal school, of having received, in March 1900, *yen* 200 from the Shuyei-do, and in May 1900, *yen* 300 and one piece of silk cloth valued at about *yen* 13 from the Kokukosha, and in Dec. 1900 *yen* 1,000 from the Kinko-do, promising each to adopt their books; Doi Kennosuke, principal of the Oita Normal School, of having received, on Dec. 31st, 1900, *yen* 500 and one piece of silk cloth from the Kindo-do, in Jan. 1901 *yen* 100 from the Bungakusha; Suzuki Naosaburo, principal of the Ishikawa Normal School of having received, in Dec. 1900, *yen* 200 from the Shuyei-do, on Jan. 1st 1901 *yen* 200 from the Kinko-do.

Monday, March 16.

On March 13th, in connection with the Text Book Scandal, Yasuda, an ex-Educational Inspector of Osaka prefecture, was sentenced to 5 months' imprisonment with hard labour and fined *yen* 15, while the bribes he received, amounting to *yen* 2,900, were confiscated. At the preliminary court Ono, ex-Educational Inspector was found guilty of having obtained bribes from the Koku-ko-sha—*yen* 1,500—and a certain quantity of woollen cloth valued at about *yen* 30, in Feb. 1900; and *yen* 100 in Nov., the same year; and from the Shuyei-do *yen* 400 in June, 1901, and *yen* 200 in April, 1902; and Kimura, teacher of the Oita Normal School, was found to have received *yen* 1,900 from various book publishers on the usual promise to adopt the text books published by them.

Tuesday, March 17.

On March 16th the following judgments were given in this affair: Nishimura, principal of the Miyagi academy, was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment with hard labour and fined *yen* 10, while the bribes he received, *yen* 1,000, were confiscated; Taguchi, educational inspector of Miyagi prefecture, was sentenced to 20 days' imprisonment with hard labour; Anami, secretary of Kagawa prefecture, to 2 months' imprisonment with hard labour, fined *yen* 7, and the bribes he took, *yen* 43, confiscated, while he was further mulcted in costs, *yen* 71; Nagao, teacher of the Tokyo Higher Normal School, received 2 months' imprisonment with hard labour, was fined *yen* 7, and the bribe of *yen* 300, was confiscated. On the same day Ochi and two other men were placed under bail of *yen* 500 each.

At the preliminary trials the following were found guilty:—Otani, ex-examiner of text books in the Department of Education, was found to have received bribes of *yen* 300 each from two book publishers, the Shuyei-do and Kokukosha; Tadakoro, teacher of the Koriyama primary school, Fukushima prefecture, was found to have received bribes of *yen* 500 from the Shuyei-do.

Thursday, March 19.

The trial of Messrs. Nagao and Iwaya, who recently appealed against the judgments of the lower court, was held in the Court of Cassation on March 17th. On the same day, the following preliminary judgments were given: Kitamura, an educational inspector of Shiba-gun, Awomori prefecture, was found guilty of having received a bribe of *yen* 200 from a book publisher; Kuroda, educational inspector of Fukushima prefecture, was found to have received *yen* 150 and a piece of silk from the Kokukosha; and Okai to have received *yen* 75 and *yen* 800 from the Kokukosha and the Kinkodo respectively.

Friday, March 20.

The following judgments were given, on March 18th in the Tokyo District Court:—Kawamata, educational inspector of Miyasaki prefecture, was sentenced to 14 weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, and fined *yen* 10, while the bribes received were confiscated, amounting to *yen* 1,000; Yendo, principal of the Shimane Normal School, to 2 months' and a half imprisonment with hard labour, and fined *yen* 10, while a bribe of *yen* 200 was confiscated; Oike, educational inspector of Ehime prefecture, to 3 months' imprisonment and fined *yen* 10, while the bribes were confiscated; and Asuke, educational inspector of Watarai-gun, Miye prefecture, to 2 months' imprisonment and fined *yen* 15, while a bribe of *yen* 1,350 was confiscated. The same day, the preliminary trial of the following was concluded: Koreishi, principal of Osaka Normal School, was found guilty of having obtained bribes of *yen* 2,000 and a piece of silk from various book publishers in 1900 and 1901, on the usual promise that he would urge the adoption of their text books; and Maki of having obtained a bribe, *yen* 100, from the Kinko-do in 1901.

CANCER.

One of the greatest scourges that afflicts poor humanity in these latter days is the fell disease which goes by the name of cancer. Its treatment seems to baffle the greatest physicians and surgeons and statistics apparently show that in some countries it is increasing by leaps and bounds. One of the merchant princes of Liverpool, we read in papers just out from home, recently presented to the nation a gift of £10,000 for the study of cancer. This true philanthropist is Mr. T. Sutton Timmis, one of the partners of the big soap-making firm of Gossage and Co., and his proposal is one of the many signs of the resolve of humane men to fight this dreadful and malignant scourge. Medical men entertain high hopes as to the results of this struggle; and with the enormous advances that medical science has made in the last twenty years, there is nothing that one cannot hope for from time and patient study. The age of Lister, of Victor Horsley, of Pasteur, of Virchow, may hope for almost anything. Mr. Timmis, the donor of this latest incentive to scientific investigators, has long been known for a generosity and kindness of heart that are unfailing. Some months ago he experienced the great sorrow of losing his wife and was so broken down by overwhelming grief that he had for a while to throw up all business. But he has gone back to work as the one anodyne—as most of us at last discover—to the irretrievable calamities of life. This gift of £10,000 is one of the forms in which he seeks to commemorate the memory of a fine and sweet character, correctly believing that the best monument to her would be something that helps to relieve the suffering of mankind.

Before leaving this subject we may note that the Government of Queensland recently published an account of two authentic cures of cancer by the use of molasses. Two men named Braun and Crabbe were the sufferers. The former had a growth at the root of the tongue, which grew to such an extent that he was nearly choked. By accident he found that molasses eased his throat very much, and taking a table spoonful four or five times a day, this growth completely disappeared in ten days. The other case was cancer in the stomach, and necessitated three months' treatment with the molasses. A representative of the *Morning Leader* who saw one of the authorities at the Brompton Cancer Hospital learned that cures by this means have been reported before. But it had not been tried at the hospital, said this gentleman, who confessed that he had no faith in the curative power of molasses.

THE STRONG MAN.

It seems hardly necessary to point out that in consequence of the mutilated condition in which Reuter's telegram reached us on Tuesday evening the transcriber of the message was compelled to make a shot at its meaning, and that the result, though approximately correct, fails to convey the exact sense. What *The Times* undoubtedly said was: "Mr. Chamberlain may be able to prevent the 'rot' that is setting in among Ministerialists both in and out of Parliament; if so he is not back a moment too soon." It has been apparent for some time that the present Ministry do not enjoy as large or as unreserved a measure of support as was formerly at their command, but even the most pessimistic among our readers must, we imagine, read *The Times'* description of the situation with some surprise. Yet when we take all the circumstances into account there really is not much cause for astonishment. Let us consider first the Education Bill, which has now become law. We do not suppose that any thinking person observant of home politics will for a moment attempt to deny the necessity for that measure. It had for years been felt that extensive amendment of the Act of 1870 was necessary, and the present Cabinet could hardly hope longer to evade the imperative duty laid upon them. Perhaps had the task been undertaken by a Liberal Ministry the result might have been similar, though, for reasons which

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need not be here adduced, that is not quite probable. But so far as the Unionists are concerned, they have, with the assistance of the Irish party and the Church party, passed a reform bill, and they have created a bitter feeling of discontent among Non-conformists. Then a new labour party has arisen, which threatens to become formidable. The Newcastle meeting held not many weeks ago has already borne fruit in the result of the Woolwich election, and we may expect to hear of similar ministerial losses in future, for undoubtedly the working-class ratepayer is looking very gravely at his war bill. Also,—and probably this is the most important of all—there is a very deep-seated feeling among the people that the foreign policy of the present Government has not, to put it mildly, been fortunate. More especially since the joint action with Germany against Venezuela have there been expressions of dissatisfaction among the friends of the Cabinet. It is over these matters that what *The Times* terms a "rot" has set in among those to whom Ministers have been accustomed to look for support. What prospect is there of Mr. Chamberlain's success in dealing with the trouble? A measure coping with the Irish situation, and reconciling the differences that have for so long existed in the unhappy island, would undoubtedly achieve a large measure of popularity for the Cabinet. But to us out here it almost seems as if the life of the Balfour Cabinet were drawing to a close. It has had an existence of eight years—for the Administration of Lord Salisbury formed in 1895 and reconstructed in 1900 is, as to its leading members, practically that of his nephew—and in the ordinary course of events people would probably have begun to weary of it. Mr. Chamberlain, we may be sure, will work loyally to cure the "rot," but he has an uphill job before him and not too brilliant prospects of success. Should the Cabinet fall in spite of his efforts, then—well, the "Strong Man" will take his proper place.

SCANDALS.

Mr. Kitabatake Hideo, a judge of the Kyoto District Court, was discharged from his post on March 10th and at the same time arrested. The charge is said to be that he accepted bribes from a *sake* manufacturer who intended to escape the tax.

Respecting this arrest it appears that on March 12th the public procurator, after having arrested Judge Kitabatake, searched his dwelling house and the houses of the persons who were suspected of bribery, and that some evidence was found. The principal charges against him are said to be that he obtained money in the form of bribes from the directors of the Kyoto Sake Brewery, who were being tried on a charge of infringement of the Tax Law; from four men who were suspected of having set fire to the Funaoka-yama Hospital; and from some others who were also on trial in his Court.

Unearthing fresh scandals appears to be the order of the day in Japan just now. The latest comes from Sendai, where Lieut. Shikano, belonging to the Second Regiment of Cavalry, has been summoned to appear before the Second Gendarmes' Court to be examined as to certain irregularities. At the same time the dwelling of a woman related to him and the houses of some merchants who have been supplying goods to the military corps at his order were searched for evidence. It is said that the officer and others in his circle are suspected of having received bribes from merchants who had supplied stores to the garrison.

Mr. Maeta Toshio, a clerk in the Forestry Bureau, was arrested on March 14th, in connection with the new charges of bribery in the Agricultural and Commercial Department. During Friday and Saturday seven merchants who have been supplying goods to the Department, as well as some proprietors of restaurants and tea houses, were called to the Metropolitan Police Office to be examined in connection with the affair.

Mr. Koga, public procurator of the Tokyo District Court, is examining the evidence, obtained on Sunday, the 15th, during the search of certain houses in connection with the charges of bribery brought against some officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Japanese papers state that the officers of the Kyoto District, on March 16th, searched four houses in connexion with a charge brought against Mr. Yamada, one of the directors of the Kyoto Rokujo Life Insurance Company, who is charged with having embezzled money belonging to the concern. Another director of the company, named Namba, has also been arrested, presumably on a similar charge.

Mr. Hirasawa, an accountant in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, was arrested on March 12th, on the charge of having received bribes from merchants who have been supplying goods to the Department. At the same time the authorities of the Tokyo District Court searched the houses of two druggists, a paper merchant and a furniture dealer, for evidence in connection with the charge. It is said that this scandal will spread to a wide circle.

THE OSAKA EXHIBITION.

The Osaka Exhibition is gradually getting into shape and by the time that His Majesty the Emperor arrives in the city the arrangements should be practically complete. The amount of space taken by foreign exhibitors is a peculiarly gratifying feature of the Exhibition and is meeting with general satisfaction on the part of Japanese visitors and journalists. One of the most complete exhibits is that shown on behalf of Austria by Messrs. Heller Bros. Assisted by a liberal subsidy from the Austrian Government this enterprising firm applied for 252 *tsubo* of space altogether and every inch of it has been fully occupied. In a building designed in the old Viennese style is established an exhibition of machinery which includes printing, spinning, wood working, and sawing processes, etc., showing the actual mode of manufacture of Vienna bent-wood and other furniture, cabinet work, etc. Next to this elegant building is a fountain covering 50 *tsubo*: this is illuminated from an acetylene factory at the rear, covering some 22 *tsubo*; which generates the light for the machinery hall and an adjoining building also. This factory also belongs to Messrs. Heller Bros. In the foreign samples building the firm have secured another 50 *tsubo* of space, and in the general building a further 50. Altogether visitors to the exhibition have a unique opportunity for discovering what the Austrian empire can produce to meet the ever increasing demands for foreign goods in Japan and the Far East generally, and Messrs. Heller Bros. are to congratulated on the success which has attended their efforts.

We read that the formal ceremony of opening the exhibition at Osaka will be followed by a grand dinner given by Mr. Tsuruhara, Mayor of Osaka, for which 1,500 invitations have been issued.

BOOKS ON THE FAR EAST.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., a copy of "Historic Macao," by C. A. Montalto de Jesus. The volume is illustrated by some capital photographs of Macao as it now is, besides some reproductions of curious old prints dealing with the Christian martyrdoms in Japan in the seventeenth century; portraits of Father Ricci and the even better known Father Schaal. The story of Macao was well worth the writing and Mr. de Jesus is to be congratulated upon the style in which he has carried out his task. It was evidently a labour of love with him and after reading his well-told narrative we sympathise in his grief that Macao has fallen upon evil days. As he puts it:—"In the dawn of a promising new era for foreigners, Macao found, alas, that it ushered in her darkest days. And fallen from her pride of place, spoliated, blighted, well might she in her desolation utter that awful plaint of Zion: All ye that pass by, listen to see if there be any woe like unto my woe." The book consists of some twenty-six chapters and the spirited history, with its comedies and tragedies, its dark spaces and its times of glory, extends from the year 1515 to the end of 1902. The book should take its place on all bookshelves where books dealing honestly with the troubled story of the white man's intercourse with the Far East are to be found.

"An Anecdotal History of Singapore," by Mr. Charles Burton Buckley, is one of those rich mines of local history, gossip and anecdote that future historians will dive deeply into at some future day when the time has arrived to write the full and complete account of the lives and manners of the men and women who laid the foundations of British commercial activity in Far Eastern lands. The book is too purely local, we imagine, for the general reader, but old Singapore hands and China coast men should welcome it gladly. As far as we can judge it represents the work of many men ranging over many years, though Mr. Buckley inspired and edited the two volumes. The only criticism we have to offer is that it seems rather a pity that a book which will undoubtedly take its place in the libraries of all interested in Singapore and its neighbourhood, should be spoiled through the printer not keeping to one shade, or tint, of paper throughout. The contrast between the tint of one section and the tint of another is positively painful at times. The illustrations and portraits have been carefully selected and well reproduced, lending an added value to the two portly volumes.

On the 5th inst. the Rev. A. D. Gring, in charge of the Nippon Sei Kokwai work in Jaku Tan (Wakasa, Tango and Tamba provinces) owing to the sudden breaking of the axle of his jinrikisha, was violently thrown from a stone bridge into a rapidly flowing stream about six feet below. For some unexplainable reason, no serious injury was sustained. The coolie seemed much agitated, made ample apology for what he was in no way responsible for, and moreover appeared much disappointed that he did not get a thorough going for.

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THE WISDOM OF JOWETT.

Jowett is still an influence at Oxford despite the years that have passed since the grave closed over the good grey head of the Master of Balliol. Oxford men of his day will always have kindly recollections of the well-weighted words of wisdom which flowed from his lips in familiar discourse or at College chapel, and these as well as the generations of the sons of men who have sprung up since Jowett passed away will be thankful to Professor Lewis Campbell for the little book which he has just compiled entitled "Select Passages from the Theological Writings of Benjamin Jowett." The *Spectator*, which did not love Jowett particularly well in the hey-day of his power and popularity, speaks in most laudatory terms of the volume and quotes extensively from its pages. We have but room for a short extract entitled "An Old Man's Retrospect." It is, as even the most casual must admit, instinct with the charm of stillness and recollection. Jowett is endeavouring to prove that the man who looks back is a religious man: "his religion is not derived from books, but comes to him from his experience of life." "He feels what, in the hurry of youth, amid the guesses and fears which accompany ambition, men often dare not pause to feel, and that is thankfulness. He wonders how he ever escaped from the temptations of youth, and is sometimes inclined to think that the Providence which watches over children and drunken people must have had a special care of him. He may have been guilty too of some meannesses or sins which are concealed from his fellow-men; he is thankful that they are known to God only. He is not greatly troubled at the remembrance of them, if he has been delivered from them, but much more at the unprofitableness of his whole life. Before he departs he has some things to say to his children or to his friends. He will tell them that he now sees this world in different proportions, and that what was once greatly valued by him now seems no longer of importance. . . . He would like to warn younger persons against some of the mistakes which he had himself made. He would tell them that no man in later life rejoiced in the remembrance of a quarrel. . . . A sharp thrill of pain might sometimes pierce his heart when he remembered any irremediable wrong of which he had been the author, or when he recalled any unkind word. . . . He need not disclose his fault to men, but neither will he disguise it from himself; least of all, if he have repented of the sin and is no longer the servant of it, should his conscience be overpowered by the remembrance of it. For sin too, like sorrow, is healed by time; and he who is really delivered from its bondage need not fear lest God should create it anew in him that He may inflict punishment upon him. . . . Once more, when a man is drawing towards the end he will be apt to think of the blessings of friendship and of family life. He has done so little for others and received so much from them. . . . He would see, as Baxter saw in his old age, that all other things come to an end, but that of the love of God and man there is no end. He would not raise questions about the rites of the Church, or the canonicity of the books of Scripture: these belong to criticism and ecclesiastical history, not to the spiritual life. He would seek for the permanent and essential only in the books of Scripture, in the lives of good men, in the religion of the world. To follow Christ, to speak the truth in love, to do to others as you would they should do to you, these are the eternal elements of religion which can never pass away, and he who lives in these lives in God."

It is a beautiful and affecting passage and sums up, we imagine, the philosophy of Jowett after he had topped the hill and turned his face towards the closing years of life. We join with the *Spectator*, after a perusal of the book, in the exclamation:—"And these are the words of a man whom in a former generation half the world condemned as little better than a heretic, as a man who was injuring by his deteriorating and irreligious influence the youth of Oxford, and who at the best was looked on as a worldly don who had no business, considering his anti-Christian opinions, to remain in the Anglican Church!"

AOMORI.

Following the lead of the Government and Sanyo railways, the Kobu and the Kawagoe Railway companies now announce that they will allow a reduction in the freight charges on goods to be sent to the famished people in the North-East. The rates of reduction are nearly equal to those granted by the Nippon Railway.

On Friday, we learn from the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the Ministers for Home Affairs and Finance sanctioned the issue of Aomori Prefectural bonds to the value of 266,000 *yen*. With the exception of 66,000 *yen* required for the repayment of all outstanding debts, the proceeds of the loan will be devoted to the improvement of roads, with a view to giving work to the sufferers from the famine. Mr. Yamanouchi, Governor of Aomori, who is now in Tokyo, is said to be negotiating the loan with the directors of the Japan Hypothec Bank.

It is stated that His Majesty has decided to send one of his Chamberlains to the localities where famine is raging. This official will be charged with the duty of fully reporting upon the conditions prevailing in the North, and will be asked to suggest a way of relieving the distress.

To the privations of famine in Awomori prefecture are now added for some poor folk the hardships of deprivation of their homes by fire. Late at night on March 16th fire broke out in a house belonging to a farmer named Kinoshita, in Aburukawa village, Higashi-Tsugaru-gori, Awomori prefecture, and destroyed 3 godowns and 111 houses. An old woman was burnt to death and many persons were injured. A strong north-easterly wind appears to have lent great influence in the work of destruction. The loss is estimated at over *yen* 50,000.

RELIGION AND THE STATE.

On January 31st we published a Havas telegram from Saigon which read:—

Saigon, January 29.

In the Chamber of Deputies, the Radicals and Socialists demanded the suppression of the Budget of Religions. The President of the Council, M. Coombes, opposed the motion, maintaining the principle that religion is necessary in the actual social state of France. The budget was voted by 315 votes to 192. The declaration made by M. Coombes has caused much comment.

The Paris correspondent of the *Globe* sends an account of the scene which occurred in the Chamber when M. Combes made this declaration. He writes:—

Monday's séance at the Chamber has been up to the present time the great political sensation of the week, it was quite an event for two reasons, firstly, because it was the début of the famous Socialist leader, M. Jaurés, in the Presidential chair, and, secondly, because M. Combes, President of the Council, who, since he did the unpleasant business of turning out the Congregations, has been looked upon by all "bien pensant" persons as a veritable anti-Christ, suddenly, and to the fury of the advanced Republican party, made a speech in favour of the maintenance of the "budget des cultes," which, I should, perhaps, explain is the money allowed by the State for the maintenance of religious institutions in France.

Great, of course, was the hilarity of the Chamber when M. Jaurés, so different to the worthy Bourgeois or the elegant Deschanel, appeared in the "Olympe en accajou." He put on what some of his comrades called his "geule officielle" as he walked through the double line of soldiers, and once in the tribune he made an excellent president, for he has a clear, penetrating voice, which is heard in the midst of the loudest interruptions, and he is sufficiently accustomed to oratory not to feel in the least nervous even in the most trying circumstances. He was, of course, dressed in evening-dress, and he wore a bad shirt, which kept sliding up, apparently trying to force its way out of his waistcoat. The idle young members of the Right, who revel in rue de la Paix-made shirts, got a lot of amusement out of this, but I fancy that their corresponding extremes of the Left found the get-up of M. Jaurés to be "tout ce qu'il y a de plus chic." The ideal shirt for a Frenchman o-this class is one adorned with a frill, which invariaf bly puts one in mind of the kind of thing that usually decorates a pillow-case. I ought not, however, to be too hard upon our members of the extreme Left, for I have seen Frenchmen of a very different class who appeared to delight in linen of a similar kind.

In speaking of the proposed measure, of which, when he mounted the tribune, the majority of his listeners certainly supposed him to be in favour, M. Combes said that he respected the opinions of the preceding orator, but that he thought that the majority of Frenchmen would hardly be able, like him, to content themselves with merely moral ideas. Here the Centre and the Right applauded vociferously, there was audible disapprobation on the Left, and the President of the Council went on to say:—"I was saying that the society of to-day cannot content itself with such simple moral ideas as are superficially taught in our schools. Such ideas must constitute the kind of practical doctrine necessary to the man who would confront the trials of life. When we came into power, although several among us, as many, doubtless, among you, were, from the philosophical and theoretical point of view, partisans of the separation of Church and State, we declared that we would bind ourselves to the Concordat." Before going on to quote from M. Combes' speech, I should explain, for the benefit of such persons as do not happen to be versed in this period of French history, that the Concordat was a document signed by Napoleon I. and thrown as a sop to the Roman Catholic Church, which re-established under certain conditions the said Church as a national Church in France. "Why?" M. Combes went on to say; "because we considered the religious ideas which the Church spreads abroad, and which she is alone is spreading as necessary ideas. At the present moment we consider them as being the most powerful moral forces of humanity, and for my part I find difficulty in accepting the idea that in our contemporary society those who had not the early education of M. Allard would be sufficiently on their guard against perils and trials of all sorts (loud applause from the Right and Centre). I look forward, like all the deputies of the Left, to the epoch which I wish were near, which I, indeed, wish were immediate, but which I must adjourn till the day when free thought, resting only on the doctrines of reason, may be able to conduct men through life. But that moment has not yet come." Here came loud interruptions from the Left, and the orator went on to say: "I am surprised at these interruptions. We have before us a question of practice, and not a question of doctrine, and as to the question of doctrine I am at one with those persons who are now interrupting me. In my opinion, the suppression of the 'budget des cultes' would not resolve the formidable difficulty which I have pointed out." The tumult among the Left after this speech was, I need hardly say, indescribable.

THE DIET.

The date for the opening of the extraordinary session of the Diet will be decided upon at the meeting of the Cabinet to be held on March 24th.

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THE BRITISH POSTAL SERVICE.

Great Britain has now enjoyed the advantages of the "penny post" for sixty-four years, yet looking over the pages of a recent book which tells the story of the English Post Office from its earliest development, the almost entire lack of postal facilities which prevailed previous to January 10, 1839, when Rowland Hill's scheme first saw the light, reads as something almost incredible of belief. And yet it is a fact that before Rowland Hill's time to send a single sheet of paper weighing half an ounce from London to the country cost from fourpence to one and eightpence, according to distance. If there were two sheets in the letter, it was charged double, and if it weighed over half an ounce the charge was fourfold. Thus a Londoner sending a very moderate-sized note to his friend in Scotland might find over fourteen shillings demanded for it. When Rowland Hill suggested that letters should go anywhere in the kingdom at an uniform charge of a penny per half ounce officials were aghast. The Paymaster-general declared in horror that, if this took place, the post would increase twelvefold and the walls of the postoffice would fall in with the rush of correspondence. The first part of the prophecy has been much more than fulfilled. For every one postal communication sent by the Briton's grandfather forty are now sent. For every letter posted then the British send a telegram now, and with a margin of a million or two to spare on the total. In Christmas week alone Britons sent twice as many packets as seventy years ago were sent in an entire year. But the walls of the post-office have not yet fallen in, although it has been found necessary to strengthen the foundations of St. Martin's-le-Grand. In the late thirties the total outlay of the post-office came only to £696,000. The profit of the Department now is four millions sterling, and the expenditure between ten and eleven millions. The total number of persons employed in the post-office was a few thousand; now it is 80,000. When the penny post first came in men thought it a marvel that for a copper coin a missive could be taken a hundred miles to Scotland. To-day for the same sum you can send it 15,000 miles to New Zealand, across the Atlantic and right over the American continent to Vancouver, or to India and the British Colonies in the Far East, nay, even to Shanghai, which, actually a portion of the Chinese empire, is served by the British post-office. Postal reformers, looking further ahead, hope for a halfpenny town letter post in the United Kingdom, for sixpence a word telegrams and penny letters to America, and a penny a word telegrams to the Continent of Europe.

FAMINE IN TOYAMA.

Japanese papers report that famine prevails in Toyama prefecture. Deep snow still covers the locality and as the poor people are unable to work in the fields, they are working in their huts, making straw matting, straw rope and foot gear. Owing to failure in the ordinary food-supply the peasants of Toyama, like those in Aomori, are eating grass, roots and bark. The Chief of the rural office of Kami Mikawa-gun, gives the following statistics regarding 15 villages:—

Living on original stock of food, but not having 3 months' supply	1,654 houses. =9,645 persons.
Living on mixed food	1,595 houses. =9,416 persons.
Living on grass, roots or bark	304 houses. =1,331 persons.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Periodically the press of Great Britain gets up a scare regarding the probable starving-out of the people of the British Isles in the event of war with a continental power and the stoppage of over-seas supplies. Recently an informal Commission was appointed, consisting principally of retired naval and military officers, together with some leading shipping men, to enquire into the real facts of the question and to see what steps could be taken in the event of war. Much time must necessarily elapse before such a Commission can publish its reports and meanwhile practical men are at work upon a solution of the problem. There has just been organized in London a company styled The Imperial Food Supplies Company, Limited, to facilitate the distribution of food products from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and other sources. They will set to work by erecting a system of cold-storage depots throughout Great Britain. The directors propose to erect depots mainly on the Midland Railway, and on the London and South-Western, London, Brighton and South Coast, and Taff Vale Railway lines, and it is further proposed to erect depots at the important seaports of Hull, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Bristol, Grimsby and other centres served by prominent railway systems. The directors propose to construct these depôts for the storage of chilled or frozen meat, butter, fish, cheese, fruit, hops, furs, eggs, and so forth, under separate refrigerating systems, so as to ensure various degrees of temperature, complete isolation, and a supply of pure, cold, dry air for each product. It is proposed to acquire interests in refrigerating depots, or establish agencies in Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The plans have been drawn up with care, but one can't help thinking that splendid as the scheme is from an Imperial point of view and capital as it may turn out as a national investment in view of the great uncertainties attending the "armed peace of Europe," it knocks another nail into the coffin of the British agricultural industry. The decay of the agricultural classes throughout the British Isles during the past fifty years is one of the developments of the times which is greatly to be deplored for more than sentimental reasons.

A German anthropologist, Herr Thilenius, has recently shown that pygmies—now only found in the interior of Africa—were, during prehistoric times, spread over parts of Europe. Numerous skeletons found in Silesia show that the stature of the men they represent was not much above four and a half feet. There were pygmies in Switzerland and in Alsace also. Many of the latter were not four feet in height. These dwarf races were in no wise degenerates. They appear to have persisted up to comparatively recent times. The pygmies of Silesia, for instance, were contemporary with the Romans and they continued up to the tenth century. At present there is no vestige of such a race, but their skeletons remain to prove their existence. It is from these little people, say Mr. Andrew Lang and other folk-lorists, that we derive our legends of the fairies, gnomes, trölls and other wee folk which play such an important part in Teutonic and Scandinavian literatures.

The Lord Abbot Kwozui Otani, of the Nishi Hongwanji, Kyoto, and suite, arrived at Nagasaki on March 12th by the German Mail steamer *Prinz Heinrich* from his tour in India. During his tour, the Lord Abbot visited Buddha-gya, on the frontier of Afghanistan, where he examined the extensive ruins of some ancient Buddhist temples. He then travelled to Burmah, Calcutta, etc., and finally left on March 2nd for home. Some of the Lord Abbot's suite went as far as Yueng-nang.

On March 20th the Toyo Kisen Kaisha (Oriental Steamship Co.) will hold its ordinary general meeting at the Nihonbashi Club, Tokyo. The following accounts for the 2nd half year, 1902, will be presented:—

	Yen.
Gross income	337,126.617
Balance brought over from previous account	70,381.406
From this will be deducted:—	
For the reserve	20,000
Reserve for equalization of dividends	120,000
Dividend, at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum	195,000
Carried forward	72,508,023

The damage done to growing crops and vine-yards by hail-storms is very considerable, so much so that the attention of several European Governments has been drawn to the subject and in 1899, 1900 and 1901, various congresses of scientific men and practical agriculturists were held to discuss the results obtained by shooting cannon toward storm clouds to prevent hail from falling on vineyards and other cultivated lands. Statistics were presented in great quantities and subventions were obtained from the Governments of Austria and Italy to be expended in aid of this form of protection. In 1899 the congress had no doubt of the success of such experiments; in 1900 the result was admitted to be doubtful, and in 1901 to be very doubtful. As men of science all over the world were sceptical from the very first, the Austrian Minister of Agriculture lately convened a committee of experts to further study the question and to advise him as to further expenditures. A strong majority of this committee has pronounced the experiment very doubtful and a majority has declared the reported successes to be illusory. That the question may now be thrashed out to the end the committee as a whole recommends the continuance of the experiments for several years yet.

The Deputy Commissioner of the New York Police, Capt. A. W. Piper, has been sent across to London to see if he cannot pick up a few tips regarding police organisation which may be useful in rehabilitating the sadly damaged reputation of the New York force. Captain Piper seems greatly impressed, as most visitors to London always are, with the English "bobby." In the course of an interview with an American newspaper writer, who met him in London, Mr. Piper, said:—

The average policeman here is more civil, and there is a natural tendency for one man to be more polite to another than in New York. This is, perhaps, constitutional. Our police haven't time to tell strangers what time the 4 o'clock train goes. The instructions here are no more stringent than ours, but when a policeman makes an arrest here for disobedience of the rules of the road the magistrate invariably holds and punishes the person arrested, while nine times out of ten when we make an arrest for this reason the magistrate turns the man loose without fining him and cusses the policeman for bringing him to court.

I think that it is the magistrates' lack of appreciation of the policeman's duties that causes the most trouble in New York. Where we need reform is in the busiest centres. In crowded places in London the traffic moves 25 per cent. quicker than ours. This is owing to the regulations that between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. carters are not allowed to back up to the sidewalk or to deliver coal, casks or heavy freight which blocks the streets. This is what we have got to come to in New York and it seems to me that the change will have to be very radical.

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Storekeepers will have to open earlier in the morning or keep open later at night to get their goods handled. In the London warehouse district there are little intersection alleys and courts between the main thoroughfares where heavy freight can be handled without interfering with the general traffic. New York wastes all the space equivalent to these alleys.

Look out of the back windows of our big stores and what do we see? A lot of waste space strewn with empty packing cases and other litter. Why shouldn't store-keepers be compelled to utilize this space for building back entrances the same as in London.

It makes the average Briton rub his eyes to find such hearty appreciation of English methods proceeding from the lips of a New Yorker. Times are indeed changing.

It may be remembered that during the winter of 1901, Dr. Koch, the great German pathologist, caused much excitement by his public declaration that bovine tuberculosis could not be communicated to the human race. As the matter could only be settled by a series of experiments in which inoculation was made direct from beast to man, there did not seem much probability of the discussion aroused coming to a definite and speedy end. Then Dr. Garnault, of Paris, came forward with a proposal to offer himself as a subject for experiment, but Dr. Koch refused to have anything to do with the matter, and accused Dr. Garnault of wishing to advertise himself. The suggestion was indignantly repudiated by the latter, who, finding that no one would inoculate him, calmly inoculated himself with the virus. The operation took place on July 15th. Nothing whatever happened. On November 12th a committee of medical men examined Dr. Garnault. The report has just been published. It shows that there are no tuberculosis microbes in Dr. Garnault's blood, and that it is impossible to say what has become of them. The experiment, therefore, as far as it goes, shows that Dr. Koch was right and the greater part of the medical world wrong, while Dr. Garnault has heaped coals of fire on the head of the man who questioned his motive.

Far from abandoning the submarine boat, France is building this type of warship on a large scale. There is immediately to be laid down at Cherburg a new French "submersible," known as "Q. 35," which has been designed by M. Romazxotti, the builder of the *Gustave Zédé* and the *Morse*. She will be the biggest under-water vessel ever constructed. Her displacement when submerged will exceed 350 tons; her length will be 147 feet, her beam 12 feet, and her draught 7 feet. She will be driven on the surface by an internal combustion engine, and submerged by electric accumulators. She will be provided with twin screws, will carry two torpedo-tubes, and will have a complement of two officers and eighteen men. Her surface speed will be about eleven knots, and her under-water speed eight knots. Her cost will exceed £50,000.

Up till now the largest submarine boat in the world has been the *Gustave Zédé*, whose displacement is 266 tons when in the heavy condition, *i.e.*, with ballast tanks empty. British submarines, Nos. 1-5. have a displacement when submerged of 120 tons only. Hitherto all the French "submersibles" have been driven on the surface by a steam engine, fed with liquid fuel; but as this type of motor does not allow of rapid submersion—an essential feature with under-water boats—an explosive engine is to be substituted.

In a graphic paper on the non-luminous and invisible stars, Professor Gregory tells the readers of the *Cornhill Magazine* that the future of astronomy lies with the dark stars rather than those with luminous radiations. So far as investigations have been carried, it is proved that one star in every six has near it a black star invisible to the telescope or to the most sensitive photographic films. The telescope unveiled to man's astonished gaze one hundred million stars, "the boundary so far as visual observations are concerned"; but the photographic plate discovered to us vast areas of nebulous matter which no eye has ever seen; and now the spectroscope reveals to us the certainty that space is peopled by a number of dark stars which can never be seen or photographed. Moreover, it is certain that mathematical inquiry will establish, beyond all question, the hypothesis that "the mass of dark matter in our universe is much greater than that of all the light-giving bodies." It is an astounding thought, remarks a writer in the *Globe*, that the heavens are as thickly strewn with these invisible and black stars as with those myriad little beams of light with which we are all familiar; and when we reflect that this innumerable host does but fill a niche in the great aisles of infinite space, we can realise the necessity for imitating Newton's humility before the mystery of Life.

It is announced that His Majesty the Emperor will leave Tokyo on April 8th to inspect the Grand Naval Manœuvres in the West and to pay a visit to the Osaka Exhibition. Her Majesty the Empress will leave Tokyo about April 11th for Kyoto, thence proceeding to Osaka, where she also will pay a visit to the Exhibition, either on the 15th or the 16th. The Empress also proceeds to Sakai to inspect the Aquarium there.

In a special number issued for the Delhi Durbar, *East and West*, the new missionary review published by the S.P.G., has an article by Mdle. Lucie Felix Faure on that mysterious influence which induces women of culture and breeding to renounce the world and all its pleasures, for the chill seclusion of the convent. "Worldly people," she remarks, "are reminded by these events that there is something beyond the *flammantia mœnia mundi*, something they do not know, do not understand, something they even forget to think about; and that there are influences at play in the wide world quite different from their small talk, flirtations, dresses, and petty vanities. From the scientific point of view, these efforts at holiness are a part of the scheme of evolution. We have emerged from the brute to the human being far from perfection, the soul of man is still moving along its tedious path of progress, that the keenest and most impulsive souls will often break from the ranks, and strike out ahead for the distant heights." But the mysterious call to the convent does not stand alone; in Great Britain, as the *Globe* justly remarks, the call takes women from the ease and refinement of their homes to the slums and alleys of East London, where many an Agnes, Agatha, Cecilia, and Lucia are doing service to the race. And to be reminded sometimes of these saints is certainly good for the workaday world.

The subscription to the debentures of the Kogyo Ginko (Credit Mobilier) seems to have been a failure in Osaka. On the closing day—March 16th—the total applications amounted only to *yen* 10,100. In Kobe, no application whatever was received at any of the various agencies.

The many friends of Mr. David Jackson, Manager at Yokohama of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and Mr. T. S. Baker, Sub-Manager, will learn with pleasure that they have had conferred on them the Fourth Class Order of the Rising Sun, as a mark of the Imperial approval of their services in connection with the sale of the 5 per cent. bonds in London last year.

The directors of the Kyushu Railway Company decided, on March 15th, to issue debentures to the amount of *yen* 6,000,000 bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

Mr. Chinda, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, gave a dinner party on March 17th at which the Russian Minister and Madame Iswolsky, M. Luis de la Barrera Y. Riera, the Spanish Minister; Baron Corvisart, of the French Legation and Baroness Corvisart, Prince Koudacheff, Secretary of the Russian Legation, and his sisters, Major O. E. Wood, Military Attaché of the U. S. Legation, and Mrs. Wood; M. Heinrich Loenwenthal von Linan, Acting Minister for Austro-Hungary, and others were present.

The same evening a dinner was given by the German Minister, Graf von Arco-Valley, at the Legation at which the foreign diplomats and Japanese officials were present.

It seems to have been reserved for Japanese in the vicinity of Vancouver to introduce a new fashion of bear-hunting. We learn from a Vancouver telegram of Feb. 20th that for the first time in the history of hunting in the province, bears have been taken alive, without the use of firearms and in a manner which was remarkable. Japanese engaged in cutting shingle bolts discovered a large bear in a hollow tree, and in the attempt to oust it the animal chased one of them. As the bear came up to him the Japanese jumped on its back and held his position until seven of his countrymen followed, all piling on Bruin and securely holding it down until it was tied. The she bear appeared upon the scene a few moments after, and, elated with their success, the Japanese sprang upon her. She showed fight, but they captured her also. The bears will be presented to the city Zoo by Rev. Goro Kaburagi on behalf of his fellow countrymen. The animals weigh 250 and 210 pounds, respectively.

The London *Times* just to hand contains a long account of the celebrations in Germany and elsewhere which attended the Kaiser's birthday this year. The reports make very interesting reading. In London the German Ambassador, Count Metternich, gave a big official dinner on that day and when proposing the Emperor's health said:—

"Above the whirling eddies of political passion rises a firm rock, against which the waves of excitement break. From its summit streams a light, which pierces through the mist and forms a fixed point amid all outward vicissitudes; it is the Monarchy and its representative. In the person of his Majesty we have a firm support, which we need at home as well as abroad. In him the Imperial idea is embodied; around him are gathered our hopes for the future of the German people. The Emperor is inspired by the purest motives and the noblest patriotism, and he labours unceasingly for the good of the Empire. From his proven love of peace we may expect this further success under the soothing influence of time, that where prejudices still prevail a juster and more tolerant frame of mind will one day become more general."

It is reported that His Majesty the Emperor has presented a pair of cloissoné vases to Captain Schinzinger, one of the commissioners appointed to receive and attend on the late Prince Komatsu when he visited Germany.

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THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY.

SOME idea of the vastness of the Standard Oil Company's affairs is gained when we read that the declaration of the quarterly dividend on February 16th involved the distribution of $20,000,000. Of this amount it is estimated that between $6,000,000 and $7,000,000 went to Mr. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, who is credited with owning 35 per cent. of the capital stock of the Standard Oil Company. The market value of the shares, which are selling at about $740, is $740,000,000, so that Mr. ROCKEFELLER's wealth in Standard Oil stock alone can be estimated at more than $235,000,000. Such figures are almost too great to adequately realise.

With but one exception—the United States Steel Corporation—the Standard Oil Company disburses more money to its shareholders than any other corporation in the world, and it is interesting to notice the big leap in dividend-earning power which was made after 1895. For four years before this date the mammoth corporation had been able to declare a 12 per cent. dividend, per annum, but by 1896 the business was in full stride along the road of success and 31 per cent. was declared; 1897 and 1898 saw 30 per cent. distributed; in 1899 33 per cent. was reached; in 1900 and 1901, 48 per cent., and 1902, 45 per cent. For the first quarter of last year a dividend of 20 per cent. was declared; for the second quarter, 10 per cent; for the third quarter, 5 per cent., and for the fourth quarter, 10 per cent. In other words, the disbursements last year amounted to $45,000,000, and in 1901, to $48,000,000. It was explained that the cut of $3.00 a share in the dividend last year was due to an immense outlay of money in connection with the construction of vessels for transporting Texas oil to the seaboard and prospecting in new territory. Counting the dividend declared on Feb. 16 this year, the Standard Oil Company, has paid to its stockholders about $160,000,000 within the last three years. Of that amount Mr. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER received between $50,000,000 and $60,000,000.

Naturally considerable speculation exists throughout the United States as to the aggregate disbursements of the Standard Oil Company this year. The sharp advance in the price of oil throughout the States and the world generally has led many to believe that 1903 will be a "banner-year"—to use the favourite American phrase of the moment—in point of dividends. It is admitted by certain representatives of the corporation that the rise in oil has resulted in a heavy increase in earnings, and in view of the fact that the company gives stockholders the full benefit of its earnings, carrying no surplus, an increase in dividends over the preceding year would not be surprising. Meanwhile the tide of popular feeling seems to be steadily rising in the States against the further development of the theory of huge monopolies, though the power which these huge corporations wield must long prevent any radical legislation inimical to their interests passing into practical law.

THE CZAR'S MANIFESTO.

THE publication of the CZAR's latest manifesto in which, on the anniversary of the Emancipation of the Serfs—an event which took place on the 3rd of March (O.S.) 1863 during the reign of ALEXANDER II.—he proclaims the principles of religious toleration to all creeds, marks another epoch in the slow but steady advance of Russia along the lines of modern Western civilization; while it must surely mean the retirement into private life of the man who has earned for himself the title of "The Shadow behind the Throne," perhaps the best hated individual in all the wide dominions of the CZAR—M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF, the Procurator-General of the Holy Synod. M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF while Professor of History and Ecclesiastical Law at the University of Moscow, was appointed tutor to the future Czar ALEXANDER III. A strong attachment sprang up between pupil and tutor, and the latter acquired an ascendency over the Emperor similar to that exercised over LOUIS XIV. by PERE LA CHAISE. When the office of Procurator of the Holy Synod fell vacant, soon after ALEXANDER became CZAR, M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF was nominated to fill the vacancy. The members of the Synod are appointed by the CZAR for a certain period, or for so long as he desires their aid. All questions of dogma and discipline are beyond the CZAR's control, for he is bound by the canons and by tradition. The Holy Synod has precedence of all other great bodies of the State; the bishops are in a majority, and the President is the Metropolitan of St. Petersburg, where the Synod is always in session. The Procurator-General, who represents the CZAR at its meetings, must be a layman, and it is his duty to bring in all laws projected by the Senate, and to obtain the Imperial sanction for the decision of the Synod. The business of the Synod is entirely in his hands; his assent makes an Act valid, and he can veto any measure which he thinks would infringe any State law. He must make annual returns as to the state of the Church and the clergy in all Russia. There is no discussion at the meetings of the Synod; various departments manage its affairs, and their reports are signed by the Synod. For the election of a bishop the Synod submits three names to the CZAR, who, as a rules, chooses the first name on the list. All the bishops are under the authority of the Synod, and, finally, the Procurator has charge of the schools and finances of the Church. At once upon his appointment to this high and terrible office M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF set to work with an iron will to reform the flagrant abuses rampant in the Russo-Greek Church, and to carry the work of proselytism into every corner of the Empire. He spared no class, high or low, and persistent opposition to his decrees meant deprivation of office or banishment to Siberia.

M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF's personal appearance belies strangely one's idea of a "Modern Torquemada," which this short review of his policy conjures up. An English journalist who made his acquaintance during a residence of some ten years in Russia writes:—

"Clad in a simple frock-coat of superfine black cloth, the Procurator-General of the Holy Synod might pass as an ordinary University professor. His thin, ascetic face reveals his character, for the forehead is broad and lofty, while the thin, drawn lips and narrowing jaw bespeak both an artistic temperament and dogged, unreasoning perseverance. His cold, clear eyes are very penetrating; his voice is thin, and at times almost rasping. He is not fond of the usual round of life when the Court is in residence on the Neva during the winter, and he devotes almost all his time to the absorbing duties of his office. He speaks French fluently, and reads English and German authors from preference, while he is always ready to discuss Church matters with foreigners. Not that he desires to learn 'a more excellent way,' but, as a true student, he wishes to add to his store of the knowledge of comparative theology. M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF has published a Russian translation of the "Imitatio Christi," that immortal work of THOMAS À KEMPIS; more curious than this fact, was to hear from his own lips, that his favourite authors in the English language are EMERSON and WHITTIER, and that he has volumes of their works always lying open on his dressing-table and in his library. And yet the lay head of the Russian Church has failed to grasp even the scantiest ideas of religious toleration and freedom. In insisting upon the due observance of the Church fasts, M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF himself sets a good example. At the great fasts he retires alone to a monastery on one of the islands in Lake Ladoga, and spends several days in solitude in a bare cell, while his food is of the most meagre kind. Inspired by a fanatical bigotry, which is strangely reminiscient of the methods of the Inquisition three hundred years ago, the Procurator-General of the Holy Synod of the Russo-Greek Church has been restrained by no humane feelings in his crusade against every form of dissent. In his opinion Church and State must stand or fall together; therefore, every individual outside the Orthodox creed must be an item of danger to the Imperial idea."

As an illustration of the wide-reaching powers of this strange man's influence it may be mentioned that when the CZAR NICHOLAS announced that he was about to marry his cousin Princess ALICE OF HESSE he vigourously protested. Princess ALICE was a Protestant and the Procurator-General insisted that the CZAR must wed a member of the Orthodox Russo-Greek Church. The CZAR remained firm, however, and at length M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF conceded the point, but only on condition that Princess ALICE OF HESSE was received into the Russian State Church with the usual rites. The Princess consented to change her religion, but refused flatly to "publicly curse all members of other Churches," that being part of the ceremony. This, to her, odious portion of the ritual was in the end waived, and it was believed by many people that M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF

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had weakened his position; in fact, it was said that "his sun had set." For a time he certainly was less conspicuous. Then he emerged from his temporary eclipse endowed with redoubled energy, and two of the most prosperous regions of the Russian Empire felt his hand; among the peaceful Finns and the hardworking peasantry of the Baltic Provinces there ran Decrees issued in the name of the Holy Synod. In both districts, according to the testimony of impartial observers, this activity on the part of the Synod was quite uncalled for; in both the standard of education is far higher than in Russia proper, while the clergy are immensely superior to the Russian village "pope" both in learning and in their manner of life.

But the hand of M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF fell heavily on the devoted people, and as the Russian peasant is among the most stubborn of men when once he has made up his mind upon a religious question, the trail of the Synod's decrees was marked with desolated homes and wholesale depopulation in all the districts through which they ran.

It is but natural—human nature being what it is—that many attempts should be made upon the life of such a man. The most serious occurred in 1893. M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF was spending the summer of that year in a suburb of the capital, when a wild-looking student, driven to desperation by the mysterious disappearanoe of a fellow-student, called upon him. During the interview, the man attacked his host with a big knife, and wounded him on the wrist. Nearly two years ago, M. POBYEDONOSTSEFF was fired at from the street, while he was in his library. Then threatening letters flowed in upon him in one continuous stream, for the university students regard the Procurator as being mainly responsible for their harsh treatment by the authorities. Last summer the tension began to make itself felt upon the nerves of the reactionary; accompanied by his wife, who is much his junior, and by his little daughter, he literally fled to Wiesbaden in the most secret manner possible. Even there he had to be guarded night and day by the Russian Secret Police, and his return to Russia was carried out with the utmost secrecy. Since then it has been given out that he is weary of office and desires to retire into private life. The effect of the CZAR's new manifesto if it involves the removal of such a man from power must be of benefit to the whole Russian people. The other reforms which the "little White Father" promises are also very substantial and should go far towards healing the sores that have been insidiously eating their way into the Russian body politic. The CZAR NICHOLAS has been termed a visionary, a dreamer—and we see that European and American papers doubt whether the promised reforms will really come to anything—; if his power for good is commensurate with his wishes then indeed can the Russian people declare

> A broader faith is ushering in the dawn,
> A clearer light is heralding the day.

THE DAY-DAWN OF CIVILIZATION.

LONDONERS have just had the unique opportunity of seeing at the Winter Exhibition of the Royal Academy, the work of one who may in all justice be called the first European man of genius—DÆDALUS, the flying-man, whose fabled exploits have caused many a headache to school-boys ploughing an unwilling way through their Greek translations. Dr. ARTHUR EVANS, after six years hard work in Crete, has been able to bring DÆDALUS from the realm of fairy story into the region of plain matter-of-fact history by discovering some specimens of his work beneath the accumulated strata of the hill of Kephala. Well has Mother Earth kept those treasures, for DÆDALUS belongs to the very day-dawn of civilization. Yet, even in that far-back era, when man had only just emerged from the darkness of the Stone Age, he was presumptuous enough to attempt to fly and to seek to traverse by means of wings the ambient stretches of the upper air—just as we are still striving in the present year of grace. Dr. EVANS has brought home from Crete little statuettes of flying youths, which, as a writer in the *Academy* demonstrates, constitute the oldest anatomical records known. Of course this writer excepts Egyptian work, which tells us that man walked upright long before the palace of Knossos, which Dr. Evans has now explored to such good advantage, was built. That we might well have guessed. "But DÆDALUS' work demonstrates this, that four thousand years ago, at least, the arrangement and mutual relations of the surface muscles of the forearm, and the manner in which the minute venules on the back of the hand join to form the main superficial veins of the arm, were precisely the same as in each of us to-day. This, too, we might have guessed, but by no means with such certainty. We take it that, as Dr. EVANS has revealed in his latest discoveries the evolution of the alphabet, and therein a phase of the evolution of the human mind and of the functions of the human brain, so he has added one more proof, not so much of the slowness of physical evolution as of its essential completion many thousands of years ago." The writer we are quoting then goes on to deduce this moral. "Nature has given this particular planet over to the Vertebrata, and to them, early in their history, she granted four limbs. At first used for progression alone, these became gradually differentiated in function, until, in the finale, a series of modifications in the vertebral curves, hurriedly epitomised by every infant to-day, permitted Man the Erected to walk Erect. Spared from locomotion, his forelimbs have made of him even a DÆDALUS the Admirable Crichton of four millenia ago. These venturesome limbs may, indeed, have subtly urged forward the cerebral development which is the mark of our race. But there are no more limbs to spare. Our eyes are placed before and not upon our spines, our physical horizon can be no further widened. Physical evolution, properly so-called, is an accomplished fact. Adaptation to environment still continues, no doubt. Our hair must go, our fifth toes are already palpably doomed—they are not perfect in many of us. Our appendices are going—none too quickly, and our nails and teeth will follow. Already our hair and teeth fall in the fight before we do. This elimination of the superfluous, however, is not the process which has made of the free-swimming single cell of the sea a hundred million years ago the man of to-day. That process, for so many ages in climax, has reached in us, or rather in our far ancestors, its physical acme. But, though since their day we have learnt and ceased to write in pictures, and to talk in gestures; though we write in letters and talk in words, and make the ether carry them for us; though we have evolved systems of government which owe little enough to MINOS; though we recognise a system of ethics the germ of which was not in Crete nor yet in Egypt, we have yet to traverse an infinite vista of evolution in another and a loftier plane."

Dr. EVANS has demonstrated that the Labyrinth of DÆDALUS really existed and was not a myth of the Greeks, and at the same time M. VICTOR BÉRARD has come to the rescue of CALYPSO and NAUSICAA. In a most interesting book—"Odyssey and the Phœnicians"—which has just been published by COLIN, of Paris, M. BÉRARD identifies certain localities of the Odyssey, such as the cave of CALYPSO and the bathing-place of NAUSICAA. The grotto of CALYPSO, otherwise translated the Cave of Hiding (from the Greek word to hide) is, according to M. BÉRARD, not at Malta but on the coast of Morocco, between Ceuta and Tangier, in front of Gibraltar, in the little island of Pérégil, at the foot of the Monkey Mountain, which appears to have been the primitive Atlas. According to HOMER, the isle is near the high pillars of Atlas, overgrown with poplars, cypresses, and other trees; haunted by sea-gulls, hoopoes, crows, and other birds. There was a vine at the mouth; and four springs, as well as meadows, with violets, are mentioned. The cave of M. BÉRARD is found at the bottom of a cove with sheer walls, and invisible from the sea. It is a "marvellous cachette" and watering-place for sailors; the sea is gay with red and violet algæ, scarlet polypes on the rocks and violet medusæ in the clear water. The entrance is about 60 feet high by 25 feet wide, and about 30 feet in there is an elbow leading to a spacious hall about 150 feet long. The description of HOMER tallies so well that, allowing for poetic treatment, he seems to have seen it himself, or heard of it in the "logs" of Phœnician sailors. There are no springs and no vine to-day, but in 2,000 years the springs may well have dried up and the entrance been changed by the action of the sea or weather. Anyhow

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scientists moving hand-in-hand with the Muse of History are surely vindicating the minstrelsy of ancient Greece.

THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE IN NORTH AMERICA.

IN this issue we print a letter from an American citizen in which he takes occasion to comment rather severely upon the attitude assumed by public men in the United States on all questions which arise between Canada and the great Republic, an attitude which he characterised as mean, unfair, and altogether unworthy of such a Power as the United States. We do not intend at this present moment to enter into the discussion of the motives which underlie the actions of American politicians regarding matters Canadian: it is sufficient to note that a feeling of hostility does exist and that the solvent of time must be applied, as in all matters of this kind, to bring about a remedy. But we would like our correspondent "AMERICAN" to read what the *Spectator* recently wrote regarding the Alaskan Boundary question. Our contemporary says that "the basis of the controversy is to be found in the Treaty made between Russia and England in 1825. To the rights under this Treaty, whatever they were, America succeeded by purchase when in the year 1867 she bought Alaska from the CZAR. Whatever Russia possessed in 1867 she passed over to America. Whatever we possessed in 1867 the British Empire possesses now, and is part of the Dominion of Canada." Our contemporary then quotes the third, fourth, and sixth clauses of the articles agreed to between the Russian and British Governments in 1825, and of which the third and fourth were incorporated in the Russo-American Treaty of 1867. They run as follows:—

"3. The line of demarcation between the possessions of the High Contracting Parties upon the coast of the continent, and the islands of North America to the north-west, shall be drawn in the manner following:—Commencing from the southernmost part of the island called Prince of Wales Island, which point lies in the parallel of 54° 40′ north latitude and between the 131st and the 133rd degrees of west longitude (meridian of Greenwich), the said line shall ascend to the north along the channel called Portland Channel, as far as the point of the continent where it strikes the 56th degree of north latitude; from the last-mentioned point the line of demarcation shall follow the summit of the mountains situated parallel to the coast, as far as the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude (of the same meridian); and finally, from the said point of intersection, the said meridian line of the 141st degree, in its prolongation as far as the Frozen Ocean, shall form the limit between the Russian and British possessions on the continent of America to the north-west.

4. With reference to the line of demarcation laid down in the preceding article, it is understood, first, that the island called Prince of Wales Island shall belong wholly to Russia; second, that wherever the summit of the mountains, which extend in a direction parallel to the coast from the 56th degree of north latitude to the point of intersection of the 141st degree of west longitude, shall prove to be of a distance of more than ten marine leagues from the Ocean, the limit between the British possessions and the strip of coast (la lisière de côte), which is to belong to Russia as above mentioned, shall be formed by a line parallel to the windings of the coast, and which shall never exceed the distance of ten marine leagues therefrom (et qui ne pourra jamais en être éloignée que de 10 lieues marines).

6. It is understood that the subjects of His Britannic Majesty, from whatever quarter they may arrive, whether from the Ocean, or from the interior of the Continent, shall, for ever, enjoy the right of navigating freely, and without any hindrance whatever, all the rivers and streams which, in their course towards the Pacific Ocean, may cross the line (traverseront la ligne) of demarcation upon the strip of coast described in Article III. of the present Convention."

This, continues the *Spectator*, is the Treaty to which the Commission will have to find the interpretation.

"It is evident that the real crux of the problem is to determine what is the ocean and what the coast to whose windings, at thirty miles distance inland, a line shall be drawn parallel. The Treaty evidently intended to give to the Russians as a maximum a strip of territory parallel to the windings of the coast thirty miles broad. If the coast had consisted of wide stretches of sand, it would have been easy enough to draw a line inland parallel thereto and thirty miles broad. But unfortunately the coast is deeply indented with arms of the sea. When are the shores of these arms part of the coast, and when do they cease to be coast? Are we first to lay down, as it were, a kind of artificial coast-line, cutting the mouths of the estuaries, and measure from that thirty miles inland, or are we to follow up the arms of the sea in all their windings, and measure the thirty miles inland from, say, where the salt water ceases, at the place where the shore ends? We will not attempt to answer any of these questions, but will only say again that everything will depend on the interpretation of the word 'coast.' It does seem to us, however, difficult to imagine that when the Treaty asserts that the coast is the place from which the measurement is to be taken, it means anything but actual mainland,—*i.e.*, conterminous land, and excluding all islands. Again, it seems to us that the prime object of the Treaty was to give the Russians a strip—*lisière*, or fringe, is the word in the Treaty—of not less than thirty miles broad, the whole way along the shore of the mainland. If this was not intended, why should Article VI. have so carefully protected British subjects in the right of free navigation of all the rivers and streams, which but for the stipulation would have been barred by the strip of Russian territory. As we understand the Treaty, the idea of the coast in the minds of the diplomatists who drew it up was not political but geographical. They did not go into questions like those of territorial waters or of the distances between headlands, but simply thought of the Russian territory as a strip thirty miles broad, following the coast-line as nearly as it could. The fact that the phrase the windings of the coast was used seems to us to indicate that the diplomatists who made the Treaty did in the case of the big inlets mean to follow them round with a thirty-mile radius."

Clearly the matter is one which must be approached in the broadest spirit by both parties to the controversy and for the sake of all concerned it is to be hoped that the Commissioners may sink all personal and racial differences and rise to the level of pure statesmanship in coming to a decision. Boundary disputes, as everyone knows, are fertile sources of disagreement, bad words, and rancorous feelings when they only concern parishes, but when it comes to nations the evils are magnified a thousand-fold and they become a rankling thorn that in the end poisons the life-blood of the whole body politic and creates a legacy of hatred which future generations find it hard to dispose of.

ALPINE ASCENTS AND ADVENTURES.

[BY THE REV. WALTER WESTON, M.A., F.R.G.S., MEMBER OF THE ALPINE CLUB.]

To the traveller who seeks in the Alps his annual rest and relaxation from the more serious duties of life, there are, practically, two Switzerlands—the Lowlands, and the Highlands, each with its own particular interest and charm.

With lowland Switzerland, most of us are more or less familiar; we love its beauties of fertile plains, its sapphire lakes, encircled in their settings of dark pine-clad heights; its deep valleys, overshadowed by the grey cliffs that form the footstools of the mighty snow-clad giants of the true Alpine world. It is in this lowland Switzerland, moreover, that the art of hotel-keeping exhibits a combination of efficiency and economy unparalleled elsewhere. Its exponents are as courteous as they are capable, and I can well understand the statement of a Japanese sociologist who has recently recorded among his impressions of a tour in Europe, that "There is nothing specially to be said of Switzerland, excepting that the people always appeared glad there to welcome travellers." Occasionally, however, I fear, some travellers do not appear to appreciate their welcome to the same degree. One of this class, some time ago, in the visitors' book at a mountain inn I know of, expressed his sentiments of it as follows:—

Fair are thy vales, O Switzerland,
And deep thy forest dells:
But deeper still, if not so fair,
The ways of thy hotels!

Into the cloudless azure leap,
The summits of thy hills:
But just as high, and quite as steep,
The merry Switzer's bills!

Eternal are the snowy cowls
Thy mountain ramparts wear:
No less eternal are the fowls
Upon thy bills of fare!"

But it is not the lowlands, lovely as they are; not the hotels, and their civil, enterprising hosts, that claim our attention now. I want you to come with me, in imagination, far away from the cafés and kiosques of Interlaken, from the busy streets of Geneva and of Bern. Let us climb high up above the dusty closeness of sweltering valleys—however lovely—into the keen cool air of the great ice-world. Let us try to reach that region, where, above the dark ramparts of cloud-girt castellated cliffs, the everlasting hills in silence and solitude uprear their towers of rock and their minarets of snow, with a calm majesty, a perfect purity and an unassailable strength, fit symbols of Him of Whom it is expressly declared, "Thy Righteousness is like the great mountains."

During recent times a great change has come over men's ways of looking at the Alps, in their grandeur and their strength. In Ruskin's famous chapter on "Mountain Glory," in the 4th volume of "Modern Painters," he has traced for us the alternations of fear, wonder, and admiration for the "great mountains." And the sentiment of a devout Scotch writer he there quotes embodies the common attitude of most men in mediæval times:—"Of these great cathedrals of the earth, with their gates of rock, pavements of cloud, choirs of stream and stone, altars of snow, and vaults of purple traversed by the continual stars,—of these it was written, not long ago, by one of the best of the poor human race for whom they were built, wondering in himself for whom their Creator could have made them, and thinking to have entirely discerned the Divine intent in them—'They are inhabited by the Beasts.'

The nature of the "Beasts" has been carefully described by the famous Swiss naturalist Scheuchzer, one of the Professors of the University of Zurich, early in the 18th century. His knowledge of these creatures, commonly called "Dragons," like Mr. Sam Weller's acquaintance with London town, is "extensive and peculiar." There are dragons with wings, and dragons without them. Some have legs, and others have none. While some have the faces of men, or of cats, others have faces that defy description. Possibly some of these dragon legends may have sprung up from glimpses, caught during stormy weather, of glaciers of a serpentine form. Moreover, some of their portraits bear a striking family likeness to the Giant Salamander, traces of which were discovered by, and named after, Scheuchzer himself, near Œningen, in Switzerland. A first cousin of this creature has flourished quite recently in some of the secluded valleys of the giant granite peaks of the "Japanese Alps."

Science and religion, however, took it in turn to deal decisive blows at the mediæval horrors of the High Alps. On the one hand, the Church familiarized men with mountains, by teaching them that the solitudes they had first feared and recoiled from as the haunts of demons, might also serve as retreats from the turmoil and trouble of the world. Monks of the Hospices of the St. Bernard, the

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Simplon, and the Engelberg, were the first to scale the great peaks that stand sentinel over their lonely homes—the Mont Velan, Monte Leone, and the Titlis.

On the other hand, Science was represented by professors of the University of Zurich, who were the first to wander observantly over Alpine heights. Of these Conrad Gesner, the famous naturalist, shines as the morning star of true mountaineering. Though he flourished as early as the middle of the 16th century, Gesner loved climbing for its own sake, and registered a vow "to ascend divers mountains, or at least one every year," so long as God should grant him life. "There is no pleasure," he maintains, choicer than that of the mountaineer. "Give me a man," he asks "of reasonably good complexion in mind and body, not the slave of indolence, luxury, or passion: I would have him, likewise, a curious admirer of nature, so that by beholding and admiring the mighty works of the Master Workman, and the variety displayed in one mass among the mountains, delight of the mind should be added to the harmonious delight of all the senses: what entertainment, I ask, can you find, in this world, so worthy, so high, and in every respect, so perfect?"

Gesner's successor at Zurich was Josias Simler, who, in his Latin "Commentary on the Alps," written as far back as 1574, has a remarkable chapter "Concerning the difficulties of Alpine travel and the means by which they may be overcome."

"To guard against the slipperiness of the ice" he says "travellers firmly attach to their feet iron shoes, like those of horses, furnished with three sharp spikes. In some places they use sticks tipped with iron. . . . For the eyes something black should be put over them, or what they call 'glass spectacles' (*vitrea conspicilia*). The old ice which sometimes has to be traversed, has chasms in it, . . . into which if a man fall, he must without doubt perish. . . . . These chasms may sometimes be covered with fresh snow, . . . therefore those who then travel in the Alps hire men who know the neighbourhood to go before them as guides. These men gird themselves with a rope, to which some of those who come after them also bind themselves. The leading man sounds the way with a long pole . . . ' if he unexpectedly falls into one of the chasms, he is held up and drawn out again, by those of his comrades who are fastened to him by the same rope."

To Simler's information modern mountaineers have little to add, except perhaps a more general readiness to carry out the precautions he specificies.

Until 50 years ago, only three of the more famous Alpine peaks had felt the foot of a conqueror on their topmost heights.

In 1741, two Englishmen, Windham and Pococke, visited Chamonix, at the foot of Mont Blanc, and the story of their travels excited immense interest in Alpine affairs.

The curiosity of travellers and men of science grew greater every year, and valiant, but unsuccessful, efforts were made to scale its loftiest summit. At length, in 1786, victory was achieved by the bold guide Balmat, and his companion, Doctor Paccard. Years afterwards, Balmat perished somewhere in the icy solitudes of the great mountain, in the search for hidden gold, and his body was never found.

In 1787, the famous de Saussure made the second ascent, of which an old print in the rooms of the Alpine Club gives an interesting view.

The first lady traveller to gain the top was Md'lle D'Angeville in 1838, exactly 50 years afterwards.

The next peak to own conquest was the lovely Jungfrau, Queen of the Bernese Oberland, which capitulated in 1811, to the advances of the brothers Meyer, of Aarau, who however, surpassed this feat, the following year, by the ascent of the highest peak in the Oberland, the famous Finsteraarhorn.

History repeats itself. In the Alps the Church led the way into the mysteries of the great mountains, and paved the way for Science to follow. Then came Englishmen who loved climbing and adventure for its own sake.

In Japan it has been the same. Until a few years ago scarcely any high peak had been climbed except by way of a religious pilgrimage. Then came learned foreign teachers, English or German, in the Imperial University and elsewhere, exploring for scientific ends. Although some of their students have begun to catch something of their enthusiasm, they rarely penetrate the wilds in search of adventure, where much exertion is involved. And one may travel for a whole summer's month in the Japanese Alps, or in the great peaks between Koshu and Shinshu, without meeting a human being, excepting a solitary woodcutter, or a hunter.

It is the decade between 1855 and 1865 that may fairly be entitled the golden age of Alpine Ascents and Adventures.

The famous Wetterhorn, now sadly notorious to all of us through the dreadful disasters of last summer, had been ascended in 1844 from Meiringen in the Bernese Oberland. But what did more than anything else, to popularize climbing as a sport, was the first ascent of this beautiful "Peak of Storms" from Grindelwald, 10 years later, by the present Mr. Justice Wills. The climb is now one of the favourite expeditions of the lovely valley above which the graceful snow cone towers aloft nearly 10,000 feet, in grandeur unexcelled.

Then came the highest peak of Monte Rosa, in 1855; the Eiger, in 1857; the Schreckhorn, "Peak of Terrors," in 1859; and, last, grandest, and most terrible of all, the mighty Matterhorn, in 1865; all these, and more, far-famed for splendour of form, or notorious for many a tragedy that has woven a spell of sadness about their names, all in turn gave way before the determined onslaughts of Englishmen, whose names are no less noted in literature, science, politics or art, than for strenuous effort and successful attainment—John Tyndall, Leslie Stephen, Edward Whymper, and the Buxton brothers, led the van.

The Alpine Club was founded in the year 1857. For some years past the growth of railways had rendered Switzerland more accessible; the number of mountaineers was growing yearly; and public interest in, and even sympathy with, mountaineering had been aroused by the publication of accounts of adventurous ascents of mountains previously held inaccessible. It was felt that kindred spirits ought to have a chance and place of meeting, to compare notes on past adventures, and to plan new expeditions.

The majority of the original members were men of my own University, of Cambridge, and a list of half of them and their successors enumerates a roll-call of some of the most distinguished scholars and scientists of the last half century—Lightfoot, Hort, Francis Maitland Balfour and a host of others only less known to fame. Their lead was followed by Tyndall, Ruskin, and many more, who, though they differed in professions, tastes, and attainments, all agreed in a common love for the great mountains, and for the pursuit that offers a pathway into the beauties and mysteries enshrined within their fastnesses.

In the year 1854 the editor of "Murray's Handbook for Switzerland" had written of the ascent of Mont Blanc, that "it is a somewhat remarkable fact that a large proportion of those who have made it, have been persons of unsound mind." Yet Mr. Murray himself very shortly afterwards became an enthusiastic member of the Alpine Club. It is the most cosmopolitan club in the world, numbering, as it does, amongst its ordinary members, the famous Italian explorer, the Duke of the Abruzzi, cousin of the King of Italy, and conqueror of Mt. St. Elias in Alaska, and several of his distinguished fellow countrymen; while on the other hand it inscribes on its roll of honorary members men like Sven Hedin, the Stanley of Asia, Nansen, and, last and best, that man of strenuous life, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America.

There is no specified standard of qualification for membership of the Club. A few members are elected for distinguished services in the realms of Alpine art and scientific research; but the majority only as mountaineers in the ordinary sense of the term, and those only can obtain election who have done at least three separate seasons' work in mountaineering above the snow-line, amongst the more difficult peaks and passes of Alpine regions. Its President is Sir W. Martin Conway, the Slade Professor of Fine Art at Cambridge. The Club numbers now about 600 members, and, as an institution, has proved to be the parent of fruitful children each more prolific than itself, since the societies to which it has given birth in Austria, Germany, France, Italy and Switzerland, own collectively some 40,000 adherents, though in no case is an actual climbing qualification necessary. The *Alpine Journal*, published quarterly, for the past 40 years, is a fascinating "Record of mountain adventure and scientific observation by members of the Alpine Club," in regions as far apart as Norway and New Zealand, Alaska and the Andes, the Caucasus, the Himalayas, Central Africa and even Japan.

I feel that while an apology is due for having traversed so much ground before arriving at any story of actual and personal adventures, it was needful to say something in detail to pave the way to a clear understanding of mountaineering in its truest aspects. There is a much more serious side than is usually imagined, and many are the lessons for life's work that it has to teach any who are willing to learn. If the Japanese emblem of successful effort in life, is that of a carp ascending a waterfall, I can not think of a worthier one for the rest of us than a true mountaineer climbing a difficult peak.

We may not think of all the lessons while we are climbing, but a retrospect will seldom fail to provide food for reflection. At least, I find it so as my recollections answer a call for a story, and proceed to recount the experiences of a memorable August day, five years ago, on the most interesting and exciting expedition I have ever had the good fortune to accomplish—the first complete crossing of the Eiger Joch, without guides.

This famous pass lies between the Eiger and the Mönch, two of the most striking summits of the Bernese Oberland, familiar to all visitors to the Lake of Thun, near Interlaken. The thrilling story of its first crossing by a party of Englishmen and their guides, is told by Sir Leslie Stephen in his great Alpine classic, "The Playground of Europe." In August, 1859, they delivered their attack, and, but narrowly escaping defeat, only arrived at the top of the pass after 14 hours of the most difficult ice-work. The expedition proved equal, as Sir Leslie Stephen tells us, in beauty and difficulty to any pass and a half in the Alps. On the southern side, the party were overtaken by darkness and had to pass the night on some rocks on the right bank of the Ewig Schneefeld. The Eggishorn was reached the next morning, nearly 30 hours from the outset of the expedition.

With a lively recollection, therefore, of its past history, with a corresponding sense of probable difficulties, my friend Somerset Bullock and I made the Eiger Joch the chief item and, in more senses than one of the prospective *pièce de resistance*, of our mountaineering menu for the summer of 1897. Although we had both climbed a good deal without guides, and possessed absolute confidence in each other's powers, we sufficiently respected the nature of the work before us to be ready to employ competent guides. Those we had invited, however, in the valley of Lanterbrunnen, declined to come, as soon as they heard the name "Eiger Joch." The yearly changes in the steep and broken ice-fall of the glacier and the new difficulties they involve are often so great as to deter any but the best men from accepting the labour and responsibility of leading so formidable an expedition.

Driven therefore to make a virtue of necessity, and not unwilling to score off croakers disposed to laugh us to scorn, we determined to play the game without professionals and see if in our match *v.* the Eiger Joch we could not win it off our own bats. So far as we knew the climb had not previously been done by amateurs alone.

On a glorious morning in mid July, then, we left our quarters at the well-known hotel on the Kleine Scheideck. The splendid terrace-shaped ice masses, separated by great chasms, or rent and torn in wild confusion, towered

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above our heads and above one another, like the ruined defences of some Titanic fortifications. An hour's walk over the broken, grassy slopes of the Kleine Scheideck took us to the foot of the Eiger, and we were soon on the Eiger glacier and struggling with the crux of the climb, the intricacies of the great ice-fall. At one time we found ourselves lying flat in little gutters on the faces of the séracs (as these broken masses of ice are called), worming ourselves along like boa-constrictors. The next moment we were balancing ourselves on a knife edge of ice between two crevasses, or plunging into the very depths of the glacier, with a natural arch of ice meeting above our heads. But bit by bit we gained ground, and at length emerged towards the centre of the frozen cataract, skirting under some threatening séracs which soon began to melt into chilly tears of pity at our presumption in venturing to storm such a fortress, without the guidance of expert campaigners. We were soon rewarded by the sight of one of the grandest crevasses I have ever seen.

The picture was framed, as Bullock aptly described it, in a setting of gigantic spear points and wedges of ice, towering sixty feet above us, while in the depths of its cold blue vault hung huge icicles like monster organ pipes. But the only music was the slow drip-drip of melting snow, and the hollow clatter of falling débris. Nothing could exceed the beauty of such a scene. Some of the séracs rose in the most fantastic shapes. Sometimes like a gigantic toadstool balanced on a slender stalk, or like church spires or square towers defended by trenches of unfathomable blue depth. Here our way was barred, and further progress seemed impossible. However, we had been working hard, so I suggested a good square meal, after which our vision might grow clearer. We then sat down on our rücksacks under the shade of a firm-based spreading sérac, a shelter pleasant enough when it ceased to drop its icy tears of unneeded sympathy down the back of our necks.

The result of our consultation led us to determine to keep close to the base of the Klein Eiger, as the spur is called, which projects from the Eiger itself into the glacier, and to force our way through the maze of crevasses to the rocky spur on the glacier's (true) right bank. In Leslie Stephen's historic first ascent, this had been proposed, but was negatived—a mistake that afterwards proved nearly fatal to the expedition. As a matter of fact the crevasses of this ice-fall are so intricate, and their size so huge, that when once one has got into their jaws it is almost impossible to tell where you are till you get out again, either at the bottom or the top. Working hard, however, we somehow succeeded in climbing, crawling, or cutting our way through till we were again nearly in the shadow of the dark rocks on our left. Here we entered a gully in the ice, thinly caked with snow, at an angle of nearly 60°. By dint of hard step-cutting we reached the top, only to find that half an hour had been wasted, for a detour of a few yards lower down would have avoided the ascent altogether. The "longest way round" would have been "the shortest way home." But that is a trick the Eiger Joch is fond of playing you.

On the other side of the gully we found a mighty ice chasm partly choked by the débris of a great sérac, which afforded a safe but rugged road across. This gave access to a snow slope abutting on the Kleine Eiger, for which we were aiming. Up this we quickly kicked steps, and to our intense delight reached steep but solid rocks that gave a welcome and safer way of progression. Climbing these quickly we rose nearly 500 feet in half an hour. With our bodies rose our spirits also, for we found we had overtopped the ice-fall and its dangers and there was no chance of sérac or avalanche interfering with our enjoyment.

The rocks we crossed transversely until we once more neared the glacier, with which they were joined by another tongue of snow. To get on to this we had to somehow scale a perpendicular wall of snow ten feet high. My friend, as the lighter man, kindly volunteered to use me as a ladder, and mounted, first on my back and then on my shoulders, but still failed to reach and grip the edge of the snowy barrier. He finally solved the difficulty by stepping on to my head, and the way he "took off" from that spot, shod as he was in the heaviest Alpine boots I ever knew, left in more senses than one a very decided and permanent impression behind.

He then calmly remarked that there was a grand view, that our difficulties were over, and that he felt uncommonly pleased with himself. I, rubbing my head at the foot of the snow wall in semi-darkness, was not in a position to share his appreciation. However, with the help of a long silk sash let down from above and with much struggling and kicking on my own part, I overtopped the edge, stood by my friend, and then was able to shout "hurrah" with him at our success. Behind us was the Eiger, in front rose the mighty Mönch, its dark precipitous cliffs draped with shining, hanging glaciers, that send down their avalanches with a thunderous roar, reechoed from the opposite cliffs with appalling effect. Below us, to our right, lay the séracs and crevasses we had climbed or circumvented: to the left an obvious route was at our disposal through less broken ice, and beyond and above them towered the tremendous ice-slopes for one thousand five hundred feet over which the rest of our upward way we knew must lie.

A close, quick survey of the scene, to photograph it clearly in our memory for the morrow's venture, and we turned to descend. In three hours and a half we were back at our hotel at tea, followed by a shower bath and, after that—the deluge. It seemed hard lines, to have got over the main difficulties, to have, so to speak, got out our most dangerous opponents, and then for rain to stop play! The match was postponed for a fortnight owing to continuous bad weather.

At 2.45 a.m. on Monday, August 2nd, three sleepy individuals "might have been seen," had any others been so foolish as to be looking out at such an unearthly hour, stealing burglar-like away from the Bellevue Hotel, where all the other guests and domestics were sound asleep. My friend and I had with us a Swiss peasant, known to be strong, and believed to be a capable climber, to carry some of our provisions, etc., on our final assault on the Eiger Joch. In two days Bullock was due to start for home, so it was a case of "now or never," and with the promise of fine weather we had made up our mind it should be "now."

In spite of the storms and snow of the past two weeks we succeeded in retracing our route without a check, to the great admiration of our companion, and in four hours or so had regained the highest point then reached. Here we sat down for our "second breakfast," and then hauled ourselves up to the top of the snow wall and "made tracks" for the foot of the great ice slopes far above us, without delay. Soon we had left the crevassed glacier behind us, crossed a level plateau of snow and found ourselves at the great bergschrund, the chasm where the glacier proper separates from the ice slopes covering the rocks above. Sometimes such a bergschrund is the most serious obstacle encountered on a mountain climb, and has to be crossed by a narrow bridge of frozen snow, needing the greatest care. On the way down, its passage occasionally provides an exhilarating experience, as one may either clear it with a flying leap, or toboggan over it—without a toboggan. At times the attitudes in which the feat is performed are the reverse of graceful.

This time the bergschrund on the Eiger Joch was well bridged over with firm snow and we crossed it with ease. It was now eight o'clock, and we celebrated our success with another breakfast. For on these expeditions at high altitudes it pays one to eat often. Looking up at the great slopes of dazzling snow towering, steeply into a sky of deepest blue, my friend called out, "We shall be at the top in three quarters of an hour." "No," I said, "it's higher than it looks, it will take at least twice as long." The issue showed how unwise it is to prophesy until you know. We little guessed what those lovely snowslopes had in store for us. After crossing the bergschrund we began to kick steps in the snow and for half an hour our upward progress was fairly fast. By and by the snowy covering of the slopes began to thin out. Step-kicking soon gave way to step scraping, and at last step-cutting in earnest became the order of the day. At first the slope was only about 50° it then steepened to 55°.

Up to this time Bullock had been leading, and splendidly had he worked for nearly five hours, so now I took my turn and went in front. I admired his skill more than ever when I got there! At every yard the ice grew harder and our progress rivalled the average pace of a Japanese legal process or a snail not fond of active exercise. The fragments of ice chipped out by the axe skidded with a musical ring down the glassy steep to the bergschrund below.

The porter at the bottom of the rope now began to lose his head, as a preliminary to losing his feet, and insisted upon either tying himself into a knot with the loose end of the rope, or in letting it drag after him in a huge loop, in his frantic efforts to embrace Bullock as a precautionary measure in case of a slip. In pathetic tones he begged me, from forty feet below, to "please make bigger holes as my feet are so big and your steps so small." To please him and keep him quiet Bullock enlarged the steps between himself and me, but even this was not enough, and the porter found it needful to enlarge the icy staircase till even a small elephant could have romped up it! As a matter of fact the result of a slip would probably have been, that "the rest of our lives would have been spent in sliding down the snowslope, and that that method of progress would not have lasted long enough to prove monotonous."

Meanwhile I cut steadily on—sometimes with both hands at the axe, sometimes with one hand only, to give the other a rest. Bullock offered to relieve me at the work, but we could not have reversed the order of our going, without risking a catastrophe through the porter's unsteadiness, and I held on. Hour after hour passed by and the distance seemed scarcely to decrease, and the crest of the icy ridge to grow no nearer. And yet the time passed by quickly, somehow. Probably the constant tension of the nerves, and the absolute need for presence of mind, forbade all thought of anything but the next step in front and our ultimate goal. "Look but one step ahead, and secure that step," was our motto. My friend tells me that, for him, motion upward at length became merely mechanical, as he realized that no personal effort on his part would accelerate arrival any more than a railway passenger could quicken the speed of the train by anxiously poking his head out of the window. He remembered wishing for the loan of a pair of wings, but his anxiety to be off the slope was mainly due to the constant reminders of insecurity which he received from our elephantine friend below.

After four hours' ceaseless cutting, at length came a rest. I hacked out the last step, and was able to grip the edge of an outcrop of rocks jutting from the snow. But we found them too rotten to climb, and we had to cut steps in the ice again for thirty or forty feet before we could reach a ledge firm enough to cling to, while we made a long needed meal. Half an hour's well-earned rest passed all too speedily, and at 2 o'clock we were again on the move. As far as possible, we kept to the rock, treading as lightly as we could, though now and then the porter despatched the larger part of some projecting mass with a thunderous clatter down the slopes beneath. We were now approaching the foot of the great wall of broken red rocks that forms the actual crest of the topmost ridge between the Eiger and the Mönch. Disintegration had worked ceaselessly and surely to compass the ruin of the rocky fortress, whose tall towers tossed their fantastic forms to a now angry looking sky. Bullock had gone to the front, and with interest I watched his manœuvres on the rocks above me. Take a typical bit as a sample of the rest. A ticklish corner has to be negotiated. At present he is in an excellent step: on his left is a bulging rock jutting out of the steep smooth ice. "Is the rope taut?" he asks, without turning.

"Yes."

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"Steady a moment, then."

Good, a convenient ledge rejoices his fingers, and just as he has to make the turn a deep narrow crack is felt on the other side into which he thrusts his arm up to the shoulder. He passes out of our sight, and in a moment sees we have done with horizontal traversing and can ascend by rocks and ice to the top of the ridge.

"Are you firm?" I call out.

"All right, come along, but slowly, and mind that porter."

He wedges himself in a convenient crack, hitches the slack of the rope over a projecting knob of rock and begins to haul. Foot by foot the rope is gathered in and at last he sees my right hand appearing round the corner, feeling for a hold.

"Higher up!" he calls out.

Up go my fingers, tentacle-like, into a crack, and a moment later I stand by his side.

With the rope still secure, Bullock goes on, leaving me to pilot the porter—and give him suitable advice.

And then we mount again, half by rocks, half by the ice, and our spirits again rise with us, for we feel we are drawing near the long and hard-fought-for goal. It is difficult to clearly communicate to others the many and varied fascinations of such a struggle with its alternations of hopes and fears, its disappointments and its victories. At last a grim shoulder of rock is successfully turned, and a shout from our leader announces, "We are up"—an incredulous smile, not altogether inaudible, greets the news, and then he challenges me, "Well, come and see for yourself."

Five minutes later we are on the highest point of the ridge; on the left is the jagged rocky arete we have overcome, on our right a narrow corniced edge of snow.

During the intense excitement and interest of the last two hours scrambling, our attention had been so wholly absorbed with our work that we had had no time to think of the weather. But with the tension relaxed we began to look about, and saw that lurid clouds were brooding over the distant peaks, and that the sooner we got off the ridge the better. We were nearly at the height of the top of Fuji, and how to get down as quickly as possible was the question of the hour. On our right were the slopes on which we had spent nearly eight hours of unceasing toil: on our left black cliffs falling nearly sheer for 3000 feet to the Viescher Glacier below were impracticable. We must go straight on.

The porter, whose fears, dispelled by our victory over the ice slope, had now returned with reinforcements, became our chief danger. The low muttering of the thunder, and the weird lights and shadows playing across the ridge on which we were balanced, were too much for him. His teeth chattering with terror he closed up to me and begged us in agonized tones to go back, as mad a proposal as ever was made on a mountain. A sudden flash of lightning shot from the clouds, and without waiting for the music, we started along the narrow edge of the corniced ridge. With a mixture of German and Japanese I frightened our frantic friend into keeping his tears and his embraces for a more fitting time, and we steadily moved on. The wild beauty of the ice world here was astonishingly impressive. The edge of snow below which we were passing exhibited every variety of form. Here, it rose like a wave arrested and frozen ■ the moment of breaking into spray, or like a gigantic arum lily, there a fringe of fantastic lace, or the teeth of some fabled monster of myth. As we sounded the snow, with our ice-axes, they pierced it to the hilt, with a starry window through which the eye peered to rock or snow two thousand feet or more beneath. Cautiously but quickly we pressed on at a safe distance from the edge of the cornice, but before we could quite gain the point where we could cross, and turn downwards on the southern side, the storm burst upon us.

As Bullock remarked, we were in an atmosphere charged with electricity, surrounded by the very thunder cloud itself. Like the hiss of a hundred serpents the lightning sizzed over the snow, and sang weird strains about our steel axe heads. Woollen gloves provided a certain amount of protection as non-conductors, but the sensations were still sufficiently uncanny. Bullock said his head felt as if a tiny whirlwind had started in his hair, and that his funnybones behaved in an inconveniently jocular way. I saw him take off his hat to see if his hair was on fire, and then he found it standing erect like a bristly blacking brush. As the electricity seemed to be charging him too much, I insisted on having a change of axes, but he still felt, he said, uncommonly like an animated lightning conductor. Before us the white bulk of the Mönch now loomed out of the mist with strange distinctness, or again appeared wrapped in semi-transparent vapours. Below us, in the great glacier basin to the south, whole armies of dark clouds were massing, and I have rarely seen a stranger sight than this silent hurrying on of panic-stricken black battalions, soundless only until with startling suddenness the ranks lit up, and then the roll of heaven's artillery echoed and reecohed from peak to peak.

At last we were on the summit of the Eiger Joch, 11,875 feet above the sea and 5,000 above our starting point on the Kleine Scheidegg. It was 4.30 p.m., and we had been working hard, with the exception of about 50 minutes' halt for food, for over 14 hours continuously. And so as we left the top of the hard-won pass, it was rather an anti-climax to turn to the left, through the gathering mists, and begin a gentle descent over the soft deep snow that the past fortnight's Föhn wind had piled on its southern side. The porter again came metaphorically to the fore, and even attempted what we believed to be a joke. He still, however, persisted in pressing too close to me in his elephantine gambollings on the rope to be agreeable, since each onward downward step involved a tread on my heels from his monstrous boots or a painful poke in the back with his ponderous axe.

We had been going steadily for nearly an hour from the top, intending to make for the Bergli "Club Hut" as our night quarters, when the séracs of the Viescher glacier hove in sight. Mindful, however, of warm welcomes and cosy shelter lower down in past expeditions, we suddenly made up our minds to exchange the doubtful luxuries of a night at nearly 11,000 feet, on mouse-infested straw and short rations, for the certain pleasure of good beds and fresh food in plenty, at the Bäregg Châlet, an hour's walk above the valley of Grindelwald.

Instead, therefore, of crossing the Mönch Joch to the Bergli Hut, we gave it a wide berth, to our right, and steered straight for the ice-fall that dropped abruptly from the snow plateau which we were now crossing.

For two hours onwards the work was of a very difficult and intricate character, for the broken cataract abounds with crevasses of great size and depth, and only the amount of snow that partly filled them made the passage possible. We were more than pleased at the result, when at length we emerged from the icy labyrinth, and looked up at it, for we saw we had come down by the only possible route, and we afterwards learnt that the passage had probably never before been accomplished.

After consuming the remainder of our store of bread and marmalade, we continued our march across the now easy glacier, and succeeded in reaching the further side, where we unroped just as twilight was softening the passes and the peaks above and around us. Here a faint track crosses a rocky promontory on the left called the Kalli, on the way to the Bäregg Chalet and Grindelwald. Of this, however, our porter knew nothing, and while we were taking the ice-nails from our boots and coiling up the now no longer needed rope, he started to glissade the steep snow slopes below us, exclaiming that he knew of no path across the Kalli, and preferred to take his chance of getting to Grindelwald and his family, by the glacier all the way. Under the circumstances the project was so foolish that we felt bound to prevent it, and a good half hour was lost in fetching him back to safety.

Darkness had now risen from valley to peak, and as we left the glacier for the rocks, we felt our difficulties were even not yet done with. The precious half hour of which the porter's folly had robbed us, would just have taken us over the worst of the broken rocky slopes, but now the faint track, needing care even by daylight, was trying in the extreme. The porter declared it was impossible, and his eye lighting on some dark slimy rocks over which small icy cascades were pouring he coolly suggested we should sleep under them. Such a course would have led to repose of too permanent a character, and the proposition was dismissed with scorn. By-and-by we came to a rickety ladder, down which we crept gingerly, and below it I stumbled on an empty wine bottle. A lucky stroke with the point of my ice-axe made a clean hole in the bottom of this, which a candle I fortunately had in my pocket exactly fitted, but only after vainly striking some dozens of damp matches, did we manage to get a light. Our own alpine lantern had unfortunately slipped out of its owner's pocket, and found a grave in the Eiger Joch bergschrund, earlier in the day, and the loss we felt considerably. With the aid of our solitary flickering flame we picked our way slowly down, and wind and rain ceased as we finally stepped off the rocks on to the hummocky surface of the Lower Grindelwald Glacier, which was now the only barrier between us and the Bäregg Chalet.

Like fireflies we flitted to and fro, threading the crevasses where they were wide and jumping them when narrow. Slowly we zigzagged across, only to find ourselves cut off by a foaming torrent in its icy channel. We retreated and tried lower down, but again with no success. Just then a terrific roar burst through the stillness of the night and down from a hanging glacier crowning the Kalli cliffs to our left, a mighty avalanche thundered on to the glacier below. The huge pile of ice and snow that marked its resting place the next morning showed how tremendous must be the force of such a gigantic cascade, though, seen as it usually is, from a great distance, it is difficult to realize what the apparent puff of white smoke from a mountain side actually represents. It was ten minutes before the echoes had ceased to reverberate in the great defile between the cliffs, and by that time we had managed to lose each other in our tantalizing search for a way off the river of ice. Up and down in the hollows amongst the waves of ice the candle flitted. Was this will 'o'the wisp wandering never to cease? we were beginning to ask, when suddenly a cry from the leader is heard, "Here it is; we're off."

And, sure enough, so we were. Half a dozen steps took us off the last ice-hummock; on to the path we scrambled and by it we mounted to the well known wooden ladders below our heaven of rest. How endless those ricketty rungs seemed. The windows of the lonely chalet showed no light, and long and loud we knocked before the welcome answer came. It was one o'clock in the morning, but they received us as warmly as long looked for friends. Soon we were sitting before a roaring fire, revelling in such coffee, honey, bread, and butter as never was. Considering we had been hard at work for 22 hours with very little rest, we felt surprising fresh, and reminiscences of the climb were discussed with amusement and contentment. At 2 a.m. we turned in and slept the sleep of the satisfied.

The question many are bound to ask, who probably think we mountaineers are making a toil of pleasure, is a more than incredulous "But does it really repay you? What is there in it after all?"

Well, we who do go mountain scrambling as our best recreation have at least some objects worthy of attainment set before us. We believe in the superiority of fixed purpose and perseverance to brute force.

We know that each height, each single step must be gained by patient, laborious toil, and that wishing cannot take the place of working. We know the benefits of mutual aid, and the need of mutual unselfishness; that though many a difficulty has to be faced, still we know that "where there's a will there's a way." And, if we are climbing in the right spirit, we shall come back

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to our daily work better fitted to fight the battle of life, and to overcome the obstacles in our way all the more bravely, because we are strengthened and cheered by the recollection of past labours, and by the memories of victories won in other fields.

But what of the risks, you will ask. Yes, risks there are, but not in greater degree than in some other active sports one could name. And in spite of the tragedies associated with so many mountain climbs, very few need have happened, and most could have been prevented with self-restraint and proper care. The prudent climber will not as a rule scramble about ice slopes or a crevassed glacier alone, or without a rope, where the slip would be fatal. He will take care to shun the tracks of falling stones. He will not venture on a snow cornice where his weight is likely to break through the over-hanging crest. He will shun the passage of *steep ice slopes*, when not properly roped to competent companions. In dangerous weather he will turn as soon as the judgment of good guides counsels retreat, and not insist on pressing on through fear of seeming too careful. Such cautions as these are recognized by all true mountaineers. Adherence to them affords the nearest approach to the elimination of serious risks in climbing. It is to the culpable carelessness, or folly, that defies these recognized rules that the majority of accidents are due.

"The little more, and how much it is!
The little less, and Oh! what worlds away!"

While in mountaineering, as in many other of the more active forms of sport, there must be always some risk, with proper precautions most serious accidents need never have happened. Observing these precautions, our scrambles in the Alps will repay a thousand-fold the toil they exact, for they give us some of the best of all gifts, renewed health of body, an invigorated mind, uplifted by contact with what is grandest in nature, and, above all, friendships unselfish, staunch, and true. And, ever and again, we may carry away, from our struggles with the great mountains, some inspiration, and encouragement to face afresh the difficulties, the tortuousness and the toil of life's upward way, with firmer faith in a competent Leader.

So that then, our record here will be an echo of the *Epitaph* of a famous and faithful guide, who not long ago perished, doing his duty, in the attempt to save the English traveller he was leading on a noble peak:

"Found Climbing."

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In an article contributed to the *Yomiuri Shimbun* some little time ago, attention was drawn to the physical defects and diseases caused by consanguineous marriages in Japan, and the writer went as far as to condemn even the marriage of cousins. According to the investigations made by Dr. Kanasugi, quoted in the article, almost 20 per cent. of the existing deaf and dumb cases may be traced to intermarriage between blood relations. Dr. Kako has been investigating the effect of these marriages on the sight. He has found that in producing a form of retinitis that affects the sense of colour, consanguineous marriages have played an important part. Out of 24 cases examined he found 10 of these to be instances of this kind. It is said that in Western countries the proportion is ⅓ or ¼ of the total number of cases. There are writers, says the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, who argue that there is nothing objectionable in the marriage of cousins and who quote cases from history in which very remarkable children were produced by cousins who had married. Our law does not forbid such marriages, and so they have become very common throughout the country. They are contracted in ignorance of the risks involved. It is high time that the attention of the public was drawn to the subject. In ancient China such marriages were condemned, as is shown by the old saying *Dōsei* (同姓) *ai-metōrazu*.

The *Shigakkai* (*Historical World*) has an article on "The origin of the *Edokko* and their Character," which is decidedly interesting. Here is the pith of it. The old saying *Azuma-otoko ni Kyō-onna* indicates that many centuries ago men from Azuma in the East, that is, from Edo, and women from Kyōto were considered the pick of Japanese mankind. The women were praised on account of their physical beauty, but it was the mental qualities of the men that attracted attention. What were these mental qualities? They may be thus briefly enumerated. A delight in physical strength and its exercise in defence of the weak and the oppressed or in redressing grievances. Once having decided on a course the *Edokko* or *Otokodate* objected to give way to anybody or anything, even though their action might mean death to themselves. To them no shame was so great as the shame of defeat or failure to fulfil a purpose, whether that purpose was great or small. They were averse to uttering falsehoods under any pretence whatever, and were advocates of candour and outspokenness on all occasions. There was none of the spirit of forbearance enjoined by Christ in them. Instead of turning the other cheek to the smiter, they would smite back again with all the strength they possessed. When once embarked on an enterprise, the amount of hardship they were prepared to undergo in order to bring it to a successful issue was astonishing. But they made no distinction between great things and small, between worthy objects and unworthy ones, therefore they became a veritable pest to society, with their boastful language, their extreme violence and their quarrelsome ways. The term *Edokko* is now no longer anything but a title of reproach, and such lines as *Eddoko wa, go-gatsu no koi no fuki-nagashi; kuchi-saki bakari, harawata wa nashi* (The Edoites are like the carp that are carried down the stream by the force of the wind; all mouth, and with nothing good inside) well express the contempt in which they are now held. They make a boast of being spendthrifts, getting rid of the day's earnings within the day, their boast being *yoigoshi no zeni wo tsukawazu* (To use no money that was earned the day before). Another saying of theirs expresses the same sentiment, *Edokko no umare sokonai, kura wo tate* (The Edoite that becomes rich enough to erect a godown went wrong at birth [was not born a true Edoite]). They preach a gospel of improvidence. Yet in the minds of many of the lower classes, of fishmongers, firemen and the like, there is still a feeling of admiration for these sentiments.

It is pertinent to ask how did it come about that such an extremely perverted state of mind grew to be considered worthy of the highest praise? The answer is that the *rôle* played by the plebeian gallants calling themselves *otokodate* was an imitation of the ways of the *samurai* who served Ieyasu and his successors. These warriors carried things with a high hand and acted on the principle that might was right. Though Ieyasu succeeded in crushing the spirit out of many of the *daimyō* by the restrictions to which he subjected them, their followers still retained their traditional swash-buckler ways. Many were the disturbances that occurred among the *hatamoto*. Their demeanour to the lower orders was that of superiors to inferiors and was marked by violence and injustice. The *Edokko* represented an attempt on the part of the oppressed classes to defend themselves against the professional warriors, that is, an attempt to meet force with force. In imitating the *samurai* the *otokodate* frequently went far beyond him in unreasonableness of conduct and general eccentricity. Some of these stalwarts were in the habit of going to shops with swords in their belts, eating and drinking whatever they could lay hands on and either leaving without paying at all, if they happened to have no money, or throwing a handful of coins at the shopman when they had any, scorning the notion of change and threatening the man with instant death who dared to insult them by offering it. The airs they put on knew no bounds, and they valued the obeisance and cringing servility of the lower orders more than their own lives. In order to harden themselves, they purposely partook of the most unsavoury dishes. Among these were mole-soup, minced pickled frogs, chopped salted worms, centipede soup, and grilled rats. In summer they would close up their rooms, put on wool-lined garments, sit beside large charcoal fires and eat hot things. In winter they did the opposite. They affected shortness of speech, abbreviating words at will to save the trouble of pronouncing long words, *namida* (tears) became *nada*; *koto de aru* became *koto da* and *konda**; *buchi-kakeru, bukkakeru* (Even now *misu wo bukkakeru* is often heard† In reference to the lower orders in Tōkyō the term *Berammei-shakai* is frequently used. This is a contraction of *berabō-me shakai* and originated with the *otokodate*. Thus it is seem that originally the Edokko were a kind of *quasi samurai*. In the time of Tokugawa Tsunayoshi, on Aug. 8th of the third year of Teikyō, an order was issued forbidding both *samurai* and plebeians to act the *otokodate* under penalty of death. In one month some 200 stalwarts who had disobeyed this order were arrested, 37 of whom were beheaded. But this persecution of the Japanese knights-errant did not last long, for shortly after the above named date Tsunayoshi lost interest in political affairs, and things were allowed to slide as they would. In later times the *otokodate* again figured conspicuously and even to-day, as remarked above, there still lingers in the minds of the uneducated a feeling of admiration for these self-appointed redressers of the world's wrongs.

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The following comparison of Japanese military men and naval men was published in the *Chūō Kōron* a short time ago. It doubtless contains some elements of truth:—

Military Men.	Naval Men.
(1) When they meet people they glare at them.	(1) They meet people with smiling faces.
(2) They walk pompously, treading the ground roughly.	(2) They walk gently on their toes.
(3) They are lacking in observation, are ill informed and stupid.	(3) They are keen observers, well informed and sharp.
(4) In all things they are bigoted.	(4) They are of a meek disposition and docile.
(5) In body they are strong, but have a rough appearance.	(5) They are pliable and susceptible to training.
(6) Their demeanour to others is arrogant.	(6) They are on terms of friendship with everybody.
(7) Even officers are unpolished.	(7) The officers are very refined.
(8) They are dull-witted and show this specially in studying foreign languages.	(8) They are quick-witted and master foreign tongues with ease.
(9) Even the officers are poor speakers.	(9) Most of the officers express themselves well.
(10) The result of the above is a certain childishness of nature.	(10) Their acquaintance with general affairs and susceptibility expose them to temptation which the military man escapes.

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In the fortnightly Literary Supplement published by the *Kokumin Shimbun* appears an article entitled 達觀論 *Takkanron* (Seeing through things) in which the writer, Mr. Yamaji Yakichi, points out how history repeats itself in various ways, how old things appear under new names, leading keen observers of the world's events to come to the conclusion, long ago reached by a wise man, that "there is nothing new under the sun" The following is the substance of Mr. Yamaji's essay: There was a time when everything new attracted me on account of its novelty, but now I have begun to see that what men call new is in a great many cases only a revival of the old. When the Manchester school of free-traders thought they were enunciating a new principle, they were in reality only following a practice observed in China hundreds of

* Even now some of the lower orders say *nan no konda* for *nan no koto da*.—(Writer of Summary.)

† This contraction of words has prevailed in some of the provinces. The Sendai people say *beri*, instead of *bakari*.—(Writer of Summary.)

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years before.* There are a great many so-called new things which are only old things with new names. Take the American millionaire who now dominates society and threatens to undermine democracy. He would seem to be quite new, and in some respects he does differ from all former rulers. But it is a fact that in every age power has had a tendency to make a particular class its centre. Heads of houses, heads of clans and the like were the first to command the homage of mankind. Then came the feudal age, when the ownership of land played so large a part in settling the extent of a lord's political power. In modern days, in America at any rate, money has taken the place of land. Society has always found an antidote to the usurpation of power by classes who have no inherent right to possess it, and State socialism will deal with the millionaire within the century in which we have entered. The tendency for inequalities to establish themselves is something that has existed in all times, but it has always been accompanied by a variety of equalizing forces. The same principles have been at work all though the ages and all political events are but the operation of certain fixed laws. What then, I ask, is there new in the world? Science is new, says one. How can we say so when we think of such wonders as the Pyramids, the great Wall of China, and a hundred other great monuments of the knowledge possessed by the distant ancestors of the human race? Japan in her present mood is ever in search of the new. But often when she thinks she has found it, she discovers that it is only the old come back under a new name. Our modern watchword seems to be 自己實現, *Jikō jitsugen*, the self-realism dwelt on so much by Nietzsche; and the idea is that this is quite new. But turn to that part of the writings of Mencius known as *Banshō* (萬章). There you will find the same principle insisted on. And Nietzsche's "original desire" of mankind and what he writes about it resembles very closely what Chwantsz (莊子) taught hundreds of years ago. So look where we will, we find that the mind of man traverses no new regions in reality, though men often persuade themselves that they have done so.

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Mr. Ōmachi Keigetsu, writing on "Successful Newspapers" says: In China newspapers are not popular, even the rich do not read them. In Japan however poor a man may be, he is to be seen poring over his newspaper. The universality of our education has brought this about. It is true that such papers as the *Nippon*, the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Kokumin* cannot be understood by uneducated people. The class for which such papers are published is a very limited one. Hence in the present economic state of the country their profits can never be very large. What are called the "Small Newspapers" are far more widely read and as educators of the ignorant masses their services deserve the gratitude of society generally, though they have by no means received it. The price at which these papers are sold being only about 20 *sen* per month, they are within the reach of the poorest members of the community. What makes them popular is their news-scraps and their *feuilletons*. The items of news given are not of a kind to interest educated people, but they suit the small-minded, busy classes for whom they are penned. By many people these news items would be considered unreadable. Fornication, adultery, bribery, theft, love suicides furnish most of the material for the taking paragraphs. Among the small newspaper of Tōkyō the *Yorozu Chōhō* is now the most prosperous. It possesses a good staff of writers and promises well for the future. That the small newspapers have got hold of the lower orders is a subject for congratulation, but on the other side of the account is to be put the undoubted harm which these newspapers do by the insertion in their columns of contaminating matter.

Commenting on printing and publishing in modern Japan, Mr. Ōmachi says: Proof reading is very carelessly done. In foreign countries this art has been so developed that there are practically no mistakes* in foreign journals and books. Our type-setters are, to begin with, very incompetent and our proof-readers never think of calling an author or a contributor's attention to mistakes in the M.S. sent to the printing office, a course that would be adopted in the West. The paper used by us is very inferior, so much so that the insertion of lithographed illustrations in our magazines is very difficult. Even the most insignificant publications in foreign countries are brought out in better style than our best magazines.

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A thoughtful article entitled "A General View of the Educational World during last year" appears in the *Christian World* of which the following is the substance:—A change in the head of the Department does not always imply a change in the educational policy of the Mombushō, but in case of Baron Kikuchi's appointment the public certainly did expect that a new line would be adopted, and in this they have not altogether been disappointed. When the appointment was made one heard it frequently said, "Dr. Kikuchi is a business man rather than a scholar." This was equivalent to saying that he possessed commonsense and that his acts as a minister would be characterised by this quality. All the speeches that he has delivered have confirmed this estimate of his character. He has dwelt upon the necessity of making education a better preparation for business pursuits than it has hitherto been; he has aimed at making provision for the training of a new type of students. The commonsense section of the nation highly approves of the course he has taken. Though during the year the Department did nothing very brilliant, it gave evidence that it will in future aim at being thoroughly practical in everything and will endeavour to suit the national system of education to the exigencies of the times.

Among the educational questions which during the year 1902 attracted special attention the following are particularly worthy of mention:—(1) *The Yotsumeya affair*, though it caused a great stir at one time, was in reality a comparatively trivial matter connected with the use of a textbook. (2) Like the above, *the alleged immorality of school-girls* and all that was written on the subject were in the main gross exaggerations. Such charges as were brought against the modern school girl came from the opponents of the new system of female education. What was said will no doubt have the effect of increasing the watchfulness of all engaged in training girls." (3) Although the Department of Education early in the year projected a scheme for *foundamentally changing the school system throughout the country*; on its being submitted to the Kōtō Kyōiku Kwaigi (High Council of Education) it was disapproved of, and at the same time general public opinion condemned it unreservedly. But it is hardly likely that the Department will allow the subject to drop.† (4) *The text-book affair* is still at its height and is far from being settled. (5) Among questions on which excitement has considerably subsided is *the cultivation of public virtue* (*kōtoku*) and *the proposed abolition of school inspectors* (*shigakkan*). (6) *The establishment of non-Government Universities*.—The idea of turning the Dōshisha into a university having been abandoned at the death of Dr. Niijima, until the fall of last year the Keiōgijiku University was the only private institution that the country possessed. The Waseda Daigaku was opened in October last. It is reported that the Tetsugakkan,‡ the Meiji Hōritsu Gakkō and the Wa-Futsu Hōritsu Gakkō are all planning to become universities later on. We welcome this movement, though we cannot but be apprehensive that the standard hitherto maintained by the two Government Universities will not be kept up; yet the Waseda Daigaku seems to furnish an excellent model for a private high class educational establishment. (7) *Government Schools projected or already established.* The Hiroshima High Normal School and the Kyōtō High Industrial School were opened last year, and the intention is to establish a High Industrial School at Kōbe, a School of Agriculture and Foresty at Morioka, and a Medical University* in Kyūshū during the present year. Thus it is seen that the Department of Education is gradually putting into practice the commonsense principles which guide the present Minister in his choice of a policy to be pursued.

Chinese Education. One of the most striking features of our modern educational life is the interest we take in Korean and Chinese education. For many years past the Kaigwai Kyōikukai (Foreign Education Society) and a number of school teachers have been turning their attention to Korean education, and have been fairly successful. But it is only since the Boxer disturbances were quelled that the educational relationship of China and Japan has become very close. A large number of Chinese stndents, even including girls, are studying in this country, and we have sent a number of young men across the sea to study in China. The Anglo-Japanese Alliance seems to have given a new impetus to this movement. The former head of the Tōkyō School of Music, Mr. Watanabe Ryōsei has been appointed educational adviser to Viceroy Yuan Shi-kai. Dr. Hattori Unokichi has been made head of the teaching faculty at the Peking University. There are numerous other appointments that could be mentioned. It is a hopeful sign when such men as Mr. Kanō Jigorō and Mr. Izawa Shūji are ready to go over to China and obtain information on the spot for our guidance. The Imperial Education Society has lately appointed a Committee for the investigation of Chinese education. Other bodies are engaged in the same work.

Among the educational events of last year we must not omit to mention the visits and addresses of Mr. Darmapala (from India) and Miss Hughes from England. The former came here in the Buddhist cause, with a view of stirring up interest in the Indian subjects of King Edward. He went away with the impression that our young men had not the energy of mind or body which he expected to find. A tone of disappointment marked his latest utterances. As for Miss Hughes, though she was travelling for health, she spent 12 months in most earnest labour in the cause of female education. Such was her energy and intelligence that our bearded educationists were nowhere when compared to her. (*Nihon no hige aru kyoikuka wo shite kono ba san* (!) *no ushiro ni chisaku miyeshimetaru wo mite, tashō no kanji nakumba arazu*).

The Extension of Education. One of the most promising signs of the times is the expansion of various edcating agencies on every hand. Not only are there new schools and new universities where instruction is imparted to trained minds, but there are popular lectures on a variety of useful subjects being delivered in different parts of the country; there are fine art museums, musical societies, and libraries, and great efforts are being made to provide suitable and healthy amusements for the youog. The extra-school educational agencies are many and varied, and not a few of them are quite new.

Our review of the educational world would be incomplete did we omit to notice certain spiritual under-currents of thought. These may be briefly enumerated as the 生々主義 *Sei-sei-shugi* of the Nationalists, which advocates energy, forwardness and general activity; the Hedonism of Nietzsche; Byronism, or the worship of the beautiful, and Ghorkism. There is a

* We do not see the point of this remark. Free-trade has of course prevailed in almost every country in the world in home commerce. Markets have been allowed to regulate themselves as far as home produce is concerned. In this respect we fail to see any difference between China and any European country. —(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* We must emphasize the practically, for we have occasionary found misprints in the *Times*, the *Spectator* and the *Saturday Review*.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* This remark premises that Baron Kikuchi will remain in power another year, a very improbable supposition according to present appearances in the political world.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

‡ This was written before the appearance of the cloud which has enveloped that institution, to the regret of the general public.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* Our information is that it is doubtful whether the last of these projects can be carried out at present. (WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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great want of originality and initiative in our views. Instead of each thinking for himself, we bind ourselves down to a system of thought desired by others. We cannot say that in our view the under-currents of thought now prevailing in Japan are of the right kind, and this is one of the great weaknesses of our education. It is earnestly to be desired that among our intellectual men should be found a man with sufficient force of character and spiritual insight to create a new school of thought for modern Japan.

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In the *Nippon-jin* we find a very sensible article on "The Character of Socialists," in which the writer expresses the following sentiments: About 60 years ago among the earnest Japanese students of the Wang Yang-ming philosophy was a man who may be regarded as the founder of practical socialism in this country, though he did not regard himself in any such light. We refer to Ōshio Heihachirō, who, in the year 1831, resigned his official post and took to teaching and studying the condition of the lower orders. A few years after this occurred a terrible famine; which neither the Government of that time nor rich men did anything to relieve. After spending all the money he had in feeding the starving multitudes, with a view of drawing attention to their pressing needs, Ōshio headed a revolt. It was suppressed and Ōshio was burnt to death. Though his taking up arms against the Government was a mistake, he was in character and devotion to the cause of the poor a noble man—infinitely superior to our modern so-called socialists, who do nothing but talk about the rights of the poor. At the present time our newspapers and magazines are crowded with articles and notes on socialism, and week after week in such lecture halls as the Hongō Chū-ō Kaidō, the Kanda Seinen Kaikan and the Kinkikan may be heard eloquent, enthusiastic orations on the same subject, but the weak point about the whole movment is the fact that hardly anybody is to be found who has taken any practical steps for ameliorating the lot of the lower orders. One would think that these would-be champions of the poor in such a time of distress in the Northern part of Japan as now exists would have been the first to give and collect money for the relief of their fellow-countrymen. But nothing of the kind takes place. These gentlemen consider it their *rôle* to talk only—the acting they leave to others. Now, as a matter of fact, the principles of socialism need no further discussion. Socialism is only a power when it is put into practice. When active steps are taken to equalize as far as is possible the lot of those who are living near each other, there is real socialism. In this country it is too often the case that talking about a thing is considered sufficient. Most of those who figure as socialists in modern Japan are using the subject as a means of self-glorification and feel no real concern for the state of the poor. Socialism does not consist in mere idle talk, but is a principle that must be carried into practice.

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The Text-book scandal has furnished matter for a very large number of articles. It has so many aspects that to treat it exhaustively would require a bulky volume. The chief question of interest now being discussed is the advisability and feasibility of the Mombushō's undertaking to compile all the text-books required for elementary schools. The *Jiji Shimpō* is strongly in favour of non-interference with private competition, and goes as far as to advocate the abolition of the existing inspection and sanction of books by the Department of Education known as 検定, *Kentei*. This paper has no confidence in Mombushō methods or Mombushō officials. If, says the *Jiji*, the Department represented the most intelligent, well-informed and far-seeing educationists the country possesses, it would be another matter, but this it certainly never has done. Hence the less it meddles with the work of book compilation the better. In a recent issue of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* a correspondent, writing under an assumed name, discusses the measures which had best be adopted in order to avoid future abuses:—The proposition that the text-books required for primary schools should be prepared by the Mombushō sounds very plausible, but few people have taken the trouble to consider what the immediate carrying out of such a measure would involve. In the first place, it goes without saying that text-books have to be far more carefully prepared than books designed for ordinary reading. The consequence is that in the past it has been found that even in the case of text-books of medium length one or two years have been required for their compilation. Experience, too, goes to prove that committees usually move at a slower rate than individuals, and as a rule their work is not so satisfactory as that of individuals. Different writers have different views and different styles and the work of harmonizing discordancies is by no means easy and can not be hurried. It is quite plain to everybody who has any practical acquaintance with this subject that to collect the right kind of compilers, and to set them to work would take some time. And the idea that the country can afford to wait for the books prepared by such a body is quite absurd. In order to show the number of books required, let us go over the number of children now under instruction in primary schools. The pupils in Ordinary Primary Schools number 3,806,318. The books that these children require would amount to 19,031,590 volumes. In High Elementary Schools there are 877,728 pupils. These would need 9,650,080 volumes—making in all a sum total of 28,681,670 volumes. As the number of attendants at schools is constantly increasing it will not be long before 30 million volumes will be required. Calculating that each book has 60 pages in it, this would mean that 1,800 million pages would have to be written, printed and revised. Is it conceivable that any organization which the Mombusho has it in its power to devise and set in motion could compass such a work as this? Think of the care with which the work would have to be done, and the time that would be occupied in printing and forwarding the books to distant provinces. And now to turn to another aspect of the question, the Mombushō has no fault to find with most of the text-books now in use. They have passed under official inspection and been sanctioned. The abuse connected with their sale was owing to the fact that one bookseller established a monopoly by the use of bribes. But is there no other way of stopping this than by making new books, which it is highly probable would be much inferior to those in use, compiled as they would be in a great hurry by such writers as could be picked up by the Department on the spur of the moment? That the Department will be quite unable to dispense with the help of the booksellers for another year or two at any rate is quite evident. Their best course is to cease placing restrictions on the use of the books which are now on the market. The schools must have text-books and till the Mombushō's contemplated new set of books is ready they should be allowed to use those they now have.

The *Jiji Shimpō* has maintained throughout that the scandal which has caused such a stir is to be attributed to a bad system of selecting text-books. The establishment of the Prefectural Book Examining Committees was a mistake. Every school Director should be allowed to choose his own text-books. Under such circumstances bribery on a large scale could not be carried on.

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In the *Jitsugyō no Nippon* (Industrial Japan) Baron Kaneko Kentarō, writing on Japanese industry, maintains that Japan is well adapted to become an industrial country. What she has already accomplished towards fitting herself for industrial competition with Western Countries, says the Baron, may be summed up under three beadings as follows. (1) She has made a thorough study of the industrial methods and principles followed in Europe and America and has introduced into her factories a great deal of up-to-date machinery. (2) She has by making a number of things that used to be imported decreased the amount of imported manufactured articles. (3) She has utilized woollen cast-off garments and other worn-out fabrics for manufacturing purposes to an extent that has quite alarmed certain business men in Europe and America. The extent of her progress may be shown by giving a list of the companies founded in recent years.

Year.	No. of Companies in Existence.	Total Amount of Capital. Yen.	Paid-up Capital. Yen.	Reserve. Yen.
1896	1,367	143,617,530	89,900,900	7,404,980
1897	1,881	165,332,633	105,381,106	7,581,535
1898	2,164	183,657,046	122,066,653	11,642,993
1899	2,253	222,673,634	147,783,280	13,467,802
1900	2,554	216,766,903	158,851,730	17,697,540

This table shows that between 1896 and 1900 the increase in the number of companies was 1,187, in the total amount of capital 73 million *yen*, in the paid up capital 59 million *yen*, and in the reserve funds 10,300,000 *yen*. So much for the past. As to our policy in the future, the following principles must be borne in mind. (1) We should aim at exporting such manufactured or hand-made articles as cannot be produced so cheaply in Europe and America as we can make them. (2) We should turn our attention to Asiatic countries and suit our manufactured articles to the tastes and demands of Chinese and Korean purchasers. As our industry is still in an imperfect state and we are more or less trying experiments, our goods lack the finish and durability of European or American made articles, but we can find a sale for them in China and Korea, where people are not as particular and as knowing as they are in the West. At one time instead of sending large quantities of manufactured goods to old European countries, England sent them to America and to Asia. Since 1870 Germany has adopted this policy to a large extent. Young industrial countries cannot at first compete successfully with countries whose industries are in a high state of development. But though we begin by pushing our goods as far as possible in the Far East, we must aim at eventually being able to hold our own against the most forward industrial countries in the world, which means that the quality of our goods must constantly be improved.

SHIPPING DISASTERS.

The report of the wreck of the steamer *Asahi Maru* is contradicted. The vessel arrived at Shimonoseki safely on March 12th.

The Osaka Commercial Steamship Company't steamer *Fuso Maru* went ashore in a dense fog off Katata, Shima province, on March 10th. The crew were rescued by the steamer *Seiryu Maru*, which was fortunately passing at the time.

The Taiko Steamship Company's steamer *Kingo Maru* sank on March 11th off Idzumo province. She left Wakamatsu on March, 9th taking a cargo of 200 tons of rails from the Iron Foundry, for Saki, Osaka, and it was the shifting of the cargo that caused the disaster. Some thirty men are missing.

A despatch from Honolulu which appears in a Victoria paper of Feb. 19th, reports that the *Nippon Maru*, running between China and San Francisco via the islands, arrived at Honolulu on Feb. 14th, after having been battered by a heavy typhoon. Midway between the coast of Japan and Hawaii the typhoon was encountered. It continued unabated for twelve hours. The liner was forced to slow down and bucked into the heavy seas at half speed. Great waves boarded her on all sides, rendering the decks untenable and washing all movable gear overboard. The decks were flooded and the passengers were forced to desert their cabins and seek refuge below. When the storm was at its height a gigantic wave curled over the steamer's stern and swept across the poop deck, crashing to the lower deck and rushed in a torrent through the alleyways. Ladders were torn from their fastenings, the flying bridge was hurled high in the air and a quantity of cargo stored aft on deck was swept overboard in one confused mass. The occupants of the steerage were drenched by the rush of waters which filled their quarters. A few of the Japanese sailors were bruised, but no one was seriously

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injured. The crew of the *Nippon Maru* were kept busy until the steamer reached port repairing the damage wrought hy the typhoon.

Early on the morning of March 17th a junk which was carrying four sailors of the steamer *Inaba Maru*, to the Hatoba was overturned by the strong northerly wind. Fortunately the men were rescued by the crew of the sailing vessel *Junho Maru* belong to the Nanyo Boyeki Kaisha, anchored near by.

The American steamer *Jian*, which arrived at Kobe on March 17th at 10 a.m. from Hongkong, was detained at the Kobe Quarantine station, where she will be kept for ten days after being disinfected. One of the coolies employed on the steamer had been ill before arrival at Hongkong, where he was sent to a hospital and showed symptoms of pest. The steamer, however, was not disinfected.

The disaster to the *Kongo Maru*, which sank on the 11th inst. while on the way from Wakamatsu to Osaka, is now said to have been due to the cargo shifting. The fate of her crew of 27 is still unknown, only 2 corpses having so far been washed up.

Details have been received of the fire which occurred on the N. Y. K. European liner *Hakata Marn* during her voyage from Hongkong to Singapore. The fire has badly damaged the whole of the contents of No. 2 hold, though it was put out before the ship's arrival at Singapore. The *Hakata* left that port on March 15th for Penang. It is said that no damage was done to the hull. The fire is thought to have originated among some Japanese paper lanterns shipped by two Indians named Silva and Mathews in Yokohama. The following articles were stowed in No. 2 hold:—106 bales waste silk, shipped by Messrs. Siber, Wolff and Co.; 77 bales of waste silk, shipped by Messrs. Robison and Co.; and 53 bales by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., for Marseilles; 600 chests of tea shipped by Okura and Co.; and 360 chests of tea, 25 cases of curios and 67 sets of jinrikisha by the Mitsui Bussaa Kaisha, for Colombo.

A lighter laden with 250 bags of rice, valued at *yen* 2,250, sank in Yokohama harbour on the night of March 16th while alongside the steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*. The accident was due to the northerly wind blowing at the time.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a telegram from Nagasaki stating that a small steamer belonging to the local Post Office was wrecked on March 14th at 9.20 a.m. off Kuga island. Six lives were lost, including passengers and sailors.

The British steamer *Kwanyang*, which arrived in port from Hongkong direct early this morning, (said the *Kobe Herald* of March 17th) was put in quarantine at Wada Point for ten days. The explanation given is that a coolie employed on board discharging cargo while the vessel was in Hongkong fell down and sustained fatal injuries. A post mortem examination was held however and this showed that the man succumbed to bubonic plague. Hence the detention of the vessel at Wada.

FRAUDS ON BANKERS.

An employee named Okano Goichi (23), of the Hojo branch of the Fiftieth Bank, was arrested on March 12th at a hotel near Uyeno. The man, on February 20th, issued a forged draft for *yen* 1,100 on the Senju Bank, one for *yen* 2,900 on the Takai Bank, one for *yen* 1,500 on the Yokohama Second Bank, and one for *yen* 1,000 on the Kawasaki Bank. Two days later he received the money from the respective banks.

Atsuki and Susaki, employees of the 34th bank, Osaka, were arrested on March 13th on a charge of having counterfeited a draft for *yen* 3,885 and embezzled the amount from the Kobe branch on Jan. 5th this year. A cashier named Kobayashi, of the Asahikawa branch of the Nippon Bank, was also arrested on March 14th, on a charge of having stolen *yen* 1,700 belonging to the bank.

VARIOLA ON THE "GAELIC."

A case of variola was found among the steerage passengers of the O. & O. S. steamer *Gaelic*, which arrived at Yokohama from Hongkong on Tuesday, the 17th. The vessel proceeded at 8 o'clock on the 18th to the Nagahama Quarantine Station. The patient was a Korean baby, about 3 years old, whose parents are *en route* to Honolulu as emigrants. Owing to the heavy seas that were running at Nagaura the steamer—it was reported at 4 p.m.—could not anchor at the Station on arrival, and the disinfection had not been carried out as at first intended. But probably the officers will be able to get aboard at sundown and they would then disinfect the vessel during the night.

A big sea continued running on Thursday at the Quarantine Station at Nagahama so that the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic* was obliged to anchor about two miles off the station all day, thus preventing disinfection being carried out. We telephoned—at 4 p.m. on the 19th—to the Superintendent of the Nagahama Quarantine Station and learnt from him that he intended to complete the work of disinfection that evening if posstble, but he could not be certain of it owing to the heavy sea still prevailing which prevented the steamer from coming into the station. She eventually managed to pass the Quarantine and was duly despatched to San Francisco.

RECOMPENSE.

What shall we have who toiled all night through tempest,
At nets let down in vain, or labouring oar?
Yonder, the morn breaks, and, beyond the breaking,
A Watcher and a welcome on the shore!

What shall we have whose little hoard of twilight
Came nearest to the light of others' day?
God gave to all the blue dome of His building—
Only earth's clouds between were sometimes gray.

What shall we have who missed life's loveliest meanings—
Who bore the burden of the incomplete?
There is a wider room for our probation,
And we shall know our missed things when we meet!

What shall we have on whom Time laid for guerdon
The pricking brier and the grieving thorn?
How many an earthly trail of piercing shadow
Hedged up in bud a heavenly rose unborn!

What shall we have whose ghostly galleons foundered,
No man may know in what unfathomed seas?
All seas give up the dead things in their keeping;
Even our ships of dream? Yea, even these!

E. E. H. in *The Pilot*.

FIRES.

On March 14th fire broke out in the Hitoichi Post and Telegraph Office, Akita Prefecture, and destroyed the building.

About 5 a.m. on March 15th, fire broke out in the shop of a watch maker, Ikeda, Fukiya-cho Nichome, Tokyo. The shop and two houses were totally destroyed, while two others were damaged. An old woman who was living in the house of the watch dealer was burnt to death. The same morning a fire occurred in the Takanawa branch office of the Tokyo Omnibus Company, destroying the building.

On March 15th at 8.30 p.m. a small fire occurred in a godown of a curio dealer in Bandaicho, Yokohama. The building and its contents were damaged.

Rumours are current that Mr. Brodrick, the Secretary for War, will succeed Lord Curzon as Viceroy of India. The *Englishman* (Calcutta) believes the rumour is based on sound information.

CHRIST CHURCH.

Two meetings of the seat-holders of Christ Church were held on Friday afternoon at No. 78, Yokohama. At a few minutes past four when the first meeting opened, there was a large audience, including several ladies, the Incumbent of the Church, Rev. W. P. G. Field, being also present.

ELECTION OF TRUSTEE.

Mr. F. S. James presided at the first meeting. In opening the proceedings he said the meeting had been called for the purpose of electing a trustee of Christ Church to fill the vacancy caused by the departure from Japan of Mr. W. F. Mitchell. The present trustees were Messrs. James Dodds, James Walter, and himself. The trust deed called for four trustees and it was a question whether it was absolutely necessary to elect the full number, but they had thought it better to have all four and that was the reason why this meeting had been called. The trustees had talked the matter over and had come to the conclusion that Mr. E. J. Moss would very ably fill the position. (Hear, hear). Mr. Moss was an old and respected resident of Yokohama, had always taken a very great interest in the affairs of the Church, and for many years had been a member of the Committee. He therefore had great pleasure in proposing Mr. Moss to fill the vacancy. Before doing so he would be glad to hear any remarks or any amendment that might be made.

Mr. W. K. WILSON proposed Mr. Charles V. Sale to fill the vacancy.

Mr. CAHUSAC, in reference to the Chairman's remark that he did not know that it was necessary to elect the full number of trustees, quoted from the trust deed a passage which provided that in the event of any of the trustees dying or leaving Japan or becoming incapable of continuing to act as a trustee, the other trustees should forthwith convene a meeting of subscribers to fill the vacancy. That, he said, seemed to apply to the present case.

Mr. JAMES said he thought it did apply and the late Mr. Lowder gave an opinion to that effect, but in conversation he told him (the speaker) that it was not absolutely necessary. It was a legal point and although he thought it was advisable he did not think it necessary. At any rate this meeting was called to elect a trustee.

Mr. H. MACARTHUR seconded the nomination of Mr. Sale.

The CHAIRMAN said he would put the amendment to the meeting—that Mr. Sale be elected. It was not necessary to have a seconder.

Mr. E. FLINT KILBY said there were some gentlemen present who were not entitled to vote; he thought in a matter of this sort that they should retire. He would name as one the Rev. Mr. Field and there were, he thought, more but he would not like to mention names.

Rev. W. P. G. FIELD rose, remarking—Mr. Field will have much pleasure in leaving the room.

Mr. KILBY said Mr. Griffin also was not a seatholder; there might be others and he was sure they would see the propriety of leaving the room.

The Chairman thought that for all practical purposes if the ladies and gentlemen in the room would go on one side it would be quite sufficient.

Mr. KILBY said he had an idea that a great many of the people in the room did not know whether they were entitled to vote. They must not only occupy a sitting but they must have paid for that sitting before the day on which the advertisement calling the meeting appeared.

The CHAIRMAN said that might be so but at the same time there was no occasion for any lady or gentleman to leave the room because they were not seatholders. If they sat on one side it would be enough.

Mr. STIRLING asked if he was entitled to vote. He was there representing Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co.

The CHAIRMAN said he was so entitled.

Mr. J. JOHNSTONE asked if he was entitled to vote as he only paid for his sitting that day—(laughter)—the list only reached him that day.

The CHAIRMAN replied that he was entitled to vote. He took it that every one in the room had a copy of the accounts and if they would turn to

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the list of seatholders they would see the names there. All whose names were on that list were entitled to vote. The names before the meeting were Messrs. C. V. Sale and E. J. Moss.

Mr. A. F. CAHUSAC asked if both these gentlemen were willing to serve.

The CHAIRMAN believed that Mr. Moss was willing.

Mr. WILSON said Mr. Sale had consented to be nominated.

Mr. G. W. ROGERS asked whether the Rev. W. P. G. Field was entitled to vote. He was not a seatholder but he had a seat allotted to him.

The CHAIRMAN said he was not entitled to a vote according to the deed of trust.

The votes were scrutinized by Messrs. J. H. Jewett and A. Bellamy Brown.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the ballot had resulted in 31 votes for Mr. Moss and 21 votes for Mr. Sale. Mr. E. J. Moss was therefore elected as trustee.

Having thanked those present for their attention, Mr. James left the chair.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of seatholders and subscribers was then held, Mr. James Walter taking the chair.

Mr. F. O. STUART, Hon. Secretary, having read the notice calling the meeting,

Mr. R. D. ROBTSON proposed and Mr. J. JOHNSTONE seconded that the minutes of the previous meeting should be taken as read.

This was agreed to.

The Chairman said they had the report and the accounts before them. The accounts showed a debit balance of *yen* 2,408.16, but if they looked at the various items they would see that the financial position was certainly not discouraging. The seatholders numbered 105 as compared with 106 last year and 76 for 1900, and he was apprised of several new applicants for seats coming forward for the present year.(applause). The first business was to consider the report and the Church accounts.

Mr. E. FLINT KILBY said he, as a member of the Committee, passed the report last Wednesday, but he now moved the striking out of the fourth clause which said—"This is most gratifying and your Committee earnestly hope that this may be fully maintained and even bettered in future." As probably some of those present knew, the report was, as a matter of courtesy, handed to Mr. Field before it was published or submitted to this meeting. Mr. Field made some very strong remarks last Sunday.

Rev. W. P. G. FIELD protested against these remarks saying that they were not true—not quite true.

The CHAIRMAN called Mr. Kilby to order. This meeting had been called for the express purpose of receiving the report and discussing the accounts and any discussion in regard to remarks by the incumbent or as to the conduct of the church service was entirely outside its scope. It would not only be an unprofitable discussion it would also be unseemly. (Hear hear and applause).

Mr. KILBY thought he was in order in moving that this report be amended and in giving his reason. There were 105 seat-holders, and assuming that each of these represented two adult members of the congregation and assuming that they contributed one *yen* each every Sunday, as some people thought they ought to do, that would mean *yen* 10,920, whereas they had only *yen* 2,617. He therefore moved that the fourth clause of the report be expunged.

The CHAIRMAN said the only reason for placing that remark in the report was that the committee considered they were making progress—(hear hear)—slow it was true, but still progress, sure progress, and they hoped for better things next year. (Applause.)

Rev. Mr. FIELD said he thought the state of affairs might be described as relatively gratifying as compared with past years.

Mr. KILBY said perhaps then Mr. Field would second his motion.

Mr. FIELD said he would not. He thought the clause ought to remain as part of the report; its was relatively gratifying.

Mr. MACARTHUR seconded for the purpose of bringing the matter before the meeting, remarking that the language used was in superlatives while the progress was hardly in the comparative.

After a pause, Mr. MacArthur said that with Mr. Kilby's permission he would be content if the superlatives were struck out.

Mr. KILBY had nothing more to say.

On a show of hands only four voted that the clause be expunged.

Mr. CAHUSAC asked an explanation of the item "choristers' fees" and was told by the Chairman that it referred to a slight honorarium given to the choristers for good attendance. The matter had been left in the hands of Mr. Vincent.

Mr. CAHUSAC also wanted an explanation of the item of *yen* 744.15 paid to Building Fund, and was told by the Hon. Treasurer that the amount of *yen* 744.15 was chiefly made up of one large subscription. Three subscriptions came in quarterly amounting to *yen* 38, and two monthly amounting to *yen* 10, the rest were all donations.

Mr. DODDS took it that the amounts were received on behalf of the Building Fund and paid over at the end of the year.

Mr. CAHUSAC said if there were only *yen* 10 subscribed monthly the debt was not being wiped out rapidly.

The CHAIRMAN said not by monthly subscriptions but it was by donations.

Mr. THWAITES called attention to a printer's error in the report which the Chairman said would be rectified.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by by Mr. G. W. Rogers the report and the church accounts were adopted. (These will be found in another page of this issue).

The CHAIRMAN said there was no report on the Building Fund as that had been in the hands of the late Mr. Lowder who intended to deal with the affairs of the Fund from the outset in the form of a pamphlet, but the information was in his (Mr. Walter's) possession and the report would be issued when possible. It would be seen that the debt due to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was only *yen* 2,708, and as it had been reduced to such a small sum the trustees and the old committee thought it would be just as well to relieve the Rebuilding Committee of their duties, handing over the accounts of that fund to the Hon. Treasurer. The accounts would be kept quite separate until the whole debt was wiped off. He would like to state that Mr. Conder had waived his commission as architect which would have come to a considerable sum.—(Applause).

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by Mr. FRAZAR the Building Accounts were passed.

The next business was the election of the Committee and,

Mr. JAMES said, before proceeding to do so, it would be as well for the meeting to know that any Committee elected would be responsible to the Trustees for their actions and the Trustees were responsible to the subscribers, according to the Trust Deed, (a passage of which he read). This as he read it gave the Trustees full power in the working of the Church. He mentioned these things because a number of the seatholders thought the Committee was the responsible body, whereas it was the Trustees and the Trustees alone.

Mr. W. K. WILSON said there had been several innovations in the Church——

The Chairman called him to order.

Mr. WILSON—This is the annual meeting, sir; I will ask you to put it to the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—I must call you to order. Any discussion of this kind, if discussion is required on this subject, can be had by any one who calls a meeting and gets together those who meet with his views, and this meeting will be received and heard by the Trustees. But such a matter cannot be brought up here.

Mr. WILSON—What number is required?

The CHAIRMAN—One is sufficient to call a meeting to meet the trustees.

The meeting then proceeded to the election of a Committee.

Mr. DODDS thought the members of Committee should be nominated and then before the ballot it should be ascertained whether they were inclined to stand. Some names had been put forward by others in the room and in accordance with what he had said he read them out: Messrs. James Walter, E. Flint Kilby, C. V. Sale, E. J. Moss, J. P. Mollison, F. O. Stuart, S. E. Unite, E. Frazar, and F. Parrott.

Mr. P. E. F. STONE added the name of Mr. Dodds.

The voting then proceeded and Messrs. Jewett and A Bellamy Brown again acted as scrutineers.

At the close, the Chairman announced that the following had been elected on the committee: Messrs. J. Dodds (58 votes), F. O. Stuart (45), J. P. Mollison (44), Jas. Walter (43), E. Flint Kilby (38), E. J. Moss (35), and C. V. Sale (51). The announcement was received with loud applause.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that this was all the business.

Mr. CAHUSAC moved that the Incumbent be *ex officio* a member of the Committee.

Rev. W. P. G. FIELD said if that motion was to come on, and if the meeting thought it would conduce to freedom of discussion, he would leave the room. He did not wish but was willing to go.

Mr. KILBY called for the ruling of the chair as to whether the motion was in order—it proposed such a distinct innovation. Such an arrangement would have proved awkward in the past and it might be awkward in the future. The Chairman had already given a ruling that they were met to elect a Committee of seven and not to consider a motion to elect a Committee of eight.—(Hear hear and applause).

The CHAIRMAN said that on a point of order he ruled that it was out of order to propose the election of Mr. Field *ex officio* on the Committee.

On the call of Mr. KILBY a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman and the meeting separated.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS, 1902.

The accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1902, are published for the information of Seatholders and other Contributors to the Funds of Christ Church.

These accounts though showing a balance at debit of *yen* 2,408.16 are far from being discouraging, for of this debit balance, *yen* 634 03½ was brought forward from last year and out of the total expenditure for this year of *yen* 9,161.96 the large sum of *yen* 4,414.67 may be taken as extraordinary expenditure including as it does items of *yen* 1,602.51 for Rev. W. P. G. Field's passage out to Japan, *yen* 1,151.50 towards furnishing the Parsonage (which is an asset), *yen* 641.07 repairs to Parsonage and laying out garden, *yen* 765.00 balance of account for rebuilding Organ and *yen* 254 59, sinking a well for carrying off flood water from Church basement, granite slabs for path to vestry, haulage of Church Furniture, &c.

The Revenue derived from Pew Rents is *yen* 4,730.83 as against *yen* 4,425, thus showing some improvement, and the offertories amounted to *yen* 2,617.95½ as compared with *yen* 2,624.49 for 1891, which last amount, however, included the special one of *yen* 594.07 collected at the opening of the Church on Trinity Sunday, 1901.

This is most gratifying and your Committee earnestly hope that this may be fully maintained and even bettered in future.

As the Church derives its income solely from Pew Rents and Offertories the Committee hope that Subscribers will do their utmost to induce their friends to take an active interest in the Church by adding their names to the list of Seatholders.

Further receipts were 95.77 *yen*, of which the chief was 56.37 *yen* net proceeds of Organ Recital most kindly given by Mr. W. K. Vincent, Organist of Christ Church, with the assistance of the Ladies of Yokohama and the Choir, in aid of the Church Funds.

The Offertories of the 9th November, amounting to 50.92 *yen* were given to the Rev. W. Weston for St. Andrew's Mission, Kobikicho, and two of the Children's Offertories (5.18 *yen*) to the Formosan Mission.

The balance of Children's Offertories, 70.46 *yen*, has been divided between Barnardo's Home for Waifs and Strays and the Church of England Incorporated Society for providing homes for Waifs and Strays.

The offertories on the first Sunday of the month hitherto collected for the benefit of the poor of Yokohama, have this year been applied to the General Church Funds as the Committee found that cases of real distress have been happily few and have been provided for by the Charitable Institutions of Yokohama.

The Building Committee report as follows:—

The total amount received by the Honorary Treasurer from the inauguration of the enterprisein 1897 to the 31st December, 1902, is:—

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	Yen.
By Donations, including Special Donations in Church Offertories towards Rebuilding Fund	28,308.53
By Cash difference on sale of old Church lot and purchase of New	14,941.07
By Other Receipts	5,580.26
	48,829.86
By Balance due Hongkong and Shanghai Bank,	2,708.30
	51,538.16
Total Expenditure to date as per detailed account	51,538.16

The Building account being now practically closed, it is proposed to relieve the Rebuilding Committee of their duties and to hand that account over to the Honorary Treasurer of Christ Church to be dealt with.

It will be kept quite separate from the Church Accounts until the debt is entirely wiped out and the Committee hope that Members of the Congregation will make a further effort either by donations or regular subscriptions to the Building Fund to pay off the comparatively small debt now remaining.

The Committee is indebted to the Misses Thomas for presenting a set of new silver Chalice, Patten, &c., in Memory of their Mother, and to those Members of the Congregation who have presented Altar Book, Book Rest, Book Markers, and matting for the Aisles, also a fire proof safe for keeping the Church Archives, and without individualizing (as you will have the list of subscribers before you) your Committee beg to thank the Community in Yokohama for the most generous way in which they have come forward to reduce the debt on the Church. Amongst the donations was one of *yen* 120.15 the proceeds of a Childrens' entertainment arranged by Miss Kathleen Stone assisted by her young friends.

Since the accounts have been made up a very successful Bazaar held by the Ladies of the Congregation resulted in a profit of about *yen* 1,500, which is to meet the cost of erecting a wall and iron railing around the Church, the plans for which are now under consideration.

The Incumbent, the Rev. W. P. G. Field, M.A., arrived in Yokohama on the 15th March and immediately took up his duties. During the earlier part of the year the Rev. G. Wallace and the Rev. H. H. Cook most kindly took charge of the Church Services.

The number of Services held during the past year in Christ Church have been largely augmented and been well attended.

The sincere thanks of the Trustees and Committee are due to Mrs. Field who has so kindly presided at the Organ both for the week day Services and the Childrens' Sunday Service and also for getting together the Childrens' Choir.

Thanks are due to Messrs. J. C. Nicholson, Cecil Guinness and G. G. Brady for acting successively as Hon. Treasurers to the Rebuilding Eund; the two first named gentlemen have since left this Port. Mr. Cecil Guinness on leaving Japan resigned his position on the Church Committee and to him the Trustees, Church Committee and Congregation owe a debt of gratitude for his most generous support and for the great interest he took in Christ Church.

At the General Meeting it will be necessary to elect one Trustee in place of Mr. W. F. Mitchell who has left Japan, and to elect a new Committee for the ensuing year.

The thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. W. F. Balden for auditing the Church Accounts and to Mr. S. E. Unite for auditing the Rebuilding Fund Account.

LIST OF SEATHOLDERS IN CHRIST CHURCH.

Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China; Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Messrs. Butterfield & Swire; Cornes & Co.; Findlay Richardson & Co.; Jardine, Matheson & Co.; Kelly & Walsh, Limited; Lane, Crawford & Co.; Robison & Co.; Strachan & Co.; Samuel, Samuel & Co.

Revs. W. T. Austen, and A. R. Morris.

Mesdames H. Box, Büschel, Dunlop, Eldridge, Graham, Harman, Hegt, H. Ivison, Kenderdine, James Martin, D. J. Scott, G. Syme Thompson, Varnum, M. E. Warton, Whittall, Winfield, Weston.

Messrs. H. M. Arnould, W. F. Balden, J. H. Bathgate, J. E. de Becker, P. S. Bent, G. Blundell, V. R. Bowden, H. R. Barnard, A. Bellamy Brown, A. F. Cahusac, J. W. Cain, A. R. G. Clark, J. W. Copmann, E. J. Cowan, James Dodds, G. K. Dinsdale, Dr. H. W. G. Doyne, E. Eagling, E. Eddison, E. B. S. Edwards, J. Favre-Brandt, E. W. Frazar, H. C. Gulland, F. T. Gause, W. M. Garton, J. W. Hall, L. J. Healing, H. J. Hunt, J. D. Hutchison, H. Y. Irwine, F. S. James, John H. Jewett, J. Johnstone, E. Flint Kilby, N. P. Kingdon, H. W. Lea, A. G. Leppere, H. C. Litchfield, H. MacArthur, C. K. M. Martin, J. P. Mollison, S. H. Moore, C. D. Moss, E. J. Moss, Sir Claude Macdonald, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., H. J. Neville, Alan Owston, Francis Owston, F. Parrott, O. A. Poole, A. C. H. Potts, W. T. Payne, G. W. Rogers, C. V. Sale, H. J. Sharp, N. F. Smith, P. E. F. Stone, C. J. Strome, F. O. Stuart, M. Surth, T. Thomas, E. V. Thorn, C. Thwaites, R. Tipple, W. K. Tresize, Dr. Tripler, J. R. Thompson, S. E. Unite, H. Vincent, W. K. Vincent, James Walter, R. J. Ward, Dr. Wheeler, K. Wilson, W. K. Wilson.

THE HONORARY TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA, FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

RECEIPTS.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Pew Rents received		4,730.83½
To Offertories	2,617.95½	
To Less, Special Offertories paid over including Children's Offertories	126.56	
		2,491.39
To Proceeds of Organ Recital		56.37
To Subscriptions received towards General Church Expenses		36.00
To Subscriptions received towards Debt on Building Fund		744.15
To Interest received on account with Hongkong & Shanghai Bank *yen* 29.15 less paid *yen* 25.75		3.40
To Balance at debit		2,408.16
		10,470.30½

Note.—Pew Rents in arrear amount to *yen* 40.00.

PAYMENTS.

	Yen.
By Balance from last account	634.03½
Less. Sum in hand on account of fund for improving approach to Church	69.84
	564.19½
By Incumbent's Stipend & Income Tax.	3,064.46
By Incumbent's Travelling Expenses	1,602.51
By Cost of Furniture for Parsonage	1,151.50
By Repairs to Church, Parsonage, &c., including laying on of water	887.72
By Balance of cost of erecting and renovating Organ	765.00
By Organist's Honorarium	500.00
By Choristers' Fees	25.54
By Sacramental Wine	20.00
By Ground Rent	73.20
By Fire Insurance	402.43
By Fuel, Light and Cleaning	296.88
By Printing, Advertising and Stationery.	58.90
By Flowers and Decorations	37.81
By Momban's Wages and Sundry labour	230.70
By Sundries	45.31
By Subscriptions paid over to Building Fund	744.15
	10,470.30½

FRANK O. STUART, Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined the accounts: compared them with the Vouchers and find them correct,

W. F. BALDEN.

CHRIST CHURCH REBUILDING FUND, STATEMENT OF WORKING ACCOUNT FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACCOUNT TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

RECEIPTS.

		Yen.
To Subscriptions received as per List		28,308.53
To Trustees of Christ Church, Cash difference on Sale of Old Church Lot and Purchase of New		14,941.07
To Sale of 2 Bungalows on New Lot		1,850.00
To Rent of 1 Bungalow on New Lot		40.00
To Insurance Prem. returned per cancelled Policies		14.12
To Sale of Material in Old Church.		830.00
By Offertories:		
St. Andrew's Tokyo Jubilee Service	101.54	
Childrens' Service	20.04	
Consecration Day	594.07	
		715.65
By Bank Interest		2,130.49
By Balance due to H. & S. Bank		2,708.30
		51,538.16

EXPENDITURE.

1899.	Yen.	Yen.
By J. Conder, Construction of New Church and Parsonage	48,430.12	
By Less returned by J. Conder as over-paid	241.25	
		48,188.87
By Rent of Parsonage 12 months at *yen* 90		1,080.00
By S. Moutrie & Co., Hire of Organ, &c.		228.80
By Fittings for Parsonage	199.84	
By Laying out Parsonage garden	100.00	
By James Walter, Sundry Charges for Parsonage	86.77	
		386.61
By Sundries, Removing Organ, Church Parsonage Furniture		246.78
By Fire Insurance, Jardine, Matheson & Co.		300.50
By A. Weston, Duty and Landing Charges, East Window.		150.42
By Printing and Advertising		115.54
By Brokerages and Fees		127.00
By Dr. Mecre for cancelling Lease of Bungalow on New Lot		625.00
By Consular Fees and Ground Rent to 31st May, 1900		88.64
		51,538.16

We have examined the forgoing accounts and compared them with the Books and Vouchers and certify them to be correct,

S. E. UNITE, JAMES WALTER } Auditors.

Yokohama, February 18th, 1903.

LAW CASES.

KUROKAWA v. BOWDEN BROS. & CO., LTD.

In the case instituted in the Yokohama Court by the Japanese sulphur dealer E. Kurokawa, against Messrs. Bowden Bros. & Co., judgment was given by Judge Kano on March 13th dismissing the claim of the plaintiff, with costs.

P. SARDA v. BOSREDON.

In this case, instituted by Mr. Sarda to recover certain moneys from Mr. Bosredon, judgment was given by Judge Kato on March 14th as follows:—

1.—The judgment given on February 24th in favour of defendant is quashed.

2.—Defendant is to pay plaintiff *yen* 59.52, with interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, from March 21st, 1902, until the proceedings are concluded, while the remainder of plaintiff's claim is disallowed.

3.—Of the costs, those incurred through the absence of plaintiff at the hearing are to be paid by him. Of the remainder, plaintiff is to pay five-sixths and defendant one-sixth.

R. HUGHES v. SIR MARCUS SAMUEL, SAMUEL SAMUEL, AND WILLIAM F. MITCHELL.

This action was brought in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on March 14th, being a claim for a return on the net profit of the Import Department of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., Kobe.

Counsel for plaintiff in their petition prayed the Court for judgment in favour of their client by giving an order on defendants to pay *yen* 11,986.83 with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. since the 27th December, 1902. Counsel stated as facts (1) that plaintiff was employed by the defendants' firm on the 15th March, 1895, and took charge of the Imports Department until he left the office in September 1897; (2) that defendants agreed to pay plaintiff *yen* 350 as salary monthly and to give him one-quarter of the net profit in in the Imports Department; (3) that the total amount of the net profit while plaintiff was in the Import Department amounted to *yen* 47,940.35; (4) that plaintiff thereupon claimed payment of one quarter dividend of the net profit as stipulated in the agreement; but defendants had not complied with the request. Hence the present action.

For the defendants it was contended that no profit had been made in the import department in the period mentioned.

On the motion of plaintiff's counsel the Court ordered the production of the Account Books of the department.

The case was adjourned.

R. HUGHES v. SIR MARCUS SAMUEL AND TWO OTHERS.

Proceedings in this case, in which payment of *yen* 15,566,50 is claimed (being a return alleged to be due as a result of the Formosan Opium Monopoly) were resumed in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Feb. 14th.

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The previous hearing had been adjourned in order that the defendants could get a proper power of attorney from England but their counsel now stated that as another action had been instituted by the plaintiff it had become rather difficult for them to understand their position.

At counsel's request the case was adjourned to April 20th.

THE "HAMBURG" CASE.

It will be remembered, says the *Kobe Herald*, that the steam tug *Hamburg*, belonging to Mr. C. T. M. Nickel, which towed the British sailing ship *Dumfriesshire* into the port of Innoshima, Hiroshima Ken, in May, 1901, was ordered to be seized by the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, and that her Captain (Mr. L. Petersen) was fined 200 *yen* for evading the Shipping law. An appeal was recently heard at the Court of Cassation, with the result that the first judgment was upheld, an order being given for the seizure of the vessel.

CARL ROHDE & CO. v. KURITA UMEJIRO.

This case, which was adjourned on March 6th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Danno on March 16th.

The Judge submitted to three experts the contract which the predecessor of Kurita Shotaro made with Messrs. Carl Rohde & Company to purchase 64 pieces of woollen cloth in February, 1900.

The experts being unable to conclude their work immediately, the Court adjourned.

Y. TABEI v. SALE & CO., LIMITED.

The hearing of this case, instituted by Y. Tabei against Messrs Sale & Co., Ltd., claiming delivery of four cases containing 120 pieces of woollen flannel valued at *yen* 1,791.79, which was adjourned on Jan. 22nd, came up again on March 17th, in the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kato. Shown various evidence by the Court, plaintiff stated that he paid over the money for four cases of flannel to an employee of the defendant named Ono Senkichi. This man was always engaged as salesman of imported goods by the defendants' firm. The payment was made by two promissory notes of *yen* 2,100 in all, addressed to this employee, who drew the money, the notes being discounted at the Yokohama Specie Bank on the endorsement of himself. The money should have been received by Messrs. Sale & Co. The firm declined to deliver the four cases to plaintiff on the ground that payment had not yet been made. The plaintiff further stated that in a previous transaction concerning four cases of the same goods, payment of *yen* 2,271.26 was made in a similar way and the goods delivered.

Counsel for defendant held that Ono Senkichi, called by plaintiff an employee of Sale & Company, was not in the service of the latter, being only a broker who had acted merely as a commissioner in the matter. The promissory notes addressed to this broker by plaintiff were not transfered to defendants and the latter were therefore not responsible.

After hearing arguments from either side, the judge declared that judgment would be given on March 21st.

K. KANEKO v. COMPANIA GENERAL DE TOBACCO DE FILIPINAS.

This case, instituted by the Japanese horse dealer, K. Kaneko, against the Compania General de Tabacco de Filipinas, was brought up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on Tuesday.

Mr. Takahashi represented plaintiff and Mr. Sawada the defendant.

Plaintiff stated that in September, 1901, the defendants ordered him through an employee named T. Okamoto, to supply 50 carriage horses at *yen* 65 per head, and to deliver the animals on the 27th of the same month. On the due date, plaintiff asked defendants to take delivery of the horses and to pay cash for them. Defendants asked to postpone delivery and payment also, until they could make preparations to export the animals. Afterwards defendants declined to take delivery of the horses on the ground that the export of horses is prohibited in Japan, and they asked plaintiff to sell the horses, giving a promise that they would pay any expenses incurred, and the difference, if any, on the selling. The same month plaintiff sold the horses and obtained *yen* 2,048 for them against *yen* 3,250 which he originally paid for the animals, thus he incurred a loss of *yen* 1,202, by that alone. Various expenses incurred brought up the loss to *yen* 1,578.80, which he now claimed, with interest from Dec. 24th, 1901.

Defendant said that the firm was established in Yokohama in May, 1901, the head office being in Manila. When the firm received the claim from plaintiff on December 24th, 1901, the manager of the firm was absent, having previously left for home, and they could not do anything in the matter as the members of the firm then in Yokohama were not duly authorized. They asked the bailiff to await the arrival of the manager to Yokohama. When the manager returned on Jan. 6th, 1902, he found that the matter arose through a misunderstanding on the part of plaintiff, that the defendants had in fact never made any such contract with plaintiff.

Plaintiff asked the Court to summon T. Okamoto an employee, who attended to the order.

The Court then adjourned till March 31st at 1 p.m.

F. W. HORNE v. W. S. STONE.

This case, instituted by Mr. F. W. Horne against Mr. W. S. Stone, claiming *yen* 670.04, was brought up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on March 18th. Mr. Sato was present for plaintiff and Mr. Akiyama for defendant.

Plaintiff stated that on June 14th, 1900 he promised to sell eight graphophones, 200 wax cylinders and attachments to defendant at a reduction of 40 per cent. from c. i. f. cost. Plaintiff ordered them from the Columbia Graphophone Company, U.S.A., and they duly arrived here in December the same year; their value was then calculated at *yen* 975.04. After receiving advice of their arrival defendant declined to take delivery of the goods on the pretext that there were no electric batteries attached to the graphophones. On July 29th 1901 the graphophones, wax cylinders and their attachments were sold by auction for *yen* 305, involving a loss of *yen* 670.40.

Defendant held that on June 6th, 1900, he promised to purchase eight graphophones, and various attachments, including electric batteries, which were most necessary. Subsequently, on the 14th of the same month, he wrote a letter to plaintiff approving his order in which, however, he omitted to add the words "electric batteries." But it is well understood by all people of common sense that an order for graphophones included also electric batteries. Plaintiff also knew this for the electric batteries eventually arrived after the receipt of the graphophones. Defendant, on May 25th, 1901, intimated to plaintiff that the contract was null and void and declined to take delivery of the articles.

The case was then adjourned till March 30th at 1 p.m.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

An interlocutory judgment in the camphor monopoly case, instituted by Mr. Hioki, the administrator of the bankrupt estate of Messrs Mourilyan Heimann and Company, against Messrs. W. F. Mitchell and E. C. Davis, of Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Company, was given on March 19th, in the Yokohama District Court by Judge Kato. The Court dismissed the claim of plaintiff against Mr. E. C. Davis, but held Mr. W. F. Mitchell was a responsible party, while Mr. E. C. Davis was not, he not being concerned in the contract which had been made by the parties according to English law. The costs incurred by plaintiff against Mr. E. C. Davis in the proceedings are payable by the former. The further hearing of the case was then adjourned.

DOERING v. KANNHAUSER.

The hearing of this case was resumed on March 19th in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato.

The Judge stated that he had received a letter from Mr. W. Hagen, German Vice-Consul in Yokohama, saying that he was unable to be present in Court owing to the great pressure of work at the present time, but that he might be able to attend about June. The case was again adjourned.

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund :—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	21,828.73
Subscriptions per. Y.U.C.	
W. S. Stone	10.00
W. Y. S.	5.00
H. Bonar	10.00
H. Lefeber	10.00
M. Schellenberg	10.00
E. R. Thompson	10.00
W. F. Balden	10.00
T. J. Harrington	10.00
E. H. Butler	5.00
H. J. Snow	10.00
J. T. Hamilton	100.00
Proceeds of Concert at Nagasaki per W. H. Lewis	230.00
Collected by "Nagasaki Press"	42.00
Per Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, Nagasaki	
Messrs. Ginsburg & Co.	100.00
Messrs. Clarkson & Co.	100.00
N. Gray	10.00
A. R. Fuller	10.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Dow	25.00
M. Banks	10.00
R. H. Powers	10.00
F. B. Lake	10.00
J. Conder	10.00
G. Napalkoff	10.00
W. D. Wentworth	10.00
J. R. Powers	5.00
J. Schon	5.00
J. Budge	5.00
C. Joanan	5.00
J. Gaillard Jeune	10.00
Per Club Germania.	
Count von Arco Valley	25.00
W. Mueller	10.00
H. J. Holm	25.00
O. Meyer	25.00
Dr. M. Lehmann	10.00
E. Hasche	5.00
P. Kümmel	10.00
A. Seekamp	10.00
"Deutsche Japanpost"	10.00
O. Schinne	5.00
J. A. Harmssen	10.00
H. Witte	10.00
S. Pohl	10.00
F. Bielfeld	5.00
J. S. Lurman	10.00
C. Schramm	10.00
E. Karcher	10.00
E. Eichelberg	5.00
O. Werckmeister	5.00
H. Luther	5.00
R. D. Robison (2nd instalment)	150.00
Total	23,000,73

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE FEELING IN THE U.S. TOWARDS CANADA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Some time ago I read with interest a letter in your columns from a U.S. citizen who criticised an editorial in the *Japan Mail* on the utterances of the German Press toward England and its results in the Venezuelan affair. Your correspondent had something to say of the unfair tone of the English Press toward Germany. We wonder if neither he nor those of his fellow-country-men who love justice and desire right to triumph have anything to say concerning the tone of the Press of the United States toward Canada. Surely no judicial, well-informed, fair-minded citizen of the U.S. living out of his country can think that

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the conduct of the U.S. republic toward Canada in regard to the disputed boundaries on the Pacific coast is likely to promote good-will and amity between the big republic and her youthful neighbour. As all know, Canada has been earnestly seeking to have the matter settled for some years and the United States has been doing nothing but refusing to take steps looking towards a fair settlement, and her Press has all the while been working itself up into a furore about Canadian scheming and British agression, etc., whenever it attempted to discuss the question, at the same time making a virtuous show of its high sense of honour by encouraging the rowdy, so-called republics of South America to disregard their obligations. Canada made a proposal to submit the boundary dispute to arbitration on terms which she thought there could not be the slightest chance of rejecting, viz. exactly the same as President Cleveland laid down for arbitrating the boundary dispute between Venezuela and England in 1895. But no! the U.S. representatives knew that their Senate would thwart anything that would give Canada a chance of getting a fair decision, so that was refused bluntly. Next Canada asked that the dispute be referred to the Hague Tribunal. There did not seem to be any scheming or aggressive designs in either of these proposals but the great U.S. Republic would have none of them. At last the British Ambassador in Washington, in his anxiety to placate the United States, has got a treaty framed which it seems satisfies even the august Senate—a body which many of the respectable journals of the States say is characterized by senility and selfishness, and represents nothing but sectionalism. Accerding to this treaty the matter is to be submitted to a commission composed of six members, three to be chosen by the United States and three by England, with no provision for referring the matter to another in case of disagreement. This treaty is almost identical with proposals made by U. S. representatives a few years ago when they met in conference with Canadian representatives to discuss questions of common interest. This the Canadians indignantly refused and though the United States wished to discuss other matters, the Canadians terminated the conference. There is one difference between the present treaty and the plan submitted by the U.S. representatives, viz., they had a clause stating that no matter what the decision of their proposed commission might be, Dyea, and other specified places were to be U.S. territory. They seemed to be determined to head Canada off from having any sea-port or access to the sea from her Yukon regions.

Perhaps some who do not know the history of boundary disputes between the U.S. and Canada may think that there is nothing so very unfair in the proposal to let six men—presumably men worthy of honour and respect—three chosen by the U.S. and three by England, adjudicate the dispute. Because of the lessons of history the press of the U.S. is jubilant over the treaty and Canadians are devoid of all enthusiasm for it. In 1842 one of these boundary disputes was settled and Canadian rights were sacrificed for the sake of the good-will and friendship of the U.S. The dispute was between Eastern Canada and the Eastern States and Lord Ashburton, the English Commissioner, jokingly remarked that he didn't care for a few degrees of latitude more or less. His name is a by-word and cause of hissing in Canada ever since. The next dispute *in re* boundaries was on the Pacific coast, known as the Oregon Boundary dispute. Then there was a great cry in the States that they would have what they demanded or fight,—"fifty-four or fight." They did not get all they demanded, that time, but again Canada had to pay in order that American good-will might be maintained, and the spirit of the English Commissioners was voiced by Lord Beaconsfield who said, "These wretched colonies are but a mill-stone about our necks and, unless they drop off, will some day drag us into the deep sea." There was no justification for the British Prime Minister making any such remark, for Canada had never been the occasion of any foreign war or given serious trouble to the Mother Country.

I have not seen any U.S. journal or any review of any editorial from a U.S. journal that in any way fairly presents the Canadian claims. Even so reputable a journal as the *Outlook* of New York, in order to prove to the satisfaction of its readers that the Canadian contentions are unjust and illegal, sets up an entirely false case for Canada. Canada has never made any such claims as the *Outlook* of Jan. 31st in an article entitled, "The Alaska Boundary," says that Canada has made. If the United States is so sure of its claims being just and legal why has it refused to submit the matter to arbitration or to the Hague International Court? The exultation of newspapers in the United States over the present arrangement tell why. They are not at all sure of the legality of their claims but the experience of the past assures them that the English commissioners, or at least one of them, will be so anxious to maintain the "friendly relations and good-will" that Canadian interests and Canadian feelings and Canadian claims will again be sacrificed. Canada may feel sore for a little while but she will get over it. She has done so several times. But if the great republic be not appeased—what a cry she would set up! Sometimes a great nation like a great man can be very small, but just as surely as any truly great man suffers shame and humiliation for his every misstep so surely will any truly great and civilized nation suffer for its meanness and insolent over-reaching. Perhaps some day it may dawn upon the U.S. of America that she cannot always afford to sow seeds of ill-will and malice along her Northern boundary to gratify the Anglophobes who have made their home in that republic.

I have long been hoping to see some abler pen discuss this question in your columns, but having looked in vain I venture to send you this communication with apologies and thanks for so much of your valuable space.

Yours sincerely, AMERICAN CITIZEN.

Nagano, March 13th.

HARNACK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Evidently feeling that my refutations have made it necessary for Mr. Wendt to try his hand once more, he returns to the charge in the *Japan Mail* of March 11th. Since however his performance is like thrusting out old straw with hardly a grain left, I feel that your readers need but little further guidance to see that, with Miss Hubold's admissions, no further warding off of his undeserved strictures is called for. He might have at least softened his epithets. Let me only add:

1. That the charge of falsification needs to be proved by him who makes it or else to be withdrawn when challenged, challenged not so much by me as by the quotations called by Harnack's German critic. I simply see no reason for submitting without further ado to Mr. Wendt's mere *ipse dixit*. I have no such duty of substantiating these quotations not being plaintiff in the case or even chief defendant.

2. When I say that even Ritschl felt that Luther later in life again fell back in his dogmatic attitude in essence into Romanism, Mr. W., or at least others, ought to see the drift in Miss H's. quotation on Luther. Harnack apparently differs from Ritschl only in doubting whether Luther ever really came out in the first place. Those familiar with Ritchlianism and its claims will see how there is in their statement a grain or two of very great significance. For it makes Ritschlians to claim that they are the true Lutherans of to-day,—Lutherans in the protecting, unbound spirit of Luther only—notwithstanding their differing in toto on "such unessential things as formulated dogmas and creeds."

3. I do not represent Mr. W. as "having stated that an opinion like 'Harnack's Christianity is only heathenism mixed up with a few Christian ideas' is a falsification." On the contrary, I say, "Mr. W. cannot mean us to believe, etc.,"—an expression of extreme improbability that Mr. W. would "write such nonsense." I tried to exonerate him and he is willing. So we are agreed. A careful attention to the force of the English used would have secured against the pitfall.

4. After refuting his charge of falsification, not before, I state that now he bases the same charge on an unrevealed private letter to a third party and I mention the natural inference. There is no misrepresentation on my part here as far as I can see. His offer to convince me on this point in private is beside the mark. The charge was not made to me in private.

5. I proved that Miss H's quotation, "There are no miracles," did no injustice to Harnack's position, and Mr. W. seems in essential accord with Harnack on this point. Hence no one with logical acumen could understand me as if I dealt in a logical universal in leaving out "in several cases." In logic the indefinite is often particular not always universal. Besides, I wrote supposing that readers had read his first article in which he distinctly allows the accuracy of some quotations. Had I suspected the quibble here, I should of course have left the phrase in, as I gained nothing by leaving it out, and so now I beg Mr. W.'s pardon for not being on my guard. One must needs be wary at times.

6. The "extraordinary kind of logic" finally charged against me might possibly hold if the discussion had not confined in very narrow compass the alternative here. But really second thoughts make one feel the futility of further discussion. Mr. W. has not and probably cannot prove that the quotations in question are falsifications of Harnack's position. I do not dogmatise here; he did without any adequate proof, moreover I believe that the German critic if he were available could act as sponsor for his quotations, Mr. W's. *ipse dixit* to the contrary notwithstanding.

7. It is strange if Mr. W. harboured the illusion for a time that theological discussion was the bone of contention. He made a vehement attack on the conduct, not the religious opinions, simply, of an honored person or persons. I tried to show that the charge was not properly founded, and still think that my refutation is sound. A little more "over conscientiousness" here would go far and be more agreeable than a display of the ultra-Protestant *odium theologicum* (or *personale* if he will have it so.)

Having nothing further to say on this question, and with thanks to you, Mr. Editor, for the use of your columns,

I am yours, GAMMA.

March 16, 1903.

[This discussion is now closed.—ED *J.M.*]

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE MOROCCO QUESTION.

London, March 13.

M. Delcassè, speaking in the Chamber of Deputies, denied that an agreement existed between France, England and Spain anent Morocco.

WHITAKER WRIGHT DISAPPEARS.

Mr. Justice Buckley yesterday authorised the Official Receiver of the London and Globe Finance Corporation to prosecute Mr. Whitaker Wright. A warrant was issued but Mr. Wright has disappeared.

GREAT LABOUR VICTORY.

In the election at Woolwich to replace Lord Charles Beresford as Member of Parliament for the Borough, Crooks, the Labour candidate, received 8,687 votes, while Drage, the Conservative candidate, received 5,458. This is an Opposition gain.

Later.

The great victory of the Labour party at Woolwich is regarded as highly significant and indicates the probability of important successes of the Labour vote in future elections.

THE CZAR AS A REFORMER.

London, March 14.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the Emancipation of the Serfs, the Czar issued a manifesto proclaiming the principles of religious toleration to all creeds, and announcing that measures would be taken for the extension of provincial aud rural self-government, and for relieving the peasants from forced labour. The manifesto is considered as a highly significant concession to the growing liberalism of Russia.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S HOME-COMING.

London, March 15.

The papers are full of details connected with the arrival of Mr. Chamberlain, which is described as the last and most striking home-coming, in which heroes of the War have figured as leaders. The press, reviewing the Minister's successful visit to South Africa and dwelling on the importance of the work awaiting him, declare that the dominant thought to-day is that, the strong man having come back, there is now less reason for uneasiness over the nation's affairs.

GERMAN NAVAL AFFAIRS.

The Budget Committee of the Reichstag has negatived votes in the Naval Estimates amounting to £650,000 sterling.

TREMENDOUS RECEPTIONS.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain had tremendous receptions both at Southampton and in London. Replying to addresses presented to him at Southampton, he said he believed that permanent peace had been established in South Africa, but he warned his hearers against

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over-estimating the results actually achieved. Nevertheless he returned in faith and confidence. The Cabinet greeted Mr. Chamberlain at Waterloo Station, the platform of which was filled by a distinguished gathering. There were tremendous crowds in the streets who displayed rapturous enthusiasm. Mr. Chamberlain was visibly affected by the overpowering welcome.

SOMALILAND.

London, March 16.

Reuter's correspondent at Aden states that the force despatched by Swann routed a strong body of the enemy at Lafakute wells, killing fifteen, and capturing and wounding many. The Mullah has gone to Ogaden for arms. General Manning is now in a strong position at the Galkaya wells whence he is co-operating with the column.

WHITAKER WRIGHT.

Whitaker Wright was arrested at New York as he was landing from *La Lorraine*.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

A commission at St. Petersburg, under the presidency of the Minister of the Interior, has begun work with the object of reforming provincial administration.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S RETURN.

London, March 17.

Mr. Chamberlain was received in audience by the King and Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday.

RUSSIA AND THE BALKANS.

In consequence of Russia's objection to German officers, the Sultan has authorised the engagement of Swedish and Norwegian instructors for the Macedonian gendarmerie.

THE MULLAH.

The Mullah is now enclosed within a triangle, of which Galkaya, Damot, and Bari are angles, the British co-operating with the Abyssinians, who occupy Bari.

BRITISH POLITICS.

Later.

The Times remarks that despite the popularity of the Premier, people's confidence in the Government is slipping away. Mr. Chamberlain may be able to reconcile the uncertain Ministerialists both in and out of Parliament. If so he has not come back a moment too soon.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

London, March 18.

Mr. Chamberlain has had an enthusiastic reception in the House of Commons.

RAID IN PRETORIA.

The police raided the hotels in Pretoria on March 14th in search of persons who were not provided with permits. A hundred were arrested of whom 27, consisting of foreigners, were ordered to leave the Transvaal within 24 hours.

BRITAIN AND ITALY.

Sr. Desmarines declared in the Italian Chamber that according to the report of a French official Great Britain had occupied Bomba in Tripoli. Rome newspapers deny the statement.

"SHAMROCK THIRD."

Shamrock 3rd has been launched on the Clyde. She is a striking departure from her predecessors, being a reversion to the old British cutter type.

THE KING OF SAXONY.

The King of Saxony is better and has addressed to his people thanks for their sympathies. As to the affair of the Crown Princess he says that an ungovernable woman who long ago had secretly fallen, is the sole cause of the distressing business.

THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

London, March 19.

The House of Commons voted by 252 against 27 the credit of £6,312,800 for pay under the heading of effective services in the Naval Estimates.

The vote was almost unopposed, both sides recognizing the necessity for heavy expenditure.

Sir Robert Reid, K.C., (Dumfries) deprecated any attempt to coerce the Colonies into further contributions for Imperial defence.

Mr. H. O. Arnould Forster, Secretary to the Admiralty, said that for us naval expenditure was a question of life or death, through for continental powers it was a mere matter of indulgence. We could not pursue the subject of disarmament if others were not ready to treat.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Later.

The U. S. Senate has sanctioned the Panama Treaty as described in telegrams of March 4th.

REVOLUTION IN URUGUAY.

A serious revolution, fomented by Nationalists, has broken out in Uruguay.

CANADA AND THE CHINESE.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier has introduced in the Dominion House of Commons a bill increasing the capitation tax on Chinese immigrants from 100 to 500 dollars, and making masters of vessels bringing immigrants personally liable for the tax.

GERMANY IN CHINA.

The Budget Committee of the Reichstag has reduced the expenditure for the garrison n Pechili by three million marks.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, March 12.

Several interpellations have been made in the Chamber of Deputies regarding the course of foreign political affairs.

M. Millevoye (Nationalist) said that the theories of the Socialists regarding general disarmament were Utopian, the peace of Europe was best guaranteed by efficient armies and the alliance between France and Russia.

M. Georges Berry (Right) said that France should press for some assurance from the Sultan of Turkey regarding the fulfilment of the necessary reforms in Macedonia.

M. Delafoix (Right) put a question upon affairs in Morocco. He said that a solution of the difficulty would be found in an agreement between France, Spain and Great Britain in which all respected the integrity and independance of Morocco, while they should subscribe a declaration that all the Powers respected the neutrality and liberty of the Straits.

Saigon, March 13.

In the Chamber M. Sembat (socialist) asked an explanation on the subject of a declaration by the Siamese Minister, who pretended to have spent a large sum for facilitating the conclusion of the treaty with Siam. M. Delcassé retorted that the Siamese Government itself protested energetically against the pretended account of its Minister.

M. Deloncle, deputy of Cochin-China, said that he would treat the Siamese question in the discussion of the future convention. He would like meanwhile to have on a permanent bases in Indo-China a sufficient military force to face all eventualities which may occur in China. He asked an explanation upon the subject of the Sultanate of Muscat. M. Ribot (progressist, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs) did not approve of M. Delcasse's policy.

The latter replied that Great Britain does not think at all of making an at tempt against the integrity of Muscat. He affirmed the necessity of the independence of Morocco, and the liberty of the Straits of Gibraltar.

France had no right to take the initiative in disarmament. She co-operated with the Powers towards the adoption of reform measures in Macedonia.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed in conclusion his desire that the Chamber should approve a policy which had produced an augmentation of the colonial dominions of France, the alliance with Russia and the reconciliation with Italy.

The Chamber adopted unanimously the order of the day, approving the declaration of the Government.

FRENCH CABLE EXTENSION.

Saigon, March 14.

The Minister for Public Works has introduced in the Chamber a project to include in the Budget during thirty-five years a credit for the completion of the network of telegraph cables with the colonies. The Government of the Republic is at present engaged with the Netherlands Government in negotiations on the subject of the Saigon-Pontianak Cable with a landing on the island of Pulo Condore, which cable the Netherlands Government will prolong to Batavia.

RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS.

The Chamber has reached the project tending to refuse the demands for the authorization of the religious congregations of men.

RELIGIOUS CONGREGATIONS.

Saigon, March 19.

The Chamber discussed without incident the formalities connected with the demands for the authorization of the scholastic religious congregations.

The Government in agreement with the Committee of the Chamber requires the rejection of all the demands *en bloc*.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

(Received From Washington.)

The Senate has ratified by 73 votes to 55 the treaty for the purchase of the Panama Canal.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

MEDITERRANEAN AFFAIRS.

London, March 18.

Signor Boneli (? Signor Baccelli, Minister for Agriculture) has stated in the Chamber that the Italian Government does not know what arrangements concerning Mediterranean affairs have been effected between Great Britain and France. Any alterations, however, that may have been made on the mutual assurances of the Powers, cannot injure the interests of Italy.

(From the "Deutsche Japan-post.")

PRINCE EITEL.

Berlin, March 15.

The health of Prince Eitel Fritz has improved.

NEW FIELD MARSHAL.

General von Hahnke has been appointed General Field-Marshal.

THE CZAR.

The Czar's visit to Rome has been postponed till November owing to his intention to take part in the discussions of the State Councillors. His manifesto concerning the intended reforms has been received with great satisfaction in Germany.

THE KAISER'S VISIT TO DENMARK.

The Duke of Cumberland left Copenhagen owing to the illness of his son Wilhelm. A meeting of the Kaiser and the Duke has not been applied for, but

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on the other hand it is understood that it has not been intentionally avoided. It is not the idea to offer the Dukedom of Braunschweig to Duke Wilhelm, nor to marry his daughter, the Princess Alexandra, to the Prince of du Crerben Thronerben, heir apparent. The Kaiser will arrive at Copenhagen on the 2nd April, the birthday of King Christian.

M. DELCASSÈ.

M. Delcassè's remaining in office after the Chamber's session will be welcomed with sympathy in Germany.

KIAUTSCHOU'S BUDGET.

The Kiautschou Budget has been approved with only small reductions. Admiral von Tirpitz, in the Committee of Ways and Means, stated that commercial success will not be visible before the completion of the harbour works and the Shantung railway. Nevertheless an increase of imports had taken place already. The prospects of the colony are very favourable. The trials with the Weihsien coal on German men-of-war have proved that the quality is superior to Japanese coal. It may be hoped that in future the Navy can receive their whole supply in Shantung.

PRINCE WILLIAM.

Berlin, March 16.

The German Crown-Prince has fallen ill with measles in Luxor.

ST. LOUIS WORLD'S FAIR.

Berlin, March 18.

The Committee of Ways and Means of the Reichstag declared itself in favour of an active participation in the St. Louis World's Fair on the part of Germany. A German house will be constructed on a most favourably situated hill. Also the German exhibition building has a particularly good position. There will be exhibited principally products of German art and German art-industry.

SHANTUNG.

In Berlin the official statement has arrived that in Shantung all is quiet.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Minister Combes gained a victory in the French Chamber. Nevertheless the Republic's conflict with the Church will still last for a longer time. But the Ministry is put in jeopardy by inner weakness.

DEATH OF PROF. RADDLE.

Professor Raddle, the famous naturalist and investigator of Eastern Siberia, has died in Tiflis.

[G. F. R. Raddle was born in Danzig in 1831. He travelled over Eastern Siberia, the Caucasus, Armenia and the Transcaspian countries and accompanied the Grand-Dukes Alexander Michailowich and Sergef Michailowich on their journey in tropical Asia. He has published many works describing journeys, his last being "23,000 miles on the yacht *Tamara*."—Ed.]

THE KING OF SAXONY.

Berlin, March 18.

The Kaiser paid a visit to King George of Saxony. Before leaving for a recreation trip in the South the King directed a manifesto to his people in which he returns thanks for the heartfelt sympathy shown to him on the occasion of the hard calamity by which the Royal house was recently afflicted. He hoped, that the calm and the former confidence would return to his country. There was nothing at all mysterious—only the unsubdued passion of a woman, fallen secretly long ago, had become public.

THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

Freiherr v. Richthofen, the head of the Department of Foreign Affairs, declared in the Reichstag's Committee of Ways and Means, that China had paid in silver both the last instalments of the war indemnification. The Powers had acknowledged that China was unable for the present to meet her engagement of paying in gold. China was willing to pay in gold the debt occasioned by the war, if she were allowed to levy the maritime duties in gold. Negotiations concerning this question are pending between the Powers.

URUGUAY.

In Uruguay a revolution has arisen.

THE CHINA EXPEDITION.

Berlin, March 19.

The Reichstag accepted the budget of the East Asia expedition after having retrenched 3 million marks.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

OBITUARY.

London, March 10.

The death is announced of Mr. H. C. Leigh-Bennett, Conservative M.P. for the Chertsey Division of Surrey, since 1897.

[At the General Election Mr. Leigh-Bennett defeated Mr Longman (R) by 5637 to 3080 votes.—Ed.]

THE SOMALILAND EXPEDITION.

London, March 11.

The main column under Lieut.-Colonel Fasken left Obbia on the 6th inst. No further fighting is anticipated in the Mudug region.

The Abyssinian column which is co-operating with the expedition numbers ten thousand, its objective point being Gerlogubi.

AFTER FORTY YEARS.

Their Majesties the King and Queen have celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their wedding by a family dinner and small dance at Buckingham Palace.

[King Edward and Queen Alexandra were married on the 10th of March, 1863.—Ed.]

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

London via Bombay, March 12.

The House of Commons has agreed to the vote of 235,761 men for the army.

The Hon. Ivor C. Guest (Conservative, Plymouth) moved to reduce the vote by 27,000 men. He declared that the reduction in the numbers would result in a better class of recruits.

Major Evans Gordon (Conservative, Stepney) seconded the amendment, which was supported by Mr. A. Emmott (Liberal, Oldham) and by Sir John Gorst (Conservative, Cambridge University).

Sir Charles Dike, (Liberal, Forest of Dean) protested against a paper army composed of men wearily unfit.

Sir Edward Grey (Liberal, Berwick) feared the country was being bled to death in peace time.

Mr. Brodrick (Secretary for War) firmly refused to change his plan. He declared the amendment was an expression of hasty, ill-considered reaction. The amendment was rejected by 245 votes to 154.

London, March 13.

The House of Commons has voted £9,647,000 for the pay of the army by 202 to 53.

Mr. Winston Churchill and others renewed their attack on the Army Corps system, when speaking in support of a motion for reduction, which was rejected by 226 to 94.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

An Austrian cruiser division is to visit the Levant at the end of this month.

DEATH OF DEAN BRADLEY.

The death is announced of the Very Rev. G. G. Bradley, D.D., Dean of Westminster, at the age of 82.

GROWING DISCONTENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT ARMY REFORMS.

Whereas only nineteen Unionists supported Mr. E. W. Beckett's amendment to the Address, nearly thirty voted with the minority on the Hon. Ivor C. Guest's amendment. The bulk of the Irish Nationalists did not vote.

The *Times* says that the division shows the Unionist revolt against existing War Office methods.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	M. M. Co.	Sydney 1	Sa. Mar. 21
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 2	Su. Mar. 22
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Th. Mar. 26
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria 3	Th. Mar. 26
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian 4	F. Mar. 27
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru 5	F. Mar. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen	Sa. Mar. 28
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia 6	M. Mar. 30
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China	Th. April 2
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. April 7
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. April 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. April 10
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Su. April 12
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 6

1 Left Shanghai on the 17th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
5 Left Seattle on the 10th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Prinz Heinrich	Sa. Mar. 21
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kamakura Maru	Sa. Mar. 21
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu. Mar. 24
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	Tu. Mar. 24
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. Mar. 26
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Th. Mar. 26
Europe	M. M. Co.	Sydney	F. Mar. 27
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. Mar. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. Mar. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Tu. Mar. 31
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. April 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. April 8
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. April 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. April 11
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. April 11
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	M. April 13
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 16

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Freiburg, German steamer, 3,971, Proesch, 13th March,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 6th March, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 13th March,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 24th Feb., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 13th March,—Shanghai via ports, 7th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Huron, British steamer, 1,989, W. Walsh, 13th March,—Batoum via Taketoya, 12th March, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Glenturret, British steamer, 3,086, R. Webster, 14th March,—London via ports, and Kobe, 12th March, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

King David, British ship, 2,068, Pryde, 14th March, —New York, 13th Oct., Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Thyra, British steamer, 2,244, A. Bainbridge, 14th March,—Rangoon, 19th Feb., Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Cheltenham, British steamer, 2,415, H. Brophy, 15th March,—Rangoon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Repton, British steamer, 1,852, R. Peacock, 15th March,—Rangoon, Rice.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Prinz Heinrich, German steamer, 3,902, R. Heintze, 15th March,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 14th March, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 15th March,—Yokkaichi, 13th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 15th March,—Yokkaichi, 14th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 16th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, D. Robinson, 16th March,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 14th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, Y. Kamoshita, 16th March,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

On Sang, British steamer 1787, I. T. Davies, 16th March,—Saigon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 17th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 16th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Indramayo, British steamer, 3,370, Price, 17th March,—New York via ports, Shanghai 11th March, General.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 18th March,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C. 28th Feb., Mails & General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 18th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 18th March,—Kobe, 16th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, S. Murai, 18th March,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 19th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 18th March, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Spithead, British steamer, 2,993, Steward, 19th Mar., —Rangoon via Kobe, 17th March, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Lilia, French steamer, 1,690, Du Bos, 19th March, —Saigon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 19th March,—Yokkaichi, 19th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Yamashita, 19th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 19th March,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 13th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Dupuy-Fromy, 13th March,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

St. David, American ship, 1,476, C. Ryder, 15th March,—Port Angels, Wash., Ballast.—T. M. Laffin.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,881, E. W. Haswell, 14th March,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibbals, 14th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 14th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 15th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 16th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 16th March,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 16th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 17th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, W. Bainbridge, 17th March,—Kure and Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Onipenta, British steamer, 3,420, D. F. Lee, 18th March,—Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 18th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fukuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, R. Ikawa, 18th March,—Kobe. General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kintuck, British steamer, 2,881, D. Robinson, 19th March,—London and Glasgow via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Saikio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,653, C. Young, 19th March,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Freiburg, German steamer, 3,971, Proesch, 19th March,—Rangoon and Moulmein via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 19th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. D. Dittert, Mr. C. Holgate, Mr. P. Goddard, Mr. F. Fuhrmeister, Mr. Eredmann, Mr. C. Simpson, Mr. E. Webster, Mr. and Mrs. C. von Aulst, and Mr. T. Nagashima, in cabin ; Mr. Eisenberg, Mr. Fischer, Mr. Metz, Mr. Fleck, Mr. Krause. Mr. Bettermann, Mr. Kreighoff, Mr. Salandt, Mr. R. Torii, and 1 Chinese, in second class ; 20 Japanese, 23 Chinese, and 10 European, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, from Seattle, Wash :—Mr. T. Benson, and Mr. S. W. Chesterton, in cabin ; Mr. C. H. Whittemore, in second class ; 10 Japanese, and 5 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, from Hamburg via ports :—Mr. F. W. Horne and wife, Mr. Becker, Mr. J. R. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Farnam and maid, Mr. Eliot Snow, Mr. Walter Schärf, Mr. and Mrs. Albinus and child, Dr. T. K. Fong, Mr. H. E. Lewis, Mr. Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Pescio and Mr. A. Dentici, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. G. M. Fairhurst, Miss Berry, Mr. Peckham, Mr. W. Taylor, Mr. R. Laird, Capt. and Mrs. Cole, Master Cole, Mrs. C. A. Walters, Mr. Chong Hea Cho, Rev. Johnson, Mr. H. Ahrens, Mr. T. Erlanger, and Mr. P. Otteson, in cabin ; Mr. W. H. Kupper, Miss Hayler, Mr. A. Grossman, and Mr. Fairchild, in intermediate. In Transit :—Mrs. J. Daintree, Master Daintree, Miss Clutton, Mr. Santosel, Com. MacHutchins, Mr. E. S. Pemberton, Lieut. Hayward, Rev. and Mrs. D. S. Hibbert, and Lieut. Tweedie, in cabin ; Mr. Lem Wah, Mr. F. B. Robertson, Mr. F. J. Neeston, Mr. W. R. Ganipp, Mr. P. P. Floyd, Mr. A. T. Hall, Mr. T. Hall, Mr. Chin Ye Ho and 2 boys, Mr. T. Forester, and Mr. Russ, in intermediate; 17 Japanese, and 357 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. H. W. Underwood, Mrs. Underwood, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. P. A. Cox, Mr. C. B. Bernard, Mr. F. T. Gause, Dr. R. K. McClanahan, Mrs. McClanahan, Mrs. O. Osborne, Mr. F. G. dos Remedios, Mr. F. R. Daniel, and Mr. K. F. Crawford, in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mrs. George Eckley, Mr. J. C. Morris, Mrs. Morris, Mr. G. F. Southard, Dr. J. G. Humphreys, Mr. R. N. Hatrick, Mr. A. Henshaw and valet, Mrs. Henshaw and maid, Mrs. Parker, Mr. George Eckley, Mr. D. Samson, Mrs. H. Levy and infant, Com. J. A. Norris, U.S.N., Mrs. W. Parker, Capt. W. Johnson, Miss H. McGaughey, Mrs. H. P. Cochrane and child. Mr. J. E. Adams, and Mrs. Adams and 3 children, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Devic*, for Hongkong via ports :—Dr. Maud Allen, Mr. J. H. Carroll, Mr. H. P. Civretto, Mr. C. H. Crawford, Dr. O. E. Ekland, Mr. G. J. Engelhardt, Mr. P. de T. Evans, Mr. Chas. Freeman, Miss H. Fried, Miss M. C. Griggs, Mr. W. W. Guyett, Mrs. W. W. Guyett and infant, Mr. A. K. Henning, Mrs. E. J. Jones, Miss E. P. Jones, Mr. S. Jones, Mr. S. C. MacNidder, Mr. P. H. McKay, Mr. W. A. Reed, Mr. A. C. Seimer, Mrs. Clyde K. Taylor, and Miss H. Vernon, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Marseilles via ports :—Major and Mrs. R. H. Isacke, Mr. George Borwack, Madame Roux, Mr. Machida, Mr. Mr. Munesuye, Mr. Mazich, Mr. Caesar Junghenn, Mr. J. Lemarchant, Mr. Giuseppe Marcantelli, Mr. J. Antonelli, and Dr. G. W. Watson, in cabin ; 5, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumano Maru*, for Australia via ports :—Mr. S. Morita, Mr. F. W. Daniel, Mr. Geo. W. Lewis, Mr. Julien Bessonneau, Mr. H. Coleaux, and Mr. A. F. Hooper, in cabin ; Mr. P. P. Luciano, Mr. Sai Joh Ken, Mr. Sai Yen, Mr. C. Omochi, Mr. K. Yano, and Mr. A. Peress, in second class ; 19, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste silk shipped per steamer *Ernest Simons* : —

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles	Italy.	Lyons.	Russia.	France.	Marseilles	Austria.	Shanghai.
P. Dourille	—	—	36	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	81	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	20	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Longin & Co.	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co..	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co..	—	—	75	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.....	—	10	71	—	—	—	—	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	62	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	—
	111	to 247		—	—	102	—	—

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is little or no demand for Yarns at present prices. Tokyo dealers are selling at lower rates for Osaka, where there is a speculative movement. Spot sales of White Shirtings are reported, but high costs in Manchester hinder forward business. In other branches the market is lifeless.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	per yard.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	per yard.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	per piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	per bale.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.10 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

A moderate business is being transacted.

	per picul.
Round and square ½ inch and upward...	Y. 4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted	4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron...	4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market is weak.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is firm and prices have advanced a little.

	per picul.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila...	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang...	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

We have had a moderate daily business in Raw Silk, sellers being current and quotations easier. On the native silk exchange quotations forward are still lower, and we look for further decline in view of the new crop, which will soon be upon us. Meantime demand for New York is slack while Lyons is in the market specially for fine-sized filatures.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y. 1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,050 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,030 to 1,040
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,030 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	1,010 to 1,020
Re-reels—No. 2	900 to 1,000
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	990 to 1,000
Kakedas—No. 1	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½...	930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2	900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½...	870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

There has been a very small business in Waste Silk. Buyers complain that the quality on offer is undesirable. Further supplies will arrive next month and then something will be done.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Nothing doing.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, March 20.

Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sellers at *yen* 108. Grand Hotels, a few shares can be placed at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, buyers offer *yen* 70. Langfeldts, offers wanted. Kirin Breweries, sellers at *yen* 115. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Helm Bros., sellers at *yen* 42½. Y. U. Club debentures sold at *yen* 107. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

Raubs purchases from Singapore at $7.

	Yen.	
Yokohama E. & I. Works	108	Sellers.
Grand Hotel	250	Buyers.
Club Hotel.....	75	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70	Buyers.
Langfeldt & Co.....	40	Nominal.
Japan Brewery Co.	115	Sellers.
C. Nickel & Co.....	28	Buyers.
Helm Bros.	41½	Sellers.

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 19.

London silver $\frac{3}{16}$ higher and China sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{3}{16}$ higher have caused local rates on China ■ rule easier, but other rates remain as they were, closing for the mails per steamers *Empress of Japan* and *Gaelic* as under.

London—Bank T.T.		2/03/16
—	— Bills on demand	2/03/16
—	— 4 months' sight	2/03/8
—	Private 4 months' sight	2/03/4
—	— 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight		255½ @ 6
—	Private 4 months' sight	260½
—	— 6 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight	per $100.	79*
—	Private 10 days' sight do.	77*
Shanghai—Bank sight		93½*
—	Private 10 days' sight	95*
India—Bank sight		152
—	Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight		49 3/16 @ ¼
—	Private 30 days' sigh	50 3/16
—	Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ½
Germany—Bank sight		208
—	Private 4 months' sight	213½
Bar Silver (London)		22 3/16

* Nominal.

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Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. W. 1y.

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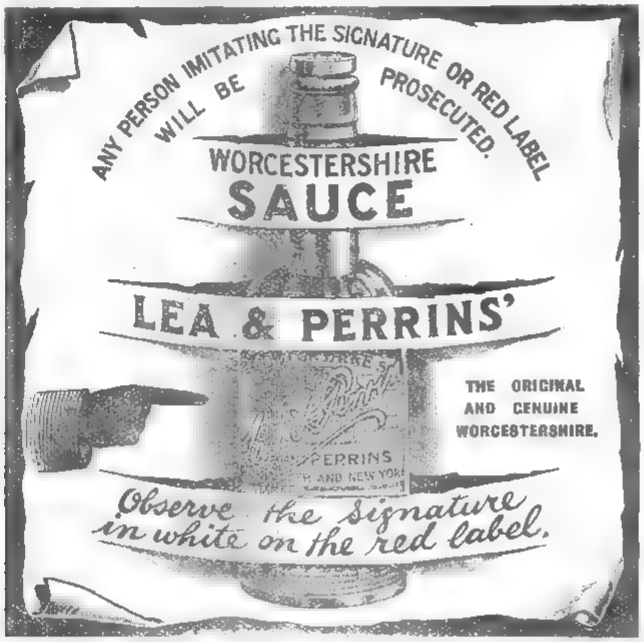

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH, 1903.

DEATH.

At Omori, on March 19th, S MATSUMOTO, Director-General of Government Railways.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MAJOR-GENERAL HARADA died on March 23rd.

THE Masuda Bank intends to establish a branch at Ping-yang, Korea.

THE proposed April Race Meeting at Hongkong has been abandoned.

A TELEGRAM from Dalny has reached Nagasaki to the effect that the export of rice from that port was prohibited on March 20th.

THE headman (named Fukushima) of Tamamura village, Gumma prefecture, was arrested on March 20th on a charge of having received bribes.

IT is said that steamship companies decline to carry Korean emigrants to Hawaii on the ground that in two previous batches there have been cases of variola.

NOTICE has been given to the P. & O. and Orient Companies to terminate the mail contracts for India, the Far East, and Australia on the 31st January, 1905.

A RUSSIAN circus arrived at Osaka, on March 25th. It has over 40 head of horses. The company will give shows in the enclosure of the Exhibition.

A WRITER named T. Otsuka, on the staff on the *Nagano Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, was arrested on March 24th on a charge of having embezzled money from a wealthy farmer.

A SAILOR of the German cruiser *Hansa* fell into the water, on the night of March 21st, near the French Hatoba and was in peril of his life when the police rescued him.

MR. ISOH, editor of the *Seikyo Shimbun*, Kanazawa, Ishikawa prefecture, was arrested on the night of March 18th. The charge against him was not stated publicly.

THE electors of Yokohama who participated in the recent electoral contest are, it is said, to hold a friendly dinner party with the view to reconciling past differences.

A FIREMAN named S. Tanabe employed at the Yokohama Railway Station, was on March 21st, seriously injured by an buffer of an engine to which he was about to couple a car.

THE steamer *Yokohama Maru*, which plies between Kobe and Keelung, Formosa, met with an accident to her boilers off Tado point, on March 18th. She has returned to Kobe.

THE authorities of the Yamaguchi District Court on March 20th searched the dwelling house of a toilet goods dealer named T. Iwai on suspicion of his having counterfeited silver coins.

HIS MAJESTY, on March 20th, granted *yen* 1,500 towards the funeral expenses, and a quantity of white cloth as a gift, to the family of the late Mr. Matsumoto, Director of the Imperial Railways Bureau.

A COOLIE named M. Hiramoto (36) who was working on board the steamer *Aki Maru*, fell into the sea the other day. He was immediately rescued by the Yokohama harbour police but life was extinct.

ON March 24th a lighter laden with coal was found sunk off Shinagawa. It is supposed that it foundered on the night of the 23rd when a rather severe storm prevailed, and that the crew have been drowned.

IT is reported that General Viscount Nodzu and Admiral Viscount Kabayama will be promoted to the rank of Field Marshal. There are two vacancies since the death of Marquis Saigo and H.I.H. Prince Komatsu.

THE Nippon Marine Insurance Company has decided to pay a reward of *yen* 1,000 to any one who finds trace of the steamer *Kongo Maru* which recently foundered off Hino promontory, Idzumo province.

A WOMAN named Tomi (41), wife of a laundry man named J. Otaki, living at Mita-machi, Shiba, Tokyo, on March 21st committed suicide by hanging herself. The cause is understood to be jealousy.

MR. H. KIRINO, Japanese Acting Consul at Hongkong, informs the Foreign Department that 19 cases of pest were reported and 17 patients died during the week ended March 7th.

H.I.H. PRINCESS KAN-IN has consented to preside over the Female Patriotic Society. The purpose of the society is to relieve indigent relatives of soldiers who die in war or are so injured as to be unable to undertake employment.

MR. MATSUMOTO, Director of the Railway Industry Bureau, died on the morning of March 19th.

DURING the naval manœvres, His Majesty will be on board the cruiser *Asama*. The cruiser *Chitose* and the gun-boat *Miyako* will escort the Emperor, and a grand dinner will be given on board the battle-ship *Shikishima*.

THE Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements, Sir Lionel Cox, is at present spending a short vacation in Japan, and we hear that the Chief Justice of Hongkong, Sir William Goodman, is coming up here for a trip shortly.

THE engine of a train was overturned on March 25th at 5.15 a.m. at a place 3 miles from Shinonoi Station by a landslip. Goods cars in front of the train were damaged and a workman employed on the train was injured.

A TELEGRAM from the United States, the *Jiji* says, was received in Kobe on March 25th to the effect that Congress decided on March 9th to defray one million *yen* (? gold dollars) towards the expense of building a harbour at Manila.

A SCHOOLBOY named Naito Rinta (13) living at Mishima village in Tokushima village in Tokushima prefecture commited suicide by shooting himself on March 23rd. The cause is said to be that he failed to pass the fifth year's course.

MAJOR T. MITAKE, Director of the Fortifications Office at Saseho, committed suicide early on the morning of March 24th by *harakiri*, in the servants' quarters of his office. The cause is said to be that on the 19th he was accused by a merchant of irregular conduct.

A MAN named Y. Yamaguchi, living at Katsuno village in Hyogo Prefecture, has been arrested by the Kobe police for being found in possession of 7,700 forged $5 notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. The police are on the search for accomplices.

THE estimated expenditure for constructing Osaka harbour, which was placed at *yen* 3,666,231 for this year, has been reduced to *yen* 225,461 in consequence of the labours of the investigation committee. The City Assembly has approved the reduced amount.

AN alleged thief named S. Yamada (28) was arrested on the Yokohama pier, on the evening of Sunday, March 22nd. He had on his person a quantity of rice, having made five large secret pockets in his coat. He is believed to have stolen it from a steamer which was berthed at the pier.

A TELEGRAM from Fukuoka states that, on March 21st, in the Sugamuda Coal Mine, a gas explosion occurred with the result that two workmen were fatally wounded and eighteen others slightly injured. The same day, in the Tadakuma Coal Mine, the upper part of a shaft broke down killing two workmen.

THE London *Times* recently presented a set of volumes of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* to the Imperial Japanese Court. Each volume is bound in fine leather which bears the British arms and the covers also display the Chrysanthemum crest. The volumes were contained in a lacquered case engraved with gold and mounted with gold and silver fastenings.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, March 21.

Half of the Japanese garrison at Peking started out on March 18th for the purpose of engaging in five days manœuvres. The other portion of the force leaves on the 24th to engage in similar exercises.

The foreign representatives in Peking are reported to have held a meeting on March 17th to discuss the Chinese proposal that the customs duties shall in future be paid in gold. The French Minister is stated to have shown an inclination to accept the proposal under instructions from his Government, and the Russian Minister expressed a similar view; but the majority were of a contrary mind. No decision was arrived at.

A Shanghai telegram dated March 19th states that exchange has slightly fallen and transactions in cotton yarn are lively.

Monday, March 23.

A Shanghai telegram under date March 20th reports that the cotton yarn market is very quiet.

Telegrams dated March 20th from Peking received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, state that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung will leave Nanking on the 21st for Peking by way of Hankow and Paoting.

Half of the Russian garrison in Moukden has left for the locality of the mines on the frontier of Tielien and the other half has gone to Port Arthur. Fresh troops numbering over two hundred have arrived at Moukden from home to take their place, and it is said that more soldiers will arrive shortly.

Rebels who are called Kowkosih are reported to be out in Lian-yang province and five Russian soldiers have been killed while many others have been wounded. A Russian officer has proceeded to the spot.

It is reported that in combination with Manchurians and Koreans who are in the employment of the Russian Government, Russian troops have massacred the Chinese garrison of Cha-kusih on the Yalu River. Russian officers from Moukden have proceeded to the locality.

General Ma arrived at Peking on March 20th from Tsinchow.

As has already been reported, over ten exchanges closed their doors at Tientsin and suspended payment, but it now appears that only one of them became actually bankrupt. The others merely closed temporarily because they were unable to meet the sudden demands of their depositors. The police authorities are said to be endeavouring to control the angry creditors.

We learn from telegrams dated March 21st that a high military authority has presented a memorial to the Throne suggesting the appointment of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to superintend the Imperial University on his arrival at Peking from his present post. It was rumoured, however, that the Minister for War will be appointed Governor-General of Hukwang, and Viceroy Chang Chih-tung will be nominated to the portfolio of Military Affairs. The present Minister for War is reported to be averse to the proposed change, and has put forward a request that he should be allowed to retire and return to his native province.

Viceroy Yuan proceeded to Tientsin on March 20th in order to issue to prefectural governors instructions regarding the proposed Imperial excursion into the provinces. It is alleged that their Majesties will not return to Peking after their trip to the Western Imperial Sepulchre, and that they dislike the idea of giving an audience to the foreign diplomats on their return to the capital.

Wednesday, March 25.

The *North China Daily News* says that the Imperial railway carriage which is to be used by the Empress Dowager on her trip to the Western mausolea next month is arranged as follows:—In the middle, at the head of the carriage, is placed a Dragon Throne draped and upholstered with Imperial yellow satin. This Throne is meant for the Empress Dowager. Below her on the left side—the second seat of honour—is a smaller chair with patent foreign screw underneath, so that it can turn round any way, and also draped and upholstered in Imperial yellow satin; this is meant for the Emperor. Opposite his Majesty, on the right hand side, is a similar seat for the Empress. On the Emperor's left hand, as the fourth seat of honour, is a lower seat, or stool, without draperies, which is meant for the First Imperial Princess, and opposite her, on the Empress's right, or fifth seat of honour, is a stool similar to that of the Imperial Princess. This is for Princess Chun, the newly wedded wife of the Emperor's younger brother, Prince Chun, and daughter of the Grand Secretary Yung Lu. The four seats all have screws beneath like the Emperor's and the carriage also carries six rattan chairs, painted a light blue, which are to follow the Empress Dowager's party wherever they go while making a tour of the mausolea and grounds where chairs are not at hand.

The Chengtu correspondent of the senior Shanghai journal writes:—

The latter numbers of the *North-China Herald* have had in "Notes on Native Affairs" some very alarming reports concerning Boxers in Chêngtu, for not one of which can your correspondent find any corroboration. There is not and has not been for months a band of armed Boxers, or any encampment or entrenchment of Boxers; so far as it can be seen the Viceroy has received all needed support from Peking; not much was needed, especially in the way of troops, for the Boxers still had been Boxers before the present Viceroy took office though much then remained to be done. The people had found out that the Boxers, even their leader, had no power that rendered them invulnerable to a sword in the hands of a swordsman or to a gun properly loaded and well aimed. When the "Tuan" found that with equal chances they could kill Boxers without running unequal chances they just cleared them out without much aid and sometimes in spite of opposition by the regular troops or rather the officials of the regulars.

The province seems very quiet and to residents at its capital it would seem that the Viceroy is receiving the support and confidence of the people and that there will not be this year a repetition of the disorders of last year, unless there should be another failure of the crops. Opium has been so extensively cultivated and the population is so great that there is no great reserve of food in the province. Rice is now twice the price of a few years ago. We have had an extremely dry winter and spring wheat was turning yellow for want of rain, but now light rains are falling which will save the wheat from entire failure. But heavy rains will be needed for the rice as many of the fields are now empty of water.

A Canton dispatch states that in addition to the rising of the Triad Society in Huichou—as already chronicled in a previous issue of the *North China Daily News* in "Notes on Native Affairs,"—which is keeping the troops from Ch'ingchou quite busy, the members of the Society have recently attempted to create a diversion by raising the flag of rebellion in K'aichienhsien. To suppress this rising the high authorities of Canton have ordered a battalion of General Liu Yungfu's "Blackflags" to the scene of disturbance and it remains to be seen what these troops will be able to do. In the meantime disquieting reports from all parts of Kuangtung are constantly arriving at Canton, it being stated that the sympathisers with the Kuangsi rebels are getting more numerous every day.

There are 89 candidates at Hongkong this year for the Oxford Local Examinations, 18 senior, 36 junior, and 35 preliminary, of whom four are girls.

The report to be presented at the twenty-fifth annual general meeting of the shareholders of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ld. is the most lugubrious they have ever received. It sets forth that the enormous over-production of beet sugar during 1901 had so over-stocked the consuming markets all over the world that prices below the cost of production had to be accepted and profitable working was rendered impossible, and resulted in the wiping out of the equalisation of dividend fund ($160,000) and of the balance of $18,500 brought forward from last year, and the creation of a debit balance of $438,232.99. There is some consolation in the fact that the Refinery is now working at a profit.

The Antwerp *Métropole* announces that Belgium has obtained a concession to the north of Tientsin on the right bank of the Pei-ho River. The German Shantung Railway traverses the concession; but the ground necessary for the construction of that line has been ceded to the Germans by Belgium, in return for the support given by Germans to the Belgian request for the marsh. The draining of the marsh, the journal adds, has been begun, and the plan of the roads to be made has been drawn up. The *Journal du Soir* states that a Bill will shortly be introduced in the Chamber regularising the concession in accordance with the provisions of international and Chinese law.

The new Viceroy of Liang-kiang, Wei Kuang-tao, finally took over the seals of office from Chang Chih-tung at Nanking on the 20th. Chang Chih-tung is now free to proceed to Peking, but it is expected that he will make a rather long stay at Shanghai *en route* to the capital. Chang evidently fears that his visit to Court will prove very expensive.

The Court at Peking is apparently getting solicitous about the loyalty of the South. For centuries the Cantonese have been noted for their business enterprise and progressive ideas, while every year hundreds of them go abroad in pursuit of wealth. Many of these Cantonese become great merchants and after amassing comfortable fortunes in America, Australia, the British Colonies and elsewhere return home to end their days in the land of their fathers. But their home-coming is often attended by disastrous consequences, the local officials seeing in them "fat ducks to pluck," and great are the extortions they are subjected to before being allowed to settle down in peace. This state of things has undoubtedly acted as a deterrent to many a wealthy Chinaman and the loss to China is therefore very great. To remedy what is undoubtedly a serious evil, from the Court's point of view, an Imperial Edict has been issued on behalf of Chinese merchants of the Southern provinces who go abroad to trade. The edict says

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that these people are well-acquainted with matters abroad as well as at home and their great patriotism is much appreciated by the Court, but unfortunately the local authorities have never given sufficient protection to them on their return home in spite of their having been repeatedly ordered to do so. The edict declares that hereafter all the Viceroys and Governors shall take care not to neglect the Imperial commands but must pay special attention to such merchants on their return.

A Tientsin dispatch printed in Shanghai papers states Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai has been approaching the French military authorities stationed at Tientsin with reference to the return by them of the Eastern Arsenal to the Chinese authorities. It is believed that the negotiations on the Chinese side will be conducted by Tang Shai-yi, Tientsin Customs Taotai, and Admiral Yeh Tsu-kuei, commanding the Peiyang squadron. This Eastern Arsenal business, remarks the *North China Daily News*, is not a very gallant one. The Arsenal was taken by the Russians in 1900, who took out of it a great mass of modern machinery, all of which they sent to Port Arthur. They subsequently handed it over to the French, who have lived there very comfortably, and are now, it is reported, demanding a very large sum for its rendition.

A Northern dispatch, translated by the *N.-C. Daily News*, reports the death on the 10th inst. of the wife of Prince Ching, who has thus become a widower for the second time. The deceased Princess is the mother of the second son of Prince Ching; the eldest son, as perhaps will be remembered, being Prince Tsai Chên, who went last year as Special Ambassador to the King's Coronation and is now going to the Osaka Exhibition as representative of the Chinese Government. Apropos of Prince Tsai Chên's mission to Japan it is now reported that His Highness will go there in the China Merchants' steamer *Anping*, instead of by a Japanese steamer.

The quarterly returns of the Statistical Department of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs for October-December, 1902, show that the total revenue collected in the fourth quarter of the last two years is as under, in Haikuan taels:—

	1902.	1901.
Chinese ports	8,177,894	6,952,237
Kowloon and Lappa	157,114	210,373
Lungchou, Mêngtze, Szemao, and Tengyueh	57,644	81,077
Total	8,392,652	7,243,687

The total collection at Shanghai in the last quarter of last year was Hk. Tls. 3,199,503, against Tls. 2,682,913 in 1901. Adding the returns for the four quarters of the year together, the result is:—

	Hk. Tls.
1902	30,007,042
1901	25,537,573
Gain	4,469,469

The importation of arms into China appears to be the subject of discussion between the Russian Ambassador and the Secretary of State in Washington. So at any rate we gather from a fairly circumstantial account published in a telegram of February 24th, which states that representations have been made to the State Department by Count Cassini regarding the increasing seriousness of the situation in China, in the hope that the United States will co-operate with the other Powers to stop the illegal importation of arms, which is reaching an alarming stage of activity. Similar representations have been made through the Russian representative to Belgium, Germany and Great Britain. The Chinese officials declare they are powerless to stop the practice, and the Russian Government in the interest of peace has called the matter to the attention of the powers. Mr. Hay and the Russian Ambassador have had several conferences on the matter, but it has not been decided just what course the United States, under the Constitution, can take toward preventing the exportation of arms. The correspondent states, however, that it is probable the only relief lies in special legislation by Congress, which is deemed impossible at this session. The Belgians are the chief offenders in this illegal practice, though it is said many arms are entering China from the United States, Germany and Great Britain. Count Cassini is said to regard the Chinese situation as deserving of the serious and immediate consideration of the powers. Reports received at the State Department were also said to indicate that mischief is being wrought by the importation of arms into China.

Thursday, March 26.

Viceroy Yuen decided to leave for Wuchang and Sih-yung on March 25th.

The cotton yarn market in Shanghai, says a telegram dated March 23rd, is not unsatisfactory, but transactions are fewer.

Viceroy Chang Chih-tung left Shanghai on March 21st for Nanking. He has applied to the Government for permission to stay at Mu-Chong for a fortnight.

A Peking correspondent sends a telegram under date March 23rd, to the *Asahi Shimbun*, to the effect that Russian troops from Moukden have occupied the Western bank of the Yalu River and are busily engaged in transporting thither provisions and arms. The native people believing that a war between Russia and Japan is impending are preparing for flight. On the pretext of retiring the troops, the Russians marched to the neighbourhoodof the railway station, which caused great anxiety to the natives.

A Shanghai contemporary also translates a note from Chinese papers concerning the gold mines in Mongolia:—The region occupied by the Mongol tribes under the Prince of Alatsin is filled with gold deposits which, though mined in crude ancient fashion by the Mongols, yet manage to yield a respectable out-turn to the Prince. Of late, however, attracted by reports that have come down to Tientsin of the richness of the country named above, a number of Russians and Germans have been examining the region and finding that report had not exaggerated in the least, have persistently applied to the Peking Government for permission to work the gold deposits by modern foreign methods. Hearing of this the Mongol Prince of Alatsin has sent strong remonstrances to the Peking Government against granting such permission to the foreigners concerned, declaring that he himself has already begun to start mining operations there with the ultimate intention of using modern machinery.

Friday, March 27.

A correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Peking says that hostility against Christian converts is again becoming apparent in the vicinity of the capital, and already several severe free fights between the people and R. C. converts have been reported from villages belonging to the Lianghsiang and Fangshan districts. To enable themselves to withstand the converts large numbers of the people of the above-named districts are joining the mounted banditti, while the more timid are removing their families and effects within the city walls. In this way several villages are almost deserted. It is feared that there is more trouble in store for the unfortunate people of Chihli province.

In its Notes on Native Affairs the *N.-C. Daily News* says the Buddhist Pope of Tibet, or Dalai Lama, according to the Chinese Imperial Resident at Lhassa in a telegraphic dispatch to the Grand Council, has reported to that Resident that "there is considerable jealousy between certain foreign missionaries of rival sects proselytising within the former's jurisdiction, with the result that their respective converts have lately taken up the cudgels on behalf of their teachers and have threatened in certain instances actual violence against one another." On these occasions Lamas under the direction of their Pope stepped in between the rival sections and prevented actual violence, but it is stated that "so deep are the jealousies between the rival converts, acting under the influence of their teachers, that it is impossible to guarantee the observance of continued peace between them." It is not stated by name, in the dispatch above quoted, who are the rival missionaries concerned.

Viceroy Yuan on the morning of March 25th left for Shih Yuen accompanied by Viceroy Shin Suen Hwai, *en route* for Wuchang, whence they will proceed to Peking. Viceroy Yuan will return to Sih Yuen, escorting Their Majesties, who are to visit the locality.

An Imperial edict was issued on March 25th granting a reward to Governor Chong Sung-kee, who has contributed 200,000 Tls. towards the expense of establishing the Lu-Hwan university.

Under the instructions of Viceroy Yuan, the Commissioner of the Tientsin Customs applied, on March 23rd, to the five foreign banks for a loan of three million taels to relieve the present commercial panic in Tientsin. The foreign bankers have decided to lend the amount.

It was recently rumoured that Prince Ching had left Tientsin on the 22nd instant for the purpose of proceeding to the Osaka Exhibition. But the rumour is now denied. According to the latest intelligence the Prince will not start until about the middle of April. Owing to the death of his father's second wife, he is now in mourning for a period of 10 days. The Prince's suite, when he visits Osaka, will consist of about 40 persons, including Mr. Na Tung.

THE CHARTERED BANK.

Mr. J. Williamson Jones, Agent in Yokohama of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, on Thursday received telegraphic advice from the London Office that, at the approaching meeting of shareholders of this Bank, the Directors will recommend a dividend for the half year ended the 31st December last at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum free of Income Tax, placing £75,000 to the Reserve Fund, which will then stand at £725,000, and carrying forward £47,500.

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INTOLERANCE

Occasion has often been furnished in the past to comment on the almost fiercely intolerant mood to which some of our local journalists are excited by any evidence on the part of a publicist to state a case favorably for Japan. It is evident the roots of the mood must spring from sources a good deal deeper than the mere incidents of an ordinary controversy. Men are not usually prone to apply bitter and contemptuous terms to every one that differs from them, and when we find them ready to do so, the natural inference is that underlying the actual difference there is some potent sentiment. In Japan's case this sentiment seems to belong to the sweeping category of "he that is not with me is against me." By perpetually discharging the "duty" of fighting against every semblance of a Japanese claim, certain persons have surrounded themselves with an atmosphere of Japanese antipathy and have taught themselves to believe not only that they are discharging a sacredly patriotic function when they argue that every Japanese right must be a foreign wrong, but also that any one ranging himself on the opposite side must be a renegade or even a rascal. This is the fine old spirit that resorted to the stake and the rack as instruments of religious persuasion in mediæval times, and although it had some semblance of respectability as long as a fight for dearly valued privileges was actually in progress, it has become rather incongruous in times when friendship and concord with the Japanese ought to be the object of every foreign resident. The immediate text of these remarks is the criticism to which Mr. Alfred Stead has exposed himself in Kobe by venturing to discuss the House Tax question in the *Anglo-Japanese Gazette*. Mr. Stead came to Japan in 1901 and spent a short time in the country, compiling the usual "book" on his return to England. It is a terrible offence in the eyes of some people to write a book about Japan from short acquaintance, and for that crime Mr. Stead is bitterly denounced as a person who, after a few weeks in the country, "regarded himself thenceforth as an authority on Japan." Something similar might be said with equal justice of Mr. Henry Norman, Lord Curzon, and others who, after a brief sojourn in the country, compiled works which still remain standards, but Mr. Stead's special sin is that he wrote in a strain exceptionally sympathetic with Japan. That was very natural, for what Mr. Stead did was, not himself to pose as "an authority on Japan," but chiefly to collect materials and opinions from Japanese writers, so that his book might represent Japanese views as expressed by the Japanese themselves. We do not pretend to have been much struck by the book but it does appear to us most unfair to accuse the author of striking an attitude which he certainly never intended to assume. These are matters of somewhat ancient history, but the same prejudice displayed in reviewing Mr. Stead's book is now shown towards his article in the *Anglo-Japanese Gazette* on the House Tax question. The *Anglo-Japanese Gazette* itself is denounced as a curiously uninformed publication—which is what we should expect, seeing that its sentiments are pro-Japanese—and of Mr. Stead it is said that "if he had wanted to exhibit his ignorance and incapacity he doubtless could not have chosen a better medium." "Ignorance and incapacity" are pretty strong terms. They illustrate what we have said about the ferocity of intolerance, and they are supplemented by a statement that Mr. Stead's "article as a whole is too ridiculous for criticism." Experience has taught us that when a writer indulges in these wholesale denunciations he generally has one and only one real point of assault, and he trusts to deliver such a vehement attack at that point that his general accusations will be vicariously established. In this case the special point is Mr. Stead's statement that "before the revised treaties came into force foreign residents enjoyed the privilege of practical immunity from taxation except for the nominal rent due from them." Now that is virtually true. It is not an absolutely accurate statement but it certainly may pass muster as a fair representation of the state of affairs then existing. The Kobe critic however delivers his onset in this strain: "Presumably Mr. Stead does not know that the foreigners bought the lots of which they are possessed at a price far exceeding the cost of contiguous land at the time." Now is that true? Is it even approximately true? On the contrary does it not in grossness of misrepresentation far exceed any sin that can be laid to Mr. Stead's charge? For out of the three principal settlements, namely Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki, the lands in two—Yokohama and Nagasaki—were handed over to foreigners free of all initial charge, and the lands in Kobe were explicitly assessed for purposes of sale to foreigners, not at their value as building lots but at the outlay actually incurred by the Japanese Government in reclaiming and preparing them. Is it not also perfectly well known that so far from receiving anything like a reasonable price for the settlement lands as a whole, the Japanese Government actually expended on account of those lands sums which represent a very large loss to the Imperial treasury? To which side then must the credit of accuracy be assigned: to Mr. Stead, whose statement though not completely comprehensive is at all events not seriously misleading, or to his critic who betrays a degree of ignorance almost incredible at this time of day, and who misrepresents the case about as thoroughly as it could be misrepresented? It must appear to all thoughtful persons that the justice of the anti-house-tax claim is not very vividly illustrated by criticisms such as we have quoted above.

THE PASSING OF SOME LEARNED MEN.

The closing days of January proved fatal to several men of light and leading in England. Within as many days the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge lost four of their most distinguished leaders at ages which suggest in eloquent figures the close of long lives spent for the honour of their Colleges, and in the service of science and learning. The first of these was Dr. Sewell, Warden of New College, who died at the age of 93. Then followed the death of Sir George Stokes, Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge, in his 84th year; of Dr. Norman Ferrers, the Master of Caius, Cambridge, in his 74th year; and of Prof. Earle, Oxford Professor of Anglo-Saxon, at the age of 79. Few men in his position have ever done their duty more thoroughly or more conscientiously than Dr. Sewell. By common consent he was an ideal Vice-Chancellor, who held an unswerving balance, even when party feeling ran highest, and as Warden of New College he knew every farm and every tenant connected with William of Wykeham's foundation, and showed himself an admirable guardian of its property. Nothing but illness or some really imperative necessity ever kept him away from a college meeting or a chapel service, and he tried with conspicuous success to be the friend and adviser of all his men. He was, in the opinion of many, the last of a great type which can never be revived, and upon the disappearance of which many look with profound regret. By the death of Sir George Stokes, the English nation has lost one of its most distinguished mathematicians and men of science. He was appointed Professor of Mathematics in the University of Cambridge as long since as 1849, and more than half a century ago became a member of the Royal Society. The official celebration of his jubilee as professor marked in a sense the culmination of his great career, and of a life spent in study and research within the University. The honours literally heaped upon him on that memorable occasion were but a fitting tribute to a great man. It was only last summer that he became Master of Pembroke. It was in 1851, ten years after Gabriel Stokes headed the list, that the Rev. Norman Ferrers graduated as Senior Wrangler. He, too, soon made a name for himself, and ten years later was issued his Elementary Treatise on Trilinear Co-ordinates, while various contributions on mathematical subjects were subsequent products of his brain and pen. He was elected Master of his College in succession to Dr. Guest in 1880. As the *Times* recalled in its obituary notice, he was the hero of the somewhat shrill "soto voce" remark which went the round of the gossips at the expense of a pretentious don The latter was heard to complain at dinner that his books multiplied so fast that he knew not where to house them. "Let him read them," said Ferrers. Among the distinguished company at Oxford when he was elected a Fellow of Oriel in 1848, John Earle made a place for himself by his study of languages, and this son of a small Devonshire farmer soon became recognised as a philologist of eminence. His facility in the learning of languages was remarkable, and it is said that in the course of a summer holiday visit to a Welsh village he learnt to speak the language like a native. The Rev. John Earle first held the Anglo-Saxon Professorship in 1849, but after many years spent in a rural living, which gave him time for much learned but always interesting writing, he returned to the reconstituted Chair of Anglo-Saxon at his University, and held it at the time of his death,

What a marvellous series of changes these venerable men must have witnessed, changes which gradually transformed the Universities in which they spent the best years of their lives, from still haunts of ancient peace into teeming hives brimming over with intellectual activity and mental energy sufficient to meet the demands and wants of an imperious new age. Take the case of Dr. Sewell, for instance. Three years had passed after he took up his Fellowship when Keble preached the Assize Sermon from which the Oxford Movement is commonly dated; and at that period the "Tracts for the Times" had not begun to be written! How far away it all seems. Yet the Oxford of 1830 was not very different from the Oxford of 1530; neither its institutions nor its spirit had undergone any essential alteration, The crisis of the Reformation had changed some outward forms, but the University was still intimately associated with the National Church, and alike among Dons and undergraduates it was permeated by intense con-

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servatism. One thoughtful writer in the London press is of opinion that the late Mr. Gladstone, could never have been what he was, either as a Churchman or Statesman, if he had been brought up in the Oxford of to-day. The changes of which we speak have not been all for the better, we may readily believe, few changes in this world are entirely for the better. But they were inevitable. The "Zeitgeist," to use the term which another Oxford man has made familiar, has nowhere displayed itself more conspicuously than in the oldest University. To-day Oxford is "modern" in the fullest sense of the word and is fast giving the lie to the epigram that it was merely "the home of lost causes;" while Cambridge is equally abreast of the spirit of the time.

KAYSER CONCERT.

A concert was given by Miss Kayser, vocalist, at the Public Hall on Saturday, 21st March, before a good house, composed chiefly of the German community of Tokyo and Yokohama, who rallied bravely to the support of their country-woman.

Miss Kayser is a soprano vocalist of some repute, and is no stranger to Yokohama. She had the assistance of Mrs. Mollison; both ladies sang charmingly, receiving flowers rich and rare after each number, and recalls were the order of the day.

The concert opened with two movements from a piano trio by Gade—a poor thing, but which served well enough for a *lever-de-rideau*. This was followed by the Grand Scena from Weber's "Der Freischütz," which was well sung by the concert giver, who was fortunate in securing the assistance of Dr. von Koeber as accompanist. Mrs. Mollison followed with the Cavatina from Rossini's "Barber" to the dainty accompaniment of Mrs. Doering, and the two ladies were next heard to great advantage in a vocal duet from Mozart's opera "Le nozze de Figaro." The only other vocal number of importance was the song from "Carmen" but this was not quite so successful. Bizet (sung in German) did not compare well with the other selections.

Professor von Koeber was magnificent throughout the evening: not only did he charm us with his inimitable skill as a *virtuoso*: but he played the more important accompaniments like an artist,-and thereby immensely enhanced the effect of Miss Kayser's interpretation of the excerpts from Weber and the more modern German school. Everything the Professor did was perfect from first to last, and the house fairly rose at him from time to time. We hope he will soon favour Yokohama with another visit.

We append the programme:—

1.—Trio .....Gade.
Mr. Poole, Mr. Schmid, Mr. Mason.

2.—Arie a.d. Oper "Freischütz" .....v. Weber.
Miss Kayser.

3.—*a.* Sonate.....Durante.
b. Petite valse .....Henselt.
c. "Orientalisches Lied" .....Balakireff.
Prof. Dr. v. Koeber.

4.—Arie a. d. Oper "Barbier von Sevilla"...Rossini.
Mrs. Mollison.

5.—Duett a. d. Oper "Figaros Hochzeit" ...Mozart.
Mrs. Mollison, Miss Kayser.

6.—Arie a. d. Oper "Carmen".....v. Bizet.
Miss Kayser.

7.—*a.* Etude .....Chopin.
b. Pastorale and Scherzo .....Scarlatti.
c. Polka.....Tschaikowsky.
Prof. Dr. V. Koeber.

8.—*a.* "Es blinkt der Tau" .....Rubinstein.
b. "Hondnacht" .....Schumann.
c. "Vergebliches Ständchen".....Brahms.
Miss Kayser.

THE BOOKSHELF.

We have received from Mr. Y. Isobe a copy of the first volume of his "English Literature, with Japanese Notes and Translations." This is a substantial volume of 345 pages, packed full of matter which to the Japanese student of English will doubtless be very valuable—much less so, we are afraid, to any but the most advanced foreign scholars of Japanese. Mr. Isobe goes into his subject very thoroughly. After an introduction explanatory of the terms employed, he deals with "Style"—the figure of speech, the order of words and so forth—and he proceeds, quoting copiously and with abundant notes, to take up prosody and versification. Next he outlines the method in which English literature should be studied. He gives a short history of the English language and the various influences that bore upon it in different periods, and furnishes a syllabus of English literature ending with Kipling, and another of American literature. He devotes many pages to a consideration of Shakespeare and gives in English the funeral scene in Act III of "Julius Cæsar" and the court scene in "The Merchant of Venice;" Tennyson also is discussed and the whole of "Enoch Arden" is reproduced, all these with Japanese translation and full notes. As will be seen Mr. Isobe has gone very practically into his subject, and his labours certainly deserve recognition.

The management of the Kwansai Railway have issued a Guide Book in Japanese, which of course contains much information relative to the Osaka Exposition. There are maps of Nagoya, Nara, and Osaka, and many illustrations, and the volume is creditably printed and put together.

The Welcome Society issue a short Guide Book to Japan, with special reference, however, to the Osaka Exposition. This Society, as we have already had occasion to say, has been formed to extend foreign intercourse, to welcome foreign visitors and to render every assistance and convenience to those who are well-wishers of the society. These most praiseworthy objects are attained at a minimum of cost to those foreigners who claim its facilities, for the society is practically maintained by the voluntary contributions of its members and well-wishers. It should be said, however, that the present guide-book is an exception to the rule relating to the society's publications; for it a charge of *yen* 1.50 is made, and at this price it may be obtained at Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Maruya and other bookstores. There are very pretty illustrations, a plan of the exhibition and a short conversation-vocabulary which should be useful.

The first report of the new Merchants' Exchange of San Francisco, which has risen from the ashes of the former institution, promises a prosperous future. The members have purchased the site of the old exchange as well as its property (signal station) at Point Lobos, telephone lines, etc., and intend to build a fine 12-story structure at a cost of $1,200,000.

In a "Modern History of Japan" Mr. G. Uchida proposes to deal with that portion of this country's history which extends from the coming of foreigners to Japan. He projects his work in eleven parts (five volumes) of which the first part has reached us. It is published by the Fusambo firm.

POLITICS.

Saturday, March 21.

In the course of Marquis Ito's interesting speech at Kofu the other day he made the following reference to the situation in the Far East:—

The affairs of the world undergo great changes in the course of every ten years. The great Siberian railway connecting the Extreme East with the Extreme West has nearly been completed, and it is now possible to cover the distance in a fortnight. On the other side, the steamship connection with the Canadian shores make it possible for one to pass from Japan to Canada in not more than 12 or 13 days. This wonderful contraction of sea and land is to be sincerely welcomed for the sake of civilization. At the same time it must not be forgotten that this diminution of distances demands serious consideration from the point of view of national safety. The recent improvement in the means of communication has revolutionized the conditional relations. To take one example, ten years ago no Western Power would have been able to send an army of 100,000 men to the Far East, but conditions have since then so far changed that an army of several hundreds of thousands could be despatched in two or three months. Peace is of course desired by all nations. No nation, however, can afford to forget that storms may come at any moment. This is what disturbs my thoughts night and day, and this is the reason why I lose no opportunity to remind my countrymen of the necessity of union and harmony.

Speaking of domestic politics, the Marquis remarked:—"We are of one family, and although there are parties and factions among us, the object kept in view by these parties and factions is the promotion of common interests and common progress. It is, therefore, my most earnest wish that these parties and factions be free from those evils of underhand intrigue and malicious enmities which too often disfigured the struggles between political factions in feudal days. It is my ardent wish that all sections of the people work in harmony for the common end of increasing the wealth, happiness and power of the country. . . . . Such is, indeed, the fundamental idea of the wise policy consistently pursued by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor and which has thus far been attended with such conspicuous success."

An easier feeling has been imported into the political situation by the interview which took place the other day between Marquis Ito and the Premier. Rightly or wrongly the public believe that the negotiations in progress have been carried within sight of a settlement. So far, however, nothing definite is known.

The elections, according to Mr. Hayashida, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, show that the *Seiyu-kai* has secured 187 seats, the Progressists 95, the Imperialists 17, and the Independents 77. This means a loss of five seats to the *Seiyu-kai* and a gain of two and three seats for the Progressists and Independents respectively. The Imperialists appear to have returned the same number of representatives as before.

Monday, March 23.

The arrival in the capital of Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, is interpreted by some quidnuncs as preliminary to Count Katsura giving up the reins of office and Baron Kodama becoming Minister President. We do not attach much credence to the rumours now circulating, believing that Count Katsura prefers to meet the new Diet as head of the Cabinet, while Baron Kodama has placed it on record that he desires to remain at his present post until he has seen some of his projects for the better-went of Formosa advanced a little further towards maturity. There may be some rearranging of portfolios before the Diet

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meets, but the probabilities seem rather against than for any such change at the moment of writing.

TEXT-BOOK SCANDAL.

Saturday, March 21.

The *Shin Boso*, of Chiba prefecture, has printed a paragraph accusing Mr. Abe Hiroshi, Governor of Niigata prefecture, of receiving bribes. The paper alleged that when Mr. Abe became Governor of Chiba prefecture he took bribes from various book-publishers on the usual promise that he would adopt their text books in the schools in his prefecture. The Chiba police on March 17th brought a charge against the editor of the paper of having insulted a Government official. On the trial coming up in the Chiba District Court, the judge gave it as his opinion that the information printed by the paper had been published in good faith and in the public interest, and it was therefore necessary that the allegations should be enquired into. He therefore decided to summon Mr. Abe from Niigata as a witness and adjourned the trial till March 23rd when the Governor will be present in Court. It is expected that some publishers in Tokyo will also be summoned to appear to give evidence.

The preliminary trial of Kimura, an Educational Inspector of Awomori Prefecture, concluded on March 19th in the Tokyo District Court. He was found guilty of having received bribes of *yen* 300 from the Shuyei-do, in April 1901, and of *yen* 150 from the Kokuko-sha in December of the same year.

Monday, March 23.

Judgment was passed, on March 20th, upon Horii, teacher of the Mikage Normal School, who was sentenced to 2 months' imprisonment with labour, and was fined *yen* 7. Bribes amounting to *yen* 252, which he had received from various book publishers, were ordered to be confiscated. Preliminary trials were concluded on March 20th and 21st of the following accused, who were committed for trial:—Tomitsu, principal of the Okayama Female Normal School, who is alleged to have obtained a bribe of *yen* 200 from the Kinko-do in 1901; Tsuchise, educational inspector of Ayama-gun, Miye prefecture, (*yen* 600 from various text book publishers in 1901 and 1902); Takekawa, educational inspector of Shinobu-gun, Fukushima prefecture, (*yen* 200 from Kinko-do); Masuto, a teacher of the Higher Normal School (*yen* 500 from the Shuyei-do in 1901); Tabei, educational inspector of Toyama prefecture (*yen* 50 from the Kokuko-sha, which he handed to a colleague, Shikuta), and Kohama, educational inspector of Aichi prefecture (*yen* 4,200 from various publishers).

The application for bail by Mr. Kanao, ex-Governor of Shimane prefecture, was rejected on March 20th.

Thursday, March 26.

T. Yendo and K. Horii were enlarged on bail of *yen* 300 each, on March 24th.

Preliminary trials were concluded on March 23rd with the result that S. Onozaki, principal of the Fukushima Normal School, and K. Okubo, teacher of the same school, were committed for trial on a charge of having obtained bribes of *yen* 400 and *yen* 800, respectively, from various book publishers.

R. Kanao, ex-Governor of Shimane prefecture, on March 23rd laid an accusation against Viscount H. Seki on the ground that the latter made in Court a false statement when he was examined as a witness in connection with the trial of the former.

The public trial of S. Munekata, ex-Governor of Fukui prefecture, was to be resumed on March 25th when I. Kimura, educational inspector of Awomori prefecture, who is under detention, will be examined as a witness. The *Mainichi Shimbun* hazards the supposition that Mr. Munekata will be discharged.

Friday, March 27.

The following judgments were given on March 25th: K. Mizobe, ex-Governor of Tochigi prefecture, was sentenced to 2 months' imprisonment with labour and a fine of *yen* 7, and K. Sakuma, principal of the Higher Female School, Tokushima prefecture, to 3 months' imprisonment with labour, and a fine of *yen* 10. the bribe in his case, *yen* 950, to be confiscated.

Preliminary trials were concluded on March 25th in the cases of K. Okata, educational inspector of Osaka prefecture, who was committed for trial on a charge of having obtained bribes of *yen* 400 from the Shunyei-do book publishers; of U. Kurokawa, principal of the Toyama Academy, of having received a bribe of *yen* 813 and one piece of silk from various book publishers; K. Negishi, educational inspector of Toyama prefecture, of having received a bribe of *yen* 530 from various book publishers; and O. Shimidzu, educational inspector of Miye prefecture, of having received bribes of *yen* 800 from various book publishers all on the usual promise to adopt the text books. Mr. S. Munekata, ex-governor of Fukui prefecture, was on March 25th released on bail of *yen* 700.

KOREAN NEWS.

It is reported that the Russian representative, M. Waeber, and his wife arrived at Chemulpo from Sōul on the morning of March 20th and were to start for Port Arthur the following morning in a Russian steamer. They will return to Korea to attend the Korean Emperor's jubilee according to one correspondent, but another reports that they will proceed from Port Arthur to Shanghai.

A telegram is published by the *Vorodzu Choho* from Soul under date March 21st which states that the draft of the regulations relating to the Central Bank has been submitted to the council of Ministers by the Minister for Finance. It is added that the regulation will shortly be approved and promulgated.

The Belgian Government is reported to have applied to the Korean Government for a concession to work a gold mine at the Taipei-shan mountain, on the border between Chun-tien and Huhong provinces.

It is again announced that the military authorities at Sōul are said to have compiled a conscript law in accordance with the command of the Emperor.

The Chinese Minister and the Korean Government are reported to be negotiating an arrangement for the junction of the Korean and Chinese telegraph systems at Antung on the Yalu river. It will be remembered that both the Chinese and Korean lines were suspended as a consequence of the Japan-China war.

A telegram dated March 23rd from Sōul says it is rumoured that Great Britain and the United States will be represented by their respective Ministers to Japan at the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Emperor's coronation. Sir Claude Macdonald we know is going, but Mr. Griscom, the United States representative, has not yet left America, so he cannot be present.

Tokyo journals publish telegrams from Sōul which indicate that Li Yong-ik's project for establishing a central bank with note-issuing power, has received a check. The programme appears to have been on a comparatively small scale. Something less than 3¾ millions of *yen* represented the total capital fund for securing the convertability of the notes, but it was not unreasonably hoped that the scheme would ultimately develope national proportions. Li however seems to be unable to command the cōoperation of his colleagues. They are said to have rejected his proposal by a large majority, and although he has by no means struck his colours, it is evident that the immediate success of his plan is now very problematical. If Li really approaches this enterprise with a *bonâ-fide* intention of keeping the notes on a convertible footing, he deserves general sympathy. But the insertion of the thin edge of such a wedge in a country so impecunious as Korea suggests very perilous results. It is but a short step from the dry land of good intentions to the quagmire of a fiduciary currency.

It is stated that neither America, France nor Germany will be specially represented at the ceremony to be presently held in Seoul in commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the Emperor's coronation. Sir Claude MacDonald will represent Great Britain, and the expectation is that Belgium and Italy, which have now Consuls only in Korea, will replace them by Chargés d'Affaires in time for the latter to take part in the ceremony. The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the Korean Government has made great efforts to induce China to send a special envoy but Peking has shown itself obdurate.

THE RECENT ISSUE OF BONDS.

Of the recent issue of loan bonds to the aggregate value of *yen* 11,698,250, which took place on March 20th—the rate of interest being 5 per cent. and the price of issue *yen* 92.50—it appears that Railway Loan Bonds are represented to the extent of *yen* 5,995,200, Industrial Loan Bonds of *yen* 5,022,550 and Hokkaido Railway Bonds of *yen* 680,500.

A separate issue of Formosa Loan Bonds has also been made of *yen* 5,461,750 at *yen* 92.50.

The Yokohama Specie Bank is reported to have received a telegram from London to the effect that the Imperial Five Per Cent Bonds offered in London through the Kogyo Ginko are quoted at £103.4.7½.

The *Asahi Shimbun*, however, says the Japanese Government expected to receive about *yen* 47,500,000 for the fifty million issue, placing it at *yen* 95. This total it was proposed to dispose of as follows: *yen* 14,739,793 to refund the amount borrowed for railway construction in 1900; *yen* 6,174,493 to refund money borrowed from the Bank of Formosa for the maintenance of various industries in the island; *yen* 6,899,855 to replace amounts transferred temporarily from the general accounts of departments for railway construction in 1901; and *yen* 16,934,759 to defray the cost of railway works since 1901, while the remainder, *yen* 2,751,100, will be deposited in the Bank of Japan.

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COURTING THE NEGUS.

The telegrams purporting to describe the condition of Abyssinia's foreign relations make amusing reading. It will be remembered that after Italy's disastrous campaign and King Menelik's repudiation of the protectorate which that Power had claimed, Russian, French and British missions visited the Negus at his new capital, Abbaba, each, of course, with the avowed object of cultivating the goodwill of the monarch to the exclusion of everybody else. If the information that from time to time has found its way into the newspapers since then may be trusted, a more fickle, wayward, and vacillating personage than King Menelik can only exist in one of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas. One day we were told that he and the Czar were, if not "as thick as thieves" yet on a footing of presents-and-message-exchanging friendship that greatly pained the other Powers, who were pictured standing out in the cold and biting their nails gloomily. Then the scene changed—according to the telegrams; Menelik for some mysterious reason turned his back on Russia, and London papers recorded that France, in the person of M. Lagarde, who headed her mission, was basking in the sunshine of his favour. It was understood that the British mission next made a good impression upon his Majesty, and it would perhaps be improper to enquire whether this was due to the diplomatic skill of Sir. Rennell Rodd or the presence of the biggest officer in the British army, who accompanied his Mission—but it really appeared to outsiders that a constant game of see-saw was going on at the Abyssinian Court. Latest developments show that one of the periodical changes has taken place. The facts are recorded in a Paris telegram of Feb. 27th:

French advocates of national expansion have suffered a severe blow at the hands of Menelik, Emperor of Abyssinia. Recently the Negus broke off relations with M. Lagarde, the French Minister to Abyssinia, and expelled him from his capital. Now the Ethiopian monarch has notified the Sultan of Turkey that he has entrusted the protection of the interests of his subjects in Jerusalem to the Italian consulate there. For years the French Government has been trying to persuade the Negus to make France the general diplomatic representative of Abyssinia throughout the world, but according to the last reports Menelik has been rapidly weaned from French influence. A few days ago, continues the correspondent, he discharged all the French telephone and telegraph employese on the line between Adis Abeba and Adis Salem and replaced them by Italians.

In the *Djibouti Journal*, which arrived in Paris on Feb. 26th, a full account of the differences between M. Lagarde, the French Minister, and the Negus is given. M. Lagarde was anxious to have the Emperor visit the French port of Djibouti in connection with the opening of the Djibouti-Harrar Railway, but Menelik, finding that the invitation was a trick to place him in the light of a vassal of France, refused to go. M. Lagarde then cabled to France, alleging that the whole affair was the result of British intrigue. He also abused the Negus in such fashion that Menelik broke off relations with him and forced him to leave the capital.

Strong representations are being made by the ultra-patriotic press in Paris to the effect that the French Government should immediately send a mission to Abyssinia ■ win back the favour of the Negus, or, at least, to preserve what remains of French influence there before it is too late.

This seems to put France's relations with Menelik in a serious fix. But the dismissal of M. Lagarde and the other matters recorded were not all that the advocates of French national expansion had to afflict them. There was worse to come. What, we wonder, did they say when they read the following:—

Calcutta, February 26.

Orders have been issued for the despatch from Calcutta to Aden of a well trained elephant with howdah and trappings as a present from the Home Government to King Menelik of Abyssinia.

THE LATEST ISSUE OF RAILWAY BONDS.

Some uncertainty seems to prevail with regard to the latest issue of Railway Bonds by the Treasury. The transaction, as we understand it, does not signify any special extension of railway works. The sum in question—17,000,000 *yen* approximately—forms part of the appropriations on account of railway construction in the last Budget, but it is precisely in prosecuting its programme of railway extension that the Treasury finds itself obliged to offer for sale bonds which the Japanese public is not ready to take up at any reasonable rate of interest. In these circumstances recourse has been had more than once to funds lying in the Deposit Bureau (Yokimbu) of the Treasury, in other words to the deposits of the Postal Savings Banks. Thus and in other ways these funds had been drawn upon as far as was consistent with limits of safety. When the Government sale of 50,000,000 *yen* worth of bonds in London last year enabled it to restore a large part of the advances by the Deposit Bureau, the latter became once more a source immediately available for purposes of financial convenience. Hence what has happened now is in effect that 17,000,000 *yen* out of the total obtained by sales of bonds in London last year are appropriated to complete the scheme of railway construction mapped out in the last Budget.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

A correspondent of a Shanghai paper who was present at the enthroning of Dr. Randall Davidson as Primate of All England in Canterbury Cathedral, remarks that the noble building, full of memories of Becket and Augustine, formed a magnificent background for such a pageant; and there was nothing to mar the grandeur and gladness of the occasion unless it were the extreme feebleness and evident suffering of Dr. Farrar, the Dean, whose death we recorded on Thursday. The Dean had, however, only a small part to perform in the great ceremony, the main work falling upon the Archdeacon, who is the Suffragan Bishop of Dover. Dr. Davidson, continues the correspondent, is exceedingly popular. He is a moderate man who has no enemies among "Ritualists" or Low Churchmen; and there were no "Kensitites" or other objectors to create a disturbance at any of the formal ceremonies which intervened between the appointment by the King and the enthronement. At the luncheon which followed the ceremony Dr. Davidson referred to the fact that one of his predecessors, Archbishop Peckham, had lamented "the horrible frauds of the archdeacons and the diabolical crafts of the rural deans." On this occasion all was harmony; but for all that the new Archbishop knows that he has a difficult task before him. Bishop Ingram of London, though he is denounced by the Kensitites as a "Romanist," recently found it necessary to take vigorous action against a clergyman of his diocese who refused to obey the ruling of the Bishop with regard to the ministration of the Sacrament. The controversy over the doings of Mr. Leeper and other holders of benefices in the gift of Keble College still rages; and the antagonism between ritualist and evangelical has become more acute than ever.

SCANDALS.

The authorities appear to be moving actively in the matter of the scandal that has come to light in the Agricultural and Commercial Department. At any rate arrests and domiciliary visits continue. Another official in the Department, T. Okuma, was arrested on March 21st charged with receiving bribes from merchants; Maeta, who was arrested in the provinces arrived in Tokyo on March 22nd in custody; and rumour has it that more arrests are pending. On the 21st the dwellings of A. Nakamura and K. Kawamoto, merchants who are alleged to have given bribes, were searched for evidence.

A manager, S. Ome, of the Domestic Transport Company, on March 24th was summoned to the Tokyo District Court as witness for two officials, Shirasawa and Watanabe, of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, who have been arrested on the charge of having obtained bribes from merchants.

THE DESTINY OF THE UNITED STATES.

President Roosevelt's speech at the laying of the corner-stone of the Army War College at Washington on February 22nd aroused a good deal of comment both at home and abroad. The salient points of the President's address were contained in the following sentences:—

It has well been said that the surest way to invite national disaster is for a nation to be opulent, aggressive and unarmed. The nation that is rich, that is so high-spirited as to be somewhat careless of giving offence, and that yet refrains from that preparedness which is absolutely necessary if efficiency in war is ever to be shown, such a nation is laying deep the foundation for humiliation and disaster. As a people, whether we will or not, we have reached the stage when we must play a great part in the world. It is not open to us to decide whether or not we shall play it. All we have to decide is whether we shall play it well or ill. The part is before us. We have to play it. All that rests for us to do is to say that we will play it well. The nation has, by the mere trend of events, been forced into a position of world power during the last few years. It has responsibilities resting upon it, in the Occident and in the Orient as well. Methods have been provided for securing the increased efficiency of the army, and it rests with the army itself to profit by what has been done. More and more it has become evident in modern war that the efficiency of the unity of the individual officer and the individual enlisted man, is going to be the prime factor in deciding the fate of fought fields. The exercises of the barracks and the parade ground do not make five per cent of the soldier's real work and do not count for five per cent in his real efficency. They are very spectacular, serve a good purpose and must be well done, but they count for but the smallest part in the qualities the sum of which makes the army effective in actual service. Officer and man alike must be trained to the highest point in the theory and the practice of the profession. The forces of mere truism say that if they are trained in the theory without the crowning of practice they will amount to nothing, but they must have the training and the theory, too.

The soundness of President Roosevelt's attitude upon this question is fully acknowledged by the English press, while the papers of his own land, with the exception of a few of small importance, are also in accord with him. Continental opinion alone seems somewhat aggrieved to find the "military spirit spreading among a purely commercial nation." Regarding the criticism that the new Army College is an unprecedented departure in the United States, the Secretary for War, Mr. Root points out that it is merely a development upon lines long ago mapped out and prepared for. In the course of his speech at the corner-stone-laying, Mr. Root said:—Not to promote war, but to preserve peace by intelligent and adequate preparation, to repel aggression, this institution is founded.

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It is a growth and not a new departure. It is a natural and necessary development of the views with which General Grant established the artillery school at Fortress Monroe, General Sherman established the infantry and cavalry school at Fort Leavenworth, and General Sheridan established the school of application for cavalry and light artillery at Fort Riley. Following the same policy, an engineers' school of application, a school of submarine defence and an army medical school were afterward established.

MARRIAGE OF MISS HARMAND.

We read in *Le Gaulois* of February 10th that on Monday the 9th of that month there was celebrated, in the Chapel Saint-Louis des Invalides, the marriage of Miss Anne Harmand, daughter of His Excellency M. Harmand, Representative of France in Tokyo, Commander of the Legion of Honour, with Count d'Hangouwart, Lieutenant of Artillery, son of the late Baron d'Hangouwart and of the Baroness (*née* Moras). The wedding service was performed by M. l'Abbé Trihidez, formerly naval chaplain, Chevalier of the Legion of Honour, who pronounced a charming address. The witnesses were, for the bride, His Excellency Mr. Motono, Japanese Representative in Paris, and Mr. Antoni Farjas, her uncle; and for the bridegroom, the Count de Moras and General Vicomte de La Batut, his uncle and cousin respectively. *Le Gaulois* adds:—"In the absence of M. Harmand, who returned to Japan last September at the expiration of his *congé*, the bride was led to the altar by her brother, M. Pierre Harmand. The bridesmaids were the Misses Elizabeth d'Hangouwart and Marthe Lambert; and the groomsmen, M. Paul Harmand and Lieut. André d'Aligny, of the Artillery. After the ceremony, which was very numerously attended by officers of the Army and Navy and members of the Corps Diplomatique, Madame Harmand held a reception in the Salons of the Faubourg Saint-Honoré."

THE TARIFF GAME.

Under this heading *Commercial Intelligence* prints some translations of articles appearing in German trade journals, which throw some interesting side-lights upon the recent tariff legislation in Germany, Austria and Russia. It says:—

Germany has played her Customs card and now Austria and Russia follow with—strong trumps! Both hit Germany hard, especially Russia, whose new rates fully bear out what Burgel's *Industrie und Handelblatt* wrote as far back as April of last year—"The Russian Ministry of Finance is elaborating a Customs tariff which will throw the German tariff completely in the shade." Germany's exports in machines and iron goods to Russia were valued in each of the two preceding years at 100 million marks, or £5,000,000, and it is at these exports in particular which the new Russian tariff strikes, for here the duties have been screwed up to a giddy height of percentage and reach their maximum when the goods enter Russia across the western frontier, as in the case of some commodities other than iron. Small wonder that Germany's iron shares dropped when Russia issued her answer to the German Agrarians, who seem strangely quiet as regards these *ripostes* from East and South. At the time of writing only fragments of the new Russian tariff have come into the hands of Germans, but they are enough to wring the confession that M. Witte has outdone the Austrian Minister in protecting home manufacturers against the German. The Austrian tariff has been constructed on the same lines as the German, being characterised by the same specialisation, containing 658 numbers against 337 in the old tariff. If the rates are carefully looked at in conjunction with Germany's foreign trade statistics, it is found that just such commodities are struck as have constituted Germany's staple exports to her ally in recent years. In 1902 Germany sent considerably over three million marks' worth of cotton yarns across the Austrian border; Austria claps additional duties on cotton yarns. During the same period she sold to Austria nearly twelve million marks' worth of wool yarns. Austria increases her duties on wool yarns, taking care to put most on the sorts exported by Germany. Time was when Upper Silesia did a big trade with Austria in rolled iron, but since the Commercial Convention between Austria and Germany, it has been doing less and less, and, remarks an Upper Silesian expert, "the present rates make it impossible for us to take advantage of a favourable turn in trade in Austria. We must exercise the fullest reciprocity." As to the duties on machines, let us quote a Berlin authority on this matter:—"Even the old duties were prohibitive; we couldn't get our machines into Austria . . . . . The raising of the Austrian machine duties is an answer to the German increases." In short, what with the relatively low wages in Austria, the light social-political burdens, and the new duties, Germany's chance of selling machines to Austrian customers is greatly reduced. However, it may be as well to mention that Germany's sales of machines to Austria in 1902 amounted to a little over a million sterling, so that the authority whom we have quoted must not be taken quite literally. From the point of view of profits, perhaps, his observation may be taken somewhat less figuratively. Grain is not exported directly from Germany to Austria, who gets the bulk of her supply from countries in the valley of the Lower Danube and around the Black Sea—Russia, and Roumania, for instance. Hence, if Germany is affected by the new duties on cereals, it must be as agent. And this is the case, for large quantities of South Russian rye get into Austria-Hungary through Berlin and Hamburg firms. Far worse stands the matter in regard to the electric industry. Says a specialist: "With her new Customs Tariff, *Austria slams the door in our face*. It will do us a lot of harm. Should an important Austrian industry grow up under the new tariff we shall be menaced from that quarter with fresh competition. . . . As it is, home industries are strongly protected in Austria-Hungary, one of the conditions on which Government contracts are given out being that home labour and material shall be employed." For the present, the increased duty on cement is inoperative, since the Upper Silesian works—only Upper Silesian works come into consideration in respect of the export cement trade with Austria—and the Austrian works, have specially defined markets in virtue of compact. But, points out a cement exporter, conventions can be cancelled, and then——!

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

No fewer than twenty-five Imperial Ordinances were promulgated in the *Official Gazette* on March 20th providing for various measures of administrative reform to come into operation on April 1st. Various offices and departments are affected, but perhaps the most important change is that in the organization of the Communications Department. The Post and Telegraph Offices in Tokyo and Osaka will now be under a Director of the Communications Superintending Office, but in Kyoto, Yokohama and fourteen other important cities, postal and telegraphic affairs will be in charge of separate Directors, and in those cities where telephonic arrangements are established, Telephone Offices will be established.

Another Ordinance transfers the prisons from the jurisdiction of the Minister of Home Affairs to that of the Minister of Justice.

It is hardly surprising that foreigners should misunderstand the real purport of the writings of the *Spectator*, the *Daily News*, and other London journals, but it is a little startling to find an American paper of the standing of the *Literary Digest* commenting on them in this fashion:—

When a little over two years ago Edward VII. succeeded his illustrious mother on the throne of England, he proclaimed his intention of being "a constitutional monarch in every sense of the word." But an uneasy suspicion, vague at first but ever growing more precise, has seized the British mind that the King is not keeping within the limits prescribed for him by the unwritten constitution of his country. He is accused of usurping or of attempting to usurp functions which rightly pertain only to the responsible ministers of the crown. The tone of British comment upon this suspected development of the King's character indicates that the blood of the race which dealt with Charles I. still flows in the veins of the average Englishman. In other words, it is being intimated in the London press that if Edward VII. has really undertaken to interfere with the ministry and to decide the policy of Great Britain after the fashion of the German Emperor, there will ensue consequences of a serious kind.

It is to be remembered that the utterances of the London press were based on a suspicion that the influence of the Court was unduly exercised in the matter of the Venezuela affair. Yet it seems hardly necessary to point out how extremely far-fetched is this suspicion. Fancy the German Emperor visiting the King of England, the latter sending for his Ministers and the two, King and Emperor, cajoling the latter into a course of action opposed to their convictions!

It is said that His Majesty the Emperor of Japan will present to His Majesty the Emperor of Korea a pair of silver vases and other articles to signalise the fortieth anniversary of the latter's coronation.

It is difficult, remarks a London journal possessing some authority, to write with moderation about the magnificent speech delivered by Lord Cromer at Khartoum the other day. He was speaking to Government officials, a band of workers to whom the Soudan is indebted for whatever trade, prosperity and law and order has come to it, and he set before them a lofty ideal which did him and them honour. All through the speech we get not one trace of any other motive than that of endeavouring to bring benefits to the Soudan and its people. The true Imperialism never had a finer exponent than Lord Cromer. In a fine passage at the close of his speech, Lord Cromer encouraged his hearers to continue with unabated zeal. He referred to the many things he wanted, but they were all of them wanted for the Soudanese. He wanted railways, dams, improved navigation, and so on. And he reminded his audience that he could look back to a time when the prospects in Egypt looked far worse than they do now in the Soudan. There are, we believe, very few Englishmen in the civil service abroad who do not take a high view of their duty and responsibility. Happy the man, who, at the end of his career can look back at such achievements as those of Lord Cromer.

Mr. Dooley has been moved to humorous protest in the *New York Journal* by Mr. Carnegie's munificence. "'Has Andhrew Carnaygie given ye a libry yet?' asked Mr. Dooley. 'Not that I know iv,' said Mr. Hennessy. 'He will,' said Mr. Dooley. 'Ye'll not escape him. Befure he dies he hopes to crowd a libry on ivry man, woman, an' child in th' counthry. He's given thim to cities, towns, villages, an' whistlin' stations. They're tearin' down gas-houses an' poor-houses to put up libries. Befure another year ivry house in Pittsburg that ain't a blast furnace will be a Carnaygie libry. In some places all th' buildin's libries. If ye write him f'r an autygraft he sinds ye a libry.'" You do not stimulate authorship, according to Mr. Dooley, by erecting libraries. "Libries niver encouraged lithrachoor anny more thin tombstones encourage livin'. No wan iver wrote annything because he was tol' that a hundred years fr'm now his books might be taken down fr'm a shelf in a granite sepulchre an' some wan wud write 'Good' or 'This man is crazy' in th' margin. What lithrachoor needs is fillin'

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food. If Andhrew wud put a kitchen in th' fibries an' build some bunks or aven swing a few hammocks where livin' authors cud crawl in at night an' sleep while waitin' f'r this enlightened nation to wake up an' discover th' Shakespeares now on th' turf, he wud be givin' a rale boost to lithrachoor."

The conception is racy of the bar which Mr. Dooley adorns.

About 5 o'clock on Sunday morning snow began to fall in Tokyo and continued for about an hour and a half. The day being the *Higan-no-Chunichi*, which is the beginning of spring, Tokyo papers remarked upon the unseasonable occurrence.

We have great regret in announcing the death of Madame A. Sienkiewicz, relict of the late His Excellency M. A. Sienkiewicz, during many years French Representative in Tokyo. The fact is announced without any particulars in French journals, and it is added that the interment took place in Paris on February 10th.

We are asked to state that special permission is given to those foreign visitors, invited by the Vice-President of the Fifth National Industrial Exhibition, and to those holding complimentary tickets issued by the Imperial Commission office, to visit the Exhibition with their wives and children, when accompanied by them. Bearers of complimentary tickets may also visit the following Palaces with their wives and children:—The Palace (Kyoto); Detached Palaces (Katsura, Nijo; Shugakuin, Nagoya and Hama).

The arrangements made by the Yokohama Harbour-Master impose upon yacht-owners a degree of compliance with rules and regulations which they have hitherto been free from. In place of the way in which boats, especially the smaller craft, were moored, the whole squadron is now set out on a mooring plan of four parallel lines, with the result that the majority of the yachts lie off the Club Hotel and the Y.U.C. First, nearest the Bund, there is a row of berths set down for twenty yachts of the "Lark" or "Scow" class and other smaller boats, the south-eastern end of which line is just off the French Hatoba. These small craft have 60 feet between them. Outside them there is a line of fifteen 21 raters' berths, 100 feet apart. A fair-way of 300 feet for steam launches and traffic generally comes next, outside of which there is a line of cruisers' berths, 200 feet apart, which is extended at its south-eastern end, almost opposite the Boathouse, by five 21 raters' berths. Two hundred feet outside this line is that of the big boats, *Yamato Damashii* occupying the north-westerly berth 1,000 feet from the Pier, with 250 feet to swing between her and *Mary*, the others finding stations to the south-east of the latter at intervals of 200 feet. Undoubtedly the squadron will present an imposing sight when thus laid out.

The General Purposes Committee of the London County Council appear to have made up their minds on the vexed question of the naming of the new thoroughfares designed in the Strand Improvement Scheme. The crescent they suggest should be called Aldwych and the street which is to run northward to Holborn is to be called Kingsway. The latter is excellent, and we imagine will meet with universal approval. It is shorter, and consequently cheaper from the telegraph address point of view than the King's Highway, which was at first favoured. In addition to its conciseness, it removes the possibility of unjust taunts being levelled at the tradesmen along the new route for getting their living on the King's Highway. Aldwych carries one back to Saxon and Danish times, the terminal "wych" being the equivalent of "wick," which appears so often in the names of old towns and villages settled or harried by the Danes. Tennyson sang when Queen Alexandra first came to British shores:

Norman, and Saxon, and Dane are we,

and her coming has amply compensated for any harm the Danish rovers may have done in the old, old times. One is glad, too, to see Greater London claiming the virtue of antiquity. Gog and Magog are quite modern in the way of association as compared with Aldwych.

The United States authorities at Ellis Island, New York, have issued their return of the number of passengers from British and German ports landed at New York during 1902, from which it will be seen that the White Star Line landed a greater number of saloon passengers than any other company. Exclusive of the German lines the White Star also head the list in third-class passengers, but the German lines, it may be mentioned, have the Continental emigration traffic. With the exception of the German companies the Cunard line carried the greatest number of second-class passengers. The average number of saloon passengers carried per voyage shows the White Star first with 170, the Cunard with 142, American with 137, North German Lloyd 130, and Hamburg-American 82. As regards third-class passengers for British ports, the White Star carried an average per voyage of 619, the Cunard 464, and the American line 383.

The figures are as follows:—

	Trips	Saloon.	Second Saloon	Steerage.
American Line	54	7,401	7,055	20,658
Cunard Line	51	7,239	9,069	23,650
White Star Line ...	65	11,067	7,335	40,225
Hamburg-American Line.....	103	8,396	11,710	84,295
North German Lloyd	85	11,014	13,574	81,074

A long life devoted to the cause of science has closed with the death, in his 93rd year, of Mr. James Glaisher, who, among his many other accomplishments, succeeded in carrying out for the British Association a series of balloon ascents of the utmost scientific value. It was in 1862 that, in company with Mr. Henry Coxwell, he reached a height of seven miles. At five miles, when the temperature was below zero, Mr. Glaisher continued to take his observations, but within a few minutes he lost the use of his arms, his head dropped on his shoulders, he fell backwards, and lost consciousness. His companion, Mr. Coxwell, who during this time had ascended to the ring to adjust the valve, returned to the car with his hands frost-bitten, and with a realisation of the fact that he, too, was losing consciousness. With his teeth he worked the valve rope, and as the balloon descended Mr. Glaisher regained his senses and attended to his disabled friend. Within six years this intrepid man made no fewer than 29 ascents, and added greatly to the knowledge of the forces and conditions of the higher atmosphere. In 1840 Mr. Glaisher was appointed superintendent of the newly-formed Magnetic and Meteorological Department at Greenwich Observatory, and that post he continued to hold until his retirement 34 years later. To Mr. Glaisher is due the publication of those quarterly meteorological reports which for close on a quarter of a century have been regularly issued by the Registrar-General, and it was he, too, who founded the Royal Meteorological Society. Another branch of his labours took the form of active participation in the work of the Palestine Exploration Fund, and he was also the author of very many books and papers concerned with astronomy, meteorology, and the theory of numbers.

In the course of an article on British Government messages in *Household Words*, it is stated:—In actual practice the secrets of the confidential cablegram rarely leak out. This is not due to the honesty of the telegraph operators, but to the fact that all such messages are sent in a secret cipher, and so intricate are some of the ciphers now in diplomatic use that they defy the utmost ingenuity of man to read them without the key. There are on the Continent at this moment gangs of clever men who devote themselves to long struggles with the ciphers of various Governments. They know that if they should succeed in finding in some single message what the various signs really stand for, they will have succeeded in forging for themselves a key which will unlock future messages.

The public's proverbial persistence in error is illustrated by the case of the Industrial Bank of Japan (*Kogyo Ginko*). Local journalists insist on calling the bank "Credit Mobilier" and we must ourselves plead guilty to having assisted in popularizing the error. The proper translation, however, is "Industrial Bank" and doubtless the officials of the bank object to a rendering which is not only incorrect in itself but also tends to associate the institution with ill-omened memories. We may mention in connection with this that the bank's recent transaction of debenture floating was very much more successful than certain newspaper paragraphs seem to suggest. The sum required by the bank was 3,000,000 *yen*, and the sum actually subscribed exceeded that amount by 200,000 *yen*, which must be called an eminently satisfactory transaction in view of the rate of interest offered by the bank, and of the extreme difficulty encountered by other institutions in floating debentures during recent times.

We have been responsible for reproducing in these columns an erroneous rumour, published a few days ago by Tokyo Journals, that Mr. Alexander Marks, Honorary Consul for Japan at Melbourne, has resigned. This appears to be quite incorrect, and we can only suppose that some confusion has arisen between Mr. Alexander Marks and Mr. Alexander Wanscheidt of Batoum in Russia, who did recently resign his position of Honorary Consul on the occasion of his quitting Batoum to establish himself at Moscow. We may add that Mr. Marks is now on a short sojourn in Japan and that on Wednesday last he had the honour of being received in audience by the Emperor, when His Majesty presented to him a pair of handsome *cloisonné* enamel vases.

An Imperial ordinance, issued yesterday, declares that the Diet is summoned to meet in Tokyo on the eighth of May and that the period of its session is fixed at twenty-one days. It is pretty plain from this programme that the Government entertains no intention of introducing any serious questions, and indeed we apprehend that certain legislation for which a section of the public has been anxiously waiting will have to be postponed until the regular session in December.

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INTERNAL TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE establishment of the new Department of Commerce at Washington, with Mr. CORTELYOU, the late Private Secretary of the President, as its head, has led Mr. AUSTIN, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, to fix approximately the total of the internal trade of the country. The comparatively modest total of $20,000,000,000 is the result of his calculations, this being reached by taking the figures of the census, which put the total value of manufactures in 1900 at $13,000,000,000, those of agriculture at nearly $4,000,000,000, and those of minerals about $1,000,000,000. Adding to these the product of the fisheries, the total value of the products of the great industries in 1900 would be $18,000,000,000, and the rapid growth in all lines of industry since 1900, especially in manufacturing, seems to justify the conclusion that even a single transaction in all the products of the country would produce an aggregate for 1902 of fully $20,000,000,000. This estimate, by the way, allows of only one turn-over of the products above mentioned, which accounts for the comparatively moderate grand aggregate reached. It should be noted, however, that the total is equal to the aggregate international import and export trade of the world. Assuming that the above estimate is moderately correct, it indicates, says *Bradstreet's*, that the domestic trade of the United States has expanded in a much greater proportion than has the population. For instance, the population has grown three-and-a-half times in fifty years, while the trade has expanded fully ten times. This relative gain of internal commerce over population is due in part to the greatly increased facilties for transportation, the cheapening of cost of articles utilized and the increased earnings and increased wealth of the people. The railroads have increased from 9,021 miles in 1850 to 201,839 miles in 1902, and the estimated wealth of the country from $7,135,780,000 in 1850 to $94,300,000,000 in 1900—a per capita increase of from $308 in 1850 to $1,236 in 1900. This increase in wealth has been accompanied by an increase in deposits in banks, those in savings banks alone increasing from $43,431,130 in 1850 to $2,597,094,580 in 1901. While it is not practicable to measure the internal commerce of other countries with the same accuracy as that of the United States, it is known that in agricultural products, manufactures and minerals the United States now outranks the other nations of the world and that the transactions in these products, which form the internal commerce, may, therefore, be assumed to surpass those of any other country. The manufactures of the United States are now about double those of the United Kingdom and nearly equal to those of France, Germany and Russia combined, while the value of the agricultural products of the United States far exceeds that of any other single country.

NEW ZEALAND COUNTRY LIFE.

THE *Spectator* published in the first week of February what its editor truly describes as a "delightful letter" from a correspondent living in New Zealand. It is a description of rural life in that bright jewel of the British crown, and its genesis was the writer's perusal of an article in the *Spectator* upon the English country girl of the period. If the England of Sir ROGER DE COVERLEY and Mr. WARDLE, the England of sweet days and long content, has passed away, the race is building up anew just such an England at the Antipodes. The country girl there is greatly occupied with the duties of the house and the fowl-yard and the garden. There, too, she can brew the rarest of Arcadian liquor—home-made wines, cordials, and mead. But it is not only the girl that charms, it is her environment: "smiling farms, meadows, and corn-lands; small wooden homesteads hidden in masses of English-looking trees;" visitors from the outside world are honoured guests; and WILL WIMBLE in mole-skins and felt hat drops in to advise on every subject, from house-building to the treatment of a swarm of bees. "There can be none of the conventionalities and false prudery in that fresh, free country life. The sister's opinion will be asked and deferred to on many matters connected with the stock and horses. As for her culture, that of course is varied according to 'station'; but it should be noted that although the old differences exist here, as they do everywhere else, our democratic character shows itself in the thin division between the classes and the constant flow one to another. It is as much this as anything that keeps 'exclusiveness' in check. We know that our little elevation above the majority is an uncertain thing, that Jack will be as good as, or better than, his master to-morrow. Every little township is full of such small romances of social advancement,—leaders of society who are remembered only a few years before in the humbler ranks. And in the restlessness—the constant shifting from house to house, and from town to town—that marks the Colonial townsman, it is astonishing how quickly a story of this kind becomes a mere legend, a piece of doubtful gossip, only half believed. The same thing leads to the fact that we have no definite servant class, no division of the community in country or town from which the supply of servants is exclusively drawn. The great domestic problem here is evolving itself in the direction of the lady-help, so-called, a system to which there is a good and a bad side. Good, because the old conservative gulf between servant and mistress tends to disappear; the ranks of 'lady-helps' are becoming filled from all grades of society, thanks partly to the dignity of the title, and in spite of inferior pay; so that something of the old ideal of the united family, which you describe, is achieved. Bad, because there is a pretentious air about the title which often produces a false position and a good deal of petty tyranny. But on the other hand, there is many a country household where the Colonial girl coming as a stranger takes her true place as a member of the family, and will give far more than her services with all the loyalty and heartiness which are characteristic of her." The picture conjured up is very charming and we agree most heartily with the writer when he says: "A simpler, sweeter, and happier mode of life, it would be hard to find. Here is being bred up rich material for the coming race."

THE PRESIDENT AND THE COLOUR LINE.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT has made public another expression of his views in support of his recent appointments in the South, as to which, but more especially with reference to his selection of coloured persons to fill offices, quite an agitation has arisen. In this utterance, which is in the form of a letter to the editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*, who had asked him for a statement of his position on the subject, the PRESIDENT stands unflinchingly to his guns. It seemed to him he said, that his appointments spoke for and explained themselves. So far from feeling that they neded the slightest apology or justification his position was that on the strength of what he had done he had the right to claim the support of all good citizens who wished not only a high standard of Federal service but fair and equitable dealing to the South as well as to the North and a policy of consistent justice and good-will toward all men. He went on to say:—

> In making appointments I have sought to consider the feeling of the people of each locality so far as I could consistently do so without sacrificing principle. The prime tests I have applied have been those of character, fitness and ability, and when I have been dissatisfied with what has been offered within my own party lines I have without hesitation gone to the opposite party, and you are, of course, aware that I have repeatedly done this in your own State of Georgia. I certainly will not treat mere colour as a permanent bar to holding office any more than I could treat creed or birthplace—always provided that in other respects the applicant or incumbent is a worthy and well-behaved American citizen. Just as little will I treat it as conferring a right to hold office. I have scant sympathy with the man of mere theory who refuses to face facts, but do you not think that in the long run it is safer for everybody if we act on the motto "All men up," rather than on that of "Some men down?"
>
> I ask you to judge not by what I say, but what, during the last seventeen months, I have actually done. In your own State of Georgia you are competent to judge from your own experience. In the great bulk of the cases I have re-appointed President McKinley's appointees. The changes I have made were, as I think you will agree, changes for the better and not for the worse. It happens I have appointed a white man to succeed a coloured man as Postmaster at Athens and Surveyor at Atlanta. In South Carolina I have similarly appointed a white postmaster to succeed a coloured postmaster. Again in South Carolina I have nominated a coloured man to fill a vacancy in the position of Collector of the port of Charleston, just as in Georgia I have reappointed a coloured man who is now serving as Collector of the port of Savannah. Both are fit men. Why the appointment of one should cause any more excitement than the appointment of the other I am wholly at a loss to imagine. I need hardly say that to connect either of these appointments, or any or all my appointments, or my actions in upholding the law at Indianola, with such questions as "social equality" and "negro domination" is as absurd as to connect them with the nebular hypothesis or the theory of atoms.

Continuing, the PRESIDENT contends that the Federal office-holders appointed by him are men and women of a high order of efficiency

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and integrity, and he says he will welcome testimony from any reputable citizen tending to show that a given office-holder is unworthy. Emphatically short will be the shrift of any one whose lack of worth is proven. Having declared that incumbents of office, even though they be of his correspondent's political faith will be supported by him in every way as long as they continue to render good and faithful service to the public, and that what he had done in Georgia stood not as the exception but as the rule for what he had done throughout the South, Mr. ROOSEVELT concludes his firm and manly letter, holding out, as will be seen, no hope that he will flinch for one moment from the position he has taken up :—

I have good reason to believe that my appointees in the different states mentioned, and as the sum of the parts is the whole, necessarily in the South at large, represent not merely an improvement upon those whose places they took, but upon the whole a higher standard of Federal service than has hitherto been attained in the communities in question. I may add that the proportion of coloured men among these new appointees is only about one in a hundred. But in view of all these facts I have been surprised and somewhat pained at what seems to me the incomprehensible outcry in the South about my action—an outcry apparently started in New York for reasons wholly unconnected with the question nominally at issue. I am concerned at the attitude thus taken by so many of the Southern people, but I am not in the least angry; and still less will this attitude have the effect of making me swerve one hair's breadth to one side or the other from the course I have marked out—the course I have consistently followed in the past and shall consistently follow in the future.

YOKOHAMA'S TRADE.

THE annual report presented at Wednesday's meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce contains a great many points of importance and will doubtless be read with deep interest by foreign residents. The tables are admirably arranged to express the condition of Yokohama's trade during the past year, and as a whole the statement shows results of careful and painstaking investigation and compilation. It is to be noted that this is in all probability the last occasion on which the words "Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce" will appear at the head of such a report. The formation of a Japanese Chamber in Yokohama years ago caused the death of the former title "Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce," and its successor, as above noted, must now in its turn, in compliance with the requirements of Japanese law, make way for a new appelation—"Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade." We do not doubt that the institution will perform as valuable services to local and general commerce under the new name as it ever rendered in the past. The paragraph relating to Hiranuma Station probably contains the latest information available on this subject. The facts derived from official sources are very scanty. The Japanese Chamber, as the result of representations made by the foreign body, appointed a committee to deal with the Hiranuma question. Of these a deputation brought the matter on several occasions before the officials of the Railway Bureau, and were told that the matter should have every consideration and that the public convenience should be met as far as possible. Meanwhile affairs continue as before, and the public still have to travel to Hiranuma, which is a distinct inconvenience. The railway authorities are doubtless giving the subject every consideration, but so far as the two chambers are concerned there is no further authentic information. Anxious to place before their constituents additional facts however, the Committee record the opinion prevailing among Japanese that the days of Yokohama as a passenger station are numbered, and that in future this large and important city will be "side-tracked," its passenger traffic to and from Hiranuma being carried by an electric railway. But this and the other project to tunnel the Bluff show small signs of animation, and while such schemes remain in the air Yokohama residents should lose no opportunity of urging the proper authorities to remedy in some manner or other the grievances caused by the present situation. In the paragraphs as to silk and tea the Committee make comments of considerable interest. Comparative yearly figures show that the export fell from 83,945 bales in 1901 to 70,292 bales in 1902, a decrease of 13,653 bales; but these figures are, as the Committee point out, misleading. A table in which the exports are given for each season from July 1st to Feb. 28th places the matter in the proper light, and according to this the total exports for 1902-3 was 63,736 piculs, which total compared with 59,429 piculs in 1901-2 shows an increase of 4,307 piculs which is justly regarded as satisfactory. But the Committee complain of the short-sighted action of reelers, who in their anxiety to profit by a rising market resorted to careless production with the usual result of carelessness in reeling and irregularity in sizes. It seems, unfortunately, impossible to convince the native producer that by such conduct he is injuring not only his own business prospects but the interests of the silk trade generally. Notable features in the report on tea are the falling off in the demand from Canada and the opening of small native firing establishments in the interior. The high prices that prevailed during last season had the effect of discouraging Canadian importers, and it remains to be seen whether the demand will revive or other teas take the place of this country's leaf in the markets of the Dominion. As to the small firing concerns in the interior several seasons must elapse before their effect on the tea export trade can be seen. The principal item to note in the import department is the depressing condition of the yarn market as described by the Committee; unfortunately there seems small hope of improvement in this branch of the import trade. In other directions it is pleasant note that business has been on a satisfactory scale and that prospects for next year are promising if not actually bright.

LONDON CITY.

SOME of the "big guns" in the literary world at home have fallen foul of Sir WALTER BESANT'S posthumous work in which he deals with the social life of London during the eighteenth century. They say that he is a good enough gossiper, but a very poor historian; though he loved the giant city by the Thames with an exceeding great love he lacked the power of historical perspective, and so his book is disappointing to the student though crammed full with good things for the seeker after curious customs and old stories. Another writer who has lately been dealing with London—this time modern London—having taken the city for her subject in Macmillan's admirable "Highways and Byways" series, is Mrs. E. T. COOK and her treatment of the subject seems to meet with more general satisfaction. Her book of course is on very different lines to Sir WALTER'S. One passage chosen by a London reviewer as an example of Mrs. COOK'S imaginative style is well worthy of reproduction :—

"How interesting would it be if one could only—by the aid of some Mr. Wells's 'Time Machine'—take a series of flying leaps backward into the abysm of time! Strange to imagine the experience! Beauty, one reflects, might be gained at nearly every step, at the expense, alas! of sanitary conditions, knowledge, and utility. Let us for a moment imagine how the thing would be. . . . . First, in a few rapid revolutions of the wheel, would disappear the hideous criss-cross of electric wires overhead, the ugly tangle of suburban tram-lines, and the greater part of the hideous modern growth of suburbs. . . . . Another whirl of the machine, and every sign of a railway station would disappear, every repulsive engine-shed and siding vanish, ... while the dull present-day rumble of the Metropolis would give place to a more indescribably acute and agonising medley of sound. . . . . Again a little while and the hideous early Victorian buildings would disappear, making way for white Stuart façades, or sober red-brick Dutch palaces. . . . . With yet a few more revolutions, the Metropolis will shrink into inconceivably small dimensions, and the atmosphere of the City, losing its peculiar blue-grey mist, will gradually brighten and clear—a radiance, unknown to us children of a later day—diffusing itself over the glistening towers and domes, no longer blackened, but gleaming, Venetian-like, in the Tudor sunlight. . . . The aspect of the river, too, has changed; no more ugly steamers, but an array of princely barges deck its waters gay with the bright dresses of ladies and gallants. . . . . Its solid embankments have crumbled to picturesque overgrown mud banks, its many bridges shrunk to one; the little separate towns of 'London' and 'Westminister' presenting now more the appearance of rambling villages adorned by some palaces and churches. . . . . Another turn of the machine, and lo! the imposing façades that adorned the Strand have in their turn given way to picturesque rows and streets of overhanging gabled houses with blackened cross-beams, their quaint projecting windows almost meeting over the narrow streets . . . . . stony streets, with their crowds of noisy, jostling foot-passengers. . . . . Again a long pause . . and now the scene changes to Roman London, the ancient 'Augusta,' with its powerful walls, its slave ships and pinnaces, its mailed warriors, ever in arms against the blue-eyed Saxon marauders. Then—a final interval—and we see the primitive British village, its mud huts erected by the kindly shores of our Father Thames, their smoke peacefully rising heavenwards above the surrounding marshes and forests."

The wonderful continuity that links one epoch so closely with another in the history of London has appealed powerfully to the imagination of a leader-writer in the *Academy*, who has lately been reading Mr. LETHABY'S "London Before the Conquest." He recalls to mind the names which the giant has borne in the course of two millenniums—

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London, Londinium, Augusta, Caer Lud, Troynovant—and finds that they bring back to memory echoes as of hosts that cannot be numbered. Mr. LETHABY, like Sir WALTER BESANT, loves the ancient capital of the British Empire and in walking through her streets to-day he peoples them with the men and women who wandered there aforetime.

"For me the old British Solar God lights up the squalor of Billingsgate. The Sea God, Lud, and the brazen horse give more pleasure than the railway bridge at Ludgate. Caesar's sword at Bishopsgate and the head of Bran buried on Tower Hill are real City assets. London is rich in romantic lore. In her cathedral Arthur was crowned and drew the sword from the stone. Here Iseult attended a council called by King Mark. From the quay Ursula and her virgins embarked; Launcelot swam his horse over the river at Westminster, and from it Guinevere went a-maying."

In another striking passage we are enabled to see how closely modern London is connected with her historic past. "Do you stop on London Bridge to watch the oranges passing on a chain of human backs from boat to wharf? Even as your eye runs up the vast funnels of the steamer it alights also on the two primitive eel-boats from Holland that are ever lying off Billingsgate, and already the present and the past are mingled. Up the river comes the whole scent and rumour of the immemorial haven. You think of the eighteenth century sailors sleeping down there in Rotherhithe's leafy churchyard; you think of the Merchant Adventureres and that gallant flotilla which carried Sir HUGH WILOUGHBY, and flags and cannonades, to discover regions, dominions, islands, and places unknown; you think of CHAUCER and WHITTINGTON; and still the perspective of mast and flag fades away into pictures like this: dromonds from the Mediterranean, long ships and round ships from the north, and slavers from Rouen and Dublin, with many a splendid war dragon like OLAF TRYGGVISON'S—'Forward on it was a dragon's head, but afterwards a crook fashioned in the end as the tail of a dragon; but either side of the neck and all the stern was overlaid with gold. That ship the King called the Worm, because when the sail was aloft then should that be as the wings of the dragon.' On the river, as in the streets, we see no disconnected phenomenon, but only the head of an unbroken pageant."

And what of the London of the present day which is still growing and growing, and growing. The *Academy*, after noting the changes which the centuries have brought, looks upon the present day aspect of affairs and finds them far from fair. It says:—"Already barbarism has begun to reappear, as it always must where there is any considerable violation of comfort. The platform fights on the Underground are a sorry spectacle, and to see a City clerk plant his muddied heel on the handle of a carriage door to keep out supernumerary passengers is to begin the day with a sense of the brutality of the struggle. It is possible to doubt whether London has not, in fact, over-reached herself; whether all that science can do to make locomotion easy over her net-work of streets must not fall short of reasonable requirements. The "flat" system is the interim answer, and though it may seem a sordid and banal subject it is the system of living which twentieth-century London is inclined to adopt: a thousand years hence historians will describe it. So determined are people to escape transportation to remote suburbs that they will live anywhere, will endure anything, to be housed in the centre. Therefore they rent flats at £100 to £400 a year into which sunshine hardly penetrates. Therefore they will look out on dead walls and unspeakable abysses of brick and dust-shoots if only they may live in the centre." London has lasted for two thousand years: how far distant is the time when the New Zealander foretold by MACAULAY shall come to muse upon its forsaken ruins?

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Despite the uncertain weather and muddy roads, the usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society drew a large attendance to the Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening. The paper by Mr. T. Satchell on "Thomas Hardy and the Wessex Novels," was read, in the author's absence, by the President. Mr. Satchell is an appreciative lover of the work of Mr. Thomas Hardy, but his criticism of the Wessex Novels was sound and his arguments well-reasoned. He traced the development of Hardy's genius from his first novel, "The Romantic Adventures of a Milkmaid"—which appeared in 1865, and though not included in the author's acknowledged collection of works, still bears eminent ear-marks by which the Hardyan enthusiast may recognise the pen that wrote it—down to the novels and short stories of recent years—"Jude the Obscure" and "Life's Little Ironies." In Mr. Satchell's opinion Thomas Hardy has done for the old Kingdom of the West Saxons what Scott has done for Scotland. "With a keen eye for the different aspects of nature, he skilfully makes use of the impressions conveyed by the localities where his stories are placed to heighten their effect. *Jude* dying at Christminster; *Tess's* arrest in the 'Temple of the Winds,' Stonehenge; and *Eustacia Vye* eating her heart away on Egdon Heath, all owe something to the power with which Hardy can bring the scenes among which they move before his readers. Hardy's limitations, on the other hand, are fairly obvious. He possesses little dramatic ability. His characters are too prone to speak stiltedly and therefore unnaturally, while his villains are all more or less snobbish. He seems more at home depicting women's characters than men's, and most at ease when they are of the peasant class. Hardy has a great disdain for that poor dummy Hodge, which is popularly supposed to typify the English peasantry, and no one has done more to dispell the idea that the English peasant is a clown with no ideas beyond his work. He has been accused of making his peasants Shakespearian, and certainly in their quaint modes of expression and misuse of words there is some superficial resemblance to those country clowns who appear occasionally in Shakespeare's dramas." Mr. Satchell then went on to speak of the various Wessex novels, giving the salient points of each and happily illustrating his argument with excerpts from each in which he set forth Hardy's style, his descriptive powers when dealing with Nature in her more sombre aspects, and his character-drawing, especially of wilful, wayward, undecided womanhood. Mr. Satchell noted in passing that "Hardy is at one with Mr. Herbert Spencer in disassociating mental and moral qualities. Indeed, most of his characters possessing small moral qualities are men of superior station, while it is among the less educated countrymen that he finds strength of purpose and power of will together with a predominance of the altruistic sentiment." With regard to "Jude the Obscure," one of the works upon which Hardy's reputation as a great novelist will undoubtedly rest, Mr. Satchell remarked:—"The tragedy of unfulfilled ambitions is not pleasant reading, perhaps, because it strikes home to most of us, and when it is told in all its bald detail it becomes even more repellant to those who believe in this as the best of all possible worlds and dislike being reminded of the misery which dogs so many of its inhabitants. The comforting but short-sighted reflection that men's lives are as they make them may cause them to look on poor *Jude's* blighted career with that aloofness which virtuous rectitude inspires. The well-ordered life, which accepts the position in which it is placed, is content to earn a comfortable living honestly and die respected, is obviously very far removed from the aspiring *Jude*. If 'to know all is to forgive all,' *Jude* may well have some of the reader's pity as he lies dying in his beloved Christminster. He is no faultless hero but a very human one, and therefore all the more loveable. Of the sharer of his career, *Susan Bridehead*, it is somewhat difficult to form any conclusion. Hardy's women are generally pre-eminently human, but in *Susan Bridehead* he has drawn a character perverse, wilful though she be, set with some of that unearthliness which Shelley attributes to the lady to whom his 'Epipsychidion' was addressed." Summing up his criticism of the book, the lecturer said:—"Perhaps the most noteworthy point about 'Jude the Obscure' is the astonishing fitness of the ending. No one but a true artist could have pictured the mental development of *Jude* and *Susan* in opposite directions, the woman oppressed by the sorrow of the world, the man 'slighted, but enduring.' 'Jude the Obscure' is not a book to while away a spare half-hour; it is not an amusing book, not even a cheerful book. I have never understood why the novelist should be denied the serious outlook on life which is allowed the dramatist or the poet. As dramatic literature contains both King Lear and the latest farce, so does the literature of fiction range from the 'Pickwick Papers' to such a work as 'Jude the Obscure.' Those who would limit the art of the novelist to the production of works which deal only with the pleasanter aspects of life, and steadily ignore its stress and disaster, cannot be considered as taking the art seriously." Mr. Satchell concluded his deeply interesting paper by giving an example of Hardy's humourous powers as shown in a short story entitled "Absent-mindedness in a Parish Choir"; and by one specimen of his poetry in the Wessex dialect.

At the close of the paper a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Satchell, on the motion of the President, and a hope was expressed that he might favour the Society with another paper on similar lines.

The second part of the programme, departing for the nonce from the usual lines of the Literary Society's entertainments, was devoted to a series of Gibson Tableaux. These were under the management of Mr. G. L. Bayley and proved exceedingly attractive. Mr. H. M. Arnould played the incidental music for the various scenes. The tableaux were as follow:—1. "'Fore!" 2. "Wonders of Palmistry." 3. "Is Bicyling Bad for the Heart?" 4. "Wasting Time." 5. "Their Presence of Mind." 6. "Is a Caddy always necessary?" 7. "A good Game for Two." 8. "A little Incident." 9. "His only Child." 10. "They are Only collecting the usual Fans and Gloves." 11. "Mr. Meeker's Trials."

A THIEF ON THE "CHELTENHAM."

A man named Kobayashi Tomeki (32) was arrested at the English Hatoba on March 25th at 6 p.m. He was working on board the steamer *Cheltenham* with other coolies when he stole a quantity (about two pecks) of rice brought from China, concealing it in the usual secret pockets made in the back of his coat.

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YOKOHAMA FOREIGN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce took place on Wednesday afternoon in the Masonic Rooms at No. 78, Mr. R. D. Robison, Chairman, presiding. There was a fair attendance, nearly twenty members being present.

On the motion of Mr. James Dodds, seconded by Mr. E. C. Davis, the minutes of last meeting were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN in laying before the meeting the report (which readers will find published in elsewhere) said the members of the Chamber were to be congratulated on the steady increase in the foreign trade of Japan. It was true that in some directions competition had become more severe, more business in imports and exports being done by Japanese direct, but there was still plenty of room for the enterprise of foreign merchants, upon whom competition acts as a stimulus The Chairman then proceeded to read portions of the report. *Apropos* of the paragraph dealing with arbitration he read part of the report prepared by the committee. This stated that in drawing up suggestions for arbitration there was the greatest difficulty in adopting some scheme whereby if possible they could do away with personal feeling in the matter. Experience had shown that disputants failed to appreciate the main point of arbitration—to arrive at an equitable decision—but thought rather that each arbitrator should hold a brief for the disputant by whom he was appointed and that it was his duty to do his best for the person he represented. Arbitration thus became litigation, the only difference being that it was between the arbitrators instead of between the parties. It was proposed to have the arbitrators appointed by the Arbitration Committee of the Chamber simply on their merits and without reference to personal friendship. The Committee quite recognised the unavoidable difficulty in this as in all schemes for arbitration, namely that members of the Chamber actively engaged in their own business could not well find time to attend arbitrations, but any member who could appreciate the risks of the Japanese law courts would recognize it as a duty which he owed to others to assist in arriving at a settlement by means of arbitration. The Committee asked for the Chamber's approval of the scheme and that their consent would thus be given to serve as arbitrators when called upon.

Having finished his reading of the report, The CHAIRMAN called for remarks but none being forthcoming proposed that the report be adopted.

Mr. A. M. WEALE said he had much pleasure in seconding, and in doing so he felt he was only voicing the views of all present when he said that the report as presented by the Committee was in every sense a most creditable and interesting production—(Hear, hear). As representing a house engaged in connection with a great many of the articles reported on, he was able to speak for his own knowledge and to confirm what was said of the general trade of Japan. In seconding the adoption of the report he congratulated the Chairman and the Committee on the excellent work they had embodied in it.

The report was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. H. Keswick, seconded by Mr. C. V. Sale, the accounts were passed, with a vote of thanks to the auditors.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was to vote as to the court of arbitration. The matter had been entirely placed before the members and it now lay with them to decide. He had a kind letter from the Secretary of the London Chamber whom they had consulted on the subject, and he read a passage which said there was no doubt that arbitration was being adopted very generally among men of business leading as it did to economy of time and a better feeling among parties to a difference. The Committee of this (the Yokohama) Chamber were unanimous in thinking this was a good scheme and that it was worthy of trial.

Mr. E. MENDELSON asked what effect the decisions of the court of arbitration would have *vis-a-vis* the Japanese courts and whether the decisions would be binding on the parties.

The CHAIRMAN said the awards of the arbitrators would have legal force. In all cases they would be registered in the proper court and a decision of the court of arbitration would then become as binding as any of the laws of Japan.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that it should be understood that those putting down their names in favour of the scheme were willing to act as arbitrators.

Mr. J. P. MOLLISON asked whether any suggestions had been called for by circular or whether any other suggestion than the letter he had sent and to which the Chairman had courteously replied, had been received. If not he should like to have his letter read. In it he said that it seemed to him that if they brought in legal questions they might as well go to law. In arbitration mere personal knowledge of the subject to be dealt with was called for, and those who were called in to act, being acquainted with the questions they had to decide, would render an equitable not a legal decision.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Mollison's was the only suggestion made and he was sorry he could not produce the letter. Mr. Mollison's objection was to any legal interference with the decisions given. He then read his reply to Mr. Mollison in which he expressed himself entirely in agreement with that gentleman's opinion that arbitration should be based on equity and mercantile usage. Rules 9 and 10 were merely inserted to meet certain cases that might occasionally crop up when the application of equity and mercantile usage would not be sufficient. The trouble was to obtain enough arbitrators, and Rules 9 and 10 were designed to lighten the labours of those who would act by allowing counsel to draw up statements for submission to the arbitrators and so to save the time of the latter. Many persons were not able to present their case as effectively as could be done by a legal person. The Chairman was reminded of a recent case that came before him in which there were several hundred folios, great part of which was irrelevant. Besides it was not compulsory to use legal assistance and in ordinary cases no legal assistance would be necessary. Mr. Robison went on in his letter to point out that the rules were based on those of the London Chamber under which good work had been done. The Committee thought it only due to the men who acted as arbitrators that they should have the benefit of legal opinion in stating a case and that in cases where it was necessary they should be at liberty to call for a legal opinion. That was the only reason for permitting legal assistance in arbitration.

Mr. E. MENDELSON thought the introduction of the legal element did away with the friendly idea. The arbitration should be based on the knowledge of individual members arbitrating.

Mr. PAYNE said he thought it was plain to all present that the Committee had given the subject very careful study and attention in drawing up these rules and they were to be thanked for the care and time they had devoted to the subject in hopes of finding some solution of this question which had been so often before the Chamber. As to Mr. Mollison's objection to legal assistance, the speaker's idea would be that such assistance would be entirely subsidiary to the members who were to act as arbitrators (Hear, hear). It would only be to lighten their labours and to place the subject in a clearer way before them and the legal man would not necessarily meet or come in conflict with them in any way—he would be entirely in the hands of the arbitrators. A point to which he wished to call attention was that Clause 2 said that the arbitration committee shall appoint two of their members or two other members of the Chamber as they might deem fit to act as arbitrators. That seemed to him to be an excellent idea because it eliminated to a very great extent the personal element from the subject. He did not know that the members of this community were more controversial than ordinary but when arbitrators were appointed by the parties it came to this, that those appointed considered that they had a brief from the individual or firm that appointed them and that they were bound to take a very strong position in advocating their view of the case. Where individuals having a dispute or question at issue leave the matter to the Committee they left it to a third party who was presumably impartial and could feel confident that they would appoint arbitrators who would take a fair and impartial view of the question. He thought the provision in Clause 2 was a valuable one and worthy of favourable consideration in voting on the report. Generally speaking he thought it would be difficult to improve on what had been placed before them, at all events it was worth while to give it a trial. Personally he should be glad to see it go through.

The next business was to vote on the question of registering the Chamber as the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade. The Chairman explained that the change was necessary because Japanese bodies and officials would not recognize the Chamber. It went against the grain to alter the name of the Chamber but the law said there could be only one chamber in each town.

In reply to Mr. Weale, the Chairman said Chambers in England would certainly be notified of the change if made.

Mr. MOLLISON asked whether the Japanese chamber was asked to give way in view of the foreign chamber having existed so long before it.

The CHAIRMAN—I am afraid, Sir, we would waste our fragrance on the desert air—(Laughter). The Japanese rather pride themselves on having got round us.

In answer to Mr. Weale,

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Masujima declared the name "Chamber of Commerce" could not be used at all. The authorities were perfectly willing that they should be registered as a Board of Trade.

At this point the result of the ballot on the question of arbitration was announced as 13, all in favour, and none against. Later, Mr. Dodds stated that three more votes had been found in the ballot box showing that 16 voted for and one refrained from voting.

The CHAIRMAN said he supposed that the incoming Committee would commence work on the court of arbitration.

Mr. TEGNER suggested that the ballot should be sent round to absent members in order that they might have an opportunity of indicating whether they would act as arbitrators.

The CHAIRMANN said that would be attended to.

By a show of hands the registration of the chamber in the manner suggested was agreed to.

The following were elected to serve as the new Committee: Messrs. R. D. Robison, James Dodds, T. S. Baker, C. V. Sale, M. Surth, W. T. Payne, E. C. Davis, V. R. Bowden, and G. Reiffinger.

While the Committee was being ballotted for the Chairman read a statement showing the delays in the case of Cornes & Co. *v.* Akashiya, of which the first stages were described in last year's report. Last year, 1902, decision was given, the case having been open since April, 1901; prompt appeal was taken against the decision; on November 20th the defendant died and the Court would not fix a date of hearing or allow the plaintiffs to sell the goods, which had been in their godowns for over two years.

This concluded the business and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman on the motion of Mr. Williamson Jones seconded by Mr. Tegner.

YOKOHAMA FOREIGN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1902.

INCOME.		Yen.
To Balance, Dec. 31st, 1901		2,293.49
,, Keil's Estate Account, &c.....		423.78
Members' Subscriptions for 1902..	96 at £35	3,360.00
,, ,, ,, ½-year	2 at ¥20	40.00
Circulars sold:—	£	
To Members.....7,075 for..	1,345.40	
To non-Members.1,264 for..	325.68	
		1,671.08
Sundry Publications sold:—		
Annual Statistics	56.11	
Tea Statistics	7.10	
Annual Report.....	98.50	
Customs Tariffs	5.20	
	166.91	

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Survey and Arbitration Fees	265.00
Plague Fund	1,200.00
Stamps	13.09
Bank Interest	141.60
	9,574.95
Dependency, 4th Quarter, 1902	450.24
EXPENDITURE.	Yen.
Salaries, Secretary and Staff	3,610.00
Printing Circulars, Statistics, Reports, &c.	363.75
Rent, Lighting, and Firing	617.50
Survey and Arbitration Fees	150.00
Stationery, Advertising, and Subscription to Papers	173.10
Customs Reports	290.00
Collector's Commission	176.46
P. O. Box and Telephone	23.40
Insurance	7.50
Plague Fund—paid Governor Sufu	1,176.00
Do. — „ Advertising	24.00
Postage, Petties, and Sundries	122.77
Balance	2,840.47
	9,574.95

E. & O. E.

We have examined the vouchers and find that the above statement of Income and Expenditure is correct.

J. COX-EDWARD, A. J. McCLURE, } Auditors.

J. E. BEALE, Secretary.

Yokohama, February 23rd, 1903.

REPORT OF THE YOKOHAMA FOREIGN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE YEAR 1902.

THE COURSE OF TRADE.—The returns of the foreign trade of Japan for the year 1902 show an increase both in Imports and Exports.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
Total Exports	258,290,467	252,349,543
Total principal Exports from Yokohama	122,218,701	119,559,133
Total Imports	271,733,536	255,816,645
Total principal Imports to Yokohama	89,292,505	88,386,088
	1900.	1899.
Total Exports	204,207,873	214,929,894
Total principal Exports from Yokohama	81,813,345	96,008,080
Total Imports	287,261,846	220,401,926
Total principal Imports to Yokohama	109,584,020	76,298,120

The total value of the Foreign Trade of Japan in 1902 was *yen* 530,020,003, in 1901 *yen* 508,266,188, and in 1900 *yen* 485,325,393.

Among Exports, a satisfactory increase in trade is shown in Raw Silk, Waste Silk, and Silk Goods, also in Cotton Goods, Matting, Matches, and Fish Oil. Cotton Yarn has suffered from the unsettled state of the North of China, where it finds its most ready sale, but prospects there are becoming brighter and a growing trade in this article is confidently looked forward to.

MATCHES.—This article is specially adapted to cheap labour which is still to be found in many parts, especially in the interior of Japan, where it is calculated that an adult can live on 8 *sen* (about 2d.) a day, but at the ports and in commercial centres skilled labour with the advance in commerce is finding its own level and though still cheap as compared with Occidental countries has much advanced in value.

STRAW BRAID increases in demand more from the skill of the Japanese labour but also from its cheapness.

COPPER shows a large decrease in the Export, chiefly owing to the increased home consumption.

IMPORTS.—While there are not wanting signs of a more healthy trade in this branch the heavy increase in the importations of Food Stuffs must tend to impoverish the people in the current year, and increasing the Balance of Trade against this country calls for a note of warning and caution.

Rice has been largely imported towards the end of last and during the spring of this year, for what was at first thought to be only an unimportant shortage in the crop of this country, has turned out to be more serious in some of the Northern Provinces, and famine has caused much suffering among the poor. This has only gradually become known, chiefly through the reports of the Foreign Missionaries, but it is gratifying to think that the Foreign Communities of Japan have been the first to carry relief to the sufferers in a substantial way, and by their example have drawn the attention of the public and thus averted a possible calamity.

COTTON.—There is an increase of *yen* 19,000,000 in the Imports, but this is counter-balanced by the falling off in the imports of Cotton Yarn from Europe, and is diminished by the Export of Japanese Cotton Yarns. In many items of the following table, trade seems to be stationary, so near are the values of both Imports and Exports to those of the previous year.

SUGAR.—The large falling off in the imports is still to be attributed to the accumulation of stocks imported previous to the imposition of the consumption tax in 1901; these should be now nearly exhausted, and trade will probably flow in its normal course now onwards.

INDIGO.—The importation continues in spite of the competition of the artificial article.

FOREIGN PAPER.—The rapid increase of newspapers all over Japan, and of the publication of books, has necessitated a large increase of importation of foreign papers, though the output of the paper mills of Japan is of some importance.

Other articles contributing to the total increase of Imports are Nails, Cloth, Italian Cloth, Cotton Velvets, and Shirtings.

MACHINERY.—Here the falling off in Imports seems to show that the demand had been over done in 1901, but there is still a large employment of labour-saving machines, and a careful cultivation of the wants of the Japanese people should lead to a growing trade in such articles.

The value of the deliveries of the principal articles of Import in Yokohama during the past year as compared with 1901 has declined about four and a half millions of yen, but the increase in the value of Exports from Yokohama, was more than three and a half millions greater than in 1901.

The increase of Foreign Tonnage is about 100,000 tons.

The following are the figures of the Exports and Imports for the past two years:—

EXPORTS.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
MANUFACTURED GOODS:—		
Habutai Silk	24,685,408	23,912,356
Kaiki Silk	2,672,888	1,315,780
Silk Handkerchiefs	3,154,676	3,951,119
Cotton Goods	5,986,546	5,461,972
Rugs	653,346	631,232
Matches	8,163,966	7,392,869
Matting	6,772,498	5,431,514
Porcelain	2,461,986	2,491,668
Lacquer Ware	889,078	994,654
European Umbrellas	1,037,947	1,023,638
Other Goods	19,471,299	15,986,716
PARTLY MANUFACTURED GOODS:—		
Raw Silk	76,859,480	74,667,331
Noshi & Waste Silk	5,713,795	4,468,769
Cotton Yarn	19,900,523	21,465,573
Straw Braid	2,938,859	2,989,836
Tea	10,484,017	8,854,327
Camphor	3,404,834	3,904,974
Isinglass	1,108,544	1,217,195
Other Goods	10,197,321	8,754,634
UNMANUFACTURED GOODS:—		
Coal	17,270,718	17,542,273
Rice	6,676,194	6,908,913
Dried Cuttlefish	1,802,415	1,842,249
Seaweed	809,489	1,418,326
Mushrooms	866,489	860,671
Copper	10,261,979	13,904,610
Fish Oil	1,502,602	1,023,632
Vegetable Wax	789,874	610,371
Other Goods	11,748,596	13,322,269
	258,290,467	252,349,543

IMPORTS.

CLASS I.:—		
Raw Cotton	79 784,771	62,650,362
Cotton Yarn	1,747,875	4,873,738
Wool	3,397,562	3,129,382
Iron Nails	1,451,126	1,364,668
Rails	1,662,700	1,612,540
Bar and Rod Iron	3,522,255	3,511,756
Other Iron and Steel	6,927,990	6,652,285
Dried Indigo	3,097,981	2,665,043
European Paper	3,664,400	2,152,353
Leather	1,346,100	1,347,487
Machinery	8,052,529	11,915,023
Locomotives & Railway Carriages	2,532,809	2,655,652
Steamers (17)	1,488,013	(13) 2,565,893
Other Goods	34,938,495	35,378,407
CLASS II.:—		
Mousseline	3,754,837	3,339,121
Woollen Cloth	1,999,890	1,318,162
Italian Cloth	1,181,176	601,439
Flannel	487,349	313,297
Shirtings and Printed Satin	9,300,074	4,500,388
Cotton Velvet & Satin	3,019,611	2,138,028
Sugar, white & brown	14,448,258	33,493,366
Watches	234,151	432,554
Other Goods	16,115,453	14,794,961
CLASS III.:—		
Rice	17,740,105	11,878,958
Peas and Beans	5,786,563	5,328,136
Petroleum	14,937,170	14,943,401
Oil Cake	10,145,947	9,109,237
Other Goods	18,968,356	14,151,363
Total	271,733,536	255,816,645

The export and import of specie were as follow:—

EXPORT.

Gold	453,312	11,477,852
Silver	1,575,277	2,571,247
Total	2,028,589	14,049,099
IMPORTS.		
Gold	30,183,668	10,651,210
Silver	1,977,691	209,540
Total	32,161,359	10,960,750

HARBOUR RECLAMATION.—The Customs Reclamation scheme has not made so much progress as was hoped for, want of funds being the cause of delay. The plans show the magnitude of the proposed operations, which when completed will add enormously to the facilities of the port and will be a great benefit to trade.

THE PIER.—Steamers have made greater use of the Pier during the past year than formerly, and facilities for supplying ships with water as they lie alongside have been furnished, and to meet the increased traffic another line of rails has been laid down. For the convenience of the growing passenger traffic of this port it is much to be desired that all passenger steamers should make use of this Pier.

PASSENGER LOADING STAGES.—As a result of the representation of this Chamber, a new Loading Stage has been placed on the south-east side of the English Hatoba, but the accommodation is not extensive, as the size of the pontoon is only 72 feet by 24, nor does the work seem very strong having regard to its exposed position. The stage lies directly opposite the Customs Baggage Examination Office, and the pontoon is approached by a flight of steps and a bridge of the usual description. The depth of water alongside the stage at dead low spring-tide is eleven feet, consequently all the launches at present running in this port can use the stage. The landing accommodation in the Camber on the other side of the Hatoba, where the water is always smooth, is still very poor. There are three stone piers at this place, and the only landing accommodation is at the most eastern one, where a small stage has been floated upon empty barrels. The stage is connected with the pier by a bridge but as the water is only seven or eight feet deep at this place it is of very little public utility.

Work has been commenced a little west of the new landing stage getting a foundation for a new Water Police Station, but the Diet has not yet granted the funds for the construction of the building.

CUSTOMS.—To facilitate Export business, export declarations will now be received and permits issued at the same place, the Export Examination Office, instead of at two buildings widely apart as formerly.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.—An additional Classification of Imports, now in use by the Customs, was handed to a sub-Committee for consideration. It has since been printed and distributed to Members and an expression of opinion invited.

CUSTOMS DELIVERY.—The question of the Customs Delivery has been much discussed in Committee and the Director has been written to on the subject, the reply from whom stated that there was no necessity for presenting a document proving the ownership of goods, and that these would be delivered to anyone paying the duties imposed, this being the method of delivery according to the Customs Regulations, to depart from which the Director had no authority.

LIABILITY FOR DUTY UPON GOODS DESTROYED BY FIRE WHILE STORED IN BONDED WAREHOUSES.—Several enquires having been addressed to the Chamber upon this subject, the matter was referred to H.B.M. Legation through the local consulate. The Committee are informed that H.E. Baron Komura has stated that in the event of imported goods stored in Public Bonded Warehouses being destroyed by fire no duty would be levied. This exemption does not, however, apply to goods stored in Private Bonded Warehouses. Your Committee are much indebted to H.E. Sir Claude Macdonald for his kindness in taking up this subject.

The Clause under which Private Bonded Warehouses are held liable for duties even in the case of the destruction of the goods is No. 20 of the Laws and Regulations relating to Bonded Warehouses:

ART. XX.—The proprietors of private bonded warehouses have to guarantee the payment of Customs' duties on the goods stored therein; they are responsible for safe custody of the same, and also for the loss or damage of the goods either through convulsion of the elements or any other causes

DELAYS IN THE LAW COURTS.—The pamphlet on this subject published as an addendum to the last Annual Report has been extensively quoted and favourably commented upon by a large number of newspapers, both Japanese and Foreign. Copies were distributed to the several Asiatic Societies and to

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the Tokyo and Yokohama Chambers inviting co-operation in the objects aimed at. So far as foreigners are concerned, the Committee think that a solution of this difficulty may be found if a Court of Arbitration could be formed, and it was considered advisable to obtain from the London Chamber of Commerce the Rules of their Court of Arbitration and the Regulations for procedure. This was done, and on a plan suitable to local conditions the Committee have drawn up a scheme which has been printed and circulated to Members for their approval.

TELEPHONE SERVICE.—The defects of the Telephone Service to Kobe were brought to the notice of the Committee, and a letter was written to the Minister of Communications, pointing out that a direct wire from Yokohama to Kobe would remedy the evils complained of, but no reply had been received to that communication. In filling public requirements, telephones continue to be supplied at a very slow rate, the instrument in the Chamber being installed nearly three years after application for it was made.

NEW CONTRACT FORM FOR TEXTILES.—In June and July the Committee were approached by the Woollen Goods Dealers' Union, who were desirous of drawing up a form of contract to be used in this trade. Much consideration has been given to the subject, and the proposed form has been laid before the Members (a Japanese translation of which is now being prepared by the Union). Our Japanese friends have recognised the injustice which has so long prevailed in periods of bad trade whereby goods were left in the hands of importers without payment of interest or charges for indefinite periods. Under the new contract a payment of at least 10 per cent. on account must be made on any goods remaining over 60 days, while interest and charges are to be paid at current rates. If importers use this form of contract and insist upon these conditions being strictly carried out there is no doubt that it will check much reckless overtrading on the part of irresponsible dealers.

SIBERIAN MAIL ROUTE.—The Post Office Authorities were applied to for information as to when the Siberian Railway would be utilised as a mail route, but was unable to give any, and the Minister of Communications on being written to replied that the matter was under investigation by the Department, but that it was impossible at present to say when the Siberian route would be availed of for mails from Japan.

REGISTRATION OF THE CHAMBER.—In order to comply with the requirement of Japanese Law, it has been found necessary to obtain for the Chamber Registration under a new title, "The Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade." This matter has been entrusted to Mr. Masujima, who has taken the preparatory steps required by Japanese Authorities (and subject to the approval of the Members), and the conclusion of the business now rests with them and may be expected at any moment.

HIRANUMA STATION.—The representations of this Chamber to the Japanese Chamber on the subject of the inconvenience of travellers to and from Yokohama on account of the present railway arrangements and the situation of Hiranuma Station, resulted in a Committee being formed of Members of the Japanese Chamber to take the matter in hand. After several meetings, it was decided to send a deputation to Tokyo. This was done, and the deputation laid the complaints of the Committee before the officials of the Railway Bureau at several different meetings. Promises were made by the Authorities that the matter should have every consideration and that the public convenience should be met as far as possible. The Japanese Committee is still at work, but has not yet obtained any definite information from the Railway Bureau officials as to what their intentions are in carrying out their promise that "the public convenience shall be met as far as possible." The general opinion among Japanese is that nothing will be done by the Authorities, and that arrangements are being made by which, when complete, Yokohama Station as a point of arrival and departure for passengers will be entirely abolished. The scheme bywhich this is to be effected, is an electric railway—for which permission is said to have already been obtained—from Hiranuma to Yokohama. There will be a station on the Bluff, as the line will pierce the hill at a point between the Ice Works and the Zotoku-in at the end of Moto-machi, the tunnel to terminate somewhere between Kitagata and Honmoku, the line to be continued through the most thickly populated country between Negishi and Katase, where it terminates, branches being provided for in certain direction. It is stated that the Authorities when the proper time comes will announce these intended works, and in the meantime the facilities for locomotion to and from Yokohama will remain as they are at present. The projected direct line from Yokohama to Hachioji, reported very shortly to be commenced, will have its terminus at Hiranuma, where land has already been acquired for the purpose.

ACCOUNTS.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. J. Cox-Edwards and A. J. McClure. These show a balance, including the dependency set down in the printed statement, of *yen* 3,290.71. The balance in hand shows that the work of the Chamber has been done in an economical as well as an efficient way by the Secretary, and it is suggested that the incoming Committee should take into their consideration to raise his salary to *yen* 250 per month.

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.—The period under review is the calendar year 1902. The following are the figures of the export for the past five years :—

	America. Bales.	Europe. Bales.	Total. Bales.
1902.....	43,775	26,517	70,292
1901.....	49,995	33,950	83,945
1900.....	24,878	18,982	43,860
1899.....	36,893	20,754	57,647
1898.....	28,717	18,641	47,368

These figures are somewhat misleading as to the actual working of the seasons' export trade, and a better idea is gained by a glance at the following figures :—

Export of Raw Silk from 1st July, 1902, to 28th February, 1903, and five years previously.

Current Season. 1901-'2.	1900-'1	1899-'900.	1898-'99.	1897-'8.
To Europe—				
Bales 20,829	B. 20,662	B. 19,432	B. 16,876	B. 18,584	B 18,025
To U.S.—				
Bales 41,058	B 36,233	B. 22,769	B. 29,148	B 26,437	B 30,855
Bales 61,887	B. 56,895	B. 40,501	B. 46,024	B. 45,021	B. 48,280
Piculs 83,736	P. 76,119	P. 54,467	P. 48,007	P. 45,824	P. 49,255

It will thus be seen that the available supplies for export are steadily increasing. The production of Silk is not one that can be rapidly increased at will, for the mulberry trees are not rapid growth, but the cultivation is one peculiarly adapted to the Japanese farming classes, to the climate and soil of Japan, and, encouraged by the Government, its increase makes yearly progress.

Although the statistics for the calendar year 1902, in comparison with those for the year 1901, show an important decrease in the quantity exported, this can not be assigned to a shortage in production, as the arrivals from the interior up to the 31st December of the 1902-03 season's crop show an actual excess of 11,625 boxes (viz., about 6,400 piculs) upon those of season 1901-1902 for the corresponding period. The exceptional export of 1901, may be partly attributed to the large stock taken over from the previous year (19,000 piculs) and partly to the excellent demand which prevailed, and enabled holders to dispose of a large quantity of the season's production before the end of that year.

SUPPLY FOR THE SEASON.—Early in June unfavourable reports were received from the Kanzai districts, and from Koshiu, but, taking the whole country, present appearances are in favour of a larger crop this season than last. The total visible supply to date on 28th February is piculs 71,377 against at same time last year piculs 64,342, but the remaining supplies of unspun cocoons are reported to be light.

Throughout the year we have had steady activity. The fluctuations of prices have been moderate, but generally tending upwards.

The increasing consumption of raws by America upset the calculations of European buyers, who, after pursuing a hand-to-mouth policy during several months of the season in the hopes of obtaining a lower level, were at last in the fall compelled to enter the market more liberally.

Cocoons in general have been fairly good, but the same cannot be said of the Silk produced, carelessness in reeling and consequent irregularity in sizes existing as before. Japanese reelers in their anxiety to take advantage of a rising market pushed production as much as possible, much to the detriment of the quality. Shinshu Filatures, for instance, caused disappointment, and, as they represent a large percentage of the Silks suitable for America, reelers in that district ought to devote greater care to their improvement. Re-reels have been eagerly bought during the whole season and have obtained prices quite abnormal in comparison with those paid for Filatures. The trade seems to have been fairly remunerative for the producer, but moderately satisfactory for the foreign exporter, who had to struggle with the increasing native direct-export competition in New York coupled with the still too frequent practice of short selling on that market which paralyses legitimate business. Transactions in the native Exchange have been less rife, speculators apparently not finding sufficient opportunities in the lack of sharp fluctuations in the market.

The year 1902 opened at *yen* 915 for No. 1 Shinshu Filature, but soon after the new year's holiday, purchases made for America, mostly by one firm gave an impetus to the market, and important transactions followed up to about the middle of February, prices in the meantime advancing to *yen* 975 for No. 1 Shinshu Filature. Stocks were considerably reduced by this time, aggregating only about 5,500 piculs, the fine-sized Filatures being specially scarce. From that moment to about the middle of April the demand considerably slackened, and prices steadily declined, Shinshu Filatures, "Kaimeisha" quality, being obtainable at *yen* 910. On 11th April reports of frost in several provinces caused some alarm for the crop and gave for a while a little more activity to the demand, but this soon quietened down and rates did not move much. From the end of April to about the middle of June a relatively large business, considering the poorness of stocks, was transacted, holders being free sellers apparently with a view to have light holdings at the beginning of the new season, but in the beginning of June, stocks having considerably diminished, they became more exacting and prices went up to *yen* 955 for Filature "Kaimeisha" quality. A pause of a week or so followed pending the arrival of the new produce, and it was only on the 19th June that the first settlement in new Silk was made, consisting of a few piculs of Filature Shinshu 1 to 1½ at *yen* 940; but until the middle of July the attitude of foreign firms remained mostly indifferent, the bulk of the transactions being made by the native exporting companies.

From the middle of July to the end of September the market displayed uninterrupted activity, rates in the meantime progressing slowly but steadily, No. 1 Filature Shinshu reaching *yen* 1,000. At the beginning of October the demand rapidly slackened down conjointly with the development of the strikes in the United States and Europe, and after a while prices slowly commenced again to recede, No. 1 Shinshu Filature being obtainable on the 18th at *yen* 970. This was, however, of short duration, as successive heavy operations made mostly for America reversed the position, and prices resumed an upward movement, coming back to about the same level as those ruling at the end of September. Things remained quiet until the 8th November, when a fire in one of the Foreign godowns destroyed about 900 piculs, and this incident gave a somewhat stronger tone to the market. A few days later fairly important settlements commenced, which were kept up until the end of the year, fine-sized Filatures being in excellent request, and the stock, which was by no means large, diminished rapidly.

The year closed on the basis of *yen* 1,010 for Filature Shinshu "Kaimeisha" quality, and they have since touched *yen* 1,060.

WASTE SILK.—The market for this article has been active with steadily advancing prices, which may be quoted as follows :—

	In January.		In August new season's produce		The year close at.	
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Kikai Noshi.....	145 to	155	150 to	160	180 to	190
Kikai Kibizo ...	115 to	125	125 to	135	150 to	160
Joshiu Noshi....	85 to	98	95 to	105	125 to	135

The qualities of the better grades of Waste have been satisfactory during the whole year; low grades, however, have slightly fallen off.

During the year 1902 the export of Waste Silk was as follows :—

Marseilles	Bales	12,808
Milan	„	646
Genoa	„	582
New York	„	411
Venice.....	„	105
Trieste.....	„	73
Other Ports.....	„	295
	Piculs	45,993

These shipments were composed of :—

Kibizzo.....	Piculs	27,357
Noshi Ito.....	„	17,087
Sundries	„	1,549
	Piculs	45,993

SPUN SILK.—The use of Waste Silk in this industry has not progressed of late. A great deal of good machinery has been set up, but the work has not been economically or satisfactorily done: therefore the consumption by Japanese manufacturers has made but little progress, whilst for export the Japanese product cannot as yet compete as to price with the mills in Europe. At present there are————spindles in operation, the produce of which last year was————kwan.

SILK PIECE GOODS.—The figures for the past year show a substantial increase over all previous records, both as regards the number of pieces exported and their gross value; but the participants in the trade, be they weavers, dealers, or shippers, complain that the results of the year's work are far from satisfactory.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.	Increase. Yen.
Habutai	24,685,408	23,912,356	—
Kaiki Silk	2,672,888	1,315,780	—
Silk Handkerchiefs..	3,154,676	3,951,119	—
	30,512,972	29,179,255	1,333,717

In the first place, the export trade (more especially to Europe), has been unsatisfactory. The demand has languished throughout the season, and was seriously affected by the *contretemps* to the Coronation festivities in London. Heavy stocks had been accumulated on that market, and throughout

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Europe, in preparation for the expected activity of a brilliant "season," whereas the *éclât* was crushed by the untoward postponement, and in place of effecting a prompt and profitable realization the European houses were obliged to carry over their heavy stocks, occasionally sacrificing them in small parcels to keep current with the depressing tendency of the market. Even the American outlook was more or less affected by the tone of the London trade, and demand from the States fell off in sympathy with the European depression. Secondly, the high rates ruling for Raw Silk have by no means met with a corresponding advance in Habutai prices, and the too familiar complaint that the weaving industry could only be prosecuted at a loss, has certainly been more worthy of credence than usual. Thus, the year which opened with exceptionally bright prospects, and the first few weeks of which brought encouraging activity, soon saw a sharp collapse, and an almost complete cessation of demand. For the past six months, quotations on the home markets have drooped downwards, and close weak, whereas the constantly advancing price of Raw Silk has naturally enhanced the cost of Habutai, and local rates have been pushed slowly up by the determined efforts of the weavers, who certainly have had uphill work, and very little compensation, while the middle men and exporters have found it well-nigh impossible to make the two constantly diverging ends meet.

KAGA.—The above remarks refer principally to the familiar "Echizen" material. Kaga textiles have followed a similar course of fluctuation, but occasionally the American demand has favoured this style of weave, and some fairly large transactions have been recorded, with a resulting increase in price. Stocks in this province are very low, and mostly of poor grade.

KAWAMATA.—This style of weave has again been fairly popular, especially for some branches of the European trade. The brisk demand coupled with the increased cost of production, again proved too strong a temptation for the manufacturers, who once more adopted their short-sighted policy of heavily "loading" their material. Recent deliveries from this district have been exceptionally defective in this respect.

TWILLS.—This once popular line is still "out of the market." European weavers seem to be able to meet the requirements of the trade, and there are practically no enquiries for Japanese material.

KAIKI.—These goods seem to have fallen out of favour. Stock lots which would have found eager buyers during the past ten years, are now hawked round the market without securing an offer, and several large lines are held by the local dealers who are ready to "job" them off considerably below cost. Throughout the year the weave has been unpopular, and there is no sign of its being reinstated in public favour for some time to come.

BROCADES.—Here again there has been a disappointing year. The Rangoon trade has not yet recovered from its recent repletion of defective material, and although a few enquiries have been received, and a few small shipments resulted, the "cheap Brocade" trade has been far from active. The better grades have found a limited sale, but the market has at no time deserved the adjective "brisk."

JOSHIU WEAVES.—These have again kept to a fairly steady course, fluctuating somewhat in sympathy with Raw Silk, but on the whole quoted on a comparatively high basis, and finding but a limited demand in European markets.

HANDKERCHIEFS.—This trade shows a sharp decrease of over 15 per cent. The Customs figures indicate that the two destinations of "England" and "Australia" are the only markets which have increased their trade, all others having fallen off to a marked degree. The shipments to "Europe" show 35 per cent. decrease from the previous year's record, while the United States have taken over 25 per cent. less than in 1901. The total value of goods exported shows a similar decrease, so that the year's work in this industry is less satisfactory than that of its predecessors.

TEA.—The season opened with a few small parcels on offer on the 28th April; there was, however, a considerable interval before supplies came in at all freely, and arrivals from the best districts were a week to ten days later than usual. Owing in part to exaggerated reports of a probable shortage of the crop, but mainly to a strong demand from the United States, prices, which at the opening transactions averaged about *yen* 2 per picul higher than the previous season, rose rapidly *yen* 6 to 7, these rates, however, being superseded by still higher ones until *yen* 10 to 12 per picul over the previous year's prices were readily paid. The quality of the pickings from first to last was much inferior to the previous season's, although that year was by no means an abnormally good one as far as the First and Second Crop Teas were concerned. The leaf was wanting in natural oil, and when handled broke up readily into dust and light flaky leaf. Both the Second and Third Crops, of which better things were hoped, proved disappointing compared with Teas of the previous season, the climax of disparity both in quality and price being reached in the Third Crop, which in 1901 was an unusually good one. There are no data available to estimate the actual shortage of the crop, Teas that would usually have gone into home consumption being drawn on for export; it was, perhaps, 10 o/o. At the end of June, settlements at this port showed a shortage of about 15,000 piculs compared with the previous season. This was however, slightly reduced later on, until at the end of the season the shortage was about 12,000 piculs only, total settlements for all Japan being piculs 12,000 to 14,000 *more* than the previous season. During the past year or two a notable feature in the trade has been the increase of small establishments set up by native firers in the interior; and although a small quantity during the past year found buyers amongst the foreign firms of this port, the bulk of the turn-out of these establishments comes down merely for shipment to America. The placing of this Tea on the American market at any time except when there is a brisk demand has an unfortunate effect, most of the consigners being weak holders who are compelled to realize within a certain period without regard to the condition of the market, and whilst buyers are anxious to secure the opportunities offered by these sacrifices there is no doubt that they would prefer the security of a regular market. Exact figures relating to this up-country firing are not obtainable, but the quantity is roughly estimated at 21,000 piculs, against 16,000 piculs last year. The results of the past season will probably have proved encouraging to these shippers, and the output may be expected to be increased during next season; whilst it will require the sobering effect of one or two quiet years to weed out the unstable ones and convince those that are left that there is only a moderate profit in that mode of business. A regrettable point to be noted in the season now under review is the falling off in the demand from Canada, Canadian importers refusing to follow the lead of the United States in meeting the higher prices. Another season must elapse before it can be seen whether they will eventually meet these prices, in case they are maintained, or whether the place of Japans will not be taken largely by Teas from other countries.

COPPER.—The year under review has not been a satisfactory one for Copper, prices for Bessemer, which may be taken as standard, gradually receding from *yen* 30 at the beginning of the year to *yen* 28 per picul in December. The export from Yokohama, which had been 9,850 tons in 1901, rose to 10,150 tons in the present year. Total exports from Japan, however, show a decrease of 2,300 tons in consequence of a steadily growing demand for home consumption.

FISH OIL.—The winter catch proved to be very satisfactory indeed, producing about 80,000 cases of Oil, and in view of such large quantities prices went down to *yen* 6.25 for Common Oil, at about which figure the total production was taken out of the market by exporters. Although the herring catch also started very favourably, still prices began to rise in consequence of firmer home market and continued their upward tendency, till in June they reached their highest point, namely, about *yen* 8 per picul. The outturn of this herring catch was exceptionally large, 140,000 cases being about the final result, and as in addition to this the sardine catch too turned out very well indeed, amounting to about 50,000 cases, it was, of course, to be expected that prices had to recede, the more so as the European markets proved to be unable to take up such large quantities promptly. So from about the middle of July nearly all the remaining stock was bought up at between *yen* 6.80 and 7.20. The new winter catch, which started in December, has been an entire failure.

TOBACCO.—The export of Tobacco leaf from Japan has dwindled to such dimensions that the article no longer deserves special notice, and the few small parcels that have recently left the country are lying in London unsold.

JAPAN YARNS.—The export of Yarns to China, Korea, &c., showed a still further decrease in 1902, both in quantity and value, when compared with the two previous years, and a falling off of nearly nine million *yen* when compared with 1899.

	Piculs.	Value.
1902.....	592,443	19,901,522
1901.....	627,517	21,465,572
1900.....	626,196	20,589,262

IMPORTS.

RAW COTTON.—American was dull at the beginning of the year on account of big stocks, which were sold at low prices. After the arrival of old contracted goods, however, new orders having been suspended for some time, stocks diminished, and consequently prices went up to *yen* 29 in April and to *yen* 30 in July. Mills also tried to use as little as possible American Cotton during the summer months, awaiting the arrival of new Cotton, which was contracted for in large quantities for earliest shipment. In consequence of these large orders the market became overstocked again before long.

CHINESE COTTON being offered at very cheap prices, on account of the low rate of silver, Spinning Mills used this Cotton to a great extent instead of American, business in the latter staple thus falling slow at the end of the year, when Middling was sold at *yen* 26.50 per picul.

INDIAN COTTON arrived in large quantities in consignments, the stock accumulating to 250,000 bales. The Cotton Yarn market being very inactive indeed, stockholders competed in pushing off their holdings, irrespective of any change in the Bombay market, and sold goods at exceedingly low prices. Bengal was sold at times at so low a price as *yen* 17.50 per picul. Under such circumstances order business could be done only on a very small scale.

COTTON YARN.—The year 1902 has proved one of the most, if not the most, unsatisfactory in the annals of the trade. In disposing of the heavy stocks carried forward from the previous year, both dealers and importers have in many cases had to face serious losses, and as sales have in great measure been confined to spot cargo, the value of which has never appreciably risen, there have been no gains as an offset to these sacrifices. That Japan is rapidly becoming independent of Lancashire for "gassed" Yarns is shown by the fact that so large a part of the demand was supplied from old stock and that selling prices here ranged throughout the year *yen* 10 to *yen* 20 below replacing costs which were never above a normal point and rarely affected value ruling here at all, though it must be allowed that continuous sales by weak holders assisted buyers to maintain rates at such a low level.

Sales in the principal counts were approximately as follow:—

	16/24's	2/60's	2/80's	2/100's
(Bales 400 lbs.)	1,450	1,300	1,600	300

It will be seen that "gassed" yarns no longer rank preëminent in demand, American "single" ("Western Mill" and "Mellor") enjoying almost equal favour with other counts. The predominence of 2 80's is due to the fact that Japanese spinners with large stocks of cotton were working on 2/60's almost exclusively for a time.

Comparative totals of imports in bales are:—

1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898	1897.
6,766	15,795	19.497	17.475	33.465	30,681

The main causes of the sudden falling off indicated by the above figures cannot be temporary or exceptional. It is to be looked for in the steady and marked increase in the import of Egyptian cotton, which is now being taken in quantities large enough to spin 18,000 to 20,000 bales of Yarn per annum. Certainly the lack of demand from China for Japanese piece-goods and a bad rice harvest must be held accountable in some degree. So also the inflow of Chinese Tussah Silk, which, woven into cloth, has been found by the lower classes to be so satisfactory a substitute for the more expensive silk and cotton union cloth formerly used.

The market was more or less idle during January-February, the few sales made being at declining prices. There was, however, a slight reaction in the spring when English spinners and doublers, finding themselves well engaged for the European trade, took up a firmer attitude. Adverse rumours regarding the American cotton crop also had their effect. But the improvement in selling rates was insignificant and never brought them within *yen* 10 per bale of those current in Manchester. Forward business was, therefore, quite impracticable. June-July saw the most activity, but the demand was really speculative on the part of dealers, who, in the autumn when unseasonable rains had injured inland trade prospects, found themselves unable to fulfil their enlargements to clear. Sept.-Nov. was a period of depression owing to the failure of the rice crop in the north. Later, owing to fears for the new cotton in Egypt, prices suddenly advanced, bringing some demand, which became urgent when, at the end of the year, work in the Tokyo "gassed" Yarn mill was suspended owing to cases of plague among the operatives. It may be added that enquiry then ran principally on finished Yarns which the Tokyo factory had been producing in considerable quantities.

Average market values during the 12 months were:—

2/60's ordinary "gassed."	2/80's ordinary "gassed."
Yen 235.	*Yen* 285.

GREY SHIRTINGS.—Contrary to expectation, imports were on a larger scale than during the three previous years, and deliveries, too, showed an increase on 1901. Early in the year there were sales of some 250,000 pieces to arrive summer and early autumn, and, with renewed activity, June-August saw the disposal of a further 80,000 to 100,000 pieces. But dealers had to labour under the unfavourable conditions of the market, with the result that clearances were protracted and stocks of undelivered goods were unusually heavy at the end of the season.

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Comparative totals of imports in pieces (all *Greys*) are :—

1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.
785,293	479,502	750,117	748,320	858,630	700,300

WHITE SHIRTINGS.—Sales were phenomenally light, high costs ruling throughout April to September being a bar to business. The year's trade cannot be considered satisfactory, despite the fact that clearances showed a considerable improvement on those of the previous season. Imports for the last three years were approximately :—

1900.	1901.	1902.
Pieces 191,500	Pieces 57,000	Pieces 153,700

The quantity with which this market seems able to cope is very limited, though the consumption of the article in Japan generally does not tend to decline.

COTTON PRINTS.—A fairly satisfactory trade took place early in 1902, and orders showed an increase on those placed the previous year. The Tokyo market during the second half of the year became somewhat depressed, owing to its being flooded with goods from Osaka, whose dealers were pushing sales at some 30 to 40 *sen* per piece below actual cost. This unsatisfactory state continuing, the end of the year saw stocks considerably larger than those of the corresponding period of 1901. On an average the business was profitable, both to dealers and to importers.

COTTON ITALIANS AND SATEENS.—The trade in these was smaller than that ordinarily transacted, and, generally speaking, dealers lost money.

COTTON AND WOOLLEN ITALIANS.—Business was profitable on the whole, but the consumption is computed at about half that of normal years. This decrease—and the same remark applies to Cotton Italians as well—is attributable, in a large measure, to the more extended use of a native made material, "Hachiji," woven from "gassed" yarn, which is now extensively employed for the purposes formerly filled by Italian cloth. The article named, however, is on trial, and sufficient time has not elapsed to enable consumers to ascertain whether the substitute will prove more economical than the imported cloths.

VELVETS.—An average and more or less satisfactory business has to be reported in these goods.

VICTORIA LAWNS.—Imports were average in quantity, but the trade was adversely affected by a large carry-over of stocks, and prices obtainable at the close of the year were very disappointing.

UMBRELLA CLOTH.—Consumption is estimated at about 25 per cent. less than usual. Owing to the excessive rainful during the summer months, the native paper umbrella was more in request than the foreign style article, which is used more generally as a sun-shade than as a protection from rain. Supplies for the Tokyo market have been drawn to a large extent from Osaka, where stocks at the end of the year were reported to be large.

Trade prospects for the above enumerated articles for the year 1902 started very propitiously, and importers, as well as dealers, looked forward to a healthy and lucrative business, but as the year advanced into the summer, cold and unseasonable weather, accompanied by storms, set in. In consequence, the tone of the market became seriously affected, and from the middle of the year deliveries commenced to fall away and so continued to the close of what now has proved to be a year of disappointment.

WOOLLEN CLOTH.—The rather heavy imports of the two years previous to 1902 had a somewhat demoralizing effect upon the trade, and the imports for last year were consequently smaller. The hopes derived from the latter fact were, however, not quite realised, and although the new goods moved off without much difficulty, the stocks carried over from 1901 could in many cases only be disposed of at a sacrifice, and stocks at the end of the year amounted to more than was desirable.

The tendency has again been in favour of the better grades. In Suitings, Covert Coatings have taken the first position, while the lower class of Pilots and Presidents is superseded by cheap Army Cloths, which are likely to be in favour also next year. It is rumoured that the home industry will not turn out much for the coming spring season consisting of light Fancy Worsted Coatings, the imported article still being able to compete through its superiority over the Japanese make. Orders for next year are not excessive; dealers appear to have lost confidence to some extent by the import on speculation on the part of foreign firms over that against *bonâ fide* indents.

METALS.—While the volume of trade in this department has been fairly maintained, the market has seldom experienced such a uniformly dull and unremunerative year. Under the influence of a slow but steady decline in European costs, prices have fallen continuously, but, apart from this, competition among importers has been especially keen, and margins have been reduced to vanishing point.

The Government foundry in Kiushiu has not yet become a serious factor in the situation, but the day is not far distant when that establishment will be in a position to compete vigorously for the bulk of the present trade in imported Metals. There are several other establishments which will shortly be producing Mild Steel Bars, Plates, etc., on a commercial scale.

IRON AND MILD STEEL BARS.—Imports shows a large increase, namely, 363,000 piculs against 257,000 piculs in 1901, but the latter was an exceptionally small quantity and the present year's imports represent a fair average demand for this district.

PIG IRON.—Imports were 6,300 tons against 8,150 tons in 1901, and 6,400 tons in 1900. The Japanese production continues to develope.

PLATES AND SHEETS.—These articles show a fair average business, the local imports having been :—

198,000 piculs in 1899	133,000 piculs in 1901
268,000 piculs in 1900	162,000 piculs in 1902

GALVANIZED FLAT AND CORRUGATED SHEETS.—A good business has been done, 118,000 piculs, against 77,000 piculs in 1901, and 121,500 piculs in 1900. The trade demands and obtains thinner sheets every year. This is regrettable; there can be very little wear in such thin sheets as are now supplied, a fact which must bring the article into disfavour with consumers.

WIRE NAILS.—The local trade continues to decline. Imports for the last few years have been :—

	Imports of Yokohama.		Imports in all Japan.
1899	165,000	...	289,000
1900	129,000	...	322,000
1901	101,000	...	234,000
1902	67,500	...	276,000

The Tokyo factory has been in operation all the year and has competed vigorously for the local trade, price apparently being no object.

TIN PLATES.—Imports have declined about 15 per cent.

RAILS.—About 10,000 tons were imported locally, principally for the Imperial Government Railways. About 1,000 tons were received from the Government foundry, but it is stated that they did not give satisfaction. The business in small rails has fallen off considerably.

KEROSENE OIL.—The year under review has not been quite up to the standard of last year on a general average. The market has suffered to a certain extent from the general depression in trade, though the consumption of oil continues to increase. There has been a marked increase in the quantity of Echigo Oil consumed, but, to a certain extent, this oil has been mixed with American and Russian oils, and doubtless sold as these. The prices realized were not up to the average of those of 1901. Prices for American Oil ranged from *yen* 2.45 to *yen* 2.72, and for Russian Oil from *yen* 2.25 to *yen* 2.63: the average price of American Oil for the year being *yen* 2.57 and for Russian *yen* 2.40. The total deliveries of Kerosene Oil in Yokohama were 2,923,473 cases, including Echigo, whilst the figures for 1901 were 2,930,863 cases. Deliveries of American Oil show a decrease of 333,434 cases upon those of the preceding year, whilst Russian show an increase of 321,919 cases, which latter about balances the deficit in American Oil. During last year there were no arrivals of Kerosene Oil from Borneo or Palembang, but the former country sent supplies of Liquid Fuel, which has been successfuly tried on the Imperial Government Railways. The Japanese Oil industries in Echigo are said to have had a successful year, though the International Oil Company have been obliged, for the opposite reason, to reduce their operations and curtail their staff.

AMERICAN.

	Arrival Cases.	Delivery Cases.
1901.....	1,994,400	1,853,648
1902.....	2,208,227	1,557,615
	Increase 213,827	Decrease 296,033

RUSSIAN.

1,174,075	1,012,983
1,280,422	1,360,733
Increase 106,347	Increase 347,750*

SUGAR.—The year has been a bad one for both foreign and native refined Sugars. The heavy stocks imported in 1901, previous to the imposition of the consumption tax, together with the output of the native refineries, which were forced to sell to keep in work, proved more than enough to meet the demand, and holders being willing sellers, prices remained unusually low till the autumn, when, old stocks being used up, prices for new supplies advanced rapidly, and a fair business was done at good rates for November-December arrival. At the close of the year prices were still well maintained, with a prospect of a further advance, owing to the dearness of Raw Sugar.

PLANT INDIGO.—The trade in Plant Indigo during the past year has been far from satisfactory, the prices realized by importers generally showing loss. This state of things was due to the market being too generously supplied, to the depression of trade, and to the competition of artificial Indigo. As the year closes, the outlook is more hopeful, stocks having been reduced to moderate dimensions, and prices showing a tendency to rise steadily. The trade is a conservative one; a good many consumers still prefer to use natural Indigo, as opposed to artificial, and it is unfortunate that the crops of India are exceptionally small this season, as it will result in higher prices being demanded by producers, and the consequent restriction of consumption, thus giving the artificial article an opportunity to compete even more keenly than heretofore.

ARTIFICIAL INDIGO.—The demand for this article has greatly increased during the year 1902. Several powerful merchants at Tokyo and Osaka have combined in order to jointly push the artificial indigo, a proper selling system has been organised all over Japan, and there is every probability that the new year will show a further large increase, the more so as on account of bad and short crops of plant indigo in India and elsewhere the prices for the natural article have gone up and are likely to go still higher.

	Imports 1901. Yen.	Imports 1902. Yen.
Natural Indigo	2,418,464	2,100,911
Artificial Indigo	246,579	997,069
	2,665,043	3,097,980

IMPORTS FOR ALL JAPAN.

The depression of 1900, followed as it was by a general liquidation of stocks in 1901, led importers to expect that in 1902 there would be a good demand for the purpose of replenishing stocks and that the year would be a prosperous one. The condition of trade and finance appeared to confirm the correctnes of this opinion, but it has not been justified by results.

Possibly one cause of the prevailing dullness may be found in the failure of both dealers and importers to recognize that the domestic production of manufactured goods is constantly and rapidly increasing. There can be no doubt that in many cases the foreign article is being supplanted by native manufactures of similar but not necessarily of the same character or quality. In this connection the following figures are suggestive :—

	1892.	1893.
Imports Raw Cotton .....¥	12,324,654	16,151,570
Imports Cotton Yarn	7,131,980	7,284,253
	19,456,634	23,435,813
Less export of Cotton Yarn.	7,720	59,176
Home Consumption	19,448,914	23,376,637
	1901.	1902.
Imports Raw Cotton	61,222,080	80,572,437
Imports Cotton Yarn	4,873,737	1,747,875
	66,095,817	82,320,312
Less export of Cotton Yarn.	21,465,572	19,901,522
Home Consumption	44,630,245	62,418,790
	1892.	1893.
Imports of Flannels .....¥	1,073,743	1,389,714
Imports of Blankets	528,937	811,023
	1901.	1902.
Imports of Flannels	313,296	487,350
Imports of Blankets	78,089	123,570

These examples will suffice to illustrate a change which is most noticeable in Textiles and small sundries, but which is extending to all lines of manufacture.

Another factor must be sought in the falling off of general trade during the past four years, especially when placed in contrast with the increase which took place in the previous period. Deducting Raw Cotton and Rice, the figures stand as follows :—

	1894.	1898.	1902.
Total Imports .....¥	127,482,955	277,810,728	371,737,058
Prior to 1899 values declared at Customs were "first cost," since 1899 they are "c i f costs:" for purposes of comparison with previous years a deduction should be made in this account of			60,000,000
			251,731,058
Less Raw Cotton Imported.¥	19,605,040	45,744,372	80,572,437
	97,876,915	231,526,357	171,158,821
Less Rice Imported.....¥	8,413,148	48,219,810	17,750,716
General Trade .....¥	89,463,767	193,306,547	153,408,005

While there have been few of the disastrous failures among Japanese dealers which were a feature of the two preceding years, it has been very evident that many of those remaining in business have been seriously crippled by reduced capital and more by reduced credits. Capitalists have been exceedingly distrustful of all investments, and appear to have preferred to deposit their money with the banks, whose coffers have been overflowing. The same cautious attitude has been adopted by the

*Apparent discrepancy is accounted for by stocks carried over from the previous year.

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banks, who were unwilling to make advances even against the best of securities without very wide margins. Trade, therefore, has been more of a hand-to-mouth character, and dealers were obliged to realize their purchases at small profits and sometimes even at a loss in order to move their contract stocks. This course has kept the market in a dull, stale, and unprofitable condition throughout the twelve months and has acted adversely against all speculative imports.

In spite, however, of the apparant dullness, the volume of deliveries has been fairly maintained, so that the new year will not be handicapped by heavy stocks. On the other hand, while conditions still seem favourable for a revival, the year closes without any actual signs of improvement.

The comparative totals of imports for the past 11 years have been :—

	Yen
1892	71,324,776
1893	88,257,172
1894	117,481,995
1895	129,260,578
1896	171,674,474
1897	219,300,772
1898	277,270,728
1899	220,050,983
1900	287,261,845
1901	255,816,644
1902	271,731,258

Food Stuffs.

The decline in the imports of Sugar is due to excessive imports in 1901 in anticipation of the increased taxation levied from October in that year: the quantities for the last three years compare as follows :—

Imports of Sugar.

1900	4,045,785	piculs.
1901	4,928,075	"
1902	2,638,129	"

	1902. Yen	1901. Yen
Beans, Peas, & Pulse	5,786,707	5,328,135
Flour	3,302,196	2,891,373
Rice	17,750,816	11,878,958
Sugar	14,467,813	33,493,366
Eggs	1,196,455	1,298,611
Salted Fish	2,011,487	1,442,789
Condensed Milk	863,945	646,308
	45,379,419	56,979,540

	1900. Yen	1899. Yen
Beans, Peas, & Pulse	4,817,767	8,822,110
Flour	3,901,463	1,383,539
Rice	9,021,536	5,960,166
Sugar	26,606,527	17,516,038
Eggs	1,243,064	826,960
Salted Fish	2,184,845	1,212,896
Condensed Milk	663,680	389,071
	48,438,882	36,110,780

Imports of Machinery and Railway Material.

This department exhibits the conservative tendency regarding new enterprises.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
Railway Material	383,040	334,561
Rails	1,662,699	1,612,539
Locomotives and Rolling Stock	2,532,809	2,655,652
Machinery, Steam Engines and Boilers, Electric Light apparatus	8,052,528	11,789,166
Materials for Bridges and Building	341,796	1,481,153
	12,972,872	17,873,071

	1900.	1899.
Railway Material	704,344	58,199
Rails	4,753,370	435,054
Locomotives and Rolling Stock	2,425,672	2,649,746
Machinery, Steam Engines and Boilers, Electric Light apparatus	8,968,999	5,657,289
Materials for Bridges and Buildings	1,880,307	285,841
	18,732,692	9,086,129

Imports of Material for Manufactures.

This table bears out the remarks that manufactures are making headway so far as value and quantity are concerned, and while many of these industrial enterprises are in a difficult position financially, the country as a whole reaps the benefit of their establishment.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
Cotton	80,572,437	61,222,080
Wool	3,397,563	3,129,382
Flax, Hemp, Jute, & China Grass	1,602,798	1,370,182
Indigo	3,097,981	2,665,043
Aniline Dyes	1,653,219	884,884
Logwood Extract	363,018	179,314
Phosphorus	471,831	319,229
Paraffine Wax	452,930	449,070
Chlorate of Potash	785,355	585,274
Leather	1,346,099	1,347,486
Cotton Yarns	1,747,875	4,873,737
Woollen Yarns	922,146	866,760
Principal Metals	16,323,771	16,767,649
Caustic Soda	787,972	468,568
Raw Silk	1,382	4,947
Tussah Silk Yarns	955,275	433,179
	114,481,652	95,566,784

	1900. Yen.	1899. Yen.
Cotton	60,211,484	62,210,715
Wool	3,919,693	4,324,426
Flax, Hemp, Jute, & China Grass	1,700,409	1,245,048
Indigo	3,902,559	2,903,829
Aniline Dyes	1,328,750	904,012
Logwood Extract	321,801	176,118
Phosphorus	324,057	216,124
Paraffine Wax	511,553	286,806
Chlorate of Potash	679,312	418,883
Leather	2,085,980	1,067,090
Cotton Yarns	7,043,046	4,963,325
Woollen Yarns	1,798,535	593,337
Principal Metals	24,841,256	14,060,415
Caustic Soda	929,526	521,851
Raw Silk	25,800	960,359
Tussah Silk Yarns	351,359	375,189
	109,975,120	95,227,527

Import of Textiles.

The increase shown in 1902 compared with 1901 was too large for the requirements of the trade, and in some lines the results were unsatisfactory.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
Cotton Prints	2,602,032	680,467
" Drills	96,684	92,178
" Satins	1,788,530	1,684,492
" Velvets	1,231,070	453,535
" Flannels	704,808	234,900
Plushes	631,233	379,402
Grey Shirtings	5,070,650	2,991,651
Turkey Reds	301,670	189,122
All other Cottons	4,364,927	2,881,279
Blankets	123,570	78,089
Flannels	487,350	313,296
Italian Cloth	1,181,174	601,439
Mousseline de Laine	3,754,835	3,339,120
Woollen Cloths	2,000,011	1,318,162
Partly Woollen Cloths	1,430,033	865,647
All other Woollens	1,110,859	1,403,499
	26,879,436	17,506,818

	1900. Yen.	1899. Yen.
Cotton Prints	2,002,732	1,438,245
" Drills	96,350	42,196
" Satins	3,662,631	949,745
" Velvets	864,490	396,134
" Flannels	1,515,408	—
Plushes	984,934	—
Grey Shirtings	5,558,004	3,575,190
Turkey Reds	424,771	416,966
All other Cottons	4,295,220	2,271,133
Blankets	393,630	229,035
Flannels	917,931	374,959
Italian Cloth	1,120,737	1,132,575
Mousseline de Laine	7,364,991	4,350,934
Woollen Cloths	2,969,762	2,004,198
Partly Woollen Cloths	2,433,757	531,553
All other Woollens	2,948,638	678,200
	37,553,986	18,391,063

Sundries.

The totals of this group remain remarkably steady. An increase is noticeable in Tobacco, while the purchase of Steam-vessels has fallen off. Oil-cake for fertilizing purposes shows a steady growth.

	1902. Yen.	1901. Yen.
Alcohol	201,362	169,886
Cigarettes and Tobacco	995,970	121,085
Wines and Liquors	699,783	698,895
Watches	234,150	432,553
Steam Vessels	1,488,009	2,583,923
Paper (printing)	1,402,861	864,041
" (various)	2,261,537	1,397,349
Glass (window)	1,581,079	1,084,832
Kerosene	14,937,169	14,943,400
Timber	755,363	709,248
Cement	28,658	63,824
Paints	365,618	449,276
Oil-cake	10,121,712	8,109,236
Hides	813,833	786,609
Dynamite	267,879	290,606
Coal	1,298,374	2,542,133
Cables	85,430	796,046
Malt	330,350	765,634
Manures (Phosphatic)	603,645	437,910
	38,472,773	37,246,486

	1900. Yen.	1899. Yen.
Alcohol	132,051	2,060,800
Cigarettes and Tobacco	554,120	5,846,000
Wines and Liquors	680,184	611,673
Watches	729,746	237,716
Steam Vessels	2,648,876	3,620,980
Paper (printing)	2,036,844	748,413
" (various)	2,408,283	1,185,861
Glass (window)	952,919	1,256,576
Kerosene	14,162,652	7,918,148
Timber	869,340	536,601
Cement	120,939	79,250
Paints	551,614	354,780
Oil-cake	5,696,453	6,791,812
Hides	656,643	719,930
Dynamite	187,166	244,302
Coal	2,100,053	937,094
Cables	1,253,411	—
Malt	619,219	—
Manures (Phosphatie)	789,106	—
	37,149,619	33,149,936

The items mentioned in the above tables account for about 85 per cent. of the import trade, and the figures have been taken from monthly and annual returns of the foreign trade of the Empire as compiled by the Department of Finance.

Freights.—The rates for Europe at the close of 1901 were maintained throughout 1902, namely, 50/. for general cargo (45/. for B class—40/. C class), and *yen* 27.50 for Waste Silk per 40 cubic feet.

For New York, via Canal, the rate remained steady during 1901 at 30/. opening in 1902 at the same rate, which continned till July, when a drop to 25/. occurred. A further decline to 20/. took place in October, but was of very short duration, rising again to 25/. at which rate the year closed.

For the Pacific Trade to America and Canada tonnage was ample, and rates for Tea remained unaltered till June at 1¾ cents per pound, when 1¼ cents became the rate, which continued till the end of the year, measurement cargo remaining the same throughout the year, namely, $10 per 40 cubic feet to New York and Overland points.

Railways.—The extension of railways in Japan continues to decline, notwithstanding the numerous lines projected and for which sanction has been obtained, the increase in mileage last year of Government and private roads combined only amounting to 171 miles as compared with 215 miles the year before, 221 miles in 1900. and 471 miles in 1899. Foreign capitalists have been appealed to for funds to carry out the schemes necessary for improved communication, and foreign railway experts have visited Japan to look into the value of the securiyt offered, but after lengthened consideration of the subject foreign loans for railway work in Japan do not seem to be any nearer consummation. Connexction between Shimbashi, Uyeno, and Honjo has been talked about for years, but these termini remain as wide apart as ever, much to the inconvenience of the public in whatever direction travellers desire to proceed. There was a very slight increase in the receipts for both passengers and goods, and receipts for the former would have shown a decrease had not the fares been raised, as during 1902 two-and-a-half million passengers less were carried than in the previous year. The increase in 1901 over the previous year amounted in passengers, to 11¾ millions and in goods to 3¾ million tons. Following are the figures for the year under review :—

	Total Mileage. Miles.	Chains.	Increase over the previous year. Miles.	Chains.
Government Railways	1,059	48	109	59
Private Railways	2,966	48	61	32
	4,036	16	171	11

	Passengers. No.	Receipts, Yen.
Government Railways	32,074,254	10,648,762
Private Railways	79,136,954	16,929,621
Total	111,211,208	27,578,383

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	Goods. Tons.	Receipts. Yen.
Government Railways ...	2,659,602	4,404,917
Private Railways.....	11,750,150	11,431,032
Total.....	14,409,752	15,835,949

GOLD STANDARD.—The gold standard of Japan which has now been in operation over five years, having first come into effect on the 1st October, 1897, continues to work smoothly and well, and is an advantage to the country and a convenience to merchants both in domestic and foreign trade.

Gold is always readily obtainable at the Bank of Japan either in Tokyo or Osaka to any extent in exchange for notes issued by that institution which constitute the practical currency of the country, and no obstacle is put in the way of the free export of coin.

The treasure reserve and note issue of the Bank of Japan at the end of each of the past four years have stood as follows:—

	Treasure Reserve.		Note Issue.	
1899	₩110½	Millions.	₩225	Millions.
1900	66	„	215	„
1901	68½	„	186	„
1902	109	„	231	„

showing a much stronger position at the close of the year under review than for either of the two previous years and a somewhat similar one to that of 1899. Japan imported gold very largely during the latter half of last year, and for the twelve months the imports exceeded exports by *yen* 29,730,356.

The following table gives the imports and exports of gold during the past seven years and embraces the whole period affected by Japan's adoption of the gold standard:

	Imports.		Exports.
1896	₩ 10,217,458	.....	1,996,575
1897	64,313,492	.....	8,863,797
1898	37,027,752	.....	46,281,343
1899	20,080,695	.....	8,768,365
1900	8,967,191	.....	51,761,614
1901	10,651,207	.....	11,477,852
1902	30,183,668	.....	453,312
	₩ 181,441,463	.....	129,602,858

Excess of imports Yen 51,838,605.

EXCHANGE.—At the opening of the year the Banks' demand drawing rate on London was 2/0 15/16 per *yen* and remained so until the 7th February, when a rapid advance set in—rising to 2/0 31/32 on that date; it moved up to 2/1 1/16 on the 10th February and to 2/0 3/4 on the 14th February. On the 24th February it receded to 2/1 1/16 and stood thus until the 9th April, when a further drop of 1/16th occurred. On the 15th April it declined again 1/16th, and on the 29th April another 1/16th, making the rate on that date 2/0 3/4, at which it remained until the 14th June, when a fresh advance took place.

From 2/0 15/16 on the 14th June the rate steadily rose, being

2/0 31/32 on the 24th June,
2/1 1/16 on the 30th June,
2/0 3/4 on the 15th July,
2/0 13/16 on the 7th August,
2/0 3/4 on the 15th September,

until the 13th October, when it reached 2/0 13/16 and remained at that rate for the rest of the year.

THE FAMINE.

In consequence of the sudden change from hunger and want to comparative comfort the poor people in the country districts of Awomori are reported to have been visited by severe dysentery, especially in the Shichinohe districts.

We beg to acknowledge receipt of *yen* 10 from the Eiwa Jo Gakko on behalf of the sufferers by the Awomori Famine.

It appears that the grant made by His Majesty the Emperor towards the relief of the sufferers in the north was greatly understated in the first reports. From a notification in the *Official Gazette* we learn that not *yen* 10,000 but *yen* 22,000 was the Imperial contribution. This munificent amount was thus allotted: *yen* 10,000 to Awomori Prefecture, *yen* 4,000 each to Iwate and Fukushima, and *yen* 2,000 each to Miyagi and Toyama.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	23,000.73
Mrs. B.	50.00
H. Richter	5.00
E. Karcher	10.00
Further Collections by Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Nagasaki:—	
T. A. Koen.....	10.00
Capt. R. N. Walker	10.00
F. H. Hunt.....	5.00
F. J. Freen	5.00
Canton Municipal Hall	100.00
Mew Yok Ting	5.00
Per Club Hotel:	
E. B. S. Edwards	4.00
J. H. Williams	1.00
P. G. D.	1.00
Total	23,206.73

The following letter received by the Rev. W. Weston from the Rev. H. St. George Tucker, Hirosaki, Aomori Ken, dated 15th March, has been handed over to the Trustees of the Famine Relief Fund for publication.

DEAR MR. WESTON,

I am just back from a two-days' trip to Eoshogawara and Kitsukuri, where I have been wrestling with the problem of buying supplies. At the Kencho, they advised me to buy rice in Eoshogawara, as it would be cheaper, but on arriving there I found that the cheapest Japanese rice they had was 145 sen/100 (*koku*) and foreign rice of which there was only a little 14.00. Aomori prices come to the same thing with freight added. I telegraphed to Yokohama and was offered Saigon and Rangoon rice at 11 to 11.50 which, even adding in freight, meant a saving of about 400 *yen*. The Guncho strongly advised giving foreign rice, for then we could give a larger quantity or for a longer time. It meant a delay of a day or so in getting the supplies, but the North Tsugaru Guncho, who is the best informed and most practical man I have met, thought that a delay of several days would not be a disadvantage, as by that time the little supply that they have had until now, especially the money left by those going to Hokkaido for the herring fishery will be completely exhausted and their need would be consequently greater. This decision was arrived at after 2 days' of trotting over to Kitsukuri, where the west Tsu Guncho, was conferring with rice merchants, officials, the Kencho man, sending off telegrams to find out prices everywhere and reducing the quotations to a common standard—a most extraordinary thing was that no two places had the same standards of measurement, and figuring them out was worse than a Chinese puzzle. After all this we all agreed that the Yokohama quotations were far the best. So I arranged a deal with a rice dealer, Suzuki Renzo, Ota-machi, Itchome, Yokohama. I ordered 267 *koku* 1 *to* 4 *sho* of Saigan-mai at 11.375 a *koku*, freight 37 *sen* a *koku* and carriage from station 30 *sen*, the total amount including freight being 3,233 *yen*. This is based on half rates for freight. There is some uncertainty too as to the exact sort of delivery to the Yokohama Station, but so far as we could calculate the above is right. I had to pay 200 *yen* contract money, the rest to be paid on delivery. We came to a settlement at eleven p.m. and I went to bed. About twelve I was awakened to close the arrangements and at one the Gunyakusho clerk came with the receipt. At 2.30 a.m. I had to get up to take the basha for the early train to Hirosaki in order to meet an engagement here. Therefore if this letter is rather confused, I hope you will excuse me on the ground of having spent the hours from 3 a.m. to 7 a.m. in a basha on the worst road I know of.

I may add that the order is sent through the Gunyakusho. I will send accounts and receipts when all has been delivered and paid for.

As to the kind of help. The Guncho went with me to inspect and has had an examination of every village made along similar lines. We decided to give 3 *go* of rice a day to each person (60 days). The Guncho strongly favoured, owing to the peculiar way of living in this gun, putting all the money into rice and giving no *miso* nor blankets. They use ordinarily straw instead of blankets. We could not keep to our former estimate of 5 *sen* a person, as the price of rice is 1.37 *sen* a *go* instead of one *sen* as the guncho thought it would be. This with freight added and transportation to villages will come to about 3.7 *sen* a person. The West Tsugaru Guncho agreed to all the arrangements made in North Tsu, considering them the best possible for his gun also.

I think that after paying for hauling I will have nearly 800 *yen* left, possibly a little more, including Bishop McKim's money. Shall I send this back or shall I look into the conditions in Naka Tsugaru, where I hear there is some distress?

I went on Thursday with Mr. Harris to watch the first distribution in Harabe and Nonai. It was pathetic to see the crowd of wretched starved men and women, some sick, some blind, some lame, gathered together in the yakuba. Everything went off nicely. I go again to Eoshogawara and Mitsukuri when the rice comes to inspect it and watch distribution.

Yours very sincerely,

H. ST. GEO. TUCKER.

DR. CHARLES CUTHBERT HALL.

WORK IN SOUTH JAPAN.

Dr. Hall arrived in Kobe on the 2nd of March, and reached Yokohama the 21st, having given three weeks of his time in Japan to the Southern part of the country. He spent one day in Okayama, one in Nagoya, and delivered one lecture at the Mikage Normal School, and one address at the Kwansei Gakuin. The rest of his time was given to Osaka, where he gave five lectures, and to Kyoto and Kobe, where he gave the whole course of six lectures.

His audiences were large, thoughtful and appreciative, and contained many students, teachers, lawyers, judges, officers and priests. Both Japanese and foreigners have expressed themselves as greatly pleased. The writer heard the lecture to the faculty and students of the Mikage Normal School, the address at Kwansei Gakuin, and the whole course of lectures in Kobe, and he wants to say to all who may still be able to hear him, that a failure to do so will be greatly to their loss.

Dr. Hall is most cordial and brotherly in his manner, without being in the least patronizing, and is a charming and powerful speaker. He never lags in his interest in his message or his audience. But more important still, he has come to us with a positive message of the deepest import, and he has taken time to thoroughly digest it with mind and heart, and clothe it in strong and beautiful English. He has evidently put some of the best work of his life into the lectures, and one cannot doubt that they embody his deepest convictions concerning God and man and duty and destiny. He wins by his spirit of fairness towards the non-Christian religions, and his sympathetic appreciation of the good they contain, and, at the same time, by his unfailing allegiance to the great fundamental facts and doctrines of Christianity.

For solid worth of content and nobleness of form, one rarely hears such utterances from the public platform.

THOMAS H. HADEN.

Kwansei Gakuin, March 23rd, 1902.

WELCOME IN TOKYO.

A meeting was held in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 23rd in the Young Men's Christian Association building to welcome Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, President of Union Theological Seminary, New York, at the beginning of his course of lectures on "Christian Belief as Interpreted by Christian Experience."

Rev. H. Kozaki presided and, in extending a welcome on behalf of the Evangelical Alliance, spoke of the difficulties in the way of the lecturer and of the hopes arising from his qualifications for the work before him.

Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., welcomed Dr. Hall on behalf of the missionaries and spoke of the wonderful growth he had seen during thirty-three years in the country.

Dr. Hall replied in substance as follows, his speech being interpreted by Prof. Hino of the Doshisha, a former student of his:—

"I desire to express my gratitude for the welcome given me by the speakers on behalf of the Evangelical Alliance and of the missionaries. I regret that deficiences in my early education render it impossible for me to reply in Japanese such as would be suited to this audience.

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"Japan is indeed to me a wonderland, a wonder in the great work that the Holy Spirit has wrought here. From a distance I had looked with wonder but after three weeks spent in the country I can but say with her who went to see the wisdom of Solomon, the half was not told me. Though from time to time I had met representatives of modern Japan yet I was surprised to find here this maturity of Christian manhood far-reaching and rich in its volume of testimony to the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit.

"I do not take the remarks that have been made to apply to me personally but to me as the representative of the University which administers the Barrow's Lectureship. The conviction which led to the founding of that lectureship was that with closer commercial and political relations between the East and the West there would be closer intercourse concerning the great problems of religion and philosophy. In the great guild of scholars there is no East and no West, all are one. All contact with the Truth is mutually instructive. They should meet together heart to heart and mind to mind.

"I do not approach my work here in any spirit of controversy, but with an appreciation of all advances that have been made toward the Truth, and with the strong desire to set forth the contents of the leading conceptions of Christian truth.

"I come in hearty sympathy, with the missionaries, not to supplement their labours but to follow upon them. I am impressed with the splendid generosity with which they have welcomed one who comes as a fellow servant to be instructed by their experience, and perhaps to reach the student circle in some real and abiding way.

"I cannot now speak of the marvellous experiences I have had since that time when I thought out my message in the quiet of the Bodleian Library. Time would fail me to tell of my travel from one end of India to the other, and of my meeting with thousands on thousands of students in five great centres.

"From there I came eastward exchanging the sadness of India for the joy and hopefulness of Japan. There could be no greater contrast than in the attitudes of the two countries toward life. The change in coming to Japan is like coming from the gloom of a long sad winter day into the brightness of spring.

"I am glad that I began my experience in Japan elsewhere than in Tokyo. Before coming to what I take to be the heart and centre of the country I was able to form some preliminary idea of the state of thought at present. The capital I take to be the centre of influences that are to shape the future. Here is locked up the destiny of the country.

"One of the speakers has referred to the two great difficulties hindering the acceptance of Christianity in Japan. These I understood to be bewilderment in reconciling the teachings of Christianity with the conclusions of modern thought, and the desire to hold on to old ways and modes of thought.

"The thing most wonderful to me, as a man new in the country, is the contrast between the eagerness of educated men to assimilate all new truth and the pessimism of the ancestral faith of Buddhism. On the one hand is the sustained sadness of Buddhism seeking to root out all desire to live; on the other is that august system of thought—august in instilling a deep sense of the worth of this present life. The contrast is amazing.

"In the midst of this conflict it is not strange that young men—not educated men but men who are being educated—should be bewildered. Especially as they catch the influence of Western thought is it natural that they should draw mistaken inferences. For example, in historical criticism of the Scriptures, in their ambition to throw aside all that is worthless, they naturally adopt the most radical views.

"In the presence of these problems and difficulties, in reliance on the Spirit of God alone I speak as God has revealed it to me the essence of the Gospel of the Son of God, the same yesterday, to-day, and forever. I have a profound belief in the reality of His risen Life, in the present energy of the Holy Spirit and the need in every age of the exaltation of the Presence of Christ.

"I come not to dispute about words to no profit but to the subverting of the hearers, not to deal with side issues, not to make a series of negations, but to deliver a positive message in terms of academic life and in the spirit of the Apostolic age. I say once for all that I have no new message No new one is needed. Through all conflicts the Truth that we have abides and is sufficient.

"Two words in conclusion. I would repeat my thanks to the representatives of the Christian bodies for their hearty welcome and during this coming week as I stand here in fear and trembling striving to bring men to know the glory and the Beauty of Christ and to belong to Him,—as I stand here thus I beseech you to remember in your prayers this poor weak worker.—*Communicated.*

AN ORATORICAL CONTEST.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

We are glad to observe that at most of the higher Government schools considerable attention is being paid to public speaking. Lecture meetings, debates and occasionally mock parliaments are being held the year through. But the idea of holding a competitive public speaking examination as far as Japan is concerned, we believe, originated with the late Mr. Fukuzawa. If we remember rightly the first function of the kind was held at the Keiōgijiku five or six years ago. The Second High School has now "caught on" to the idea, and on Sunday the 15th inst. the first meeting of the promoters and supporters of the movement took place. The meeting lasted nearly the whole day. There were fifteen speakers, who were free to choose their own subjects, nine of the teachers of the school acted as judges, and with them was associated, also in the capacity of a judge, a well-known eloquent Sendai barrister, Mr. Nozoe Juritsu. Each of the students was allowed 20 minutes in which to make his speech. Most of the judges occupied seats in the centre of the hall at some distance from the platform, so as to be able to test the ability of the speakers to make themselves heard in every part of the building. Five prizes were awarded, which took the form of medals and books. Little restraint was placed on the audience and the consequence was that the students present expressed pretty freely their opinions as to the views of the speakers, their manner of speaking and so on. Many of the comments being very witty, evoked smiles from the grave judges themselves. At about half-past three the judges retired to compare notes and consider their verdict. They seem to have had some difficulty in coming to an agreement, as they were away from the hall a considerable time. The plan they adopted was to give each speaker marks for voice, gesture, language, ideas, arrangement of thoughts, &c. At last the judges reappeared and their decision was announced amid much applause. To Mr. Hishinuma, a second-year student, the first prize was awarded. His subject was "The Early Maturity and the Early Decline of the Japanese people." For so young a man Mr. Hishinuma not only displayed a thorough mastery of his subject, but showed that he had a command of language which not a few much older men might well envy. Though his tone was extremely earnest, he never allowed his feelings to carry him away as was the case with not a few other speakers. In a speech of the kind Mr. Hishinuma delivered it is the suppressed emotion that tells. His illustrations were most aptly chosen. He took the view that the rapid and early development of the Japanese youth and the early senility of the man are serious hindrances to the nation's progress and successful competition with its rivals. He remarked that in not a few things one weakness is enough to render success impossible. Some little time ago he said, a sailing vessel was about to anchor at Yokosuka when the Captain found that his anchor chain was several links too short to allow of his sinking the anchor well into the mud. As it was only for one night, he added heavy rope to the chain and as he thought made his ship fast for the night, but a storm came on and the piece of hawser gave way and the vessel was wrecked. One seriously weak point in Japan's bodily or mental equipment in these days of keen competition may handicap her to such an extent that she will have no chance against Europeans and Americans. It was noticeable that the students to whom the prizes were awarded all chose somewhat practical subjects. Some of the opinions held were of course very mistaken, but a student did not lose marks on this account. The marks were not given for strength of argument, but for ability to state thoughts in a lucid and forcible manner, whatever might be the nature of the ideas stated. After the prizes had been distributed, Mr. Nozoe, as representative of the judges, criticized the whole performance in a very able manner. The gist of what he said was that the students were to be congratulated on the superiority of most of the ideas expressed. The sentiments to which they had given utterance were such that he could not but feel a certain amount of pride in listening to them. But as an oratorical performance, the speechifying had been marked by numerous defects. Few of them knew how to stand, what to do with their hands, how to use their voices, and their gestures in a great many cases had no connection whatever with the ideas to which they were giving utterance. For instance some of them when making quite a commonplace remark would suddenly stamp the floor with one foot, making a great noise to no purpose and calling the attention of the audience to his foot. Some students wandered all around the platform in a most odd fashion when speaking. Most of them began their speeches in too high a tone and subsequently found that they were gradually getting exhausted. The essence of good oratory consisted in making every bodily organ brought into use serve as a medium for expressing thought. Thought is not only expressed by the actual words uttered, but by the tones in which they are uttered, by the play of the features of the speaker and by his various gestures. A speaker ought to show that the ideas to which he is giving utterance are permeating his whole being. Gesture, voice, attitude, manner, ought all to be the offspring of thought. In regard to the language used Mr. Nozoe said that numerous slips in grammar caught his ear. *Ga* was used where *wo* was required and so on. His experience as a barrister went to show that a great many speakers were very careless as to grammar This was a defect they must endeavour to remedy. Mr. Nozoe concluded by saying that on the whole the exercise had proved a great success and he hoped that the movement would be followed up and that the school would make a good training place for public speakers.

LAW CASES.

TAM YAU KIT v. THE PHŒNIX ASSURANCE CO.

The hearing of this case, instituted by a Chinese tailor named Tam Yau Kit, but who also trades under the name of "Cock Eye," against the Phœnix Assurance Company, whose agents are Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe and Company, Yokohama, which was adjourned on Feb. 9th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on Friday. Mr. Fujiwara was present for plaintiff and Mr. Hiraoka for defendant.

A Chinese employee, Kow Shing Cha, of Messrs. Otto Reimers and Company, Yokohama, was called as a witness and examined. He stated that he knew as a fact that plaintiff obtained a fire insurance policy from defendants and that a fire which broke out on the premises insured destroyed the whole building, the furniture and the merchandise. He remembered that the two policies were made out in the name of "Cock Eye,"—though the man's name was Tam Yau Kit when he started business. Two or three days after the fire, plaintiff asked witness to make out two claim notes to recover the insurance money from defendant. The notes being forms which plain-

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tiff obtained from the insurance offices witness filled them up as directed.

Cross-examined.—He remembered that the insurance amounted to *yen* 20,000 in two policies (one policy being for *yen* 12,000 by the Phœnix Assurance Company, and the other *yen* 8,000 by the Manchester Assurance Company.)

Plaintiff stated that the Yokohama agents of the insurance company had paid *yen* 4,000 of the *yen* 12,000 but the remainder was left over on a promise that it would be paid later. It had, however, never been paid. The Plaintiff did conduct his business under the name of "Cock Eye," as just stated by the previous witness, and the fact must be recognized by defendants.

Defendants' Counsel refused to recognize the witness. The insurance policy was made out in the name of "Cock Eye" while this case was instituted by Tam Yau Kit.

The case was then adjourned till March 27th.

TAM YAU KIT v. THE MANCHESTER ASSURANCE COMPANY.

This case, instituted by the same Chinese tailor, Tam Yau Kit, who conducts his business under the name of "Cock Eye," was a claim for *yen* 2,000 against the Manchester Assurance Company, whose Yokohama agents are Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe and Company. It came up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano, on March 20th. Counsel for plaintiff was Mr. Fujiwara, and for defendant Mr. Hiraoka appeared as in the preceeding case.

Plaintiff stated that the fire insurance policy covered the furniture and merchandise on the premises at No. 81, Yamashita-cho, to the value of *yen* 8,000 and was made with defendants in November, 1901. The premises took fire on July 12th 1902, the building being destroyed as well as the furniture and merchandise. Having given notice to the agents of the incident, plaintiff asked defendants for payment to recover the value of the policy and when defendants paid over a cheque of *yen* 6,000 to plaintiff they took away the policy and the claim note on the ground that the remainder would be paid later. Plaintiff was thus unable to produce in Court the policy as evidence of the insurance contract.

Defendants said that they made the contract with "Cock Eye," tailor, and not with Tam Yau Kit, and it had not yet been ascertained whether plaintiff was the man who was carrying on business under the house-name of "Cock Eye." The case was again adjourned till March 27th when judgement will be given.

SATO v. C. THWAITES.

The hearing of this case, in which *yen* 6,995.55 is claimed, was resumed on Friday afternoon in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano.

Yamasaki Wataro was called in to give an opinion upon the nature of the "illusions" of the Grand Magical Art Exhibition. He retired to another room adjoining the Court to put his opinion in writing, and had not finished when the hearing closed.

Plaintiff introduced an illustrated book on Magical Art Exhibitions which contained the 10 "illusions" which were to be performed at the Kinki-kan, Kanda, in Tokyo, on October 5th 1902, and gave explanations. Plaintiff further asked the Court to summon three jugglers as experts as they could give opinions as to the nature of the "illusions," and whether such magical exhibitions could be given in such a hall as the Kinki-kan. To this the court agreed.

The case was again adjourned till March 25th at 1 p.m.

CLAIM TO ENFORCE DELIVERY.

On Saturday morning, in the Yokohama District Court, judgment was given in the action brought by Mr. Tabei against Messrs. Sale & Co., No. 167, Yamashita-cho. The plaintiff's claim was dismissed with costs. In this case the plaintiff claimed *yen* 179.179 and the enforcement of the delivery of certain cases of flannel. The defendants refused delivery on the ground that the goods had not been paid for.

OKANO v. MENDELSON BROS.

An appeal has been entered against the judgment in this case, which was given on March 3rd in favour of the defendants. Mr. Okano Yasubei has appealed to the Court of Cassation, Tokyo.

J. HELM v. J. HIKIDA.

This case, adjourned on March 3rd, came up for re-hearing on the 24th in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato.

Mr. Arthur R. Weigall was summoned as a witness. He deponed that under instructions from Mr. J. Johnstone No. 7, Yamashita-cho to inspect a gold mine, he left Yokohama on March 14th, 1902, for a mine the name of which he did not know. Next day, the 15th, accompanied by his assistant, he arrived at the Komatsu station by train. On the 16th being accompanied by three Japanese, he went to a mine nearly two miles from the Komatsu station where he took samples of minerals. He did not know whether the mine was called the Maruho gold mine but he remembered that it was called "Maro," or something like that name. On the 17th, it was raining and he was unable to do any outside work. On the 18th he went to a copper mine which he wished to investigate on his own account, and he left the same station for Yokohama on the 19th. Before his departure from Yokohama, he received an introductory letter written in Japanese from Mr. Helm through Mr. Johnstone, with the information that the Japanese to whom the letter was addressed would meet him at the station of the end of his journey. On arrival at the Komatsu station two Japanese were waiting for him at a tea house in front of the station and one of them received the letter brought by witness. These and one other accompanied him to the mine. He did not know their names. After he had taken some mineral samples at the gold mine he sealed them up in separate bottles and took them with him. He analysed the minerals in Yokohama, and he found in general bad results, that one of the samples contained good signs of gold, while almost all of the remainder were very poor. He prepared an analytical certificate and handed it over to Mr. Johnstone. He received about *yen* 250 from Mr. Johnstone as travelling expenses but no wages were paid him. He belonged to the Nippon Mining Industry Company, of which Mr. Johnstone is a director.

Cross-examined—Mr. Helm had asked him to investigate the gold mine and to analyse the minerals which he found there, but he declined to comply with his request for the reason that he was in the service of the Nippon Mining Industry Company. It seemed that then Mr. Helm applied to Mr. Johnstone with the same request. He did not know what arrangement was made between Messrs. Helm and Johnstone.

Another witness, a Japanese named T. Ishii, who had been summoned from Ishikawa prefecture, was examined. He stated that he was a friend of S. Fujita who had joined Hikida in the mining business. As to the intention of S. Fujita to sell the mine, the witness helped him to find a purchaser. In June, 1901, S. Fujita intimated to him that Mr. J. Helm, in Yokohama, intended to purchase, and at the same time called upon him to come up to Komatsu where a foreign gentleman had arrived from Yokohama accompanied by T. Sato, civil engineer. The witness went to the mine with Mr. Helm and the Japanese. Having looked about the mine Mr. Helm immediately left for Yokohama making a promise to witness that the contract and further consultations would be arranged in Yokohama. Then at the request of Mr. Helm, the witness, and other Japanese who were interested in the mining business went to the law office of Mr. Masujima, barrister, in Tokyo, where it was said by Mr. Helm that the contract was to be made, under the advice of the lawyer. It was put off for a week, however, on the ground that the lawyer must examine various laws regarding the rights of possession vested in a foreign subject. After the lapse of one week, when the men concerned saw the lawyer at his office, he advised Mr. Helm not to purchase the mine—it seemed that previously a consultation had been held between the lawyer and Mr. Helm. Mr. Helm told the Japanese that he declined to purchase the mine but he made a promise to invest money for further trial mining, and *yen* 500 was paid by Mr. Helm for the purpose. Afterward some quantities of refined gold were sent to Mr. Helm. The witness, on behalf of Fujita and Hikida, saw Mr. Helm at Yokohama for the purpose of borrowing *yen* 3,000 under the guarantee of Mr. Hikida, and Mr. Helm promised to supply an engine, boiler and other necessary appliances which the witness understood, were valued at *yen* 1,782.

Cross examined—Fujita, the mine owner, borrowed *yen* 3,500 from Hikida, and could not pay back the loan unless the mine was sold. In trying to borrow money from Mr. Helm, the mine was offered as security and the loan was guaranteed by Hikida. The contract was legally registered in the Court and the witness appended his signature on behalf of Fujita and Hikida under a proper power of attorney. Three copies were made from the original and one was kept by Mr. Helm, one by Hikida and another by witness.

The case was then adjourned *sine die*.

JOVANSEN v. CLUB HOTEL.

This case, which was adjourned on December 13th, 1902, came up again for hearing in the Yokohama District Court on March 24th before Judge Kato.

Mr. Ideura was present for plaintiff and Mr. Sawada for defendants.

Before entering upon the hearing, defendants asked the Court to summon Capt. Weston, No. 42 and Mr. H. J. Neville, No. 57, and a Japanese grocer named M. Kuraba, Yokohama, as witnesses. He explained as the reason that the two foreign gentlemen knew the facts; that the plaintiff, when manager of the Club Hotel was not a good worker and was not satisfactory to the guests and that the relations between him and his wife were always bad. The grocer would give evidence on the fact that the plaintiff often received illegal commissions from him after having purchased provisions.

The court agreed to summon the three witnesses.

The case was again adjourned till March 17th at 10 a.m.

SATO v. C. THWAITES.

This case, adjourned on March 20th, came up again for hearing in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on March 25th.

Three Japanese jugglers Watanabe, Asahito and Ishii (nicknamed Ichiryu, Manmaru and Hosuko, respectively) were called to give opinions upon the nature of the "illusion" of the Grand Magical Art Exhibition.

The Judge requested them to put their opinions in writing separately, when Asahito, one of the experts, stated that it was very difficult to express the nature of the illusions in writing or in speaking, but it would be better to explain them in a practical way before the Court.

The Judge then requested the witness to give their opinions orally. Their statements were, in general, an opinion that the extension of the stage and its situation in the Kinki-kan Hall were suitable and would allow of the exhibition of the illusions. There were various kinds of such illusions in Japan and foreign countries but their nature was almost similar. It was well understood that no larger space than the stage of the Kinki-kwan Hall was needed for their production.

Counsel for defendant then stated that his client did not make a contract to guarantee the ability of Mr. Davis as an actor, the contract only provided for the supply of apparatus and the necessary fittings of the "illusions" for a certain number of days and for the hiring of plaintiff.

Counsel for plaintiff asked the Court to summon Mr. Ishii Black, the well-known story-teller, who understood the arrangements that were made between the parties. The Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till April 2nd at 1 p.m.

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CUSTOMS APPEALS.

Appellant:—J. Schoeninger, Representative of Gysin and Schoeninger, No. 93 Yamashita-cho, Yokohama.

The statement of the appellant showed that he applied for a permit to import through the Yokohama Customs, certain essence of perfumery brought by the steamer *Annam* from France on October 30th, 1902, and expected that the import duly would be paid under No. 39 of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and France. But the Customs imposed duty at 10 per cent. *ad valorem* under No. 136 of the General Statutory Tariff, holding the essence to be a kind of drug. No. 136 provided only for drugs, chemicals and medicines, and not for such perfumeries as essential oils. The application of No. 136 by the Customs was therefore illegal.

The statement of the Director of the Yokohama Customs says that on examining the sample of the essence of perfumery it appeared that it could not be used as a toilet accessory unless mixed with some other material. No. 39 of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and France applied only to the essence or extract of a liquid, vinegar, water or alcohol to be used for toilet essential oil or other liquid of the same nature, the word "toilet" being used to modify the words "essential oil and others." To an essence or extract which could not used as a toilet accessory the provision was not applicable. The essence imported by the appellant was only an original material for the toilet, but could not be used for the toilet at once without being mixed with other materials. It was a kind of drug and therefore No. 39 could not be appliéd, and the duty 10 must be per cent *ed valorem* under No. 136 of the General Statutory Tariff.

Examined.—No. 39 of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and France can be applied only to such goods as are used for the toilet at once without mixing with any other material and does not apply to the essence in dispute which can not be used for the toilet unless some other material is mixed with it.

Judgement.—The claim of the appellant was dismissed.

Tokyo March 23rd, 1903.

Appellant:—Ogita Nobujiro, Representative of the Kobe Branch of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Kobe.

The statement of appellant showed that for castor oil in baskets brought by the steamer *Aikawa Maru* from China on October 28th, 1902, import duty should be imposed under No. 275 of the General Statutory Tariff but the Kobe Customs charged import duty of *yen* 1.06 per 100 *kin* (1 *kin*=1.33277 lbs.) by specific rate. Not being satisfied a protest was presented to the Customs on Oct. 30th, 1902, but it was rejected on Nov. 13th. The goods were contained in baskets lined with oil paper and not in jars, consequently 10 per cent *ad valorem* should be imposed under the same provision. The statement of the Director of the Kobe Customs showed that the goods were contained in bark baskets lined with oil paper, which were really large jars, and the specific rate must be at *yen* 1.06 per 100 *kin*.

Examined.—On examining the statements and the sample it appears that the word "jar" is not applicable only to jars of earthernware, but to any vessel made of any material. No. 275 provided only for jars the nature of whose material was not specified. The vessel which contained the castor oil in dispute belongs to the jar category in form and it was proper for the Kobe Customs to charge the specific duty.

Judgement.—The claim of the appellant is dismissed.

Tokyo, March 23rd, 1903.

THE "AKI MARU."

The *Aki Maru*, the new vessel built at Nagasaki for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, is a mixed cargo, twin-screw steel steamer, having two masts, with a length between perpendiculars, of 445′ 0″; breadth moulded, 49′ 2″; depth moulded, 33′ 6″; load draft, 26′ 0″; gross tonnage, 6,444 tons; nett tonnage, 3,995 tons; dead weight capacity, 7,540 tons; cargo capacity (measurement), 7,338 tons; accommodations, 50 cabin passengers, 20 intermediate passengers, 172 steerage passengers. She carries a crew of 115 (inclusive of Captain). Her engines are tri-compound condensing; she has 4 cylindrical boilers, working up to an indicated horse-power of 5,320, with a maximum speed of 15.36 knots. This steamer was built in accordance with the Imperial Japanese Government's Shipbuilding Regulations for superior craft and registered at British Lloyd's 100, A-1, modelled on the modern principle, coupled with every convenience necessary for a first class ship. She is lighted throughout by electric light, and provided with refrigerating machinery as well as spacious ice chambers for preserving food during long voyages. The *Aki Maru* has mechanical ventilators for purifying the air; steam heaters for warming in winter, and electric fans for cooling in summer; in brief, is provided with every requisite necessary for the comfort and safety of passengers. She is also provided with a powerful winch, capable of raising and lowering with ease heavy cargo up to 30 tons.

The vessel arrived alongside the pier on Monday morning from Nagasaki, in charge of her popular commander, Captain Ekstrand, who is to take her across. During Monday a number of visitors were received on board the steamer by Captain Ekstrand and his officers, and one and all were loud in their praise of the beautiful and artistic fittings of the saloon and especially the ladies' saloon. The former, which extends across the width of the ship is panelled in white ash, with furniture to match, and looks particularly cool and comfortable. The ladies' saloon, or drawing room, is a most luxuriously furnished apartment. The walls are panelled in white enamel and gold, and cut velvet pictures of a high class from Kyoto, while the furniture, lounges and chairs, are upholstered in yellow satin. A piano and escritoire form part of the furniture of the room. Altogether the ship so far as can be seen reflects great credit on her builders, though what her sea-going qualities, and steaming capacity may be still remain to be proved. The *Aki* left on Tuesday for Seattle.

FUNERAL OF MRS. GEORGE.

It can be said that no division of society in Nagasaki went unrepresented at the funeral of Mrs. James George, who died on the 18th inst. at Ipponmatsu. The first part of the service was announced to take place in the Catholic Cathedral at 10 a.m., and the building at that hour was quite filled by a remarkable gathering. Mr. A. B. Glover, a brother of Mrs. George, was the chief mourner, and with him had come representatives, it may be asserted, of every European family in the port. Furthermore the Convent des Soeurs du Saint Enfant Jesus was largely represented. Governor and Mrs. Arakawa, a goodly number of officials from the Kencho, the City office, the various other Government departments, the Mitsu Bishi Co., and private ladies and gentlemen, were also present. The service in the Cathedral was in the highest degree impressive, conducted as it was by the Rev. F. Bonne, and with the choral assistance of the choir and organ. It was when the procession formed up for the long march to the cemetery at Urakami, however, that it could best be seen how general was the tribute of sorrow paid to Mrs. George's memory. The wreaths, which were magnificent, and of which there must have been about one hundred, came first. Next was borne the coffin, followed by a long line of ricshas bearing the mourners. Not everyone went out to the cemetery, but still the procession was so long that it stretched from Deshima along the Bund to Sagarimatsu. When the gates of the cemetery were reached the bearing of the coffin was undertaken by old friends of Mrs. George, who carried it to the graveside. The second part of the service was conducted by the Very Rev. M. A. Salmon, the Vicar-General, and there, happily, the rain which had fallen during the morning, ceased for a time. It is rarely, indeed, that a funeral calls forth so general a feeling of sorrow.—*Nagasaki Press.*

LADIES' HOSPITAL FUND.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Ladies Hospital Fund at the residence of Mrs. E. C. Bellowes on Thursday it was decided to engage as Matron and Head-nurse for the hospital Mrs. Davies, wife of Dr. Davies, whose appointment as resident physician in the hospital has already been reported. The Committee, we learn, had been very favourably impressed by the correspondence with Mrs. Davies, with which they were constantly kept *en rapport* by the President, as well as, later, by a personal acquaintance with Mrs. Davies and the high testimonials which an application to her references adduced. One of these was read at the meeting as follows:—

78, Wimpole Street,
Cavendish Square. W.

I have much pleasure in stating that Mrs. Davies, formerly Miss J. P. Boyd-Carpenter, has been well-known to me for some years, as having been a nurse and subsequently a "Sister" or Superintendent of a Ward in St. Thomas' Hospital, under my care.

Mrs. Davies has had long experience and is thoroughly acquainted with nursing in all its branches. She was a good and capable manager, and always maintained pleasant relations with the Medical Staff of the Hospital, as well as with the patients, who appreciated her kindness.

When I add that Mrs. Davies is a highly educated lady, and of the most estimable character, I feel justified in saying that there is no position in the profession of nursing, for which she would not be highly qualified.

J. F. Payne, M. D., F. R. C. P.,
Consulting Physician to
St. Thomas's Hospital, London,
Member of the General Medical Council.

Jan. 28th, 1903.

The salary attached to the post of Matron was stated to be *yen* 1,000 a year.

THE IMPERIAL TOUR.

His Majesty the Emperor has decided upon the following tour:—

April 7th.—Leave Tokyo by train. The night will be spent at the Nagoya Detached Palace.

April 8th.—Leave Nagoya station for the villa of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa at Maiko where the Emperor will stay till the 10th.

April 10th.—Proceed to Kobe to view the Naval manœuvres near Kobe, thence to Kyoto.

Her Majesty the Empress will proceed as follows:—

April 13th.—Leave Tokyo by train and spend the night at the Nagoya Detached Palace; thence to Kyoto where a stay will be made till April 20th. On the latter date the Empress will accompany the Emperor to Osaka to be present at the opening ceremony of the Exhibition.

April 21st.—Their Majesties will return to Kyoto.

May 2nd.—Their Majesties will leave Kyoto for Tokyo.

ACCIDENT TO THE "SAIKYO MARU."

The Shanghai mail steamer *Saikyo Maru* on the morning of March 23rd ran over a rock between Matsushima and Hikishima, about 19 miles from Nagasaki with the result that she sustained damage to her hull under the second hold. She arrived at Nagasaki, however, without further casualty and was at once docked. The passengers and cargo were transhiped to another steamer for conveyance to Shanghai.

A telegram to the *Asahi* states that the No. 2 hold was full of water. The damage to the hull will call for three new plates. The passengers for Shanghai were removed to a German steamer (? *Prinz Heinrich.*)

DEAN FARRAR.

Dean Farrar, better known to many perhaps as Canon Farrar, was a prominent Churchman and the author of the most popular "Life of Christ" in the English language. His loss will be deeply felt in England. A son of the Rev. C. P. Farrar, Rector of Sidcup, Kent, he was born in Bombay in 1831. We extract from *Men and Women of the Time* the following information as to his career:—

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He received his education at King William's College, in the Isle of Man, and at King's College, London. He became a classical exhibitioner of the University of London in 1850, graduated B.A. there and was appointed a University scholar in 1852. Mr. Farrar was successively a Scholar and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and in 1854 he took his Bachelor's degree in that University as fourth in the first class of the Classical Tripos, and a Junior Optime in Mathematics. He had already obtained the Chancellor's Prize for English Verse by his poem on "The Arctic Regions," and he subsequently gained the Le Bas Classical Prize, and became also Norrisian Prizeman. In 1854 he was ordained deacon by the Bishop of Salisbury, and in 1857 he was admitted into priest's orders by the Bishop of Ely. For many years he was one of the Assistant Masters at Harrow under Dr. Vaughan, and under his successor Dr. Butler; and he held, with great distinction, the Head-Mastership of Marlborough College from January 1871 till April 1876. Dr. Farrar was a select preacher before the University of Cambridge in 1868, and again in 1874—75, and often since, and he preached the Hulsean Lectures in 1870. He frequently was appointed to preach before the University of Oxford, and was Bampton Lecturer in 1885. He was an Honorary Chaplain to the Queen from 1869 to 1873, when he was nominated one of her Majesty's Chaplains in Ordinary. In April 1876 he was appointed to a canonry in Westminster Abbey and the rectory of St. Margaret's, vacant by the death of Canon Conway. He was appointed Archdeacon of Westminster, April 24, 1883; and three times was elected by the clergy of Westminister as their Rural Dean. In 1890 Archdeacon Farrar was offered by the Speaker, and accepted, the Chaplaincy of the House of Commons, rendered vacant by the death of the Rev. Hemy White. He was appointed Dean of Canterbury in 1895, and in the same year became Deputy Clerk of the Closet to the Queen. Dr. Farrar was the author of the following works of fiction: "Eric, or, Little by Little," 1858; "Julian Home," 1859; and "St. Winifred's, or the World of School," 1863; "Darkness and Dawn," 1885; "Gathering Clouds," 1891; "Allegories," 1898. His philological works are: "The Origin of Language," 1860; "Chapters on Language," 1865; Greek Grammar Rules," 6th edit., 1865; "Greek Syntax," 3rd edit., 1867; "Families of Speech," 1870; and "Language and Languages," being a revised edition of "Chapters on Language" and "Families of Speech," comprised in one volume, 1878. He also published "A Lecture (before the Royal Institution) on Public School Education," with notes 1867; and edited "Essays on a Liberal Education," 2nd edit., 1868. Both of these works contributed powerfully to enlarged ideas on the subject of Public School Education. His theological works are: "Seekers after God" (Sunday Library), 1869; "The Witness of History to Christ; being the Hulsean Lectures for 1870, 1871; "In the Days of thy youth," sermons preached in the Chapel of Marlborough College," 1877; "The Life of Christ," 2 vols., 1874, which reached its twelfth edition in a single year; "Life of St. Paul," 1879; and "The Early Days of Christianity," 2 vols., 1882; besides several volumes of sermons; and notably that bold work, "Eternal Hope," 1880, in which he combated the doctrine of eternal torture in hell. In his work on "The Bible: its Meaning and Supremacy," he brought to a head and helped to perpetuate a very necessary change of view on the subject of inspiration. All Dr. Farrar's works have passed through many editions, and many of them have been translated into French, German, Dutch, Russian, Swedish and Italian. Besides these works, Dr. Farrar was a contributor to the Speaker's Commentary (Book of Wisdom) and Bishop Ellicott's Commentary (Book of Judges); to the Cambridge Bible for Schools he contributed commentaries on St. Luke and the Epistle to the Hebrews, both in the Greek and in the English editions. To the "Expositor's Bible" he contributed commentaries on the First Book of Kings and the Book of Daniel. He also furnished articles to Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible," Kitto's "Biblical Cyclopædia," the "Encyclopædia Britannica," &c. In 1883 he was appointed Rural Dean by the late Bishop of London, and was re-relected by the clergy to the same office in 1885. Archdeacon Farrar was Honorary Chaplain of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Royal Fusiliers, and of the Church Lads' Brigade. In 1885 he was appointed Bampton Lecturer before the University of Oxford, and delivered a course (since published) on "The History of Interpretation." In 1885 he visited America, where he received a hearty welcome from all classes, and especially from the members of all religious denominations. He took a prominent part in temperance reform, in the Diocesan Council for the welfare of young men, in the Westminster Sanitary Aid Associations, in the Westminster Sunday School Association (of which he was the founder), in the formation of a seaside camp for London youths, in the support of brotherhoods, and in many other philanthropic works. As Dean of Canterbury he raised a large sum for the restoration of the Cathedral.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE "JAPAN EVANGELIST."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of Feb. 24th you call attention to a "flagrant case of plagiarism" on the part of the editor of the *Japan Evangelist* by using a selection from your "December Summary of Current Japanese Literature" without any credit, etc. Will you kindly publish, for the sake of our friends the following explanation.

The editor of the *Evangelist* was not a reader of your paper in December last and hence did not see the article mentioned. The article at issue was handed me in first proof or galley form by the editor of *Tidings*, which is printed in the same office as the *Evangelist*, with the explanation that this matter had been set up for *Tidings* by the printer but that it was longer than he could use in his paper and that we were welcome to it, and as it was valuable matter we were glad to get it. The proof had no mark other than the names of Japanese papers named at beginning of articles and we innocently used the matter. We much regret the seeming neglect to properly credit and trust this will explain.

Will you allow us in this connection to call your attention to the review of Dr. Greene's paper on the Study of the Japanese Language in the same column of the same number of your paper. This article originally appeared in the *Japan Evangelist* and was published later in pamphlet form by the Methodist Publishing House. This pamphlet is not credited to us in any way.

Yours respectfully,

Editor, "Japan Evangelist."

SATSUMACHO (YOKOHAMA) FIRE BRIGADE.

The following is the report for 1902 of the Satsumacho (Yokohama) Fire Brigade:—

Accounts.

During the year the Subscriptions from the Fire Offices amounted to *yen* 2,830, against *yen* 2,905 collected in 1901. Policy fees paid in to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank amounted to *yen* 4,553.98, against *yen* 3,894.50 for the previous year.

The outlays for the year (*yen* 7,856.42) show a considerable increase on the expenditure for 1901 (*yen* 5,527.34). This is accounted for by reason of the following:—

Three new Fire Wells have been made on the Bund.

A new Hose Reel Station has been erected on the Bluff opposite No. 1. Several exceptional expenditures have been incurred. Such as the thorough overhauling of the Engines and the purchase of new Suction Pipes.

From the Hon. Treasurer's record of fires, printed with this report, will be seen that some very heavy losses have been incurred by the Insurance Cos. Notably Messrs. Siber, Wolff & Co's. godown fire on Lot 183, which involved a total loss of some *yen* 990,000.

The Superintendent's Annual Report is given below.

A full supply of New Hose has been ordered and is now en route.

The Brigade has now 11 Fire Wells in the Settlement which are situated, one at the Fire Brigade Station, four on the Bund, and others near Lots Nos. 74, 81, 90 B., 95, 132 and 215, which supply water for the steam pumps at practically any point within the Settlement limits, besides the fire hydrants all over the Settlement at convenient intervals.

During the year the water supply to Yamatecho (Bluff Settlement) has been completed and hydrants are available at convenient distances along the main-roads.

Superintendent's Report.

Satsumacho Fire Brigade,
Yokohama, January 1st, 1903.

To the
Yokohama Fire Insurance Association
Committee,

Gentlemen:—I have the honour to present the following report of the work done by the Satsumacho Fire Brigade during the year 1902.

The number of calls for fires, or supposed fires, has amounted during the year to 20. Of those in the *Yamashitacho* 9 ended in total destruction and 5 were slight.

On Yamatecho.—1 was slight.

On Native Bluff.—1 total destruction with loss of 1 house.

In Native-Town.—4 ended in total destruction with loss of 266 houses and 1 was slight.

The causes as reported, were as follows, viz:—

Yamashita-cho.

Unknown	12
Coal-damp	1
Doubtful	1

Yamate-cho.

Unknown (Native Bluff)	1
Overheat of stove-pipe	1

Native-Town.

Unknown	4
Total	20

The figures preceding only refer to calls which involved the turning out of the Firemen, Fire Engines, Hose Reels, etc. belonging to the Satsuma-cho Fire Brigade.

I have the honour to be, Your obedient servant,

N. Morgin,
Supt. Satsuma-cho Fire Brigade.

Satsuma-cho Fire Brigade.
In account with the Hon. Treasurer.
Dr.

Dec. 31st, 1902.	Yen.	Yen.
To Wages Account for the year.		
To Supt. Morgin	1,560.00	
To European Engineer	1,200.00	
To European Foreman	480.00	
To Japanese Engineer	180.00	
To European Asst. Engineer 11 months	165.00	
To Japanese Foreman and Tower Watchmen	324.00	
To 3 Firemen	288.00	
To Japanese Patrol men 5 months	140.00	
To Bluff Station:—		
1 Foreman and 2 Firemen ...	300.00	
To Hose Reel Station No. 107		
1 Foreman and 2 Firemen ...	345.60	
		4,982.60
To Coal, Oil, Overhauling Engines & Sundry Expenses		354.03
To Clothing and Uniforms		96.00
To Printing Repor for 1901		10.00
To Rent of Telephones for year.		138.00
To Gasworks Account for year...		133.91
To Waterworks Account for year		57.99
To Cost of New Hose Reel Station and 2 Hose Reels		480.40
To New Suction Pipes for Engines imported		493.57
To Painting Bell Tower		58.12
To Cost of 3 new Fire wells and repairing old wells		1,051.80
To Balance carried forward to 1903		663.53
		8,519.95

Cr.

Jan. 1st, 1902.	
By Balance from 1901	987.27
Mar. 31st, 1902.	
By Subscriptions collected from Fire Offices for the year	2,830.00
Dec. 31st, 1902.	
By Policy Fees Paid in to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank during the year	4,553.98
By Interest on H. S. Bank current account for the year	36.70
By Sale of Old Hose and Hand Engine	112.00
	8,519.95

E. & O. E.

D. Marshall,
Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, 23rd February, 1903.

Audited, Examined with Vouchers and found correct.
Signed: E. Flint Kilby.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

ANOTHER GOVERNMENT LOSS.

London, March 20.

The election for the Rye Division of Sussex, the representation of which in the House of Commons was rendered vacant by the appointment of Colonel Arthur M. Brookfield (Conservative) as Consul at Monte Video, has resulted in the election of Dr. C. F. Hutchinson (Liberal) who had previously contested the seat unsuccessfully. Dr. Hutchinson polled 4,910 votes against 4,376 recorded for his opponent (Royal, Unionist).

In consequence of the striking victories of the Opposition at Woolwich and Rye a number of Liberals have notified their willing-

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ness to become candidates for Ministerialist strongholds.

Unionist papers admit that the result of the Rye election means discontent with the Government.

LABOUR QUESTIONS ON THE RAND.

London, March 21.

Messrs. Skinner and Noyes, the Commissioners of the Transvaal Mining Industry, whose object is to study the question of Chinese labour, have arrived in London and will sail on the 28th inst. for New York, whence they proceed to California to visit the mining centres there. They will then sail for Yokohama, and afterwards spend two months in Chinese ports and in the Malay Peninsula, notably in Singapore.

THE HOPES OF THE LIBERALS.

Speaking at Leeds, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman said that the Liberal policy of twelve years ago was not in any sense abandoned. It had only been put aside for the favourable opportunities which were now coming.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN ON SOUTH AFRICA.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain received an ovation in the city of London on the occasion of the presentation to him of an address by the Corporation at the Guildhall. He said that he returned more than ever convinced that the war could not have been prevented, but added that he looked forward confidently to the future and believed that the problem of South Africa was settled at last.

ENGLAND AND ITALY.

Great Britain has spontaneously assured Italy that the reports about her occupation of Bomba are baseless.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN IN THE CITY.

London, March 22.

Mr. Chamberlain, after the presentation of the address at the Guildhall, drove with the Lord Mayor of London to the Mansion House, where he lunched. Responding to the toast of his health, Mr. Chamberlain said he hoped that the tour would be repeated by his successors at the Colonial Office. The present was a critical period of the empire's history. The old idea of dominion by the central state must be replaced by the new conception of the Empire based on a community of interests.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Later.

On the French Senate discussing the estimates for public worship, the Premier enumerated the pastoral charges and letters insulting the Government, which had appeared, and declared that the Government would denounce the Concordat if the clergy continued to interfere in politics.

IRISH POLITICS.

In the election for the North Fermanagh division, Mr. Mitchell, Independent Conservative, received 2,407 votes, defeating Mr. Craig, the official Conservative candidate, who received 2,255 votes. The new member replaces a Conservative, Mr. Archdale.

CASTRO'S RESIGNATION DECLINED.

London, March 23.

President Castro, of Venezuela, has resigned, but Congress has unanimously refused to accept the resignation.

LABOUR QUESTION ON THE RAND.

The Radicals are raising a strong agitation against the proposed measures for recruiting natives for the Rand mines. They insist that these measures are merely a form of slavery. Mr. Chamberlain has indignantly repelled this idea.

RIOTING AT BUDA-PEST.

There have been serious student riots at Buda Pest on the anniversary of the death of Kossuth. The police were attacked with missiles and numbers of people were injured.

URUGUAY.

London, March 24.

The revolution in Uruguay, reported in the cablegram of the 19th March, has ended bloodlessly and a declaration of peace has been signed.

VENEZUELA.

President Castro has refused to reconsider his resignation. It is stated at Washington that Castro resigned by arrangement to enable Venezuela to present a solid front to the Powers. It is understood that his brother becomes President. Castro will be re-elected at the next election.

The United States will not countenance any arrangement already made being upset by any change of Government at Caracas.

THE MINING TROUBLES IN AMERICA.

Later.

The Commission appointed by President Roosevelt last October to investigate the causes of the disastrous Pennsylvania coal-strike have decided in favour of the men on practically all points and awards increases of wages, and other concessions.

Although the men claim the victory, details of the report presented by the Roosevelt Commission show that the award is largely a compromise. The men's demands are partially granted, but trades' union terrorism is severely condemned. The latter is described as worse than war and should be prohibited in the future.

SERIOUS RIOTING IN TRINIDAD.

London, March 25.

There has been serious rioting in Trinidad (the most southerly of the West India islands) in connection with an obnoxious water-bill. The crowd first stoned and then ignited the Government buildings (at Port of Spain) which were gutted. The Governor (Sir C. A. Malony, K.C.M.G.) and Council were escorted through the mob from the burning buildings, after the police had fired upon the people and cleared a way. Several persons were killed and wounded.

H.M.S. *Pallas* and the T.B.D. *Rocket* have landed bluejackets to restore order. The mob is still excited and dangerous.

(Note—The population of Trinidad is mostly of mixed African and European blood, the oldest European elements being French, Spanish, and Corsican, while in Port of Spain there are many Venezuelans and Portuguese. Some very extensive harbour works, waterworks and sewage operations are in course of development at the present time.—ED. *J. M.*)

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Chamberlain has declined the proferred great demonstration in his honour, being undesirous that any political capital should be made out of his recent tour.

GRAVE CHARGES AGAINST SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

Sir Hector Macdonald has been ordered to return to Colombo to answer very grave charges made against him. The Governor has authorised the convening of a court-martial as the offences are deemed outside the scope of the criminal law of the colony.

THE TRINIDAD RIOTS.

London, March 26.

Fourteen persons were killed and forty wounded at Trinidad; there are no Europeans in these lists.

WIDESPREAD SEISMIC ACTIVITY.

Reports from various parts show that there has been widespread seismic agitation. La Souffriere and Mont Pelee have again been devastating parts of St. Vincent and Martinique. Violent shocks of earthquake were felt at Karlsruhe, in Saxony, on Sunday, while Vesuvius is increasingly active. Shocks were yesterday felt in Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and at some places chimneys and ceilings fell. The people rushed into the streets, but there was no serious damage.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

It is officially stated that Sir Hector Macdonald shot himself on the 25th inst. in an hotel in Paris.

PRESIDENT CASTRO.

President Castro has withdrawn his resignation.

THE NEW IRISH LAND BILL.

Mr. George Wyndham, the Secretary for Ireland, before a crowded house, introduced the Irish land bill to the Commons. It provides for granting the tenants cash advances to purchase their own holdings; £100,000,000 may be required to be raised by the creation of a new guaranteed 2¾ per cent stock, unredeemable for 30 years; in addition to which there would be a full grant of 12 millions.

Mr. John Redmond cordially welcomed the tone and temper of Mr. Wyndham's scheme.

The bill was then read a first time.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE CONGREGATIONS.

Saigon, March 20.

Speaking in the Chamber of Deputies, M. Combes, President of the Council, maintained the right of the State to interdict the teaching of Congregations opposed to public law. If Congregations having headquarters in France and schools abroad made special demands upon the State, the Government would be pleased to examine them.

M. Combes pressed for a vote of confidence, and the Chamber, in conformity with M. Combes' demands, refused to pass to the discussion of the articles of the project of law by 300 votes to 257. It also voted that the Minister's speech should be printed and circulated throughout the Republic.

The declaration of M. Combes' regarding votes to schools abroad has determined the vote of the group presided over by M. Etienne in favour of the Government.

FRANCE AND THE CONCORDAT.

Saigon, March 23.

The Senate has voted the budget of religions. It has decided upon the affichage of the speech of the President of the Council, declaring that he would maintain the concordat but on condition that the clergy would avoid mixing in politics.

PRESIDENT CASTRO.

From Caracas—President Castro has resigned.

THE FRENCH BUDGETS.

Saigon, March 25.

The Senate has adopted the Budgets of the Interior, of Finance, of Foreign Affairs, and of War, with some reductions proposed by the Budget Commission.

The Senate by a vote of 182 to 82 rejected the amendment of Mr. Clemenceau which had for object the suppression of the embassy at St. Siege.

THE CONGREGATIONS.

Saigon, March 26.

The Chamber of Deputies by a vote of

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304 against 246 has refused to pass to the discussion of the articles of the project concerning the demands for the authorization of the preaching Congregations.

The Prime Minister affirmed that these Congregations conducted a campaign against the Government, and that preaching ought to be confined to the clergy of the Concordat.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

London, March 20.

The citizens of London gave a very successful cosmopolitan dinner to-day in honour of Mr. Chamberlain, at which Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, was present.

NEW STEAMER LINES.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company has purchased the steamers of the Beaver Steamship Company, to open a regular service between London and Montreal.

REVOLUTION IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The revolutionists in Honduras have besieged the troops of the President, Telencio Sierra, and are about to advance upon the capital, Tegucigalpa. The President has executed two officers under his command for not having obeyed his orders.

PRESIDENT CASTRO.

London, March 23.

The Venezuelan Congress has refused to accept the resignation of President Castro, but it is still left an open question whether he will really resign. Information as to the resignation, is said to have surprised the United States Government, which insists on the carrying out of the protocol no matter who may be president,

WARSHIP CAPTURED.

The British cruiser *Pallas* has captured the Venezuelan war vessel *Restaurador* on the ground that the latter was a pirate.

URUGUAY.

Peace has been restored in the Uruguayan Republic.

RUSSIAN REFORMS.

The Russian Reform proposals have been received with disappointment by the middle classes. They are anxious lest the reforms should injure the interests of the agricultural community.

DEATH OF DEAN FARRAR.

The very Rev. Frederic William Farrar, D.D., F.R.S., Dean of Canterbury, is dead.

ROYAL VISIT TO PORTUGAL.

London, March 24.

His Majesty King Edward is to pay a visit to Lisbon, Portugal, where the people and Court are preparing to welcome him.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION.

La Soufriere in the West Indies has been in severe eruption. The damage to cultivated land on St. Vincent is irretrievable.

CONSOLS.

British Consols have fallen to £90 1/16.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

SOMALILAND.

London, March 23.

Throughout the country posts have been established to prevent communication by different bodies of the rebels. The government troops are in some distress in consequence of the unhealthy weather. A telegraphic line has been established between Obbia and Berbera.

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, March 24.

The protocol relating to the affairs of Venezuela, which is to be introduced as a basis of the submission to the Tribunal of The Hague, has been signed at Washington. President Castro's resignation was refused unanimously by the members of Congress.

THE GERMAN DIET.

The German Diet will be convoked, for a short session, after the Easter holidays.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY AND ITALY.

Austria-Hungary and Italy are satisfied with the political speech delivered by Count von Bülow.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

London, March 24.

The First Lord of the Admiralty said in Parliament, in the discussion of the estimates for the Navy, that the British Government intends to posses such naval power as will enable it to confront a union of any two Powers. Further, he stated that he certainly could not reply to an enquiry as to whether the Government had been in consultation with other Powers with the object of reducing armaments.

POLITICAL OFFENDERS.

The Governor of Cape Colony has consented to release political offenders. Yesterday many were discharged and the remainder will shortly be released.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian 1	F. Mar. 27
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru 2	F. Mar. 27
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen 3	Sa. Mar. 28
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia 4	M. Mar. 30
Europe	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	W. April 1
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Lyra 5	W. April 2
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	China 6	Th. April 2
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 7	Tu. April 7
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China	Th. April 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	F. April 10
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Su. April 12
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	W. April 15
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 16
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. April 20

1 Left Kobe on the 26th inst.
2 Left Seattle on the 10th inst
3 Left Nagasaki on the 26th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst
5 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
6 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst
7 Left San Francisco on the 19th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria	F. Mar. 27
Europe	M. M. Co.	Sydney	Sa. Mar. 28
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	Sa. Mar. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. Mar. 28
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Tu Mar. 31
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Th. April 2
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen	Sa. April 4
Europe	N. Y. K.	Inaba Maru	Sa. April 4
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. April 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu. April 7
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. April 8
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. April 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. April 11
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. April 11
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	M. April 13
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 16
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. April 17

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 20th March,—Kobe, 18th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 20th March,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hansa (20 guns), German cruiser, Capt. van Semmern, 20th March,—Kobe, 19th March.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 20th March,—Shanghai via ports, 14th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Diamante, Japanese steamer, 1,254, F. E. Cope, 21st March,—Hongkong via Kobe, 19th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koenigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Mayer, 21st March,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 13th March, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Pundit, British steamer 3,832, W. J. Crebbin, 21st March,—Rangoon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 21st March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 3rd March, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 21st March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 21st March,—Yokkaichi, 20th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Blanc, 22nd March,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 21st March, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, J. W. Ekstrand, 22nd March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 21st March, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glaucus, British steamer, 3,591, John Barr, 23rd March,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 21st March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 23rd March,—Yokkaichi, 22nd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 24th March,—Kobe, 22nd March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibbals, 25th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 25th March,—Yokkaichi, 24th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,568, T. Sakai, 25th March,—Otaru via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, W. Bainbridge, 24th March,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,872, J. Campbell, 25th March,—London via ports, and Kobe, 24th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 26th March,—Kobe, 24th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 26th March,—Hongkong via ports, and 25th March, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 26th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 25th March, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Java, British steamer, 3,733, G. W. Gordon, 26th March,—London via ports, and Kobe, 25th March, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Glenturret, British steamer, 3,086, R. Webster, 20th March,—Rangoon via Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 20th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and Cenеral.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 20th March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 20th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 20th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 20th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Heinrich,, German steamer, 3,902, R. Heintze, 21st March,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kamakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,796, H. Petersen, 21st March,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

On Sang, British steamer, 1,787, J. T. Davies, 21st March,—Kobe, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, A. Yamashita, 22nd March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indramayo, British steamer, 3,370, W. H. Price, 23rd March,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 23rd March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Huron, British steamer, 1,989, W. Walsh, 23rd March,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Spithead, British steamer, 2,993, Steward, 23rd Mar.,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tamuke, 23rd March,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 23rd March,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 23rdd March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 23rd March,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 23rd March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 24th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3995, J. W. Ekstrand, 24th March,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Koenigsberg, German steamer, 3,135, Mayer, 26th March,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Cheltenham, British steamer, 2,415, H. Brophy, 26th March,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 26th March,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Thyra, British steamer, 2,244, A. Bainbridge, 26th March,—Muroran, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Repton, British steamer, 1,852, W. R. Peacock, 26th March,—Moji, Ballast.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 26th March,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 26th March,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 26th March,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Forster, Mr. W. Franzen, Mr. E. Ruse, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. George Dean, Mr. Stafford, and Mr. G. H. Forest, in cabin; 6 Japanese, in second class; 15 Japanese, and 22 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. D. L. Smith and wife, Mr. T. Baba Rt. Rev. Xav. Gineliaski, Mr. Geo. Lynch and wife, Mrs. H. Ross, Mrs. D. T. Murray, Mr. T. Kano, Mr. J. Tornoe. Miss E. W. Peters, Mr. Jules Wahl and wife, Mr. F. Thomas and wife, Miss L. Lamb, and Mr. E. Ginsbourge, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. B. Thomas, Mr. L. Ahrends, Mr. J. P. McCoy, Mr. B. Packhammer, Mr. Hugo Suter, and Mr. T. A. P. May, in cabin. For Manila:—Mrs. E. E. Elser and daughter, Mr. P. D. Fountain, Mr. C. H. Smith, Mr. A. Schwartz, Mr. P. S. Black, Mrs. J. R. Ryan and son, Mr. Frank Hill, Mr. G. B. Travis, Mr. F. S. Chapman, Mrs. A. J. Coffee, Mrs. K. M. Cooney, Mr. H. C. White, Mr. Chas. Squire, Mr. H. A. Macondray, Miss Leanore Coffee, Mr. W. C. Baker, Mr. L. F. Patstone, Mr. D. Foekmar, and Mrs. L. S. Hewitt, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. S. D. Eldredge, Hon. Arthur Hill, Mrs. Hill, Miss M. Grouty, Mr. C. F. Scott, Mr. H. D. Litt, Mrs. B. Hanchett, Mrs. H. Musgrave, Mrs. Ho Lee, Dr. G. A. Moore and wife, Dr. W. R. Cluness, Mr. E. M. Fowler, Miss K. Fowler, Mr. C. E. Benjamin, Mrs. S. Patton, Mr. S. W. Burtchall, Mrs. Burtchall, Miss M. A. Brewer, Mr. C. H. Smith and wife, Mrs. M. D. Marsh, in cabin; Mr. A. Krasanitsky, Mr. J. Potehoe, Mr. F. Kano, wife and 2 children, Mr. A. Shoetzoff, Mr. T. F. Kenny, Mrs. E. Nelson, Mr. Juan Ferre, Mr. F. J. Collins, Mr. E. D. Cameron, Mr. H. D. Gallagher, Mr. D. G. Munson, and Mr. Chow Gow, in European steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Aki Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Miss Ekstrand, Miss E. Ekstrand, Mr. K. Kass, Miss Rogers, Mr. G. Yasubayashi, Miss Twigg, Mrs. Christiansen, Mr. C. H. Thorn, and Mr. S. Kawate, in cabin; Mr. S. Uchiumi, Mr. S. Matsuura, and Mr. A. Summer, in intermediate; 6 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. Wong Ngo, Mr. Carl Arthur, Rev. A. Sawerby, Rev. and Mrs. A. A. M. Leod, Mr. H. Former, and Mr. W. C. Willox, in cabin; Miss L. A. Gaynor, and Miss C. B. Hook, in intermediate; 22 Japanese, and 20 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. Jessop and valet, Mrs. Jessop and maid, Mr. R. D. Dunlope and wife, Miss M. Wilkins, Mr. G. Horiuchi, Miss A. M. Donaldson, Mr. A. S. Hay, Miss M. Wakelee, Miss M. L. Johnson, Mrs. H. D. Blasland, Miss Rioche, Mr. A. Pennymick, Mr. D. H. Blake, and Mr. A. L. Rock, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Capt. C. H. Stockton, Rev. W. Harris and wife, Mr. J. B. Ingersoll, Miss E. Wright, Mr. E. G. Shields, Mr. E. W. Ladd, Mr. J. McLean Lachlan, Capt. F. E. Frazier, Mrs. A. Knoff, Mr. R. Reynolds, Mr. F. Lawenstein, Mr. Chun Kim, and Mrs. McMahan, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. E. Adams, Mrs. J. E. Adams and 3 children, Mr. Chas. A. Blackburn, Mr. Fred. J. Burnley, Mrs. H. P. Cochrane and child, Mr. G. G. Crespin, Mr. Geo. Eckley, Mrs. Eckley, Mr. Leo. Friede, Rt. Rev. John Gallagher, Mr. W. H. Gill, Mr. E. N. Hatrick, Mr. A. Hanshaw and valet, Mrs. A. Hanshaw and maid, Rt. Rev. Joseph Higgins, Dr. J. G. Humphrey, Capt. W. Johnson, Mr. E. R. Kellog, Mr. F. Kluss, Mrs. M. Levy and child, Miss H. McGaughey, Mr. J. C. Morris, Mrs. J. C. Morris, Com. J. A. Norris, U.S.N., Mrs. Eddison Parker, Lieut. W. E. Parker, Mrs. W. E. Parker, Mr. Henry A. Preston, Mr. D. Samson, Very Rev. Dean Slattery, Mr. Geo. G. Squire, and Mr. Geo. F. Southand, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. A. Livingston Bruce, Capt. D. Livingston Bruce and valet, Lieut. A. Livingston Bruce and valet, Miss B. M. Clutton, Mrs. J. D. Daintree and child, Mr. I. Z. Davis, Mr. Joseph Deschamp, Mr. S. Edward Fielding-Ould, Capt. Caston Hayward, Rev. D. S. Hibbert, Mrs. D. S. Hibbert, Mr. M. Kawabe, Mr. Chs. Kleensang, Mr. A. J. Lefroy, Com. L. MacHutchin, R.N., Mr. F. F. Paget, Mr. E. S. Pemberton, Mons. Sautarel, Mr. Chs. S. Schultz, Mr. Elliot Snow, U.S.N., Mr. A. G. Tower, Lieut. H. J. Twedie, R.N., and Mr. F. H. Whitehead, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. R. Beale, Mr. F. Haleux, Mr. Victor Heller, Mr. Jules Mulkay, Mr. R. Schwabacher, Dr. Siebert, Colonel Heron, Mrs. E. Finlay Johnson, Miss Eva Johnson, Master Cecil Johnson, Mr. J. R. Ruyserar, Mr. R. Becker, Mr. A. Seekamp, Mr. E. Weise, Mr. J. T. Weitzmann, Mr. A. Tortisch, and Mrs. W. Thompson, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kamakura Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. A. H. Dare, Miss E. R. Goode, Capt. Cox, Mr. T. Roberts, Mr. G. H. Alcock, Mr. G. H. Wilkin, Mr. J. D. Cornie, Mr. W. F. Davies, Mr. W. Carstairs, Mr. W. Thorburn, Lieut. Com. H. Tadokoro, Major T. Sudo, Lieut. Com. K. Oguri, Lieut. Com. S. Horiuchi, and Mrs. A. H. Dare and infant, in cabin; Mrs. S. Taniguchi, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Kaminishi, Mr. K. Kurosawa, Mr. Y. Wakamura, Mr. N. Ichishima, Mr. S. Nakamura, Mr. N. Nakai, Mr. H. Nagai, Mr. K. Kawana, Mr. H. Nichida, Mr. S. Akiyama, Mr. N. Hikida, and Mr. Carl Zaentz, in second class; 75 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. Ahrends, Mr. W. C. Baker, Mr. C. E. Benjamin, Mr. P. S. Black, Miss M. A. Brewer, Mr. S. W. Burtchall, Mrs. S. W. Burtchall, Mr. W. W. Campbell, Mr. F. S. Chapman, Dr. W. R. Cluness, Mrs. A. J. Coffee, Miss L. Coffee, Mrs. K. M. Cooney, Miss Cooney, Mrs. E. F. Elser, Miss Elser, Mr. D. Folkman, Mr. S. J. Fountain, Mr. E. M. Fowler, Miss K. Fowler, Mr. E. F. Gillette, Mrs. F. F. Gillette, Mr. G. P. Gradwell, Miss M. Gronty, Mrs. B. Hanchett, Mrs. L. S. Hewitt, Hon. Arthur Hill, Mrs. Arthur Hill, Mr. Frank Hill, Miss Helen Hyde, Mrs. Ho Lee, Mr. H. J. Litt, Mr. H. A. Macondray, Mrs. M. D. Marsh, Mr. J. P. McCoy, Dr. G. A. Moore, Mrs. G. A. Moore, Mrs. H. Musgrave, Mrs. G. Osborne, Mr. L. F. Patsbone, Mr. B. Pachhammer, Mrs. S. Patton, Mrs. J. R. Ryan and child, Mr. A. S. Schwartz, Mr. F. S. Scott, Mr. C. H Smith, Mrs. C. H. Smith, Mr. C. H. Smith, Mr. E. A. Spurgin, Mr. Chas. Squire, Mr. Hugh Suter, Mrs. B. Thomas, Mr. G. B. Travis, Dr. S. O. Vanderpool, Mrs. S. O. Vanderpool, Mr. H. C. White, Mr. R. E. Whitney, and Miss Whitney, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Aki Maru*, for Seattle, Wash.:—Rev. and Mrs. McLeod, Mr. Wong Ngo, Capt. H. Farmer, Mr. E. J. Webster, Rev. E. Sawerby, Mr. G. Aiba, Mr. C. Abber, Mr. W. C. Willcox, Mr. and Mrs. Landgrass, Miss Grace, Mr. Freidrichsen, Mr. M. Matsuda, Miss K. Ichikawa, Mr. J. Iijima, and Mr. Geo. W. Lewis, in cabin; Miss L. Gaynor, Miss E. Hook, Rev. A. Sommer, Mr. S. Matsumura, Mr. T. Takayama, Mr. S. Hirai, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Wheeler and 3 children, and Mr. G. Maki, in second class.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very little business passing and nothing to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y.	2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches		28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...		2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...		3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD.	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannels	Y.	0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.		0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine.—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches		0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches		0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches		0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches		0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb		0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches		9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches		0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches		1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches		2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.	
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y.	135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles		145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles		150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles		150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles		165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain		Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed		228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed		278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed		400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling		29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach		24.00 to 25.00
Chinese		24.50

METALS.

A moderate volume of business passes along.

	PER PICUL.	
Round and square ⅝ inch and upward	Y.	4.30 to 4.60
Iron Plates, assorted		4.60 to 4.80
Sheet Iron		4.80 to 7.10
Galvanised Iron sheets		10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted		6.00 to 6.60
Tin Plates, per box		7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No, 3		2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1¼ inch)		5.10 to 6.05

KEROSENE.

The market is unchanged.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

Nothing special to report in this market.

	PER PICUL.	
Brown Takao	Y.	5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila		5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong		5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton		6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang		7.20 to 8.00
White Refined		8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a moderate daily business in Raw Silk. Quotations are nominally unchanged but easy, and here and there a slight reduction of *yen* 5 could be obtained. Further supplies of spring reelings are expected next month.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y.	1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—Extra, Fine		—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse		1,050 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		1,020 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine		1,030 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Fine		1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse		—
Common—Coarse		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1½		1,010 to 1,020
Re-reels—No. 2		900 to 1,000
Re-reels—No. 3		—
Kakedas—Extra		1,000 to 1,005
Kakedas—No. 1		960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½		930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2		900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½		870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

The Waste Silk market is still in the same condition. There are small supplies of undesirable quality and business languishes accordingly. Quotations are nominally unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

No business.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, March 26.

London silver ⅛ higher, no change in sterling quotations from China and local rates unaltered.

London—Bank T.T.	2/03⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/03⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/03⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/03⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight	260½
— — 6 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	79*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	77½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	93¾*
— Private 10 days' sight	94¼*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight	49⅝ @ ¼
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ⅜
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
Bar Silver (London)	22⅞

* Nominal.

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, March 26.

Debentures, offers wanted of Brewery, Y. U. Club and Oriental Hotels. Oriental Ordinary and Preference, shares wanted. Nickels and Kirin Beers offering.

Stock.	No. of Shares.	Paid up.	Dividend.	At Working account in last accounts issued.	For term ending.	Closing Quotation.
			Yen.	Yen.	Year.	Yen.
1. Y'hama E. & Iron Works, Ltd.	2,600	50	5	7,857.58	½ 30.11.1902	108 S.
2. Japan Brewery Company, Ltd.	9,000	50	5	R've 85,000.00	½ 31.12.1902	110 N.
3. Grand Hotel, Limited	2,500	100	11	9,841.71	½ 31.12.1902	250 N.
4. Club Hotel, Limited	1,850	100	4	5,907.16	½ 30.9.1902	75 S.
5. Oriental Hotel, Limited :—						
do do Founders	80	12.50	37	R've 31,570.75	y'r 31.8.1902	450 Nominal
do do Ordinary	1,490	50	6	...	...	70 B.
do do Preference	750	50	8	...	...	Nominal
6. Nagasaki Hotel, Limited	1,300	100	...	1,423.16	½ 30.6.1902	35 S.
7. North & Rae, Limited	250	100	20	...	y'r 31.12.1902	240 B.
8. Brett & Co., Limited	2,800	10	7%	...	y'r 30.6.1902	8¼ S.
9. Langfeldt & Co., Limited	1,500	100	...	Dr. 21,705.87	½ 30.12.1902	30 B.
10. Y'hama Steam Laundry, Ltd.	700	50	...	Dr. 15,184.78	...	5 S.
11. Helm Bros., Limited	3,720	50	10%	3,076.06	y'r 31.12.1902	40 N.
12. C. Nickel & Co., Limited	5,000	25	...	first year	...	28½ S.

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Old fashioned beef teas and meet extracts, whether known as such, or disguised under more pretentious modern names contain none of the NUTRITIVE properties of beef. Baron Liebig himself admitted this fact; there is not a doctor to-day disputes it. Used as a nourishment Meat Extract is probably the most expensive article one canbuy. Bovril one of the cheapest.

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MILLIONS USE CUTICURA SOAP

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itchings, and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, and for all the purposes of the toilet, as well as by millions of women in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women and mothers.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH, 1903.

DEATH.

At Waterbury, Conn., U.S.A., on Feb. 28th, Mrs. RODERICK TERRY, mother of Prof. H. T. Terry, of Tokyo, aged 83.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE first samples of new season's tea reached Shidzuoka, on March 31st.

DURING the month of March, 266,000 tons of coal were exported from Moji.

PROFESSOR FURUICHI was appointed Director of the Imperial Railway Industry Bureau on March 31st.

A THIEF entered the Tax Administrative Bureau, Kanazawa, on March 29th and stole *yen* 28 from an iron safe.

BARON ROSEN, the new Russian Minister to Tokyo, is expected to arrive at Yokohama on April 10th.

IN accordance with the regulation imposing a tax on dogs, the Governor of Tokyo has issued warning to rural officials to collect statistics of the number of dogs within their jurisdiction on April 10th.

IT is stated that two banks distrained on the property of the Dzuzo Railway Company, on March 29th.

THE bankers in Tokyo have decided to close on April 10th, when the official opening of the Osaka Exhibition takes place.

THE postmaster of Uchitsu village, near Nagoya, named H. Maekawa, was arrested on March 30th on a charge of having opened a letter.

MARQUIS IKEDA on March 30th was promoted to the first rank of the junior class. His golden wedding was celebrated on April 2nd.

IT is reported that the steamer *Setsuyo Maru* (gross tonnage, 1,099 tons) is ashore off Okushisuki promontory, Sanuki province.

IT is stated that the cruiser *Yakumo* damaged her bottom, on April 1st, during the naval manœuvres. She will be repaired at Yokosuka.

IT is reported that the Crown Prince and Princess will proceed to Osaka via Ise, Nara and Kyoto and thence extend their tour to the island of Shikoku.

REAR-ADMIRAL Tanaka Tsunatsune, a member of the House of Peers, died on March 25th. The funeral service was to be held on March 27th at the Awoyama Cemetery.

IT is rumoured in Colombo that Sir Henry Blake, now of Hongkong, goes as Governor of Ceylon, for a few years, and not Lord Lamington as was supposed.

THE funds of Kanagawa prefecture which have heretofore been deposited with the Mitsui Bank, will be placed with the Dai-ni Bank after April 1st.

THE Hakodate Chamber of Commerce decided, on March 28th, to send commissioners to Russia and China to investigate trading conditions in those countries.

THE Yokohama Raw Silk Company has received a telegram from New York that there were only small demands for raw silk during the week ending March 28th.

THREE stowaways, K. Sagawa (34), K. Ushiro (26) and M. Masui (29) were found on March 28th on the steamer *Hongkong Maru*. They were placed under arres',

A SUSPECTED thief committed suicide with dynamite on March 28th in Tottori City. He threw one cartridge at a policeman who tried to arrest him but it failed in effect.

As the result of various administrative reforms, officials in the Department of Communications, numbering over six hundred in all, were discharged on March 30th and March 31st.

A WOMAN living at Shimomura, Toyama prefecture, was arrested on March 30th on a charge of having murdered her husband by administering poison. Illicit relations with a servant are alleged.

BANKERS throughout the country have decided to hold a meeting at Osaka on April 15th or 16th at which Marquis Ito, and Counts Matsukata, Inouye, and Okuma will be present.

MR. K. NISHIMURA, member of the House of Representatives for Nagasaki prefecture, who belongs to the Progressionists, died on March 30th at 5 p.m. It is said that Mr. Y. Shimadzu, who received the next highest number of votes in the last election, and who belongs to the *Seiyukai*, will take the vacant seat.

THE telephone can no longer be legally used by German physicians in dictating prescriptions to druggists, because of the chances of fatal misunderstandings. Only in urgent cases, to save life, can it be used.

A POLICEMAN named T. Sugiura of Yoneko police station, Tottori prefecture, was arrested on March 20th on a charge of having forged government documents and embezzled money belonging to the station.

IT is stated that visitors to the Osaka Exhibition numbered 723,377 from the opening to March 30th. When the visitors attending on the 31st are added a grand aggregation of over 750,000 is reached.

IN connection with a property dispute, a farmer named T. Awoki (36) living in Oiso, murdered his father, inflicting six horrible wounds with a hatchet, on the morning of April 1st. The man was at once arrested.

A MAN named S. Sugimura (32), ex-teacher of the Miye Normal School, committed suicide, on March 30th, by cutting his throat with a short sword. The deed was done at an hotel, the Enomoto-kan, in Tokyo. The cause is reported to be insanity.

ON the night of March 28th ten cars of a Tokaido goods train were derailed at a place between Nagoya and Kiyosu, and so injured the permanent way that traffic was interrupted until next morning. No fatal casualties are reported.

AT a sale of rare postage stamps in London on the 13th ult. among the more important lots were:—Hongkong: 1850, 10 cents on the 16 cents yellow, £2! Negri Sembilan, 4 cents with red and black surcharge (only 30 of this stamp printed), £6.5s.

A WRITER on the *Jitsugyo Shimbun*, Onomichi, was arrested on March 31st on a charge of having insulted government officials. At the same time four members on the staffs of two other papers were examined in connection with the same charge.

RECENTLY the Chinese Emperor granted decorations to officers and soldiers, numbering over two hundred, of the 5th Army Division, Yamaguchi Prefecture. These rewards are in respect of their work in patrolling the Imperial Palace during the late troubles.

MARQUIS and Marchioness Nabeshima presented on March 28th a set of blue porcelain censers and a musical clock to their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress in commemoration of their golden wedding, which took place on April 2nd.

MAJOR-GENERAL BRUCE HAMILTON, in testifying to the Royal Commission on the conduct of the late war, said he did not think that the British regulars were equal to the Boers or Colonials from the standpoint of individual intelligence, power of observation, and looking after themselves.

A CALCUTTA telegram, dated the 5th March says:—38,860 deaths from plague occurred in India last week—1,500 more than in the previous week. The principal increases have occurred in Bengal, the United Provinces, and the Punjab. Decreases are reported from Bombay and Hyderabad. The mortality is 7,000 a week higher than in the corresponding week of last year.

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Saturday, March 28.

However intangible the cooperation of the Progressists and the *Seiyu-kai* may have seemed at the outset, there is evidently a determination on the part of some leading politicians to make it a practical reality. Talk is now heard of machinery being organised for the purposes of regular conferences between committees of the two parties, and we are thus carried back to the days when a destructive policy was all the order of the hour in Japan, and when political leaders devoted their energies to planning how best all legislation might be rendered impossible. Of course under Marquis Ito's leadership the *Seiyu-kai* will never drift into a purely destructive policy, but certainly no problem presents greater difficulties to an ordinary mind than that of lending legislative assistance to a ministry whose overthrow is desired before everything else.

Lieut.-General Baron Kodama is in Tokyo, but his arrival has not justified the excitement that was caused by the news of his coming. He says that he has come merely to discuss the question of Formosan undertakings. These do not by any means present difficulties such as the public associates with them. The main problem is that of the railways, for whereas the main trunk line has been constructed through considerable sections at both ends, there is only 2½ million *yen* on hand to complete the central part, and that money being quite insufficient, the Governor-General wants more. He will of course visit Marquis Ito, but the visit will have for its purpose the discussion of the sugar problem in Formosa, which is not the kind of subject that the newsmongers looked to see debated.

Tuesday, March 31.

Tokyo newspapers are again busying themselves with tales about the political situation. The *Jimmin*, which has the reputation of being the *Seiyu-kai* organ, but which has never succeeded in winning a large share of public confidence, makes two statements, each, we venture to affirm, equally incredible. One is that Count Katsura has addressed himself direct to the Emperor with regard to Marquis Ito. The Premier is represented as having eulogised the great services of the Marquis and expressed profound regret that such a statesman, in the closing years of his life, should have allowed himself to be engulphed in the ranks of the corrupt coteries called political parties. In short, the *Jimmin* would have the public believe that Count Katsura has asked the Sovereign to save Marquis Ito from the consequences of his own indiscretions and to enable him to crown his fine record with a worthy completion. The other tale told by this *Seiyu-kai* organ is that the Cabinet is employing all its energies to produce a split between the immediate followers of Marquis Ito—the *Jikisan-ha*, as they are called, in allusion to old Tokugawa days—and the original Liberals of whom Count Itagaki and the Tosa politicians are the nucleus. It need scarcely be said that the *Jimmin* does not enter into the details of this pretty scheme, and our readers will probably agree with us in thinking that the kind of manœuvres persistently attributed by such journals to the Ministry reflect not at all upon the latter but must be interpreted as a true index of the crooked fancies that suggest themselves to the former. It is to us one of the most disheartening symptoms of Japan's political condition that the so-called party organs seldom, if ever, rise above the level of contemptible intrigues and mean slanders.

The *Asahi Shimbun* treats the same question but in a very different way. It depicts Marquis Ito as not by any means without confidence in the Cabinet, but as unable to reconcile himself to the latter's financial programme. The Marquis is willing that Naval increment should be undertaken, but he adheres to his original contention that the land tax must be reduced to its ordinary rate, and that the necessary funds must be obtained first from administrative reforms, and secondly from the proceeds of the increased taxes imposed in the sequel of the Chili campaign of 1900. These increased taxes aggregate, approximately, twenty million *yen*, and they were originally destined to replace the drafts made upon the Naval Maintenance Fund and the Famine Relief Fund on account of the campaign. It was under an Ito Cabinet that the taxes were imposed, and the Cabinet's purpose was to direct the proceeds to purposes of railway construction after the necessary payments had been effected on account of the two Funds. The *Asahi* says that Marquis Ito would be willing to see this revenue devoted to naval increment, but of course in that case it would be necessary to revert to the old *post-bellum* plan of floating bonds for purposes of railway construction, and that might be very difficult. The *Asahi* further denies that the Cabinet has any intention of not re-submitting to the Diet next session the bills which led to the dissolution of the last House. The Cabinet, our contemporary says, considers that to evade the questions which precipitated a political crisis would be unconstitutional. But it will not ask for the full amount of the increased land tax, namely, 3.3 per cent. on rural lands. The rate will be 3 per cent., and corresponding modifications will be made in the dimensions and period of the naval-increment programme.

The *Jiji Shimpo* does not indulge in any conjectures or recount any fables. It merely says that Marquis Ito was to have come to Tokyo on the 31st instant, but that after a long interview with Baron Kodama on the 29th, the Marquis accompanied the Baron to Tokyo that evening.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* makes Baron Kodama the text of a somewhat sensational article. It alleges that the Baron is not a hearty supporter of the Cabinet to which he belongs; that he did not endorse the dissolution of the Lower House; and that his last attempts at mediation tended to estrange him still further. Therefore he is not likely to undertake the same role again, and even if he does, Marquis Ito will be found as obdurate as ever.

It will be concluded by our readers that everything is in the clouds so far as the journalistic prophets are concerned.

The *Niroku Shimpo*, which often strikes a note that is ultimately found in tune with facts, alleges that there is a secret current in the political sea, that it is gathering volume and that it may seriously disturb the apparent calm. Briefly described, it is a current of discontent among members of the original Liberal Party who do not clearly see whither they are being led, nor find themselves any nearer to the seats of power than they used to be before the *Seiyu-kai* was formed. Very likely there is some discontent of that nature but that it is beginning to assume ungovernable dimensions we greatly question.

Wednesday, April 1.

Mr. Ooka Ikuzo denies emphatically that Baron Kodama's visit to Marquis Ito, or the return of the two statesmen together to Tokyo, has any political significance. He does not speak for the future, of course, but he alleges that up to the present there has been no talk whatever of the political situation. Mr. Ooka goes on to say that sentiment has nothing whatever to do with the disagreement between Marquis Ito and the Cabinet. The Marquis has declared in the most emphatic terms that the occupation of the seats of power or the influence of any personal feelings has not the smallest value. The whole problem turns on what seems to be for the country's benefit. Stated in the briefest terms, Marquis Ito is resolutely opposed to any increase of taxation for whatever purpose. It is quite erroneous to say, as rumour has recently said, that he would endorse the policy of increasing the customs duties and applying the proceeds to naval expansion. If there is to be naval expansion, it must be effected with funds obtained by economizing in other directions. The Cabinet, on its side, is equally free from sentimeutal considerations and equally desires to be guided by national interests only. It is therefore impossible to say what concessions may ultimately be made, since there are no personal feelings to block the path.

The *Jimmin* also has something to say upon the subject, but it is evidently talking into its own hat so we need not reproduce its conjectures and comments.

To-day the leaders of the Progressists and the *Seiyu-kai* meet in Tokyo to discuss the details of their concerted action. Their continued combination is one of the least expected features of the situation.

It is notable that the *Nippon* employs its powerful pen to create discontent in the ranks of the *Seiyukai* by representing Marquis Ito as a veritable despot and his political followers as little better than slaves. The Marquis, says this caustic journal, gave out originally that he intended to organize a model party and to be himself a model party-leader. But these promises still await fulfilment. What the public sees is a mob of politicians blindly following a dictator who does not even condescend to exponse to them his policy, but leads them with closed eyes into situations where, as on the occasion of the last dissolution, they are obliged to sacrifice reputation and fortune to a cause which they do not understand. The *Nippon* elaborates this theme at some length and in a manner that would be more convincing were it less virulent. Nevertheless it is probable that our contemporary's words will find an echo in the breasts of such of the *Seiyu-kai* politicians as are hungering for the sweets of office. There must be many such, and it certainly is a strong testimony to Marquis Ito's genius and to the influence he wields that he is able to hold a crowd of such heterogeneous elements and such unsatisfied desires within the harness of effective discipline. The great fault of political organizations hitherto in Japan, when regarded from an Occidental standpoint, has been want of discipline. The *Seiyu-kai*, even under Marquis Ito, have afforded some conspicuous indications of that failing, but on the other hand they have shown a degree of subordination which could not have been expected from the record of the Liberals.

Thursday, April 2.

The complications which made themselves apparent among the Tosa politicians early in last year, and which have continued ever

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since with occasional intervals of apparent calm, are now said to have culminated in the organization of an independent coterie which separates itself altogether from the *Seiyu-kai*. We have in vain sought to unravel the tangled skein of reasons and interactions responsible for these complications. It is an unfathonable maze, and even Japanese newspapers admit that the ins and outs of the affair lie beyond the perception of outsiders. Local questions and personal prejudices appear to be involved more largely than political problems. At all events the result alone has interest for the general public, namely, that a section of the Tosa politicians have broken away from the *Seiyu-kai* and formed a camp on their own account. We do not suppose that any large significance attaches to the event, or that when great parliamentary issues come up for decision, these Tosa secedèrs will be found voting against the *Seiyu-kai*.

Friday, April 3.

All kinds of rumours continue to circulate, and among them it is impossible to discriminate with any certainty. We should say that two classes of agitators are engaged in fabricating these stories. One set of newsmongers are anxious to prove that Marquis Ito has allowed himself to be moved from the situation so resolutely held by him during the last session of the Diet. The other set seek to create a belief that the Cabinet does not really contemplate any renewal of strong measures towards the House of Representatives; that various tinkering devices will be adopted to placate the House; that, these failing, the land-tax bill will be withdrawn altogether, and that the House, in turn, will carry the war into the Government's camp by passing a vote of want of confidence. Evidently the wish is father to the thought with the fabricators of these forcasts. Meanwhile some persistency is observable on the part of persons who allege that there is a strong movement tending to the disruption of the *Seiyu-kai* and to the re-constitution of the old Liberals. Some colour is given to the story by a statement that Messrs. Kataoka and Hayashi, prominent members of the *Seiyu-kai*, have sent in their resignations. But if they have done so, which is still very problematical, no one seems to be in a position to clearly explain the cause of the step. Nothing can be certainly affirmed except that it is connected with the Tosa complication, which has only local dimensions. It appears to us, therefore, that this talk of a split in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai* can not be seriously regarded. We judge, however, that there is some sentiment of dissatisfaction—genuine or deliberately fomented it is hard to say which—because Marquis Ito does not stand out more openly and declare himself more explicitly. We really do not, for our own part, see why he should stand out at all or why he should make any declarations. He is understood to adhere to his original views, and so long as that is the case, no new enunciation is necessary. But the fact is that in such a situation much tumult and confusion must be anticipated, and what onlookers have to do is to accept nothing on trust.

Among a number of awards by the Royal Humane Society for distinguished action in saving or attempting to save life, a silver medal has been presented to J. Shearme, fourth officer of the P. & O. *Malacca*, for a gallant action, off Woosung, on December 15th, shortly after midnight.

CHINA.

Saturday, March 28.

A telegram dated March 26th from Shanghai states that the foreign bankers in Tientsin have decided to open a credit of three million taels for the Chinese banks under the guarantee of Viceroy Yuan.

The rumour that Viceroy Chang Chi-tung will be appointed Minister of War seems to have attracted public attention in Peking. His arrival at the capital will arouse critical questions in Government circles. Viceroy Yung Lu has said that he will resign if Viceroy Chang Chi-tung is appointed Minister of War. The latter apparently does not relish the prospect of meeting trouble at Peking.

Monday, March 30.

There are evidences, so far as journalistic utterances are concerned, that public opinion in Japan is becoming excited about the course of events in Manchuria. On the 8th of April the second of the conventional periods of evacuation comes to an end, and by the 8th of October the process should be completed. But it is pointed out that even the measures essentially belonging to the first period have not been fully carried out; that Newchwang is still in Russian hands; that Russian administration is being extended in the matter of posts and telegraphs, and that the organizations evidently contemplated for guarding the lines of railway constitute a plain contradiction of anything like genuine evacuation. In view of these circumstances there is talk of resuscitating the National Union, which, under the presidency of Prince Konoye, used to concern itself so actively about Manchurian affairs, and, in the absence of other political issues, we should not be surprised to see this question dragged very vehemently into the arena. Of course it is quite plan that if matters are suffered to drift, Russia can never be moved out of Manchuria. She has anchored herself there in such a manner that every day adds to the tenacity of her hold, and by and by there will be no resource except to let the Muscovite ship ride quietly in its new haven or to cut the cables, the latter being an operation not pleasant to anticipate. But how is the situation to be mended, assuming that there is an effective desire to amend it? We should say that three things are necessary: first, a definite international agreement as to the superior limit of the forces employed by Russia in Manchuria as railway guards; secondly, the complete opening of the whole district to foreign commerce, or at least the opening of all its principal marts; and thirdly, the removal of all restrictions upon foreign travel and even residence. This is a drastic programme, and we are well aware that it clashes palpably with juridical expediencies; but the choice lies between two evils. We speak, of course, from the point of view of those that have vital interest in arresting the southward movement of the great northern avalanche. Considerations of civilization and human progress belong to a different category.

Japanese newspapers allege that at present rates of exchange China's total liabilities in respect of the Boxer indemnity and the Japanese-indemnity bonds have been augmented by 300 million taels in the aggregate. The calculation is supposed to have roused the Peking Government to a vivid sense of the dangers threatening it. There is nothing, so far as human foresight goes, to avert another *debacle* of silver, and the result might easily be that China would find the burden of her debts doubled. Those who used to take an interest in the problem of the standards doubtless remember with what insistence Mr. Moreton Frewen used to elaborate this very point. He did not, indeed, busy himself with many demonstrations of the hardships endured by debtor nations on account of the appreciation of gold. He addressed himself chiefly to the sufferings of individuals in silver-using countries, who found the weight of their debts steadily increasing through no fault of their own, and who were obliged to give, for the purpose of meeting these annual calls, twice as great an amount of labour and produce as had originally sufficed for the same purpose. If Mr. Frewen had been confronted by such a striking object-lesson as China's case, he would not have failed to utilize it for the purposes of his argument. China is reported to be seriously perplexed, as well she may be, and it is said that H.E. Mr. Na Tung, who comes to the Osaka Exhibition in the suite of Prince Tsai-chên, has been instruted to collect information about the adoption of the gold standard in Japan. Among the numerous offices held by Mr. Nâ, one, to which he was appointed in November, 1900, is that of Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue. It may be presumed therefore, that he takes a special interest in financial affairs. One of the incidents of China becoming involved in the scramble for gold, should that result be brought about, will be a keen revival of her old anxiety about the balance of trade, and a corresponding renewal of the anti-opium sentiment that inspired Peking and its Canton representative, Commissioner Lin, on the eve of the first Anglo-Chinese war.

Tuesday, March 31.

Different correspondents put very different interpretations on the aspect of the political situation in Peking. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent represents Chang Chi-tung as anxious to obtain a seat on the Grand Council of State, to which aspiration Yung Lu is said to be bitterly opposed; whereas other correspondents suggest that Chang has no desire whatever to hold office in Peking; that he would gladly abstain even from visiting the capital, were that possible, and that his wish is to return as soon as may be to his old post in the Yangtse Valley. We ourselves incline to the latter theory. A seat at the Grand Council board would mean virtual extinction for the ex-Viceroy. He was a very great man at Wuchang. The world heard of him constantly and his opportunities for carrying out reforms were extensive. But in Peking he would be nobody. He would be extinguished by his surroundings and his career would end in obscurity. Above all, his capacity for reforms would be effectually checked, for it can not be forgotten that his relations with Kang Yu-wei and his association with the programme of that rash radical have made him an object of permanent suspicion to the authorities in Peking, and that whatever side he espoused would suffer from the association. As one of the two great Yangtse Viceroys he had immense power, and he could always wield it, within wide limits, so as to promote ends which he deemed conducive to his country's good. He would have no such power in Peking, and if there be really a movement to have him appointed a member of the Grand Council, we should expect to find it fostered, not opposed, by his enemy, Yung

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Lu. Of course it is possible that since such a nomination would be in one sense an honour Yung Lu may object to it, his object being to procure Chang's retreat over a bridge by no means golden. But that is another question. The point is that a seat on the Grand Council is probably the last thing desired by Chang and they are not at all his genuine friends who endeavour to secure for him such a appointment.

Wednesday, April 1.

There have been various rumours about the Khakan of Mongolia coming to the Osaka Exhibition. At first it was reported that his visit would certainly take place. Then news arrived that the Peking Court had raised objections, and now it is confidently asserted that the potentate has actually reached Kyoto, travelling incognito. He left Peking on the 24th ultimo, arrived at Shimonoseki on the 28th, and proceeded direct to Kyoto. In his suite are the eldest and the third sons of Prince Su, and a son of His Excellency Na Tung. It is alleged that the Khakan will visit Tokyo, and make the acquaintance of some of Japan's leading statesmen, and further that the Minister President will make arrangements for his reception in audience by the Emperor, and for such honours being paid to him as seem worthy of the occasion.

The Chinese Government gets the credit or discredit of being exceptionally conservative, but it has just made a departure from any custom hitherto recognised by the world. It has bestowed two hundred Orders upon the officers of the Japanese force that occupied Peking in 1900. That is certainly a novelty. It has never previously been heard of in history that a Power should confer honorable rewards on troops by which its territory was invaded and its capital escaladed. However, there is in this case a partial explanation. The reason assigned is that the Japanese forces in Peking guarded the Imperial Palace with the utmost attention during the foreign occupation of the city. They assuredly deserve some applause in that respect, and China's recognition is not without warrant. But who could have expected anything of the kind?

Thursday, April 2.

The financial trouble in Tientsin continues to be acute. A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that on the 24th instant the Chihsien of Tientsin issued a notification announcing that all the cash notes in circulation would be redeemed with ready money from the 3rd of April, and directing the people to refrain from seeking cash at the banks and exchange shops in the interval of five days between the issue of the notification and the date fixed for redemption. The consequence is, of course, that the conduct of business has been materially checked, and only transactions of the pettiest nature are taking place.

Friday, April 3.

Our readers are probably aware that there is published by the Chinese in Yokohama, especially by Mr. Kin Keichau, a periodical called the *Seigi-ho* (Pure Discussion). Mr. Kin is a pupil of the celebrated Kang Yu-wei, and the tone of his periodical is distinctly inimical to the administration of the Empress-Dowager for whose sway he would fain see that of the Emperor substituted completely. No other kind of doctrine could be expected from a follower of the great radical. Now it appears, according to telegrams from China, that one of the first steps taken by ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung on his arrival in Peking, was to address a very strong memorial to the throne, denouncing the above publication, and also another called the *Shinmin-shu* (New People), as calculated to disturb the public peace, and urging that their circulation should be strictly interdicted in every part of China. Such an interdict had already been enforced in the districts over which Chang's jurisdiction extended when he filled the post of Viceroy, but his veto has not been duplicated elsewhere, as he thinks it ought to be. We have never previously heard of the *Shinmin-shu*, and we can not make any statement as to the spirit of its writings, but in this case it is probably safe to apply the rule of *ex uno disce omnes*. The ex-Viceroy's move will of course, be variously interpreted. At one time he let it be plainly seen that his sympathies were with Kang Yu-wei. That was before Kang's catastrophe, and many onlookers supposed that Chang would find himself involved in the latter. But though Chang's credit with the Throne may have been somewhat shaken, his position remained to all appearances unimpaired. Nevertheless his enemies in Peking—and he is said to have many—would in all probability have made this chapter of his career a text for impeaching him at Court, and we shall perhaps be justified in assuming that his memorial is a means of forestalling such accusations. Still, whatever influence the personal equation may have, this incident furnishes an indication of the state of the political atmosphere in Peking. The Chinese Government is, of course, strictly within its rights in forbidding the circulation of any kind of literature in its realm. If, however, the veto is enforced, it must prove fatal to the Yokohama periodicals. It is a pity that their editors have not learned the comparatively easy art of saying what they want to say without creating a political ferment or offending those in power.

KOREA.

Saturday, March 28.

On the 25th instant news reached Tokyo to the effect that Li Yong-ik's project for a central bank with note-issuing power had been rejected by the majority of his ministerial colleagues, and that the programme was in abeyance. It was added, however, that Li had not by any means lost heart, and that he was using all his influence to push the matter to a successful conclusion. Apparently he has proved stronger than his united opponents, for on the 26th a telegram was received in Tokyo saying that the project had obtained imperial sanction, and that the rules for establishing the Bank had actually been promulgated. According to these rules the capital is to be 3 million of *yen*, and the Bank is to commence operations as soon as a fifth of that sum is paid up. Further, the institution is to "manage the Customs' revenue;" a very important condition if it be true, for the control of that revenue has hitherto been in the hands of Mr. McLeavy Brown, and has been a main source of the great power he wields in the peninsular empire. It does, not follow, of course, that because the customs' revenues are paid into the new Bank Mr. Brown will cease to control them, but that may evidently be the object of the projectors of the Bank, inasmuch as the Imperial Household has often been embarrassed by the checks it experiences in its attempts to appropriate the Customs' income under the present system. The telegram adds that Japanese subjects will not be allowed to became shareholders; a veto which may be presumed to apply to all aliens. Of course this sudden change from a project "hung up" on one day, owing to Cabinet opposition, to the same project duly promulgated on the next under imperial authority, excites a good deal of surprise, but it must be confessed that students of Korea's administrative political history have to be prepared for surprises.

The Bank's regulations provide that its notes shall be exchangeable for gold at the central institution and its branches, but we can not find that any limits are imposed on the volume of notes issued, and well informed people appear to be altogether sceptical about the possession of any stores of gold by Korea. Some silver she certainly has—three million of *yen* apparently—and of course she can convert it into gold if she chooses to make a heavy sacrifice. But there is no evidence that any step has yet been taken to buy gold, and the present aspect of the transaction looks very like an issue of gold notes without any gold to redeem them. It was understood that Li Yong-ik originally contemplated a foreign loan by way of foundation for the new system, but he failed in that arrangement. The whole affair needs a great deal of elucidation before we can determine whether it represents a stable system of currency or the first step towards fiat notes.

Monday, March 30.

Our readers may perhaps remember that during the war of 1894-5 the Japanese built a line of field telegraph from Seoul through Korea to Wiju, and continued it thence westward to Antung and northward to Feng-hwang. When peace was concluded the fate of this line become a question, there being no reason why Japan should incur the expense of maintaining it, and Korea not showing any disposition to do so. Finally it was handed over to the Korean Government and nothing more was heard of it for some years—with the exception of fitful political allusions—, the general belief being that it had fallen into a state of hopeless dilapidation. A telegram to the *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, now announces that the line has been restored, that a telegraph station guarded by 30 Russian soldiers has been established at Antung, and that 500 Russian troops are quartered at Feng-hwang, though it is not affirmed that a station exists at the latter place. If this line be continued along the coast of the Yellow Sea it can be easily brought into communication with the Port-Arthur and Vladivostock system. The news, if confirmed, will augment the uneasiness now beginning to be felt in Japan with regard to Russian designs in Manchuria, but of course it can not be said that the great Northern Power's activity in the matter of railways and telegraphs should surprise any one. So long as she confines her enterprise in that respect to Manchuria, there is not much likelihood of her encountering serious opposition, but it certainly would be in the interests of peace that she should avoid everything suggestive of Korean-ward ambition.

Tuesday, March 31.

Tokyo newspapers allege that the Korean Government is tormented at present with demands for concessions. All the Powers appear to have engaged in a competitive struggle for grants of some kind. Russia is asking for the privilege of felling timber on Ulneung island, an important privilege for her in view of her railway building and telegraph

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construction schemes. She is also seeking for the right to erect telegraphs in the Kyong-heung district, that is to say, between the Tumen River and Vladivostock; she further has demands in connexion with glass manufacture, and she wants another Russian subject engaged to teach the Russian language. France, on her side, has three requests; first, that compensation should be at once paid for the injuries suffered by native converts on Quelpart Island; secondly, that the local officials of Hwang-hai-do, near the Tadong River, should be punished for failing to protect native converts; and thirdly, that the locality of certain mining concessions already granted should be changed. Belgium is asking for a mining concession between Kyong-san-do and Kwong-won-do, for which the concessionaries are willing to pay 4 million *yen*; and she desires to have a Belgian subject appointed to the highest post as Government adviser. Germany has a demand for compensation on account of Settlement lands; for the removal of all restrictions upon the sale of certain drugs, and for a change in the locality of mining concessions. America wants the Seoul Electric Railway brought up by the Government and also an extension of the Unsan mining concession. Italy asks for a mining concession, and China is asking for payment on account of expenses incurred in connexion with the Seoul-Wiju Telegraph. England is with Germany as to the veto upon drugs; she also asks for compensation on account of the riots in Son-jin and for a concession to dig for gold dust at Yunsan. Japan has three demands; fishery rights at Chinnampo, the employment of a Japanese in the customs, and the raising of Mr. Kato to the highest position of advisor. We give this long list of demands because it is published by several Japanese journals, but we do not by any means vouch for its entire credibility.

Thursday, April 2.

The establishment of a central bank in Korea with note-issuing power seems unlikely to be accomplished without great difficulty. It is said to be regarded by the foreign representatives as an extremely hazardous experiment, and the Japanese Minister is reported to have warned the Korean Government against the risks attending an issue of paper money unsecured by sufficient reserves. Mr. McLeavy Brown, the Commissioner of Customs, has also lodged an objection to the provision that the Bank shall have the handling of the Customs revenue, and altogether it seems unlikely that the Bank will come into existence as smoothly as its promoters appeared to anticipate.

Friday, April 3.

Among the conditions of the agreement accepted by the Korean Government on the occasion of the recent complication with reference to the veto on the circulation of Japanese bank-notes, one was that the illegal exaction of transit dues upon goods carried by the Nak-dong should cease altogether. We now observe in the *Jiji Shimpo* a telegram to the effect that investigations have been made as to the effect of this promise, and the result is that out of six tax-levying stations situated in the interval between Tai-ku and Fusan, only one has been closed, and the remaining five are in full operation. If that should prove to be correct, Korea will have to answer for a very flagrant breach of promise.

PRINCE YAMASHINA'S VISIT TO KOREA.

It is stated that the Korean Government shows profound satisfaction at Japan's determination to send Prince Yamashina as her Representative on the occasion of the Coronation celebration. Messages of warm recognition have been sent from Seoul to Tokyo, and active measures are being taken to provide for the Prince a distinguished reception. Japan's action in the matter contrasts vividly with that of China, which is said to have declined to send any representative whatever. Apparently Peking has not yet become fully reconciled to the idea of Korean independence.

One of Korea's embarrassments in connexion with the celebration is that she has neither ship-of-war nor fortress at Chemulpo to reply to the salutes that foreign vessels will fire on the auspicious occasion. To meet that emergency she is said to have purchased from the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha a merchant vessel, which is now undergoing at the Uraga dockyard such modifications and additions as may enable it to act the part of a man-of-war. It will be Korea's first possession of the kind. We are reminded of the fact that when the Kuroda-Inouye expedition went to Korea 30 years ago to exact a treaty, some of the ships in the little squadron had painted port-holes and pictured guns.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS.

Baron Kikuchi, Minister of State for Education, has succeeded in putting into operation one of the important educational reforms which he has long advocated. Briefly speaking, the purpose of his measure is to develop the system of technical education. Thus we find that the number of schools to be henceforth classed as *Semmon Gakko* (technical schools) has been increased so as to include the Medical Schools in Chiba, Sendai, Okayama, Kanazawa and Nagasaki, the Foreign Languages School in Tokyo, the Fine Arts School in Tokyo, and the Music School in Tokyo. By the term *Semmon Gakko* is to be understood a school at which instruction is given in the higher branches of learning, theoretical or practical. It is enacted that privately established institutions may be included in the category of *Semmon Gakko* for the purposes of these new regulations, and that the qualification for admission is to be graduation at a Middle School or at a High Female School where the course covers at least four years. Students having acquired a corresponding status by other duly recognised means will also be eligible. Finally, the period of study at a *Semmon Gakko* is to be three years.

These same provisions are also to be applicable to practical technical schools (*Jitsugyo Semmon Gakko*) a new term signifying High Schools at which specialties are taught. The institutions falling into this category are the Sapporo Agricultural College, the Morioka High School of Agriculture and Forestry, the Tokyo High Commercial School, the Kobe High Commercial School, the Tokyo High Industrial School, the Osaka High Industrial School, and the Kyoto High Industrial School.

Finally there is an important provision that at all High Elementary Schools where the course extends over three years at least, there may be added to the curriculum one or more items of practical instruction, whether manual, agricultural or industrial, so long as not more than one branch is taught to a student.

HONGKONG.

Hongkong continues to be beset with the difficulties of its position as a free port on the confines of an empire where trade is anything but free. Every reader of Far-Eastern history has a vivid conception of the days when the Crown Colony figured as a rendezvous and refuge for pirates, and when opium-smugglers employed it as a principal basis of operations. It was an English statesman who disavowed any responsibility to organize a preventive service to check illegal commerce in China, and who told the Chinese that they must either discharge the duty themselves or leave it undone—an alternative that did not leave much choice to the Chinese in view of the national chastisement they had incurred for attempting to exercise preventive functions in the matter of the opium trade at Canton. Times have changed much since then, yet we are now forcibly reminded that like conditions produce like results in the beginning of the twentieth century just as in the first half of the nineteenth, for it appears that the "free port" has become an avenue for the supply of arms and ammunition to the rebels and bandits in Kwangtung and Kwangsi. The process is simple. No restriction being legally imposable upon the import of such articles into the island, they arrive in ample quantity. But their export thence is prohibited, and, in order to give effect to the veto, they are registered by the police on arrival. But of course the importer is free to transfer them from one of his warehouses to another, and an easy opportunity is thus provided for packing them in boats—the bales being disguised—and sending them down the harbour to a point where they are quietly re-loaded into the boats of some purchaser acting as agent for the insurgents. The police can not be either ubiquitous or omniscient. No one blames them for these occurrences. But it is curious that after the insistence shown by Great Britain in writing into the Protocol of 1901 a clause interdicting the importation of arms or of material used for the manufacture of munitions of war, a British Crown Colony should now be the channel through which the forbidden goods flow into the Middle Kingdom.

There is a story told of a British vessel which attained the *ne plus ultra* of successful smuggling in the very early days when the collection of customs dues at Shanghai was in a semi-chaotic condition, and when Mr. Consul Alcock was officially lamenting the riotous energy of his nationals as exhibited in their demand for a three-mile race course. The ship came in laden with bales of calico which, being declared to be for purposes of re-export, were stored duty free. Presently the business of re-export was effected, and the bales, being apparently intact as to condition and marks, were passed out duty free. But in the meanwhile their contents had been changed for silk. Nor was that all. A rebate was demanded and actually paid of duties which had never been levied. A not unworthy rider to this story is now furnished by Hongkong. The police, having registered certain bales as containing arms, conceived the idea of examining whether the arms were still there. They opened the cases and found that they contained stones only, whereupon the importing firm complained loudly that it had been robbed.

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RELIGIOUS COMMOTION IN CHIBA.

On the 28th ultimo a disturbance which threatened at one time to become serious took place in Chiba. Six days previously the local Buddhists had held a lecture meeting, when Christianity and its doctrines were vehemently assailed. On the 28th the Christians organized a meeting of their own. Many Buddhists attended, and a sharp controversy being anticipated, the hall and its precincts were crowded with onlookers. While the meeting was in progress, some young Buddhists priests rose in the neighbourhood of the platform and demanded that the Christian God should be produced. It appears that two Swiss missionaries were present; one, the Rev. F. O. Bergstrom, the other a pastor whose name we can not identify in its transliterated form. To the demand of the priests Mr. Bergstrom replied that the Christian God is not a material being, whereat the priests retorted that, if so, such a divinity could not possibly rule over human beings. Then a Buddhist, Mr. Sekida, mounted the platform and began to denounce Christianity, his supporters meanwhile punctuating his remarks with epithets of "national robbers" and such amenities, addressed to the Christians. Mr. Bergstrom thereupon invited the Christians to sing a hymn, since it was the commandment of their Master that they should love their enemies. The Buddhists replied by chaunting the *Daimoku*, and an incredible din resulted, during which the police arrived and ejected Mr. Sekida from the hall. Outside, however, this vehement champion of Buddhism renewed his polemic. He found an antagonist in a soldier of the Salvation Army, Mr. Terumoto, who challenged him to proceed by legitimate methods, and it was then agreed that the scene of controversy should be removed to an adjacent Buddhist temple. The police, however, finally broke up the meeting on the ground that it threatened to disturb public peace, and there the incident closed for the moment. We take these details from Japanese journals, having no original information on the matter. It is to be hoped that Chiba is not about to become a second Nagoya in the matter of religious disputes.

AS THE CHINESE SEE US.

The conservatism of Chinese thought is well illustrated by a biography published in the columns of the *Independent* at the close of last month. The writer of the biography is a Chinese merchant, called Lee Chew now doing business in America. Some sixty years ago, just before the treaty-making era of China's international intercourse there was compiled and published in Peking a brochure by way of answer to Protestant propagandism. The writer of the brochure declared it absurd—we quote from "China" in the Boston Oriental series—"that persons so miserably deficient should pretend to improve the inhabitants of the celestial empire. The foreigner lacked four out of the five cardinal virtues. He lacked benevolence because for his own benefit he introduced poison as a drug among the Chinese. He lacked righteousness because he sent a navy and army to rob others of their possessions. He lacked the sense of propriety because he allowed men and women to mix in society and to walk arm and arm in the streets. He lacked wisdom because he rejected the teaching of antiquity. The only good quality to which he could lay claim was truth. Claiming to preach to the world, he himself lacked filial piety since he forgot his parents as soon as they were dead, buried them in deal coffins only an inch thick and never sacrificed to their manes or burned a scrap of gold paper for their support in the other world. Lavishing money to circulate books for reforming the age, he himself showed a respect for literature by trampling printed paper underfoot."

This appreciation was written, as we have said, sixty years ago. Lee Chew's appreciation, written a month ago, is as follows:—

I went to my parent's house for meals, approaching my grandfather with awe, my father and mother with veneration and my elder brother with respect. I never spoke unless spoken to, but I listened and heard much concerning the red-haired green-eyed foreign devils with the hairy faces, who had lately came out of the sea and clustered on our shores. They were wild and fierce and wicked, and paid no regard to the moral precepts of Kong-foo-tsze and the Sages; neither did they worship their ancestors, but pretended to be wiser than their fathers and grandfathers. They loved to beat people and to rob and murder. In the streets of Hong Kong many of them could be seen reeling drunk. Their speech was a savage roar, like the voice of the tiger or the buffalo, and they wanted to take the land away from the Chinese. Their men and women lived together like animals, without any marriage or faithfulness, and even were shameless enough to walk the streets arm in arm in daylight. So the old men said.

All this was very shocking and disgusting, as our women seldom were seen on the street, except in the evenings, when they went with the water jars to the three wells that supplied all the people. Then if they met a man they stood still, with their face turned to the wall, while he looked the other way when he passed them. A man who spoke to a woman on the street in a Chinese village would be beaten, perhaps killed.

My grandfather told how the English foreign devils had made wicked war on the Emperor, and by means of their enchantments and spells had defeated his armies and forced him to admit their opium, so that the Chinese might smoke and become weakened and the foreign devils might rob them of their land.

My grandfather said that it was well known that the Chinese were always the greatest and wisest among men. They had invented and discovered everything that was good. Therefore the things which the foreign devils had and the Chinese had not must be evil. Some of these things were very wonderful, enabling the red-haired savages to talk with one another, though they might be thousands of milles apart. They had suns that made darkness like day, their ships carried earthquakes and volcanoes to fight for them, and thousands of demons that lived in iron and steel houses, spun their cotton and silk, pushed their boats, pulled their cars, printed their newspapers and did other work for them. They were constantly showing new things to take the place of the old.

I heard about the American foreign devils, that they were false, having made a treaty by which it was agreed that they could freely come to China, and the Chinese as freely go to their country. After this treaty was made China opened its doors to them and then they broke the treaty that they had asked for by shutting the Chinese out of their country.

It is evident that Chinese opinion has not undergone any change during the six decades that separate the dates of the two compositions. What the Peking censor thought in 1840 the Chinese merchant after twenty years residence in America thinks to-day. Doubtless many persons will dismiss this fact contemptuously. They will cite Lee Chew and his grandfather as typical specimens of Chinese conceit, or they will say that anyhow it matters very little what John Chinaman thinks. Yet there are four hundred million John Chinamans, and what they think is the ultimate tribunal by which the nature of their intercourse with foreigners must be determined.

Another very interesting point illustrated by Lee Chew's biography is the extraordinary thrift exercised by Chinese who go abroad in search of fortune. When Lee arrived in America in a semi-famished condition it may be remarked *en passant* because he could not sleep on the too soft beds of the stranger and dared not eat the foreign food, he took service as man of all work in a family consisting of husband, wife, and two children. They paid him three and a half dollars a week, out of which he saved three dollars. Six months later when he had learned how to cook, wash, iron, sweep, dust, make beds, wash dishes, clean windows, polish knives and forks and so on, he climbed to a magnificent salary of five dollars a week, out of which he saved four dollars and twenty-five cents. Can any Occidental compete with such thrift?

Mr. Smith, in his celebrated work "Chinese Characteristics" discourses with his wonted humour about the unpractical nature of Chinese garments which, being nominally intended to keep the wearer warm are actually contrived so as to leave a thick cushion of cold air between his skin and the inner surface of his tunic or pantaloons. If an Occidental wants to keep out the cold he puts on closely fitting under-garments, but when Mr. Smith gave a flannel vest to a shivering old Chinaman the Celestial threw it off after a few hours on the plea that it made him feel burning hot. That is just what Lee Chew says. "Most of us," he writes, "have tried the American clothes and they make us feel as if we were in the stocks."

HER IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCESS TSUNE.

The *Nippon* publishes an interesting piece of intelligence from its Tokyo correspondent namely, that the Emperor has decided to bestow the hand of Her Imperial Highness Prince Tsune on Prince Atsumoto, heir apparent of the House of Nijo, a representative of the twenty-ninth generation of that family. The Princess was born on the 30th of September, 1888, and will consequently be 15 years old, according to foreign reckoning, at her next birth-day. The House of Nijo is among the *Go-sekke*, or Five Families eligible to give an heir to the Throne in the event of failure of the direct line. Of course this event excites great interest in Japan, not merely for its own sake, but also because many years have elapsed since anything of the kind occurred, the last instance being the marriage of the Emperor Komei's sister, Princess Kozu, to the Tokugawa *Shogun* Iyeyoshi.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* emphatically denies the rumour recently current and reproduced above, that the Emperor had decided to bestow the hand of Her Imperial Highness Princess Tsune upon Prince Nijo. Our contemporary says that after making due inquiries in the proper quarter, it is informed that no truth whatever attaches to the story.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

It cannot be exaggeration to say that the death of Sir Hector MacDonald will be felt as a personal loss by all Scotsmen, especially by all Highlanders—though, indeed, such an ending of so fine a life will be viewed all over the civilised world with melancholy interest. It will be impossible for their countrymen to avoid comparing the deaths of Sir Hector and General Wauchope, and bitter indeed will be the regrets that the man who so nobly demonstrated the fitness of the private soldier to rise and lead brigades did not, like that other warrior, fall gloriously on the field of battle instead of shamefully by his own hand under the shadow of a disgraceful charge. Enlisting in the Gordon High-

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landers in 1870, having previously been engaged in the occupation of measuring cloth at the counter of an Inverness clothier, Hector Archibald MacDonald was eighteen years of age when he entered the army. His career is thus described:

Afghan War, 1879-80 (despatches twice); Maidan Expedition, 1880; accompanied Sir F. Roberts in his march to Cabul; present at Battle of Candahar (medal, promoted 2nd Lieut., three clasps and bronze decorations); Boer War, 1881, including Majuba Hill (despatches); Nile Expedition, 1885; Suakin, 1888 (despatches, medal and clasp, 3rd class Medjidie, Khedive's star); Suakin, 1889 (despatches D.S.O. and clasp); capture of Tokar, 1891 (3rd class Osmanieh, clasp to Khedive's star); commanded 2nd Infantry Brigade Dongola Expeditionary Force, 1896 (despatches, Brevet Lieut.-Col., Khedive's medal with two clasps, British medal); commanded Egyptian Brigade, 1897-98, including Abu-Hamed (despatches, clasp); Atbara (despatches); Khartoum (despatches, received the thanks of Parliament, A.D.C. to late Queen, Col., two clasps); command troops in Sirhind District of India, 1899-1900; commanded Highland Brigade, South Africa, 1899-1900 (wounded Paardeberg; despatches, twice.)

He was promoted to second lieutenant or ensign in his own regiment on Jan. 7th, 1880, and to lieutenant on July 1st, 1881. Being engaged in Egypt, where men like him soon rise, he gained his captaincy in 1888 and became Major in 1891, having meantime been transferred to the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). As a junior lieutenant he was present when the Boers stormed Majuba, and he was continuously employed in Egypt from 1885 till all opposition to the rule of the Khedive was quelled in the Soudan. He commanded the Egyptian Brigade during the campaign of 1897-98, and it will be remembered that at a very critical moment in the fighting outside Omdurman his brigade sustained splendidly a tremendous flank attack upon the echeloned British and Egyptian forces. Indeed, it has been said in quarters well qualified to offer an opinion, that had the Egyptian Brigade wavered the whole expeditionary army must have gone to pieces. MacDonald, however, in the very face of the attack changed front and met the advancing horde with such coolness and order as won the admiration of all who saw or read of the act. When gallant Wauchope fell, with so many of his Highland Brigade, before the Boer lines at Magersfontein, it was almost a matter of course that MacDonald took his place. He was wounded at Paardeberg and twice mentioned in despatches. Appointed to supreme command in Ceylon he appears to have been popular in the colony and at any rate he displayed a warm interest in the health and comfort of his troops. He was summoned home suddenly on Feb. 19th by the War Office, doubtless in connexion with the charges now reported. Whether he actually reached London is not clear, but it is plain that having been ordered to return to Colombo to stand his trial he committed suicide in a Paris hotel. The significance of the fact that General MacDonald shot himself rather than face his trial will of course not be lost upon the public. It is a very sad business, this tragic close of a fine career.

ENGLISH VILLAGES.

Those of us who have read George Eliot's works with the loving care they deserve, probably reflected often during the perusal that the great authoress allowed her imagination to colour her knowledge, and that English village folk were by no means as bad as she depicts them. Just now, however, the evidence elicited at a murder trial in Peasenhall, Suffolk, shows that the state of degeneracy represented by the novelist has its counterpart in present-day life. Alluding to the revelations elicited at the trial, Mr. James Blyth writes thus to the *Daily Mail*:—

"In addition to habitual vice, untruthfulness obtains to an incredible extent. No villager would consider whether he should tell the truth or not from any other point of view than that of his personal advantage. To lie if it be profitable is a mere matter of course, and long habit has given these people the power of sticking to their lies in the face of overwhelming evidence. A scandal is always a favourite subject for lying. To accuse two innocent persons (if any such can be found in the village) is a most popular practical joke, and the inventor of the scandal will enjoy himself elaborating detail in corroboration of his own imagination.

"But the habit of lying appears almost as a virtue when contrasted with the darker evils of the village nature—evils which are rendered a thousand times more shocking by the tender years of those affected by them. The parson, the doctor, the local magnate know little of the inner life of the village, for every peasant is an adept at hypocrisy. A woman with the appearance of an honest, jolly, hearty, countrywoman and a flower-like girl, looking as innocent as a blush rose, are the two worst characters in a village well known to me. The greatest bearer of false witness is a frequent preacher in the chapel, and the worst drunkard is a prominent deacon. They not only pretend to virtue in the sight of their superiors in station, but even among themselves. They are better hypocrites than the Roman augurs, for they never smile at their mummeries. It is curious to see the trouble they take to affect honesty, virtue, and love of religion before their neighbors, who know well enough that these are all assumed. It is a case of give and take.

"The cause of this terrible condition of the village communities may, some will say, be found partly in the disrespect into which the church has fallen, and partly in the institution of the board schools and the resulting decay of parental authority. The half-starved parsons have no honour in their parishes. The children learn by the national curriculum to despise their parents and to refuse to submit to personal correction. The old folk are bad enough in their immorality, hypocrisy, and untruthfulness, but the rising generation will be a hundred times worse unless something is done to remedy the evil."

AMERICAN APPRECIATION OF ENGLAND.

The other day we noted that one of the New York police-captains had nothing but words of appreciation for London's police methods; now we find the American advance agent of Buffalo Bill's Wild West show patting the old country on the back regarding its methods of bill-posting. He says:—

The English billposter is away ahead of the American in equipment. He is more careful, and in the States we don't get any trouble taken over us by the billposter as is done here. Those coloured borders that look so fine are purely an English institution. We don't have them over there. In fact, billposting in this country is in advance of the rest of the world. I can speak with knowledge, for I have travelled in every country in Europe, save Russia. There are no hoardings in Europe, taken altogether. Bills are stuck on blank walls, gates and pillars, and they're most untidy. There are no respectable, tidy billboards on the Continent. Only four or five cities in France have even fairly decent stations, and they are by no means to be compared with the systematic English hoardings. Most of our posters are printed in the States of course, being stock designs. But Col. Cody is a big believer in spending his money in the country he's in, and we're having a lot of posters got out by English firms. There is no difficulty in getting the posters in England, and moreover the colours are the best that can be obtained. In France the colours are not fast; a little sun and they fade almost right away. English colours are fast, and rain or sun they stay fast. That's what we want; rough weather posters. Another thing. American poster printers use paper calendered on both sides, and the posters are soon washed off the boards. Posters here are only calendered the printed side, the other being rough and affording something for the paste to grip. That's why English-printed posters last better, and longer."

Really Englishmen will soon begin to think it time to shake off the feeling of excessive humility which has characterised them somewhat since the shocks of the Boer War first shivered their erst-while too sufficient self-esteem.

TABLEAUX VIVANTS IN TOKYO.

A somewhat novel form of entertainment is announced to take place in Tokyo on the 25th and 26th of April, namely, *tableaux vivants* given by the pupils of the Peeresses' School. We should think that the entertainment will be very interesting to foreigners, for the young ladies have selected for representation historical scenes illustrating the part played by women in Japanese annals, and the costumes and accessories will doubtless be in accurate accord with the civilization of the eras when the events occurred. A brochure has been compiled setting forth in clear English the motive of each *tableau*, so that foreign visitors will have no difficulty in following the performance intelligently. The ladies announce the object of the entertainment as follows:—

In the old days in Japan the education of women seems to have been in a comparatively advanced state, but during the continued wars which characterized the feudal system, education of all kinds and especially that of women was greatly neglected. With the rise of the bright reign of the Meiji Period education revived all over the empire, and we are proud to say that our educational system at present with its complete equipment of schools, from the elementary to the University, need not be ashamed of a comparison with those of Europe and America.

We must however confess that this refers to our boys, for many years very little was done for the education of girls; slowly and by degrees we found that to educate only our boys was valueless, it is in the hands of the wives and mothers that the destiny of a nation rests, and that therefore it is of equal importance that they should receive a careful education, not necessarily on the same lines as their brothers', but one fitting them to bring up and influence their children, to be helpmates for their husbands, able to take an intelligent interest in what concerns our country, and to be capable of managing their household and making a home happy.

The extraordinary rise of girls' schools within the last five years shows that the nation is alive to the necessity of female education; notwithstanding the number of Government institutions for girls, there is still a great deal to be supplemented, and many women of refinement and culture are anxiously trying to make the way easy for their sisters. One of these benefactresses to her sex is Madame Shimoda, the Head Mistress of the Peeresses' School; four years ago she began her work by organizing the Imperial Women's Association (Teikoku Fujin Kyōkwai). It commenced its work by giving monthly lectures for women on Household Economy, Home education, and other important topics; it also started a magazine for its members and subscribers. Subsequently two schools were established in connection with the Association. One called "Jissen Jogakkō" is to give a higher general education to girls who have finished the Primary School Course (*Kōtō Shōgaku*), special stress being laid on the daily practice of household duties and feminine virtues, with a view to making them "wise mothers and good wives." The other is a "Women's Industrial School (Joshi Kōgei Gakoō) which, by teaching various industrial arts, aims at enabling women to earn their living. In this school special provisions are made to help poor girls and women who can not pay for their education. Both have been quite successful from the beginning, but the present old buildings are too small to accommodate all those who are anxious to enter. The new building however, that are in course of construction in Naka Shibuya will be only large, enough to admit the pupils already enrolled, owing to the limited funds at command.

We greatly regret this for the sake of our sisters and deem it a heavy loss to the progress of our national education. Therefore we the graduates of the Peeresses' School and all who enjoyed Madame Shimoda's instruction propose to give an entertainment on Saturday the 25th and Sunday the 26th of April, in the Suikō Sha (Naval Club,) Tsukiji, undertaken by ourselves as described in the accompanying programme, with the object of offering the proceeds together with voluntary subscriptions to our beloved teacher, who, for twenty long years, has been our mother in loving care and guidance, to enable her to enlarge her schools and take in more pupils needing and worthy of support. We shall be highly honoured, if all interested in the cause of the education of our sex will approve of our little plan and favour us with their attendance at the entertainment.

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SCANDALS.

In connexion with the bribery affair in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. M. Takanose (51) Director of Weights and Measures, was arrested on March 25th. At the same time the Authorities of the Tokyo District Court searched his dwelling for evidence.

On March 26th, D. Hotta, printer, I. Shimada, a prominent drug importer, and A. Nakamura, dealer in chemical apparatus, and two others were examined as to evidence of bribery. The same day Mr. S. Matsuda, Director of the Accounts Bureau, who is now at the Osaka Exhibition, was discharged. He is expected to be arrested on his arrival at Tokyo.

It seems that the charge of corruption preferred against officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is likely to assume large dimensions. Like the textbook scandal it grows steadily. Mr. Matsuda Shiro, head of the Financial Bureau of the Department, has been apprehended and his premises were subjected to a strict search by the police on the 26th instant, when, it is said, a number of gold watches were discovered among other things. Now, too, the trouble appears likely to extend to the Department of Finance. Tokyo newspapers say that the police have searched the residence of the chief of the finance bureau in that Department also, and that arrests are expected to ensue. Of course it has been well known of late years that bribery and corruption were growing more and more frequent in Japan. We ourselves believe that the existence of the Diet and the practices of its members have exercised a most demoralizing influence, but whatever may have been the principal factors at work, it can not be denied that the situation has become about as bad as possible. It is greatly to the honour of the Katsura Cabinet that these matters have been vigorously taken up by it. When the record of the Cabinet comes to be written, three large facts will stand on the credit side, namely, conspicuously successful management of the country's foreign affairs, the preservation of remarkable calm in domestic matters, and the campaign against corrupt practices.

Much surprise and some excitement have been caused in Tokyo by the arrest of Professor Otegawa Toyojiro, editor of the *Keizai Hyoron*, a man widely known for erudition and for his lucid and profound views on political economy. Something of his fame was due to the fact that in stature he is almost a dwarf, and people were in the habit of constrasting the greatness of his intellect with the pettiness of his frame. The charges against him are of the commonest description, abuse of trust, obtaining money under false pretences and even larceny. He appears to have given colour to these accusations by attempting to elude arrest.

There are three separate prosecutions for bribery and corruption now in progress. The first is the well-known case of the text books. The second implicates certain officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce and threatens to extend to the Department of Finance. The third involves the judiciary. Some days ago, the public learned that Judge Kitabatake, of the Osaka Appeal Court, had been apprehended on a charge of receiving bribes. Subsequent investigations revealed quite a number of acts of corruption charged against this official, and his arrest has now been supplemented by that of the Secretary of the same Court, who is accused of conniving with Judge Kitabatake to influence the decision in a case of violation of the Law of Election.

In connexion with the bribery scandal in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, I. Oishi, Official of the Tobacco Monopoly Bureau of the Department of Finance, and M. Inaba, ex-official of the same bureau, were arrested on March 29th. The charge against Matsumoto, Chief of the Financial Bureau in thé Department of Agriculture and Commerce, is said to be that he received bribes from contractors engaged in putting up the buildings of the Osaka Exhibition. It is said that the public procurator and judges of the preliminary Court have received many letters in which are outlined the scandalous conduct of many Government officials.

The preliminary trial of Mr. Kitabatake, ex-Judge of Osaka District Court, on a charge of bribery has concluded. During the examination, another charge of fraud was brought against him by the Public Procurator. It is stated that the judge received *yen* 1,000 from the Directors of the Kawasaki Bank, who were committed for trial by Judge Hibino of the same Court, on a charge of penal bankruptcy, having promised them that he would advise Judge Hibino to discharge them. Ex-Judge Kitabatake neither consulted with Judge Hibino, nor divided the bribe.

A clerk named I. Tsuda, of the Osaka Court of Cassation, was arrested on March 31st as an accomplice of Mr. Kitabatake, ex-Judge of the Osaka District Court, who is under detention on a charge of receiving bribes.

Mr. H. Okabe, manager of the Osaka Life Insurance Company, was arrested on March 26th on suspicion of having embezzled certain moneys belonging to the concern. The public procurator of the Osaka District Court has searched his dwelling and examined the books of the company.

K. Suzuki, principal of the Ibaraki Normal School, was sentenced on March 27th to 11 days' imprisonment with hard labour. The same day, the following preliminary trials concluded:—S. Suzuki, educational inspector of Yamanashi prefecture, committed for trial on a charge of having obtained bribes of *yen* 500 from various text book publishers; K. Asai, principal of Shimane High Female School, of receiving bribes of *yen* 600 and some agate buttons; M. Matsuzaki, principal of Shizuoka Dendrological School, a bribe of *yen* 200 and a piece of silk; T. Fukushima, rural educational inspector, Shizuoka Prefecture, a bribe of *yen* 250 and a piece of silk valued at about *yen* 7; S. Takeshita, principal of Hamamatsu Academy, a bribe of *yen* 350; and S. Toyooka, educational inspector of Fukushima Prefecture, a bribe of *yen* 900. G. Takano, principal of Shimane Normal School, was committed to trial for having obtained a bribe of *yen* 100 and one Redemption loan bond, of the face value of *yen* 500, from a text book publisher; T. Abe, ex-educational inspector of Oita Prefecture, a bribe of *yen* 800; R. Arai, principal of Fukui Normal School, a bribe of *yen* 1,100; and Y. Shimizu, rural educational inspector of Ibaraki Prefecture, a bribe of *yen* 150, and a piece of silk.

Baron M. Oki, ex-governor of Aichi prefecture, was examined on March 30th, in the Tokyo District Court, as a witness in the case of R. Naito, in connexion with the bribery trials. Mr. H. Motoda, barrister, was examined on the same day. Shimidzu Katsuo, rural educational inspector, was enlarged on bail of *yen* 100. On April 1st, the trial of R. Kanao, ex-governor of Shimane prefecture, and three educational inspectors was resumed and judgement in the case of S. Munekata, ex-governor of Fukui prefecture, and an educational inspector given. The same day, R. Mizobe, ex-governor of Tochigi prefecture, who was recently sentenced, appealed to the Court of Cassation.

The preliminary trials of the following persons concluded on March 31st: S. Matsuo, principal of Mikage Normal School, was committed for trial on a charge of having received bribes of *yen* 1,200, a war bond of the face value of *yen* 500, and a piece of woollen flannel from various text book publishers; H. Takagi, rural educational inspector of Shimane prefecture, bribes of *yen* 1,000; and T. Toyoda, principal of Okayama High Academy, bribes of *yen* 400. On March 30th, the Minister of Justice granted expenses to officials and employees of the Tokyo District Court who have attended to the cases since December 13th 1902, on holidays and Sundays, in the following amounts:—*yen* 150 each to Messrs Nakagawa and Ushio, judges of preliminary examination; and Hasama and Yasusumi, public procurators; *yen* 100 to Mr. Kawashima, judge, *yen* 70 each to Messes Nagata, judge, and Komori and Mizobuchi, public procurators, from *yen* 40 to *yen* 25 to eight court clerks; and *yen* 15 to *yen* 5, court servants.

K. Kikutaro, principal of Miye Normal School, was on March 30th, discharged from custody on the ground that the evidence against him was insufficient.

Mr. S. Miyamura, member of the House of Representatives for Oita prefecture, was fined *yen* 25 in the Nakatsu Local Court on March 31st on a charge of having obtained a bribe of *yen* 700 from the text book publishers, *Kokukosha*, Tokyo, on a promise that he would ask the educational authorities to adopt their text books. On April 1st, Mr. S. Munekata, ex-Governor of Awomori prefecture, was discharged by the Tokyo District Court on the ground that the evidence against him was insufficient; while H. Yaita, educational inspector of Shiga prefecture, was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment with hard labour and fined *yen* 7; while 10 Government loan bonds of the face value of *yen* 100 each and *yen* 335 were confiscated. T. Yamamoto was, on the same day, enlarged on bail of *yen* 100.

AN ARRAIGNMENT OF JAPANESE MERCHANTS.

Mr. Ariyoshi Akira, Vice-Consul for Japan in London, has addressed—we translate from the *Nippon*—a very strong despatch to his Government on the subject of malpractices by Japanese import merchants. According to this despatch, a Japanese firm occupying a high position in Japan, asked an English firm to invoice its goods some twenty or thirty per cent. below their real value, and even demanded that blank invoices should be furnished. These proposals were based on an assertion that the common practice in Japan is to evade customs duties, and they were backed by a very unequivocal intimation that failure to comply would involve loss of custom for the English firm. The latter, not accustomed to do business in such a manner and apprehensive that these manœuvres would bring discredit on Anglo-Japanese trade in general, laid the matter before the Japanese Consulate and suggested that suitable steps should be taken. It is added that many epistles of a like tenor are on file, and that their holders are willing to submit them for Consular inspection at any time. Of course the effect of all this in creating distrust of Japanese merchants, can scarcely be over-rated.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR.

The annual distribution of prizes took place at the School of the Morning Star in Tokyo on the 31st ultimo in the presence of a numerous audience. From the programme, which we append, it will be seen that the lads who took part in the various performances, musical, histrionic and recitative, were solely Japanese. In fact the well known and eminently successful school

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now receives Japanese students only, its foreign pupils being instructed at a branch institution in Yokohama. All the items on the programme were excellently rendered, unmistakable evidence being thus afforded that the *entente* between teachers and students, for which the School has always been remarkable, continues as effective as ever, and that the methods of instruction have lost nothing of their thoroughness and vigour.

PROGRAMME.

1.—Kimi ga yo, hymne national.
2.—Lecture du Rescrit impérial.
3.—Chœur: Mikuni no tami, (Allons! enfants de la Patrie!)
4.—What a little boy can do. I. Matsumoto.—J. Matsumoto.
5.—Mélodie turque par A Diabelli. duo de piano: M. Onodera—M. Hibiki.
6.—Iroha (L'alphabet): Ani (L'aîné) T. Araki.
Otôto (Le cadet) R. Kôno.
7.—Récréation (Air suisse).
Violons: M. Hibiki—N. Ueda—K. Sakai—S. Ueda—T. Satow.
8.—Un coin de la cour des Petits: Elèves de l'Ecole primaire.
9.—Sérénade de Hayden. (Solo de violon) A. Nagai.
10.—Les distractions de M. du Songeux (1er acte)

Du Songeux...Y. Okohira	Docteur Graindorge A. Hara
de L'Etiquette .....S. Oi	Pierre, domestique T. Araki
son fils.....Sh. Noro	Jacques, cocher S. Iwashita

Mathieu, cuisinier: M. Tôyama.

11.—Distribution des prix aux élèves des classes primaires.
12.—Choice of Trades: School Committee, S. Takeda.

Farmer.....H. Sasabe	Shoemaker...K. Kimura
Carpenter...K. Ohara	Printer.....S. Minakawa
Blacksmith..Y. Imazawa	Doctor.....Y. Kanda
Mason .....S. Maeda	Teacher.....R. Kono

13.—Air de Rossini.
Violons: A. Nagai, M. Hibiki, K. Sakai & N. Ueda.
14.—Les distractions de M. du Songeux (2e acte).
15.—Die Himmelswunder (romance).
Chaunt: W. Nagai | Violon: A. Nagai.
16.—The Saracen Brothers.
Saladin...S. Yamamoto | Attendant...T. Sasaki.
Malek Adhel (Saladin's brother...J. Iwaya.
17.—Marche turque par Beethoven.
Piano: .....N. Onodera.
18.—Shibire (Mon pied dort).
Le Patron..M. Toyama | Le domestique...T. Oi.
19.—Chœur: Le Triomphe des Mirlitons par W. Moreau.
20.—Distribution des prix aux elèves du Lycee.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

In consideration of services rendered on the occasion of the visit of Prince Cyril last year, the Tsar has bestowed Orders on Count Toda, Mr. Yamanouchi, Mr. Ogasawara and six others. Count Toda receives the First Class of the Order of Stanislaus.

There is obviously some very bitter feeling in Shanghai against the owners of houses and lands. What the volume of the feeling may be we can not judge, but it finds vehement expression in a letter addressed by "Tenant" to the *N.-C. Daily News*. The writer heads his epistle *à bas les landlords*. He calls "landlordism an absolute and unmitigated curse in every country where it has raised its head." and he alleges that "much of the disease and misery happening in Shanghai is due to its harmful influence." That wholesale thesis is based, of course, on the hypothesis that the monstrous demands made by landlords have had the effect of producing an appreciation of all commodities, and "Tenant" further alleges that land and property in the International settlement are fast passing out of foreign into native hands and that at no distant date such transfer will be complete. Presumably it has often occured to our readers that a similar consummation is pretty sure to be effected sooner or later in the case of foreign settlements in Japan also. There is no element of permanency in existing conditions. They are opposed to all economic considerations. So far as concerns the area of land required for business purposes the foreigners' method of working is palpably extravagant compared with that of the Japanese. Within an area of a hundred or a hundred and fifty *tsubo* a Japanese merchant conducts transactions which in the case of a foreigner require an area at least three times as large. That is one of the reasons, a principal reason indeed, why land in the foreign settlements does not possess the value that it commands in the adjacent Japanese communes. Lots in the foreign settlements are so uneconomically planned and laid out that large sacrifices would be necessary to accomodate them to the requirements of Japanese trade. But of course these difficulties will be gradually overcome, and at some time or other the land will be found in possesion of those that are prepared to employ it most economically.

It is amusing to observe the attitude assumed by some of the Tokyo journals with reference to the naval review which is to take place on the 10th of next month at Kobe. Sixty-two vessels of various kinds are to be engaged in the review, and of course there will be entertainments on a tolerably lavish scale. Among those hospitably treated will be the members of the Diet, or such of them as attend the ceremony, and the journals in question hint in plainest terms that this opportunity will be seized to corrupt the country's legislators with a view to the peaceful passage of official measures in the next session of the Diet. What an agreeably exalted estimate these journalists entertain as to the moral standard of the people's representatives, and what a magnificent conception they have of the resources at command of the Government for purposes of bribery and corruption! Nevertheless it might reasonably have been thought that the public would by this time have become completely weary of such tales. The experience of last session ought to have constituted a warning, for whereas the number of members already "manipulated" was accurately stated, as well as the number to be similarly treated within a fixed period of time, it turned out when the crisis came that this was all vain imagining, and that not a single vote had been effectually purchased. Surely the sensationalists are not of such utterly arid imagination that they can not invent some new fable instead of trotting out the old old canard!

It is alleged that vigorous steps are in progress to bring about an amalgamation of the Tokyo Street Railway Company (*Shigai Tetsudo Kaisha*), which is under the presidency of Mr. Amenomiya, and the *Densha Tetsudo Kaisha*, namely, the present Horse Tram Company, which is now engaged converting its system to electricity. Baron Shibusawa is said to be acting as go-between. Of course it would be greatly to the interests of the city and of the companies themselves that a union should be effected, and that the whole electric service should be under one management.

This year is to be remarkable for four eclipses, two of the sun and two of the moon. Of these eclipses two will not be visible in Japan, but a solar eclipse on the 29th of March should have been seen, and a lumar eclipse on the 6th of October will be visible. From Tokyo the eclipse on Sunday, the 29th March was only partial: at the moment of greatest shadow, 0.57 of the sun's disc was obscured. Contact commenced at 8.56 a.m. and at 11.41 the interference terminated, the supreme moment being 10.15 a.m. Unfortunately the sky was clouded from early morning, and the only sensible indications of the eclipse were a slight access of obscurity and something of the hush that usually overtakes the feathered tribe on these occasions.

Prince Nashimoto left Tokyo by the 7 a.m. train on the morning of the 28th, and embarked at Yokohama on the M.M. S. S. *Sydney*. The Prince is to spend some years in Europe for purposes of study.

Reuter informed us at the beginning of March of the triumph of the Navy party in Washington in getting their appropriation bills through Congress. Some details of the struggle are now to hand. It seems that the conference of the two Houses resulted at first in a deadlock, the Representatives insisting on a provision for three battleships of 16,000 tons, and the Senators for four of 12,000 tons each. The Lower House provided for one first-class armoured cruiser and the Senate for two. A compromise was finally reached for five vessels—three battleships of 16,000 tons and two of 13,000 tons—and the cruisers were dropped out entirely. The Board of Naval Constructors and the Navy officials generally, urged that the new battleships be of the largest size, while Admiral Dewey stood almost alone for the 12,000-ton ships, claiming they were as effective as the 16,000-ton vessels. The most important provision of the bill as far as the *personnel* of the navy is concerned is the great increase in the number of officers and midshipmen authorized. In the line there are allowed 30 additional lieutenant commanders, 50 additional lieutenants and such additional lieutenants of the junior grade and of ensigns as may qualify. The number of midshipmen at the Naval Academy is doubled, by permitting each senator and representative in Congress to appoint two instead of one—this plan to remain in effect until June 30, 1913. The age of admission to the Academy is raised from 15 to 16 years, with maximum of 20 years, as at present. The increase in the staff corps is five medical inspectors, 25 surgeons and 120 assistant surgeons, two pay inspectors, 36 paymasters, 26 passed assistant and assistant paymasters, 29 naval constructors, one civil engineer, and 12 assistant civil engineers.

The Philippine Islands are to be the subject of one of those large and very enterprising works which have become fashionable in the United States during recent years. No less than 55 volumes, each of 325 pages, will be required to complete the book, and the price is to be $4 (gold) net per volume. One volume will be issued per month, the period of publication being thus spread over four years and seven months, and the publishers, the Arthur H. Clark Company, Cleveland, Ohio, promise that there shall be only one thousand copies, which engagement will of course constitute an inducement in the eyes of many purchasers. Judging from a prospectus which has reached us, the work will have exceptional interest, for measures are being taken by the publishers to search out and gain access to all kinds of rare old documents relating

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to the islands, and this necessitates visits to libraries in many parts of Europe, as well as the making of translations that present considerable difficulties. Appended to the prospectus is a chronogical list of the documents from which material is drawn. They fill six pages and cover the period from 1493 to 1803. We should say that those who are fortunate enough to be able to subscribe for this work will come into possession of a true historical treasure.

It appears that the Prince Royal of Siam, on his return to Bankok after nine years' absence in Europe, had a very briliant reception. Mr. Inagaki, Japanese Representative at the court of Siam, acted as spokesman for the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, and welcomed His Royal Highness in a speech which alluded to the experiences he had garnered in Europe, to the progress his country had made during his absence, and to the hopes based on his enlightened influence. The Prince replied in English. Only the merest outlines of his speech are given so we refrain from attempting to retranslate them from Japanese. He is said to have made an excellent impression upon all with whom he came into contact, and to have shown much tact in social intercourse.

There are many in Yokohama who still entertain affectionate and pleasant recollections of Mr. C. H. Hinton, late head-master of the Victoria Public School. At present he is the Chief Computer for the Bureau of the "Nautical Almanac," at Washington, but we understand that he has been offered the position of Geodecist of the next Zeigler Polar expedition, and will most likely accept the hazardous venture. Mr. Hinton's book, which he hopes to make his *Magnus opus*, on "The Fourth Dimension of Space," is nearly ready for publication.

A hundred Chinese students, entered in the *Kobun Gaku-in*, of which Mr. Kano Jingoro is proprietor and principal, have left the school by way of demonstration against the procedure of Mr. Mitsukusa, one of the overseers. Mr. Kano, we read in Japanese journals, has asked Mr. Wang, the chief Chinese Inspector, to undertake the settlement of the affair.

It is difficult to avoid the conviction that Admiral Dewey's head has been somewhat turned by the excessive fame thrust upon him. The many mistakes he has made since Manila are beginning to obscure the brilliancy of that action, which, after all, will not be judged historically worthy of the vehement journalistic fuss made about it. What does the gallant admiral mean by affirming that the United States Navy is the greatest in the world? That is pure nonsense; the extremest form of spread-eagleism. We should be sorry to think that many Americans share Dewey's view, for it is the hope and wish of all Englishmen to see the United States' Navy grow rapidly and steadily very much bigger than it is. Perhaps in the context of such hyperbole the admiral's needlessly insulting reference to the German Navy is not surprising, but as he is altogether entitled to his own opinions, nothing need be said on that point.

Marquis and Marchioness Ikeda celebrated their golden wedding on Thursday. The Marquis was originally feudal chief of Okayama in Bizen. After the Restoration he distinguished himself by acting as principal promoter of the Nobles Bank and by accepting the post of President. It was during his presidency that the Bank lent the Government a sum of 15 million *yen* to meet the expenses of the Satsuma rebellion. Subsequently the Marquis took a leading part in organizing the Japan Railway Company, and altogether his career has been eminently useful. Recently he had the very exceptional honour of being raised to the Second Rank of the First Grade. A further celebration of the golden wedding is to take place on the 4th and 5th instant.

A wholesale murder took place on the 30th ultimo in the hamlet of Daishigawara, near Kawasaki. Burglars are supposed to have broken into the dwelling of Ishikawa Kurakichi, a seller of toilet articles, who had the reputation of being a very industrious, thrifty man. The hypothesis is that the thieves were recognised and that they resorted to assassination to save themselves. An alarm of fire roused the neighbourhood, and on proceeding to the place people found the house closed and a fierce conflagration raging within. Subsequently it was discovered that Ishikawa, his wife, their child and their niece had been murdered, and that burglars had effected an entry by digging under the verandah.

The *Niroku Shimpo* announces that having completed an existence of full 3 years, it will henceforth be supplied to persons living in Tokyo and its vicinity for 15 *sen* monthly. Hitherto the price of the paper has been nominally 24 *sen*, but its average receipts are said to have been only 22 *sen*. Fifteen *sen* a month means 5 *rin* daily, and in that sum is included the cost of distribution. It is a riddle how any journal can live on such terms, for 5 *rin* is only half a farthing. The *Niroku* may claim the distinction of being now the cheapest paper in the world.

After all the talk about the Kaiser's doings at Sandringham and the glamour that his personality threw over British statesmen, the Blue Book shows that the suggestion for joint action against Venezuela and for the action to assume the form of a blockade, came from England herself. There was no cuning inveighling on Germany's part. She doubtless appreciated the advantages of union, but she did not initiate the idea. Such, at least, is the rendering of the Blue Book by American journals. We have not yet seen the original.

Since the close of last month, no less than eleven Japanese railways have taken advantage of the alleged easiness of the money market to issue debentures. These railways are:—

	Amount of debentures. Yen.		Rate of Interest.
Nippon Railway	151,000	.....	6
Sanyo Railway	1,750,000	.....	6
Kiushiu Railway	87,000	.....	7
	1,500,000	.....	6
Hokkaido Tanko R'way.	1,586,700	.....	6.3
Bantan Railway (Harima-Tajima)	860,000	.....	10
Boso Railway	599,000	.....	10
	200,000	.....	7
	30,000	.....	10
Uyeno Railway	100,000	.....	10
Hokuyetsu Railway	1,434,000	.....	10
	1,446,000	.....	12
Nanao Railway	578,000	.....	8
Kibe Railway	800,000	.....	8
Kakuhan Railway	1,300,000	.....	10

The result of these various operations is not yet announced.

Another extension—the third—of the Tokyo Water Works is found necessary. The details are given by the newspapers of the capital but they would scarcely interest our readers. It will suffice to say that the length of the pipes will be increased by half a million yards, and that the total outlay is estimated at 800,000 *yen*, the main part of which is already in hand in the form of surplus from previous constructions.

The new park at Hibiya is now nearly finished and will probably be opened to the public in a few days. Some years must pass before the park assumes a picturesque appearance, the trees planted being necessarily of a small and insignificant character. But as to the improvement produced in that district of Tokyo, there can be no second opinion.

The following Prefectural Regulation has been enacted by H.E. Governor Sufu:—

(*Translation.*)

Kanagawa-ken Notification No. 24.

No horses should be led along the throughfares mentioned below for the purpose of giving them exercise.

Contravention of this notification renders persons liable to a fine.

KOHEI SUFU,
Governor of Kanagawa-ken.

31st March, 1903.

Within the limits of Yamatecho: the thoroughfares from Camp Hill Street included to the end of Nichome Yamamotocho, through Yamate Hommachi-dori.

Kemp's Mercantile Gazette states that there were 5,130 commercial failures in Great Britain during 1902. This compares with 5,174 in 1901, 5,315 in 1900, 5,018 in 1899 and with 5,207 in 1898. A more remarkable comparison is that for England and Wales alone, which is carried further back, and which makes a singular showing, namely, that business failures in 1902 were smaller than those of any year on record except 1901, 1899, 1897, 1896, 1890 and 1884. These are some of the comparisons:—

1883	10,224	1893	4,909
1884	3,760	1894	4,801
1885	4,370	1895	4,400
1886	4,869	1896	4,196
1887	4,849	1897	4,105
1888	4,860	1898	4,298
1889	4,586	1899	4,135
1890	4,036	1900	4,393
1891	4,231	1901	4,215
1892	4,651	1902	4,220

In 1879 the total was 15,732, and it never fell below 10,000 from 1876 to 1883, inclusive.

Most of our readers have probably heard of Shinto miracles—thrusting the hand into boiling water, walking through fire, climbing a ladder of sharp sword-blades and so on. Mr. Percival Lowell, in "The Soul of the Far East," has written much about these things in his usually eloquent strain, and he had the fortitude to get his own feet burned in an attempt to test the efficacy of faith, It seems rather contrary to propriety that the advertising columns of a newspaper—*vide* our own—should be made the medium of amouncing such performances to the public, but after all, why not? The thing is curious and full of interest, and tourists, to say nothing of residents, who have a chance to see it, should not sow seeds of regret by missing the opportunity.

On Thursday Mr. Fisher, Minister of Agriculture in Canada, was received in audience by the Emperor. Colonel Churchill, who leaves Japan shortly to the great regret of a wide circle of friends, was also received by His Majesty to say farewell, and Mr. George Barclay, Secretary of Legation, was presented to the Emperor by Sir Claude Macdonald.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

ANOTHER period of calm has succeeded the ferment of political conjecture into which the public was thrown recently by news of Baron KODAMA's pending return from Formosa. For reasons more occult than evident Baron KODAMA has been regarded for some time as a sort of *deus ex machinâ*, but in connexion with his return on this occasion no one seemed certain whether he was to save the situation by forming a new Cabinet or to act as mediator with the object of securing a fresh lease of power for the present Ministry. Everyone understands, of course, that the political difficulty in Japan turns on the unripeness of the situation. The Conservatives are not prepared to agree that administrative power should be entrusted to a party and they are quite strong enough to make the successful tenure of power impossible by any party which they oppose. It may not be immediately apparent that the organization of another independent ministry would resolve this situation. But we may take it for granted that all sides recognise the inevitableness of party government sooner or later, and that the aim of the conservatives is simply to prolong the period of probation as much as possible. These conjectures, however, are deprived of any immediate value by the now recognized fact that whatever may be the object of Baron KODAMA's return, he does not come to take office as Minister President, and as for the alternative conjecture, namely, that he is to approach Marquis ITO with fresh solvents, that too seems to have now passed out of the region of popular credence. In fact, the latest notion is that a route to peace has actually been discovered, the Cabinet having made up its mind to abandon its land tax proposal and to obtain funds for naval expansion through the medium of administrative economies. That of course would be a frank acceptance of the programme advocated by the Opposition in the last session of the Diet, and naturally the extremists decline to believe anything of the sort, for they say, with some show of reason, that if the Government abandons its position incontinently, it will stand convicted of having pronounced a purely frivolous sentence of dissolution against the House of Representatives last session. But there is obviously another view of the case, namely, that the constituencies having rejected the Cabinet's appeal, the latter may have determined to refrain from the futility of challenging a foregone conclusion in the new House, and may prefer to accept the situation as dictated by the country. Underlying the criticisms of extremists like Mr. OZAKI YUKIO, there is the obvious fallacy that a Japanese ministry derives its mandate from the Diet. If Parliament were the source of its power, then indeed the antagonism of an overwhelming majority in two consecutive Houses would be a conclusive reason for a change of ministry. But a Japanese cabinet derives its mandate solely from the EMPEROR, and if HIS MAJESTY considers it expedient to modify, in deference to plainly expressed public opinion, a programme previously submitted to Parliament there is no constitutional reason why the old ministry should not remain in office to carry out the new plan. We are all apt to view these political crises in Japan by the light of the systems practised in our own countries, and the result often is that we seem to detect anomalies which exist within the lens of our own spectacles only.

THE KOBE ATTACHMENT CASE.

BEYOND question the case which is no agitating foreign public opinion in Kobe is very singular. In the course of an action at law instituted by one foreign resident against another, the former obtained authority from the Court to attach the defendant's property unless the latter lodged a certain sum of money. Accompanied by bailiffs, the legal representatives of the plaintiff visited the offices of the defendant, a well known merchant, at about half past four in the afternoon, when of course it was too late to cash a cheque. The defendant tendered a cheque, and in the alternative tendered goods exceeding in value the amount of the claim, the goods to be held until the following morning when a cash payment would be substituted. Apparently the bailiffs were willing to accept this method of settlement, but for some unexplained reason the representatives of the plaintiff showed themselves obdurate, and attachment would have been consummated had not the defendant succeeded in furnishing the required sum (8,500 *yen*). All that, it will be observed, was simple enough, with the exception, perhaps, of the vexatiously obdurate attitude of the plaintiff's representatives. But here comes the singular feature. Counsel for the plaintiff, having obtained the Court's order of provisional attachment, immediately addressed to the two local English journals an advertisement announcing the attachment and warning the public against depositing any goods, wares or merchandise with the defendant. This advertisement one of the papers (*Kobe Herald*) declined to publish, but it appeared at once in the columns of the other (*Kobe Chronicle*), and thus the defendant found himself publicly pilloried as a business man to be avoided by cautious persons, and described as a person whose goods were under attachment though they never were attached at all. It need scarcely be said that the Law Court had not given any authority for such an advertisement, and that no procedure of the kind is habitual in Japan. One may assume, however, that counsel for the plaintiff erred on the side of excessive zeal for the safety of the public in general, and that the journal publishing the advertisement failed to scrutinize it with sufficient care. Of course such reflections would be cold comfort for the unfortunate victim of the blunders, but they might satisfy outsiders However, what happened next constitutes a new element of perplexity. The defendant, naturally desiring to correct the injury done to his business reputation, sent to the *Kobe Chronicle* an advertisement declaring that the warning previously advertised had been without any authority from the Japanese Court, and that the order of attachment had never been executed. This advertisement the *Kobe Chronicle* refused to insert, its plea apparently being that attachment had been actually effected since money was seized, although the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure make it perfectly plain that payment of the sum specified stays the execution of provisional attachment. Our readers will probably be as much perplexed as we are to interpret such strange incidents. Failing some explanation, now wholly unapparent, the defendant appears to be a greatly injured man, whatever may be the merits of the original case out of which these events have grown.

THE ARBITRATION PROJECT.

OF course nothing but the amplest success can be wished for the arbitration scheme formulated by the Committee of the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce. There may be differences of opinion as to the question whether the law's delays are longer or more vexatious in Japan than in Europe and America, but certainly the experience acquired thus far goes to show that the defendant in a civil suit enjoys exceptional and excessive facilities for postponing the final issue, and that by evasions and procrastinations he can so weary the plaintiff as to render any kind of compromise welcome. But even if that were not the case, even if the courts of this country could be expected to deliver judgment and to enforce its execution as speedily as do the courts of any country in the world, it would still be in accordance with the dictates of practical wisdom to substitute arbitration for recourse to a legal tribunal. That is a proposition needing no demonstration. If it has not been acted on hitherto the reason is to be sought, we presume, in the difficulty of securing binding force for arbitral decisions. Under the new laws of Japan, however, a method of overcoming the difficulty is provided, and the framers of the scheme have taken advantage of it. They lay down that parties desiring arbitration must give a written pledge of agreement to accept the arbitral award, and further that such award will be registered in the proper Japanese Courts, which will thus have competence to enforce it. In short, the arbitral tribunal's decision will, in effect, have all the binding force of a Law Court's judgment, and there will be no appeal from it, nor any avenue to ulterior delays.

An excellent feature of the scheme is the independent organization of the arbitral tribunal. The Committee of the Chamber rightly point out that, in ordinary circumstances, arbitration is entirely lacking in the judicial element. Each party chooses its own arbitrator, and each of the arbi-

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trators thus chosen approaches his task as a partizan of the side by which he has been selected. Thus, except in the highly improbable contingency of one arbitrator being able to shake the other's preconceived convictions, there can be no unanimous decision, and recourse to an umpire becomes inevitable. In the programme of the Chamber of Commerce the parties are not to exercise any such right of selection. It will devolve upon its permanent Arbitration Committee of seven to nominate two of their number, or two other members of the Chamber, for the purposes of any case, and thus a perfectly impartial tribunal will be obtained. The document, it may be here observed, contains no provision as to the period of the general Arbitration Committee's tenure of office, but we presume that a year is contemplated.

There has been, apparently, some difference of opinion on the subject of the provision that legal assistance may be sought by the parties concerned, and may be obtained by the arbitral tribunal where legal points are involved. But it is difficult to see how such a provision could have been omitted. Barristers have special qualifications for drawing up compendious and lucid statements of questions in dispute, and not only might much injustice be done by interdicting their aid, but also the task of the arbitral tribunal might often be greatly complicated. As to the necessity of reference to barristers where points of law are concerned, it seems to go without saying. We venture to think, therefore, that the Committee's scheme is well conceived, and that if the members of the Chamber can be persuaded to give the time and trouble demanded for the discharge of arbitral duties, a very considerable boon will be conferred on the community. Unfortunately the cases falling within the scope of the programme must for the present be confined to disputes between foreigners only. But in time it may be found possible to organize, in combination with Japanese Chambers of Commerce, mixed tribunals for arbitrating questions in which Japanese subjects also are involved. It is true that from such tribunals the partizan element could not be altogether eliminated, and that the difficulty of choosing an umpire would be very great. But, on the other hand, the luxury of being able to eschew the law courts altogether would be worth purchasing at any price.

THE "HAMBURG" CASE.

IT is certainly regrettable that the final stages of the *Hamburg* case should have been reduced to the discussion of a mere technicality. The *Hamburg*, a tug-steamer, after towing a British sailing ship to a certain place in Japanese waters, found herself in an unseaworthy condition, and her master considered it necessary to have her docked and examined at Innoshima, which is not an open port, but which, nevertheless, she was entitled to enter if in *bonâ fide* need of immediate repairs. Subsequently her master being charged with illegally entering an unopened port, a fine of 200 *yen* was inflicted and the ship was confiscated. Even supposing that the illegal act were fully proved, such a sentence seemed excessive, for the object of the distinction between open and closed ports is merely a matter of customs' convenience, and it could scarcely be claimed that a small tug steamer, in such circumstances, was deliberately engaged in an attempt to evade the customs. An appeal was accordingly lodged. But unfortunately owing to a blunder on the part of the Counsel engaged by the appellant, the latter, instead of appealing in his own name, gave a power of attorney to his legal representative to appeal for him, and such a method of procedure not being recognised by Japanese law, the Osaka Court of Appeal rejected the petition. In the face of that rebuff, the sensible and practical course, one imagines, would have been to amend the appeal so as to bring it into formal agreement with the requirements of law. But Counsel for the Appellant did not take that course. He preferred to carry the technical question to the Court of Cassation, which tribunal has now upheld the decision of the Osaka Appeal Court, namely, that an appellant can not proceed by proxy, but must plead in his own name. It appears to us that a great deal of needless delay has been caused by the methods of the appellant's legal advisers, nor is it possible to read with any approval the pleadings presented to the Court of Cassation. A cardinal point there made is that the appellant, being a foreigner, and therefore ignorant of Japanese speech and Japanese script, could not possibly conduct the proceedings himself. But surely that approaches very near to the confines of persiflage? There is no question whatsoever of a foreigner conducting his own case. The question is simply whether an appeal can be made in the name of a proxy, or whether the appellant must make it in his own name. He need not open his mouth in court, unless his testmony be required, neither need he prepare a single document. Everything may be done for him by his legal representative. But he must plead in his own name and not in the name of some second party. What augments the irrelevance of the petition presented to the Court of Cassation is the obvious consideration that the Court could not possibly be expected to accord to a foreign suitor a privilege not granted by law to a Japanese suitor, and that, consequently, all references to special linguistic disabilities on the part of the foreigner are mere waste of breath. The delays incidental to the administration of law are bad enough under any circumstances, but in this particular case it seems almost as though Counsel for the appellants had unskilfully placed superfluous obstacles in the path of speedy settlement. We presume that the unfortunate appellant will now adopt the proper procedure—unless indeed, it is too late.

CORRECTIONS AND CORRECTIONS.

IT has been well said that if any two witnesses of a street incident subsequently committed their impressions to writing neither would admit the accuracy of the other's account. We are reminded of this by a local contemporary's attempt to convict us of various errors in our statement of the case now attracting so much attention in Kobe. These so-called errors being marshalled seriatim, it is easy to discuss them intelligibly.

In the first place we said that a foreign plaintiff "had obtained authority from the Court to attach the defendant's property, unless the latter lodged a certain sum of money." This last phrase is declared to be "not quite correct." Our contemporary professes to infer from it that we represented the Court as having given notice to the defendant. Of course we made no such representation, nor do we see how our words can possibly be so twisted. Notice of an impending distraint is never given, since opportunity would thus be afforded for surreptitious removal of the property to be attached. But the Code of Civil Procedure provides that "in the order of provisional seizure the sum of money shall be specified which the debtor will have to deposit in order to stay the carrying out of the provisional seizure." Therefore, when we wrote that authority was given "to attach the defendant's property unless the latter lodged a certain sum of money," we were literally and absolutely accurate.

In the second place we said that counsel for the plaintiff, having obtained the Court's Order of provisional attachment, addressed to two newspapers an advertisement "announcing the attachment and warning the public against depositing any goods, wares or merchandise with the defendant." This our local contemporary altogether denies. It says that "the advertisement issued by the attorney for the plaintiff did not warn the public against depositing any goods with the defendant." Our reply is that the advertisement was headed "Warning," and that—as the *Kobe Herald* says, quoting it verbatim—it was intended to warn any one concerned against "depositing any goods, wares and merchandise with Mr. —, as an order of attachment had been issued by the Kobe District Court, which enabled the advertiser at any time to attach any movables remaining in his possession." Our statement was therefore literally and absolutely correct.

In the third place we said that the defendant's goods never were attached at all. This also our contemporary flatly denies. It claims that "the order of attachment was ultimately executed," that "the seizure of money instead of goods does not mean that the order was not executed," that, in point of fact, a bailiff having received such an order, has no discretionary power to suspend its execution without the court's authority; and finally, that "the statement make by

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apart and placed in the hands of Trustees, appointed at a meeting of the Foreign community of Yokohama, held on the 9th March, 1899, the interest on which amount, in accordance with the conditions embodied in the Trust deed dated 21st April, 1899, was to be paid annually to the Yokohama General Cemetery Committee, to be applied by them to the permanent maintenance of the present Yokohama General Cemetery grounds. The original Trust deed mentioned in the preceding paragraph is lodged for security with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Yokohama.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY (YEN 9,000) TRUST FUND IN ACCOUNT WITH THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY OF YOKOHAMA.

DR.

	Yen.
To amount paid to the Treasurer of the Yokohama General Cemetery	450
„ balance carried down to new account, placed on Fixed deposit with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at 5 per cent. interest....	9,000
	9,450

CR.

By amount brought down from previous account, 31st December, 1901.....	9,000
„ Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for interest on *yen* 9,000 1 year at 5 per cent.	450
	9,450
January 1st, 1903. By balance brought down	9,000

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1903.

B. GILLETT.

Hon. Secretary Yokohama General Cemetery Trust Fund.

I hereby certify to having seen the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Fixed deposit note for *yen* 9,000 mentioned in the above named account. All in order.

A. R. RIDDLE.

Yokohama, January 1st, 1903.

The CHAIRMAN said he did not know that it was necessary for him to make any remarks upon the reports and accounts, so full was the information given in them. One satisfactory feature might be remarked—that although the death rate was this year a little higher than in the year 1901 yet the rate was very low if compared with those of European countries. In Yokohama they had in 1902 12.66 per mille but if his memory served him rightly the death rate in Europe was well into the teens and sometimes approaching the twenties. They would also note the paragraph relating to the new Cemetery. As anticipated by the Committee the old Cemetery was fast filling up but the Committee were able to make arrangements with the authorities to provide a new Cemetery and though they had not been formally notified of the fact the new Cemetery was ready for use when it should become necessary for them to seek fresh ground, as to which Mr. Gillett might afford them some information.

Mr. GILLETT said there was still room in the old Cemetery for twenty to thirty interments.

The CHAIRMAN went on to say that the sum of *yen* 9,000 was set aside as a trust fund for the maintenance of the Cemetery when it should be closed. The Committee have had this in view for some years past and instead of reducing the fees as they might possibly have done have allowed the funds to accumulate. It was now proposed to put *yen* 3,000 to that and the interest on the total sum would be just enough to keep the Cemetery in good repair and good order unless some such disaster as a typhoon should take place, in which case he had no doubt that the community would come forward and subscribe the necessary funds.

The reports and accounts were on the motion of the Chairman seconded by Mr. J. P. Mollison adopted.

Mr. LITCHFIELD proposed "That the Committee be, and are hereby authorised and instructed, out of the monies now at the credit of the Cemetery fund, to set apart a further sum of *yen* 3,000, to be added to the sum of *yen* 9,000 already invested in the hands of Trustees under a Trust deed dated 21st April, 1899, making in all *yen* 12,000. The interest thereon, alone, shall be available for the maintenance and preservation of the grounds, heretofore, and now set apart and used, and known, as the Yokohama General Cemetery, and may from time to time, at the discretion of the Committee be applied for that purpose, and that a copy of this Resolution, shall be endorsed on the above-named Original Trust deed for the guidance of future Trustees."

Mr. LITCHFIELD added that in the present circumstance of the Cemetery he thought it was advisable to build up as large a reserve fund as possible.

Mr. JAMES WALTER had much pleasure in seconding the proposal.

The CHAIRMAN said legal advice had been taken about the resolution and it would, he thought, be found in order. It was then carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Mollison, seconded by Mr. James Johnstone, the Committee were re-elected, Mr. Mollison speaking in high terms of the manner in which the place was kept by their good friend Mr. Gillett, and proposing a cordial vote of thanks to him as they had done so often before (applause).

Mr. JAMES WALTER said before the meeting closed he should like as a member of this community to express their great sense of gratitude to the Chairman and the Committee of the Cemetery for the very great care which they had taken for so many years in beautifying the Cemetery and maintaining it in its present excellent order. One suggestion he would like to place before the meeting. He understood that outside the sum that had been appropriated there was still quite a balance, of about 600 in the hands of the Honorary Treasurer. The latter was present but Mr. Walter was sure he would pardon him for making these remarks before him. Mr. Gillett had held the post for a quarter of a century. The speaker was convinced that though these meetings were sparsely attended the whole community would join with him in recognizing their debt of gratitude to Mr. Gillett and would fall in with his suggestion that they could best show that gratitude by setting aside a sum of *yen* 500 for a presentation of plate to Mr. Gillett, to be given to him at some future day at a meeting of the community of Yokohama.—(Applause).

Mr. A. BELLAMY BROWN had much pleasure, as one of the younger members of the community, in seconding the proposal. He believed the most beautiful cemetery in the world was that of Bermuda, next to it came the Happy Valley in Hongkong, and he thought they could honestly say that third in order came the Cemetery in Yokohama. They had not in their midst an old ivy crowned church at the foot of which "the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep," as Gray tells of in his "Elegy," but they had in their General Cemetery a very beautiful God's Acre around which many fond memories now clustered. It had been looked after lovingly by Mr. Gillett and he (the speaker) thought he was only voicing the feelings of the younger members of the community—many of whom he had seen, and all of whom were in accord with the motion just put before the meeting—when he seconded the proposal of Mr. Walter (applause).

Mr. GILLETT said he was quite taken aback by what had been said. From the bottom of his heart he said that the care of the Cemetery so far as it had devolved upon him had been carried out from sincere motives. Although this community might think there was something due to him for the trouble he had taken, he had looked upon it as a labour of love. As he had said often before there were few things that he could do for the weal of the community. Some men went in for cricket and football and so forth, but for his part he was quite content to serve his fellow members of the community in the humble way he did. Moreover there were many friends of them all lying in the Cemetery. How many young men had come out here to find their last resting place there. It must be a great comfort and consolation to fathers and mothers in distant lands to read the accounts of these meetings and to know that the graves of their departed children were being taken care of. It was nothing for him to do that. If it was desired to present to him a testimonial then let them give him a written testimonial which would cost little and would bear the names of those who wished to show their appreciation. But he wished them not for a moment to think of giving him a service of plate. He should not know what to do with it and he had no one to whom to leave it as an heirloom. If they were disposed to write out a testimonial to be signed by the names of friends in the community it would be valued far, far more than any service of plate. He was quite pleased to have been able to do something for the community.—(applause).

The CHAIRMAN scarcely knew what should be done. He could say of the Committee that they endorsed all that Mr. Walter had said, and they knew better than anyone else what Mr. Gillett had done for the Cemetery. They should have been pleased if he had seen his way to accept some testimonial of the appreciation of the community. As it was he feared there was nothing for it but to fall in with Mr. Gillett's suggestion as to what would be the most acceptable. They all recognized his work.

Mr. MOLLISON said after what Mr. Gillett had told them they could only fall in with his wishes and should at once take steps to do so.

Mr. WALTER said as Mr. Gillett was so strong upon the point he would withdraw his former suggestion and he should have much pleasure in taking on himself measures with regard to an address.

It was agreed, however, on the nomination of the Chairman, to appoint a Committee consisting of Messrs. James Walter, A. Bellamy Brown, and J. P. Mollison to take the necessary steps.

On the motion of Mr. A. Bellamy Brown a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman and the proceedings terminated.

ARBITRATION.

The following is the arbitration scheme referred to at the annual meeting of the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce:—

Yokohama, Nov. 5th, 1902.

The Committee desire to recall the attention of Members of this Chamber to a Pamphlet that was issued with the Annual Report for 1901, entitled the "Delays in the Law Courts," with the contents of which they entirely agree. They do not doubt as to the desire of the Japanese Judges to deal out justice, but a want of confidence is engendered by the proceedings of the Law Courts thus shown, and whilst it is impossible to prevent litigation, there must be, and is, great hesitation to appeal to them. The Committee think that a solution of this difficulty may be found if a Court of Arbitration could be formed in which complete confidence could be placed by the Foreign Community both as to the honesty and intelligence of its Members. They have therefore decided to place the question of Arbitration in the hands of an Arbitration Committee, to be appointed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce. This Committee to appoint Arbiters and an Umpire to examine each case that is brought to the Chamber for Arbitration, who deliver the award under the Seal of the Chamber. Such awards will in all cases be rendered of legal force, by registration in the proper Japanese Courts and they have drawn up rules which they intend shall be followed in all cases of Arbitration.

In drawing up suggestions for Arbitration, the greatest difficulty has been to adopt some scheme whereby it will be possible to do away with personal feeling in the matter, which is so apt to attach to simple Arbitration by two parties, one chosen by each of the disputants. Experience has shown that disputants very often do not appreciate the main point of an Arbitration, say to arrive at a fair and equitable decision on the merits of the case, but rather appear to look on Arbitration as if each Arbiter held a brief for the litigant by whom he was appointed, and that it is their duty to do the best they can for their side of the case. Arbitration thus becomes litigation, the only difference being that the dispute is between the Arbiters instead of the parties themselves. The scheme now proposed does away with this, for the Arbiters will be appointed by the Arbitration Committee entirely on their merits, as men acquainted with the business in dispute and without any reference to personal friendship for either of the parties concerned. The actual number of the Arbitration Committee may be left open and may be arranged according to importance or merits of each particular case.

The Committee quite recognises the inevitable difficulty that will be found in this as in all other schemes for Arbitration, namely, that the Members

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Princeton, from which he was graduated in the class of 1864. His college days were interrupted by the Civil War, which he entered as a Lieutenant in Company D, One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers. It was typical of his whole life that the young soldier played an eventful part in the struggle. He was captured by the Confederates in 1863 at Chancellorsville and put in Libby Prison. In the years 1864 and 1865 he served on the Christian Commission in the United States Army.

As a student he had already decided to enter the ministry, and upon graduation he went to the Theological Seminary of the Northwest, Chicago. His church was the Presbyterian. As he continued his studies his views began to change, but so slowly that he hardly knew it. The year of his graduation, however, when he came up for ordination, his examiners found that his tenets were not those of the denomination to which he sought admission. Thereupon he was tried for heresy and convicted.

At this gloomy period of his career Robert Collier of Chicago sent for him and told him that if he still cared to preach the gospel he would find no obstacles in his way in the Unitarian Church. MacCauley acted upon the suggestion, and became a clergyman in that Church. He preached first in Detroit and Rochester, and then he was called to Waltham to become the pastor of the First Church. There he remained three or four years, until 1872. In this year he went to Germany and there studied philosophy and theology in Heidelberg and Leipsic under such eminent teachers as Prof. Kuno Fischer and Dr. Schenckel. It was during this period of German study that he was elected a member of the Philosophischer Verein and Literarische Verein, Dresden.

About this time he spent a winter in Havana and travelled through the West Indies. On his way home he saw many of the Southern States. In 1876 he became pastor of All Souls Church, Washington, which he built at the corner of Fourteenth and L. streets. While there he had as members of his congregation Justice Miller of the Supreme Court, Judge Richardson, Senators Hoar, Thurman, Hamlin, Allison, Booth, Chandler, Howe, Washburn, Conkling, sometimes Garfield, Bancroft, the historian; Daniel French, the sculptor, and the members of the Japanese legation, and many other people of prominence, both men and women. In that city he was elected a member of the Cosmos Club, an organization devoted to science, and he was the only clerical member of the Philosophical Society.

In 1881 the Bureau of Ethnology in Washington asked Mr. MacCauley to undertake an expedition among the Indian tribes of the country, in order to study their language. He accepted the offer and travelled from the extreme Northwest to the Everglades of Florida. In this latter place he did work of great importance. A revenue cutter was put at his disposal and on it he sailed to the mouth of the Caloosahatchie River. From there he entered the Everglades. Among them he spent several months, most of which he put in at Cypress Swamp. Early in his exploration he found an educated Indian, a man who had been taught by a white, and he pumped him dry. In a surprisingly short time Mr. MacCaulery had worked out the verbs of the language and got together 3000 words and phrases. His monograph of this labour appears in the fifth annual report of the Bureau.

After he had finished this work, Mr. MacCauley broke down nervously and seriously felt the need of a long rest. He went to Italy and stayed there a year. At the end of that time his trouble, a nervous disorder, was still heavy upon him, and his physician told him to try a dry and cool climate, recommending Montana. After a stay in that State, Mr. MacCauley came as far east as Minneapolis, and there, between 1883 and 1889, he edited the *Commercial Bulletin* of that city, wrote for other newspapers and delivered lectures in the University of Minnesota.

When, is 1889, the Unitarian Association decided to expand its work in Japan, it called upon Mr. MacCauley for assistance. In reply he went out immediately to that country, remaining there until 1901, spending there the longest period he has at any one time devoted. And there he has done some of his best work. A postgraduate college was organized in Tokyo, and Mr. MacCauley was made its President. He was also the Corresponding Secretary of the Asiatic Society of Japan and Far Eastern correspondent of the *Boston Transcript*. He wrote as well for many other publications. While in Japan Mr. MacCauley wrote a Japanese-English grammar and translated many Japanese poems into metrical English. Besides, he has written much about Japanese religion. He numbered among his friends many Buddhists, Shintoists and Confucianists of the upper class, and he has great respect for their religions. He regards them as among the many theologies of which Christianity is the chief.

In 1899 Mr. MacCauley came before the public most prominently as a critic of the Philippine situation, then the great American question. He visited Manila and was there the guest of the head of the police department. As he had also an intimate acquaintance with Consul General Wildman of Hongkong, he was able to speak with some authority upon this Eastern difficulty. He advocated careful treatment of the Filipinos, for he predicted that if any hard measures were used against them, a war would be incited, which would last for years and mean a great loss in lives and treasure. His views were cabled to America, and, for a time, he was most conspicuously before the public.

Mr. MacClauley looks upon his work in the East as the best of his life. As a result of it, he has the material for many works. As yet, however, he has had no time to write them. In 1901 he came back from Japan, for the work had so developed there that it was better for it to be altogether in the hands of the Japanese, and immediately he started to travel through the South in the interests of the Unitarian Association.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY.

A meeting of members of the foreign community was held at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms on Monday afternoon for the purpose of passing the Cemetery accounts for 1902, electing a Committee, &c., and for the considering of a special resolution, authorising the Committee to set apart out of the accumulated funds a further sum to be added to the present Yokohama General Cemetery Trust Fund.

On the motion of Mr. A. Bellamy Brown, seconded by Mr. James Walter, Mr. JAMES DODDS took the chair and read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said considering the melancholy interest that the Cemetery here had for so large a number of the community, it had always been a matter of surprise to him that the attendance at these meetings had been so small, even were it only to show appreciation of the work done by the Committee and by the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. B. Gillett, who bestowed so much of his time and so much of his care upon the maintenance of the Cemetery. However, they might regard non-attendance in the negative sense as a sign that none of the community had anything to complain of and that all were satisfied with the work done by the Committee.

Mr. B. GILLETT, Hon. Treasurer, then read the report and accounts of the Committee of the General Cemetery and those of the General Cemetery Trust Fund.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY REPORT.

The Committee of the Yokohama General Cemetery beg to place before the Foreign Community of Yokohama, the Annual Report, and Treasurer's Statement of Account for the year which ended 31st December, 1902.

The total number of interments during 1902 was 49, as against 32 in 1901, made up as follows:

3	who were	Visitors, temporarily residing in Yokohama, as against 5 in 1901.
15	"	Seamen, connected with Vessels lying In Harbour as against 6 in 1901.
31	"	Bona fide Foreign Residents of Yokohama, as against 21 in 1901.

Of the respective nationalities from which the above named interments have been made

19	were	British	as against	15 in 1901.
12	"	American	"	7 "
9	"	German	"	3 "
2	"	French	"	4 "
0	"	Austrian	"	1 "
1	"	Swede	"	0 "
1	"	Dane	"	0 "
1	"	Italian	"	0 "
1	"	Spaniard	"	1 "
1	"	Portuguese	"	1 "
1	"	Mexican	"	0 "
1	"	Finlander	"	0 "
Total 49		as against a total of 32 in 1901.		

The Police department of the Kanagawa prefecture state that from returns made, the Foreign population in Yokohama (exclusive of 3,800 Chinese) numbered 2,447 on the 31st December, 1902. Taking these figures as a basis of calculation and 31 interments as representing the number of deaths from the Foreign community, we arrive at a death rate for Yokohama of 12.66 per mille in 1902 as compared with 8.75 per mille in 1901 and 14.00 per mille in 1900.

The ground at the end of the old Rifle Range, which has been set apart by the Japanese authorities for the Cemetery of the future, and which was referred to in the Report of the Committee for 1901 will, it is expected, be ready to receive interments by the time it may be required, but up to the present, no official communication has been received by the Committee with regard to it.

From the Treasurer's statement of Account which accompanies this Report it will be seen that the Committee have received, from the Trustees of the Yokohama Cemetery Trust fund the sum of *yen* 450, being one year's interest on *yen* 9,000, the amount of the Fund, at 5 per cent. per annum, and in connection with this fund the Committee, would suggest that at the forthcoming annual meeting of the foreign community they should be authorised by a special Resolution to be passed at said meeting to appropriate out of the monies now standing to the credit of the general fund of the Cemetery a further sum of *yen* 3,000 to be added to the present existing *yen* 9,000, making *yen* 12,000 in all, in order that the interest on said *yen* 12,000 should be exclusively set apart, and applied to the permanent maintenance and preservation of the present Cemetery Grounds. The resolution above-named to be endorsed on the original Trust deed. For the rest the several items in the Treasurer's statement of account will speak for themselves and call for no special observation on the part of the Committee. The present Committee consisting of Messrs. James Dodds; N. F. Smith; J. de Cuers de Cogolin; Fr. Retz and B. Gillett beg to tender their resignations.

THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY.

IN ACCOUNT WITH B. GILLETT, HON. TREASURER, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1902.

Dr.

	Yen.	Yen.
To M. Jarmain for Salary 12 months	147.00	
To Labour account	331.55	478.55
To Repairs after Storms in April and September		85.77
To Laying out Ground; Relaying Paths, Turfing Graves, &c.		37.35
To Stone Mason for New Bank and Steps		165.00
To Cost of Tools		3.10
To Books, Stationary; Advertisements		5.50
To Postages and Sundries		8.37
To Lawyer's expenses in connection with Registration of Committee, Stamps etc.		35.50
To Fire Insurance Premium on Buildings, *yen* 1,200		11.44
		830.58
To Amount on Fixed deposit with Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at 5 per cent. Interest	3,000.00	
To Balance in the hands of Treasurer on 31st December 1902	242.05	3,242.05
		4,072.63

Cr.

	Yen.	Yen.
By Balance brought down from previous account 31st December, 1901		2,069.63
By Interment fees 12 months	705.00	
By Fees for erecting Headstones and enclosing Graves	688.00	
By Fees for Exhuming	60.00	1,453.00
		3,522.63
By Amount received from Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for Interest on *yen* 2,000 Fixed deposit at 5 per cent		100.00
By Amount received from the Trustees of the "Yokohama Cemetery Trust fund" Interest on *yen* 9,000 at 5 per cent.		450.00
		4,072.63
January 1, 1903. By balance brought down		3,242.05

E. & O. E.

B. GILLETT.
Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined this account together with the vouchers relating thereto, and found the same correct.

A. R. RIDDLE.

Yokohama, 1st January, 1903.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE YOKOHAMA GENERAL CEMETERY TRUST FUND.

The Trustees of the Yokohama General Cemetery Trust Fund, consisting of Messrs. James Dodds; N. F. Smith; J de Cuers de Cogolin; F. Retz and B. Gillett beg to submit their account for the year 1902, from which it will be seen that they have paid over to the Honorary Treasurer of the Yokohama General Cemetery the sum of *yen* 450 being the amount of interest for twelve months at five per cent. per annum on *yen* 9,000, which sum was set

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view contended that to pledge the credit of the State was the only means of getting money cheaply; that, further, the exercise of competent official supervision would then become possible, so that all irregular transactions tending to impair Japanese credit would be avoided; and finally that foreign capitalists would not be perplexed by having to discriminate between public and private borrowers. On the other side it was contended that danger would attend the delegation of so much authority to the Administration; that the Diet should always be consulted whenever any occasion arose to offer State security for loans; that such a system invited obvious abuses; that by making the Industrial Bank the only channel for the inflow of foreign capital, the volume of the latter entering the country would be restricted, and that the function of discriminating between enterprises which ought to receive State endorsement and those not worthy of such support would prove exceedingly difficult. These various opinions were exhaustively discussed by the High Council of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, and in the meanwhile the *Kensei-to* Cabinet having fallen, the Yamagata Cabinet came into power, and Count Matsukata, in his capacity of Minister of State for Finance, introduced in the House of Peers a bill for the organization of the much-talked-of bank, calling it, however, the *Dosan Ginko* (Hypothec Bank). On the other hand, the leaders of the *Kensei-to* introduced simultaneously in the Lower House a bill for establishing an Industrial Bank on the lines contemplated by the Okuma-Itagaki Cabinet, and when the Government's bill came down from the Peers, the two projects were combined by the Representatives, the name, "Industrial Bank" being substituted for "Hypothec Bank," and a clause being introduced by which the Government was empowered to go security for the payment of principal and interest in the case of any loan undertaken through the agency of the Bank. In that form the bill went back to the Peers, who rejected the Representatives' amendments and thus the measure failed to pass. A similar sequence of events occurred in the next session of the Diet, but on this occasion, after much consultation between the two Houses and the Government, the main difficulty was overcome by introducing a somewhat vague clause to the effect that whenever the expediency of obtaining foreign money presented itself, a law should be passed for the purpose. Thus the Industrial Bank came into existence, having for its prime function the business of acting as intermediary for the introduction of foreign capital. Mr. Soyeda was appointed President, and having been eminently connected with the establishment of the institution, he naturally exerted himself vigorously to make it a success. It had a wide field. For, in the first place, there was the business of placing Government bonds; in the second place, the duty of regulating local finance; and in the third place the function of obtaining foreign capital for railways and other important enterprises. Mr. Soyeda applied himself from the outset to establish close relations with foreign financiers, especially those of London and New York. He succeeded in placing himself in touch with some of the chief banks and trusts of New York, and in London he opened correspondence with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, with the Chartered Bank, and with Messrs. Baring Brothers. When Sir William Bisset came to Japan on behalf of Messrs. Baring Brothers to investigate the condition of Japanese railways, Mr. Soyeda took care to inform him accurately as to the useful function that the Industrial Bank was intended to discharge in connexion with the introduction of foreign capital, and it would seem that when Sir William appreciated the difficulties lying in the path of direct loans, owing to the question of foreign ownership of real estate and owing to the special provisions of Japanese law, he perceived the value of the aid that might be rendered by an institution like the Industrial Bank. Subsequently, Mr. Soyeda was entrusted with the management of the first really important business delegated to his Bank, namely, the sale of 50 million *yen* worth of bonds. As to the necessity or advisability of that transaction from the point of view of Japanese finance, Mr. Sakatani said that no disquisition was called for at this late date, and he proceeded at once to describe the steps. In 1901 a proposal with regard to the purchase of bonds came from New York, and the Government took some tentative steps. But it very soon became apparent that nothing satisfactory could be accomplished, and it was decided that a better occasion must be awaited. Then, in February, 1902, the Anglo-Japanese alliance having been concluded, Japanese securities showed a strong upward tendency in the London market and there was a brisk demand for them. Nevertheless the time did not yet seem ripe for offering any large quantity of bonds. Subsequently the South-African war came to a conclusion, the withdrawal of the troops from Peking was decided, and the Cabinet agreed upon the budget for 1903-4, so that at length a suitable occasion appeared to present itself, about August or September last, especially as by postponing the step matters would drift into the era of parliamentary commotion, and, further the effects of the bad rice crop, by producing an outflow of specie, would impair the situation. Just at that time the Industrial Bank received from the Hongkong and Shanghai Corporation a proposal for a large transaction in bonds. Associated with the Corporation was the Barings Bank, so that a thoroughly trustworthy combination presented itself. Thus negotiations commenced, the parties openly concerned being the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and the Industrial Bank, the Government itself not taking any direct part in the conference. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank showed a most accommodating spirit and brought great energy to bear, partly because this was the first occasion when a sale of Japanese State bonds had fallen to the lot of its Japanese branch, and partly because it was the first transaction of the kind subsequently to the conclusion of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. Although the season was unfavourable, the Bank's principal men in London being absent for the summer holidays, they were recalled by telegraph, and even Sundays were converted into working days. It had been agreed that strict secrecy should be observed by both sides until the completion of the transaction, and this condition, though of obvious expediency in some respects, naturally constituted an obstacle to the active pushing of the project by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Nevertheless, within a very brief interval, steps were taken to consult the leading financiers of Europe, the result being that among English financiers alone a really favourable disposition was found. The three chief obstacles encountered by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in the initiatory stage were the panic in German banking circles, the stringency of the American money market, and the floating of a colonial loan in London. These obstacles were most cleverly overcome by the Bank, and moreover the Bank of England was persuaded to extend its inscription system to Japanese bonds for the first time; a measure encompassed with the greatest difficulty and attributable to the exceptional good will with which the great English Bank regarded Japan. Of course the principal point at issue between the Industrial Bank and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was the question of price. The Industrial Bank contended that as the bonds were to be sold in London, the price at which Japanese five-per-cents were quoted in that city should be taken as a standard. But the foreign Bank denied the feasibility of such procedure in view of the much cheaper quotation in Tokyo. Moreover, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank objected to War Bonds, as not likely to meet with the approval of British investors. The Bank would have preferred Consolidated Bonds, but since a sufficiency of these was not obtainable, it was finally decided that the securities should be called "Imperial Five-per-cents" (*Teikoku Goburi-zuke Kosai*), although these were open to the objection of being a new class of securities with which the public was not familiar. The Industrial Bank, having regard to the effect that might be produced upon Japanese securities already quoted in London, proposed that the selling rate of the new bonds should be £104 per 1,000-*yen* bond, out of which sum the Japanese Treasury should receive £100. But to this the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank declared itself unable to agree, and at one time a consensus seemed so improbable that the foreign Bank suggested a reduction of the amount of bonds from 50 millions to 30 millions, and asked that the places for paying interest and principal should not be limited to England. At last after much difficulty and even an appearance of total failure, it was agreed that the selling price should be par, that is to say, £102 per 1,000-*yen* bond, and that the sum received by the Treasury should be £98. There was of course a danger that this might produce some depreciation of other Japanese securities on the London market, but it was not apprehended that the effect would be serious or permanent. When, however, it came to signing the final agreement, two new troubles presented themselves. The first was that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank believed that the interest for September would be paid by Japan, whereas the Industrial Bank proposed to begin paying interest from October; the second, that the Industrial Bank, though agreeing to endorse the bonds, had not contemplated paying for the stamps required by English law. The first point was speedily elucidated. It turned on a misunderstanding of telegrams, and in the issue the payment of interest commenced from October. But the second point threatened to wreck the whole transaction, and the Industrial Bank, considering that such a result ought not to be allowed to arise from such a trifle, finally yielded, and the agreement was signed on the 30th of September. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank then received the bonds, and offered them to the British public in the name of a syndicate consisting of that Bank, Messrs. Baring Brothers and the Specie Bank. The result was most successful. English newspapers spoke in highly favourable terms of the transaction, and English capitalists came forward readily, so that the total subscriptions amounted to some three times the amount of the bonds. It must be admitted that the time was well chosen, for very shortly afterwards colonial loans and a Transvaal loan were floated in London and the dissolution of the Japanese House of Representatives followed, all of which events would have interfered seriously with the sale of the Japanese bonds had the latter been deferred. Further, whereas it appears from the London *Economist* and other journals that these colonial and South-African loans were not successful, Japan may congratulate herself on a very different result. Neither can it be denied that this sale of bonds produced a very wholesome effect upon the Japanese domestic money market. As to the Industrial Bank's remuneration, the Government followed the precedent furnished on the occasion of a sale of 40 million *yen* worth of war bonds some years ago; namely, it allowed a sum of one half per cent. of its net receipts, such sum to cover all outlays on account of telegraphs and other operations. This allowance, however, would not have sufficed to recoup all the charges incurred by the Bank since the cost of stamps had to be included. On the other hand the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, in view of the success that had attended the sale of the bonds in London, offered to hand over a sum of money by way of consideration to the Industrial Bank, and the latter, having ascertained that the Government did not object, was thus enabled to secure a reasonable profit, a fact which does much credit to the generosity of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The gentlemen whose exertions were conspicuously influential in bringing about these happy results were Mr. Cameron, of the Bank's London Office, and Messrs. Jackson and Baker of its Yokohama Branch. It need scarcely be added that much credit is due to Mr. Soyeda also, as well as to Viscount Hayashi and to the Japanese Consul in London. Mr. Sakatani concluded by expressing a hope that the Industrial Bank would steadily extend the field of its useful operations as an introducer of foreign capital, and he called upon those present to drink the health of Mr. Soyeda and the prosperity of the institution.

THE REV. CLAY MAC'CAULEY.

The Rev. Clay MacCauley, who is held in affectionate remembrance by so many Japanese and foreigners in Tokyo and Yokohama, has now settled down in Providence as Minister of the Bell Street Chapel. The *Journal* of that city publishes an account of his career, which we reproduce as it will be read with interest by many in this country.

A gentleman of world-wide prominence has recently come to Providence for at least a year's residence. His prominence is due to excellence in a greater variety of important activities than perhaps any other man in the United States has entered upon with anything like equal success. In Germany he is known as a philosopher and a member of its national philosophical societies; in Japan he is recognised as a student and translator of Japanese literature and an ex-President of a Tokyo college; in Washington he is a distiguished anthropologist and ethnologist; in the West and South he is considered a noted authority on the languages of the Indians, while here in Providence as yet he is little more than the new minister at Bell Street Chapel, to take the place of Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer—by name, the Rev. Clay MacCauley.

For a compact record of many of the things Mr. MacCauley has done the matter following his name in the reference book, "Who's Who in America," will do very well.

It is very peculiar that few of the missions he undertook with so much success were of his seeking; almost all of them were given to him not only unasked but unlooked-for. His whole life has been made up of wanderings, but while he has been moving about with his trunks among the different nations of the civilized world his philosophy and religion have been growing broader and more liberal all the time. Until within a few years he has known no permanent resting place, either in body or in mind. He was born and brought up as a Scotch Covenanter, a member of a faith that as far as austere orthodoxy goes, Mr. MacCauley says, is as far back as the middle ages. From the limit in one direction he has moved in the opposite direction until he has reached a point that for breadth of view is as far advanced as human thought can be at present and still be within the field of religion. The way has been somewhat lonely and eventful, but Mr. MacCauley thinks that now there is little if any more travelling for him to do, and he is glad of the prospect of rest.

Clay MacCauley was born in Chambersburg, Pa., on May 8, 1843. His college training he secured at

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the *Mail* that the property of the defendant in the suit was not attached is untrue." Again we refer our contemporary to the text of the Code of Civil Procedure which says: "In the order of provisional seizure the sum of money shall be specified which the debtor will have to deposit in order to stay the carrying out of provisional seizure." Here we have the plainest possible declaration that, by paying the specified sum of money, the carrying out of provisional seizure can be stayed. How can it possibly be stayed unless the bailiff has competence to receive the money and to refrain from enforcing attachment? In the case under review the defendant went out, procured the necessary sum and handed it to the bailiffs, who were thus enabled to desist from proceeding to distraint. Hence our statement is absolutely and literally correct, nor do we find it possible to imagine that, after reference to the Code of Civil Procedure, our contemporary will maintain his present position.

In the fourth place we wrote:—"The defendant, naturally desiring to correct the injury done to his business reputation, sent to the *Kobe Chronicle* an advertisement declaring that the warning previously advertised had been without any authority from the Japanese Court, and that the order of attachment had never been executed. This advertisement the *Kobe Chronicle* refused to insert." Here again we are flatly accused of "untruth." Our reply is to quote the following which appeared in the *Kobe Herald* of March 24th:—

WARNING.

Mr. Young, the Editor of the *Kobe Chronicle*, having positively refused to insert the advertisement given below in his to-day's issue, I am compelled to give publicity to same. I may add that when the actual translation of the Court document is published it will be seen how utterly misleading to the Public was the pretended translation given in the advertisement, signed by J. Hirata, attorney for Alfred Kirby, to which the Editor of the *Kobe Chronicle* gave space in his columns on the 20th inst.

H. E. REYNELL.

"WARNING."

The advertisement headed "Warning," appearing in the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 20th inst. under the name of J. Hirata, Attorney for A. Kirby, was inserted absolutely without any authority from the Japanese Court, the Order of Attachment referred to having never been executed. The advertisement in question was sent in for insertion entirely on the sole responsibility of J. Hirata, Attorney for A Kirby.

H. E. REYNELL.

Kobe, 24th March., 1903.

MR. SOYEDA ON A GOLD STANDARD FOR CHINA.

THE distinguished President of the Industrial Bank delivered a lecture before the Economical Society on the 28th of last month, taking for his subject the great question of Chinese currency. We regret to say that the lecture has not been published in full, but the *Kokumin Shimbun* gives a very complete compendium of it, which we proceed to re-produce, being persuaded that the views of a prominent Japanese financier on such a subject, will have much interest for readers in China as well as in Japan.

Mr. SOYEDA thinks that from every point of view the adoption of the gold standard by China is essential and that she will adopt it sooner or later. Neither its adoption nor its permanent maintenance present any serious difficulties. For this view, which is opposed to the opinion of many commentators, Mr. SOYEDA advances several reasons. First, there is undoubtedly a large quantity of gold in the hands of the Chinese people. Secondly, although in her commerce with silver-using countries the balance of trade is against her, such is not the case with regard to her commerce with gold-using countries, and it follows that she has great facilities for obtaining a supply of gold. In the third place, all the money carried home by the numerous emigrants from the southern districts of the empire is gold, so that here again abundant opportunity offers for obtaining a supply of the yellow metal. Turning now to the question of the actual adoption of the gold standard, the steps recommended by Mr. SOYEDA are these:—

1. Gold must be declared the standard currency of the empire.
2. For the present the circulation of standard gold coins should be limited to the treaty ports. In other districts silver should be allowed to circulate for a fixed number of years.
3. A legal value should be temporarily fixed for the silver circulating in the interior, and that value should be made the standard for all payments of taxes and transactions of exchange.
4. The legal value of silver should be changed in accordance with changes in the market price of the metal.
5. The legal value of silver should be put at a figure a little lower than the market value.
7. The copper coins now in circulation should be interdicted after a fixed term of years.
8. In addition to standard gold coins subsidiary coins of silver and copper should be struck.
8. Silver coins issued by the Government should be exchanged for gold at the market rate.
9. The customs duties and the domestic taxes now fixed in terms of the Haikwan tael, should be converted into standard gold coins at the current rate.
10. All customs duties should be paid in standard gold coins.
11. A central bank should be established with the function of changing silver coins and performing other financial duties.
12. At the same time, a system of convertible currency should be inaugurated, and the Bank should carry it out.
13. The weight and fineness of the standard gold coins should be made the same as those of Japanese coins.
14. The weight and fineness of the subsidiary coins should be identical with the Japanese figures.
15. For the sake of temporary convenience the business of casting the standard gold coins and the subsidiary coins should be entrusted to the Japanese mint or to some other trustworthy mint.
16. The quantity of standard gold coins issued at once for use at the treaty ports should be about one-tenth of the present bulk of the trade, or, in other words, some fifty million *yen*.
17. To obtain bullion for casting these coins, gold bonds to a corresponding amount should be issued.
18. The amount of subsidiary coin to be issued might be calculated at about 2½ *yen* per head of population, or 1,000 million *yen* in all.
19. Assuming the Japanese ratio in the case of convertible notes, namely, 3 *yen* per head of population, there should be no objection to issuing 1200 million *yen* of notes. But at the outset, in order to keep things in a thoroughly safe groove, the issue might be put at 300 million *yen*.

The issue of subsidiary coins to the extent of 1,000 million *yen* in accordance with the above scheme, should not involve any special loss for the Government so far as concerns its dealing with silver. Again, with regard to the issue of 300 million *yen* of convertible notes, a portion of them should be lent to the Government without interest for the purpose of establishing order in the national finances. Mr. Soyeda thinks that a gold reserve of 190 million *yen* would suffice for all purposes, and that with such a reserve the gold standard might be adopted throughout the empire. There would then be 100 million *yen* of gold reserve in the treasury, 300 million *yen* of convertible notes, in circulation and 1,000 million *yen* of subsidiary coins, or 1,400 million *yen* in all.

Such are the views attributed to Mr. SOYEDA. We suspect that they have been over-epitomized. For it will be observed that a vital matter is not discussed, namely, the manner of providing a gold reserve. Fifty millions of *yen* for coinage purposes are to be obtained by the sale of gold bonds. Possibly Mr. SOYEDA expects that these coins would be issued in exchange for gold bullion in the hands of the people, and that a further quantity of gold could be obtained by the issue of convertible notes. But the programme would be more convincing and comprehensible were these features explained more fully. Little account also is apparently taken by the learned financier of the enormous difficulty—regarded by many observers as almost insuperable—of substituting a uniform system of subsidiary coins for the welter of debased and heterogeneous tokens now doing the duty of currency in the interior. We do not ourselves believe that this difficulty is so formidable as some persons suppose, for the Chinese, being eminently a shrewd, business-like people, could be easily brought to appreciate the advantages of the proposed substitution. Yet we can scarcely regard the point as so insignificant as to warrant Mr. SOYEDA's complete indifference to it.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK AND THE SALE OF BONDS.

All arrangements connected with the sale of 50 million *yen* worth of bonds in London last year, having been brought to a conclusion on the 28th of February, an entertainment was given to the President and Directors of the Industrial Bank on the 25th instant at the Bankers' Club in Tokyo. The only foreigners invited were Mr. D. Jackson and Mr. T. S. Baker, of the Yokohama Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, whose assistance had been largely responsible for the successful sale of the bonds.

Mr. SAKATANI, Vice-Minister of Finance, made an able speech, setting forth the whole history of the transaction. He set out by explaining that this was the first financial operation of cardinal importance completed by the Bank since its organization. The idea of establishing an Industrial Bank (*Kogyo Ginko*) had been conceived by the Government in 1890, simultaneously with the plan for the Industries Encouragement Bank (*Kwangyo Ginko*), but although the latter matured practically in 1896 as a part of the *post-bellum* undertakings, the former remained still in abeyance. Thereafter, owing to the fever of enterprise that seized the nation in the sequel of the War, a cry for the introduction of foreign capital became constantly more audible, and finally the Industrial Bank was brought into the field of practical politics in 1898, under the so-called *Kensei-to* Cabinet, namely, the Cabinet of Counts Okuma and Itagaki, Mr. Matsuda Masahisa being Minister of Finance; Mr. Soyeda, Vice-Minister. Mr. Soyeda had long been an official of the Finance Department, and had taken a leading part, in conjunction with Mr. Hayakawa Senkichizo, new Managing Director of the Mitsui Bank, in drafting regulations and devising the system of the Industries Encouragement Bank, the Commercial and Industrial Bank, and the Bank of Formosa. He had also been prominently engaged in compiling nearly all legislation relating to banking institutions with which the Government was connected. Naturally, therefore, the duty fell to him of piloting the Industrial Bank bill through the Diet. The Cabinet of that time had a larger conception than was subsequently entertained with regard to the introduction of foreign capital, in which undertaking the Industrial Bank was to be mainly instrumental. It was the Government's purpose to directly guarantee the principal and interest of any bonds sold by the Bank abroad. Here, however, a difference of opinion arose. Those supporting the Government's

of this Chamber, actively employed in their own business, can only with great difficulty find time to give to the work of Arbiters; but any Member who can realise in the pamphlet above referred to (Delays in the Law Courts) the risk he runs of delays and unsatisfactory decisions should he be compelled to go to the Japanese Law Courts, will recognise that it becomes a duty one owes to another to come to decisions in case of dispute by means of mutual cooperation in the form of Arbitration.

RULES FOR ARBITRATION.

1. The Foreign Chamber of Commerce of Yokohama shall organise an Arbitration Committee of Seven Members, with power to the Committee of the Chamber to add to the number, and they shall elect a Chairman from among their number. All Arbitration cases brought for decision to the above Chamber shall be referred to this Arbitration Committee.

2. The Arbitration Committee shall appoint two of their Members, or two other Members of the Chamber as they deem fit, hereafter called the Arbiters, to examine and report to them as to the matters in dispute, and also an Umpire to whom the several decisions of the Arbiters shall be referred in case of their disagreement. The party first applying for Arbitration shall make a full statement (in duplicate) of his case in writing, one copy to be served on the other party, who must, within a time to be fixed by the Arbiters, make a written answer (in duplicate) thereto, one copy of which shall be served on the first party, who shall have a right to reply as to any new matter; this to end the pleadings.

3. The Arbiters shall hear the parties interested or take their evidence in writing: examine goods and or samples; call for and receive documentary evidence; and examine witnesses or experts who voluntarily appear before them, but are not empowered to administer an oath to a witness or expert. [This can be done by an appeal to the Japanese Court.]

4. The Arbiters shall submit their decision to the Arbitration Committee and if a joint decision be agreed upon, this shall be accepted as final.

5. If the Arbiters cannot jointly agree to a decision, the Arbitration Committee shall submit to the Umpire the several points in disagreement, and he shall give decision on them, which, with the points already agreed upon by the Arbiters, shall be accepted by the Arbitration Committee as final, and shall be issued by them as the award.

6. The award shall be issued in quadruplicate over the Seal of the Chamber, and countersigned by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and Secretary. The original shall be deposited at the Clerk's office of the competent Japanese Court (Ku Saibansho), with the document of service annexed. A copy shall be served to each of the parties calling for Arbitration, and copies of both award and documents of services shall be retained by the Chamber of Commerce and shall be produced in such Courts of Law as may be required.

7. The award once issued shall have the effect of a final and conclusive judgment relating to the dispute in question, shall be held to be good in Law, and shall not be subjected to any appeal to any person or persons or guild whatsoever.

8. Applications for Arbitration shall be made on the Chamber's authorised forms (hereafter to be drawn up) stating the points of dispute, agreeing to abide by the Rules of the Chamber and those for Arbitration, and engaging both parties to accept the award that shall be given by the Chamber as final and binding on both parties.

9. Legal assistance in stating the cases is permitted, and may be insisted upon by the Arbiters if in their opinion the statement of either one or both the parties calling for Arbitration does not seem to them clear. All written evidence to be produced shall be marshalled in the order to be called for, and each document shall be marked or numbered in a clear way so that any one of such pieces of evidence can be called for by its mark or initial.

10.—If legal points are involved, the Committee themselves, or through their representatives specially authorised in writing for that purpose, may take such legal opinion on the points of law involved as they may consider necessary, and at the expense of the parties seeking Arbitration.

11.—The fees to Arbiters and Umpire and other necessary expenses incidental to the Arbitration shall be defrayed by the parties interested in such proportions and to such amounts as the Arbitration Committee shall determine.

12. Applications for Arbitration must be accompanied by a deposit of *yen* 100 from each party, with a guarantee to lodge such further amount as the Arbitration Committee may consider necessary before proceeding with the Arbitration, but not exceeding the amount in dispute together with the estimated amount of expenses.

13. The Arbitration Committee may accept the guarantee of an approved Bank in lieu of cash called for under Rule 12 either in whole or in part.

14. If cash is called for under Rule 12 the same to be lodged in a Bank in the name of the Foreign Chamber of Commerce.

15. If any Member of the Arbitration Committee has a direct or indirect interest in a matter in dispute or be a relative to any of the parties concerned, he shall stand aside for the time being and in his place a substitute shall be nominated by the Committee of the Chamber.

16. It is of primary importance that decisions given under Arbitration by this Chamber shall be given as quickly as possible, and it shall be the duty of the Chairman and Members of the Committee to see that this is done.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the Chūō Kōron (Buddhist) Mr. Kōda Rohan, the eminent novelist, draws attention to a trait of Japanese character that has often been noticed by foreign observers. The title of the article, which we summarize below, is *Kokumin seishitsu no aku keikō* (Evil Tendencies in our National Character). One of the evil tendencies referred to is pessimism, the habit of preferring to take a gloomy, instead of a cheerful, view of things. This disposition, says Mr. Kōda, is a source of weakness to us as a people. In this country as a rule the better people are the more pessimistic they are. Optimists are usually people who are quite indifferent to moral considerations. If the optimism indulged in by the wicked were to become one of the permanent characteristics of the good, virtue would be enormously furthered thereby. Pessimism undoubtedly paralyses effort. With a large number of us the habit of looking on the dark side of everything proves to be a serious hindrance to our bearing with fortitude and cheerfulness the unavoidable ills of life. The man who can take trouble lightly, who can always perceive a silver lining to every cloud is far more likely to succeed at anything he undertakes than the man who is ever brooding over his misfortunes.*

Again, in Japanese human nature there is too much exclusivism (排他心, *haitashin*). It is all very well to dislike bad people, but refusal to have anything to do with them is a mistake, as it deprives them of the means of reforming themselves. But our exclusiveness is very frequently the result of a mere whim, of our taking to one person and not taking to another. In judging others we frequently display great narrow-mindedness and bias. In this country men are abused in print much oftener than they are praised, and readers show astonishing credulity when reading anything against a man. How few there are that take up the cudgels in defence of their friends! The tendency among us is to allow ourselves to be estranged from men against whom something has been said or written. If it were possible for some clever foreign political agents to play on our mutual suspicion of each other, there is no saying to what dangerous consequences it might lead. No matter how great a man may be in this country his mistrust of others continues. It is still a case of *itachi kokko, nezumi kokko.* (The weasel game and the rat game are different).†

The *Koye* (Roman Catholic) endorses the above very heartily, but regrets that Mr. Kōda fails to suggest a remedy for the evil tendencies the existence of which he so much deplores.

* * *

In the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* (No. 191) appears a very long essay penned by Dr. Motora Yujirō entitled: *Kairaku wa Rinri no Hyōjun to nariubeki ya ina ya?* (Can Happiness become an Ethical Standard, or not?) from which we can only quote a few passages showing the line which the learned writer takes. In speaking of pleasure or happiness becoming the standard of virtue, the Doctor says:—In a large number of cases virtue consists of a sacrifice, or as any rate involves a sacrifice of personal happinest for the sake of others or for the sake of some cause.‡

Speaking of the connection of religion and ethics Dr. Motora observes:—In foreign countries ethics is reduced to a question of standards of conduct, and religion then becomes subordinate to ethics as furnishing a certain amount of material for embodiment along with other elements in that standard. Logically ethics is independent of religion, but practically it is not, since religion supplies elements which are needed to make the standard of conduct complete and effective. Speaking generally, ethics has to do with experience, religion with faith. Ethics is for society, considered as an organic body, whose comfort, progress and well-being it promotes; religion is essentially for the individual, who as an individual only receives solace from it. The Church is only a collection of individuals who think alike, which, though often spoken of as a society, is not so in the broader sense which is attached to that term (*Shūkyō no shakai wa kokoro aru mono no atsumari de, yahari kojin, kojin no atsumari de aru*). Religion cannot be said to be as essential as ethics. The latter is absolutely necessary to the well-being of society. It is because religion is not indispensable that the laws of civilised countries grant perfect liberty to subjects to accept or reject it as they please in so far as their actions connected with religion are neither disorderly nor morally pernicious. The necessity of religion may be said to have its limit fixed by ethical considerations as far as society as a whole is concerned. The tendency in civilised countries is all in the direction of subordinating religion to ethics, and it would seem as though eventually religion will be considered superfluous by the majority of thinking people. But this is in the dim distance, when the gospel of humanity shall have spread far and wide and shall have taken the place of religion in men's hearts. So long as ethics is regarded as a branch of knowledge whose chief function it is to fix on a standard of conduct without furnishing ideals, there will be room for religion to step in and furnish the ideals and supply material for the realisation of the nobler objects of man's life. But if ethics be expanded, as by some it has already been expanded, so as to include everything that concerns the higher development of human nature, then the separate existence of religion will no longer be possible. Plato's "Republic," More's "Utopia," and similar works all give expression to the feeling that the time will come when religion will no longer have any function to fill. In Western countries tradition has given religion such a strong hold on men's minds that most Europeans and Americans cannot bring themselves to argue about its possible future inutility. Religion is by a great many treated as something that is not open to discussion. Its position is unquestioned and unquestionable. But we Orientals, happily, have no such feeling, and hence we can contemplate with equanimity the swallowing up of all distinctly religious elements in the system of ethics that is now in the course of evolution.

Dr. Motora concludes his essay by recording his rejection of the Utilitarian standard of morality as too exclusively connected with individual happiness and well-being, and suggests that Humanity, or universal love will be the standard eventually adopted. All standards whose centre is self are by the Doctor considered to be inferior.

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpō* writes in very feeling terms of the death of Dr. Alexander. It says that he was a man of rare sweetness of disposition, modesty, and benevolence, and that no truer follower of Christ ever visited these shores. A

* The characteristic to which Rohan draws attention manifests itself very conspicuously in the whole of Japanese literature, ancient and modern, and in their *No* performances and their stage acting.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

† This word *Kokko* is also used in the term for Japanese Prisoner's Base, *Oni-gokko.* Its origin is obscure, and it is only written in *kana.* Rohan's meaning seems to be that the players of the two games keep separate.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

‡ The reply of Utilitarians to this argument is that the very sacifice referred to is only a higher kind of happiness; that there is no greater pleasure than the consciousness that we have conferred great benefits on others by sacificing our own comforts. Dr. Motora seems to overlook the fact that Utilitarians make "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" the standard, and not mere personal happiness.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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full account of Dr. Alexander's mission work is given by the *Fukuin Shimpō*.

Commenting on the biography of Dr. Brown, formerly of Yokohama, the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* says that among foreign missionaries Dr. Brown, Captain James, formerly of Kumamoto, and Mr. Clark, formerly of Sapporo, did more than anyone else to lay the foundations of the Christian Church. Many of the most prominent Christian leaders were influenced in favour of Christianity by the lives and teaching of one of these three men. Among Dr. Brown's pupils were Messrs. Honda Tsunekazu, Oshikawa Masayoshi, Ibuka Kajinosuke and Uemura Masahisa.

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* refers in appreciative terms to the Life of Dr. Brown published by Dr. Griffis, and calls attention to the fact that Dr. Brown was most anxious that the early Japanese Christians of whatever denomination should unite and set their faces against perpetuating Occidental denominationalism here—advice which was only partially followed.

* * *

In the *Kyōiku Kōhō* Mr. Adachi Ritsuyen contributes a long essay entitled "A History of Benevolence." The three great religions of the world have all been founded on this. Brotherhood, love, fellow-felling—these are what Buddhism, Christianity and Mohammedanism alike teach. In the case of Buddhism the doctime of the equality of all men and of the obligation of all men to exercise charity towards those who need it is a cardinal one, says Mr. Adachi. It was always deemed incumbent even on monarchs to exercise charity, as is taught in the saying 慈樹給孤獨園 *gijukyū kodoku-yen* (To found an orphan asylum in return for a victory won). The virtue of monarchs, it was taught, was to be shown by their kind treatment of those beneath them. This doctime when preached in China found itself in accordance with the teaching of Confucianism, which represents the monarch to be the father and mother of the people (*kimi wa tami no fubo nari*), and which thoroughly identifies his interests with theirs (*tami no konomu tokoro, kore wo konomi*; *tami no nikumu tokoro, kore wo nikumu*). According to the doctrine of universal kindness, compassion, and sympathy, as proclaimed in China by the early Buddhists and as embodied in the Confucian teaching, even the lowest classes of domestics are to be treated with great consideration. With the Buddhists even animals and insects are entitled to be similarly dealt with. Japan's ancient monarchs even before Buddhism was known in this country, prompted by natural impulses, treated their subjects kindly,* but in the case of earnest believer in Buddhism, like Shōtoku Taishi, there was a most striking display of benevolence that involved no small amount of self-denial. Thanks to the teaching of Buddhism, the display of compassion and fellow-feeling is held up for admiration in our best literature. In illustration of this remark a few striking poetical epigrams (*hokku*) are given by Mr. Adachi, among many other quotations. Here are two of them

Hatsu-yuki ya,
Are mo hito no ko,
Taru-hiroi.

"The boy who is picking up thrown-away barrels in the first winter snow is one of the sons of men" (and hence deserves our pity).

Waga ko nara,
Tomo ni wa tsuresu,
Yuki no yoru.

"Were it my own child, I would not take him with me on a snowy night." This is one of Ukō's epigrams which is much admired for the telling manner in which it preaches the doctrine that we must treat other people's children as if they were our own. Mr. Adachi concludes his interesting history of benevolence in the Far East by observing that one effect of the rush and competition of these modern times is that forms of cruelty which were not known in old Japan have recently been practised, and we hear of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals and of socialists who dwell on the grievances of workmen and the tyranny of employers. We need but to revert to the old state of feeling to make things right, says Mr. Adachi. Let not the would-be reformers imagine that they are introducing new remedies. What has happened is the suppression of the old beneficial influences by the exigencies of the new situation in which Japan now finds herself.

* * *

In the *Dokuritsu Hyōron* is published a comparison of Japanese and European ethics, which we translate below:—

JAPANESE ETHICS.	EUROPEAN ETHICS.
(1) The Japanese system runs lengthwise*, being founded on natural relationships (人倫 *jinrin*). According to this if a mother and wife were drowning, and only one could be saved, the mother would be chosen.	(1) The foreign system runs crosswise, being founded on the mutual love of husband and wife. According to this, if a mother and wife were drowning, and only one could be saved, the wife would be chosen.
(2) The Japanese system makes the family its sole standard (單位 *tan-i*).* Men exist only in families, so that in case of there being no natural heirs adoption is resorted to.	(2) The foreign system makes individuals the basis. Individuals succeed individuals. There is no system of adoption and no importance is attached to family inheritance.
(3) Historically Japanese national life has been always developed on family lines. Hence the high importance of the family in our estimation.	(3) European communities are only collections of individuals (*Kojin no danshū ni suginu*).
(4) Shintōism, Buddhism and Confucianism all make filial piety their cardinal virtue, and inculcate submissiveness as obligatory on all.	(4) With Christianity filial piety occupies no such prominent place as it does with us.

The conclusion reached by Dr. Inoue is that there is in Christian teaching something that is opposed to the fundamental principle of the Japanese state.†

* * *

To the *Shinjin* Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō contributes an article entitled "*Nihon no tokukyō ni tsuite omou tokoro wo nobu* (What I think on the subject of Japanese moral teaching)." Dr. Inoue's views have been so often given in various forms in these columns that further recapitulation of them is unnecessary. Hence we confine ourselves to reproducing what he has to say on the early history of the Tōkyō Imperial University. I joined the University, which then bore the name of the Kaiseiggakō, in 1875, says Dr. Inoue. Two years later it changed its name and was reorganized in many ways. I boarded at the University as a student until 1880. The institutions in those days was in many respects very different from what it is now. Ethics was not taught as a separate subject at all. But among the teachers there were Christian ministers and also high-principled foreign laymen, and as for the students, they were under control to a far greater extent than they are to-day, and the tone among them was high. If any student ventured to transgress the unwritten law of the school, he was dealt with in a manner as summary as that resorted to by American lynchers. In those days our morals were such as we had inherited from our Bushidō ancestors. The code, though not taught theoretically nor argued about, in practice served an excellent purpose. With the opening of the new University began the study of special subjects. The doctrine of evolution particularly attracted our attention, and I remember the surprise with which we heard from Mr. Toyama that we had descended from monkeys. At that time Mr. Fenollosa was lecturing to us on Philosophy. In some of his views he followed traditional German philosophy and in others he espoused the doctrines of the new evolutionists. At that time the lectures of Mr. Edward S. Morse on Zoology and the new theories to which he gave expression created a great sensation among us. Among influential teachers of evolution were Mr. Yatabe Ryōkichi and Dr. Katō Hiroyuki. The latter took up the subject in the most earnest manner, even burning a book that he had previously published on man's rights and his place in creation, and publishing a new work entitled 人權新說, *Jinken Shinsetsu*. Dr. Katō from that time onward applied the doctrine of the survival of the fittest to all departments of life and thought, and taught that as the world is constituted, might becomes right—the powerful do as they please. Dr. Katō's outspokenness brought a crowd of controversialists into the field and there was no little excitement in the intellectual world over the discussion that ensued. The difference between the two sides was just this: Dr. Katō wrote of the actual world and described things as they are, but his opponents wrote of an ideal world and represented things as they conceived they ought to be. As a result of my studies in the University and of what I had heard from various teachers on the subject of evolution, I gave an address to my fellow students entitled *Rinri Taihon*, which was subsequently published in a magazine called *Gakugei Shiriu*. In this I propounded the theory that evolution, having to do with mere phenomena, could not supply us with an ethical standard; that for this we needed to investighte the "real being" that lay beneath phenomena. This lecture some years later appeared in the form of a book entitled *Rinri Shinsetsu*. After graduation in 1880 I devoted myself to the compilation of a history of oriental philosophy, a work on which I am still engaged. In 1883 I went abroad with a view of investigating the state of opinion there on ethical problems and their connection with evolution. I returned in 1890 and was appointed a Professor of the Imperial University. Three years later I published my pamphlet, "The Conflict of Education and Religion," which caused no small stir at the time. In reference to the views expressed in that essay, I wish to say that they were based on facts that had come to my knowledge. Things have altered considerably since then, but it seemed to me at the time that the foreign missionaries were all exercising a denationalizing influence. Extra-territoriality was much in evidence in their dealings with our people. They each seemed to aim at stamping their own nationality upon their converts. Their respect for our institutions and ways of thinking was but slight. Many of them never even hoisted their national flags on our festival days. Under these circumstances it seemed to me that our national sentiment and the imported Christianity were at variance, and I have reason to believe that my representation of the state of affairs opened the eyes of some unprejudiced Christians and led to divers changes in the relations of the native Christians to the missionaries. At that time Mr. Yokoi Tokio informed me that many of the abuses to which I called attention actually existed to his knowledge. My objection was not to Christianity itself, but only to the Occidental customs and forms associated with it which were being introduced here by the missionaries. To a Japonicised form of Christianity I had no objection.* Subsequent to our war with China the

* A well-known instance of this was the refusal of the Emperor Nintoku (began to reign A.D. 317) to allowh is palace to be repaired while the inhabitants of Naniwa (Osaka) were in a state of poverty, and his remission of taxes for three years. His striking saying:—"A ruler depends on his subjects for what he is. If my subjects are poor, I am poor; if they are rich, I am rich" shows that there was a high standard of royal virtue in Japan more than 200 years before Buddhism was introduced.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* We must confess that we fail to see the pertinence of the terms lengthwise and crosswise as applied to systems of ethics, unless by these terms the Doctor means to imply that the Japanese system is right and the foreign one wrong. *Yoko* and *tate* are sometimes used in this sense.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† It is worth while calling attention to the fact that while writing thus Dr. Inoue has allowed Muirhead's system of ethics to be taught in his school—a system which ill accords with the principles championed in the comparison given above. But cases of similar inconsistency between principle and practice might be quoted by the dozen.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* Speaking of the object of the above named book Dr. Inoue says:—*Mattaku ano hon wa korera no gwaikoku teki fūshū wo shu to suru Nihon no Kirisutokyō to wo kaycrimisasen to shita ni todomari; shinjitsu kokumin teki narashimen to no shui ni hoka*

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attitude of foreign missionaries towards us underwent a marked change. It was held to be inexpedient to try and force Christianiiy on our people in the way that is done in uncivilized countries. Foreigners began to find out that we had religions which had taught us a great deal. So instead of assuming that what was brought from the West must be superior, gradually a desire to study our native systems sprang up, and from that time onward religion became the subject of earnest inquiry and investigation. In the year 1899 I published an article in the *Tetsugaku Zasshi* entitled *Shūkyō no Shōrai ni Kan suru iken*,* which gave rise to a great deal of discussion. The various articles that appeared discussing my views were collected by the Kinkōdō and published under the title *Sonken* [Dr. Inoue's *nom de plume*] *Hakase Rinri teki Shūkyōron Hihyō-shu*. A few years later I published a work entitled *Rinri to Shūkyō no Kwankei* (The Connection of Ethics and Religion). My views have not changed since the time when I first stated them in the work referred to above entitled, *Rinri Shinsetsu*.

* * *

The *Shinjin* discusses at great length Dr. Koeber's views on Materialism, to which it is much opposed. It says that Materialism leaves no basis for morality, in that it removes the element of the free-will in man which enables him to choose between good actions and bad ones. The definition of the Latin word *mos*, from which morality is derived, "is a manner or fashion of acting determined by the will and pleasure of the person acting." If this power of choice be removed, as it is practically removed by materialistic theories, then the basis of morals no longer exists. To all morality as to all philosophic discussion the freedom of the will is a *sine qua non*, says the *Shinjin*. If it be said that materialists are in many cases virtuous men, then we reply that they are so in spite of their materialism and owing to other influences acting on them. Nowhere do we find in the writings of materialists any acknowledgment of the freedom of man's will. Whatever morality is allowed by the materialists' system of thought is the creature of circumstances and environment and not the result of the exercise of will. This system not only removes the basis of morality, but it cuts away the whole foundation of law. The idea of law is founded on individual responsibility, and this responsibility implies freedom of choice. Without this man's actions can neither be regarded as blameworthy or praiseworthy; as in acting one way or the other he is simply following nature, as the tiger does when he slays and eats human beings. Rousseau's advice, "Return to nature," is not to be interpreted as advocating an abolition of all distinctions between man and beast and the unreserved following of mere animal instincts, but rather as advising our going back to our original nature, a nature that is full of virtuous impulses. Rousseau did not teach materialism as it is taught to day. Tolstoi, one of his devout disciples, well represents the character of Rousseau's teaching, which is decidedly anti-materialistic. No materialist believes that man's original nature is virtuous. To him man is a product of matter and his actions are determined by the comparative strength or collective force of the materialistic atoms that go to make him what he is. If the term "nature" be used to apply to mere animal instincts only, then the advice "return to nature" is equivalent to saying "be a mere animal and nothing more." It is one of the glories of man that he is placed above nature, that is, that to a very large extent he can act independently of it and make its various forces serve his will. To represent man as so far nature's slave as not to be able to map out his own course is to degrade him to the level of a brute. The adoption of the views of materialists would be a decidedly retrograde movement on the part of thinkers. All human progress has proceeded from man's conviction that he is no slave of his environment, but is destined to rise above it and pursue his own ideals.

* * *

"Christ as an Educator" is the title of a thoughtful article contributed to the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* by Mr. Tomeoka Kōsuke, of which we give the substance below:—Men are saved by faith, says the Gospel of Christ, but salvation is not obtained at once by any means. The road to be traversed before obtaining it is indeed a long one. This seems to have been forgotten by a number of our Christians, who imagine that salvation is one of the easiest things possible; one has only to believe and be saved. The orthodox preachers represent that we are saved by believing in the merits of Christ. Their doctrine resembles that of the Shin Buddhists, which is sometimes called 他力宗 *Tarikishū*, a religion that relies on another. The Unitarians take an opposite view and represent salvation to depend on each person's individual efforts; their doctrine corresponding to the 自力, *Jiriki* (self-dependent) principle preached by the Zen Buddhists. I can approve of neither view. Christ taught men how to work out their own salvation. In addition to being a preacher he was an educator. Considered in this capacity what were his methods? (1) He began by giving hope to his disciples. There can be no sustained effort without hope. I once had a striking illustration of this in the case of a lad who at 12 years of age was condemned to penal servitude for life. At first it seemed to him that life could never be anything but a burden that even if his sentence were lightened and he was allowed to go into society again, he would be branded with disgrace. I told him that by repenting and believing in Christ he could begin life afresh. His despair was replaced by hope, and he became a new being. In education there is nothing more important than the imparting of hope. (2) For education to succeed there must be a strong feeling of attachment between teachers and pupils. This is insisted on by Pestalozzi. Most of our school troubles in recent years have resulted from the absence of this feeling. Education is sold by the teachers as so much merchandize. Christ taught that love must be the bond to bind people together (3) True education consists rather in exemplary practice than in the explanation of theories. There is too much theory and too little practice in our modern Christianity. Words are made to do service for actions. When I was in America a man who was fond of addressing me as "my dear brother" treated me with suspicion that showed that the brotherly feeling was all a pretence. "We are all brothers and sisters," comes glibly to the lips of men and women whose actions belie their words. We live in a day of great profession and great hypocrisy. Christ taught far more by his actions than by his words. (4) Education in order to be thoroughly effective should have the power of arousing various interests in the minds of pupils. This is the central principle of Herbart's system of education and accounts to a great extent for the popularity of his *Pädagogik* in this country. But Herbart was not the first to call attention to this principle. Christ gave new interest to life. Christianity is most decidedly optimistic. Mr. Kanamori Tsūrin never uttered truer words than when he said:—*Kiritutokyō wa gorin* (五倫) *no ajitsuke nari* (Christianity it is that seasons the five relationships). (5) True education encourages the study of nature, as Christ did. Without this a knowledge of the true, the beautiful and the good becomes impossible. To me all modern authorities on education are only great when they elaborate the principles which Christ was the first to teach.

* * *

In the *Fukuin Shimpō* appears an account of an interview with Bishop Nicolai in which the learned prelate is represented as speaking thus:—The silly notion that in extending her borders Russia first sends missionaries to convert the people to Christianity and subsequently despatches troops to take the country is reported to have originated with advice given by Peter the Great to his fellow-countrymen, but this is false. Peter the Great had no such sentiments. The imputation of this opinion to Peter the Great is said to have originated in Poland. . . . . The conversation turning on the Bishop's translation of the Bible, he is represented to have spoken as follows:—Our Eastern Church does not differ much from the Western Church, so that in the matter of doctrine there was no reason why I should not use Dr. Hepburn's translation of the scriptures* and this I did for many years. But while this version is near enough to the colloquial to be understood even by uneducated people, it is certainly open to the charge of lacking the dignity and solemnity which should mark all sacred writings,† and it has been one of my chief objects in making a new translation to remedy this defect. The New Testament is now ready for use, and I intend to set to work on the Old Testament forthwith. My version differs considerably from the Protestant translation. I have changed the order of the books in some cases and the titles in others. For instance the epistle of James has been placed after the epistle of Jude, next to the Acts of the Apostles. Instead of Matai-den I have called the first Gospel Matofei ni yoru Sei-fukuin (The Holy Gospel according to Matthew). . . The Surugadai Cathedral cost 225,000 *yen*. (This seems an enormous sum). It is possible there is some mistake in the figures given). This money was all subscribed by private individuals. A great part of it came from Russian merchants. Our Kyōtō church, lately built, cost 5,000 *yen*. Desiring to furnish this church with the paintings of saints, I asked a friend in Russia to attend to their preparation, and he presented the church with 7,000 *yen* worth of paintings which he had had done at his own expense. Instances of such liberality in the Christian cause are quite common in Russia.

* * *

L'Abbe E. Ligneul's latest work is on "Socialism," a subject which as M. Ligneul observes, in his opening pages, is creating an enormous amount of interest in this country at the present time. It says much for the enterprise of the Japanese, observes M. Ligneul, that they should study so earnestly topics which are attracting considerable attention in the West. It need hardly be said that M. Ligneul takes the line of recommending sobriety and moderation in the treatment of the difficult subject of social inequalities and the remedy for them. In the preface to the book written by Mr. Mayeda it is pointed out that most writers on socialism attach far too much importance to the possession or the non-possession of property and money as a factor of human happiness. Some of the remedies proposed by socialists for the equalizing of things are quite impracticable. The tone of the book may be gathered from the words with which the preface ends. Addressing individuals and the nation Mr. Mayeda says, "That which will make you happy is not the wealth you may possess, but the virtue you practise. This is a truth that holds good in every age. The object of the writer of this little book is no other than to impress this upon all readers." The work covers 94 pages and is issued by the Kanda Sanseisha.

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narazarishi. The gist of which is that the Doctor only urged the Japonicizing of Christianity, a course that is habitually urged by numbers of Japanese Christian writers.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* Reproduced in our Summary at the time.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* Bishop Nicolai speaks of the authorized Japanese version of the scriptures used by the Protestant Churches as Dr. Hepburn's translation. That is not so. The present translation was made by a Committee of Delegates from various missions. They made use of Dr. Hepburn's translation, and Dr. Hepburn, if we remember rightly, was a member of the Committee, but the Delegates' version differs considerably from the first translations made by Dr. Hepburn.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† This is an opinion that is held by not a few Japanese linguists and it seems to us worthy of the serious consideration of Protestant Missionaries. Our English Bible converted into ordinary colloquial English would not command the reverence in which it is now held.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

It is stated that a Manila woman who was employed by a tobacco manufacturer named G. Kume, Chiyohata village, Toyahama-gori, Tokyo, was missed on March 28th. She left the factory about 1 p.m. on that day and since that time no trace of her has been found.

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THE NAVY LEAGUE.

A meeting was held on Saturday afternoon in the former British Court room, of persons interested in the formation of a branch at Yokohama of the British Navy League. There was a good attendance, over forty being present. Two Japanese naval officers were included in the meeting, both in uniform, Capt. T. Imaidzumi and Lieut.-Commander M. Nunome. Among prominent British subjects present were Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, Consul, Yokohama, and Mr. G. H. Barclay, C.M.G., Secretary of Legation.

H. E. Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., British Minister, took the chair, and said:—Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to take the chair this afternoon and introduce to you Mr. H. F. Wyatt, a delegate from the Navy League in England. Mr. Wyatt has recently been lecturing in Canada and he has been specially recommended to my good offices by the Governor-General, the Earl of Minto, who, I may mention, is himself an honorary President of the Toronto branch of the Navy League. The Navy League, as doubtless you are most of you aware, is a strictly non-party organization to urge upon Government and the electorate, that is, upon all Britishers, the paramount importance of an adequate navy as the best guarantee of peace. It requires very few words from me to impress on you the absolutely vital importance of an adequate and efficient navy to the existence of the empire. Even a superficial student of the history of that empire and the manner in which it has been built up, will be well aware of the part the Navy has played in the building of it, and I consider it, therefore, the duty of every Britisher to do his best to press forward the work of seeing to it that we have an efficient and adequate first line of defence—(applause). Much has been recently done, as you are aware, by the new Navy Regulations which have lately been promulgated, and which, in my humble opinion, are a decided step in the right direction. Writing of these regulations a great authority on naval matters has said—and I venture to think that his remarks may be taken as covering everything connected with the efficiency of the Navy—"No one can regard the question at issue as a graver one than I do. I would say of it, in the words of the philosopher quoted by Carlyle as the motto of his 'French Revolution' 'Great is the controversy; superhuman the work; it involves our kingdom, our freedom, our prosperity, our peace,'" I entirely agree with that authority (applause).

Mr. H. F. WYATT then addressed the meeting. He said:

Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD and GENTLEMEN,—In venturing to plead the cause of the Navy League before you to-day, I feel that I have a double duty to discharge—I have first to seek to win your approval of the objects for which that League exists, and for which, during upwards of seven years of ceaseless effort, it has consistently striven,—and I have next to submit to you the reasons that suggest the formation of a new Branch of this organization amidst the British community in Japan.

The official definition of the League is "a strictly non-party organization to urge upon the Government and the Electorate the paramount importance of an adequate Navy as the best guarantee of Peace." These words convey briefly the ideas which have inspired the labours of many strenuous spirits. The need of a navy adequate to give safety in war to the British empire, and to the vast sea-borne commerce, the circulation of which is like the circulation of the blood in the human system, was seen to be not merely of "importance" to the whole British people throughout the earth, but of importance "paramount" to all other considerations. The adjective was deliberately chosen as the result of a deliberate survey of the conditions which form the environment of Great Britain amidst the competing nations of the world. Naval supremacy is a "paramount" need, because until at least some future Marconi shall give mankind the means to propel itself through the air—the sea is the sole medium through which the home islands can be approached, and Great Britain, provided only that she dominate the sea, can defy invasion, as she has defied it, from the days of Elizabeth to the days of Victoria, and will defy it to a period beyond our ken.

By this immunity, England escaped the necessity, in the 18th century of maintaining standing armies on the scale which in Europe was a chief cause of the subversion of liberty, and in the 19th century, and until now, she has been able to avoid that conscription which is the common need of all other European peoples. If however the Channel were to be dried up to-morrow, it is prefectly obvious that England would have either at once to train her population to arms, or else to submit to subjugation by the armed nations of the continent.

This consideration, however, merely covers the beginning of those which demonstrate the overwhelming necessity of naval strength. That need is again "paramount" because two-thirds of our food supply is obtained from over-sea sources, and, without a fleet absolutely dominant in war, prices would rise at once to rates which would spell starvation to the masses, and compel an abject surrender even though not one hostile soldier had been landed on our shores. It is well to note that no mere naval equality to our foes could ensure for us the requisite degree of immunity. Our navy must win no doubtful victory, leaving command of the sea still in dispute, for in that case freightage would be prohibitive and insurance ruinous. It must restrain the enemy within his own ports, or destroy him if he leaves them, so that our superiority shall soon be undisputed and the access of merchant ships to our coasts undenied. Again is the need of this superiority "paramount" because not the food only but the raw material of the manufacturing industries of the United Kingdom requires safe transit over the seas of the world. This safety is in fact as essential to the power to prolong war as food itself, and those who say, if any still say it, that even without command of the sea, food could be obtained from the United States, must answer the question how the wool, the cotton, the jute, and the other raw material necessary to production could in that case be secured. To suppose that the United States will compel a passage through hostile fleets for all commodities alike is to assume her active interference as a belligerent, and that assumption is in fact nothing more than a transfer of reliance from a first class navy, namely, that of Britain, to a third class navy, namely that of the States. If however the raw material were not obtained, half the population of the United Kingdom would be flung in its millions starving on the streets. Lastly, let it be remembered that the British navy has to defend the commerce and the coasts of the empire throughout all seas, and that it can achieve that end only by supremacy—not by doubtful rivalry in naval war. Surely the word "paramount" is justified in the connection in which the Navy League uses it?

But granting the necessity of a great increase in naval strength, is not the work of effecting this increase the task of authority rather than of amateur effort, of the Government rather than of the Navy League? Obviously and assuredly it is, and yet half a minute's reflection will show the vital need of some such organisation as the Navy League at this very point. For what democratic government, depending for its existence on popular suffrages, will dare to demand a heavy increase of expenditure for armaments, unless the public opinion of the country is ripe for that additional burden, and in fact demands to have that burden laid upon it. The whole naval history of the latter half of the 19th century is an illustration of this truism, for until the last few years when the labours of the Navy League in the press and on the platform, by lectures, by the dissemination of literature, by the exertion of every kind of educational influence, have instructed the public mind at home on this question to an extent to which it was never instructed before, no large increase ever took place in the Navy estimates unless as the result of a violent agitation, produced by panic. If within the last week or two, we have seen that the Home Government, without the impulse of any such agitation, are asking sanction for a naval expenditure exceeding by three or four million pounds that of the previous years, and if, as we also learn by the telegrams, public opinion at home thoroughly approves those proposals, surely some credit for this great and salutary change must be given to the ceaseless educational efforts of the Navy League.

An ancient argument, which was wont to be brought forward in England ten years and more ago, whenever any increase in the Navy was suggested, was that any growth of armaments in any nation was simply an incitement to other nations to similar expansion, so that through this process, the peoples of the earth were merely indulging in a costly game of "Beggar my Neighbour." I was somewhat surprised the other day to see a belated reappearance of this very old and stale objection in one English paper in Japan. In England the common sense both of governing men and of the nation at large has decisively rejected it. The idea that Great Britain, or for that matter, any other country, can afford to neglect the precautionary measures which its government deem necessary, in the chimerical hope that other states will do the like is in the highest degree fantastic, visionary, and unpractical. For clearly, if the example thus set were not followed, the nation that had given the lead would have uselessly exposed itself to frightful peril, and might easily furnish an illustration of the results, not of supreme wisdom, but of supreme folly. Clearly, a general agreement would have to be reached, before any kind of disarmament, or retardation of armaments, took place, and that agreement will doubtless be attained as soon as the millennium. Is not however this view, that the state of international competition, of which armaments are merely the symptom, can be arrested in a moment by the breath of statesmen, in the highest degree superficial and unscientific? From generation to generation, and from age to age, the nations of the earth are engaged in a tremendous, ceaseless process of competition, of which war is nothing more than the occasional culmination. In that secular conflict, the issue is decided by the whole sum of the activities, by the whole growth of the resources, of the various competitors. One nation, bearing tremendous military and naval burdens, will, despite that burden, tend to welcome wealthier and more prosperous. That has been hitherto the case with Britain—to take but a single example. Another nation, bearing a less burden, will stagger and grow faint, because its economic life is inadequate to the strain imposed. Can we kill this enormous national competition—competition in commerce, as well as in dominion and in war—without at the same time killing national life, and if we kill national life, which is in our day the mainspring of human action, shall we not stereotype for ever human civilization at the stage which it has now reached?

But I have to speak to you of the particular objects of the Navy League, and of that mission which I, as a humble member of its Executive Committee in London, and one of its two honorary secretaries, have undertaken for it. The object of that mission is to attempt to lead the populations of our great colonies to give increased attention to a subject vital to their safety, and yet hitherto most neglected amongst them—viz. naval defence. If we could only get sound conceptions on this point into the minds of the British people in Canada, in Australia, in New Zealand, and South Africa, those conceptions would soon translate themselves into closer measures of co-operation with the mother country by Colonial Governments. But as the passing efforts of a single individual in many localities,—a few speeches, a few columns in the press,—can produce of themselves no permanent effect, it has been my endeavour everywhere, on behalf of the League, to establish new branches, which by organised effort should carry forward the work of education after my own departure. Thanks to the energetic aid which I experienced from Boards of Trade in Canada, I was successful in founding eleven additional Branches in the Dominion, which may, it is hoped, in days to come exert their influence in shaping Canada's connection with the great questions of imperial defence.

But you will say that you here in Japan are citizens not of a British colony but of a foreign—though a friendly, state. Why, then, should you seek to support the cause of the League?

Well, gentlemen, it is probably a safe assumption that you and nearly all British residents in this country are deeply interested in the security of the sea-borne commerce of the empire. If that commerce were destroyed in war, or even for a long time suspended, British residents would be terribly hard hit, and it is therefore immensely to their interest to do what they can to ensure that the Navy shall be adequate to its protection. Again, British subjects living in Japan have not, certainly, by reason of their exile, lost their patriotic attachment to the old land. As your interest constrains you, so does your patriotism impel you, to render it service yet.

But how can you render the service, or how can you at this distance from England, do anything to urge forward, both there and in the empire generally, the solution of the great problems of naval defence? Here, in the Navy League, you have an instrument at hand. In that League you find the only organisation in the whole British empire which seeks to direct attention to these subjects. By forming a Branch of the League in Japan you will strengthen the hands of those who, against many difficulties, are carrying on the battle at home, and you will furnish me—if I may venture to refer to my own mission—with a powerful plea during the rest of my journey—for if a British community outside the limits of the British empire has decided actively to support the League, how can a British community within the empire refuse?

I cannot resume my seat without expressing—not merely on my own behalf, but on behalf of my colleagues at home—my deep sense of indebtedness to Sir Claude MacDonald for the invaluable service which he has rendered to the League by his kindness in taking the chair to-day.

The speech was listened to with great attention and was more than once interrupted by applause.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that he thought the meeting would agree with him that Mr. Wyatt had given a very clear statement of the

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objects of the Navy League and had put the case very well (applause).

Mr. JAMES DODDS moved "that this meeting approves of the objects of the Navy League and of the suggested formation of a branch of that League among British residents in Japan." After what had been so ably and fully said by Mr. Wyatt he was quite sure that the resolution would commend itself for general adoption by all those present at the meeting. Here in Japan, he said, we are a small handful of British subjects, but in common with all our countrymen we feel the keenest interest in the efficient maintenance of the Navy—(applause)—which exists not in any spirit of aggression or menace towards other powers or other countries, but as a protection to our mother country and her colonies and also to that commerce in which so many of us are engaged and which has helped to build the empire (applause).

At this stage a list was circulated for signatures of those wishing to join the branch, and we believe was signed by all present.

Mr. T. S. BAKER seconded the resolution. He said—I feel confident that every right-thinking subject of the British Empire, and certainly every one present here to-day, will insist that no effort shall be spared, that no expense shall be grudged, that nothing whatever shall be neglected, not only to maintain the British Navy at the highest standard of efficiency, but also to increase her fleets to any extent that be necessary to ensure the perfect freedom of navigation and commerce and the fullest protection of the British merchant service (applause).

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. R. D. ROBISON said—I think that the object which has brought us together to-day is an excellent one, and that the branch we have decided to form requires a good head. We can have the best head by asking Sir Claude MaoDonald to act as first President. I propose that he be requested to act as first President (applause).

Mr. T. B. HOHLER, Second Secretary of Legation, seconded, and the motion was passed by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Robison and gentlemen, I am exceedingly flattered by the proposition and the way in which it was made. I assure you I feel very deeply in this matter and that is the reason I am sitting here to-day. It is with very great pleasure that I accept the post of President of the branch of the Navy League in Japan, and I will do my level best to forward the interests of that branch and of the League generally (applause).

Mr. JAMES WALTER said he had almost a feeling of pity for Mr. Wyatt, that his eloquent address on the subject of the Navy League should have been heard by so few people. As Mr. Dodds had said, they were but a handful of Britishers here in Yokohama but he thought it would be a satisfaction for Mr. Wyatt to know, and he would say it, that in no corner of the world was there any place he could reach in his travels where he would find more patriotic British subjects than here—(applause). I am perfectly convinced, he continued, that every Britisher in this place will join the League. It will perhaps be only a very small drop in the bucket but it will show that we agree in their sentiments (applause). I propose that the following gentleman be asked to constitute a provisional commitee: Messrs. J. Dodds, H. Keswick, D. Jackson, T. S. Baker, R. D. Robison, J. P. Mollison, A. G. Morey Weale, J. E. Beale, and J. Walter.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The Chairman presumed that all the gentlemen would be willing to act.

MR. WALTER thought there could be no doubt about that.

Mr. H. KESWICK said—Before we go away we ought to give a hearty vote of thanks to our Chairman. Whenever anything occurs in Yokohama in which we Britishers are interested we can always depend on our Minister coming and helping us through with it. There is nothing more to be said but to thank him for coming on this occasion and we hope we may see him on many others (applause).

The motion was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the compliment. He added that though this was all the business he should like to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Wyatt, who had most ably explained the objects of his visit (applause). He could only say that he agreed with Mr. Walter in regretting that there was not a larger audience.

A voice—Saturday afternoon, Sir,

Mr. WYATT thanked those present for their attention and said he believed the branch would attain large proportions having regard to the number of the British residents in this country, and that it would be a real help not only to the League in England but to the branches in the Empire at large. It would certainly help him greatly in his travels to be able to say that this British community though outside the Empire had formed a branch (applause).

This closed the proceedings.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.

The Yokohama Customs rendered a decision on March 26th, upon a protest filed by Messrs. Cornes & Co. The firm imported a certain quantity of alpaca and presented it, together with the certificate of origin, to the Customs. The appraisers imposed duty under No. 324 of the Statutory Tariff, but to this the importers protested, insisting that the woof of the material was all cotton and not alpaca, and that for this reason duty should be imposed as in No. 56 of the Conventional Tariff between Germany and Japan. No. 324 does not, however, provide that alpaca must be made only with wool in woof and warp. The weaving itself must be of the nature of alpaca notwithstanding the wool or cotton in the woof. The protest was not sustained.

Another decision was given on the same day in the protest filed by Messrs. Becker & Co. This firm imported a certain worsted cloth and presented the usual certificate of origin. The appraisers charged import duty under No. 324 of the General Statutory Tariff, to which the importers submitted a protest, holding that the goods were a kind of thin woollen plush and should come under No. 340. It is well understood by the digest of judgements given by the Minister of Finance that worsted cloth to be used as overcoatings for Japanese women could not be recognized as coming under No. 340 simply because they are thin. In this case No. 337 was to be applied. The protest was not sustained.

Judgment has been given by the Minister of Finance in an appeal by Mr. L. Bobsien, representative of A. Oestmann, No. 47, Akashicho, Kobe, against a decision of the Kobe Customs imposing *sen* .093 per square yard under No. 337-A of the Tariff on certain woollen and worsted cloth imported by the steamer *Kanagawa Maru* on Oct. 30th, 1902. When the rate is converted to *ad valorem* duty, it is estimated to be over 25 per cent., with which the appellant was not satisfied. The Minister in deciding the appeal said: The appellant's reasons are: (1) According to the principle of the Import Tariff, and original duty rates 51 and 57 attached to the draft of the Conventional Tariff between Japanese and Germany, woollen cloth, no matter of what kind or nature, would not be liable to *ad valorem* duty over 10 per cent.; (2) according to the supplement of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Germany, woollen and worsted cloths to be included in the German "Tuch" were divided into three classes, viz., army cloths, and tweeds and others which are wholly made of wool were classified as "A.," with a duty of *sen* .093 per square yard; pilot cloth, president cloth and others which are made partially of wool were classified as "B.," with a duty of *sen* .039 per square yard; and other woollen cloths not enumerated in the Tariff, were subjected to an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent.; (3) the rate of the specific duties was calculated on the average prices given by the Customs report during six months as stipulated under the convention between Japan and Germany; (4) No. 54 of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Germany is to be applied to No. 337 of the General Tariff, and No. 56 of the former to No. 340 of the latter. The goods in dispute belong to No. 340, and not to No. 337 of the Statutory Tariff, and therefore duty over 10 per cent. must not be imposed. The opinion of the Kobe Customs that the rate of specific duty on cheap goods is a rather higher rate of duty could not be adopted in the present case. No. 337 of the Statutory Tariff involved only a certain kind of cloth and its average price made a basis on which to calculate in imposing duty. It seems that the Kobe Customs confused No. 337 with No. 340 and the protest of the appellant was submitted on this fact. The certificate of origin stated that the goods in dispute were made of wool and cotton but appellant would submit the goods to analysis if necessary.

The statement of the Kobe Customs showed that the specific duty of the supplement of the Conventional Tariff of Japan and Germany was based on the average price of the same series of woollen cloths. The goods classed under No. 54 and No. 56 are a totally different series. The discrimination of the General Statutary Tariff is also based on the same reason, and it will be seen that the duty on goods of low price is rather on a higher grade while the rate on goods of high price is, on the contrary, calculated on a lower grade, by the difference of the specific duty and *ad valorem* duty. The goods in dispute are a coating made of worsted yarn by warp and woof, for which No. 54-A of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Germany will be applied charging a duty of *sen* .093 per square yard.

The Minister decides that the woollen cloth in dispute is a worsted coating made of pure worsted yarn by woof and warp, to which No. 54-A of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Germany must apply. The effect of imposing duty has no relative connection with the discrimination of the goods or with higher or lower duties compared by the specific rate and *ad valorem* rate. The adoption by the Kobe Customs, of No. 337 of the Statutory Tariff in applying No. 54-A of the Conventional Tariff charging sen .093 per square yard is right and proper, and the appeal must be dismissed.

In a second case the appellant R. Schuffner No. 25, Yokohama, stated that the Yokohama Customs imposed duty under No. 337 of the Tariff at *sen* .093 per square yard, on a certain piece of tissue (sample A.) woven of wool and mohair yarns, imported on September 27th, 1902, though it was not a kind of woollen cloth, in material or by manufacture. Therefore duty must be imposed under No. 340. The Yokohama Customs seemed to have confused the provisions of Nos. 337 and 340 for the authorities imposed duty under No. 340 on goods, (samples B. C. D. E.) imported on Sept. 27th (the same day as the goods in dispute), Oct. 18th, Oct. 23rd and Nov. 8th respectively in 1902 which are exactly the same as the present goods in quality, make and material. The tissue must be taken under No. 340 as it is not a kind of woollen cloth and No. 337 is limited to woollen cloths.

The statement of the Director of Yokohama Customs showed that there are various kinds of woollen cloths in make and the tissue in dispute is a kind of woollen cloth. The two goods of samples D and E were wrongly taken under No. 340 of the Tariff and the mistake will be remedied.

Judgement was given by the Minister of Finance to the effect that the goods are woven of worsted yarns by woof and warp and are a kind of woollen cloth for which duty is to be charged at *sen* .093 per square under No. 337 of the Tariff. The appeal was dismissed.

The Minister also decided the appeal of Messrs. W. M. Strachan & Co., Ltd. No. 71, Yokohama, against the imposition by the Yokohama Customs of duty on three cases of serge on Dec. 1st 1902. The appellant contended that the goods should be taken under No. 335 in which were classified serges.

The statement of the Customs showed that the serge in dispute is woven with worsted yarns by

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warp and weft and is not to be classified under No. 335 of the Tariff, but must be taken as woollen cloth to which No. 337 must be applied.

Judgement was given by the Minister to the effect that the goods belong to the class of worsted coatings and are not serge, and so the petition is dismissed.

The Minister also decided the appeal of the Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha, Yokohama, who protested against the imposition by the Yokohama Customs of duty under No. 399 of the Tariff on a certain quantity of "Serahalos" tonic. The appellant contended that the duty should be *ad valorem* at 10 per cent., under No. 136. The goods in dispute are not wine or fermented liquor as provided for in No. 339.

The customs held that the beverage contains:—spirit, 16.4; tonic extract, 24.342, and a small quantity of bitter tincture, and it should be classed as a beverage.

Judgement was given by the Minister to the effect that on analysis, the article in dispute was recognized to be a kind of medicinal liquor and duty at the rate of *sen* 27½ per litre under No. 339 of the Tariff should be imposed. The petition was dismissed.

The Minister of Finance also decided the appeal of Mr. W. Heitmann, representative of A. Meier & Co., No. 68, Kobe, against the imposition by the Kobe Customs of duty under No. 293 of the Tariff at 15 per cent. on packing paper which was packed with union cloth imported by the steamer *Sanuki Maru* on January 9th 1903. The appellant insisted that the paper should be taxed under No. 46-B of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Germany at *ad valorem* 10 per cent. and not under No. 293 of the Statutory Tariff at 15 per cent.

The Customs held that the use of the paper could not modify the nature of the material.

Judgement was given to the effect that the paper in dispute was lined with a thin linen cloth and was recognized as the kind of paper provided for in No. 46-B of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Germany.

The prayer of the petitioner was granted and duty imposed at *ad valorem* 10 per cent.

LAW CASES.

TAM YAU KIT v. THE PHOENIX ASSURANCE CO.

In this case instituted in the Yokohama District Court by the Chinese tailor Tam Yau Kit against the Phœnix Assurance Co., (Yokohama Agents, Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe & Co.), judgement was given on March 27th by Judge Kano dismissing the claim of plaintiff with costs.

TAM YAU KIT v. THE MANCHESTER ASSURANCE CO.

In this case instituted in the Yokohama District Court by the Chinese tailor Tam Yau Kit against the Manchester Assurance Co., (Yokohama Agents, Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe & Co.), judgement was given on March 27th by Judge Kano, dismissing the claim of plaintiff with costs.

CARL ROHDE & CO. *v.* KURITA.

In this case, instituted by Messrs. Carl Rohde & Company against K. Kurita, claiming delivery of woollen cloth. Judge Kano, in the Yokohama District Court, gave judgment on March 30th, in favour of plaintiffs, with cost.

In the suit instituted by the Kawasaki Dock Yard and the Konoike Bank against the Iyo Steamship Company, the Osaka District Court gave a decree of bankruptcy against the latter on March 30th. Mr. N. Yoshida, barrister, was appointed liquidator.

SATO v. C. THWAITES & Co.

This case, which was adjourned on March 25th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court on April 2nd before Judge Kano.

Defendant asked whether the contract concluded between the parties meant that he was to supply ten illusions of grand magical art to plaintiff and at the same time to introduce Mr. Davis to operate the illusions on the stage of the Kinki-kwan Hall, Tokyo, and if so why a clause regarding the latter was not provided in the contract?

Plaintiff replied that the contract was written by Mr. C. Thwaites and given to plaintiff, and it seemed that a clause regarding the operations to be undertaken by Mr. Davis was omitted. But it was promised by him in conversation which took place between the parties when the contract was made.

Mr. Ishii "Black," the famous story-teller, deponed that Mr. C. Thwaites made a contract with Mr. Sato for the performance of an illusion at the Kinki-kwan Hall, Tokyo, and the contract meant that Mr. C. Thwaites would supply all the necessaries for the exhibition to Mr. Sato and at the same time introduce Mr. Davis as the performer of the illusions. Mr. Davis employed an assistant named Mr. Brown. On the stage, witness was employed by plaintiff to explain the illusions. The real object of Mr. Thwaites was to supply everything regarding the performances, which could not be carried out without Mr. Davis. The witness thought Messrs. Davis and Brown were employed by defendant but he did not know what the arrangement was between them.

Plaintiff offered to produce in court a letter in which he changed the amount of the claim to *yen* 6,898.92.

The case was again adjourned till April 7th at 1 p.m. when judgement will be given.

THE MONEY MARKET IN APRIL.

The *Asahi Shimbun* gives tables showing the amount of money required during the month of April to meet various calls.

To be paid-up:—	Yen.
Tokyo Artificial Manure Co. 1st payment on new shares, at *yen* 10 per share ...	50,000
Tokyo Electric Tramway Co. 1st payment on new shares, at *yen* 12.50 per share	825,000
Tokyo Gassed Yarn Spinning Co. 5th payment on new shares at *yen* 5 per share	100,000
Nanao Railway Co. 5th payment, at *yen* 8 per share	64,000
Hokuyetsu Railway Co. payment on debentures at *yen* 98 per *yen* 100	1,176,000
Kanegafuchi Cotton Spinning Co. payment on debentures at *yen* 97 per *yen* 100	970,000
Sapporo Beer Brewery Co. 2nd debenture at *yen* 100	300,000
Osaka Commercial Steamship Co. 3rd debentures at *yen* 50	500,000
Senju Paper Mill guarantee on acceptance of debentures at *yen* 2	6,000
Nippon Hypothec Bank payment of 17th debentures at *yen* 18	900,000
Nippon Hypothec Bank guarantee on acceptance of 18th debentures at *yen* 2	100,000
To be paid out:—	
Refund of bonds of Finance Department	10,000,000
Dividends of various railway Companies.	4,117,690
Dividends of various other Companies ...	103,162
Interest on debentures of Kyushu Railway Co.	37,500
Interest on debentures of Kiwa Railway Companies	10,667
Interest on debentures of Sanuki Railway Companies	7,500
Interest on debentures of Kobu Railway Companies	20,440
Interest on debentures of Nippon Yusen Kaisha	36,000
Interest on debentures of Nippon Industry Encouragement Bank	97,500
Refund of debentures of Nippon Hypothec Bank	18,740
Interest on debentures of Nippon Hypothec Bank	35,626
Payment of Government expenses	15,902,854

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above Fund:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	23,206.73
Women's Benevolent Society of the Nippon Seikō-kwai.....	7.20
Total	23,213.93

THE BOOKSHELF.

Prof. Howard Swan has issued a second edition of his "Flashes from the Far East," a book which records impressions and events during his trip from England to Japan. We reviewed Mr. Swan's little work in its first edition and are glad to see that some of the blemishes have now been removed. It is a chatty, if somewhat rambling, record of what Mr. Swan saw on his travels and immediately after his arrival in Japan, and will serve to amuse if not to instruct.

We have to hand the "Kobe Directory," corrected up to March, 1903, which is issued by the *Kobe Herald* Office. In addition to the very full and, so far as we can judge, accurate business and alphabetical lists of Kobe, there are Osaka and Kyoto lists, a directory of Mission Stations all over Japan, a list of Japanese steamers, tables of Japan's trade, latest information as to the navy of this country and the foreign squadrons in these waters, and a useful map of Kobe. It should be a very handy volume for foreign residents.

In "The Silver Standard and the Straits Currency Question" Mr. August Huttenbach, the well-known Singapore and Penang merchant, enters upon a study of the very grave problem which confronts the Straits Settlements in reference to their currency. He discusses the various points that present themselves in this connection, and he furnishes a scheme which he asserts will give stability of exchange and a currency "better than that of India, Siam or any other eastern country and equally good to the one to which the British commercial superficial supremacy of such long duration is attributed." Mr. Hutteubach writes the history of an imaginary reform, 1903-1904, to show how his proposal would work if put in practice. His history opens with a Conference of the Monetary Union of the Straits held in April, 1903. At this conference resolutions were adopted of which the following is the gist:

(1) The new currency altered little in what was then the Straits Currency. The only alterations were that the Silver Dollar was, as soon as no more were required, to be done away with, and that the sovereign and the one dollar note were to be added. The ratio adopted was twelve dollars to the sovereign. The Government would sell notes at the ratio and give gold at the same ratio for all notes, and only for notes, tendered. Notes and/or sovereigns were to be legal tender to any amount. (2) The Straits Government was appointed the Executive of the Monetary Union and was to give effect to all decisions arrived at, including all concerning the new currency. (3) The new currency was only to apply to transactions subsequent to its introduction. From the date of introduction all revenue, wages, new bargains, etc., were to be paid in the new currency unless otherwise specially contracted for. (4) Private rights were not to be interfered with. Contracts, debts, etc., were to be liquidated in the currency contracted for within a fixed period. Provision was made for debts and contracts expiring after that period, such as mortgages and leases, to have the same just treatment. (5) A fixed period was arranged during which the old and new currency were in operation concurrently, but each for a different purpose—the new currency, *viz.*, the notes, for new transactions only: the silver dollar to liquidate the past only. (6) Measures had been concerted to clear the whole system, after the period of transition, of the silver dollar, if it should then be advisable to do so, and on a plan which could not disturb anything. (7) The cost of the whole scheme was estimated at $200,000 per annum for 10 years and it was decided to divide it *pro rata* amongst all components of the Monetary Union in proportion to their population.

Mr. Huttenbach goes on to say that the Government contracted a loan of £700,000 repayable in 10 years by ten yearly equal instalments. That loan, guaranteed by the Imperial Government, was easily negotiated at the rate of 3/0 interest per annum. The gold securities held as a reserve against the dollar note circulation were sold and realized another £300,000. The Government had thus £1,000,000 in hand, ample, not only to change the silver reserve into gold, but sufficient also to pay every note in circulation in gold. "This made the position later on impregnable and though it proved to be an unnecessary precaution (as gold was little asked for and remained in the vaults the same as the

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silver had done before) it was a wise one. The last shipment of gold for Government arrived on 25th June, 1903, by P. & O. packet *Chusan* and on 1st July the new currency was legally introduced." The author sketches very clearly and succinctly the working of the new scheme showing how at a cost of $488,698. 39, of which the Straits Settlements' share was $81,270. 44, the peaceful haven of stable exchange was reached. It is interesting history, though make-believe, and we recommend it to our readers.

The Kyoto City Council have compiled and caused to be published a Guide to the former capital and its environs. Written in English far superior to that which we have been accustomed to in books prepared and issued by Japanese, it contains a mass of information about Kiyoto and the noted places in its vicinity, and so far as we have been able to perceive the arrangement of the contents leaves little to be desired. There are few pages without an illustration of some kind, and two maps, one of the city and the other of Kyoto, Nara, and the adjacent districts are excellent. The Kyoto Municipal Council have achieved a capital advertisement of themselves.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Viscount Aoki left Nagasaki on March 28th for China.

The Yokohama Silk Goods guild will hold a meeting shortly to investigate the case instituted by Messrs Mendelson Bros against Okano the *Habutae* silk dealer, in which judgment was given in favour of the plaintiffs on March 3rd. It is said that this judgment will cause a disturbance in the customs of the trade.

R. Kito, a pharmaceutical chemist, who carries on business under the name of Maruya at Bentendori, Yokohama, was accused by the public procurator of the Yokohama District court on March 27, on information supplied by the Isezaki-cho police, of having sold a certain poisonous chemical without a permit to Mr. F. Schroeder, proprietor of the *Eastern World*, No. 73.

The destruction of the buildings erected at Kanagawa Fort for the purpose of enclosing and giving refuge to the people who were rendered homeless by the stamping-out measurers taken when plague broke out in Japanese town recently, was begun on Saturday. The process, which consisted of burning the structures, was to continue over three days.

A Washington telegram states:—Alice Roosevelt, daughter of the President, is about to leave for Porto Rico to visit friends. She is endeavouring to persuade her father to permit her to visit Manila later this year. It is very probable that the President will grant her request. Miss Roosevelt has many close friends in Manila, among whom are Governor and Mrs. Taft.

Episcopal signatures have always a certain interest, especially on a new appointment to a See, for of late years many changes have been made. The new Primate, in the first letter published since his enthronement, adopts the style of "Randall Cantuar"; Dr. Davidson's full Christian name, as most people are aware, is Randall Thomas. The late Archbishop signed F. Cantuar," while his two immediate predecessors used both their initials—Dr. Tait, "A. C. Cantuar," and Dr. Benson, "E. W. Cantuar."

Two Chinamen and three Japanese employed by Messrs. Otto Reimers and Co. as godown men were tried in the Yokohama District Court on Tuesday. The statement of the Public Procurator showed that they stole sugar weighing about 47,593 *kin* in the aggregate on several occasions from Nov. 16th, 1899, to Jan. 18th, 1902. Some of the sugar was stolen from the godowns of their employers and some from the Hatoba and the Midoricho warehouse where the merchandise was landed from the steamers. The sugar was then sold to a sugar refiner named Kawaguchi Kikujiro, living at Uchida-cho, Yokohama. Judgement was reserved.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* gives the following statistics regarding prominent fire insurance companies in Japan:—

	Number of insured end of Feb., 1903.	Amount insured end of Feb., 1903. Yen.
Nippon Shuzo Fire Insurance Co.	8,287	10,029 081
Meiji Fire Insurance Co.	24,787	73,911,060
Tokyo Fire Insurance Co.	83,244	122,785,339
Osaka Fire Insurance Co.	9,986	6,633,114

During the month of February, new contracts were made as follows:—

Nippon Shuzo Fire Insurance Co.	833	1,432,208
Meiji Fire Insurance Co.	1,631	7,420,350
Tokyo Fire Insurance Co.	8,559	17,050.473
Osaka Fire Insurance Co.	897	586,245

The maximum rate of the premium is 10 per cent., including various properties—godowns, dwelling houses, furniture, and moveable goods; while the minimum rate is 6 or 7 per cent.

A yachting cruise of unique interest closed at Bombay on the 3rd ult. Mr. C. T. R. Scovell, a well-known local yachtsman, purchased in England the *Godwit*, of 45 tons, a trim yawl-rigged boat 72 feet long, and determined to sail her to India. She left Portsmouth on the 10th October with a crew and one guest. Bad weather was encountered in the Bay of Biscay, and running into Fugeira Harbour she narrowly escaped being wrecked on the bar At Gibraltar, Mr. C. T. R. Scovell joined her, and very bad weather was experienced between there and Algiers. She had to put in at Bona for shelter. At Malta, Mr. C. V. Scovell, of Bangalore, a coffee planter, joined his brother. The rest of the voyage in the Mediterranean was uneventful, except for a three-days' calm. The *Godwit* made a record passage through the Canal under her own sail, and reached Suez on the 18th December. Aden was reached on the 6th February. The voyage of these plucky yachtsmen has been followed with keen interest.

FIRES.

Fire broke out, on March 25th at night, in the premises of a fire wood and charcoal dealer in Tanakamachi, Asakusa, Tokyo, with the result that two houses were destroyed.

Early on the morning of March 26th fire occurred in a house next to the Kamakura police station and burnt down two houses.

A telegram from Tsuruga city in Echizen province (well-known in connexion with the silk *habutae* business) reports that a fire broke out on March 29th at 2.40 a.m. in Tenjin-machi and the conflagration extended over three streets, Irifune-cho, Tokiwa-cho and Shimidzu-cho, with the result that 236 buildings were destroyed including a Buddhist temple and a Shinto temple.

A fire broke out in the house of a merchant named K. Aiba, at Kasugacho, Koishikawa, Tokyo, early on the morning of March 28th. Three houses were destroyed. On the night of the 27th another fire broke out in the dwelling-house of a merchant named Nomura, at Nichomachi, Shibaya, Tokyo. It was put out before the conflagration reached neighbouring buildings.

A fire broke out at Minami Gojomachi, Sapporo, in the middle of the night of March 30th. Ten buildings were destroyed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I notice in your issue of the 18th a letter on the subject of the relations existing between the United States and Canada that appears to me to give a wrong impression. Indeed I fancy the picture would be truer to life turned the other way around. Making all due allowance for the well-known hysteria of the American press, it must be allowed that it is rather unreasonable to be asked to believe that as a body, that press should take up an attitude antagonistic to a next door neighbour, utterly without cause. Most of us will agree, I imagine that in this life it is far more common to find a little man who is short tempered and "scrappy" than to find a big man who is bullying. And to represent the United States as an over-bearing bully towards weak and defenceless Canada is to wholly misrepresent the mutual relations between the two countries. It would be especially harder to understand, if we recall, as your correspondent observed, that the attitude of the U.S. towards its neighbors, the Latin pseudo-republics, has been with few exceptions generous and magnanimous though I believe those are not his exact words. Why then should the attitude of the Americans towards the Canadians be one of hostility?—for I confess it is so, most indubitably. The answer is, I think, extremely simple. The feeling is the natural result of and response to a much stronger feeling on the part of the northern country. And it is wrong to call it Anglophobia. Whatever Anglophobia there may have been in the past anent England there is certainly far less of it now than at any time previous, and I think there is no doubt that the attitude of the people of the U.S. towards England is at present extremely cordial. Canadians come in a wholly different category. The industrial success of the U.S. and her rapid rise to power has naturally filled other nations with some misgiving and allowing that their affection for her was ever anything more than a cousinly one we may pardon them if even that has cooled considerably. But I believe it is true that (with the exception of the Spanish war and civil war periods) the only country in the world whose people—not the Government—has kept up a continuous vengeful, spiteful animosity towards the United States is the Dominion of Canada. It is a revelation and a startling one to an easy going man from "the States" to hear his country discussed (frequently for his benefit) in a Canadian city. During the time when the U.S. Government was endeavouring to prevent the extinction of the seal herds owing to indiscriminate killing in breeding time—and in that connection there were no international rights involved, Californian or Canadian poachers being seized impartially—at that time the Canadians of the west coast used every means in their power to thwart the Government's efforts, not from any interest in sealskins but simply because the opportunity offered to give Uncle Sam a dig in the ribs, and at that time the language employed in British Columbia in connection with Yankees and their country has only been paralled by that current in Spain during the Cuban troubles—the difference was merely in the choice of metaphors.

If "American Citizen" claims that this is wholly beside the point and that the Canadian's grievances are a sufficient justification for his attitude toward the U.S. he must expect everyone to take for granted as he himself apparently does, that through long years of squabbling in which the Canadian has nearly always been the aggressor, he has invariably been in the right and the U.S. in the wrong,—a thesis which it will be rather difficult to defend or at any rate to convince the over-whelming majority of other "American Citizens." But I take it his letter did not intend to take up the subject of the rights and wrongs of the boundary or any other matter now awaiting settlement, but was merely to protest against the feeling of hostility evidently displayed by the people of the United States towards Canada. I fancy most Americans of sober judgement deplore it also as every one should. But when his letter speaks of "seeds of discord" he ought to add for truth's sake that the seeds have been constantly and pains-takingly sown for a long time from *the northern side of the border*, and if at last after long germinating they have begun to take root it ought not to be cause for wonder, however much it may be matter for regret.

Yours, &c.,

ANOTHER CITIZEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I wish to thank you for the editorial in your issue of the 19th inst. on "The Boundary Dispute in North America," especially for the quotations from the *Spectator* with clauses of the Russo-American Treaty, which show the difficulties of arriving at a mutually satisfactory solution of the question. One source of contention not revealed in the various treaties negotiated by Russia and England, and Russia and the United States, lies in the fact that places are named and located in the treaties but surveyors find that the locations are very different. Certain islands and inlets described in the treaties as being in such and such a parallel of latitude or longitude are not to be found in that parallel of latitude or longitude. Certainly there is room for dispute and need of broad, impartial, statesmanship in laying down international boundaries under such treaties; yet a large and influential portion of the United States press and many members of Congress and of the Senate have confidently asserted that there is absolutely no justice in the Canadian claims, no room for doubt, and that no impartial Judge would hesitate to give a verdict in favour of the United States claims. In 1898 a Joint Commission met

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in the city of Quebec to discuss various international questions affecting the U. S. and Canada. Then the Canadian commissioners made the proposal to which I referred in my former communication, viz., to submit the Alaskan boundary to the Hague Tribunal. Lord Herschel expressed his profound regret that the U. S. Commissioners rejected this proposal, which he characterized as eminently fair. The Canadian press have, pretty generally, published those same clauses of the treaty which you quoted from the *Spectator*, and other official documents and have admitted the difficulties of interpreting the treaty satisfactorily. Unfortunately the same cannot be said of the general attitude of the U.S. press.

The treaty recently negotiated by the British ambassador in Washington and the U. S. requires the appointment of "impartial jurists. The United States representatives demanded that phrase. Then the U. S. appointed three "Jurists" to represent it on this "impartial" commission, two of whom are particularly objectionable to Canada because of their extreme attitude and strong assertions on the question. The London *Daily News* says, "There is not one of the three Jurists from the United States who is not deeply pledged to the United States interpretation of the old boundary treaty." The *Westminster Gazette* says in an editorial "We don't wonder that Canada feels annoyed."

The *Montreal Witness*, a Canadian paper favourably known in both England and the United States, says, "If the United States wanted 'impartial Jurists,' or anything but a foregone conclusion, she would have consented to arbitration or to The Hague tribunal, both of which were asked for by Canada. She has already practically declared that she would keep the decision in her own hands. Mr. Roosevelt's appointment of men already committed to the most determined refusal of Justice is only of a piece with the whole history of United States diplomacy with regard to questions between her and Canada. It is possible, as Mr. Cleveland showed, for a president of noble and generous qualities to abase himself before this insolent popular idol of international outlawry. It may indeed be impossible for any president to stand up before it, but all the same the stigma remains forever." (see *Montreal Weekly Witness* p. 8, Feb. 24th, 1903).

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space you have allowed to this important international question.

I am, yours sincerely, AMERICAN CITIZEN.
March 25th.

ONE WORD MORE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space for another line or two on the Russian "Count"? I am sorry that I was inadvertently led into making a misrepresentation when I jumped to the conclusion that the Kanazawa missionary who, in your editorial on "Credulity," was spoken of as having "lent" *yen* 15 to the swindler was the one who thought that the man was mad. I assumed that he had lent the money as the easiest way of getting rid of the man. That "lent" is a euphemism and the "lender" was not a missionary but a professor in the German department of the Kanazawa Koto Gakko. Perhaps it is but a slight mistake, but it is strange that it should have originated with the *Kobe Chronicle* which sent a reporter to the trial and faithfully reported everything except the "lending" transaction of its own particular friend. Strange that it failed to distinguish between one who is supposed to figure frequently in its editorial columns and "a missionary." Perhaps it was merely a slip.

Yours thankfully, X. Y. Z.
March 24th, 1903.

A DERELICT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—We beg to hand you a copy of a letter we received, which we think will be of interest to the shipping public in general.

LLOYDS' AGENTS.
Yokohama, April 2nd, 1903.

S.S. *Heathdene*, Port of Kuchinotsu,
Thursday, March 26th, 1903.

H.B.M. Consul, Nagasaki,

Sir,—The present is to inform you that on Sunday, March 22nd, at 1.30 p.m. in Latitude 21° 54′ N., Longitude 123° 14′ E., I passed close to the derelict ship *Fannie Kerr* of Liverpool. She was apparently half loaded, with no masts, only bowsprit.

I believe she was abandoned 600 miles off Honolulu, about 12 months ago on fire, which appears to be still smouldering a little.

She is just south of the equatorial current and as her gear is hanging over the side, her drift in my estimation will be about 8 miles a day in a S. S. W. direction.

She is a great danger to navigation and I would have sunk her, only it was blowing fresh.

Yours obediently,
W. H. MILBURN, Master.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

London, March 27.

The press accords the Irish Land Bill a sympathetic and encouraging reception, but generally reserves judgment in view of its complicated details.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

Sir Hector Macdonald will be buried in Paris. The funeral will be of the simplest character. The relatives were at first desirous that the burial should be in Aberdeenshire, but the War Office wished the funeral to be in Paris, for which it offered to pay all expenses; but the officials were ready to defer in any case to the wishes of the dead man's relatives. The Hon. Stuart Wortley, attaché to the British Embassy at Paris, made all arrangements and the relatives finally decided that the burial should take place in Paris.

ACCIDENT TO THE GERMAN EMPRESS.

London, March 28.

While riding in the Grunewald with the Kaiser, the German Empress was thrown from her horse, with the result that she slightly fractured her forearm. Her condition is reported good.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD'S FUNERAL.

After everything had been settled regarding the funeral in Paris, the widow and son of the late Sir Hector MacDonald arrived at the War Office and insisted on the interment taking place in Scotland. The authorities at the War Office are not entitled to oppose this, and it is probable, therefore, that the funeral will take place in Scotland and that, in view of the strong national sympathy with MacDonald in Scotland, and the general ignorance of the nature of the charges against him, the funeral is likely to assume the character of a public demonstration.

ENGLISH BYE-ELECTION.

At the bye-election for the Chertsey Division of Surrey, Mr. Fyler, Conservative, received 5,700 votes against 4,529, polled by Mr. Longman, the Liberal candidate.

MOROCCO.

The state of Morocco continues to be seriously disturbed. The Sultan is making no headway.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

London, March 29.

The Duke of Connaught was officially received at Portsmouth and also at Victoria, where the Princesses of Wales and Connaught and the officers of the headquarters staff met him.

WEST AFRICA.

Lt. Col. T.L.N. Morland's column left Kano for Sokoto on March 16th. The column had a few skirmishes. In passing over waterless tracts the cold nights caused much sickness. The Emir's troops have surrendered to Sir F. D. Lugard.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

The body of Sir Hector MacDonald left Paris yesterday. An influential committee is being formed for the purpose of honouring his memory and of investigating the charges against him, which are discredited in Scotland.

CYCLONE IN MADAGASCAR.

London, March 30.

A violent cyclone has swept over the island of Madagascar, ravaging several of the coast towns. Houses and ships have been swept away.

TURBULENT STRIKERS IN RUSSIA.

The strikers at the Government ironworks at Slatoust in Russia demanded the release of three comrades who had been arrested. They mobbed the governor of the province. The troops fired, killing 28 and wounding 50.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

The remains of Sir Hector MacDonald left King's Cross by the Scottish Express on the 29th.

ADMIRAL DEWEY HAS TO EXPLAIN.

London, March 31.

Admiral Dewey, in an interview declared that the United States navy was the greatest in the world. He believed the German navy was greatly over-estimated. The recent American naval maœuvres were an object lesson to the Kaiser.

President Roosevelt invited Admiral Dewey to the White House to explain his indiscretion. The Admiral expressed regret, declared that he meant nothing offensive and said he was surprised that his offhand remarks should have been published.

His utterances have caused an unpleasant feeling in Berlin but no diplomatic incident is expected.

MARCONI NEWS OF IMPENDING STRIKES.

Later.

The Times publishes two New York telegrams, of 150 words altogether, sent by Marconograph. They say that cotton mills employing about 1,700 hands in Massachusetts have ceased work in anticipation of a strike for increased wages.

ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

London, April 1.

It is officially stated that their Majesties the King and Queen will visit Ireland in July or August.

THE CHARGES AGAINST MACDONALD.

Major F. C. Rasch, member of Parliament for Chelmsford, has given notice of a question in which he asks the Hon. Mr. St. John Brodrick, Secretary of State for War, why publicity was given to the statement of Sir West Ridgway, Governor of Ceylon, in the Legislative Council at Colombo, regarding the charges against Sir Hector MacDonald.

MARCONIGRAMS.

The Times has initiated an experiment in which Marconi and the General Post Office authorities participate, for the purpose of testing the commercial and practical value of the system.

ROYAL MOVEMENTS,

The King sails for Lisbon to-day. Queen Alexandra has gone to Copenhagen.

WEST AFRICA.

Later.

The British occupied Sokoto on March 14th after a feeble resistance. The Emir and the Premier fled. Sir F. Lugard reached Sokoto on March 19th.

THE YEAR'S REVENUE.

London, April 2.

The revenue of the United Kingdom for the year was £151,551,698, showing an increase of £8,553,699, but still £633,302 below Sir Michael Hicks Beach's estimate.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

The War Office offered a gun-carriage to bear the coffin at the funeral of Sir Hector

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MacDonald and showed the greatest kindness, and Lieut.-General Sir Archibald Hunter, K.C.B., D.S.O. (who commands the Scottish District) with his staff desired to attend the obsequies. The widow of Sir Hector declined both offers, wishing for the strictest privacy. A fund has been opened in Edinburgh and Glasgow for the purpose of erecting a monument.

THE VARSITY BOAT RACE.

Later.

Cambridge won the University Boat Race by six lengths.

SIR WEST RIDGWAY'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Chamberlain, replying to the question of Major Rasch on March 31, said Sir West Ridgway's statement did not imply condemnation of Sir Hector McDonald. On the contrary the Governor said he hoped the charges would be disproved.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

Saigon, March 27.

General Macdonald, commander-in-chief in Ceylon, who was accused of unnatural crimes, has committed suicide in Paris. He was on his way to Colombo to be tried.

FRENCH NEWS.

Saigon, March 28.

The Chamber has rejected, by 322 votes to 221, the request for authorization of the Chartreux.

The Senate has terminated the Budget of expenditures. It has voted a reduction of two millions of francs in the military outlays for the Colonies, despite the opposition of the Minister of the Colonies.

The Parliamentary Commission has deputed its President, Mr. Etienne, to confer with the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the question of Siam.

THE KAISERIN'S ACCIDENT.

Saigon, March 29.

It is announced from Berlin that the Empress has broken her arm by a fall from her horse. Her state is satisfactory.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

Saigon, March 31.

The Senate has voted the Budget with numerous alterations.

ADMIRAL COURREJOLLET DEAD.

Admiral Courrejollet is dead.

[Admiral Courrejollet commanded the French Squadron in the Extreme East during the events at Peking and Tientsin in 1900.—ED. *J.M.*]

FRANCE AND SIAM.

Saigon, April 1.

Deputy Deloncle is going to question the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the putting into operation by Siam, for her own benefit, of the clauses of the Treaty of October 6th, which has not yet been ratified.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

A REQUEST BY KOREA.

London, March 27.

It is reported that the Korean Government has requested Japan to close the Japanese post offices now working in the peninsula.

RUSSIAN TRADERS IN MANCHURIA.

The *Amour Gazette* pessimistically points out the economical dangers facing Russia in Manchuria and gives statistical information showing that Russian trade has diminished two-thirds since 1900.

GERMAN COAL DEPOT.

Some German coal owners have established a coal depot at Port Said to supply German coal to passing ships.

KING EDWARD'S TOUR.

King Edward will proceed to Lisbon on Monday next.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD'S FUNERAL.

London, March 28.

The funeral of Sir Hector MacDonald is to be held in Scotland.

BAR SILVER.

The price of bar silver shows generally an upward tendency. In London it has already reached a high point.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION.

It is stated that the Antarctic expedition has reached the southern latitude of 82.12.

THE BALKANS.

London, March 30.

Serious fighting has begun on the frontier of Macedonia, in which eighteen Bulgarians and fifteen Turks were killed. The situation is dangerous.

STRIKE IN RUSSIA.

Disturbances in connection with a strike have occurred at Slatoust at the foot of the Ural Mountains, where shots were exchanged between the gendarmes and the workmen. Twenty-eight of the latter were killed and fifty were wounded.

GOLD IN SIBERIA.

It is reported at St. Petersburg that a rich gold mine has been found in Yeniseisk.

FUNERAL OF SIR H. MAC'DONALD.

The late Major-General Sir Hector MacDonald was buried to-day at Edinburgh.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 1	M. April 6
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 2	Tu. April 7
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China 3	Th. April 9
Europe	M. M. Co	Tonkin 4	Th. April 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	F. April 10
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru 6	F. April 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Kiautschou 7	Sa. April 11
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Pleiades 8	W. April 15
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	W. April 15
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar	Th. April 16
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Sa. April 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. April 20
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	Th April 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. April 27

1 Left Vancouver on the 24th ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 19th ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst
5 Left Hongkong on the 1st inst.
6 Left Seattle on the 24th ul
7 Left Hongkong on the 1st inst.
8 Left Tacoma on the 26th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Sachsen	Sa. April 4
Europe	N. Y. K.	Inaba Maru	Sa. April 4
America	P. M. Co.	China	Sa. April 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. April 6
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu. April 7
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Satsuma Maru	W. April 8
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. April 8
Europe	M. M. Co.	Tonkin	F. April 10
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. April 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. April 11
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. April 11
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	W. April 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. April 16
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. April 17
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Su. April 19
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. April 21
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	F. April 24

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 27th March,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 10th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand, Austrian steamer, 3,860 A. Martinolich, 27th March,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 20th March, Mails and General. —Pollak Bros.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 27th March,—Shanghai via ports, 21st March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iola, British steamer, 3,362, W. Robertson, 27th March,—Rangoon, 6th March, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Keelung Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,034, K. Sobashima, 27th March,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, S. Robinson, 28th March,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 26th March, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, J. T. Smith, 28th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 11th March, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hero, Norwegian steamer, 2,418, Syvertsen, 28th March,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 26th March, General.—American Trading Co.

Chinkiang, British steamer, 1,229, Wm. D. Brymer, 28th March,—Sourabaya, Java, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Sachsen, German steamer, 3,119, W. Franke, 29th March,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 28th March, Mails & General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Ernest Legouve, French bark, 1,721, Pillixuyt, 30th March,—Cardiff, 20th Oct., Coal.—Order.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 4,149, E. Warrall, 31st March,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 30th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,783, H. W. Bee, 31st March,—Rangoon, Rice.—Cornes & Co.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Craven, 1st April, —Portland, Ore., 8th March, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Amphitrite, British cruiser, 11,500, Capt. Windham, 1st April,—Hongkong, 20th March.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer 2,035, J. Nagao, 1st April,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 30th March, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orissa, British steamer, 3,528, W. W. Tucker, 1st April,—Rangoon, Rice. - Samuel Samuel & Co.

Antope, British bark, 1,428, G. E. Murray, 1st April, —Tacoma, Wash., 24th Feb., Grain.—Yamaguchi.

Lyra, American steamer, 3,516, G. V. Williams, 2nd April,—Hongkong via ports 1st April, General —Dodwell & Co. L'td.

Glenroy, British steamer, 3,141, F. Selby, 2nd April, —Kobe, 1st April, General.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Sambia, German steamer, 2,377, Schmidt, 2nd April,—Kiautschau, 26th March, General—C. Illies & Co.

Velvky Kniass Mekkailovitch, Russian steamer, 1,420, Kandratieff, 2nd April,—Uraga, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 2,422, D. E. Friele, 2 April,—Hongkong via ports, Mail and General.—Pacific Mail S.S. Co.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 2nd April,—Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Lilia, French steamer, 1,690, Du Bois, 27th March, —Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 27th March,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,081, Blanc, 28th March, —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 28th March,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, S. Robinson, 28th March,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Rugby, British steamer, 2,110, Sheppard, 28th March, —Moji, Ballast.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 29th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, J. T. Smith, 30th March,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —P. M. S.S. Co.

Calabria, Italian cruiser, 2,200, Capt. Costiglia, 30th March,—Kobe.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, G. W. Gordon, 30th March,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Glaucus, British steamer, 3,591, John Barr, 31st March,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand, Austrian steamer, 3,860, A. Martinolich, 31st March,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Pundit, British steamer, 3,832, W. J. Crebbin, 1st April,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hero, Norwegian steamer, 2,418, Syvertsen, 1st April,—Muroran, Ballast.—American Trading Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, J. Nagao, 2nd April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kaga Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. Wm. Lepman, Miss A. Spain, and Mr. T. Hayashi, in cabin; 10 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. J. E. Enystad, Mrs. J. E. Enystad,

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and Mr. J. M. Lobb, in cabin; 20 Japanese, and 10 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. Z. Nagakura, Mr. B. Albert, Mr. F. Lossetter, Mrs. Lossetter, Miss Antill, and Mrs. R. Murai and 5 children, in cabin; Mr. F. Komatsu, Mr. W. P. Ting, Mr. Z. Ston, Mr. N. Memori, Mr. Z. Hiroya, and 2 Chinese, in second class; 40 Japanese, 50 Chinese students, 28 Chinese, 2 British, and 1 Indian, in steerage.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. J. Root and wife, Mrs. H. C. Smith, Miss G. Smith, Mr. C. W. C. Deering and wife, Mr. E. S. Whealler, Bishop D. Moore and wife, Mr. J. H. Moore, Miss J. Raby, Mr. M. W. Ferris and wife, Dr. Isaac Norris, Miss C. Norris, Miss E. Pettit, Rev. C. Critchett, Rev. A. T. Becker, Mr. H. J. Bradley, Mr. R. J. Gross, Mr. C. M. Munchnie, Miss V. Mandeville, Mr. J. H. Horrell and wife, Miss M. Hunter, Mr. M. Sawayanagi, Mr. C. O. Miller and wife, Mr. C. O. Miller, Jr., Mr. T. Iwasaki, Mr. Jno. W. McLean and wife, Miss R. B. Teusler, Mr. Stephen Rand, Mr. E. W. Longfellow and wife, Dr. A. M. Smith, Mr. T. Matsumoto, Mrs. Matsumoto, Mr. J. D. Farrell, Rev. R. A. Sharp, Mr. M. C. Markham, Mr. K. Yezawa, Mr. T. Matsui, Mr. L. J. Boyd, Mr. J. Z. Moore, Mr. H. Hashi, Mrs. J. F. Breen, Miss M. Breen, Miss G. Breen, Mr. J. M. Hosmer and wife, Mr. H. T. Gibbs, Dr. A. Whelan, Mr. Wm. A. Pinkerton, Mr. D. H. Moon, Dr. H. Lengfeld and wife, Master Lengfeld, Mrs. R. Kahn, Miss E. Nikelsburg, Dr. E. W. Woolsey, Mr. E. H. Clough, Mrs. Clough, Mr. C. H. Alexander and wife, Mr. R. H. Sawyer and wife, Mr. G. Hines, Mr. L. L. Collver, Mr. W. W. Blackmar, Mrs. Blackmar, Miss F. Brewer, Mr. D. C. Roys and wife, Mrs. W. V. Wolcott, Mrs. C. B. Holt, Miss K. Mott, Miss Quimby, Rev. T. L. Eliot, Mr. B. M. Stiebel, Mr. C. V. Barton and wife, Mr. M. W. Barret and wife, Mr. S. B. Jenks and wife, Mr. E. F. Holmes and wife, Miss E. Winkelfeldt, Mr. H. E. Knapp, Mrs. Knapp, Mr. John Logan, Mr. J. G. Conrad, Mrs. Conrad, Miss Buckbee, Mr. F. H. Smith and wife, Mr. J. O. Reis and wife, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. G. S. Beebe, Mr. E. Poag, Mr. L. Poag, Mr. G. C. Bushby, Mr. C. G. Huse, and Mr. J. S. Hanna, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. E. Umbstaetter, Mrs. J. E. Umbstaetter, Mrs. Struve, Mrs. J. Rodgers, Dr. H. Eaton, Rev. J. Kendall, Mr. G. H. Hubbard, Mrs. Hubbard, Miss N. Hubbard, Master Theo. Hubbard, Miss Christine Hubbard, Mr. M. de Taddei. Mr. G. E. McCague, Mrs. McCague, Miss A. McCague, Miss D. McCague, Master R. McCague, Miss Ludwig, Miss Floring, Dr. H. C. C. Slogett, and Mr. Lin Shen Chow, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. J. O. Reis, Mrs. Reis, Mrs. W. C. Gibbs, Miss H. E. Gibbs, Miss M. C. Stonier, Mr. A. T. Gardiner, Miss J. McKee, Hon. J. McDonough, Mrs. McDonough, Miss K. McDonough, Miss J. McDonough, Mr. Jas. McDonough, Mr. J. E. Clasby, Mr. P. H. Davis, Mr. W. S. Webster, Mr. J. M. Davidson, and Miss E. Clark, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. E. Coutts, Mr. Ch. Lund, Mr. K. Vogt, Mr. von Taldern, Mrs. Collins, Miss Hopkins, Miss M. A. Young-Southshields, Miss McLaren, Mr. Th. Herzog, Mr. A. T. Cowdrey, Mr. H. E. Kahn, Mr. and Mrs. Adler, Mr. Pall Walker, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Mrs. Bryan, Mr. Prussing, Mr. Rob. S. Sale, Mr. K. Hoeffner, Mr. and Mrs. Ostwald, Mrs. M. Weller, Mr. Telepe Reviesa, Mr. Patemine Olade, and Mr. D. Okabe and family, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. Slater, Mrs. S. Slater, Mr. W. H. Wilson, Mrs. Grün, Mr. C. Wilson Porter, Mr. C. H. Balfour, Mr. F. G. de Remidios, Mr. W. D. Graham, Mr. W. Silver Hall, Mr. A. Rosenwaid, Mr. W. H. Boyd, Miss M. Udell, Miss G. E. McVenn, Mr. Albert Koff, Mr. J. G. Coueles, Dr. R. H. Graves, Mrs. R. H. Graves, Mr. H. G. Plagunann, Mr. C. G. Taylor, Mr. Felix Green, Miss Mitchell, Mrs. H. T. Wilgress and son, Mr. I. Woodruff, Mr. E. L. Halliwell, Rev. A. K. Gurney, Mrs. A. K. Gurney, Mr. C. A. Reynolds, Mr. E. J. Donaldson, Mrs. E. J. Donaldson and 2 children, Mr. C. E. Von Jungenfeld, Mrs. J. G. Kerr, Mr. Meujusky, Mr. Jas. Buchanan, Mrs. M. Buchanan, Mrs. S. C. Ainsworth, Miss Josephine Larkin, and Mr. T. G. Wills-Sanford in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru* from Australia via ports:—Mr A. Parker, Mr. G. S. Stevens, Mrs. C. P. Smith, Mrs. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Mr. J. S. de Benneville, Mr. G. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. J. Marks, Miss Marks, Miss Readings, Dr. H. Elliot, Mr. G. W. Goodson, Mr. C. N. Nelson, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Hawkes, Mrs. Paul, Miss Paul, Mrs. Fullarton, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. P. Brooks, Miss Nyulasy, Mr. S. Tamaki, Mrs. M. O. Robertson, Miss L. Robertson, Miss F. Robertson, Miss L. Robertson Jun. Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Calvert, Mr. D. Burns, Miss Burns, Mr. D. Brown, and Mr. A. A. McBride, in cabin. Mr. W. R. Baillie, Mr. Li Kin Ching, Mr. T. Ikeda, Mr. K. Kinoshita, and Mr. K. Kinoshita Jno. second class,

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. L. L. Ainsworth, Mr. R. Arai and 2 servants, Mrs. R. Arai, Master Y. Arai, Mr. R. J. Chard, Mrs. R. J. Chard, Mr. A. J. Chard, Miss Chard, Mr. Smith Dawson, Mrs. Smith Dawson, Mr. S. B. Eldridge, Capt. F. E. Frazier, Mr. L. Gaggiotti, Rev. W. Harris, Mrs. W. Harris, Mr. J. R. Ingersoll, Mrs. A. G. Kennedy, Miss Kennedy, Mr. Chun Kin, Major S. Kobayashi, Mr. J. McLean Lachlan, Mr. E. W. Ladd, Mr. Chas. Leroux, Mr. F. H. Lowe, Mr. E. Loewenstein, Mr. Thos. Mackintosh, Mr. A. J. Maclean, Mrs. McMahan, Dr. J. McWatt, Mr. E. Reynolds, Mrs. A. Rouff, Mr. A. G. Rudd, Mrs. T. Saito and 2 servants, Master Saito, Major E. J. Shields, U.S.A., Mr. M. Shiohara, Mr. B. A. Smith, Capt. Chas. H. Stockton, U.S.N., Major J. Straker, Mr. W. E. Taylor, Mr. C. K. J. Van Aalst, Mrs. C. K. J. Van Aalst, Miss A. G. Vernell, Mr. S. Wakamiya, Mr. John Wilson, Mrs. John Wilson, and Miss Edith Wright, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Marseilles via ports:—Comte Tadd, Capt. Baron Yamane, Mr. H. Ansoni, Mr. H. Maire, Mr. Yung Fai, Mr. L. Wienert and native servant, Mr. Robert Ludrig, Mr. C. Bennet, and Consul General Ottesen, in cabin; 6, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Vancouver:—Surg. P. H. Boyden, Mr. James Dunn, Capt. S. E. Erskine, R.N., Lieut. G. C. Hardy, Rev. S. S. Huse, Mr. H. C. Melone, Miss A. P. Parkinson, and Mr. R. Redpath, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. M. W. Barrett, Mrs. M. W. Barrett, Rev. A. T. Becker, Mr. G. S. Beebe, Mrs. J. F. Breen, Master Margaret Breen, Miss Grace Breen, Mr. G. C. Bushby, Mr. Lin Shen Chow, Miss E. L. Clark, Mr. J. E. Clasby, Rev. Carl Critchett, Mr. J. M. Davidson, Dr. Homer Eaton, Miss Floing, Mr. A. F. Gardiner, Miss H. E. Gibbs, Mrs. W. C. Gibbs, Mr. E. Ginsbnrg, Mr. R. R. Gnielski, Madame Granoff, Master Granoff, Mr. J. S. Hanna, Mr. M. Hirata, Miss Howard, Mr. C. G. Huse, Rev. G. H. Hubbard, Mrs. G. H. Hubbard, Master Theo. Hubbard, Miss N. Hubbard, Mr. A. Keller, Rev. I. K. Kendall, Miss B. Ludwig, Mr. Geo. E. McCague, Mrs. Geo. E. McCague, Miss A. M. McCague, Miss A. D. McCague, Master R. H. McCague, Hon. John T. McDonough, Mrs. T. John McDonough, Mr. Jas. McDonough, Miss G. McDonough, Miss K. McDonough, Miss I. McKee, Mr. J. Z. Moore, Mr. T. Oyama, Mr. W. A. Pinckerton, Mr. E. Poag, Mrs. E. Poag, Capt. Stephen Rand, U.S.N., Mrs. D. Rodgers, Mr. F. J. Root, Mrs. F. J. Root, Rev. Robt. A. Sharp, Dr. H. C. Sloggett, Prince T. Shimazu, Baron T. Shimazu, Baron J. Shimazu, Master S. Shimazu, Master Y. Shimazu, Col. F. H. Smith, Mrs. F. H. Smith, Miss M. C. Stonier, Mrs. Capt. H. K. Struve, Mr. M. de Taddei, Miss S. Togo, Mr. J. E. Umbstaetter, Mrs. J. E. Umbstaetter, Mr. J. W. Wohl, Mrs. J. W. Wohl and maid, and Mr. W. S. Webster, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Java*, for London via ports:—Mr. F. J. Abott, child and amah, Mrs. Doyne, Mr. R. Laird, and Mr. E. Buxton Forman, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Some enquiry for gassed yarns but at prices which holders will not accept, consequently no business is done. Deliveries of former sales drag, and the whole position of Lancashire spinning in this market is far from satisfactory. Some stock lots of grey shirtings, 8¼ lb., have been sold at low figures. Nothing doing in the heavier weights. No business in Whites and Cambrics. No improvement in Fancy Cottons and Woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150 00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

The market is quiet and the business doing is limited.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅝ inch and upward	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1¼ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The market is very quiet.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

This market is very firm, and prices have advanced 20 to 30 *sen* per picul.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There is a small daily business in Filatures, prices being about *yen* 10 down upon the week, with a prospect of still further reduction as the month goes on. In Re-reels there is no stock, while Kakedas are purely nominal at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,080 to 1,090
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,045 to 1,055
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,010 to 1,020
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,010 to 1,060
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	900 to 1,000
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 1,000
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	1,000 to 1,005
Kakedas—No. 1	960 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½	930 to 940
Kakedas—No. 2	900 to 910
Kakedas—No. 2½	870 to 880

WASTE SILK.

A very small business has been doing in waste silk, supplies not yet being suitable for the demand which exists. Quotations are nominal as last week.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Filatures, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	190 to 195
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	175 to 180
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	175 to 185
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	155 to 160
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	12 5to 130
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	115 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	155 to 160
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	70 to 75
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

No business.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

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EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 2.

London silver ⅛ higher, China sterling quotations unchanged and local rates steady. To-morrow being a National Holiday all Banks will be closed.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0¾
— — Bills on demand	2/0 15/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight	260⅛
— — 6 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	80*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	78⅛*
Shanghai—Bank sight	92¼*
— Private 10 days' sight	93¾*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight	49⅛ @ ¼
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ⅛
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
Bar Silver (London)	22 1/16

* Nominal.

Schwob Frères, and Co.
CHAUX DE FONDS.
TAVANNES WATCH, CO.

A. and F. PEARS, Limited, London,
World-renowned Soaps.

Borden's Condensed Milk Co.
Eagle Brand.
Gold Seal Brand.

Maconochie Brothers, Ltd., London,
Provisions of all sorts.

Peek, Frean and Co., London,
Biscuits of every description.

Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin,
Champagne.

J. Witkowski & Co.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR JAPAN.
Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M. 17.

BOVRIL

is a food-beverage agreeable to the taste and of remarkable strengthening and sustaining properties. It is an ideal nourishment in cases of sickness, and weakness, and when from any cause, ordinary foods are not desirable.

BOVRIL

BISSET AND URE'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, April 3.

Debentures, offers wanted of Brewery, Y. U. Club and Oriental Hotels. Oriental Ordinary and Preference, shares wanted. Nickels and Kirin Beers offering. Club Hotels and Bretts, offers wanted.

Stock.	No. of Shares.	Paid up.	Dividend.	At Working account in last accounts issued.	For term ending.	Closing Quotation.
			Yen.	Yen.	Year.	Yen.
1. Y'hama E. & Iron Works, Ltd.	2,600	50	5	7,857.58	½ 30.11.1902	108 S.
2. Japan Brewery Company, Ltd.	9,000	50	5	R've 85,000.00	½ 31.12.1902	110 N.
3. Grand Hotel, Limited	2,500	100	11	9,841.71	½ 31.12.1902	250 N.
4. Club Hotel, Limited	1,850	100	4	5,907.16	½ 30.9.1902	75 S.
5. Oriental Hotel, Limited :—						
do do Founders	80	12.50	37	R've 31,570.75	y'r 31.8.1902	450 Nominal
do do Ordinary	1,490	50.	6	...	...	70 B.
do do Preference	750	50	8	...	...	Nominal
6. Nagasaki Hotel, Limited	1,300	100	...	1,423.16	½ 30.6.1902	35 S.
7. North & Rae, Limited	250	100	20	...	y'r 31.12.1902	240 B.
8. Brett & Co., Limited	2,800	10	7%	...	y'r 30.6.1902	8¼ S.
9. Langfeldt & Co., Limited	1,500	100	...	Dr. 21,705.87	½ 30.12.1902	30 B.
10. Y'hama Steam Laundry, Ltd.	700	50	...	Dr. 15,184.78	...	5 S.
11. Helm Bros., Limited	3,720	50	10%	3,076.06	y'r 31.12.1902	42½ N.
12. C. Nickel & Co., Limited	5,000	25	...	first year	...	28½ S.

BAD COMPLEXIONS

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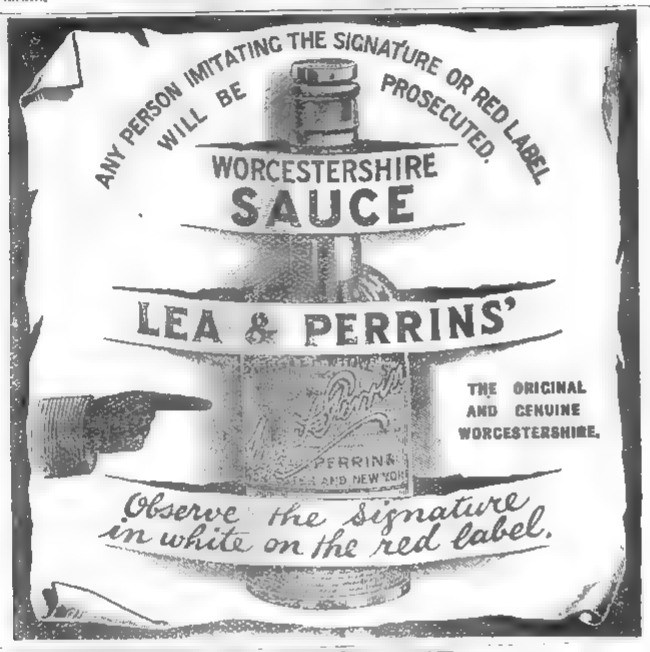
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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.E. MR. SUFU, Governor of this prefecture, left for Kobe accompanied by his family on April 5th.

MR. PEREIRA, new Brazilian Minister to Tokyo was expected to arrive at Yokohama on April 6th or 7th.

A THIEF entered the Buddhist temple Amidaji in the early morning of April 5th. Having threatened the chief priest with a sword he stole *yen* 4.

THE work of laying out the new Hibiya Park, Tokyo, has almost been completed and it will be opened to the public about the beginning of June.

IT is stated that the Osaka Copper Mining Company has produced 600,000 *kin* of electrically refined copper and 800,000 *kin* of refined copper bars during the last half year of 1902. The rate of dividend will be 8 per cent.

THE International Oil Company, which is sinking a new well at Furushiro, Naoyetsu, started work with the necessary machinery on April 3rd.

THE draft budget of Yokohama City has been prepared and shows that the ordinary expenditure is *yen* 443,237 and extraordinary expenditure *yen* 73,022.

A ROBBER who murdered a police man and a coolie at the Nagano railway station was arrested on April 2nd at Kumamoto village in Shinano province.

THE torpedo boat destroyers *Virago* and *Sparrowhawk* are expected to arrive in China waters about the middle of May from the Pacific station. The cruiser *Amphitrite* has gone to meet them at Honolulu.

A MAN named Tasaku and three others were arrested on April 4th at Hiye in Okayama prefecture on a charge of having attempted to export nickle coins amounting to 200,000 pieces to Korea.

IN connexion with the fire at the Oto Coal mine in Fukuoka prefecture, the *Asahi* has received a telegram under date April 5th, which states that sixty-five miners were killed by the accident.

To celebrate the starting of the raw silk business, Messrs. Pollak Bros., No. 26, Yokohama, gave a dinner to Japanese raw silk merchants numbering over 70 at the Chitose-ro restaurant on April 2nd at 5 p.m.

THE Water Police have arrested a man and a woman who are charged with stealing six bags of rice, valued at *yen* 54, from the British steamer *Glaucus*, which arrived at Yokohama from Liverpool on March 23rd.

THE proprietor of an inn at Hakodate called the Maruyone killed his wife with a sword on Thursday night. He then went to the tomb of his ancestor and committed suicide by *harakiri* in front of the memorial stone. The cause of the tragedy is unknown.

IT is said that the Home Office intends to prohibit the use of formaline imported from Germany as a preservative in Japanese *sake*. The *sake* brewers in Saitama prefecture and the western districts are taking steps to oppose the alleged intention of the Authorities.

MR. M. B. BREDON, Deputy Commissioner of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs, arrived at Nagasaki by the steamer *Empress of China* on April 6th. He will pay a visit to the Osaka Exhibition and afterwards inspect the Japanese Customs system.

A PASSENGER train and a goods train on the Sanyo Railway collided at Mantomi station near Okayama on April 4th at 1 p.m. A fireman was killed. Three passenger cars, two engines, and some goods wagons were smashed.

LEPROSY is on the decrease in the Hawaiian Islands, according to the report made by Governor Dole to the legislature in regard to the condition of the leper settlement. Stricter enforcement of the rule of segregation is said to be the reason for the falling-off in the disease, and it is warmly denied that the good showing is due to the failure of the authorities to round-up all the lepers.

THE harbour police found a coolie at the Hatoba on April 5th in possession of a gold watch valued at about *yen* 250 which he alleged he had obtained from another coolie to whom he had lent some money. Thinking that the watch must have been wrongly come by, the police seized it, and are now enquiring as to its ownership.

AN employee of the Yokohama railway station was arrested on April 3rd on a charge of having stolen a bag belonging to a merchant named T. Watanabe, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, which contained *yen* 404.50, a cheque of the 100th Bank for *yen* 1,500, another cheque of the Tokai Bank for *yen* 618 and others on March 4th, when the merchant was asleep in the car.

GOLF appears to be fully established at Kobe for the Kobe Golf Club, which held its first meeting on Friday, has no fewer than 95 members. The links are at Rokkosan; nine holes are ready for use and there is even talk of having "chambers" for the accommodation of members. The Pavilion is to be finished by the 20th of this month. Mr. A. H. Groom is Hon. Secretary.

THE following officials have been recently appointed to the Yokohama Post and Telegraph Office:—Mr. J. Ikeda, Councillor and Secretary of the Department of Communications, Director; Mr. Narita, Superintendent of Foreign Posts; Mr. S. Hattori, Chief Inspector; Mr. Y. Otani, Superintendent of Telegraph Affairs; Mr. M. Tone, Chief of Constructive Work; and Mr. J. Hara, Chief Clerk.

A CAR running to Fushimi on the Kyoto Electric Tramway went off the rails, falling from a height of over ten feet, on the afternoon of April 1st. Seven passengers, the driver and the conductor were more or less severely injured. The injured passengers were attended to by the company, who obtained medical assistance. The driver and conductor will, it is said, be prosecuted by the authorities.

THE mining coolies of the Taira coal mine, Fukushima prefecture, numbering over 100 attacked the mining office to which they belonged, on March 30th and one employee of the office was killed and seven others more or less wounded. Twenty policemen of the Taira police station were sent to quell the trouble. The cause is said to be friction between the employees of the mining office who instigated the coolies to make the trouble.

A MAN named Miyase Kichizaemon, employed by Messrs. Strone & Co., No. 12, Yamashita-cho, was arrested by the Kagacho police on Thursday on a charge of embezzlement. It appears that he was sent in November last to the Hokkaido and the north-eastern provinces with *yen* 2,700 to purchase merchandize. Of this sum he appropriated *yen* 900 for his private use alleging that it was paid to a certain Japanese merchant in Sendai as bargain money.

MR. I. KAWASHIMA, a wealthy merchant living at Sumiyoshi-cho, Yokohama, has submited to the Prefectural Council a claim for 10 *sen* against Mr. S. Ichihara Mayor of the City, on the ground that the petitioner applied to the City Office to certify his signature and stamp on March 20th, when the authorities charged 10 *sen* for the certificate. Afterward he found that the tax had been illegally imposed under the City Administration Law, and that the amount of 10 *sen* ought to be refunded.

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THE RUSSIAN GARRISON IN MANCHURIA.

There has been a good deal heard of late about the Russian garrison of Manchuria, and about the necessity of having some limits set to it. St. Petersburg is under no sort of conditions in this respect. It is for the Russian Government and for the Russian Government alone to estimate what constitutes a sufficient garrison; that is to say, a garrison competent not only to cope with the ordinary lawlessness of Manchuria, but also to deal with emergencies like that of the year 1900, should they arise. Of course that signifies that the three Eastern Provinces of China may always be in virtual military occupation by Russia, and that despite the latter's engagement to withdraw her troops, prudence, to say nothing of imperial ambition, will suggest the maintenance of such a force as shall render China's sovereignty a mere vanishing quantity The *Nippon* has an article on this subject. It declares, on the authority of information to the source of which no clue is given, that Viceroy Yuan has taken up the problem vigorously, and has addressed to the Chinese Court a memorial urging that negotiations should be opened with Russia in order to prescribe some limits to the number of her railway-guards, for it is only in the guise of railway-guards that she will have any conventional title to keep troops in Manchuria after the 8th of next October. At present the general idea seems to be that a force of between forty and fifty thousand Russian troops is stationed in the three provinces, and Yuan's contention, according to the memorial above quoted, is that this total should be reduced to 10,300 in all, which he would distribute thus:—

	Shingking.	Kirin.	Amur.
Infantry.....	1,500	1,400	1,100
Cavalry.....	1,200	1,200	1,150
Land Transport	700	680	620
Artillery	250	250	270

The Chinese Government is said to approve of the Viceroy's suggestion, but to be undetermined as to the wisdom of opening negotiations. Very likely the Peking Authorities are disposed to think that such negotiations would be premature pending the conclusion of the third period of evacuation, namely Oct. 8th. No one except those in the innermost council of the Tsar can say positively what actual form the evacuation is to take. There is a possibility—extremely unlikely but not wholly out of the question—that when the evacuation is completed, the number of troops remaining to guard the railways may be even less than Yuan's proposed limit.

The *Asahi's* Tientsin correspondent, telegraphing from that place under date of the 5th instant, gives some particulars about the military dispositions that Russia is supposed to be making in Manchuria. We do not see how this correspondent, from his place in Tientsin, can have any special opportunity of informing himself about such subjects. Be that as it may, however, what he says is that Russia is making arrangements to quarter twenty thousand troops at Fen-hwang; that she withdrew some 1,200 or 1,300 men from Mukden up to the end of March; that she was expected to restore to the Manchurian authorities the various buildings temporarily occupied by her for military purposes, the restoration to be effected by April 8th, but that she is repairing the *yamêns* of the Manchurian General, the Taotai and the Governor, apparently with the object of retaining them in her possession; and that, according to the statements of her own officers, two thousand fresh troops are soon to arrive in Mukden as railway guards, concerning which the correspondent wonders whether they are to be reliefs or re-inforcements. It will be observed that the rumour about a concentration of force at Fen-hwang begins to assume some weight from repetition. We trust that it will prove incorrect. Fen-hwang lies entirely out of the path of the regions traversed by the Russian railway and can not, so far as we know, be regarded as in any sense a convenient place for the depot of troops whose nominal duty is limited to guarding the iron roads. On the other hand, it is an ideal position for commanding the approaches to the Yalu, which forms the northern boundary of Korea. We find it extremely difficult to imagine that Russia should make any unmasked demonstrations of that nature.

The same journal translates from the Russian newspaper of Port Arthur a remarkable article, the gist of which is that while Japan is making every effort to swallow up Korea, she strains at Russia's endeavours to spread the light of civilization in Manchuria and cries out that the whole district should be opened to foreign trade. It is not likely, says the Liaotung newspaper, that having spent much blood and much treasure in obtaining her present position in Manchuria, Russia will take any step to close the region to foreign commerce, but it can not be denied that the right to determine the time for opening it vests with the Power which has obtained a lease of the place. It is vitally necessary for Russia to preserve her railways, which are the backbone of all enterprise, and she has no intention of being again caught unprepared, and thus seeing wanton destruction wrought which might have been averted by a little resolution. To a warlike country like Japan Russia's forces in Manchuria may wear a formidable aspect, but to the peace-loving Chinese, who only ask to be let labour quietly for their daily bread, the presence of these troops constitutes a protection not a menace.

That is just what a British or Japanese newspaper would write under similar circumstances, with the exception of the claim that Russia's lease of Port Arthur and Talien confers on her the right to dictate the time of opening Manchuria. Such a claim could not be admitted for a moment by the other Treaty Powers.

The *Jiji Shimpo* takes a very different view from that of the *Nichi Nichi* with regard to the Manchurian question. The latter journal, as our readers know, looks with calm eyes on Russia's doings and see no cause for uneasiness. It thinks that the process of evacuation is going on steadily and with quite as much celerity as can reasonably be expected, while as to the forces maintained by Russia to preserve order and secure her lines of railway, the *Nichi Nichi* regards the whole arrangement as not unnatural or unreasonable. But the *Jiji* is by no means so optimistic. The important point, in its opinion, is that Russia has no right to maintain troops in Manchuria after the conclusion of the third period of the evacuation process. She is entitled to keep railway police only, and even they must not be in large numbers. When Russia originally obtained leave to carry the Trans-Asian road through Manchuria, thus saving a wide detour, the agreement was that the duty of guarding the line should devolve upon China, and there has never been any conventional departure from that principle, at least so far as the employment of troops is concerned. Thus, on the whole, the *Jiji* sees grounds for uneasiness, and is not at all disposed to regard Russia's doings without concern.

KOREA.

Saturday, April 4.

The *Niroku*, in double-leaded capitals, announces that the United States, Great Britain and Japan have combined to urge upon the Korean Government the extreme danger of the course contemplated with regard to the issue of convertible notes. The line said to be taken by the three Powers is that the reserve provided as security for the redemption of the notes is altogether insufficient, that nothing like a stable system of currency can be built on such a slender basis as that contemplated by the projectors of the new central bank; and that the idea of placing the collection and control of the Customs' dues in the hands of the Bank is not only an interference with existing rights, but would also cause much uneasiness in the domain of Korea's foreign trade. The objections are all so obvious that the *Niroku's* news assumes a complexion of considerable probability.

Monday, April 6.

We are not surprised that the *Jiji Shimpo* is disposed to ridicule the preparations now in progress for the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Korean Emperor's accession. There is nothing to celebrate. It has been a reign chiefly remarkable for bad government, so far as outsiders can perceive. Seoul has an electric railway, it is true, and certain mines are being worked by foreigners with vicarious benefit to the imperial exchequer. Also, American enterprise constructed a railway from Seoul to Chemulpo, Japanese enterprise is rapidly constructing one from Seoul to Fusan, and Korean enterprise, stirred to sluggish action by menaces of foreign aggression, is slowly constructing, or pretending to construct, one from Seoul to Songdo. But can any one allege that the condition of the Korean people has undergone any change for the better; that they have acquired a larger share of personal liberty; that life and property are securer than they used to be; that the light of civilization is brighter in the peninsula than it was ten or twenty years ago; and, in short that there is any occasion for national rejoicing? To us it appears that the attempts made by Japan preëminently to modernize the little empire have been quite unsuccessful, and we see no hope for Korea except in the gradual influx of Japanese immigrants which is happily taking place. These celebrations and rejoicings, then, are merely a pretext for spending money and enriching officialdom at the expense of the people. Our Tokyo contemporary estimates that if a million *yen* are squandered by the Government, as seems to be the programme, three million will be levied from the nation, that being about the ratio between genuine administrative needs and official greed, as indicated by Korean custom. No impartial onlooker can see that there is any pretext whatever for national rejoicing.

There are new complications in Seoul. As Li Kwi-tong, Vice-Minister of Justice, was returning from the palace on the night of the 2nd, he was apprehended by the police on a charge of carrying dynamite in his satchel. Telegrams to Tokyo state, however, that the true cause of the arrest is the old quarrel between Li Yong-ik and Li Keun-thaik, which quarrel continues as acute as ever. The Vice-Minister whose arrest is now an-

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nounced, is a follower and supporter of Li Yong-ik, and his apprehension seems to indicate that the latter's influence has again undergone some weakening. It really appears inevitable that if Korea is to cease to be a hot-bed of intrigues and perpetual menace to the peace of the East, some strong measures will have to be taken with her.

Later intelligence says that dynamite and a pistol were actually found in the satchel of the arrested official, and that his purpose was to kill Li Keun-thaik. He is now under examination, but he persists in declaring that he had no confederates. Japanese correspondents incline to the belief that this affair is altogether an outcome of political intrigues and that there is little truth in the dynamite project. The correspondents of the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Jiji Shimpo* allege that the accusation against Li Keun-thaik came from the head of the Pedlars' Guild; a highly respectable source, it must be admitted! The Emperor is rumoured to be convinced that Li Kwi-tong is not alone in the business, and there is a probability that he will be put to the torture to extract a confession. Such incidents are an unpleasant reminder of the still barbarous condition of Korean laws and judicial procedure.

The *Chuo Shimbun*, which is generally well informed about the views and policy of the *Seiyu-kai*, represents Marquis Ito as strongly opposed to the Ministry's alleged intention of guaranteeing the bonds of the Seoul-Fusan Railway. Originally the Government agreed to guarantee 6 per cent. interest on the Company's paid-up capital for fifteen years. Had the guarantee been extended so as to cover the period required for paying off a loan, there would have been no difficulty in obtaining foreign money on easy terms. Six per cent., indeed, would not have been necessary; five would have sufficed. But it is now said that in addition to guaranteeing six per cent. the Government proposes to underwrite bonds issued by the Company for the purposes of a foreign loan of ten million *yen*, the guarantee to hold good for 30 years. That is what the *Chuo* represents Marquis Ito as opposing, the view attributed to His Excellency being that it would be financially a much sounder course for the Government itself to borrow money abroad and lend it to the Bank.

Tuesday, April 7.

It would seem that the Osaka Kisen Kaisha contemplates an extension of its maritime enterprise in Korea. Mr. Nakahashi, President of the Company, accompanied by the head of its local branch at Chemulpo, has proceeded up the river to Pyong-yang, and the general impression is that the object of his visit is a further development of steam communication.

Wednesday, April 8.

Prince Yamashina is to start from Kobe for Chemulpo by the *Yakumo* on the 18th instant. Japanese newspapers state that the gifts of which he will be the bearer on behalf of the Emperor of Japan, are a pair of old bronze vases—we greatly doubt the truth of the adjective "old"—, and two table covers of embroidered satin, the former being for the Emperor of Korea, the latter for the Prince Imperial.

After all the Chinese Government has agreed to send a Prince to Seoul as representative of the Manchu Court at the approaching ceremonial in commemoration of the Emperor's fortieth year of reign. Peking seems to have displayed great reluctance in this matter, and by what influence a yielding mood was educated we are unable to say. At any rate there will now be a Japanese Prince and a Chinese Prince, and next in order of seniority will come the Representative of Great Britain, Sir Claude MacDonald.

The arrest recently made in Korea, with its sensational fringe of dynamite in a hand-satchel and torture in the back-ground, appears likely to end in smoke. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent made light of the matter all through, and is now in the happy position of being able to say "I told you so." Probably the general public does not take much interest in these political complications, for which the Korean capital is notorious, but it must be a profound satisfaction to every humane person to reflect that Seoul is not to be the scene of another of those grewsome tragedies which have made the world shudder more than once in recent years.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE EXCHANGES.

Tuesday, April 7.

The long dispute between the Government and the Exchanges has ended, it would seem, in a compromise which virtually concedes the position to the Exchanges. Two main points were at issue, namely, whether time bargains should be reduced from three months to two, and whether the class of transactions called *tembai*, that is to say, re-sales and re-purchases within the fixed limit of time, should be permitted or interdicted. The Government was in favour of restriction in the former case and a veto in the latter, but against both innovations the Exchanges fought vehemently. So far as we can see, victory rests with the Exchanges. There is not, it is true, to be any alteration of the Imperial Ordinance which created so much commotion; the Ordinance fixing the limit of time-bargains (*teiki-torihiki*) at two months. But, on the other hand, deferred bargains (*nobe-torihiki*) may be extended over a period of 90 days, so that the effect of the new system will be merely to do away with details of the method hitherto in operation; that is to say, there will be no more sales for delivery in three months fixed. Such sales will be limited to one month or two months. But all sales not for immediate delivery, or not falling within the two months' limit, will have a margin of 90 days for implementing. Such, at any rate, seems to be the gist of the new system, but the facts are difficult to follow accurately. As for the class of transactions called *tembai*, they will be permitted as before. It will be remembered that Mr. Kiuchi, head of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, who was chiefly responsible for the proposed alterations of the law, is now on a visit to Europe.

Thursday, April 9.

It would seem that the Exchange Question is by no means disposed of. The newspapers of Tokyo attack the Government very vehemently. There has been no declared change of the Imperial Ordinance by which time-transactions were limited to two months. But, in effect, the Ordinance has been rendered null and void by the issue of a Departmental Notification which invests "deferred transactions" (*nobe-torishiki*) with all the attributes of time-transactions. Hitherto it has not been possible to make marginal sales of obligations incurred in connection with "deferred transactions" (or forward transactions as they are generally called). That is to say, a purchaser of securities under that system was not at liberty to sell the securities for the difference between their present market value and their purchase price, pending the original time of delivery. Now what the Notification just issued does is to legalize such sales in the case of deferred transactions in negotiable securities, while, at the same time, the Ordinance limiting time transactions to two months remains. Of course the practical result will be that operations hitherto carried on under the time system will now be effected under the deferred system, and thus the situation is restored to its original status with a mere change of terminology. Hence the Tokyo journals contend that the Government has committed the great irregularity of altering an Imperial Ordinance by means of a Departmental Notification. Further, it appears that in the matter of taxation the exchanges will be large gainers and the exchequer a corresponding loser by what has now been done. For there is no tax on deferred transactions, whereas on every time transaction a tax of 6 per ten thousand has to be paid in the case of negotiable mercantile paper and one half of that amount in the case of public bonds whether of the Central Government or of the communes. But since all the desiderata of time bargains can henceforth be obtained by deferred transactions, time bargains will naturally be eschewed, and the exchequer will lose at least 300,000 *yen* in Tokyo alone. Our contemporaries state that during the second half of last year, in spite of the depression caused by the much criticised Imperial Ordinance, the taxes paid on time transactions alone in the capital aggregated 143,000 *yen*, and that they would have amounted to 160,000 *yen* in ordinary circumstances. The claim made is that the inevitable financial effect of the newly issued Departmental Notification was not appreciated by the Authorities, and that they would have done much better had they frankly acknowledged their mistake and amended the Ordinance itself so as to restore things to their old footing. We can not, however, credit the accuracy of such criticism. In all probability some explanation will be forthcoming on the part of the Department of Home Affairs, in whose province this matter lies.

THE TRAINING SQUADRON.

It appears that the three ships forming the training squadron did not reach Australia without mishap. On the 26th of March the vessels encountered a heavy gale, during the course of which the *Itsukushima* became separated from her consorts and was not seen again until the 3rd of April, when she made Freemantle without sustaining any damage. Meanwhile the storm developed such violence that the *Matsushima* suffered some injury—we interpret the telegram to mean that one of her water tanks was damaged but that is difficult to connect with what ensued—and she had to be taken in tow by the *Hashidate*. The two ships reached Exmouth on the 1st of April, where they obtained a supply of water and coal, the latter being furnished by a coasting vessel. They then proceeded to Freemantle, where they found the *Itsukushima*. No casualties nor any serious damage seem to have been suffered.

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MATTERS POLITICAL.

Saturday, April 4.

The consultative meeting of representatives of the two parties—Progressists and *Seiyu-kai*—has had the effect of showing that they really mean to work in unison. They passed various resolutions relating chiefly to the treatment of members who had stepped out of the ranks at the time of the general elections. Most of these secessions were prompted by a desire to prevent open collisions between the supporters of the two parties, and it was therefore decided that, as far as circumstances permitted, such members should be restored to their old places. But, at the same time, the representatives voted unanimously that any men suspected of holding communication with the Government, should be expelled. The question was raised as to the programme to be pursued when the Diet meets, but it was resolved that, pending some indication of the Ministry's intentions, this matter could not be intelligently debated.

The *Niroku Shimbun* is the cynosure of another commotion. It has again attempted to carry out its scheme of a big labourers picnic, and again the Authorities have interfered. The *Jiji Shimpo's* periodical picnics for children have always been eminently successful. So have the *Hochi Shimbun's* picnics for merchant's clerks and apprentices, though on a smaller scale. But the *Niroku's* projects on account of working men have never failed to be productive of disturbance, and the police naturally regard them as inimical to public tranquillity. This year, then, when a picnic was announced by the *Niroku* for the 3rd instant, the authorities interposed a veto. Thereupon the *Niroku* and its supporters organized a lecture meeting which was to take place in the Kinki-kan at 5 p.m. on the 2nd. But again the police interposed. Looking at the names of the men advertised to speak at the meeting we should say that their utterances would have been mainly of a socialist character, for they all belong to the section of Christian converts who acknowledge Mr. Shimada Saburo as leader. The police allowed the meeting to assemble—and a very crowded affair it promised to be—before they intimated to the chairman that dispersal was necessary. He refused to be the mouthpiece of such a message, so the police had themselves to convey the order to the audience, who broke up with demonstrations of anger. On the following morning (3rd) the *Niroku* came out with an article as subversive of police authority as journalistic writings can safely be in Japan, and it further announced that the disappointed labourers would assemble in force in Uyeno Park on the forenoon of the 3rd, whither also the police would repair "with their sabres." These are the mutterings of the storm of socialism which is beginning to rise in this country. There will be no mistake about its orgin, at all events, but we greatly doubt whether it will develop serious dimensions during the life-time of the present generation.

Wednesday, April 8.

Fifty representatives of newspapers opposed to the present Cabinet met at the Maple Club on the evening of the 6th instant, and passed strenuous resolutions. They voted to maintain vigorously their attitude in the last session of the Diet towards the unconstitutional Ministry now in power, and to labour for its overthrow. Mr. Matsuda Masashisa then spoke. He contended that there could not be found in the annals of constitutional countries any instance of a Cabinet remaining quietly in office after the country had declared itself by such an election as that of last month; that it was their duty to use every effort for the removal of such a Ministry, and that everything savouring of increased taxation must be resolutely opposed. Mr. Kono Hironaka also appeared on the platform, and recalled to his audience something of his old vehemence by applying to the Cabinet the epithet "reckless" (*banyu*), and declaring that no one could forecast the limits of such a Government's daring. After these ebullitions, the meeting solaced itself with *sake*.

CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, April 4.

This is a subject to which we referred in a recent issue, explaining the methods adopted by merchants in Hongkong to elude the provision against the import of arms or munitions of war into China. We now read in Hongkong papers that a seizure of five thousand rifles of various patterns was made by the police a few days ago in a godown at No. 35, Praya East. The rifles had been taken to pieces and were ready for shipment. The precaution had been adopted of sprinkling the barrels with sea-water to give them a coating of rust, and create an impression of age. Two men were arrested on suspicion of having been engaged in the smuggling. Such incidents as this are more suggestive of the unsettled state of China than any of the alarmist reports recently published in newspapers. Five thousand stand of rifles is a large order, and when we consider that for one such seizure made by the police, many consignments of arms probably escape detection, it is evident that the Chinese insurgents are at all events acquiring mischievous potentialities.

It is difficult to discover what is the real condition of Yung Lu. A telegram from Peking says that he has again applied to be relieved of the duties of office on account of ill-health, but that the Court, in consideration of his great usefulness, has refused his application and has advised him to quietly continue the treatment of his malady. The same telegram (*Jiji Shimpo*) adds that some time ago Yung Lu consulted a Japanese military doctor, and that subsequently he put himself under the care of a French physician, but as his symptoms became more aggravated while undergoing the latter's treatment, he reverted to Chinese doctors. It is to be feared that in these circumstances his case does not present many hopeful features.

Monday, April 6.

The *Niroku* confidently affirms that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking is endeavouring to negotiate with Wang Wen-shao a secret treaty which would confer exceptional advantages on Russia to the expressed exclusion of other Powers. Our contemporary actually gives the text of the alleged agreement It says (1) that if plant and other materials be obtained from Russia for the purpose of mining operations or railway construction in Manchuria or Mongolia, no duty shall be levied except on such goods as are indicated by existing treaties now in force; (2) that all arms and munitions of war imported from Russian dominions for the protection of the Russo-Chinese frontiers of Manchuria and Mongolia shall be duty free; (3) that all goods imported into China from Siberia and all goods exported from China via Siberia, except those specially indicated in existing tradal regulations, shall be duty free; (4) that the privileges enumerated above shall not be extended to any third Power, and that if any third Power demand them, it can not obtain them without the combined consent of Russia and China; (5) that for the purpose of administering mining enterprises in which Russian and Chinese subjects are engaged cooperatively, mining offices shall be organized in Mukden, Kirin, Tehrin, Harbin, Chiang-kia-kow, Kulung and Kiakta; and (6) that special settlements measuring 100,000 *tsubo* each shall be granted to Russia in Kirin, Habalovsk, Chiang-kia-kow, and five other places.

The *Niroku*, although it calls this a secret agreement, represents the British Legation as strongly opposing it, and indeed it will be apparent to every one that China and Russia have no competence to combine for the purpose of annulling the most-favoured-nation clauses in the former's treaties with other States. But these so-called secret compacts are generally the compilation of some irresponsible newsmonger, who gathers up the floating fragments of political rumour and pieces them into a fanciful whole.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* takes some trouble to combat the idea that Russia's movements in Manchuria should be a source of any uneasiness to the Japanese. It declares its total disagreement with a certain newspaper—the allusion, we presume, is to *The Times* and its Peking correspondent—which represents Russia as merely tightening her hold upon the Three Provinces under pretext of withdrawing from them. There may have been some reason for alarm before the work of evacuation commenced, but it is now proceeding steadily, and no question is on the *tapis* except Russia's maintenance of a railway guard, which is a perfectly reasonable precaution. Further, our contemporary ridicules those that are making themselves conspicuous in spreading these alarms. It says that they are mere talkers, for they have no plan to meet the perils they depict.

Tuesday, April 7.

The *Nippon* publishes a statement—not contained in any other Tokyo journal—to the effect that the Japanese Minister in Peking recently presented an application to the Chinese Government for permission to construct a railway having its origin in Fuhkien. The line is to set out from Amoy and be carried to Kiukiang *viâ* Foochow. Thence it will branch in two directions, namely, to Nanking and Hankow, and finally a junction will be effected with the Lu-Han Railway. It is alleged that the Chinese Government has granted this application, but our Tokyo contemporary does not say a word about the projectors or the source from which capital is to be obtained, and without these particulars complete credence is difficult. It is probable that a railway from Amoy to Foochow and thence to Kiukiang would pay well. But lines from Kiukiang to Hankow on the west and to Nanking on the east would come into direct competition with water transport by the Yangtse, which as far as Hankow, is a formidable rival.

It appears that the visit of the Chinese Court to the Western Tombs this year is an affair of great magnitude. The imperial cortege set out on the 5th instant, and fifty

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carriages on the Lu-Han Railway were required to transport the Emperor and Empress together with the vast concourse of courtiers and statesmen that accompanied them. Edicts had been issued previously enjoining the necessity of economy in every direction, but it is computed that the expenses of the journey will aggregate several millions of taels. The whole of the route is said to have been guarded by the troops of Viceroy Yuan and General Ma. The Court will be absent for about a week.

Thursday, April 9.

The new commercial treaty between China and Japan is said to be virtually concluded, so far as the draft is concerned.

It is stated that Viceroy Yuan's plan of saving the financial situation at Tientsin by issuing three million dollars worth of silver notes redeemable at any one of the five foreign banks having offices there, has failed, the banks being unwilling to accept the responsibility on the terms offered by His Excellency.

The Emperor and Empress of China returned on the 7th instant to Paoting from their visit to the Western Tombs. They were to attend a grand review of Viceroy Yuan's troops at Paoting.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram to the effect that although the 8th instant is the last day of the second period of Russia's evacuation of Manchuria, no instructions with regard to the restoration of Inkow (New-chwang) had been received up to the moment (6th instant) of despatching the telegram.

AMERICAN OPINION ABOUT CHINA.

Many people in the Far East have doubtless been much surprised by the intelligence that the United States Government is about to increase its naval squadron in these seas with a view to eventualities in China. It is now suggested that this resolve may have been more or less influenced by a communication made to the press by Dr. Robert Coltman, for some time private physician to Li Hung-chang. The greater part of this remarkable letter is published by the *Kobe Herald*, from which we reproduce it :—

The policy of the United States while well intentioned, was the principal factor that brought this about, (anti-foreign feeling) and I believe the influence of Count Cassini and Wu Ting-fang to have moulded this policy, working through the Secretary of State. Li Hung Chang informed me in May, 1902, that Jung Lu had, in January, 1900, told him of his plan to drive all foreigners from China, and when Li assured him that the scheme was utterly impossible, replied :—

"Well, I intend trying it, anyhow." Li asked for and obtained the Viceroyship of Canton to be out of the way. Li expressed the greatest surprise that Jung Lu should be allowed to escape punishment, but admitted that he himself had pleaded for him, excusing himself to me on the ground that Jung had always been his friend and he could not act otherwise. Before the Court's return from Hsianfu, and immediately after their return to Peking, many edicts were promulgated, promising an end to the anti-foreign policy and ordering reforms and the establishment of educational institutions. Even then the astute officials declared that the edicts were issued to blind foreigners and were never intended for home consumption.

The year past has proved this. No reform has been instituted anywhere but on the contrary, the officials have had secret instructions to keep on as of old. Tung Fu Hsiang, the Kansu general, has kept his command and been well supplied with money. Prince Tung has been living with his father-in-law, in Alaskan Mongolia, and both he and his chief lieutenant, Prince Lien, have been drilling Mongolian troops for the uprising.

And, although Pu Chun, the son of Prince Tuan, who had been named heir apparent in January, 1900, was by decree cashiered before the return of the Court, he has since been brought to Peking, and is now again by the Mongolians proclaimed the Emperor without remonstrance by the Dowager.

As the preparations of Tung Fu Hsiang and Prince Tung became more open, the reformers in China and the better class of officials became convinced beyond a doubt of the Government's intentions, so that the Foreign Ministers in Peking in December addressed a joint letter to the Chinese Foreign Office enquiring into the truth of the numerous reports. They received a reply stating that there was some truth in the reports of the warlike preparations of Tung Fu Hsiang but that most of the series were exaggerated and the Governors of the provinces had sufficient forces to subdue him. The latter statement, that they could subdue him, is true. They could decapitate him and would if they did not know fully well that the Court's pleasure was to aid him in every way. When the time is considered ripe, all the Imperial soldiers will join him, just as they did in 1900. All the merchant classes of natives in the port cities and many younger officials are opposed to an anti-foreign outbreak, but the imperious Dowager will brook no counsel opposed to her wishes, and her example in beheading Hsu Ching Cheng, Yin Huan and Juan Chang, progressive and able Ministers of the Foreign Office, in 1900, for offering opinions opposed to Jung Lu, deters any like-minded officials now.

The rebellion in Kwangsi, which has been in progress nearly two years and is now growing each day, is the work of the reformers and friends of the banished Kang Yu Wei against the Manchu dynasty. It must grow. There is in the minds of all Chinese holding high offices under the Empress Dowager a hatred of the Manchu dynasty, and this the Dowager knows. She relies on the followers of Prince Tung and Tung Fu Hsiang to support her not only against the hated foreigners but against discontented people whom she is taxing heavily to pay the indemnity created by her own folly. Doubtless, if only money enough were collected to meet the indemnity the long suffering and law abiding population would submit without doing more than grumbling, but for every dollar that is turned into the indemnity fund it is certain that the officials will collect nine dollars for their own pocket.

The Dowager and Jung Lu are plotting as strenuously as possible to bring about a combination of forces that will be sufficient to check the native reform party, and at the same time further her end of getting even with the foreigners. With all the experience of the outbreak of 1900 mutterings of the gathering storm should not pass unheeded. If consensus of opinion of all old residents of China and of the progressive Chinese themselves is any guide, the allies made a very poor job of the settlement. Greatly to my surprise a member of the royal family said to me :—

"The punishment we have had is the best thing that could have happened, only it has been so light that I fear it will not be lasting."

Another said :—

"While I must press for the retirement of the foreign forces, I sincerely hope that they will refuse to go until they have evidence that an administration is in office that will ensure good government and enlightened progress. That we will never get under Jung Lu."

Still another said :—

"High as my rank and position are, I cannot for my family's sake counsel against the known wishes of my Empress with the example of the slain Ministers so fresh in mind."

Another, a prince, said :—

"Although I am a Manchu, I would gladly see a Chinese rule, if he would raise us to the position that the Japanese now occupy."

While the foreign troops remained in Shanghai, even Tung Fu Hsiang and Prince Tuan, though far away and safe, were cautious. Just as soon as the news of the evacuation reached them they became much bolder, and the activities received renewed impetus.

It is impossible to keep up a combined occupation of China indefinitely. Much friction occurred in the short time the scheme was practised so that all the Powers were relieved to have it over. But they left an uncompleted task and will soon be again face to face with the difficulty, complicated this time by the reformers' so-called rebellion against the dynasty.

A mistaken impression exists in this country that China is a poor country. China vastly exceeds the United States in soil and mineral resources; that is why all the Powers want to own China.

To my mind there exist only two solutions of the China problem—division, or establishment by the Powers of a new Chinese dynasty. Before either can be worked out it will be found necessary to invade China again with an army of occupation to ensure adequate protection of the vast foreign interests while the problem is being solved.

It will be conceded that this is a very striking letter. Dr. Coltman seems to have possessed a most remarkable faculty of winning confidences. Such a *persona grata* was he that Viceroy Li and no less than four imperial princes confided in him to the extent of flagrant indiscretions. Li Hung-chang was conspicuously frank, but Li Hung-chang is dead. According to the Great Viceroy, Jung Lu—or "Yung Lu" as his name is frequently written—was the head and front of all the anti-foreign movement. Now it is believed by Japanese statesmen, whose knowledge of Chinese things is generally admitted to be special, that Yung Lu was the man who saved the Legations by contriving that they should not be subjected to destructive artillery fire. There can be no doubt that if the guns in the possession of the Chinese forces had been used vigorously, the Legations could not have held out more than a few days. If Yung Lu's intention was to try the experiment of driving out foreigners, either he abandoned his purpose at a very early stage or the Japanese theory as to the manner in which his influence was exerted is altogether false. Dr. Coltman's story will nevertheless be credited by some people. It is cleverly conceived, for Li Hung-chang is likely enough to have assigned his own desire to be out of the storm as the reason for his removal to Canton. But that transfer, which followed his effacing mission to the Yellow River, has been attributed by well-informed foreign observers to a very different cause. However, we do not propose to analyse Dr. Coltman's statement in detail. He is not alone in some of his views, though we doubt whether many would be found to endorse them in their entirety.

COLONEL CHURCHILL.

Colonel Churchill has left Tokyo. He took the Canadian steamer, thus crossing the continent in the closing days of April. By next June Colonel Churchill would have completed five years' service in Japan, a fact which differentiates him very emphatically from the British Military Attachés that preceded him. He has obtained permission to anticipate the normal period of his return, so that he will enjoy two months of well-earned leave before resuming duty in England. During his residence in this Empire Colonel Churchill has devoted himself zealously and assiduously to the discharge of his work, and it can not be doubted that his reports and observations have placed the British War Office in possession of the fullest information about Japanese military affairs. He succeeded in winning most thoroughly the liking and respect of Japanese officers, with whom his relations have always been such as to materially strengthen the ties of alliance that bind the two countries together. A lasting evidence of his remarkable industry remains, and will always remain, in his "Dictionary of Military Terms," an excellent book which has the honour of being unique in its class, and which will surely prove of great assistance to military students in both countries. Colonel Churchill's departure will be a source of lasting regret to many friends of all nationalities, and we join them in hoping that a brilliant future lies before him.

Baron Rosen, new Russian Minister, arrived at Nagasaki 7th by the steamer *Kiautschou*.

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THE LABOURERS' QUESTION.

When the labourers, to whom we referred in our last issue, were on their way to their rendezvous in Uyeno Park on the 3rd instant, they were dispersed by the police, and seven or eight of their ringleadears were conducted to the police-station and detained there until the afternoon, as a measure considered essential in the interests of public peace. All this excites the *Niroku Shimpo* to a white heat of indignation. It publishes an article which, we observe with regret, contains unequivocal incitements to violence, and which consequently furnishes a strong justification of the precautions taken by the police. The *Niroku* has done excellent service in exposing abuses, but the temper it sometimes displays and the language it employs are calculated to undo the good it effects in other directions. A newspaper perpetually at feud with the powers that be must be following a more or less mistaken route. Undoubtedly our contemporary has cause for resentment. For example, the charges of embezzlement brought against some members of its staff last year, were not established even in one instance, and such a result did not speak strongly for the impartiality or good judgment of the police authorities. Bnt the sympathy these incidents would secure for it is likely to be altogether revolted by articles such at that appearing in its columns on the 4th instant.

Since the above was written our contemporary has given further evidence of determination to try how far it can carry its agitation without entangling itself in the meshes of the press law. We do not remember to have seen in any Japanese newspaper during the past thirty years articles so violent and so incentive to violence as those now published by our Tokyo contemporary with reference to the procedure of the police in restraining labourers' pic-nics and demonstrations. The *Niroku* flatly accuses the Government of fomenting revolution; charges it with resorting to *coups d'etat*, and declares that its programme of naval increment is dictated not by consideration of the country's needs but by a desire to curry favour with military men. Were we to translate the *Niroku's* last article verbatim our readers would be somewhat startled, but we can not aid in giving publicity to such intemperance. The *Niroku* has some legitimate causes of complaint, in our opinion. It spoils its case, however, by this method of presentation.

CHINA AND THE OSAKA EXHIBITION.

It seems that the Osaka Exhibition is likely to prove a source of offence to the Chinese. In the section of the exhibition devoted to showing national customs, there are displayed Chinese opium-smoking pipes and Chinese women's feet as distorted by the shocking device of compression. This is said to have caused much indignation in the breasts of Chinese visiting the Exhibition. They consider that their country is thus classified with barbarous or semi-barbarous nations, and they have, it is alleged, addressed a remonstrance against the visit of Prince Tsai-chen and Mr. Na Tung, who are supposed to have left China on the 28th ultimo. Rumour adds that Mr. Na Tung's reply referred their visit solely to the object of investigating the Japanese currency system, and warmly disavowed any intention of going to an exhibition where China is insulted. We read in the *Hochi* that the leading Chinese journal of Tientsin takes a most sensible view of the matter. It contends that so long as the Chinese smoke opium and compress their girl-children's feet, they must submit to be the subject of international ridicule, and that the remedy is in their own hands, namely, to eschew opium and abandon the cruel and unnatural custom. But not many Chinese are likely to take such an enlightened view.

There appears to be much uncertainty about the date of Prince Tsai-chen's departure from China. Immediately on the heels of confident statement that he had left Peking on the 28th ultimo, comes news that he will embark at Taku in the *Nagato Maru* on the 24th of this month. Perhaps the difficulty of finding accommodation may have something to do with his movements, but no reason is openly assigned for the postponment.

SCANDALS.

The preliminary examination of Judge Kitabatake, of the Kyoto Local Court, has been concluded, and he has been remanded for trial on six charges. It is not necessary to enter into all the particulars. The broad facts are that this judge habitually employed a rascal called Kurashima as go-between in his transactions with accused persons. Kurashima had been four times convicted on charges of obtaining money under false pretences and larceny. When, therefore, he approached defendants with suggestions that by paying a certain sum of money to Judge Kitabatake they could get out on bail or secure acquittal, his promises were not always credited. In that event he did not hesitate to conduct the representatives of the defendants to the judge's house, where they received assurances direct. In this way quite a number of persons were bled, some in small amounts, some in large, the whole of the confederates' earnings aggregating some thousands of *yen*. Kurashima was placed on trial simultaneously with his principal, the charge against him being that he assisted Judge Kitabatake to obtain bribes. But as Kurashima is not an official, the law has no hold on him in such matters, and he has been released. Much sympathy seems to be felt with the father of the accused, who was formerly chief judge of the Osaka Court of Appeal, and whose name was honorably before the public in former years.

The Osaka Exhibition promises to furnish the next case of bribery and corruption. Tokyo papers say that already, even before the official opening of the Exhibition has taken place, various glaring defects have been detected in the buildings, the leaking of roofs to the great discomfiture and loss of exhibitors being one of the troubles. As for the machinery section, our contemporaries allege that when the machines were first set going, it was the building that moved not the machines. Nevertheless the matter might have ended with some perfunctory grumbling had not the arrest and examination of Mr. Matsuda Shiro, head of the Financial Section of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and Vice-Director of the Affairs Section of the Exhibition, led to a discovery that his delinquencies extended to Osaka. The police have made a strict search at the residence of Mr. Obayashi Yoshigoro, by whom the contracts for a large part of the Exhibition buildings were taken, and developments of a striking nature are expected.

The preliminary trials of a number of persons were concluded on April 4th. M. Kokubu, principal of the Miyagi High Female School, was committed for trial on a charge of having received bribes of *yen* 500 from various text book publishers; as also was K. Saito, educational inspector of Saga Prefecture, in whose case the bribe was *yen* 30 received from the Fukyu-sha text book publishing company. The same day, S. Kumamoto, educational inspector, Department of Education, and examiner of text books, and M. Maeda, teacher of the Nippon Academy, who had been detained on bribery charges, were discharged on the ground that the evidence against them was insufficient. On the 6th the trials of Y. Kanakuto and six other educational officials were to be resumed. It is stated that the public procurator will appeal against the release of S. Munekata, ex-Governor of Fukui Prefecture, who was recently discharged. The *Mainichi Shimbun* states that Viscount Seki will be arrested on a charge of having embezzled *yen* 1,500 from the text book publisher Kinkodo. It is alleged that Viscount Seki applied to R. Kanao, ex-Governor of Shimane Prefecture, who is under detention on the usual bribery charge, to adopt the text books published by the Kinkodo by whom the former had been requested to approach the Governor on the subject under a promise to give *yen* 1,100 to the Governor and *yen* 400 as commission to the Viscount. Viscount Seki asked the Governor five or six times to comply but the latter refused. Viscount Seki, however, received from the book publisher, *yen* 1,500 on the representation that the Governor had agreed to adopt the text books.

In the Tokyo District Court on April 6th the following judgements were given: M. Nagai, principal of the Hyogo Higher Female School, to 3 months imprisonment with hard labour, and a fine of *yen* 10, the bribe, *yen* 1.104, to be confiscated; T. Yamamoto, rural educational inspector of Yamaguchi prefecture, to 1 month's imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 4, the bribe, *yen* 200, to be confiscated; and T. Yendo, principal of Shimane Normal school to 3 months' imprisonment and a fine of *yen* 10, the bribe, *yen* 500, to be confiscated. The same day, the preliminary examination of Y. Idzumi, principal of Yakake Academy, Okayama prefecture, was concluded and he was committed for trial on a charge of having received a bribe of *yen* 200 from the Shuyei-do book publisher on giving a promise to adopt his text books, in his Academy.

In connexion with the bribery case in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the authorities of the Tokyo District Court searched on April 2nd, the dwellings of T. Miyaba, a prominent watch and jewelry dealer, Ginza, Tokyo, who carries on business under the shop-name of Tamaya, and T. Tashiro, a merchant, living at Matsuya-cho, Tokyo. Many account books were seized. The *Jiji Shimpo* states that some officials of the lower class in the Department are now under suspicion of corruption and will shortly be arrested.

A villager named T. Taki who had been detained on a charge of infringing the Election Law, was discharged in the Himeji District Court on April 5th. Mr. Ozawa, the public procurator, at once appealed against the judgement. At the same time a man named M. Taki and seventeen villagers were summoned to the Himeji police station and examined in connexion with a suspicion that the judge had accepted a bribe from the former.

THE BRITISH AND JAPANESE ARMIES.

One is perplexed to understand the inspiration of an article in the *Asahi Shimbun* on the subject of the military forces of Great Britain and Japan. The gist of the article is that the allied Powers pay little or any attention to the state of one another's armies. England knows all about Japan's navy and Japan has corresponding knowledge of England's, but neither State gives itself any apparent concern about the other's

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military organization. We are not quite sure whether this criticism is intended to be taken literally, or whether the idea is to whip Japan over England's back. But so far as Great Britain is concerned, we believe that if the editor of the *Asahi* had access to the archives of the War Office in London, he would speedily change his estimate as to the information England possesses about Japan's army. The Tokyo journal ought to be aware that for many years Great Britain has maintained in this country a military attaché of high rank and ripe experience, whose sole duty from year's end to year's end is to investigate everything relating to the Japanese military forces, and to report the result of his investigations to London. Not very much, we imagine, has escaped the attention of these experts, and it is probable that what the British Authorities do not know about Japan's army is not worth knowing. Of course we can not speak with anything like equal assurance about Japanese acquaintance with British military affairs, but Japan also has had her attachés in European countries, and all experience of her methods goes to prove that she conducts with thoroughness and intelligence whatever inquiries are likely to be of any use, however small, for campaigning purposes. We know the state of her preparedness in 1894 and in 1900, and we have seen some of the results of her people's recent investigations in districts where they were not supposed to have set foot. Therefore our conviction is that in the Foreign Office in Tokyo, no less than in the Foreign Office in London, there are accumulated stores of information such as render our contemporary's uneasiness quite superfluous. Permeating the *Asahi's* writing there is a note of apprehension as to the quality of the British army. Grounds for such fear must always exist so long as England eschews the system of conscription. By no other device can colossal forces be organized and maintained at a cost within the reach of a State which does not invite bankruptcy. But in spite of South-Africa's teaching we venture to think that whatever forces England puts into the field, whether in Asia or elsewhere, will give a sufficiently good account of themselves, and we also venture to think that the Japanese War Office is quite content in that respect.

THE MANILA GUNBOATS.

The materials for another sensation have been discovered—or invented?—by the *Niroku Shimpo*. Our contemporary takes the case of the five gun-boats ordered last year by the United States Government from the Uraga Dock Company for service in the Philippines waters. One of these boats was completed and handed over last October. The American Government, says the *Niroku*, placed the greatest confidence in the Dock Company's chief engineer, Dr. Sakurai, and was content to send a very small number of officers from the States—three only—for the purpose of superintending the work. Thus, the first gunboat having been successfully launched, some Japanese reserve officers were employed to take her to Manila. These officers, though they saw that outwardly the vessel was well constructed, had some doubts about her essential parts, and they reported their misgivings direct to the Washington Authorities, who at once sent new inspectors, with the result that the four gunboats now on the stocks were found to be in many respects radically different from the specification and their reconstruction was ordered. The Company will make a heavy loss and is naturally doing its best to hush up the affair, but the *Niroku*, though not particularly solicitous about the Company's interests, considers that its doings are highly injurious to Japan's credit.

The *Hochi Shimbun* also takes up the same question. But its account differs in some important respects from that of the *Niroku*. Thus it says nothing about the alleged report of Japanese naval officers, but asserts that the structural defects of the first gun-boat were detected immediately on her arrival at Manila. It further affirms that the United States Government then opened strenuous negotiations with the Company and insisted on the entire re-building of the remaining four gun-boats though they were already half completed. It also declares that the officers originally sent out from America were purchased by the Company, and it finally attempts to fix upon the Foreign Office and the Admiralty the responsibility of exposing the empire of Japan to this great disgrace. Thus the *Hochi Shimbun*, it would seem, believes that American naval officers can be bribed, and that the Japanese Foreign Office and Admiralty should be able to provide against contingencies of that kind! Until that very weak feature of the story is strengthened, we feel at liberty to refuse credence to the whole.

DEATH OF MR. FURUKAWA ICHIBEI.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Furukawa Ichibei, owner of the Ashiwo copper mines. He was a self-made man, having originally been a hawker of bean-curd cakes in Kyoto. Fortune took him by the hand when at 22 he entered the service of the Konoike house in Kyoto, whereafter he was adopted into the family of Furukawa Tarozayemon, and initiated into the mysteries of the foreign silk trade under the auspices of the Ono-gumi. It appears that from the year 1874, after the bankruptcy of the Ono firm, he conceived the idea that Japan's future lay in the development of mines, and following that inspiration, he devoted himself to getting possession wholly or in part, of various mining properties, first that of Kusakura (copper) and then those of Ashiwo, Imai and Sui. No difficulties seem to have daunted him, and at the time of his death he had a proprietary interest in 69 mines, measuring 25 millions of *tsubo*, employing 30,000 men; having machinery of 7,000 horse power; and producing 20 *kwanme* of gold, 3,000 *kwan* of silver, 16 million lbs. of copper, and 400,000 tons of coal. These figures represent 20 per cent. of the whole production of silver in Japan and 40 per cent. of that of copper. Mr. Furukawa was 79 years of age at the time of his death, hand is malady was cancer of the stomach. Mr. Furukawa is succeeded by his adopted son, who is the second son of the late Count Mutsu.

The son and successor of the late Mr. Furukawa has distributed a sum of ten thousand *yen* to the poor of Tokyo and to the charity hospitals of the city. He has also subscribed five thousand *yen* to the association for the succour of working hands at the Ashiwo Mine.

Mr. G. W. Brockhurst sends us, on behalf of Mr. G. D. Clarke, sole agent for Japan, a useful illustrated calendar and blotter issued by Peter Dawson, whiskey distiller, of Dufftown and Glasgow.

DEATH OF MR. MASUDA KOKUTOKU.

By the death of Mr. Masuda Kokutoku Japan loses one of her eminent business men. Mr. Masuda, as already announced, was struck down by apoplexy a few days ago when about to take the train at Shimbashi for the purpose of proceeding to the Osaka Exhibition. He never rallied but died on the 6th instant at the early age of 52. He was a younger brother of the well known Mr. Masuda Ko, now chief manager of the extensive affairs of the Mitsui Company, aud he doubtless owed something of his success to that connexion, but his abilities must have commanded distinction in any circumstances. His first remarkable enterprise was to join Admiral Enomoto in the celebrated retreat to Ezo, and being among those that surrendered to the Imperial forces in the sequel of that escapade, he was handed over to the feudal chief of Takamatsu, according to the custom of those days. Subsequently he entered the *Keio Gijuku* of Mr. Fukuzawa, to which so many prominent Japanese owe their education, and having completed a course of study there, he obtained the position of teacher of English in the very fief where he had formerly been a prisoner. His next essay was to become a public procurator, in which capacity he accompanied Count Yamada, Minister of Justice, to Europe and America for the purpose of conducting inquiries into the judicial systems of foreign countries. Commerce ultimately attracted him, and in that occupation he made a rapid success, so that, during the last years of his life, he held distinguished positions in many of the leading companies. His funeral takes place to-day, the cortège leaving his residence in Negishi at 9 a.m., and proceeding to the cemetery at Yanaka.

"THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE."

The English-speaking public are promised a new magazine called the "Burlington." It is to be published by the Savile Publishing Company at 19, Old Burlington Street, London, W., and the idea is that it will be a magazine for connoisseurs—that is to say "for all amateurs, whether students, collectors or both." The collaboration of forty-four writers, all art specialists of note, has been secured, and it is promised that exceptional care will be given to the illustrations, which will include reproductions in photogravure and collotype as well as in other processes. England has already several magazines devoted to art in one form or another, but the projectors of the Burlington contend that there is not at present any English periodical which occupies a position analogous to that of the leading publications on the continent of Europe, and they undertake to supply the want. Among the promised contributions there is one, we observe, by Mr. Arthur Morrisón on "Kikuchi Yosai, the last of the great Japanese painters." That is an epithet against which we protest. Kikuchi Yosai is not by any means "the last of the great Japanese painters" but he is assuredly great enough to need no such exaggerated eulogium, and as for Mr. Arthur Morrison, the public know him so well as a far-seeing and accurate critic of Japanese art that we should have looked to see him eschew, rather than adopt, these superfluous methods of introducing himself or his subject. If the "Burlington" fulfils even a part of what it promises—and we think there can be no doubt of that, in view of the long list of distinguished contribu-

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tors—is will be a most valuable publication. The subscription is to be 35 shillings per annum, 5 shillings being charged for postage, and the price of a single copy being half-a-crown. This does not sound very favourable to subscribers, but it is to be noted that they will receive a monthly supplement gratis. An *edition de luxe* also is offered. It is to be printed on the finest English hand-made paper, with illustrations on India paper, Japanese vellum or other paper specially suitable to the subject; there will be extra plates of specially fine quality, and only 300 copies are offered to the public, the yearly subscription for this edition together with the ordinary edition and the supplement being ten guineas.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

The *Kokumin Shimbun* celebrates the publication of its four thousandth number by issuing a pretty volume containing poems by the Emperor and Empress. The poems have been transcribed by Count Higashi Kuze and Marquis Kuga. At the conclusion are a few congratulatory words by Count Matsukata. It should be added that the *Kokumin* issues also a jubilee number of 96 pages which contains several most interesting essays, all on subjects relating to Japanese journalism. Among the writers of these essays we note the names of several distinguished men, as Mr. Ariga Nagao Mr. Inouye Tetsujiro, Mr. Kishida Ginko (an interview), Mr. Yano Fumio and Mr. Fukuchi Genichi. This certainly represents the most striking jubilee number ever issued by a Japanese journal and we heartily congratulate our contemporary on its enterprise and judgment. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is unquestionably a high credit to Japanese journalism. Its opinions are always enlightened and moderate, its intelligence is trustworthy, and its selection of news and of topics shows sound insight. It has steadily risen to the leading place it now occupies.

GERMANY AS SEEN THROUGH AMERICAN SPECTACLES.

Germany in 1902 apparently found herself in very much the same condition as did the United States of North America in the years 1894 to 1896; that is, the condition of a patient who has survived the shock of accident or the wasting of sickness, but who, while convalescent, is still weak and physically shaken. Following the collapse of 1900, however, has come conservatism, a paucity of new enterprises, cheap money and firmer values of securities. Certainly a vast improvement over conditions a year ago is perceptible. Mr. Consul-General Mason, in a report to the U.S. State Department, shows that the textile industries, especially woollens, present quite the most favourable appearance. The active demand for iron and steel in America has made it possible to unload much of the surplus German output of these products at prices extremely favourable for the customer though barely remunerative to the seller. The electrical industry has improved since the first of the year. Slow collections are, however, complained of, and the margin between high-priced food and raw materials and relatively low-priced finished products is said to be still considerable. Banking dividends and balances show the most notable improvement over the preceding year. The foreign trade of the country shows that exports—presumably some of them made, as in the case of iron and steel, at low prices—are increasing largely, while imports stand still. This latter fact is not altogether encouraging, however, because, it is pointed out by Mr. Mason, that in a country like Germany, where an overwhelming proportion of all imports are the indispensable raw materials of manufacture and the cheap food materials which are essential to economical labour, the failure of imports to increase is a sign of industrial stagnation. Mr. Mason's conclusion of the whole matter seems to be that Germany's sheet anchor in the stormy weather of the past two years has been her export trade. *Bradstreets*, in commenting on this report, does not lose sight of the fact that Germany's mobilization of industry, and ability to export a mass of material which might otherwise lie dead upon the markets awaiting the slow process of domestic digestion, has been largely aided by her great industrial syndicates and combinations.

"A THIRD OF A CENTURY OF CHRISTIAN WORK."

This is the title of a special edition of the *Mission News* published on March 28th. The agency by which the work in question has been done is the American Board Mission, which has been in every sense one of the most successful Christian organizations in the Far East. In the opening pages we find editorial notes and congratulatory letters, after which come a number of short essays on "our work as seen by the workers," and then several historical sketches, the concluding pages being devoted to accounts of the Mission charities and publications, and the final place being given to an obituary notice of the Rev. R. H. Davis and the Rev. M. L. Gordon, two men who left a permanent impression of true virtue on the mind of the Japanese nation. This little book deserves to be read by those that are sceptical about the success of Christian missions in Japan. No attempt is made to tell an attractive story or to marshall striking facts. It is a simple and therefore eloquent record, very instructive and very convincing. The Japanese in general scarcely realize what they owe to the many devoted Europeans and Americans that are working zealously and self-effacingly in their midst.

THE BRITISH MERCANTILE MARINE.

Lloyd's Register of recent date contains interesting statistics bearing on the exact strength at the beginning of the current year of the British mercantile marine. In order to arrive at a sensible conclusion, account has been taken of the additions to British tonnage, as well as the deductions due to losses and sales to foreigners. The total additions amounted to no less than 1,249,509 tons. Nearly the whole consisted of new vessels built in the United Kingdom, the transfers from the colonies and foreign sources coming to little more than 85,000 tons. The gross deductions from the register were 506,155 tons. Of this the great proportion is to be traced to wrecks, breaking up and dismantling, while a smaller percentage is due to sales abroad. Germans bought 36,584 tons of shipping; Italians, 33,594 tons; Swedes, 29,109 tons; Greeks, 28,568 tons, and so on. It should be added, on the testimony of Lloyd's, that very few of the vessels thus disposed of were of recent construction. Most of them, indeed, were old boats, sold for the purpose of replacing by new. After all the adjustments alluded to, the vessels on the register of the United Kingdom stand thus:—

	Vessels.	Tons, Gross.
Steam	9,808	12,260,332
Sailing	10,449	2,090,871
Total	20,257	14,351,871

During the period beginning with 1893 and ending with 1901, British tonnage was augmented by some 300,000 or 400,000 tons, but in 1902 the net increase amounted to upward of 700,000 tons.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It seems that pressure from the Australian colonies is largely responsible for the issue of notice to the P. & O. Company that the mail contracts for India, the Far East and Australia will terminate at the end of 1905. However, two years' notice was necessary under any circumstances, and as it is known that the Company has long been dissatisfied with the terms of the subvention it is receiving, and also that its enterprise is checked by uncertainty as to the continuance of the contract, there is no reason to suppose that the Directors themselves are either surprised or chagrined by the notice. Australia wants a quicker service, and also wants to see her own regulations enforced in the case of all ships visiting her ports, namely, that white men only shall be employed as sailors. Evidently if that were put into operation the P. & O. Company might fairly plead that such an arbitrary addition to its running expenses forbids the carrying of mail matter at rates hitherto considered tolerably remunerative. White seamen are much more costly than Oriental, and thus it comes ultimately to this, that the British and Australian tax-payers will have to put up money for the gratification of Australia's protective theories.

A terrible catastrophe is reported from the Oto coal mine in the Tagawa district of Fukuoka prefecture. On the 2nd instant an explosion of fire damp occurred in the mine and no less than sixty persons were killed.

It turns out, after all, that Mr. Marks, Japanese Honorary Consul in Melbourne, has really resigned his post. The announcement formerly made was premature, but the resignation seems to be now an accomplished fact. It is said that Sir Malcolm McEacharn has consented to be Mr. Marks' successor.

The first class cruiser *Yakumo*, one of the six big (9,800 tons) cruisers of the Japanese Navy, has been unable to complete her share in the manœuvres through out owing to an accident. When leaving Saseho on the morning of the 31st ultimo, she touched a sunken rock, and was obliged to put back. Temporary repairs were effected, and if she could have been docked at once at Saseho a few days might have restored her to sea-worthiness. But the Saseho docks being occupied, she had to go round to Kure, where she arrived on the afternoon of the 2nd.

The *Fiji Shimpo* says that the second-period programme of naval expansion will not be completed until the end of 1905. In torpedo craft the programme is still defective, as a total of 85 is called for, and the country was in possession of only 67 at the end of 1902. The remaining 18 are all to be built in Japan.

The Tokyo Municipal Authorities have finally decided to impose a dog tax (*chiku-*

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ken-su) within the precincts of the city. The amount will be altogether 1.50 *yen* per dog, namely, one *yen* ward tax and 50 *sen* city tax.

It appears that the negotiations for amalgamation of the Tokyo Tram Company and the Tokyo Street Railways are not proceeding smoothly, but we can not place any credence in the accounts published by certain Tokyo journals. Where such large interests are at stake it is unfortunately impossible to be sure of anything that one reads in newspapers which have already shown themselves to be within reach of "influence."

We learn from statistics appearing in American journals that the world's production of cereals in 1902 exceeded the figure for 1901 by 192½ millions of bushels, an increase of over 20 per cent. Holland, Italy and one or two other States showed small decreases, and Germany's record was distinctly bad, but otherwise a plentiful harvest is recorded all round. It need scarcely be said that these figures do not include the Orient. It is time, one would think, for Occidental statisticians to take Japan's case into such accounts. They must necessarily leave China out as she publishes no records of any kind. But Japan's yield of all kinds of crops is known with fully as much accuracy as that of any Western country, and if she is not taken into account, the only cause we can perceive is unreasoning habit.

The victory of Cambridge in the Inter-University Boat Race brings the wins of the light blues up to 26 against Oxford's 33, a dead heat being rowed in 1877. From 1890 to 1898 inclusive all the victories were for Oxford, but in 1899 and 1900 Cambridge got in front. Oxford again won in 1901; a light blue win took place last year and now again Cambridge has scored.

It is certainly interesting to find the Prussian Minister of Commerce openly admitting the theoretical truth of free trade, but at the same time confessing that Germans have to go with the multitude to do evil. "I gladly admit," said Herr Möller, "that it would be more in accordance with economical truth for us to steer for free trade than for any other theories, now that we have become powerful and strong by our own force. But you must reckon with what goes on around you." What goes on around Prussia certainly bears no kind of resemblance to free trade, and if she postpones amendment of her own ways until such a likeness is visible, she will probably have a long time to wait.

The Russian cruiser *Askold*, which is now in harbour for the purpose of receiving the departing Russian Minister, M. Iswolsky, and of meeting the new Minister, Baron Rosen, has not been seen in Yokohama before. She attracts considerable attention by reason of her five funnels as well as by her great length. She is one of a group of very fast and heavily armed ships, some of which have been built abroad. The *Askold* is of 6,100 tons displacement and was built by the Germania Yard at Kiel. She has nine Schultze boilers developing a speed of 24 knots by means of three propellers. Her principal dimensions are: length, 426ft. 6in.; beam, 49ft. 3in.; draught 20ft. 4in. She carries twelve 6in. and twelve 3-in. (12-pdrs) and eight 1.8-in. (3-pdrs) quick firing guns.

Some time ago we stated that the Emperor of Germany had been pleased to announce his intention of conferring the Red Eagle on Count Matsukata. We now read in Japanese newspapers that the insignia reached Tokyo a few days ago, and were conveyed by Count Arco Valley to Count Matsukata.

Mr. Bredon, Vice-Inspector-General of Customs, left Shanghai by the *Kobe Maru* on the 4th instant. He will visit the Osaka Exhibition, but it is alleged by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent that he is also entrusted with the discharge of some very important business.

Viscount Aoki arrived in Tientsin on the 2nd. It was supposed that he would have an interview with Viceroy Yuan but he seems to have proceeded at once to Peking, which city he reached safely on the 3rd.

Mr. F. Staniland, long and most favourably known in Japan, has signalized his return to England by starting a new journal. It is called *The Wokingham and Bracknell Gazette and Country Review*, and in addition to the place of its origin it circulates in Sandhurst, Camberly, Sunningdale, Winkfield, Wargrave, Finchampstead, Shinfield, Barkham, Arborfield, Hurst, Twyford, Sunning, Earley, &c. We have had an opportunity of seeing some of the opening numbers, and we can not but think that if the newspaper maintains the quality of which these first specimens give promise, signal success awaits it. Mr. Staniland appears to have been very unfavourably impressed with the British workingman. Experience in Japan accustomed him to a politer and more tractable type than he finds in Wokingham, and he is evidently surprised to discover how many articles are imported which could easily be manufactured at home. Thus a new and unbiassed observer signally confirms the criticisms so frequently heard of late years. We wish Mr. Staniland every success in his new venture, a wish which in all probability will be gratified.

A Physicians' Association (*Naika Gakkai*) has been organized in Tokyo under the presidency of His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi. It held its opening ceremony at the High Commercial School on the 4th instant, Dr. Aoyama being in the chair. Prince Fushimi attended, and delivered a brief address, and messages of congratulation were read from the Prime Minister, from the Minister of Home Affairs, from the Minister of Education and from Mr. Matsuda, Mayor of Tokyo. The meeting was addressed by Dr. Ikeda, Dr. Hashimoto, Mr. Yamakawa, Dr. Baelz and Dr. Scriba. The 5th and 6th are to be devoted to lecture meetings, and on the 7th the members assemble at the Seiyo-ken in Uyeno Park to celebrate the inauguration by a banquet. This organization should prove very useful. It has often been remarked that Japan is somewhat lacking in associations and societies for discussing the latest phases of scientific research and for the exchange of ideas by scientific men. The result of such a lacuna is that the atmosphere of science is also absent; a serious defect.

It is interesting to hear the eulogies now passed by tourists on the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. Formerly the Hotel used to be spoken of in terms far from favourable. The service was said to be bad, the attendance bad, and the cuisine bad. But now there is unanimous testimony that no better hotel is to be found eastward of Suez; for not only have the food and attendance, as well as the warming of the building, improved immensely, but also there is a general atmosphere of competent organization, and the servants have been drilled to discharge all the minor duties of attention which make just the difference between excellence and mediocrity. These marked changes are of course attributable to the present foreign management which seems to have effected a thorough metamorphosis.

The *Official Gazette* announces that His Majesty has been pleased to extend clemency to Mr. Wada Koreshiro, who, as Manager of the Iron Works at Wakamatsu, was intimately associated with the failures that have made that enterprise so unpopular. Mr. Wada was removed from office under a sentence of *chokai menkan*, which meant that he could never be employed again. That sentence is now cancelled. The only similar instance we recall is that of Mr. Ozaki Yukio, when he was a member of the *Kensei-to* Cabinet.

The Emperor left Tokyo, as originally fixed, by the 9.48 a.m. train on the 7th instant. It need scarcely be said that a great assemblage of high officials attended at Shimbashi and that the foreign Chefs de Mission were included among the number. Tokyo newspapers describe the ceremonial of departure at some length, but the details are in no sense novel. It appears that the 20th instant is fixed for the official opening of the Exhibition.

SPRINGTIDE IN ENGLAND.

Oh to be in England now that April's there.

Ah me, 'tis Spring in England now.
Up Cumner Hill the busy plough
Has made in ruts the brown earth smile,
And in a very little while
Soft fresh green blades will kiss the air
And life will blossom everywhere.

The golden gorse like fire will blaze
On lonely moors and pathless ways;
The daisy white, with upturned eye,
Will blush to view the cloudless sky.
The lambs will frolic on the grass,
Or shyly gaze at all who pass;
The air will fill the soul, like wine,
With careless joy and youth divine.

Oh! English Spring! Lo, I who sing
Afar in Eastern lands, would wing
My Fancy's soul in haste away
To drink thy nectar while I may.
For old my spirit grows, though young,
And songs but falter on my tongue.

The East says, "Lo! I give thee more
"Of beauty than thou had'st before,
"Thy land had never hills like mine,
"Nor endless groves of tall blue pine,
"Nor rocks, nor temples girt with trees,
"What can she offer like to these?"

Ah! what care I though Fuji rise
In cold perfection to the skies.
Though rosy cherry blossoms grow
To beauty England cannot know.
What, though the waves that wash the coast
In lulling rhythmic murmur, boast
A deeper blue than those that roar
With sullen sound on Whitby's shore?
Behold, they sever with their tide
My land, my loves, and much beside.

Oh! give me back life's folded years—
Ere youth forever disappears.
Or give to me one cowslip flower,
And English Spring-time for an hour,
With dewy fields of fresh young green,
That I may joy in what has been—
And live in memories of the past,
Since that alone of life will last

M. K.

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WHAT IS MAN?

FOR a long time the tendency of modern science was to deprive man of all conceit in himself. He seemed to be so wholly insignificant compared with his surroundings. So far from the earth being the centre of the visible universe, as early astronomers supposed, with sun, moon, planets and stars all revolving around it, our sun and solar system were seen to be paltry units among countless hosts of stars, clusters and nebulæ, and men were forced to recognise "that this vast, stupendous universe could have no special relation to ourselves any more than to any other of the million suns and systems, many of them probably far grander and more important than ours, and perhaps fitted to be the abode of more highly organized beings." As the power of telescopes increased and as astronomical research became more profound, "the vastness, variety and marvellous complexity of the stellar universe" came to be recognised, and correspondingly the relative "importance of our little speck of earth was reduced almost to a vanishing point." Sceptics naturally found a powerful argument in these facts, for they urged "the irrationality and absurdity of supposing that the Creator of all this unimaginable vastness of suns and systems, filling, for all we know, endless space, should have any special interest in so pitiful a creature as man, the degraded or imperfectly developed inhabitant of one of the smaller planets attached to a second or third rate sun; while that he should have selected this little world for the scene of the tremendous and necessarily unique sacrifice of his Son in order to save a portion of these miserable sinners from the natural consequences of their sins, was, in their view, a crowning absurdity too incredible to be believed by any rational being."

But within the past twenty-five years astronomers have begun to discover that their ideas require modification; that the theory of an infinite stellar universe must be abandoned, and that this earth of ours is really invested with much of the importance assigned to it by early ignorance. Mr. A. R. WALLACE, DARWIN'S great collaborator, has collected the results of modern research in these respects, and has synthesized them with his well known power in the pages of *The Independent*, where he arrives at the momentous conclusion that "the supreme end and purpose of this vast universe was the production and development of the living soul in the perishable body of man." It is not possible, of course, to follow the great thinker through all the details of his demonstration. Had we space for such a task, the incomparably better plan would be to reproduce his paper verbatim. But we can state succinctly the principal heads of his thesis and show their inter-relation.

First, then, the stars are not infinite in number. Up to a certain point each increase in the power of the telescope revealed a greater number of stars, and the natural inference was an endless galaxy. But the telescope has now overcome this vagueness. It shows new stars in smaller and smaller proportions, and indicates clearly that the limits of the starry system have been approached; a conclusion enforced by the fact that the numerous dark patches in the heavens remain dark when the most powerful instruments are directed on them, whereas if the stars were infinite these black backgrounds would be illuminated by the light of millions of stars too distant to be separately visible. The photographic plate furnishes similar testimony, and, on the whole, the calculation now accepted is that the number of stars does not exceed 100 millions. Yet another piece of strong evidence is obtained from the laws of light. The mathematical application of these to our particular purpose demands a statement not generally comprehensible, but the point demonstrated is that if the stars were infinite we should receive at least as much light from them as the sun gives at noon-day, whereas the amount actually received is not more than about $^1/_{40}$th of moonlight which, again, is about $^1/_{300,000}$th of sunlight.

This fact established, it becomes possible to think of the centre of the stellar universe. Infinity, of course, can have no centre, but so soon as confines are admitted, a point approximately equi-distant from all parts becomes calculable, provided that some trustworthy means of measurement are available. It is in this direction, namely determination of the distribution of the stars in space, that astronomy has of late years made most remarkable strides. Astronomers no longer hold to the old idea of fixed stars. They believe that probably all stars have proper motions of their own, but that these motions are often scarcely discernible owing to the distance of the stars. Again, brightness is not now held, as of old, to be a proof of proximity. The true relation is between proper motion and distance, and by laborious and accurate observation of that relation, as well as by careful inductive reasoning, two conclusions have been reached. The first relates to the Milky Way, the huge irregular nebulous ring, which is by far the most prominent feature in the starry heavens. This galaxy is now found to be "a vast annular agglomeration of stars forming a great circle round the heavens"; not a flat or greatly compressed ring, but a more or less globular aggregation through which the starless heavens can be discerned at an immense distance. In fact, the Milky Way may be regarded as the envelope of the stellar firmament. That is one remarkable fact. The next is that our sun is about equally distant from all parts of the Milky Way; in other words, we are placed exactly in the plane of the greatest density of the ring, our sun being one of the central orbs of a globular star-cluster which occupies nearly a central position in the exact plane of the Milky Way. Thus, says Dr. WALLACE, "our sun is shown to occupy a position near to, if not actually at, the centre of the whole visible universe, and therefore in all probability in the centre of the whole material universe."

This striking rehabilitation in the matter of position is only a part of Dr. WALLACE'S story. He then proceeds to show, in an admirably lucid and closely reasoned manner, that the continuity of uniform conditions, which is the first essential for the development of life, does not apparently exist in the case of any planet other than our own, and that our earth, in addition to the distinction of its central location, is the only part of the material universe adapted for the development of oganic life and the higher forms of intellectual beings. It is unnecessary to dwell upon the enormous importance of such conclusions.

JAPANESE LOYALTY.

ANOTHER example has been furnished of the exaggerated loyalty for which the Japanese of the *Meiji* era are remarkable. On the occasion of the recent burning of an elementary school in Iwate prefecture, a servant who obstinately persisted in attempting to save the EMPEROR'S photograph lost his own life and failed to rescue the picture. If all the cognate incidents that have occurred during the *Meiji* era were collected, thay would make a formidable list. Principals of schools have committed suicide owing to the destruction of the imperial likeness, and imbecile persons have taken their own lives because a building in which the EMPRESS once sojourned was devoured by flames. Then, too, it has to be remembered that the attitude of students and teachers towards these pictures is generally one of more than veneration, and that there has gradually come into force a canon which converts the likenesses into objects of awe and even of lively fear, since the slightest deviation from an almost fanatical rule of reverence is pretty sure to evoke vehement accusations of disloyalty from some section of the public. We are among those that sincerely admire the sentiment of loyalty to the head of the State, when, as in Japan's case, HIS MAJESTY fully deserves to be enshrined in the hearts of his people, and we recognise the potency of the feeling as a factor of national unity. But it often occurs to us to reflect with uneasiness whether a danger does not present itself that this overstrung sentiment may not carry in itself the germs of reaction. Extremes are never permanent. It is impossible for any feeling to glow permanently at fever heat in human bosoms. The extravagance of its displays sooner or later begets a tendency to revolt. Of course we do not suggest for an instant that any danger is yet discernible of Japan's lapse from loyalty. But to assure the steadfastness of the fine feeling that now welds the nation into such

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a compact entity, it certainly would be better that the sentiment should range upon a soberer level, and that it should be freed from the elements of passion which sometimes impart to its exhibitions an aspect of hysteria. The *Jiji Shimpo*, with its usual insight and frankness, discusses the significance of the Iwate-School incident, but does not touch upon the view we have suggested, namely that the sentiment would be much stabler were it less despotic. The point our contemporary makes is that the exactions inspired by the feeling as it now exists and the tyranny with which its sacro-sanctity is guarded, produce fear instead of fostering reverence. The scrupulous treasuring of the imperial photograph, the exaggerated ceremonial that has to be observed towards it, the ruinous consequences of any deviation, however slight and unintentional, from an extremely emotional code of etiquette, all tend to invest with apprehension and anxiety an object which should suggest only love and veneration. That is the *Jiji's* criticism and a thoroughly sound criticism it seems to us.

TEMPLE LANDS IN CHINA.

ONE of the earliest measures of the Japanese Government of the Restoration was to disestablish Buddhism and confiscate the greater part of the estates attached to the temples. It was a measure eloquent of the Administration's confidence in its own strength, for Buddhism, even in the days of the *Taiko*, had been one of the powerful national sections, able to exact considerate treatment for itself by force if necessary. When the Chinese Emperor KWANG SU essayed his wholesale programme of reform in 1898, at the instance of the KANG YU-WEI coterie, he too turned his eyes towards the temple lands as a convenient source of revenue, and issued a decree that, with the exception of temples used for State worship, a return should be prepared of all others, by way of preliminary to devoting the incomes of their lands to the support of the new prefectural and country schools which HIS MAJESTY intended to establish. But before any decisive step could be taken in this matter, the house of reform cards tumbled in the dust and the temples remained undisturbed. Now, however, as we learn from the *N.-C. Daily News*, the question has been again taken up. The temples are to be classified into large, medium and small. To the first class land will be allowed sufficient to support three priests only; to the second class, land for two; and to the third class, land for one. All the priests (a vast number) in excess of these narrow limits will be deprived at one *coup* of the means of sustenance, and will have to go out into the world seeking their daily bread. The order involves equally Taoists and Buddhists, and the *N.-C. Daily News* declares that "the effect of the new *régime* will be to set free the people of China from the tyrannous domination and leech-like exactions of a vast army of idle and vicious parasites who have for many centuries ceased to represent anything except the ashes of dead superstition." One is startled by such a sweeping criticism. Must all the Buddhist and Taoist priests be designated "idle and vicious parasites," and can their ministrations be justly classed as "leech-like exactions?" Perhaps that is true of many; but it must also be true of a great number that they are men of profound convictions and lofty aims, just as zealous for the moral welfare of the people entrusted to their religious charge as are any pastors in Occidental lands. It appears to us that these wholesale and violent condemnations are to be greatly deprecated, for their extravagance deprives them of any convincing force, and they must be needlessly and bitterly offensive to millions upon millions of sincere believers throughout the broad realm of China. This last feature might be less salient were our contemporary's assertion credible that for many centuries the priests of Taoism and Buddhism in China have represented only the ashes of dead superstition. But when were the doctrines of these two great creeds relegated to the limbo of dead superstitions? We know of no event in history that can be connected with such a stupendous metamorphosis. Christianity in all its forms has knocked long and patiently and zealously at the gates of China, but Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism have never been seriously disturbed by the summons, and if their death has taken place, if indeed they have crumbled into ashes, the world hears of it now for the first time. From our own point of view we deem it greatly to China's misfortune that her old creeds show such tenacity of life. At the same time, if Christianity, with its belief in miracles, its stories of divine interposition in the every-day affairs of humanity, its prayers for rain and its appeals to the God of battles, essayed to put Buddhists to shame by denouncing their doctrines as "superstitious," such blindness and intolerance would bring discredit on the great faith. The strong probability is that this step which the Chinese Government now contemplates will not "set free the people of China" from any "tyrannous domination," or "leech-like exactions," but will simply impose on them the duty of providing means of support for religionists who have hitherto been able to live partly without such aid. To confiscate the lands from which a temple derives sustenance can not afford any relief to its parishioners, or guarantee them against solicitations on behalf of its priests. If the people have hitherto submitted to priestly exactions, it is because they believe in the efficacy of priestly ministrations, and their faith will not be one whit shaken by official confiscation of the priests' means of livelihood. In this instance it appears to us that the leading Shanghai journal fails to show the insight which usually marks it as an authority on Chinese affairs.

THE TEACHING OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

THE interesting addresses delivered some time ago by Professor Baron KANDA and Miss HUGHES on the subject of the teaching of the English language in Japan, have been published in pamphlet form, and we thus have an opportunity of reading them exactly as they were spoken, or, at any rate, as the learned lecturers intended to speak them. What strikes us specially about Professor KANDA's address is his wonderful and accurate command of English. Whatever method he himself employed to learn the language must certainly be the best method, for in the course of a lecture filling twelve pages there is not only absolute freedom from grammatical or syntactical errors, but also the style and the choice of words are such that we scarcely ever become conscious of a foreign element. The address is not very conclusive. Baron KANDA occupies himself chiefly in recounting what he saw and heard in German and Austrian class rooms where English is taught. We gather, however, that, as might be expected, he utterly condemns what is called the *hensoku* method of teaching, namely, the method which aims merely at developing ability to interpret English books. The Professor is all for the *seisoku* plan, which aims at imparting a practical and complete knowledge of the language. Baron KANDA chooses his experiences in Germany for theme because of the high reputation that Germany enjoys for successful devices of instruction, but he does not make any allusion to a circumstance which contributes incalculably to the apparent success of the schools, namely, that so many German families employ English nurses for their children. What that means it is difficult to over-estimate.

Miss HUGHES' address is, of course, admirable in its way, but there sounds throughout it a note of unacquaintance with the conditions existing in this country. Thus she expresses the "hope that a large number of Japanese teachers of English will some day visit England, the home of the English language." Most earnestly do we share that hope, but what an idea it is to be sure! To any one acquainted with the condition of Japanese teachers it sounds almost comical. Indeed the weak point of the whole system of Japanese education in the realm of foreign languages is that not even men of mediocre attainments can be secured as teachers for the poor pittance the schools offer. Any one possessing a fair knowledge of a foreign language can command a much better salary and has a far wider horizon for his ambition in almost any occupation other than that of teaching. Miss HUGHES perhaps recognised that fact, though she was naturally reluctant to express herself perfectly frankly when addressing a Japanese audience. She did not like to tell her hearers what we know for a certainty, namely, that in Japanese schools there are scores of men now teaching Eng-

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lish who could not write two sentences correctly in that language if they ventured beyond the limits of carefully memorized expressions. Of course it is wholly impossible that students can acquire sound knowledge from teachers themselves lamentably deficient in that commodity. Yet what is to be done? It is the old, old question, want of funds. Japan has a Diet whose members do not hesitate to vote for themselves salaries higher in ratio than those received by Ministers of State, but who are content to look on calmly while the men upon whom devolves the responsibility of training the new generation are so miserably remunerated that they regard the profession of teaching as the very *ultima Thule* of respectable indigence. Miss HUGHES suggests the formation of an association for the improvement of English teaching in Japan, her idea being that the teachers themselves might thus be greatly helped through the medium of contact with experienced philologists and introduction to new methods; and she further suggests that a foreign teacher be attached to every 15 or 20 schools, to hold conversational and pronouncing classes for the Japanese teachers. That would surely be useful, but can not any sympathetic person appreciate the shrinking reluctance of the poor Japanese teacher when asked to submit his scanty store of knowledge—the little store by which he supports himself and his family—to the scrutiny of a class of 15 or 20 fellow-teachers presided over by a "competent" foreigner? Still it may be necessary that the ordeal should be faced. But our own firm conviction is that the need of the time is a more liberal employment of public funds to pay teachers, and the employment of correspondingly severe tests in selecting them. Our wonder is that Japan does as well as she does under the crippling conditions of her career.

RICHARD WAGNER.

(By W. KARL E. VINCENT.)

If ever a musician was abused in past years, and to some extent now-a-days, through being misunderstood, that musician was Richard Wagner. Competent and incompetent critics, fighting under various flags, have assaulted the musician of the future. Why? All this paper war dates, no doubt, from the first production of "Tannhauser" at Dresden in 1845. If one could enumerate the books and pamphlets and articles written for and against Wagner, we should have a surprisingly extensive list. It is extraordinary to note how very often art-controversy is edged with a bitterness rivalling a religious dispute. One has only to call to mind how Bentley and Boyle disputed over the authenticity of "The Epistles of Phalaris"; how Germany was once practically divided into two parties by Wolf's attack on the personality of Homer; Lessing's attack on the French dramatics, and how Paris was once divided into two hostile camps over the respective musical merits of Gluck and Piccini. All the bitterness and intensity of these art-campaigns were manifested again by the Wagner and anti-Wagner disputants. Until recently there were a great many people who thought Wagner an eccentric enthusiast, all afire with mis-directed genius, a mere charlatan who invented theories as a cloak to cover his musical impotence;—others again that he was a genius led astray by metaphysical will-of-the-wisps, yet another set regarded him as a madman who would tear down all existing art forms and place himself on the ruins, "A god of the future." The facts that led to all this pen-and-ink squibbling, no doubt, are due to Wagner having first published his criticisms and abstract theories at a time when his later works were comparatively little known and but rarely and inadequately performed. Again, the social and political heresies which he propounded by way of clearing the air and so finding breathing space for his artistic ideals, frightened the majority of people, also he occasionally thought fit to point his moral by attacking men of musical reputation of his day, especially Mayerbeer, in a most cruel manner. Wagner himself was the subject of a virulent attack, as I have mentioned, and he retaliated with no less force. His most bitter enemies were Drs. Hanslick and Schelle, and Count Laurencin, who did their utmost in denouncing him as a musical heretic. Hanslick's taste and judgment were regarded by many musicians as little short of infallible. Wagner's music was intolerable to him. He could find no virtue in the man or his works, and seemed perfectly insensible to the many beauties and technical excellencies in Wagnerian opera. He says, regarding Wagner's method of utilizing "infinite melody,"—"a small *motivo* is struck up. Before it has time to grow into a proper melody or theme, it is bent, broken, set higher or lower, by means of continual modulations and inharmonious pushing-about; then carried on a little bit, chopped up into pieces and cut short again, then repeated or imitated, now by this and now by that instrument. Anxiously shunning every resolving cadence, this tone-less and muscle-less figure flows forth into the immeasurable, ever renewing itself out of itself . . . and" Hanslick continues to say "the melody is not entrusted to the voices but to the orchestra; where being infinite it is wound out as though it were passing through a spindle-jenny. This melody weaving orchestral accompaniment constitutes in reality, Wagner's coherent and substantial sound picture, the voice being compelled to accomodate itself to the accompaniment by also weaving phrases into it, half sung. This method of composition is diametrically opposed to that hitherto employed by every master. Heretofore the melody for the voice was the first thing conceived by the sound poet,—the positive thing, to which the accompaniment (however free or complex in treatment) was made subordinate. As a rule one could divine the accompaniment or an accompaniment to a given melody for the voice; and the accompaniment thus, in some sort became one's own unsubstantial property. Under the Wagner method the voice part is not only something incomplete, but is, in fact, nothing at all; the accompaniment is everything,—is an independent symphonic creation,—is an orchestral fantasia with—*ad libitum*—vocal accompaniments." Dr. Schelle and Count Laurencin were passionate anti-Wagnerians in their opinions. Both were confirmed "classicists." The calm, order, and symmetry of the old school of music soothed their nerves and refreshed their spirits whilst the turbid agitation and restless tentativeness of Wagner's compositions worried their souls, clashed with their convictions, and drove them nearly frantic. Count Laurencin, it is said, when listening to, or discussing Wagnerian music, was apt to foam slightly at the mouth, and grind his teeth in a highly alarming manner!

Not only in Germany but elsewhere, Wagner met with great opposition. In England Macfarren, etc., had no kind word to say of him. In France, his "Tannhauser" was a complete fiasco. A cabal was formed by members of the Jockey Club and the barbarous behaviour of the members on that occasion filled columns of the leading Parisian papers. The smaller operatic centres of Europe, following the lead of the principal cities, practically closed their doors to Wagner, and were always ready for a Wagnerian quarrel whenever his name was mentioned. To a small extent this peculiar feeling still exists. It lasted for a considerable period. Later, when sketches and books were published giving a clear and comprehensive outline of Wagnerian art principles the cloud which had so long hung around his name was lifted,—then it was a revelation full of suggestive value for these musicians to realise that Wagner was a musical thinker, ripe with years of labour and experience; that he represents the choicest and rarest fruits of culture, not only as a musician but as a poet-philosopher, and is one of the few examples in the history of musical-art where massive scholarship and the power of subtle analysis have been united, in a pre-eminent degree, with a great deal of creative genius.

The history of musical art is divisible into two great epochs, the first dating from its birth, about three centuries ago, under the influence of the Renaissance, to the end of the eighteenth century, the second dating from the rise of Romanticism in the beginning of the 19th century to the present day. The revival of the "forgotten world of old romance, that world of wonder and mystery and spiritual beauty no longer crippled by the lack of science and fettered by asceticism was to music, that youngest of arts, a novel influence which pushed it vigorously in a new direction towards the more direct expression of the cravings of humanity." This later period gave "new seeing to our eyes" which were once more open to the mysteries and the wonders of the universe, and the romance of man's destiny. It revived in short, the romantic spirit enriched by the clarity and sanity that Renaissance was able to lend.

Gluck, 1714-1787, anticipated many of Wagner's reforms. He decreased the importance of the singer, and increased that of the orchestra, elaborated the recitative, and made music follow the rhythm of the words, and he also gave importance to the dramatic expression of the human emotions. These general precepts of the romantic movement were followed by later operatic writers, such as Berlioz, Schumann, Weber, Bizet, Thomas, Rubenstein, Dvorak, Gounod, Verdi, Massinet, Saint-Saens, Humperdinck and others, but the most remarkable figure in this romantic school is undoubtedly—Wagner. It is impossible to say to what extent Wagnerian theories will be followed; it is not desirable that they should be blindly worked out by musicians of inferior power to his, but they are tending in the right way and may eventually bring about a new art-mode in music. The resources of art are endless being to man, what Creation is to God, as the Abbe Lamennais tells us, and music may be safely trusted to develope in such a way as to ever be the most fitting expression of the inarticulate cravings and aspirations of the human soul. Wagner has attempted to unite the three arts,—painting, poetry and music,—and of his work a competent judge has written, "The musical drama is undoubtedly the highest manifestation of which men are capable. All the most refined arts are called in to contribute to the idea. The author of the musical drama is no more a musician, a poet or a painter, but he is the supreme artist, not fettered by the limits of one art but able to step over the boundaries of all the different branches of aesthetic composition and find the proper means of rendering his thoughts wherever he wants it. This was Wagner's aim. His later works 'Tristan,' 'Nibelungen Ring' and 'Parsifal' are the actuation of his theory, or at least the works showing what is the way towards the end." We can almost imagine Wagner repeating to himself the following lines from Browning's "Cleon":

> "I have not chanted verse like Homer, no,—
> Nor swept strings like Terpander, no,—nor carved
> And painted men like Phidias and his friend;
> I am not great as they are, point by point.
> But I have entered into sympathy
> With these four, running these into one soul
> Who, separate, ignored each other's art."

The drama exercised upon Wagner that fascination which it never fails to exercise upon persons of imaginative and susceptible temperament. Yet when he came to a better acquaintance with the lyric stage he was disheartened by its conventionality and consequent shallowness and falseness. Italian opera, he said, consisted of nothing more than a string of pleasing pieces strung together by a complacent composer for the

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display of the accomplishments of certain vocal *virtuosi* who had been chosen for every reason but that of dramatic competence.

The first element to draw our attention in Wagner's dramatic forms is this energetic protest against the artificial and conventional in music. The utter want of dramatic symmetry and fitness in the operas we have been accustomed to hear could only be overlooked by the force of habit, and the tendency to submerge all else in the mere enjoyment of music. The utter variance of music pointing and action was to Wagner the stumbling block which must be remedied. The drama is the most natural centre of popular culture, the readiest source from which the people can satisfy its artistic needs. It gives the simplest and most direct expression to that mimetic instinct from which, according to Aristotle, all art is ultimately derived. It comprises within itself every form of artistic effect, the strength of poetry, the sweetness of music, the rhythmic movements of the dance, the beauty of gracious shape and glowing colour. Indeed, the separate forms have long since reached maturity. There is no sculpture to set beside the Greek, no painting to set beside that of Florence and Venice; no poet has equalled Shakespeare, no musician has rivalled Beethoven;—what is left for the artist of the future but that he should fuse into one complex whole the elements that have already attained their individual perfection. But the elements must be fused, not aggregated. The libretto must not be a string of empty verses, on which the composer shall construct incongruous melodies and meaningless *roulards*; the spectacle must not be clogged with useless shows or tedious processions, the dance must poetise every movement, and ennoble every gesture in place of interrupting the drama with the otiose episode of the ballet. In short, the whole work must be a single organic unity, in which no part is superfluous or accidental. Wagner therefore tried to crush at a stroke all the hard and arid forms which existed in the music-drama of his day. But he did not entirely succeed. In his work, then, we do not find a congeries of separate musical numbers like duets, chorales, finales. etc., set together in a flimsy web without reference to dramatic economy.

All authentic records of Wagner's life are unanimous in declaring that he was absolutely genuine in his devotion to his ideas, that is, for his faith, because he believed it to be true,—not because he believed it would improve his prospects. Wagner's great purpose is lofty dramatic truth, and to this end he sacrificed the whole frame-work of separate operatic forms, with the exception of the chorus, and this he remodelled. The peculiar character of Wagner's word-drama, also arouses interest and attention. The composer is his own poet, and the creative genius shines no less here than in the world of tone. The musical energy flows entirely from the dramatic condition, like the electrial current from the jars of the battery; and the rhythmical structure of the *melos* (tune) is simply the transfiguration of the poetical basis. The poetry then, is all-important in the music drama. Wagner rejected to a certain extent the forms of blank verse and rhyme as unsuited to the purposes of music and went back to the metrical principle of all the Teutonic and Sclavonic poetry. The rhythmic element of alliteration or "staff-rhyme" we find splendidly illustrated in the Scandinavian "Eddas" and even in our own Anglo-Saxon fragments of the day of Caedmon and Alcuin. By use of this form, verse and melody glide together in exquisite rhythm in which it seems impossible to separate the one from the other. The strong accent of the alliterating syllables supply the music with firmness, which the low-toned syllables give opportunity for the most variable answers of declamation.

In Wagner's early days, when he first started as a writer for the stage, the choice of subjects troubled him greatly. For a while he oscillated between history and legend as best adapted to furnish his material. Eventually he decided that mythical and legendary matter was better for musical treatment, "because the emotional elements of a mythical story are always of a simple nature and can be readily detached from any side issue; and because it is only the heart of a story, its emotional essence, that is suggestive to a musician. Characters set in the comparatively uear back-ground of history are too closely related to our own familiar surroundings of thought and mood to be regarded as artistically natural in the use of music as the organ of every life of emotion and sentiment. But with the dim and heroic shapes which haunt the borderland of the supernatural, which we call legends, the case is different. This is the drama of the demi-gods, living in a different atmosphere from our own, however akin to ours may be their passions and purposes. For these we are no longer compelled to regard the medium of music as a forced and untruthful expression, for do they not dwell in the magic lands of the imagination? All sense of dramatic inconsistency vanishes, and the conditions of artistic illusions are perfect.

"Tis distance lends enchantment to the view,
And clothes the mountains with their azure hue."

Thus, with the exception of "Rienzi," which is historical, all Wagner's works, from the "Flying Dutchman" to "Parsifal" are located in the world of myth. "Parsifal is the culmination of Wagner's epic work. In it he completes the cycle of myths by whichhe strove to express the varied and fervent aspirations of humanity; and in particular, "the two burning questions of his day."

"Firstly.—The Tremendous Empire of the Senses.

"Secondly.—The immense supremacy of Soul, and how to reconcile them."

The whole rich stream of instrumental music as had been developed by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, he, Wagner, turns into the dramatico-lyric channel. Wagner was master of every detail of the musician's art. He certainly did not write a set of Fugues, or Masses, to illustrate his musical powers, but the various devices appertaining to these forms he uses in his dramatic works, and there we notice his mastership in contrapuntal and fugual forms. Only listen to "Tristan" "The Meistersingers," or the "Nibelungen Ring" and I doubt if there are many who would have the hardihood to refuse Wagner the title of *artist*.

There is no mental product which affords so much room for diversity of style as music, because there is no other form of emotional expression which contains within itself such a variety of elements, Roughly speaking, music consists of four great elements, rhythm, melody, harmony, and tone-colour. As each of these departments is a complex province in itself, there is an unlimited scope for varying combinations between the elements. Hence an infinite diversity of style, and by habitual recurrence of particular combinations or mannerisms in the work of one composer a style of his own emanates. As a writer for the musical stage—and such we should always look upon him—Wagner is unquestionably one of the greatest that ever lived, a fact placed beyond dispute in the vigour of his style, which, starting out with abundant violations of the principles held sacred before his time, ended in impressing itself upon every intelligent composer of the whole world who had undertaken to write for the stage within the last thirty years. The innate nobility of Wagner's style, and its consummate originality and mastership are qualities which can only become more and more admired as the nature of the discourse is understood. To its full body of sound, so earnest, so magnificent, this pregnant suggestion of leading *motivi* and, above all, this dignified progression of fundamental harmonies can only be admired and recognised when perfectly comprehended.

Wagner has employed the system of "leit-motif" to a great extent, especially in his "Ring." By "leit-motif" is meant a musical phrase short, light, and easily recognised. It expresses either an aspect in one of the characters, or incident in the drama. It thus serves to explain motives to illustrate action, to elucidate situations in the play and generally to render the whole dramatic movement clear and intelligible by suggesting its proper impulse and proper situations. For instance when Isolde gives, as she thinks, the poisoned cup to Tristan, the orchestra tells us that he is not drinking death, but passion. Whan Fafner kills Fasalt for possession of the magic ring, we know from the "leit-motif" that the victor has, together with the treasure, won the fatal curse which Alburich laid upon it. Brunhilde, sitting widowed amid her lonely rocks, turns for comfort to the ring upon her finger, and there rises, faintly, as in a dream, the memory of her lover, and the far-off echo of his vows. Many other instances might be cited, but space forbids. *En passant* we may note that Wagner has left many sweet thoughts of fair women, Irene, and Elsa, the loving but broken hearted Isolde, and Senta the devoted, Elizabeth the saintly, and Eva the bewitching,—but these sink into insignificance beside the constant and fearless warrior maiden Brunhilde.

Wagner is supreme master of the orchestra and has had very few equals since Beethoven. Wagner's orchestra is fuller certainly than that of Beethoven, "and the reason is not far to seek. Wagner rarely employs instruments unknown to Beethoven but he completes each group or family of wind instruments with a view of getting full chords from each group." This extra array of instruments, no doubt, is used as special for special ends. Thus at the opening prelude of the "Rheingold" what sound would best prepare and accord with the dim twilight and waves of moving water? Horns? But two or four horns would not produce the full smooth wave-like motion of water. Wagner therefore takes eight horns and a beautiful effect is obtained. Again, at the closing scene of the same work when "Donner" (the God of Thunder), clears with his hammer the air of mist and storm-clouds, "a rain-bow spans the valley of the Rhine and over the glistening bridge the gods pass to Walhalla." Now what additional sounds shall accompany the glitter and glimmer of the scene? The silvery notes of harps might do it, but the sounds of a single harp would appear trivial, or would hardly be audible against the full chant of the orchestra. Wagner takes eight, writes a separate part for each, and their desired effect is obtained. In his orchestra Wagner uses his full power with marked effect to heighten the dramatic intensity of the action; it is no longer a mere accompaniment to the singer but translates the passion of the play into a grand symphony, running parallel and co-mingling with the vocal music.

There are many who complain that Wagner is often tedious in his dramas, and too much given to monologue. For instance, in the second act of "Lohengrin," where Ortrude has a long "solo," likewise parts of the "Flying Dutchman" and "Meistersinger." These long "talks" Wagner explains and justifies on the ground of their necessity in order to afford the listener time to comprehend the character speaking thoroughly. The same element of universal length presents itself in several of Wagner's dramas. Take for instance, the long farewell scene in the last act of "Walkure," the love duet in "Tristan," the first act of the "Meistersingers," "Tannhauser's 'account of his journey to Rome, and parts of the "Ring." The source of this monotony is not to be found in any lack of variety musical handling, but in the presence of a variety in the so abundant, that the mind is unable to take cognisance of it at a single hearing. Wagner's music makes more demand upon the intellectual faculties than any other operatic composer. Perhaps the most conspicuous example of this is the "Gotterdammerung." The entire series of the trilogy contains upwards of seventy-five *motovi* which cut sufficiently important figures to be catalogued and recognised when heard. Some of these occupy the attention in a prominent manner throughout one or more scenes, after which they are not heard from until their story comes up again in the sequel. Others are touched upon only a few times, and do not force themselves upon the attention of the listener. In the "Gotterdammerung" all these *motovi* are brought back and worked upon together in a way which can only be called stupendous. The intellectual demand of hearing this drama intelligently (that is in such a way as to recognise the *motovi* as they occur together and separately, and to appre-

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ciate the allusion and relations which they intend to bring back) is a task beyond the powers of the most gifted musician without more than a single hearing. No art work has ever been written calling for such concentration of attention in order to appreciate it fully. Nevertheless this is not to say that a listener will fail to derive a high and wholly peculiar satisfaction from his first hearing of this work, even if he does not find himself able to seize all its evidences of the composer's mastership. It is a well-known fact that to appreciate Wagner's dramas thoroughly one must have repeated hearings. The principles of unity which so greatly eluded the ears of many of those to whom Wagner first presented his works have often been explained, and another generation has had time to spring upon the stage of action bringing to the task their more complete musical organisation, and the results of their more elaborate musical heredity. To these then the task of the "Ring" will in time become as easy as those of "Lohengrin" and "Tannhauser" have become to the children of the hearers who found the first productions unendurable.

The same old story—Beethoven was far ahead of his time, likewise Wagner. The day is not far distant when all will grasp the beauties of Wagnerian dramas and so enjoy them as much as Beethoven's lovely symphonic creations.

For many years past the prevalent impression throughout the musical world was that Wagner could see no good in contemporary composers, that he cried down the works of Bach, Mozart Beethoven and others. This is a mistake. Wagner adored the writings of the old classical school and admired many of the compositions of Chopin, Schubert, Mendelsohn, Berlioz and others. Mendelsohn he compares to a landscape painter of the first order, and he was very fond of the overture to the "Hebrides," Midsummer Nights' Dream, Scotch "Symphony" and others.

Throughout his life Wagner was a great reader. "To hear him read and act o'er his theme was a delight never to be forgotten. . . . A list of the principal books in the extensive and very choice library at Bayreuth, would give a fair idea of his literary tastes. . . . The handiest shelves held Sanscrit, Greek and Roman classics. Italian writers from Dante to Leopardi, Spanish, English, French dramatists, philosophers from Plato to Kant and Schopenhauer. A remarkably complete collection of French and German mediæval poems and stories, Norse Sagas, etc., together with the labours of French and German philologists in those departments, occupied a conspicuous position. History and fiction, old and new, were well represented, translations of Scott, Carlyle, etc." (Grove, Vol. IV.)

Wagner was slightly under the middle height, well proportioned, and abrupt in speech and gesture. His carriage was erect and aspect commanding; he had a fine open forehead, and head well-covered with brown hair; his eyes were grey-blue; nose rather large, later in life, rather disfigured through the incessant habit of snuff-taking; a well-formed mouth, rather thin lips, and a large and firm chin. He was a great favourite with children, and enjoyed nothing more than an occasional romp with them. He was also passionately fond of animals. Wagner and his dog were well-known figures in Zurich, London and Munich. "He had no pronounced manners, in a sense of anything that can be taught or acquired by imitation; always unconventional, his demeanour showed a great refinement. His habits in private life are best described as those of a gentleman.

"Take him, all in all, We ne'er shall look upon his like again."

A SAD BOATING FATALITY.

On the 29th ult. a crew consisting of six students of the Second High School started from Shiogama in one of the school boats on a cruise around the Miyagi coast. They visited a number of villages and explored various little inlets and rivers. On the 2nd instant in the forenoon they reached a place called Yuriage, at the mouth of the Nadori river. Thence they proposed to row back to Shiogama by what is known as the canal route, the open sea route to Matsushima being forbidden by the rules of the school boating club in consequence of the many dangers attending it in changeable weather. But in an evil moment one of the party proposed that just for the fun of the thing they should row out to sea for a mile or two and then come back and take their lunch prior to setting out for Shiogama. This place is so dangerous and has been the scene of so many disasters that the authorities have thought it necessary to keep a signal-man on the spot. His signal, it seems, consists of a huge hand which beckons "Come on!" or "Go back" according to the state of the tide and the wind. The students did not seem to understand the signal, if they saw it at all. It is stated, however, that they were observed by the signal-man and that he signalled "Go back!" Full of spirits and no doubt enjoying the adventure, they went on until they reached the spot where the out-going river meets the in-coming tide and found that the boat became unmanageable. It is said that their best course would have been to row hard and go right out to sea, but they lost their heads, attempted to turn round in the worst possible place for trying such a manœuvre, and in the confusion that ensued upset the boat. They all seem to have been able to swim, but it is thought that two of their number must have been struck by the boat as they entered the water, as they were lost to sight from that time and their bodies had not been found up to the 4th instant. One of the four survivors was rescued by his companions in an unconscious state and held up until a fishing boat arrived on the scene and took them all on board. The incident has cast a gloom over the school, and is a subject of deep regret to the school authorities, who will no doubt be blamed for not enforcing more discipline over the lads entrusted to their care by parents and guardians. But the students were grown-up young men, and ought to have known how to take care of themselves. Such things will happen, whatever be the precautions taken.

The names of the two unfortunate youths were Iga and Ayugase. The former entered the school only last September. He was a young man of rare linguistic ability and at his first examination obtained full marks for his English. Ayugase was a second year law student of industrious habits and popular among his class-mates.

FERRIS SEMINARY COMMENCEMENT.

The twenty-first annual commencement of Ferris Seminary was held on Tuesday evening in Van Schaick Hall. The weather being fine there was a large attendance of pupils and their friends, and the following programme was listened to with much appreciation:—

Chorus ....."Unfold." (Sake, Sake) .....Braga
Invocation.
Organ Solo { a. "Prelude." Chopin / b. "Le Chant du Cigne," Blumenthal } Tei Sato
Address of Welcome...(Japanese).....Mina Sato
Chorus....."Gold and White." Little.....
English Essay....."The Relation of Japanese Women to Religion
Kei Goda (read by Taka Awoki).
Piano Duett..."Grande Marche Héroïque."Schubert.
Nobuji Jimbo and Yasu Ishii.
Japanese Essay....."Moses, the Benefactor of the Old World."
Minori Okada.
Chorus ....."March of the Guard." Geibel.
English Essay: "Paul, the Benefactor of the New World."
Ume Hirano.
Vocal Solo { a. "The Land of Home." Gray / b. "Blossoms." Hatton } Soda Hayashi.
I. Awards for Progress made in the Various Departments.
II.—Distribution of Certificates.
Response :— .....Tei Sato.
Piano and Organ Duett...Haydn... { Kume Imai. / Chiyo Okamura.
Address ...Morihiro Ichihara Mayor, of Yokohama.
Chorus ....."Hosanna".....Jules Granier.
Benediction.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was held on Friday evening at the Van Schaick Hall and despite several other social engagements elsewhere attracted a good attendance. The paper dealt with the wit and humour of modern London as reflected in the drawings of Phil May, Dudley Hardy, Raven Hill, Maurice Griffinheim, Cecil Aldin, J. F. Sullivan and other black-and-white artists, and the books of G. R. Sims, W. Somerset Maugham, Edwin Pugh, Pitt Ridge, Arthur Morrison, Albert Chevalier, and Barry Pain, etc., from many of which copious extracts were made.

The musical portion of the programme proved very delightful and the performers were one and all warmly applauded.

Part I.

"London East-end Wit and Humour."

By the President.

Part II.

1. Song....."Lady Mine" ...Hermann Lohr.
Mr. N. G. Maitland.
2. Piano Solo ....."Hochzeitszug".....Grieg.
Mr. A. Mason.
3. Songs ....."The Warning"..Meyer-Helmund.
"A Norwegian Song".....Grieg.
Mrs. James Walter.
4. Violin Solo....."Romanz" .....Baroffski.
M. H. A. Poole.
5. Duet ....."Sunset" .....G. Thomas.
Mrs. Jas. Walter and Mr. N. G. Maitland.

PRESENTATION TO MR. R. B. MC'KINNELL.

On Wednesday evening, at a meeting in the Chartered Bank, a very handsome wedding gift was presented to Mr. R. B. McKinnell by fellow-members of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society. There was a good attendance of Scotsmen on the occasion, and Mr. R. M. Stirling, President of the Society, took the chair.

The present a solid silver centrepiece, with ornate lotus decoration, stands on an ebony base, and bears the following inscription:

Presented to
R. B. McKinnell, Esq.,
On the Occasion of his Marriage
by members of
The Yokohama St. Andrew's Society,
March, 1903.

Mr. Stirling said:—Gentlemen, I think you all know what we are here for, and I don't think there is much necessity for a long speech on my part. But I must remind you that the success of our annual celebrations of St. Andrew's Day in Yokohama has been largely due to the unsparing efforts of our friend Mr. McKinnell. (Hear hear). He has been connected with the St. Andrew's Society for many years, and has during much of that time been on the Committee, and as a member of successive Committees I can testify to the high opinions he has earned from his fellow-Committeemen. (Hear, hear.) At St. Andrew's Balls Mr. McKinnell generally identified himself with the refreshment department, and there has never been occasion to complain of lack of good liquor (Hear, hear). He was so enthusiastic about last year's ball that he shortened his stay at home in order to be present and not only did he hasten his departure from his native country but he left behind a much beloved lady who will soon become his wife. It is, on your approaching wedding, Mr. McKinnell, that your fellow-countrymen and members of this Society wish to show you the esteem in which they hold you by presenting to you the ornament that is now before me, and we trust that you will have all prosperity in your new life and that your marriage will not interfere with your connection with the Society either as member or Committee-man—although it may lead you to keep earlier hours on the occasion of our annual ball—(Laughter and applause).

Mr. McKinnell said:—Mr. Stirling and gentlemen, I am not, and never was, inclined to make speeches, but I thank you very kindly one and all for this token of your sentiments, which I shall always hold and cherish. I have done nothing more for the Society or for the balls

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than any one else, though I have always been willing, it is true, to do what seemed necessary. I can look back on many pleasant evenings and hope there will be many more. (Hear, hear.) As to the keeping of earlier hours, well, I think we will just talk about that later on. (Laughter). Mr. McKinnell concluded by expressing his most sincere thanks to the Chairman, the officers, and members of St. Andrew's Society for their present which, he said, was all the more appreciated because unexpected (applause.)

The health of Mr. McKinnell, and of the future Mrs. McKinnell was then heartily drunk and the proceedings terminated.

ENGLISH SPEAKING.

We went to an English speaking exhibition a little while ago. Several conversations took place during and after it. It may perhaps prove interesting to give some extracts :—

I.—JAPANESE AND JAPANESE.

1st J.—What do you think of it?
2nd J.—Immense, isn't it.
1st J.—Yes, indeed. How proud we ought to be that all students are so taught to speak.
2nd J.—Is it so in the west, do you think?
1st J.—Oh, far better even than the west; I have heard say, we speak more English than any other country but England and America.
2nd J.—Is it so? I am glad for our nation. It is good for commerce and shipping. English is so wide spread.
1st J.—Yes, indeed, good by! Sayonara.

(*The above in Japanese.*)

II.—JAPANESE AND ENGLISH.

Jap.—Sir, make I ask you?
Eng.—Certainly
J.—What do you thin of the exhibition?
E.—Oh, very interesting!
J.—Is it good.
E.—Very good indeed.
J.—Do they speak well!
E.—Oh yes, pretty well,—very well I should say; English is rather difficult.
J.—Especially English pronunciation is difficult.
E.—Yes, that is what we have to use mostly, you know, the pronunciation!
J.—How do it compare with—? (*another school*).
E.—Oh, much more lively, was n't it? and so comical.
J.—I laughed very much.
E.—So did I. Really the Japanese are very clever. Did you understand it?
J.—Oh yes, part of it.
E.—So did I—part of it.
J.—It is good English that they speak?
E.—Well constructed, do you mean?
J.—Yes, grammatically correct.
E.—Yes, I think so, as far as I could hear.
J.—Japanese like English very much.
E.—Yes, they seem very ardent in studying it.
J.—We like your language.
E.—Yes, so do we! It is very good of you!
J.—Good bye.
E.—Good bye.
J.—(*afterwards to friends*) Mr. A. said it was excellent and he understood very well.

III.—ENGLISH AND ENGLISH.

1st Eng.—Comical was 'nt it?
2nd Eng.—O killing!
1st Eng.—There was one man, though, who spoke real English.
2nd Eng.—Yes, I noticed. You mean the man who ordered the wine "We-i-tah!"?
1st Eng.—Yes that's the one. Quite refreshing to hear a few words in our native tongue.
2nd Eng.—Did you hear. "It blezzing at such ay rett. Hurrop!"?
1st Eng.—No, what does it mean?
2nd Eng.—"It's blazing at such a rate: hurry up!" I expect!
1st Eng.—You don't mean it?
2nd Eng.—Fact. Try this. (*looks at his notes*) what does this mean? (*reads*) "Nevah sish arch aysy. Sistil Poo ring ay bought."
1st Eng.—I'm sure I can't guess.
2nd Eng.—"I never see such on sea. The seas are still pouring on board"—That's what I make out.
1st Eng.—Did you hear "Well, I'm blored!"?
2nd Eng.—Yes, indeed, what a fine swear! But here's another, I noted: "O Mikardair, I wondrous, ■ wole!"
1st Eng.—What is it?
2nd Eng.—I havent the slightest idea! Here's another: "Shoe steaks a night brewing morning."
1st Eng.—Good gracious! I say did you hear him call out "Sweet Kipper!"!
2nd Eng.—Yes, I did. I couldn't for the life of me think what he meant.
1st Eng.—"Giddy Kipper" perhaps
2nd Eng.—No, I think "sweet temper"—but I'm not sure.
1st Eng.—Isn't it curious that they don't take more trouble, when they take so much?
2nd Eng.—Well I suppose the teachers get desperate. They think anything near the English will be good enough
1st Eng.—But on the stage! Where everything is so public
2nd Eng.—What can you expect. They do their best!
1st Eng.—But the Japanese are really quite good at the Western music. Have you been ■ Uyeno park?
2nd Eng.—Oh yes. But that's under proper musical direction. Their music, if bad, is so bad no one will go.
1st Eng.—Well, its really the same for language. Even the slightest variation can be heard by any English listener. It should be done in the same way as music, properly, carefully,—with no mistake passed —over and over again till correct
2nd Eng.—Well: perhaps they will before long. They are so good at some things, they will probably do that too. Give them time
1st Eng.—Well, they make excellent sailors anyhow.
2nd Eng.—And fighters! So why not orators? Moral: public speaking should be as carefully taught and practised as music.

FIRES.

A fire broke out on the 2nd inst. in a house at Imagawa-koji, Kanda, Tokyo and destroyed three buildings and partially injured two.

Details of the fatal fire which occured at Tsuruga early on the morning of March 30th show that it broke out in the house of a confectioner named Z. Tsuji. The conflagration quickly extended to other streets, being fanned by a strong south-easterly wind. At last, 179 dwelling houses, 20 godowns, 39 sheds, 22 junks and 1 Buddhist-temple were destroyed, and 20 persons more or less injured.

Fire broke out in an unoccupied house, in Shiwoiri, Yokosuka, on April 2nd at 1 a.m. with the result that five houses were burnt.

Fire broke out in the branch shop of a foreign furniture dealer named Hasegawa, Sakuragawa-cho, Shiba, Tokyo, on the night of April 4th but was quelled before it could extend to the neighbouring buildings. A child 5 years old was run over by an engine and severely injured.

Fire broke out at Higashi-Kawa-machi, in Hakodate on the night of April 5th, destroying 50 and partially damaging 6 houses.

Early on the morning of April 6th, fire broke out in the Kairyo-za Theatre, Tokyo, destroying the theatre and all the theatrical properties. The loss is estimated at about *yen* 35,000.

A telegram in Japanese papers says fire broke out on April 5th at 11.30 p.m. on the P. & O. steamer *Java*, which arrived at Kobe on the 3rd with a cargo of 700 bales of cotton, and sundry goods. It was put out by 4.40 a.m. on the 6th. About 100 bales of cotton valued at about *yen* 20,000, consigned to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, were burnt. The cause is not yet ascertained.

SHOJI HOTEL.

The following is a table of the temperature at Shoji during last week, taken at the Shoji Hotel :—

Date.	Temp. Max	Air. Min.	Temp. Lake.	Weather.	Remarks in General.
Sunday	57°	50°	47°	Fine.	
Monday	58°	47°	„	Fine.	
Tuesday	64°	51°	„	Fine.	
Wednesday	49°	46°	„	Rain.	
Thursday	46°	48°	„	Rain half day.	
Friday	54°	39°	48°	Fine.	
Saturday	56°	43°	„	Fine.	

LAW CASE.

W. N. WRIGHT v. G. R. ALLEN.

This case, instituted by Mr. W. N. Wright, proprietor of Wright's Hotel, No. 40, against Mr. G. R. Allen of the Occidental and Oriental Trading Co. No. 31, Yokohama, came up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 7th.

Mr. Sawada was present for plaintiff but defendent was not represented.

Plaintiff stated that Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Cooper, who came from England, boarded in the hotel from July 27th to August 31st, 1900, incurring a bill for *yen* 130.80, including a charge for sending off luggage to the steamer from the hotel of *yen* 1. The guests went away without paying, but defendant guaranteed payment. Defendant put off payment till May 1st, 1902, when he gave a promise in writing that "in reference to the same amount, I will take care to pay the same personally, some time, during the month." Defendant, however, had further delayed payment to the present time.

Judgement was then given in favour of the plaintiff with costs.

SATO v. C. THWAITES & CO.

This case, instituted by R. Sato against Messrs. C. Thwaites & Co., which was adjourned on April 2nd came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato, on April 7th.

The examination being completed. Counsel for the parties were heard in argument.

Having summed up the statements of the expert witnesses who were examined in the previous hearings, Counsel for the plaintiff said the contract was properly made between plaintiff and defendant—by which the latter was to supply the accessories for 10 illusions of the Grand Magical Art Exhibition and to introduce Mr. Davis on the stage of the Kinki-kwan Hall to perform the operations. The extent of the stage was suited to show the illusions and there was not the least inconvenience in the performance. The money was duly paid to Mr. Davis by plaintiff at the proper time. But Mr. Davis took away the properties of 10 illusions from the stage on the second day under instructions from the defendant without notice to plaintiff, notwithstanding that the contract stipulated for the continuance of the performance for thirty days. The reason was that the actor was unable to perform more than six or seven illusions which are of the most simple kind and were familiar to the public, being given by native jugglars. Mr. Davis therefore refused to operate 10 illusions, on which plaintiff required him to comply with the contract. The exhibition therefore failed and a loss, including the estimated profits for thirty days, was caused.

Defendant's counsel held that it was understood by the contract that defendant only promised to supply the properties for the illusions to plaintiff but not to introduce Mr. Davis on the stage to conduct the performance. Having summed up the statements of the witnesses who were called before the Court in the previous hearings, counsel asked for the disminal of plaintiff's claim.

The case was then adjourned till April 14th when judgement will be given.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. YAMADA.

The hearing of this case instituted by Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co. against K. Yamada, sugar dealer, which was adjourned on March 26th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 8th.

K. Matsuda chief clerk of the Bonded Warehouse, Midoricho, Yokohama was called as a witness. He stated that by request of Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co. 999 bags of granulated sugar marked "Crown's S.A.C." were stored in the branch godown of the bonded warehouse, Takashimacho, during three days from May 7th, 1902, to the 9th and were taken out on July 2nd. Another lot of sugar 1,000 bags with the same mark were stored in the Takashimacho branch godown and 600 bales and 400 on May 7th, 1902, and the 11th respectively in the

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Midoricho godown, which were taken out on October 14th. Another lot of over 1,000 bags were stored in the Midoricho godown on May 17th, 1902, which were also taken out on July 2nd. He remembered that a foreign gentleman inspected the alleged damaged bags of sugar among the three lots, under instructions of Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co. but he did not know the name of the foreign gentleman. The sugar which was stored in the bonded warehouse could not be taken out without a permit from the Customs, even as a sample, because the sugar bonded in the warehouse had not paid the duty and consumption tax. He did not remember by which steamers the lots of sugar were imported but he could find out by the books in his office.

The case was again adjourned till April 20th when the witness will be recalled to give the names of the steamers by which the sugar was imported.

MUKAI v. RUNGE AND THOMAS.

This case, instituted by Y. Mukai against Messrs. Runge and Thomas, which was adjourned on March 3rd came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato, on April 8th.

A witness named K. Takano was examined. He stated that by request of his employer Hidaka, whom Mr. Mukai instructed to take delivery of woollen cloth from Messrs. Runge and Thomas, he went to the firm, on November 8th or 9th, 1901, to take delivery of ten cases of woollen cloth, having with him cash about *yen* 4,000 to cover the whole value of the ten cases. The Japanese banto of the firm declined to give delivery of the goods and gave no reason why. On the 21st and 22nd of the same month the witness went to the same firm accompanied by his employer to take delivery of all the goods remaining in the godown of the foreign firm. This time, his employer provided the cash, he thought, about *yen* 15,000 to pay for the whole of the goods. Having showed a slip of paper containing the counter numbers of the cases of the goods to a foreign member of the firm, he and his employer asked for delivery. He did not know the name of the foreign gentleman who spoke little Japanese. This time a Japanese employe of the firm interpreted but nothing was settled, except the simple fact that the firm declined to give delivery of the goods.

The case was then adjourned till April 15th at 1 p.m. when judgement will be given.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

H.I.H. Prince Fushimi arrived at Kyoto on the morning of April 6th and proceeded to his villa.

The essay on Wagner which we publish elsewhere was read by Mr. W. Karl E. Vincent, Organist of Christ Church, Yokohama, before a recent meeting of the Tokyo Musical Society.

A man apparently about 20 years was run over and killed by a train at the Sakuragicho crossing near Yokohama Station on Friday morning. It is believed to be a case of suicide.

The repairs of the cruiser *Yakumo*, which was damaged on the bottom when she recently grounded, have been commenced at the Saseho Dock and will be completed before April 10th when the vessel will join in the naval manœuvres.

Troops aggregating in number one battalion of the 4th Army Division will be sent to Söul Yuensan and Fusan, in Korea on May 5th by the steamer *Omi Maru* under the charge of Major S. Katsumi, to take the place of returning forces.

It is stated that the construction of the Yokohama Electric Tramway will shortly be commenced and it is the intention to complete it within this year. The machinery, rails and iron poles which have been ordered from America will arrive before August this year.

Mr. H. Koch, 174, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, was, on April 1st in the Yokohama Local Court, the subject of a charge of infringement of the Regulations as to Aerated Waters Manufacture. It is alleged that he omitted to attach a label stating the date of manufactture, and the name and address of the manufacturer, on certain bottles of champagne cider which were made and sold on March 18th. The date of the public trial is not yet fixed by the Court.

According to an investigation by the Department of Finance at the end of March the number of banks in Japan was 2,349 and their capital *yen* 533,587,829. Comparing these with the figures for the end of February, two banks have closed but the aggregate capital has increased by *yen* 752,000.

A telegram under date of April 5th from the Japanese Consul at Manila has reached the authorities in Tokyo to the effect that the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's Hongkong-Manila liner *Rohilla Maru* went ashore on April 2nd at Palanick (?) distant 120 miles from Manila. No damage was caused to cargo or passengers. A steamer was sent on the 3rd to her assistance.

We have received the 40th annual report of the directors of the British and Foreign Marine Co. Ltd., of which Messrs. Butterfield & Swire are local agents, recommending a dividend for the year of 20 per cent. A sum of £75,000 is transferred to Reserve Account.

A new means has been found for rendering iron generally assimilable for human beings—namely by mixing citrate of iron in the food of hens. After this has been done for about a month the yolk of the egg becomes rich in iron, and the most delicate stomach can digest it. The dose for each hen is 80 milligrammes of citrate of iron a day.

Information under date March 26th from Mr. K. Heihara, Japanese Consul at Fusan, Korea, has reached the Department of Foreign Affairs stating that seventeen cases of scarlatina have appeared in the port, of which five recovered while six died. Should the illness spread it will cause interruption to trade.

Truly a strenuous as well as versatile personage is the Kaiser. We read in a Berlin telegram of March 11th that "The Emperor William executed, while deer-stalking at his hunting lodge, Huberstusstock, a series of drawings in colour, illustrating the historical development of costumes. These have been placed on exhibition by the Berlin Artist's Society."

A new steamer which is under construction at the Mitsu Bishi Dockyard to the order of the Osaka Commercial Steamship Company, will be completed within thirteen months from the present. The hull is of steel and her gross tonnage is 1,200 tons. Her length is 120 feet; width 31 feet 6 inches; depth 21 feet, and speed 12 knots. The cost is said to be *yen* 23,500. The steamer will be used in the Southern China trade.

Dr. Dempwolff, who succeeded Professor Koch as head of the German Expendition for the prevention of malaria in German New Guinea, states that he has discovered the existence of an aquatic insect which destroys the Anopheles mosquito, said to be the originator of malaria. He proposes to cultivate these useful insects by artificial means, and, in this way, hopes to exterminate the malaria mosquito.

A juryman is reported to have winked, apprently inadvertently, in the Court of King's Bench at Montreal on March 17th and the Judge suspended the proceedings in order to consider the matter. After an hour's delay he returned to the Bench and addressed the jury upon the seriousness of the affair, saying that he thought it might have been sufficient to discharge the whole jury. And now the question is: at whom did the juryman wink? The Judge?

There is quite a Mayne Reid or Marryat flavour about a piece of news just received in Rome from Buenos Ayres concerning the fate of Señor Ibarreta, an explorer who several years ago left Argentina to explore the great chaco forest region of Paraguay, and disappeared mysteriously without any clue to his fate being obtainable, though several search expeditions went out, the chief of one of which, Signor Boggiani, was murdered. Signor Paese, the leader of the last expedition, has sent a thrill of excitement throughout Argentina by returning with the news that Indians trading at the Pesistencia station spoke of a certain Barreta who had been captured by the Chapiri Indians, and had been kept captive in spite of several attempts to escape.

The contract which has been concluded by the Sanyo Railway Company for the purchase of the Bantan Railway Company contains the following provisions (1) The Bantan Railway Company will sell the railway, the buildings and all other property to the Sanyo Railway Company; (2) the Sanyo Railway Company will deliver debentures of the face value of *yen* 1,400,000, bearing interest at 6 per cent., to the Bantan Railway Company; and (3) when the said property is damaged by catastrophes or any other causes, after the transfer has been completed the Sanyo Railway Company will reduce the amount of the payment, estimated in accordance with the damage, or will render null and void the contract.

Early in the morning of April 5th a man named N. Kagawa entered the dwelling of a farmer named M. Harada, Nakahara village, Nakagori, in this prefecture. Armed with a large cooking knife, he inflicted fatal injuries on the farmer, his wife and their second son, and at once fled. It is stated that both men were arrested some 10 years ago on a charge of robbery, when the farmer promised that he would support the family of Nakagawa if the court should discharge him. At the trial Nakagawa stated that the robbery was committed by him alone and that the other did not even assist. The farmer was therefore discharged while Nakagawa was sentenced to several years' imprisonment. Being released on the expiry of his term he found that the farmer had not supported his family. This is believed to have spurred him to commit the triple crime.

It is stated that the authorities intend to raise the rate of the Sugar Consumption Tax and to introduce a bill to that effect in the coming session of the Diet. The income from the Tax amounted to *yen* 1,483,858 from October, 1901, to March, 1902, and *yen* 5,257,187 from April, 1902, to January, 1903, but the revenue for February and March, 1903, has not yet been ascertained through it is expected to be about *yen* 50,000. The authorities, however, estimated the income from the Consumption Tax in the Budget, at *yen* 6,707,005, so that a discrepancy arises. The *Mainichi Shimbun* says the cause is that since the tax was imposed, the consumption of sugar has diminished in Osaka, Kyoto and in the north-eastern localities. Should a higher rate of tax be imposed, the consumption will be reduced still further and there will be even a greater difference between the estimated and the actual income from this source.

CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA.

Mr. James Dodds, Chairman of Committee, has issued the following letter as an appeal to clear off the debt upon Christ Church:—

Herewith please find the list of Subscribers to Christ Church Rebuilding Fund. By the Accounts—also enclosed—you will see the outstanding Debt has been reduced to *yen* 2,708.30. Although this seems a small amount for this Community to raise, yet, in view of the liberal gifts already made, the Committee do not wish to ask definitely for more funds from former subscribers. There are, however, many new-comers and others who are probably inclined to subscribe, and some of the original subscribers, who may like to come forward and help to clear off the Debt.

As soon as the Church is free, it is proposed to erect a Brass in the porch, stating that the Church was erected by public subscriptions inaugurated in commemoration of Her Majesty Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee; and mentioning the date of its Consecration.

So far, in response, the sum of *yen* 380 has been sent in to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Frank O. Stuart.

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NOTES FROM AMERICA.

Ithaca, March 4th, 1903.

This is our national "moving day," when old presidents and congresses move out and new national executives and law-makers move in. The Congress just dissolved has made a noble record of diligence and good work accomplished, and this, despite its leaving undone the many things that ought to have been done. Although the Republicans would not pass a formal vote of thanks to the retiring Speaker Henderson, yet the President complimented him in a personal note. Indeed this habit of the President, of performing acts righteous and appropriate in themselves even in contravention of partisan tradition, is a most wholesome sign in our political life.

March 4th is an interesting date also to your correspondent, recalling the memories of thirty-two years ago, when he rode into Fukui to begin educational work in a feudal capital, when Japan had not a mile of railroads nor, I believe, a single mile of telegraph.

The Japanese have invaded Yankee land in manifold ways. It is not only the merchant and shopkeeper, the banker and the broker, the agent of the trading, manufacturing and shipping company, the chemist and the dentist, but also the lawyer and the editor. We have now Japanese newspapers printed in Chinese and *kana*, at both ends of our country and on both coasts, and we find that most of the journalistic and commercial tricks of trade are thoroughly utilized.

Not the least among the signs of the activity of invasion is the presence of the Japanese garden. Among the scores of advertisements, in the New York papers, of Japanese seeking employment as clerks, salesmen, waiters and "boys" of various sorts and functions, one sees that the gardener, real or professed, is ready to "replenish the earth and subdue it" according to the vogue in the land of uncounted gods.

But there are gardeners real and reputed and there are "Japanese gardens" genuine and in caricature. To look at some of the so-called imitations in America of Japanese landscape gardening one might suppose that the professed *uyekiya* was in reality the travelling agent of a bric-a-brac shop. Overcrowding and exaggeration mark the average "Japanese garden" in America. Bronze storks, stone lanterns, perhaps a bronze dragon or well curb, or even a tortoise, and quite often things wholly improper to a *hana batake* are put together in strange juxtaposition, so that though the conglomeration is in a sense "Japanesey," it bears no real resemblance to a garden in Nippon. It is, as a rule, too theatrical, like some of the New York productions, like the showy piece "The Darling of the Gods," which has been for some months on the New York theatre boards and is still running at the Belasco.

I am happy to say, however, that there are superb exceptions. I have seen several of these gardens possessed by owners who had some respect for truth, the correct use of language, and the aesthetic spirit of the country and people from which the loan of beauty was made. Notable among these is the garden constructed by Colonel William Verbeck, largely with his own hands and the assistance of an ordinary carpenter. Colonel Verbeck (he has for years been an officer in the State militia and is on Governor Odell's staff) has been the master for some years of St. John's School at Manlius, which is within forty minutes' trolley ride from Syracuse, having somewhat over a hundred lads under his personal supervision, being assisted by an excellent staff. He trains his boys according to military discipline, including cavalry and artillery practice, and during the summers usually goes into camp or takes a water trip in boat or steamer over some of the water ways in which the Empire State is so rich. Recently while visiting him and addressing the Bishop and Episcopal clergy, on affairs in the Far East, I spent some time in his unique garden, which I could see at once was worthy of being called Japanese. Rightly oriented and its stones set in harmony with correct taste and tradition, its rockery, its still and falling water, its curved bridge, lantern, fences, gates, pathways and dwelling for human shelter, comfort and delight make a picture o harmony and repose. A sudden glimpse of it, f without expectation, made me imagine that a piece of Everlasting Great Japan had suddenly dropped from the clouds. I am happy to say that Colonel Verbeck has set forth his own memories, ambitions and triumphs in this month's issue of "Country Life in Ameriea," a magazine which is edited by my neighbour, Professor Liberty Hyde Bailey, of Cornell University, on whom the mantle of Asa Gray descended. I am also glad to add that, although last winter a fire razed the main school edifice to the ground yet this March sees a more commodious edifice, with all the modern equipments and rapidly approaching completion, standing on the old and also the enlarged foundation.

We have had of late a desultory discussion concerning the survivors of the Perry Expedition of 1853. Several men have written to the papers, each one supposing that he was the "last survivor" of the "peaceful armada." The controversy was started by some village newspaper, which in its obituary of a deceased villager gave him honours that were premature. In addition to the obscure sailors and marines that may be yet living, and Admiral Beardslee who recently, I believe, addressed the Oneida Historical Society at Utica on his early and late experiences in Japan, there is the Reverend Professor John S. Sewell, who has just resigned his professorship in the Congregational Theological Seminary at Bangor, Maine. He is one of the six American Congregational clergymen of that name and a descendant of the "Puritan Pepys" who in very early colonial days kept a diary, which has been published and much enjoyed. Prof. Sewell has in contemplation the writing of a small volume giving his personal experiences and reviewing the history of the Perry mission. While a considerable bibliography has grown out of the episode of 1853-4, very few articles or books have been written by members of the expedition, and this, chiefly, because authorship in this direction was forbidden until after success had been won and Perry himself, had, through his friend Rev. Dr. Hawks (after Nathaniel Hawthorne had been approached) given his own narrative to the world. To day his grand-son, Oliver Hazard Perry Belmont, is the chief financier and director of the colossal scheme of tunnelling the solid rock of New York. The idea is to make a series of underground highways to relieve congestion above. Even with minute trains in the air, swift and frequent vehicles on the surface and electric lines in the great rock corridors beneath, it will be as much as narrow Manhattan Island can do to relieve the pressure of a population that, morning and evening, wants to get in and to get out of a narrow strip of rock surrounded by rivers and an ocean entrance. To the New York and New England trunk lines centering in Fourth Avenue, there is to be added a sub-river tunnel from New Jersey, that will land the southern and western passengers in the heart of the city. One can already step from his hotel dining room and reach San Francisco, and be under roof all the way.

The oldest Perry "survivor" seems a young man, besides a gentleman, whom I met in the City Hall of New York a few days ago, and with whom I had a pleasant chat. Mr. Charles Haynes Haswell, author of the noted Mechanic's and Engineer's Pocket Book, which, revised to date, has been sold to the extent of nearly 140,000 copies, knew Perry well when he began to be "the father of the American steam navy" in the thirties. Mr. Haswell designed and directed the engines and boilers of the first American steam frigate *Fulton*, and from 1836 to 1851 was engineering chief of the United States Navy. He also repaired the steamship *Mississippi* under pressure of time, and thus during the Mexican war gave Matthew Perry his splendid opportunity at Vera Cruz, when he commanded so effectively the largest squadron which, up to that time, had ever been assembled under the American flag. Despite his perpetual mental and physical activity, Mr. Hazwell seems more fit and capable than many younger men.

The crop of books on Japan this year has not been large, but Professor Morse has given us an interesting work on "Chinese Homes." Professor Herbert A. Giles crossed the ocean and stayed with us long enough to lecture on the Dean Lung foundation in Columbia University, the chair now being filled by Professor Hirsch. We have had Walter Del Mar's "Around the World Through Japan," and a funny bit of literary ventriloquism—"The American Diary of a Japanese Girl." More serious and more interesting also is the Honorable John W. Foster's "American Diplomacy in the Orient." It is a very full, accurate, sympathetic and judicial account of American principles and practice in dealing with the nations of Asia bordering on the Pacific and with Hawaii. Some of the opinions expressed are at least suggestive. He thinks that the sending of military forces to Peking without waiting for the sanction of Congress was the greatest stretch of executive power known in American history but believes that the American people justified his action. He pictures very graphically the twenty-two years diplomatic struggle of Japan to regain autonomy. He condemns the American expedition to Korea and the military chastisement of the Koreans in 1871 as a great blunder. He thinks that Admiral Dewey's statesman-like conduct of affairs in Manila harbour after the battle entitles him to rank as a diplomatist with Perry and Shufeldt. Mr. Foster is more of a diplomatist than a historian and on the question of the attack of the allies on the Taku forts in 1900, and the attitude of the Chinese Government at the moment, he will probably not be accepted as authority.

It is very strange indeed that Admiral Lewis Kempff, who in refusing to join the allies in attacking the Taku forts when as yet the Chinese government was not hostile, has not yet received that justification of his action—in harmony with American traditions from Washington to Roosevelt—which he ought to have received from his government. In the House of Representatives February 2nd, 1903, a joint resolution tendering the thanks of Congress to Admiral Kempff "for the wisdom displayed by him in refusing to join the allied forces in the bonbardment of the forts at Taku, China" was passed unanimously, but when introduced in the Senate on Feb. 3rd and read twice and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, it was found that the verbiage of law prevented a vote in the Senate and killed the resolution. In other words American Statutes seem to give more honour to the fighter and killer, than to the man of self-control, earnest patriotism, wisdom or statesmanship, for Section 1508 of the Revised Statutes confines action for which the thanks of Congress are given to "highly distinguished conduct in conflict with the enemy, or for extraordinary heroism in the line of his profession." "Heroism," then, as the lawyers have defined it, is not moral but purely physical. Although Admirals Dewey and Watson heartily favoured the resolution, it has been lost. It is unfortunate that the matter was not taken up by the President, who, however, has had his hands full.

W. E. G.

PRESENTATION TO A FOREIGN FIRM.

The Japan Silk Association, we understand, has presented Messrs. Siber, Wolff & Co., with a gold medal in recognition of the services rendered by them in the development of the silk export trade of Japan. The medal is accompanied by the following address:—

To Messrs. Siber, Wolff & Co., Yokohama.

In recognition of the valuable services rendered by your firm as pioneers in the exportation of raw silk from Japan, and in extending the markets for Japanese silk in foreign countries, we herewith beg to present the gold medal of this Association, awarded in accordance with the rules, to Messrs. Siber, Wolff & Co.

A gold medal has also been presented to Mr. S. Takagi, with an address expressing appreciation of his services to the trade during the past twenty years.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

HOMEWARD VIA SIBERIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—To those people in Japan who may contemplate travelling to Europe over the Manchurian and Siberian Railways will you allow me through your columns to give a word of warning with regard to baggage?

No one, presumably, will think of facing the discomfort and monotony of the long rail journey unless economy be their main object, and it is advisable, therefore, to avoid taking packages heavier than can be carried in the compartments, which are amply provided with strong and roomy racks.

Russian travellers appeared, usually, to place all their belongings in two or three gladstones or portmanteaux, an elaborated hold-all, and a kitbag, thus disposing of the necessity of having a box or trunk in the van, the freight upon which is high—nearly three roubles for every ten pounds (over and above the first thirty-six) to Moscow alone.

Believe me, Sir, faithfully yours,

TRAVELLER.

Yokohama, March 3rd, 1903.

THE RECENT TROUBLES IN CHIBA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to the article on "Religious Commotion in Chiba" in your to-day's issue I deem it right to furnish you with the facts a little more in detail, and there are also some mistakes, which could of course not be avoided after several have told the story.

The Rev. F. Franson, the Director of the Scandinavian Alliance Mission of North America, having arrived in Japan from Australia, a series of meetings were arranged for him at our station here, beginning on the 25th ult. We had two meetings a day, and many people came quietly to hear the gospel, and several had already repented of their sins before the 28th—in fact we were not even conscious of any serious Buddhist movement being on foot. On the evening of the 28th we opened our meeting as usual with prayer and song, and next followed testimonies from believers. Then came in some 20 to 30 partly intoxicated Buddhists led by two Buddhist students, pushing their way towards the platform and demanded of us to show them our God or discuss with them, etc., etc. We quietly asked them to be seated till after the meeting as we could not stop in the middle of a meeting to discuss. But having come with the object of disturbing they were not to be cheated out of this, so they took things pretty much into their own hands, each one yelling worse than the other, crying out to the 60 to 70 people who were quietly seated on the benches to get up and join them, continually calling the Christians "Koku-zoku" (=national traitors). Failing in this made them more furious, and they broke up the benches by jumping up and down on them. The leader, one Sekida, stood with his fists in fighting shape in front of us on the little platform and used "all manner of evil" expressions, and a pity it was to look into that poor man's face, showing as it did the image of his master devil. We were singing "O home yo tatae yo" with all our souls and praising God for his love for us and them, while they were some of them at least repeating that prayer of theirs—"Nammyo ho rengekyo." This together with the kicking of benches and the sound of the organ which Bro. Aurell mastered, and much other miscellaneous noise must have been a painful discord to an outside listener I imagine! My wife and Miss Anderson from Takayama stood up and tried to pacify the poor man Sekida but all in vain. Later he went out seeing that he utterly failed to create a stampede among us Christians—for all were as cool as a cucumber, just singing, praying and praising God much to the aggravation and confusion of our assailants—and began his work outside where he soon had hearers enough, the whole neighbourhood flocking to see what terrible noise it was. The daily paper here next day likened his eloquence to "waregane" (cracked iron). I thought true, the whole Buddhism is cracked and produces discord among themselves and, as far as it can, everywhere. But here the police disturbed him a little so he came in again. Then it was that our Salvation Army brother Teramoto stood up after having offered up a burning and stirring prayer to God for help, and said in effect like this: You are 25; I am one; nevertheless if it pleases you I will undertake to answer your questions, etc., on the condition that we go to another place to discuss and leave this meeting alone." This offer was eventually accepted and so the excited part of the crowd were off for the temple with Bro. Teramoto—a lamb in wolves' paws, to be sure—but the police knew of it and also went there several of them, and released him and put a stop to *that* meeting—not ours, for we had a blessed time after all and a house full of attentive hearers.

Next day, Sunday 29th, at 1 o'clock we received a letter signed by two temples, calling upon us to put in an appearance at Hagoromotei at 5 o'clock p.m. to discuss with them on the matters of the preceeding evening. But during the forenoon large, conspicuous posters had been put up all over town announcing that the Buddhists were to have "Dai Enzetsu Kwai" at 6 o'clock proving that Christianity is opposed to Reason, Education and Patriotism. Seeing then we had only one hour in which ■ discuss "greatly" (oini), we instead forwarded them the following answer:—"In your letter just to hand we had expected to find an apology for the behaviour of the representatives of your religion last night. We hear you are to speak at 6 o'clock to-night proving that Christianity is opposed to Reason, Education and Patriotism. Your behaviour last night was just as opposite to these things, viz. reason, good education and patriotism and obedience to the laws of your country, as anything could be, and unless a proper apology is sent to us we could never have any confidence in any arrangement done by you for either a private or public discussion. But if in the future, after above mentioned apology has come to hand, a regular committee consisting of honourable men acknowledged by both sides of this city arrange a discussion where the speakers from both sides are allowed equal time we are willing to partake. The middle of April would be as early as we could partake in this on account of previously arranged meetings."

To this another reply came to the effect that since we don't appear as they wished they look upon us as already defeated, and we heard afterwards that they had a high time at the temple at our expense. But our meeting that evening was the finest we have ever had in Chiba during the two years we have laboured here, and six souls reported at the after-meeting. The hall was packed full of eager listeners till not one more could get near the door even. So the devil overdid himself and only advertized the meetings for our good. This being the last day we had planned to have those meetings, Bro. Franson had to leave Chiba on Monday and go to Tokyo where he is engaged for some days in various churches. But the Buddhists had a meeting again on Monday evening which they advertised very interestingly during the day. They went around with flags and standards announcing the funeral of Christianity that evening, and added that if any were still in love with it to bring flowers as the last token of respect, etc!! But we still live and Christianity too, and if God wills they shall yet hear from us, even that we have risen from "the dead" and that Christ "shineth" upon us, Halleluyah! We are thanking God that the fire has reached the enemies camp, and then, we might expect a little opposition.

The *Tokai Shimbun*, a daily published here, has for three days in succession devoted large space to the accounts given of this event, and has so completely taken up for our side—telling the truth—that we surmise the Buddhists will yet make "commotion."

Regretting the great length of this letter I thank you in anticipation for giving it space in your columns, as giving the original facts on the subject you have referred to.

Yours truly, F. O. BERGSTRÖM.

Chiba, Shimosa, April 2nd, 1903.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER ASYLUM.

(REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1902.)

The last report of the Gotemba Leper Asylum was dated September 1st, 1901. Since that time nothing of importance needs to be noticed save that the repairs and improvements previously commenced have been continued, and have now nearly reached completion. If the work has occupied rather a considerable period of time, the reason is that, with a view to diminishing the expenditure, able-bodied lepers have been, as much as possible, employed in carrying them out. The foundations and consequently the floors have been raised more than one foot and humidity has thus been provided against; the roofs, previously covered with wood, have been tiled; the bath-rooms have been re-made and re-arranged and a pump erected.

The number of lepers in the hospital has been maintained at the figure of 75 (of whom 55 are men and 20 women). The vacancies caused either by the departure or the death of patients have been filled as they have occurred. Although from 90 to 100 lepers can be admitted, nevertheless for reasons of hygiene as well as of administration, it has been considered prudent, as least for the present, not to bring the number of inmates up to this figure.

Thirteen sick persons have received baptism; which reduces to a very small number those who are not Christians.

The number of deaths this year has been smaller than that of past years. There have been only twelve deaths in the last sixteen months. May this result be attributed to the employment of new methods of treatment? It is always found that the lepers who have consented to use the *Chaulmoogra* oil and a medicament specially prepared by a Nagasaki apothecary have experienced great relief. We dare not hope to see complete cures, nevertheless the assurance that the sufferings of the sick can be diminished and even perhaps their life prolonged, is a powerful encouragement to try new remedies however costly they may be, and to seek the pecuniary resources necessary to procure them. This is why we profit by this opportunity to beg the benefactors of the Leper Hospital to continue to interest themselves in it by their alms as well as by their prayers. Our unfortunate lepers are not, besides, ignorant of the source of the benefits bestowed on them. Not being able, however to testify otherwise their gratitude, they offer to God, in favour of their benefactors, their prayers and their sufferings.

The expenses during the last two years have been a little greater than usual on account of the repairs that had to be carried out. Nevertheless the accounts show a balance on the right side. Our benefactors have, then, good reason ■ congratulate themselves; for the Leper Hospital is theirs. We are only the administrators of it.

The annual maintenance of 75 lepers requires on an average from 4,000 to 4,500 *yen*. With the excess of receipts we aim at forming a reserve fund which may one day assure the existence of the establishment. In acting thus we are, we believe, acting in accordance with the wishes of our benefactors and attaching them still more to their work so worthy of interest.

THE ADMINISTRATION.

Gotemba, Dec. 31, 1902.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER ASYLUM.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENCES FOR THE YEARS 1901 AND 1902.

RECEIPTS.

	In 1901. Yen.	In 1902. Yen.
Gifts received in Japan	508.355	1,027.885
Gifts from different countries.	3,344.620	3,823.755
Gifts from lepers under treatment	152.681	119.681
Interest paid by the Bank	444.000	413.420
Sale of objects	135.005	78.180
Total	4,584.661	5,462.921

EXPENSES.

	Yen.	Yen.
Fees and salaries	312.000	304.400
Food, rice, etc	2,183.976	2,276.245
Heating, lighting, etc.	332.582	401.080
Utensils and tools	118.693	281.773
Upkeep of animals	50.330	53.560
Medicaments	36.580	209.230
Expenses of registration		63.585
Taxes and contribution	73.128	52.047
Printing and postal expenses.	31.795	167.510
Extraordinary repairs	1,007.547	812.140
Total	4,569.256	4,625.570

RECAPITULATION.

	Yen.	Yen.
Receipts	4,584.661	5,462.921
Expenditure	4,569.256	4,625.570
Balance	15.405	837.351

RESERVE FUND.

	Yen.
In 1900	4,695.920
Balance in 1901	15.405
Balance in 1902	837.351
Total	5,548.676

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for the above fund:—

Already acknowledged	23,213.93
Kokura Baptist Church and English Class pupils	10.00
Balance of Collection per *Japan Mail*	21.00
Per Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Nagasaki: "A foreigner"	25.00
Total	23,269.93

We have received another 10 *yen* from "Tokyo," on behalf of the Aomori Fund, which we have handed over to the Trustees of the Fund of the H. & S. Bank.

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TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE FIGHTING AT MITROVITZA.

London, April 3.

The Albanians made an assault on Mitrovitza and a pitched battle ensued with the garrison, which consisted of 3,000 Turkish regulars, who have since been re-inforced by four battalions. The insurrectionary movement on the part of the Albanians has caused the greatest consternation at Constantinople.

U. S. COTTON CROP.

The cotton report of the Washington Census Bureau estimates the total crop at 11,078,882 commercial bales, equivalent to 10,630,945 standard bales.

ALBANIAN SHOOTS RUSSIAN CONSUL.

Stcherbina, the Russian Consul at Mitrovitza, accompanied by a Turkish escort, visited the batteries when the fighting was over. An Albanian sentinel deliberately fired at the Consul, seriously wounding him in the back. The (? Turkish) soldiers shot down the sentry, wounding him mortally.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward has arrived at Lisbon.

BOER IRRECONCILABLES.

London, April 4.

Mr. Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary, communicating through Sir Joseph West Ridgeway, Governor of Ceylon, with the agent of the Boer irreconcilables in Ceylon, says that he has reason to believe that they will shortly be allowed to proceed to Java.

SOMALILAND.

A mobile column under Captain Sharp had a fight in South Damot (Abyssinia) on the 29th March. The enemy, who offered an obstinate resistance, lost 26 killed and 400 camels. No British were killed.

THE KAISER IN DENMARK.

The Kaiser has reached Copenhagen, where he met with the heartiest welcome.

KING EDWARD IN PORTUGAL.

King Edward has reached Lisbon, where he had a tremendous reception.

AMERICAN ASIATIC SQUADRON.

Owing to the alarming reports on the situation in China, the United States is reinforcing her Asiatic Squadron by three cruisers.

KING EDWARD'S FOREIGN TOUR.

London, April 5.

King Edward's visit to Rome extends from the 27th to the 30th April.

PHILIPPINE CURRENCY.

The Treasury at Washington has purchased 384,500 ounces of silver, for coining pesos for the Philippines, at fifty cents an ounce.

INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES.

The British and Italian squadrons go to Algiers to salute President Loubet on his approaching visit to Algeria.

KING EDWARD IN PORTUGAL.

King Edward while in Lisbon received the Corps Diplomatique, and an Address from the Cortes, which alluded in the warmest terms to the alliance that has been maintained between the two countries during five centuries. King Edward in his reply accepted the Address as a renewed affirmation of the alliance. To-day that alliance could only tend to the peaceful development of their respective countries and colonies.

SOMALILAND.

General Manning's column occupied Galadi on the 31st March, after struggling through a waterless desert and suffering great privations. The Mullah remains beyond reach of the expedition, which will remain at Galadi in order to collect supplies, the transport having completely collapsed.

London, April 6.

Prior to the occupation of Galadi, the British advance force had a stiff brush with a force of the enemy, who lost five killed and 15 prisoners. The bulk of the enemy, 12,000 strong, are concentrated near the Walwal wells, a day and a half distant from Galadi.

JAPANESE TRADING SQUADRON.

The Japanese cruisers *Itsukushima*, *Matsushima* and *Hashidate* have arrived at Freemantle.

POLITICAL ASPECTS OF KING EDWARD'S TOUR.

London, April 7.

The German Press is looking upon King Edward's tour with a jaundiced eye and sees therein a prospect of new combinations unsatisfactory to Germany. Especially do the German journalists entertain apprehensions regarding the possibility of the King meeting President Loubet.

AMERICAN NAVAL STRENGTH IN CHINA WATERS.

It is announced in Washington that the United States are increasing their Asiatic squadron, considering it a good precautionary measure to be strongly represented in the Far East.

GENERAL STRIKE IN HOLLAND.

Owing to the Government's anti-strike legislation, a general railway strike has been proclaimed in Holland, including water transport. The strike threatens to paralyse the trade of the country.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

London, April 8.

A Socialist, M. Jaurès, revived the Dreyfus question last evening in the Chamber of Deputies and caused an excited debate. He produced a letter from General Pellieux, who presided at the Court-martial on Colonel Esterhazy. The letter bitterly complained that his chiefs had advised him to act upon forgeries.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward has left Lisbon and gone to Gibraltar.

RESIGNATION OF A PROMINENT OFFICIAL.

Mr. William Hayes-Fisher, M.P., has resigned the Financial Secretaryship to the Treasury, on account of the remarks of Mr. Justice Buckley in the case of a company of which Mr. Fisher was a director.

TO TEST RUSSIA'S GOOD FAITH.

It is stated in Washington that the insertion of a clause in the proposed new treaty between China and America, whereby Moukden and Takushan are declared open to foreign trade, is especially designed to test the soundness of Russia's promise to maintain the "open door" in Manchuria.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE CURRENCIES OF THE FAR EAST.

Saigon, April 4.

The Colonial Congress has adopted a proposal pointing to the assembly of an international conference at Paris for the purpose of examining the monetary systems of the Far East.

MOROCCO.

Saigon, April 5.

Bands in Morocco attacked a French patrol and post in the environs of Figuig. There were several killed and wounded.

MACEDONIA.

The situation in Macedonia has become aggravated. The Albanians have attacked Metrovitza and wounded the Russian Consul. There have been several severe engagements between the insurgents and the Turkish troops.

A WIDE-SPREAD STRIKE.

Saigon, April 7.

All the railway hands and the transport hands on land and sea in the whole of Holland have gone on strike.

(RECEIVED IN TOKYO).

CHINA-JAPAN TREATY.

The China-Japan treaty negotiations have been brought to a general conclusion but there are still one or two undecided points. With reference to these points further deliberation will have to take place in Shanghai. The chief subject of discussion is the abolition of *likin*.

MANCHURIA.

No official news has yet been received about the evacuation of Manchuria.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

THE BALKANS.

London, April 1.

The Albanians in the north are opposed to the scheme of administrative reform and demand the removal of the Russian Consul, and to the number of several thousand attacked Mitrovitza with that object. The Turkish garrison defended the place with the result that the rioters were completely defeated with great loss. Four battalions of the Turkish Army were sent by the Oriental express train but they could not reach the scene.

According to various sources, it appears that Austria-Hungary suspects the good-faith of Russia. Russia warned the Sultan to quell immediately the insurrection at Mitrovitza

The 3rd division of the army at Salonica was ordered to settle the insurrection. The Smyrna corps will be called on to assist Salonica in this object.

GREAT BRITAIN AND PORTUGAL.

London, April 4.

Yesterday evening King Edward arrived at Lisbon where the King of Portugal warmly welcomed him. Both monarchs proceeded from the landing place to the palace in the same carriage with a military escort. The citizens extended the warmest welcome to King Edward. The relations between the two countries are of the most friendly description.

U.S. NAVAL EXTENSION.

President Roosevelt insisted upon the necessity of providing a powerful navy, in a speech on the Monroe doctrine delivered at Chicago.

THE ATTACK ON A RUSSIAN CONSUL.

The Russian Consul Stcherbina at Mitrovitza has been wounded, but is not in a serious condition.

LONDON MAYORAL BANQUET.

Last night the Lord Mayor of London gave a banquet to guests numbering 1,200, at which Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, and members of the Japan Society were present.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR'S TOUR.

The Kaiser has proceeded to Copenhagen to celebrate the 85th birthday of Christian IX. King of Denmark.

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

London, April 4.

Twenty thousand Albanians are encamped at Jirk(?) in Old Servia. It is said that the killed and wounded in the fighting that has taken place number one thousand. The Macedonians have blown up an iron

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bridge on the Salonika Railway over the Augista(?) River, and also a neighbouring tunnel. Communication is therefore interrupted. Thirty thousand Albanians have attacked Okkrida (a large town on the lake of the same name, some forty miles north-west from Monastir, or Bitolia).

The Russian Grand Duke Vladimir has paid a hurried visit to Vienna.

THE BALKAN QUESTION.

London, April 6.

It is semi-officially reported by the *Journal de St. Petersbourg*, the *Novoe Vremya*, the *Berlin Post* and other papers that Russia and Germany seem to be governed in their actions as to the Balkan question, quite independently of their own alliances. The *Novoe Vremya* blames M. Delcassé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, in regard to the intervention of France, and the *Berlin Post* states that Great Britain instigated the present disturbances in Eastern Albania.

The papers in Russia declare that the policy of Russia aims at peace.

The Porte is sending sixteen battalions to quell the Albanian disturbance, but it is still doubtful whether the Sultan is really desirous to settle the troubles, as the Imperial Bodyguards have not been instructed to participate yet.

The Albanians and the Bulgarians have stopped the smuggling of arms and munitions of war, at a Bulgarian town on the boundary between Albania and Dubnitza.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

BRIDGE BLOWN UP.

London, April 1.

The iron bridge on the Maritza River, between Mustafa Pasha and Adrianople, was blown up yesterday after the Oriental express passed over it.

THE CONDITION OF THE BALKANS.

The Macedonian Committee in Sofia has reported that the Turkish troops slaughtered a body of the revolutionists and massacred all the villagers in the Abaritch locality.

According to the report of the Russian consul, which was published at St. Petersburg, the revolutionists decided to obstruct the reform scheme of Russia and Austria-Hungary, with which object they are instigating the Mussulman natives to murder or coerce the Christians. A body of Albanians demanded the removal of the Russian Consulate, which was recently established, and surrounded Mitrovitza and attacked it but were defeated.

Russia has issued another warning to Bulgaria.

In Vienna, the condition of Macedonia is watched with great anxiety.

FRENCH MASSACRED IN MOROCCO.

London, April 3.

Natives numbering 150 attacked French residents in Morocco; massacred 11 of them and wounded 13 and captured 40 camels.

THE KHEDIVE ON TOUR.

The *Standard* states that the Khedive will pay a visit to Berlin this summer by invitation of the Kaiser.

THE BRITISH REVENUE.

London, April 5.

The Rt. Hon. C. T. Ritchie, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has declared in Parliament that he desires to reduce taxation in the coming fiscal year.

NARROW ESCAPE OF TURKISH TROOPS.

Turkish troops narrowly escaped from being surrounded by thirty thousand villagers of Hungary (?), in the Okkrida district. It is reported to the Turkish Government that an iron bridge on the railway on the borders of Drama has blown up.

THE U.S. PROTECTIVE DUTIES.

London, April 7.

President Roosevelt said in his speech delivered at Minneapolis that the United States are unable to abandon the policy of protective duties but steps may be taken in the future to bring about important alterations.

(From the "Deutsche Japan Post".)

THE BALKANS.

Berlin, April 2.

The Balkan crisis has been overcome by the remaining in office of the peaceable Bulgarian Cabinet Minister Danew and the dismissal of the Minister of War, Paprikow, who is a friend of Macedonia. A new Russian communiqué in the sharpest terms turns against the Macedonians. The press of Paris are trying to instigate the Macedonians.

HEADS OF STATES TO VISIT.

President Loubet will leave for Algiers about the middle of April. An interview between Luard (King Edward ?) and Loubet will take place on the Riviera or in Paris about the end of April. King Victor Emanuel probably will meet with Luard (King Edward ?) in the Bay of Naples in the presence of squadrons of both navies.

M. PRINETTI.

Count Bülow paid a friendly visit to the sick Minister Prinetti on the 30th of March.

ADMIRAL DEWEY.

The reports concerning the anti-German saying alleged to have been uttered in an interview by Admiral Dewey have been rectified by President Roosevelt's intervention. The relations between Berlin and Washington are satisfactory. There has been no diplomatic incident.

THE KAISER.

The Kaiser has left for Denmark. The Danish papers say that the visit means more than a mere act of civility.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

Berlin, April 3.

The uncommonly sharp language of the Russian press against France on account of Minister Delcassé's meddling in the Macedonian question is causing a sensation.

NEW GERMAN LOAN.

Berlin, April 4.

Germany has raised a public loan loan of 290 million marks at the rate of 3 per cent., which will be issued on the 17th inst. at the rate of 92 per cent.

THE KAISER AT COPENHAGEN.

The reception of the Kaiser in Copenhagen was very warm. King Christian drank to the further prosperity of the hearty relations existing between the two peoples of the same blood. The Kaiser thanked him for his appointment to the Danish admiralship. Also the whole Danish people welcomed the Kaiser in the most friendly way.

HERR G. COATES.

Mr. Coates has been appointed Minister Resident and Consul-General in Bangkok, and Mr. von Saldern, his predecessor there, Minister Resident at Söul.

[Mr. von Saldern at present is staying here at the Grand Hotel.]

THE KAISER AT COPENHAGEN.

Berlin, April 6.

The Kaiser prolonged his visit in Copenhagen for 24 hours by special request of King Christian. The monarchs mutually exchanged most heartfelt expressions of farewell. The socialistic press also expresses satisfaction with the meeting.

THE KING'S VISIT TO PARIS.

The English Government officially informed the German Government five days ago of the journey of King Edward to Paris. The exaggerated importance attached to the visit by the French and the English papers and the taking advantage of it by them in an anti-German feeling are disliked by King Edward and the English Ministry.

THE BALKANS.

The situation in the Balkans is not critical in spite of the Mitrovitza incident. The Porte is punishing the Albanian rebels. Bulgaria is severely restrained by Russia. An armed Austro-Russia intervention is out of the question.

VENEZUELA.

The signing of the final Venezuelan protocol in Washington for the transfer to the Hague Arbitration Court is impending.

KAISER LEAVES COPENHAGEN.

Berlin, April 7.

The Kaiser has left Copenhagen. He promised the King to pay him a second visit next summer.

THE KAISER'S VISIT TO ROME.

Graf Waldersee will take part in the Kaiser's journey to Rome.

FIRE ON A SCHOOL-SHIP.

At the Imperial wharf a destructive fire originated in the ward-room on board the school-ship *Moltke*.

THE STRIKES IN HOLLAND.

In Holland on the occasion of the bringing in of a bill directed against the strikes, the transport hands including the railway-men, went on a general strike; it is expected that in defence the Government will proclaim martial-law in Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

STRIKES IN LONDON AND HULL.

Also the mariners in London and Hull are striking. The strikers proceed conjointly.

NO GERMAN INTERVENTION.

The report of the *Herald* concerning the intervention of Germany in the Macedonian question is unfounded.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

RESULT OF THE GRAND NATIONAL.

London, March 28.

The following is the result of the Grand National Steeplechase run on Friday, the 27th inst., at Liverpool:—

Drumcree, 9 years	1
Detail, 7 years	2
Manifesto, 15 years	3

[All three horses ran in the same race last year, Drumcree being unplaced, Detail coming in 4th, and Manifesto 3rd.

ANTARCTIC EXPLORATION.

London, March 30.

The *Discovery's* sledging parties met with terrible hardships and hairbreadth escapes of falling into bottomless crevasses.

Their tinned foods proved rotten, with the result that they killed all their dogs for food.

One party reached an altitude of 9,000 feet, where respiration was of the most difficult nature.

SIR HECTOR MACDONALD.

A determined attempt was made to convene a great Scottish gathering at Sir Hector MacDonald's funeral, but the rapidity of the arrangements made for his interment prevented the attempt maturing.

One hundred and thirty representatives of Scottish societies and clans were present at the grave, where the service was extremely simple.

THE ADEN HINTERLAND DISPUTE.

London, March 31.

In the House of Lords, Lord Lansdowne, Foreign Secretary, said that the Government were informed that the Turkish troops had withdrawn from the tribal territory in the Aden Hinterland, and the work of delimitation was proceeding.

CABINET CRISIS IN GREECE.

The Greek Minister for War has resigned.

THE LITTLE WAR IN SOKOTO.

London, via Bombay, April 1.

The capture of Sokoto means the fall of a powerful Empire founded a century ago, and the establishment of British authority over a territory of half a million square miles, with a population of twenty millions.

FINANCIAL CRISIS IN TIENTSIN.

Tientsin, April 1.

The Foreign Banks have decided to accept and cash native notes chopped by the Customs Taotai or the Salt Commissioner, in order to assist the financial congestion in Tientsin.

THE NEW ORDER.

London via Bombay, April 1.

H.M. the King's birthday is to be celebrated on foreign stations this year on the 9th of November.

THE FALL OF A HERO.

London, April 1.

Lady MacDonald's solicitor states that the War Office offered a gun-carriage for Sir Hector MacDonald's funeral and has shown the greatest kindness. Lt.-General Sir Archibald Hunter, K. C. B., commanding the Forces in Scotland, and his staff desired to attend but the widow declined both offers, desiring the strictest privacy.

A fund has been opened in Edinburgh and Glasgow to erect a monument.

Sir Hector MacDonald's will leaves everything to his widow.

THE "AMERICA" CUP.

London, April 2.

In the trials on the Clyde yesterday between the new and old *Shamrock*, the former proved much the faster.

GREAT BRITAIN'S BALANCE SHEET.

Mr. Ritchie, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will make his Budget statement on the 23rd instant.

THE TURBULENT ALBANIANS.

London, April 2.

The Albanians have always been favourites of the Sultan, whose bodyguard comprises two Albanian battalions. The Sultan has nevertheless been obliged, at the risk of straining their loyalty, to order the resolute suppression of their insurrection, and to largely reinforce the troops in the Albanian district from Salonika.

Prior to attacking Mitrovitza, the Albanians compelled the Governor of a neighbouring town to hand over to them eleven Servian Christian gensdarmes recently recruited under the new reform scheme.

The Albanian assault on Mitrovitza was a regular battle. The garrison consisted of three thousand Turkish regulars, who have been since reinforced by four battalions.

This insurrectionary movement of the Albanians has caused the greatest consternation at Constantinople.

There has been severe fighting at Vuchitirn, near Mitrovitza. It is reported that there are two hundred casualties.

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LITERARY GOSSIP.

In few of the newspaper biographies of Miss Edna Lyall was it noticed that she tried and succeeded in writing in a juvenile vein. She was frequently urged by publishers to cultivate more of this side of her work, but her indifferent health and the labour entailed by her larger books kept her from turning her attention to a department in which she might have excelled.

Under the will of the late Dean Howell, of St. David's, who was formerly vicar of the parish church, Cardiff Library receives a priceless black-letter copy of the Salesbury Welsh Testament. This rare edition of the Four Gospels in the Cymric tongue was the first instalment of the translation of the entire Scriptures into Welsh, which was commenced in 1567 by William Salesbury and completed twenty years later by Dr. Morgan, Bishop of St. Asaph.

Recently the *Weekly Scotsman* invited correspondence from young men to show why marriage was going out of fashion. The young men were not slow to give reasons, and these reasons were not complimentary to the ladies. Then our contemporary gave the ladies an opportunity to reply, and the editor is now sorry he did it. The replies of the insulted damsels have rained upon him in such a torrent, it would take 160 columns of the paper to print them!

FOR A LIBRARY.

Who seeks this place shall come as one
  Who craves old friends' companionship;
  Eager to see each face, and slip
His hand in theirs, neglecting none.

Who enters here shall sit at ease,
  A quiet soul his friends among,
  When tales are told and songs are sung
And all the room is hung with peace.

Who leaves this place shall go as men
  Part from old friends a little day,
  Yet at the threshold turn to say:
"How long before we meet again?"

—*Munsey's Magazine.*

John Leyden, whose journal of a tour in the Highlands and Western Islands of Scotland, undertaken in 1800, is, as already announced, about to appear for the first time, was in many ways a remarkable man. Like Borrow—who, by the way, quotes, but quotes incorrectly, in the "Bible in Spain" from one of Leyden's ballads, termed by Borrow "the noblest which the land of heather has produced"—Leyden had a passion, and a remarkable aptitude, for the acquisition of languages; he was, moreover, keenly interested in the ballad literature of Scotland, and his knowledge in this department he placed at the service of Scott when the latter was collecting materials for the "Border Minstrelsy." Leyden's name occurs frequently in Lockhart's Life of Sir Walter, where there are several amusing references to his encounters with Ritson, an antiquarian of some ability, but a man of very uncertain temper.

Does anyone ever read Ben Jonson nowadays? If so, how comes it about that his anticipation of submarines has escaped notice? In his curious allegorical play "The Staple of News," the following report is coined in the offices of the *Staple* for the benefit of speculators:

THOM.—They write here one Cornelius's Son,
  Hath made the Hollanders an invisible eel,
  To swim the haven at Dunkirk and sink all
  The shipping there.
PENNY-BOY, JUNR.—But how is 't done?
CYMBAL.—I'll show you, sir,
  It is an Automa, runs under water.
  With a snug nose and has a nimble tail
  Made like an augre (auger) with which tail
    she wriggles
  Betwixt the casts (ribs) of a ship and sinks it
    straight.
P. JUNR.—A most brave device
  To murder their flat bottoms.

Whether or no Ben Johnson had any notion fo submarine navigation in his mind, the passage is interesting and worthy to be set beside Shakespeare's forcast of the electric wire.

It is nearly five centuries—a quarter of a century after the death of Chaucer—since the first Guildhall Library found its home, through the liberality of Sir Richard Whittington and William Bury, on a site adjoining the Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen and All Saints at the Guildhall. Mr. Charles Welch, the present librarian, tells the story in the *Library*. The earliest librarian of whom any record exists was John Clipstone, priest. The library attracted many gifts, and had a flourishing existence for 129 years, when it fell a prey to the rapacity of the notorious Duke of Somerset. The books were sent for by this "nobleman" with a promise that they would be restored shortly, but they were never returned. Had the first Guildhall Library continued its existence to the present day it would have been not only the oldest but probably, Mr. Welch says, the richest and most extensive in England. Of the priceless manuscripts and early printed books which it contained not one volume is known to be preserved, not even a catalogue which might give a clue to a successful search. Since, however, John Clipstone and his priestly successors doubtless took care to inscribe every volume with the name of the library, there is, Mr. Welch thinks, room for hope that some may yet be discovered, possibly among the manuscript stores of some other library. It was not till 1824 that the library was re-established.

Mr. Robert Machray, in the March *Pall Mall Magazine*, gives an interesting peep into Mr. Balfour's library at Whittingehame:

It overflows with books; the walls are lined with them; tables are heaped with them. Mr. Balfour once said, "I am never tempted to regret that Gutenberg was born," and by acquiring books acts up to what he has said—Whittingehame is ful of them. On the right of the fireplace is Mr. Balfour's chair. . . . Within easy reach of his hand is a fine edition of Rudyard Kipling, above it another shelf on which is an equally fine edition of Robert Louis Stevenson. . . Above the Stevenson shelf is another filled with books of different calibre—"serious" books. Above that again are editions of Balzac and Sainte-Beuve. With the exception of three or four shelves devoted to the poets, nearly all the other books in the study, and there are hundreds of these volumes, are of a "serious" character, being on philosophy, science, religion and other grave and lofty subjects.

After books, the most prominent object in Mr. Balfour's study is a grand piano. He has also a similar instrument in his room at Downing-street.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China 1	Th. April 9
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 2	Th. April 9
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru 3	F. April 10
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Kiautschou 4	Sa. April 11
Europe	M. M. Co.	Yarra 5	W. April 15
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Pleiades 6	W. April 15
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 7	W. April 15
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	F. April 17
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	M. April 20
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar 8	Tu. April 21
America	P. M. Co	Korea 9	Th. April 23
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. April 27
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. April 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. May 3

1 Left Hongkong on the 1st inst.
2 Left Kobe on the 8th inst.
3 Left Seattle on the 24th ult.
4 Left Nagasaki on the 5th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 7th inst.
6 Left Tacoma on the 26th ult.
7 Left San Francisco on the 27th ult.
8 Left Vancouver on the 4th inst.
9 Left San Francisco on the 4th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. April 10
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. April 11
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. April 11
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. April 16
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Th. April 16
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. April 17
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Kiautschou	Sa. April 18
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hitachi Maru	Sa. April 18
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Sa. April 18
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. April 18
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru	Tu. April 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	W. April 22
Europe	M. M. Co.	Yarra	F. April 24
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	F. April 24
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. April 27
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia	W. April 29
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. May 7

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, R. Keable, 3rd April—London via ports, and Kobe, 2nd April, General.—Cornes & Co.

Glenfarg, British steamer, 2,350, Holman, 3rd April, —London via ports, and Kobe, 1st April, General. —Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Askold, Russian cruiser, 6,000, Reitzenstein, 3rd April.—Port Arthur.

Saphie Rickmers, German steamer, 2,262, H. Hape, 4th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—Raspe & Co.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, L. Dawson, 4th April,—Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fushiki Maru, Japanees steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 4th April,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 4th April,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kinross, British ship, 1,309, H. W. Campling, 5th April,—Tacoma, 10th Feb., Wheat.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,827, J. Campbell, 5th April,—Kure, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 5th April,—Kobe, 4th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 5th April,—Shanghai via ports, and Kobe, 4th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, R. Iida, 5th April,—Shanghai via ports, and Kobe, 4th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ismaila, British steamer, 3,381, A. W. Gimblett, 5th April,—Manila, 28th March, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 6th April,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 5th April, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Maria Valerie, Austrian, 2,644, C. Ballen, 6th April —Trieste via ports, and Kobe, 4th April, General. —Pollak Bros.

Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, R. N. Hill, 6th April,—New York via ports, and Kobe, 5th April, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 6th April,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 6th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Frank E. Beadnell, 6th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 19th March, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tannis, Norwegian steamer, 1,276, A. Seebery, 7th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hop Sung, British steamer, 1,115, J. M. Hay, 7th April,—Saigon, Rice.—Raspe & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 7th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881, J. B. McMillan, 7th April,—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 8th April,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Itola, British steamer, 3,262, W. Robertson, 2nd, April,—Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lyra, American steamer, 3,616, G. V. Williams, 3rd April,—Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Craven, 3rd Aprill —Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samue, & Co.

Glenroy, British steamer, 3,141, F. Selby, 3rd April —Muroran, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 3rd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 4th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 4th April,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,453, K. Croble, 4th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 4th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sachsen, German steamer, 3,119, W. Franke, 4th April,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,839, W. Bainbridge, 4th April,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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China, American steamer, 2,422, D. E. Friele, 4th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 4,149, E. Warrall, 5th April,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 5th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 5th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 5th April—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Velsky Kniass Alexander Mekhailovitch, Russian steamer, 1,420, Kandratieff, 5th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Sambia, German steamer, 2,377, Schmidt, 5th April, —Hamburg via ports, General—C. Illies & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, S. Yamamoto, 6th April,—Otaru via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Askold, Russian cruiser, 6,000, Reitzenstein, 6th April,—Kobe.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 6th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Glenfarg, British steamer, 2,350, Hollman, 6th April, —Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,450, S. Dawson, 6th April,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hansa (20 guns), German cruiser, 6,000, Capt. van Semmern, 6th April,—Kobe.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, F. E. Beadnell, 7th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 7th April,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 7th April,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 7th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 7th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer 2,035, J. Nagao, 7th April,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 7th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 7th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 692, Y. Kamoshita, 7th April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orissa, British steamer, 3,528, W. W. Tucker, 7th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Chinkiang, British steamer, 1,229, Wm. D. Brymer, 7th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.

Amphitrite, British cruiser, 11,500, Capt. Windham, 7th April,—Honolulu.

Marea Valerie, Austrian steamer, 2,644, C. Bellen, 8th April,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, R. Iida, 8th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Montaron, Mrs. Pockwood, Mrs. Wilson and child, Mrs. C. Willis, Mrs. Glennon, Miss Glennon, Masters Glennon (3), Mr. W. R. Baillie, Miss A. L. Squire, Miss A. Stoon, Dr. R. J. Stoon, Mr. N. S. Percival, Miss Percival, Mrs. J. B. Clement, Mrs. Y. Washington and infant, Miss Murray, Mr. Hirano, and Mr. Fukushima, in cabin; Mr. Yamaguchi, and 4 Chinese, in second class; 4 Japanese, and 1 Chinese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. C. L. Parker, Mr. E. H. Kofod, Mr. D. W. Ecknan, Mr. G. W. Harkman, and Mr. S. Uyeda, in cabin; Mr. I. McGrath, Mr. E. Karl, Mr. Sugita, Mr. Alfred W. Talbot, Mr. Clare W. Hess, and Mr. G. J. Peters, in second class; 51 Japanese, and 131 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Satsuma Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Miss M. Hart, Mrs. S. Dutton, Mr. M. Mendelson, and 3 Japanese, in cabin; Mr. M. Namazie, and 7 Japanese, in second class; 14 Japanese, and 23 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Addis, Mr. George Clark, Mrs. Clark, Miss Cox, Mr. J. S. Ewart, Mrs. Ewart, Rev. R. C. Fillingham, Mr. Alfred Hepburn, Mr. H. Hayashi, Mrs. Hashimoto, Mr. Percy Illingsworth, Mr. Bunkio Matsuki, Mr. J. F. Moat, Mr. J. Ohki, Mr. Renton, Mr. A. B. Rex, Mr. D. C. Rutherford, Mr. F. Sallinger, Mr. T. W. Styan, Dr. H. Slade, Mr. S. Von Mumm, Mr. L. Von Guiate, Mr. L. H. Wood, Mr. M. Wake, Mr. W. Walford, Mr. H. Whistler, and Mr. S. Weiss, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. T. Bigelow, Mr. H. R. Barnard, Mr. J. L. Brett, Mrs. J. L. Brett, Mr. C. W. Clifton, Mr. A. Corbin, Mrs. A. Corbin, Surgeon O. Diehl, Mr. Jas. Mulhall, Mr. H. G. Ponting, Dr. A. T. Post, Mrs. A. T. Post and infant, Mr. H. S. Potter, Mrs. H. S. Potter, Mr. Harold S. Rankine, Miss M. Simpson, Mrs. A. N. Stanley, Miss G. M. Wetmore, Miss L. A. Wetmore, Miss K. M. Ball, Bishop S. C. Partridge, Mrs. S. C. Patridge, Miss B. Runkle, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr. R. A. George, Mrs. R. A. George, Mr. Jas. H. Robinson, Mrs. Jas. H. Robinson, Comte M. de Peringy, Mr. W. D. Card and wife, Mr. F. B. Cleland, Dr. L. M. Lane, and Mrs. P. P. Lane, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. A. M. Hellyer, Mrs A. T. Hellyer, Mr. W. J. Scroth, and Mr. E. Thomas, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. G. Gale, Mr. J. W. Harding, Mr. J. Liddell, and Mrs. J. Liddell, four children, maid servant, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. L. Barkan, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. W. C. Bunner, Mrs. W. C. Bunner, Mr. John Derby, Mr. T. F. Hough, Mrs. L. Johnston, Mr. H. B. Jones, Mrs. A. Lynn, Mr. J. F. Van Benthem van den Bergh, Mr. Spencer Shelley, and Mr. L. Chen Hay, in cabin.

Per Austrian steamer *Maria Valerie*, from Trieste via ports:—Mrs. A. Hermann, Mr. E. Ebbeke, and Dr. F. Vorcolk, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Sachsen*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. Kirdorf, Dr. Josef Kochenburger, Capt. Zur See Behr, Mr. Charles Lund, Sir Lionel Cox, Lady Cox and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Russell, Mr. Louis G. Hqwe, Mr. A. W. Snowman, Mr. de Ryke, Mrs. E. Ray 2 children and native amah, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pescio, Mr. E. Coutts, Count Yanagisawa, Masters Yanagisawa (3), Misses Yanagisawa (3), Mr. Schima, Dr. Conami, Mr. V. Heller, Mr. G. Erich, Miss Gertrude S. Bigelow, Mr. Wuestenhagen, Mr. San Jo, and Mr. L. Lun Toi, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Inaba Maru*, for London via ports:—Mrs. and Miss Unosawa, Lieut.-General T. Kuroki, Fleet Paymaster K. Sakura, Mrs. Sakura, Mrs. H. Sakura, Mrs. S. Sufu, Miss C. Sufu, Mr. and Mrs. I. Kabayama, 2 children and nurse, Mr. I. Ishiguro, Mr. C. H. Thorn, Mr. M. Mizuhara, Mr. F. Hibiya, Mr. J. A. Brown, Mr. D. Burns, and Miss Burns, in cabin; Mr. J. F. Abbott, Mr. S. Kurobe, Mr. K. Takemasa, Mr. M. Shy, Mr. K. Sho, Mr. H. Sho, Mr. M. Sho, Mr. T. Kokubo, Mr. N. Ikeda, Mr. N. Sakurai, Mr. K. Okada, Mr. K. Unozawa, Mr. Matsuda, Mr. K. Minagawa, Mrs. and Miss Minagawa, Mr. Alfred Rustad, Mr. K. Hara, Mr. Y. Norikawa, Mr. T. Otsuka, and Mr. H. Nomura, in second class; 25, in steerage.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. S. C. Ainsworth, Capt. B. Blanke, Mr. Jas. Buchanan, Mrs. Jas. Buchanan, Mr. W. von Bunsen, Mr. T. Collier, Miss Collier, Mr. J. C. Coutler, Mr. L. de Davydof, Mr. E. J. Donaldson, Mrs. E. J. Donaldson and child, Miss Donaldson, Mr. A. M. Easton, Mrs. A. M. Easton and maid, Mrs. N. E. Gedge, Dr. R. H. Graves, Mrs. R. H. Graves, Master Felix Green, Miss E. Gregory, Rev. A. K. Gurney, Mrs. A. K. Gurney, Mr. E. L. Halliwell, Capt. E. F. Hood, Mr. T. C. Johnson, Mr. C. E. von Jungenfeld, Mrs. J. G. Kerr, Baron Korff, Rev. M. B. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. M. B. Kirkpatrick, Mr. L. Koehnburger, Miss Josephine Larkine, Mr. B. Lohse, Mr. P. C. Macfarlane, Mr. A. Menjinsky, Miss E. M. Mitchell, Mr. F. Nabholz, Col. C. W. Napier-Clavering, Mr. F. H. Nelson, Mr. H. G. Plagemann, Mr. Henry Reissmann, Mr. C. A. Reynolds, Mr. G. H. Rubenstein, Mr. Geo. Buch, Mr. E. Sommer, Dr. Milan Soule, Mrs. Milan Soule, Mr. Max Spitze, Mr. C. J. Strome, Mr. C. G. Taylor, Mr. Albert Vickers and valet, Mrs. Albert Vickers and maid, Miss Vickers, Mrs. W. M. Weller, Mrs. H. T Wilgress, Master Wilgress, Mr. T. C. Wills-Sanford, and Mr. S. W. Woodruff, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. C. Anderson, Dr. L. Barken, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. L. Bruell, Mr. C. W. Brunner, Mrs. C. W. Brunner, Mr. C. B. Clausen, Mr. J. W. Copmann, Mr. J. H. Craven, Mr. P. H. Davis, Mr. Jno, Derby, Miss G. Gale, Mr. J. W. Harding, Mr. L. Chen Hay, Mr. A. T. Hellyer, Mrs. A. T. Hellyer-Mr. T. F. Hough, Mr. R. Howard, Mrs. R. Howard, Mrs. L. Johnston, Mr. H. B. Jones, Mr. A. M. Kayser, Mr. H. E. Knapp, Mrs. H. E. Knapp, Mr. F. Kuhnmel, Mr. J. Liddell and servant, Mrs. J. Liddell, children and maid, Mrs. A. Lynn, Mr. E. H. R. Ma[illegible] Mr. T. von Saldern, Mr. R. H. Sawyer, Mrs. [illegible] Sawyer, Mr. W. Schopflocher, Mr. W. J. Schroth, Mr. Spencer Shelley, Mr. T. Thomas, and Mr. L. F. Van Benthem Van den Bergh, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A very small business in these branches of the import trade. No change to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	V. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	V. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.30

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	V. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

Small business passing and no change.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅜ inch and upward...	V. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron...	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅛ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

Again a quiet market to report.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

No change.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	V. 5.70 to 6.00
Brown Manila...	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang...	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Small business during the week at declining prices. We give fresh quotations but these will probably be lowered in the near future. Spring Reelings are now coming in and stock increasing.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y.	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—Extra, Fine...		—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse		1,030 to 1,040
Filatures—No. 1, Fine...		—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		990 to 1,000
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine		1,000 to 1,040
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		970 to 980
Filatures—No. 2, Fine...		970 to 980
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse		—
Common—Coarse		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1½		—
Re-reels—No. 2		—
Re-reels—No. 3		—
Kakedas—Extra		980 to 990
Kakedas—No. 1		950 to 960
Kakedas—No. 1½...		920 to 930
Kakedas—No. 2		890 to 900
Kakedas—No. 2½...		860 to 870

WASTE SILK.

Some small supplies have appeared on the market and a little business is doing at easy prices.

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QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatuzes, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Filatures, Good	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Sample parcels are coming in but the market has not yet opened.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 8.

London silver and China sterling quotations are reported to have undergone no change and local rates keep steady.

London—Bank T.T. ...	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand ...	2/0 7/16
— — 4 months' sight ...	2/0⅜
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/0⅜
— — 6 months' sight ...	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight ...	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight ...	260½
— — 6 months' sight ...	262
Hongkong—Bank sight ... per $100.	79¾*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	78¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight ...	92¾*
— Private 10 days' sight ...	94¾*
India—Bank sight ...	152
— Private 30 days' sight ...	155
America—Bank sight ...	49⅝ @ ¾
— Private 30 days' sigh ...	50¾
— Private 4 months' sight ...	51 @ ¼
Germany—Bank sight ...	208
— Private 4 months' sight ...	213½
Bar Silver (London) ...	22 11/16

* Nominal.

TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 8.

Yesterday's total transactions were 6,590 shares.

MORNING. April.	MORNING. May.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. April.	AFTERNOON. May.
—	—	Nippon Railway ...	—	—
—	—	Nippon R'way, 3rd.	—	—
63.00	63.50	Sanyo Railway ...	—	—
46.95	47.00	Kansai Railway ...	46.50	46.80
60.80	61.00	Kiushiu Railway ...	60.70	61.00
80.80	81.60	Tanko Railway...	80.65	81.25
—	—	Tanko R'way, new..	—	—
—	—	Tobu Railway ...	—	—
61.90	61.35	Sobu Railway ...	—	61.35
—	—	Boso Railway ...	—	—
—	—	Narita Railway ...	—	—
—	—	Narita R'way, new..	—	—
—	—	Kioto Railway ...	—	—
—	—	Hokuyetsu Railway.	—	—
—	—	Hankaku Railway..	—	—
—	—	Tokio Electric Car...	—	—
92.00	92.85	Tokio Ele. Car, new	92.15	92.90
37.50	37.75	Tokio Electric Ra'y.	37.50	63.05
47.50	47.75	Tokio Street R'way.	47.65	48.50
86.60	84.30	Nippon Yusen ...	86.50	84.15
34.10	34.40	Toyo Kisen ...	34.25	34.55
—	—	Osaka Shosen ...	—	—
—	—	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins. ...	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co. ...	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Electric Light	—	—
—	48.30	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	—
44.40	44.80	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	44.45	44.95
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer ...	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new ...	—	—
—	—	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
187.30	188.60	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	186.70	188.40

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Bathe the affected parts with hot water and CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin and scalp of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply CUTICURA OINTMENT freely to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS, to cool and cleanse the blood. This pure, sweet, and wholesome treatment affords instant relief, permits rest and sleep, and points to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, and scaly skin, scalp, and blood humours, eczemas, rashes, and irritations, from infancy to age, with loss of hair, when all else fails.

MILLIONS USE CUTICURA SOAP

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itchings, and chafings, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. Millions of Women use CUTICURA SOAP in the form of baths for annoying irritations, inflammations, and excoriations, for too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, especially mothers.

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Are a new, tasteless, odourless, economical substitute for the celebrated liquid CUTICURA RESOLVENT, as well as for all other blood purifiers and humour cures. Put up in screw-cap pocket vials containing 60 doses. CUTICURA PILLS are alterative, antiseptic, tonic, and digestive, and beyond question the purest, sweetest, most successful and economical blood and skin purifiers, humour cures, and tonic-digestives, yet compounded.

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Champagne.

J. Witkowski & Co.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR JAPAN.
Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M. 1y.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA [illegible]

For Shimbashi—5.30, 6, 6.3[illegible] (express), 8.20, 9, 9.40, 10.10 [illegible] a.m., 1.20, 1.20, 1.50, 2.30 [illegible] 4.30 (express), 5.40, 6, [illegible]25, 8.25, 9.10, 9.50, 10.40, and 11.20 p.m.

BOVRIL AT THE FRONT.

Bovril has played such a conspicuous part in South Africa that it forms no inconsiderable feature of the story. The *Lancet* has had frequent references to Bovril in the reports of the officers of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Nearly every newspaper correspondent has had to refer to Bovril to make his story complete Rudyard Kipling and Baden-Powell have written their Bovril stories. Over 500 British hospitals and similar public institutions use and prescribe Bovril, not beef tea, but Bovril.

The reason is not far to seek. Bovril is a nourisher as well as a stimulant. It contains the albumen and fibrine, the sustaining properties of the beef. It is this fact, together with its absolute purity, that commends Bovril to physicians and scientists, and proves in practice what it demonstrates in analysis.

Yokohama Charity Organization.

CLOTHING for the Poor is constantly in demand, and may be sent to any member of the Committee, or to the Hon. Secretary, to whom all APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF should be referred. The names of New Subscribers will be at all times gladly received by Messrs. JAMES DODDS, J. C. HARTLAND, B. C. HOWARD, JAMES MARTIN, C. V. SALE and M. SURTH.

REV. W. P. G. FIELD,
Hon. Secretary,
No. 234-A, Bluff.
Yokohama, November 12th, 1902.

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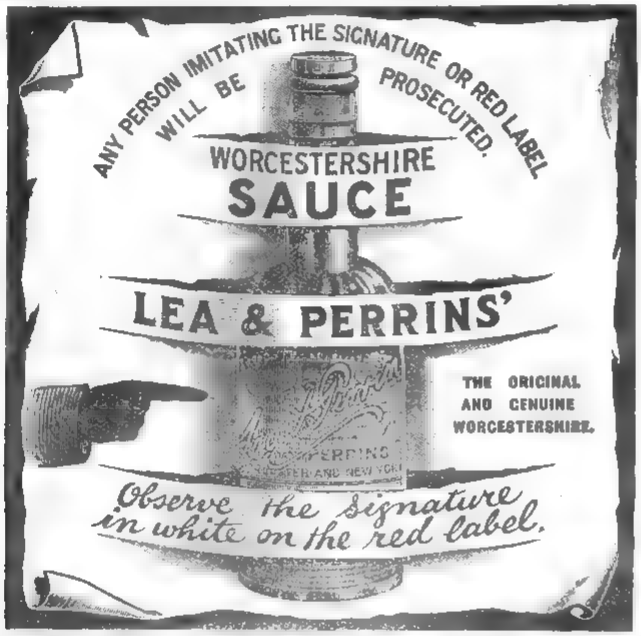
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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A MURDERER who had been sentenced to death was executed on April 11th at the Nagoya jail.

THE monthly regular service between Kobe and Taku, has been opened by the Osaka Commercial Steamship Company.

KOREAN emigrants to the number of over 120 arrived at Nagasaki on April 13th from Chemulpo *en route* to America.

THE 3rd battalion of the 38th Regiment, 4th Division, will leave on May 4th for Korea to take the place of the present guard.

FROST prevailed in Kyoto and on Fukuchi-yama on the morning of April 13th. Severe damage was caused to the tea and mulberry leaves.

A STEWARD named T. Tatsukawa (56), of Prince Tokugawa's household, committed suicide by cutting his throat with a sword on April 15th.

THE Central Tea Guild will establish an office in New York on May 1st and open business with tea consigned from Japanese tea manufacturers.

IT is stated on reliable authority that the Superior of the Trappists has announced to the Pope that Andre Giron, the tutor who eloped with the former Crown Princess of Saxony, has entered the Trappist Community.

Two members of the staff of the Onomichi *Jitsugyo Shimbun* were arrested on April 15th on a charge of having insulted Government officials.

S. YOSHIKAWA (26) while working on the roof of the Methodist Church in Ashibiki-cho, Yokohama, on April 15th, fell to the ground and was killed.

A MAN named H. Tomoe, who murdered three policemen at the Choja Coal Mine, Saga Prefecture was arrested, on April 9th, in the same prefecture.

THE Nippon Fire Insurance Company, Osaka, held a general meeting on April 13th and decided to pay a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum.

MR. H. ABE, a prominent rice dealer in Tokyo and others have established a kerosine oil well company, with a capital of *yen* 1,500,000, at Niitsu, in Niigata prefecture.

AN old woman named Mume (69), Matsukura-cho, Honjo, Tokyo, committed suicide by hanging herself on the morning of April 13th. The cause is alleged to be insanity.

THE President of the Amakusa Bank, Kumamoto Prefecture, was arrested on April 14th on a charge of having forged documents amounting in value to *yen* 40,000.

IN the morning of April 14th, frost occurred in Sugita and the surrounding localities of Saitama prefecture. It is stated that damage was caused to the mulberry leaves.

H. KUBO, a prominent and wealthy farmer living in Honmoku, Yokohama, was arrested on April 13th on a charge of having assaulted and injured one of his friends.

AN incendiary named K. Takayama (18), who set fire to the shop of a *sake* dealer in Sueyoshi-cho, Yokohama, on March 27th, was arrested by the Isezakicho police on April 13th.

THE headman and three others of Kawatori village in Saitama Prefecture were arrested on April 9th on a charge of having embezzelled money belonging to the village office.

T. OKUMA, an official of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, who had been arrested in connexion with the scandal in that department, was released on bail of *yen* 150 on April 14th.

IT is stated that an insect pest has appeared in the wheat fields of Naka-Mikawa, Toyama prefecture, where the crop last year was very scanty, which led to much distress. The scourge is likely to spread.

A CIVIL engineer named T. Nomura (34) of Saitama prefecture, was arrested, on April 14th on suspicion of having received a bribe from two contractors engaged on the water works in Urawa.

A CARPENTER named S. Sato (27) and a woman of the town named Koto (27) both living in Yokosuka, committed suicide by drinking a quantity of poison on April 13th. The cause is said to have been money troubles.

THE Czar has conferred on Mr. Sufu, Governor of this prefecture, the 1st Order of Saint Stanislaus; on Mr. Rinoiye, Governor of Toyama prefecture, the 2nd Order of Saint Stanislaus; and on Mr. Iura, official of the Yokohama Harbour Office, and Mr. Egi, Councillor of the Legislative Bureau, the 3rd Order of St. Anne.

THE authorities of the Tokyo District Court searched the dwellings of S. Yeidzuka, Kakigara-cho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, and two others, on April 14 for evidence of a charge that they had forged a bicycle trade mark.

A TRAIN on the Nippon Railway, which left Uyeno, on April 13th at 9.20 a.m. for Awomori, took fire before arrival at Oushita. Eighteen bags of letters were destroyed. A broken lamp was the cause of the disaster.

H. YAMAMOTO, barrister, Akita prefecture, who was charged with fraud, was sentenced to 10 months' imprisonment with hard labour, a fine of *yen* 20, and 6 months' police surveillance, in the Akita District Court on April 14th.

MR. K. KAGAMI, president of the Kofu Bank, who was charged with the forgery of certain share certificates, was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment with hard labour and 6 months' police surveillance, in the Tokyo Court of Cassation on April 15th.

A WOMAN named Sano Yone, living at Horiuchi village, Yamagata prefecture, murdered her child, two years old, on April 8th and committed suicide by drowning herself in the Mogami river. The cause of the crime is not known.

Two men named G. Nishikawa (56) and K. Kawara (42) were arrested, on April 3rd, in Kyoto by Maidzuru police officers on a charge of having forged Russian paper notes since the middle of February this year. The notes not yet disposed of were confiscated by the police.

THE dead body of a child about a month old was found in a passenger carriage of a train, at Nagoya station on April 14th. Its throat was encircled by a cord and the body was enclosed in a blanket. It is believed that the infant was murdered.

A COLLISION is reported between over 150 coolies of the Hakata-wan Railway Company who were engaged in the construction of the railway, and about 100 miners of the Nakaharu Coal Mine, in Fukuoka prefecture. Many on both sides received injuries.

REAR-ADMIRAL the Hon. H. Lambton, who did such signal service with the naval guns during the siege of Ladysmith, when captain of the *Powerful*, has been appointed second in command of the Channel Squadron, under Lord Charles Beresford, and enters upon his duties in June.

IT is reported that the two cruisers *Niitaka* and *Tsushima*, now under construction at the Yokosuka and Kure Dock Yards respectively, will be completed and launched in December. The construction of the cruiser *Otowa* will be finished before October next year.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha sent an official to Yokosuka on Tuesday who is reported to have photographed the tomb of William Adams at Hemi, in order, it is said, that the Japan Society in London may erect a monument of the same kind as that at Yokosuka in honour of the English pilot, at his native place near Chatham, England.

THE Yokohama City Assembly decided on April 13th, to raise a city loan amounting to *yen* 556,650 at a price of not less than *yen* 94 per *yen* 100. A part of the loan, *yen* 309,800 will be used in the establishment of high elementary schools, while the remaining amount will go to redeem various old loans.

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CHINA.

April 10th.

It is stated that the Chinese Foreign Office took a very effective method of averting the attendance of foreign officers at the Paoting review: it informed the Foreign Legations that there would not be any review. The question thus arises, was there a review, properly so called, or did their Majesties merely take the opportunity of their presence in Paoting to inspect the troops that the Viceroy of Chili has within easy mobilization distance of that city? We imagine that the latter is the true version and that the newsmonger, not the Chinese Foreign Office, has been misrepresenting facts.

It is stated by the Peking correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* that the Syndicate which has obtained the concession for the Shanghai-Nanking Railway has arranged to raise a sum of 3¼ millions sterling at 5 per cent. in England, the selling price to be £90 per £100 bond. Although the agreement with this Syndicate was signed some time ago by Viceroy Chang and Mr. Sheng, a delay occurred owing to some proposals in connexion with the supply of materials. It was expected that final consent would be given on the return of the Imperial Court from the Western Tombs. The Shanghai-Woosung line is to be incorporated with this new road.

Under the heading of "manufacture of a pretext for deferring evacuation," the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent says that in connexion with an allegation that forests rented by Russian subjects along the head-waters of the Yalu have been fired by Japanese incendiaries, Russia is about to send 1,000 soldiers thither from Port Arthur. Her original intention was to despatch them over-sea by an English steamer, but as the British authorities withheld their consent, it became necessary to send the force by land and it was then increased by 600 men. The correspondent judiciously remarks that he does not vouch for the truth of this rumour. We should think not indeed. The notion of sending troops overland from Port Arthur to the head-waters of the Yalu is magnificent. It would be a species of *anabasis*. And we were assured the other day that Russia has amassed some two thousand men at Feng-hwang, which is hundreds of miles nearer the alleged scene of incendiarism. All this apart from the question that it is to Japan Russia would address herself in such a case. These are bad times for Russia's reputation.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Peking correspondent, on the other hand, telegraphs that the representative of a certain Power addressed a question to Prince Ching on the 7th instant as to the progress of the evacuation. The Prince replied that he was not in a position to give exact information, as he awaited an official report from the Military Governor of the Three Provinces, which report would probably arrive on the 9th instant, but in the meanwhile he entertained no doubt of Russia's intention to faithfully implement her promise.

A telegram from another quarter, the *Chiuo Shimbun's* Newchwang correspondent, briefly conveys a disquieting piece of intelligence, namely, that so far from withdrawing her troops, Russia is actually increasing their number. The same correspondent alleges in the same context, though the juxtaposition is not necessarily intentional, that the Russian authorities are making arrangements through Mr. Ginsburg for the purchase of 15,000 tons of Cardiff coal and 30,000 lbs. of bread. That is a poor little scrap of fringe to tack on to the former assertion.

We are not surprised to learn from the *Asahi's* correspondent that the Governments of Great Britain, the United States and Japan have determined to send special delegates to Manchuria for the purpose of ascertaining the actual state of affairs there. To which news is added a rider, namely, that the Chinese Court is so engrossed with its visit to the Western Tombs as to be quite indifferent to the evacuation question. Such tales would suggest themselves to any correspondent of ordinarily inventive faculties or every-day credulity. But we entertain not the smallest doubt that the Governments in Washington, Tokyo and London know exactly what is going on in Manchuria, and above all that Russia does not move a corporal's squadron without attracting the observation of Japan. Because items of official information are not shouted from the house-top, official ignorance must not be assumed.

Professor Takahashi, one of the most eminent of Japan's international jurists, delivers through the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* his opinion on this great question which constitutes such a menace to the peace of the East. He condemns alike the views of those that advocate an agreement to exchange Korea for Manchuria and the views of those that recommend war. Suppose Russia seated in Manchuria, then the independence of Korea could not be preserved, and suppose her seated in Korea, then Kiushiu would be menaced. As for war, that is the last argument: everything short of it must be tried first. What then does Mr. Takahashi recommend? Briefly this, that Manchuria should be converted into a buffer state, and that if Russia does not withdraw her troops, then Japan also should post soldiers there. In short, he would have a joint occupation. He adduces from European annals various precedents for such a course, and he concludes by saying that, in any circumstances, Manchuria should be declared neutral territory.

The *Asahi Shimbun* makes an excellent suggestion It is that Japan should take advantage of the revision of her commercial treaty with China to demand the opening of new ports in Manchuria. The places recommended by our contemporary are Tung-Kiang, on the head-waters of the river Liao, Ta-tung at the mouth of the Yalu, and some place not named higher up the latter river. The *Asahi* says that what Hangkow is to Shanghai, Tung-Kiang is to Newchwang, and it dwells upon the growing importance of Manchurian trade to Japan. It appears to us that the only feasible and peaceful course is of the nature of the *Asahi's* suggestion.

It is affirmed that Shêng had audience with the Emperor and Empress on the occasion of the visit to the Western Tombs, and that he has been re-instated in his former position of commissioner for the revision of the commercial treaties.

April 11th.

On the morning of the 11th instant the *Jiji Shimpo* published an alarmist telegram from Peking which said that the Russian troops which should have been recalled during the period ended the 8th instant, were merely moved partially and temporarily, to be restored to their old posts immediately after; that the Newchwang force was withdrawn to a distance of about one *ri*, and further, that it is mainly engaged in making preparations for war; that the movements of Russian ships-of-war in the Gulf of Pechili are causing much uneasiness, and that public opinion is beginning to be greatly disturbed. The *Jiji's* correspondent adds that this intelligence has frequently been received in Peking during the past few days and that messages are being constantly sent across the wires between the Chinese Foreign Office and the Court at Paoting.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Peking correspondent also telegraphs under date of the 10th instant that there is not the slighest appearance of the Russians' restoring Newchwang; and that according to intelligence received on the 9th from Liao-tung, Russia shows no disposition to withdraw her troops from Mukden, Liaoyang, Haiting or Fenhwang-ting.

The *Shogyo Shimpo's* correspondent in Newchwang telegraphs on the evening of the 9th from Newchwang that the sum of three million taels in hard money has been forwarded from the local branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank to Port Arthur, in accordance, it is said, with instructions from the Russian Government. From Nagasaki also the same paper publishes a statement that the Russians are busily buying up coal at that place, but inasmuch as the particular quantity mentioned as having been already acquired is only the formidable amount of a thousand tons, this tale seems too hysterical.

The cable between Newchwang and Chefoo has ceased to operate, and strong suspicions are expressed in some quarters that its disablement is intentional and that Russia is responsible. The *Jiji Shimpo*, summing up the situation, observes that the complete failure to withdraw any of the troops which should have been withdrawn, the purchase of supplies of bread and coal—it will be remembered that our contemporary's information points to 15,000 tons of Cardiff coal—, the interruption of cable communications and the general action of Russia, seem to indicate her intention of testing how far she can go with impunity; that, in short, all these things constitute a pilot balloon. On the other hand, the only facts which can be set down with confidence are that no attempt has been made to withdraw the Russian forces from Newchwang and that troops are being massed in the neighbourhood of the railway lines.

One of the strangest of the telegrams inspired by this crisis reaches the *Asahi* from its Tientsin correspondent under date of the 10th instant. It says that 900 of the Russian troops in Mukden actually marched to the railway station on the 3rd instant and had been entrained, when a sudden telegram from Port Arthur forbade their departure, and they had to be marched back to their former barracks amid great confusion.

Another telegram to the *Asahi* says that Prince Ching wired to Wang Wen-shao, who is with the Court at Paoting, that he, Prince Ching, desired to proceed at once to Paoting in order to consult their Majesties on most important business.

Such are the materials with which, up to the 11th instant, the Japanese public was invited to feed its appetite. What seems to emerge clearly is that Russia has allowed the second evacuation period to go by with-

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out taking any practical steps to implement her promise. Doubtless she has her own reasons, and possibly the chief of them may be that apprehensions of an imminent renewal of disturbances in China render it unwise to denude her railways of the completest protection available. We shall not be surprised should theories presently begin to obtain vogue that the rumours so busily circulated within the past few months, pointing to a recrudescence of Boxer troubles in the spring, emanated ostensibly from Szchuan but had their prime source in St. Petersburg.

April 12th.

The overland telegraph between Newchwang and Peking has now been interrupted, and as the cable from Newchwang to Chefoo has already been declared unworkable, all telegraphic news of Russia's doings in Manchuria may be said to be at an end for the moment. Further, according to intelligence received by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the cable from Port Arthur to Wei-hai-wai is also out of order. The public will inevitably attribute these somewhat remarkable coincidences of mishaps to an agency not purely accidental, and the event will consequently be construed as an indication of what might be expected were Russia's control in Manchuria to become assured.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent wires that although China seems to be treating the Manchurian question in a nonchalant manner, the other Powers are taking a very active interest in it. Prince Ching has gone to Paoting, and his journey is of course interpreted as having for object the submitting of a Manchurian report to the Court.

From the same correspondent we learn that although Russia publicly announces her readiness to hand over Newchwang immediately on the arrival of Chinese commissioners authorized to take delivery, she is in reality detaining the commissioners in Mukden, and thus rendering it impossible for than to perform their part in the rendition.

Another correspondent (the *Jiji's*) says that the Russian troops have not yet received from St. Petersburg orders to retire, and that as they have been posted in Manchuria for a long time, preparations for withdrawal can not be completed in a moment. They nevertheless expect to evacuate the place in a short time. On the other hand, it is vaguely added that Russia is pursuing a policy of armed demonstration in order to discount the results of retirement, her apprehension being that after she evacuates Manchuria the influence of a certain third Power—Japan, of course—will be largely increased there.

In the midst of all these rumours comes a positive but exasperatingly brief statement from the *Kokumin Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, who says that the second-period evacuation has been actually completed as originally planned.

Vis-à-vis this item of intelligence may be fitly placed a statement which the *Asahi* progresses to have obtained from a trustworthy source in Manchuria, to the effect that although ostensible steps of evacuation have been taken, nothing of that kind has been really done. The method pursued has been merely to change the garb of many of the troops from a military to a civilian type, and to distribute throughout the railway regions the soldiers thus disguised.

Two events are said to have complicated the situation. One is the visit of Viscount Aoki to Peking. The correspondence of the two leading Tokyo journals from that city indicates that Russian diplomacy connects the Viscount's journey with international politics, and that he is carefully "shadowed." The other event is the naval manœuvres in the sea of Korea. Some persons are disposed to regard this as a warlike demonstration on Japan's part.

We have thought it well to place before our readers the various reports published in Tokyo with regard to this important question —truly important, for on its solution may be said to depend the preservation of peace in the East. It can scarcely be doubted, in the face of so much evidence, that Russia has not carried out the promised measures of second-period evacuation, but there is as yet no possibility of knowing whether the delay is merely accidental, or whether it is due to some temporarily effective cause, or whether it is an expression of deliberate policy. The last view is scarcely tenable, we think, and as between the two first, it is useless to speculate without some guiding facts. Only two Tokyo newspapers have discussed the question thus far, and when we say that they are the *Yamiuri* and the *Nippon*, the degree of their influence and the tone of their writing will be at once appreciated. The *Nippon*, after various remarks of a more or less chauvinistic nature, justy observes that, whatever be the nature of the preliminaries, the only question for final considerations will be whether Russia intends to implement or to disregard her treaty obligations. The *Yamiuri* declares that the great Northern Power's perpetual policy is one of "trying it on," and that although she suffers some rebuffs, she makes many lucky hits, whereas Japan, timid and vacillating, showing neither her teeth nor her tail, and never essaying to snatch success from amid the chances of failure, gets invariably "left."

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has interviewed an official of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and has naturally been reminded of the fact patent to every level-headed observer, that at a season like this, the tongue of rumour must be expected to wag pretty freely, and its utterances must be correspondingly discounted. As for the talk of Russia laying in supplies of coal, she has been doing that since last November, and concerning her alleged purchase of 3 million lbs. of bread—our readers will observe that in three days this figure has grown from thirty thousand to three millions— it is probably a big story with a small kernel. The gist of this official's remarks is that while the situation may at any moment become disquieting, it can not yet be said to have assumed such a character.

There is a report that disturbances have broken out it two places in Honan, the people being excited about the heavy taxes levied by the local officials. It is added that the Peking Syndicate having moved the British Legation, and the latter having approached the Wai-wu-pu, orders have been sent to Honan for the speedy quelling of the *emeute*. One imagines that such orders might have been issued without so roundabout a course of preliminaries.

April 13th.

The non-evacuation of Manchuria continues to be the great topic, telegraphically and editorially, in Tokyo. Apparently, as indeed might have been expected, the Chinese Government is not found in a very vertebrate condition. Prince Ching's visit to Paoting to consult the Court is said to have resulted in an admission that China can do nothing except continue to trust Russian promises, with the reserved conviction that should they ultimately prove illusory Great Britain and Japan will not sit idle. It is agreeable to see that England and Japan are trusted to avert territorial aggression in the Far East, but as England and Japan's method of procedure would be to put China into the foreground of the protesters, this admission by the Court at Paoting lends a peculiar aspect to the situation.

From Newchwang the previous news is confirmed, namely, that the failure of the Taotai from Mukden to put in an appearance is used as a pretext for not handing over the town, whereas in truth the Taotai is detained by the Russians in Mukden.

As for the story recently circulated that a thousand Russian soldiers were to be sent overland from Port Arthur to the upper waters of the Yalu, Admiral Alexieff is now said to be opposed to such a manœuvre. We should think so. But it is added that troops from more accessible places will be concentrated in the required quarter.

Another newspaper adds its comments to those already published by the *Nippon* and the *Yomiuri*. It is the *Niroku*. It undertakes to interpret the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs as quite convinced of Russia's resolve not to evacuate, and as equally determined upon the policy to be pursued in that event. The policy is to have a limit set to Russia's railway guards; to insist on the opening of various places in Manchuria to foreign trade; to encourage Japanese emigration thither, and, if necessary, to protect the immigrants with Japanese troops. We may observe with regard to this that were it possible to credit the *Niroku's* interpretation of Baron Komura's convictions, greater interest would attach to its exposition. But we should be much surprised did the Minister endorse the *Niroku's* statement of his views. Evidently more probable is the hypothesis that he believes Russia to be showing unreadiness, due in part, perhaps, to vacillation but mainly to procrastination. The statesmen in St. Petersburg can scarcely have determined to precipitate a crisis by deliberately declining to fulfil their treaty obligations. It is conceivable that they themselves are perplexed to find how little practical faith the officers at the front have placed in the possibility of evacuation at precisely the appointed times and seasons, and how little serious effort has been made by these sceptics in Manchuria for implementing promises which their Government was not disinclined to hold sacred. It is certainly premature to make any hard-and-fast interpretation of the situation yet, but we may hazard the opinion that if Russia herself had intended to evade her obligations, she would have endeavoured to make her manner of doing so less unequivocal.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* continues its comments, but it will suffice to say that our contemporary recommends strong and resolute action, predicting that unless the complication be firmly dealt with, it will speedily assume uncontrollable dimensions.

The most interesting contribution to the discussion is that of Mr. Ozaki Yukio, published in the *Jimmin*. He takes his old ground. These troops of Russia's in Manchuria, he says, may be compared to summer flies. They come because there is

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something savoury to attract them. Brush them away, and they will collect again in even greater numbers. To remove them effectually only one course is practical, namely, to remove the source of attraction. What then is that source of attraction? It is the enterprises Russia has undertaken in Manchuria—her railways, her mines, her buildings and her colonies. So long as these are in Manchuria, her troops also will be there to protect them. It is idle to think otherwise. But no serious person contemplates the possibility of compelling Russia to abandon these enterprises. China certainly can not be made the mouthpiece of such a demand, for China has by treaty solemnly granted to Russia the concessions which form the bases of the latter's various undertakings. What then is the proper and sensible course? It is to leave Russia undisturbed in Manchuria and to obtain for Japan a compensatory extension of privileges elsewhere. There are folk that talk about Manchuria as the cradle of the Manchu Dynasty and insist on the necessity of preserving the district to China. That is China's business. No one else is bound to enter the lists for the sake of a sentiment to which she herself seems to attach so little practical importance. There are also folks who affirm that with Russia in possession of Manchuria, Japan could not be safe in Korea. That depends on the nature of Japan's foot-hold. If she be firmly established, the neighbourhood of Russia need not alarm her. It depends also upon Japan's abandonment of the unreasoning hostility to Russia that threatens to become engrained in the national character of the people. If the Japanese maintain a perpetual attitude of menace, they can not expect Russia to show a friendly face. That same criticism applies to the apprehension that if Manchuria passed into Russian hands, it would be closed to Japan's surplus population. No such closure need be feared if the two nations were friendly. Finally, Mr. Ozaki absolutely denies the possibility of getting England to shoulder this burden in common with Japan. England will not do anything of the kind.

Mr. Ozaki's language is delightfully clear and his arguments are marshalled with all his usual ability. We should like to translate his essay verbatim did we not feel that we should thus be doing a bad public service. He forgets three things, namely, that Manchuria belongs to China; that Korea belongs to the Koreans, and that Japan and England are explicitly pledged by treaty to oppose territorial aggressions against either China or Korea. How, in such circumstances, could Japan enter into a compact with Russia for the absorption of a large part of China by the latter and the whole of Korea by the former? Mr. Ozaki's words have a spurious ring of practicality. In truth, they wholly lack that quality.

According to telegraphic news received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, we gather that Washington's action with regard to the payment of the Chinese Indemnity is not unconditional. There is a proviso attached that the United States will insist on receiving gold should the other Powers decline to receive silver. The other Powers are evidently bent upon declining. Their representatives are said to have refused to append their signatures to the document proposed by the Department of State. It is obvious, of course, that America can not be expected to behave in a suicidally quixotic manner on this occasion. She is doing everything within the reach of legitimate diplomacy to save the Chinese from unexpected addition to their burden, but it would be extravagant for her to victimize herself alone if all the other signatories of the Protocol decline to take her charitable view.

The different position secured for German subjects by their officials as compared with the position enjoyed by British and American nationals, is illustrated by the following which we take from the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

Below Nanking there is a well-known cut-off, called the Straw Shoe Cut-off, which saves some thirty to thirty-five miles of distance. Owing to the damage caused by the wash, the steamer companies have been notified that their steamers must not use this cut-off; this order has been impressed on the British and Chinese steamer companies by the British Consuls and the Commissioners of Customs, and is rigorously obeyed by them; but the German steamers pay no attention whatever to the order, and regularly use the cut-off. It is a little galling to the captain of one of the China Merchants' steamers, for instance, to be told by the Commissioner of Customs that he will be fined Tls. 500 if he uses the cut-off, and then to see a couple of German steamers in it at the same time. There is, no doubt, reason in the prohibition; but it is not fair that steamers under one flag should disregard with impunity an order that is carefully observed by their competitors under other flags.

Those of our readers that have travelled by steamer on Chinese rivers know what is meant by the "wash." To those that have not so travelled, no description could convey an adequate idea.

Public attention is beginning to be more vividly attracted to Franco-Chinese relations in connexion with the rebellion in Kwangsi. The French Government is said to have informed Peking that not the smallest credence attaches to rumours recently circulated about money and arms having been supplied from French sources to the insurgents; that France has not the least intention of meddling in the business so long as her frontiers remain intact, and that if China adopts measures to speedily quell the disturbance, there need not be any apprehension whatever. This conciliatory message was sent some time ago, but since then the work of quelling the rebels has made no progress, and it is now alleged that the Governor of Kwang-si, Wang Chih-chun, finding himself in considerable straits, has appealed to the French for assistance, the result being that two French corps are to be moved against the insurgents, one overland and one by sea from Hanoi. Meanwhile the fact that M. Dubail's return to Europe on leave, which was to have taken place in April, has been postponed, is attributed by rumour to these troubles on the southern border, though M. Dubail himself associates the postponement with alleged prospects of renewed unrest in nothern China.

Seizures of arms and ammunition continue in Hongkong and Peking. Perhaps the destination of these warlike supplies would have been the *Yamên* of Wang Chih-chun himself, who, by the operation of that inexpressively unwise and futile clause in the Protocol, is now without means of quelling the insurgents for whose lawlessness his country will be held responsible.

Another story is that H. E. Wang is negotiating a loan from a foreign firm—the name reads like "Handary," in its transliterated form, but may be "Andrée"—on condition that after the subjugation of the rebels certain mining privileges will be granted to the firm in Kwang-si.

A story comes from Peking, *viâ* the *Asahi*, that Russia is pressing to procure a five-years' renewal of the veto against the importation of arms into China. The business of importation is almost entirely in German hands and the German merchants naturally find the veto very inconvenient, from a theoretical point of view. But in practice it does not appear to embarrass them much, for the Chinese Authorities connive frankly at its violation. No reason is assigned for the alleged proposal of Russia, and most persons will experience difficulty in believing it, for, whatever St. Petersburg's fancies may be, the notion of quietly and peacefully doubling the period of a penalty originally imposed on China in the sequel of a war, sounds a little too arbitrary. The whole story is probably baseless.

From time to time Tientsin correspondents of Japanese journals send to Tokyo items of intelligence about the finances in Tientsin, but the impression conveyed by these fragmentary statements is confused, and beyond the fact that the circulating media are in such a debased condition as to threaten any credulous receiver with heavy loss, no very distinct idea emerges. We gather however, from accounts published by the *Chinese Times*, that Viceroy Yuan is engaged is an attempt to struggle against the old economical truism that wherever good coins come into contact with debased, the latter will drive out the former. Last year His Excellency discovered that virtually all the good cash had been crowded out by bad coins, and that owing to the manipulations of certain speculators and bankers who cornered the whole supply of these tokens, enormous rates of interest prevailed. To meet the situation he organized an official bank, which not only imported ten thousand millions of good cash and distributed them in exchange for the debased coins in the hands of the people, but also reduced the rate of interest to a reasonable figure. The Viceroy claims that these measures were entirely successful; that public confidence was restored, and that during the last two months of 1902 and the first month of 1903, good money was plentiful and notes and drafts circulated freely. But at that stage the Viceroy allowed himself to be persuaded to close the official bank. In a document recently issued over His Excellency's signature the only reason assigned for this steps was that the native banks objected. They said that the rate charged by the official bank was injuring their interests and restricting trade. Apparently, too, the Viceroy thought that his bank had done its work and that the situation was saved. But immediately after the closure of the official bank, the good cash began to disappear from general circulation in Tientsin; payment of notes and drafts was refused or made only at crippling rates of interest, and a universal cry went up that sound money has become unprocurable. The Viceroy expresses astonishment at the melting away of his ten thousand millions of good cash and at the vanishing of all the coins struck by the mint. But there does not appear to be any cause for astonishment. Everything is possible where such tokens as cash constitute the chief medium of exchange.

The Court at Paoting did not hold the review which promised to attract so much attention. Various trivial reasons are assigned for this change of programme, but the truth seems to be that the Ministers advised against any kind of military demonstration. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent alleges that the Imperial personages devoted all their time while in Paoting to seeing theatricals and otherwise amusing themselves. They

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never visited the schools or did any duty, to the great chagrin of many earnest subjects. The Empress is flourishing, but the Emperor is said to be very frail.

According to official investigations the number of Japanese subjects residing in Peking at the end of March was 497, namely, 359 males and 138 females.

Friday, April 17.

It is stated that Viceroy Yuan's project of obtaining money by means of a stamp-tax, a project said to have been suggested by Mr. Tsuda, the Viceroy's Japanese Adviser, has been interdicted by Imperial Decree, which fact is regarded as a serious blow to Yuan's prestige. The *Asahi's* correspondent, in sending this news, adds that the incident may be regarded as an outcome of the habitual methods of the Tientsin merchants, who have managed to enlist the goodwill of Peking officialdom by processes long familiar. The same authority makes General Ma the mouthpiece of the malcontents. Ma is represented as having told the Empress Dowager that the people of Tientsin have not recovered from the disastrous effects of the troubles in 1900, and that any attempt to impose fresh taxes at this juncture would distress them seriously, and probably engender discontent the effects of which might be felt severely in Peking, which view appealed strongly to Her Majesty's judgment. As for the Viceroy, being thus cut off from the source where he had hoped to obtain capital for starting his projected central bank, his disappointment must be considerable.

News is sent (*Asahi*) from Peking about the Commissioner of Customs at Newchwang. The statement made is that the British incumbent of the office, who is very popular and has succeeded in winning universal confidence, is to be removed, and that in choosing his successor, Sir Robert Hart has passed over eighty names in the list of seniority, and has selected a Russian. That we do not believe.

DEATH OF YUNG LU.

The *Jiji* and the *Kokumin* publish telegrams from Peking announcing the death of Yung Lu at 5 a.m. on the 11th inst. This event is probably of cardinal importance in Chinese politics, and we may expect that the deceased statesman will be as freely vilified by some biographers as lauded by others. His was a personality that appears to have thoroughly puzzled foreign observers, perhaps because he sat on the political fence and served expediency rather than conviction. The reformers abused him roundly and laid all kinds of sins to his charge; the moderates approved his sagacity and represented him as a steady paint in the confusion of Peking intrigues. At all events his removal from the scene will increase or restore the influence of men who are counted by foreigners the repository of China's best hopes.

Yung Lu was sixty-eight years old at the time of his death. It is stated that he consulted foreign physicians at one time, but that after the administration of medicine by a French doctor, the patient vomited blood and thenceforth resolved to confine himself to native aid. The French doctor is represented as attributing this alarming symptom to Chinese treatment, which is more than probable.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes in a markedly antipathetic strain about Yung Lu. It dismisses him as a man wholly inferior to Li Hung-chang or Liu Kung-yi in point of ability, and says that his skill consisted in plotting and in currying favour with the Empress Dowager. His death is no loss to the politics of his country. None need mourn him except the Russians, whose good friend he was.

It appears to be agreed that Yung Lu died of lung trouble. An imperial decree couched in the most flattering terms has been issued in honour of his memory; he is raised to the rank of a first-class baron; all the distinctions accorded to the greatest subject are granted to him; his mortuary tablet is to be placed in the Hall of Ancestors, and his funeral is to be on the same scale as that of the late Li Hung-chang.

Prince Ching, having been appointed Yung Lu's successor, is reported to be remaining at Paoting, his duties in Peking being discharged by Prince Chun. It is further stated that the Empress-Dowager is highly pleased with Paoting and its surroundings, and that Viceroy Yuan has presented a memorial urging a ten days' extension of the Imperials ojourn in the city.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent says that the sum amassed by Yung Lu since the troubles of 1900, aggregates eight millions of taels, and that five millions of the total are lying in the Russo-Chinese Bank. That is a very tall story. It means a process of accumulation representing four millions of taels annually. Should the account prove even approximately accurate, it will have the effect of hardening the hearts of Western Governments in the matter of the payment of the Indemnity.

AN OFFICIAL INCIDENT.

A curious incident has occurred which affords another opportunity to criticise the Government. An order has been published in the *Official Gazette* reprimanding the Governors of five prefectures, and directing that certain officials in these prefectures shall have 25 per cent. of their salaries stopped, during a period of six months. The cause of this measure is that the *Kaikei Kensa-in* (Audit Bureau) has discovered a flagrant irregularity in connexion with the epidemic of 1899 and 1900. It took the form of indenting for travelling expenses by officials who did no travelling whatever, and these indents were duly endorsed by the Governors. This affair is an incident of the campaign now conducted by the Government against corruption of every kind, and from that point of view the Cabinet deserve only applause. But the point is made—especially by the *Asahi Shimbun*—that the nature of the offense attributed to the dishonest officials and their punishment are totally inadequate. Their offense is called—according to the newspapers—"neglect of duty," and it is pertinently asked how an act amounting to deliberate fraud can be classed as "neglect of duty." At that rate, says the *Asahi*, a thief or an assassin is guilty o nothing worse than carelessness. There is undoubtedly room for such criticism, but every one acquainted with official methods knows that where an allowance for travelling expenses is made by regulation, the drawing of them, even when no journey is performed, belongs to a class of performances which, though undoubtedly fraudulent, are not always classed as crimes by the official conscience. Moreover, at least three years have passed since the event, and the fine inflicted is very heavy. On the whole, persons of calm judgment will be inclined to think that substantial justice has been done, despite the caustic remarks of the *Asahi*. Indeed we question whether some may not condemn this action on the part of the Board of Audit as a needlessly minute scrutiny into a distant past.

KOREA.

News from Korea says that an increase has been made in the number of workmen employed on the southern section of the Seoul-Wiju railway, but that another period of inaction is likely to intervene soon owing to want of funds.

All the Tokyo journals publish telegrams from Korea to the effect that the celebrations in honour of the fortieth anniversary of the Emperor's coronation are to be postponed until next autumn. The cause assigned is that Prince Yong has been attacked by small-pox. It is not clear as yet who Prince Yong is. Some authorities identify him as the son of Lady Om, but other refrain from hazarding any opinion. Should this news prove correct a great many plans will be dislocated, cardinal plans and collateral plans.

Later news than the above suggests that the small-pox seizure is a mere pretext. Prince Yong is certainly sick, but whether he suffers from measles or small-pox is not yet determined, and at any rate his illness is of a very trifling nature. Besides, had sickness been the real cause, some steps would have been taken to consult the foreign representatives before adopting the final resolve. But they were not consulted at all, and the correspondents of Tokyo newspapers allege that the real reasons are two; the first and main one being financial difficulty; the second, a dispute between the party of Lady Om and that of the Prince Imperial. This being the second postponement of the ill-fated ceremony, no one now expects that it will ever come off. The fact of postponement was officially announced to the Empress of Japan by Viscount Hanabusa, and orders were immediately issued to countermand the departure of the man-of-war which was to have carried Prince Yamashina.

A SONG OF EASTER.

Sing me a song of Easter, and let the song be gay,
For in the mild Spring weather the world makes holiday;
The brown hill-slopes are sunny,
The hive-bees look for honey,
And the daffodil and primrose turn no thirsty guest away.

The birds are glad of Easter, and every sallow bough
Upon its leafy neighbour shakes down its gold-dust now;
New ivy-boughs are climbing,
The columbine is timing
Herself until the moment when her tints she shall avow.

The rabbits in the warren come out to feel the sun,
The dormouse is awaking, his web of dreams unspun;
Larks sing and soar together
All in the sweet Spring weather;
Sing me a song of Easter, for Lenten Fast is done.

NORA CHESSON.

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JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION AND MANCHURIA.

Friday, April 10.

Some days ago it was announced that in view of the slow progress of the evacuation of Manchuria, the well-known and at one time influential National Union (*Kokumin Domei-kai*) under the presidency of Prince Konoye, would be revived. Our readers doubtless remember that this association acted a very prominent part during the years 1900 and 1901, and that it was dissolved on the conclusion of the Russo-Chinese convention providing for the complete evacuation of Manchuria in three periods of six months each, the third ending on October 8th, 1903. Nothing further is rumoured about the National Union, but another society which has been long in existence, the *Taigai Doshi-kai* (society of fellow-thinkers in foreign affairs), held a meeting in the Umegawa-ro at Uyeno on the 8th instant and passed resolutions of an emphatic nature. The most influential persons present seem to have been Professor Tomizu, whose Russo-phobe convictions are well known, and Messrs. Suzuki Shigeto, Sato Torajiro, Furuhata Mototaro, Hoshi Matsusaburo (these four gentlemen are members of the House of Representatives) and Mr. Nakanishi Masaki. The last, whose name is familiar to readers of the now defunct National Unionists' magazine, announced the purpose of the meeting, namely, that as the so-called evacuation of Manchuria had not involved anything more than some insignificant movements of troops, it was necessary that resolutions should be passed with the view of appealing to public opinion. He declared that although the second period of the evacuation expired that day, all appearances seemed to indicate that the convention was being disregarded and that Russian occupation remained as real as ever. He was followed by Mr. Takahashi Hideomi, as representative of the *Kokumin Seinen-to* (Young Men's Nationalist Party), who explained that although his party had formerly worked in practical subordination to the National Unionists, it had not been dissolved at the same time as the latter, because its leaders entertained doubts as to the genuineness of Russia's intentions in the matter of evacuation. Events had justified that distrust, and the time had now come for another appeal to public opinion. Professor Tomizu, who next ascended the platform, made himself conspicuous by plain speaking. He declared emphatically that this Manchurian problem could not be solved by any means except war. All the talk of diplomats and the arguments of newspapers were futile to effect anything solid. Yet it was a problem of the greatest importance to Japan. For statistics showed that the population of this empire was increasing so fast that the question of finding means of subsistence became very pressing, and so far as could be seen the only satisfactory course was to keep the continent of Asia, namely, Manchuria, open to Japanese immigration, which could not be achieved if that region passed finally into the possession of Russia. The Japanese military and naval forces were ready for the encounter. Some publicists spoke of finance as a stumbling block. He regarded that as altogether a secondary issue. Russia also had to face the same embarassment, and if Japan suffered from famine in the north-east, Russia was troubled by failure of the crops in the Amur region. He reminded his hearers that China and Korea were now perplexed as to the Power with which to throw in their lot, Russia or Japan, and that if Japan showed the white feather at this juncture, both of those States must pass finally under Russian influence. Mr. Nakanishi then proposed the following resolution, which was passed by acclaim :—

Apart from the question whether Russia's procedure constitutes any indication of the withdrawal of her troops from Manchuria, we consider that, as a matter of fact, she does not yet evince any intention of abandoning her military occupation, and we therefore hope that the Governments of England and Japan will at once urge the Chinese Government to take steps for recovering the reality of its administrative power in Manchuria and for opening that region to foreign trade, so as to secure the permanent tranquillity of Eastern Asia.

On behalf of the Young Men's Nationalist Association another resolution was proposed and passed, namely, that the Association had preserved its organization in anticipation of the situation now presenting itself, and that vigorous measures to secure the evacuation of Manchuria must be taken without delay. A telegram of congratulation and sympathy having been read from Prince Konoye, the members, to the number of about 80, repaired to luncheon and the meeting broke up at 3 p.m.

Although no official intimation had been received in Tokyo up to the evening of the 8th with regard to steps marking the reality of the second period of evacuation of Manchuria, the *Asahi Shimbun* has a wire saying that Newchwang was to be handed over to the Chinese on the 8th, and that General Tso, military governor of Manchuria, was on his way from Mukden for the purposes of the transfer. The same message says that out of the eight gates of Mukden, the four small gates have been given up, and the Russian guards replaced by Chinese. It would therefore appear that the evacuation is by no means of such an apocryphal character as some publicists imagine.

The *Novoye Kri* of Port Arthur continues its arguments against the evacuation. It taunts Japan with failing, on the one hand, to develop the resources of Hokkaido and Formosa, while wishing, on the other, to stretch out her grasp to Korea, and it accuses the *Nippon* of insulting Korea by its writings about that empire. With regard to the *Nichi Nichi's* contention that Manchuria ought to be opened to foreign trade, the Port Arthur journal declares that nothing of the kind is possible at present, the three provinces being in temporary military occupation by Russia, whose troops, so far from being a menace to the Chinese, are really a protection to them. The terrible events of 1900 could never have occurred had the Foreign Powers exercised greater vigilance, and it is now their duty to see that such an emergency does not again find them unprepared. The *Novoye Kri*, as translated by the *Asashi's* correspondent, has other things to say, but our quotation is the backbone of its argument. Doubtless such utterances can not be regarded in any sense as official, for they reduce the reality of evacuation to a vanishing quantity, though only six months of the fixed period now remain.

Wednesday, April 15.

The Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking has given an interview to the correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo*. The gist of what the Chargé says is that Russia has every intention of carrying out her promises of evacuation, but that the situation will be complicated if Japan shows any symptoms of impatience or resorts to threats, for such an attitude would strengthen the military party in Russia and greatly augment the difficulties of the statesmen who desire a pacific settlement. He further alleges that the rendition of Newchwang is a question entirely apart from that of military evacuation. Rendition has been deferred because of complications connected with hygienic arrangements, a Chinese labourer affected with cholera having made his way into the place last year and caused embarrassments which have not yet been disposed of.

We presume that as the *Jiji's* correspondent has wired this interview, some credit must be attached to his account of the Chargé's statements, but, on the whole, the Russian official can not be said to have thrown much light on the situation. He offers no explanation whatever of the delay that has taken place in carrying out the requirements of the second-period evacuation, and his words create the impression that Russia's fulfillment of her international pledges depends entirely on the political party that happens to be in the ascendant when the time for action comes. That can scarcely be the idea he intended to convey, for certainly a less reassuring picture it would have been difficult to draw. As to Newchwang, the problem is now more mysterious than ever. We must assume that the *Charge d'Affairs* has been interpreted in such a fragmentary and disjointed manner as to deprive his expositions of coherence and intelligibility.

A Japanese Military officer who has just returned from Newchwang is quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo* as saying that, according to all appearances. Russia is preparing for war in Manchuria, but that her motive seems to be either defensive or for the purpose of intimidating China, and not with the idea of menacing Japan. Side by side with this assertion, the same officer alleges that measures of evacuation are in active progress and that the talk recently prevalent in Newchwang and its neighbourhood of war between Russia and Japan, has almost ceased to be audible. He further adds that credit attaches to the rumour of the Mukden Taotai's detention by the Russian Authorities in order to prevent him from putting in an appearance at Newchwang where his presence alone is required for completing the rendition.

This story does not greatly facilitate our understanding of the situation. Moreover, it will strike our readers that whereas from Manchuria repeated statements come about the Mukden Taotai's absence from Newchwang, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking attributes the delay entirely to a question of hygiene.

However, it would seem that the evacuation is really to be carried out as announced by Reuter's telegram. A wire to the *Nichi Nichi* from Peking confirms Reuter's assertion, and says that the steps necessary to evacuation will be taken immediately, and that the rendition of Newchwang is a question of days only.

Thursday, April 16.

From the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent comes a telegram to the effect that, according to news received at the Japanese Legation in that city, steps are being generally taken for the removal of Russian troops from Manchuria. A Tientsin wire to the *Asahi Shimbun* confirms this partially, for it says that orders were received by the Russian officers in Mukden to make arrangements for withdrawing the troops on the 8th instant, and that, consequently, the

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main gate of the city was to be handed over to the Chinese on that day, the principal official building occupied by the troops having been transferred already.

By way of contrast to the above, the Peking correspondent of the *Asahi* telegraphs that in consequence of the non-evacuation of Newchwang, British and Japanese war-vessels have proceeded thither, which fact has so alarmed the people that they are busily transporting their most valued belongings to Chefoo, Tientsin and elsewhere. The correspondent adds that there is talk of the allied Powers despatching men-of-war to the Yalu also.

Friday, April 17.

Intelligence of a trustworthy nature about the evacuation of Manchuria continues to be remarkably scarce. Indeed, the fact that the messages are few and far between is so inexplicable in ordinary circumstances that some folks are disposed to attribute it to the control of the telegraphs by Russian officers. What seems certain is that the guarding of the gates at Mukden has been surrendered by the Russians to the Chinese. As to Newchwang, the *Asahi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that the Russian view does not include civil government in the rendition programme, and that even after the troops are withdrawn, the administrative control of the place will remain in Russian hands. That theory will not be readily accepted. Meanwhile an idea gains ground that Russia intends to make her act of evacuation a concession, having a certain exchangeable value, and that she will seek a tangible *quid pro quo*. The whole story of Russia's doings in Manchuria is so remarkable that even an incident of that kind would not be altogether incongruous. Nevertheless we shall not readily believe that the St. Petersburg statsmen follow the principle of requiring to be paid to keep a promise. That canon of conduct would expand all international transactions into an infinite series, for each result of a conventional agreement would become the prelude to another demand and another concession.

A CHINA-JAPAN TRUST.

Japanese newspapers state that Mr. Yokoyama Magoichiro, who has just returned from a visit to China, has been entrusted by the owners of the Kaiping mine to arrange a trust including the proprietors of that concern and the owners of all Japanese coal mines, and that he will deliver a lecture on the subject in Osaka on the 18th instant to representatives of mining companies who will then be assembled in that city. There can be no question that Japanese coal-mine owners would have consulted their own interests and those of their country had they long ago come to some agreement which would have put an end to their competition and enabled them to obtain a fair price in foreign markets for one of their country's most valuable assets. Many of them appreciated that fact years back, but there seem to be insuperable difficulties in the way of forming a trust, the chief of those difficulties being absence of mutual confidence. The great mine-owners appear to think that sufficient reliance could not be placed on all the applicants for admission to the trust, and that the ultimately inevitable fiasco would be followed by results more injurious than anything attributable to the present competition. It is hard for outsiders to place full faith in that view, but those that hold it must be supposed to know their own countrymen.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

A further development of the secession-like action taken by a part of the *Seiyu-kai* as described in our last issue, is that a manifesto closely resembling the malcontents' protest has been addressed to the Managing Committee of the Party by twenty other members of the Lower House, who are said to have worked together for some time under the appellation of the *Mumeito*, or "anonymities." This memorial is almost identical with that of the Osaka protesters; that is to say, it calls for a radical change of the present *sensei soshoku* (arbitrary organization); asks that all persons placed in responsible positions shall be chosen by a general vote; advises that the number of the managing committee be reduced to three, and demands that every question of importance shall be discussed and decided by the Party in conclave. Of course no political party could work with such a programme, but the interesting feature of this demonstration is, not the practicality or otherwise of the malcontents' suggestions, but the spirit of insubordination they display. Moreover, if these twenty "anonymities" be added to the Osaka protesters, it would seem that at least a hundred parliamentary members have joined the demonstration.

Various versions of this event and conjectures about its significance are published. The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that discontent has been brewing for a long time in the ranks of the Party, but that the object of the dissatisfaction is, not the leader, Marquis Ito, but the members of the managing committee. The *Nichi Nichi* is inclined to magnify the dimensions of the revolt. It notes that the Osaka protesters numbered only 80 members of the Lower House, but that as they have supporters in the *Kwan-to*, *To-hoku* and *Hoku-shin* regions, they must aggregate fully a hundred, to which total may be added the 20 Tokyo memorialists mentioned above. The same journal notes that rumour connects Viscount Watanabe with this commotion, and that some people attribute it to the Ministry's manœuvring, but the *Nichi Nichi* regards both theories as quite ludicrous.

The *Chiuo Shimbun*, which has distinguished itself recently by its vehement opposition to the Cabinet, ridicules this incident altogether. It declares it to be purely a scheme on the part of the Government's friends to create an impression that the *Seiyu-kai* is torn by factions which would paralyse its strength. Accordance to this view a deliberate plot was hatched by certain newspapers—"official organs" in the nomenclature of the "party organ" that attacks them—by a news agency and by persons having access to the telegraphs, and there resulted a forged manifesto which never emanated from any section of the *Seiyu-kai*, and a sensation which has no solid basis whatever. The *Chuo* maintains that what happened has been the publication of a "faked" memorial, and that the whole thing does not deserve a moment's attention. Now it is quite true that on Tuesday, the 14th instant, only two Tokyo journals —the *Niroku* and the *Nippon*—published the Osaka manifesto, but if any one seriously pretends to apply the term "official organ" to these two journals, he must be unable to distinguish black from white. It is further true that on Wednesday the 15th, simultaneously with the *Chiuo Shimbun's* vehement disavowal, all the leading journals of Tokyo published the Osaka manifesto, and published also the manifesto of the "anonymities."

Mr. Hara Kei is quoted by the *Chiuo* as saying that the incident is the outcome of a plot on the part of friends of the Cabinet, who, having hoped to accomplish something on the occasion of the naval review, and finding themselves disappointed, fell back upon the expedient of suggesting disaffection in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. Mr. Ozaki Yukio is credited with assigning a similar interpretation, and the *Jiji Shimpo* lends the weight of its great authority to minimize the incident. It is to be noted that the Osaka manifesto was not signed, so that there is some room to question the nature of the support it had, though the same objection does not apply to the memorial of the twenty Tokyo "anonymities." Another significant fact is that the *Jimmin*, which is undoubtedly an organ of the old Liberal Party, does not even remotely suggest that this affair is a scheme devised by supporters of the Cabinet. It says frankly that a section of the *Seiyu-kai*, who consider reforms necessary in the organization of the Party, seized the opportunity furnished by the presence of so many members in Kobe and Osaka, summoned a meeting and issued a manifesto, which action was at once imitated by their fellow-thinkers in Tokyo.

Thus we have two diametrically opposite versions. One depicts the incident as a scheming attempt to foster in the ranks of the Party discontent which has no real existence, and the other represents the affair as the *bonâ-fide* outcome of a reform impulse. The former version is supported by one of the *Seiyu-kai* newspaper organs; the latter by another of the same organs. It is excusable that the public at large should be perplexed.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* treats the whole affair seriously, and writes a long article the gist of which is that the compilers of the Osaka manifesto and their Tokyo friends have determined to secede, and form a new party under the leadership of Viscount Watanabe Kunitake. But having written so far the *Yomiuri* seems to have repented, for in the closing part of its article it suggests that the intending seceders may prove to be friends of the Ministry, and that, under any circumstances, the event is very fortunate for the Cabinet.

The effect of all this writing is to make outsiders thirst for some frank display of journalistic candour.

The *Niroku* attributes to chagrin and consternation all these attempts to discount the significance of the demonstration. It alleges that Mr. Hara has hastened to Osaka to reason with the malcontents, and that if he fails, they are to be dubbed allies of the Cabinet.

Count Okuma has spoken one word, apparently to the *Niroku*. "The story you tell has astonished politicians. Osaka was always a fighting place. Besides the official standard-bearer, Takanashi Tetsushiro, is there, which makes the situation more dangerous." The trouble is that we can not have the smallest assurance whether Count Okuma said anything of the kind.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* also treats the matter seriously, but doubts whether the malcontents have sufficient political reputation or local *status* to succeed in effecting anything formidable.

Friday, April 17.

The interesting question of insubordination in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai* continues to be minimized by some and seriously discussed by others. At the head of the former stands the *Chiuo Shimbun* which, in this

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instance, has carried the art of ridicule a little too far, and has itself become an object of laughter to the journals which originally published the news, and which, although their names were the *Nippon* and the *Niroku*, received from the *Chuo* the appellation of "Government organs." In truth the *Chuo* has made a fiasco of its attempt. There appears to be no room for doubt that the Osaka manifesto was a genuine document, and that the same epithet applies to the Tokyo memorial which followed it. The *Jimmin*, which is the organ of the old Liberals, is very frank about the incident. It says that there has long been discontent in connexion with the organization of the *Seiyu-kai*, and that a strong section, headed by such men as Messrs. Sugita Teiichi, Kusaka Yoshio, Kuribara Ryoichi, Sugawara Tsuto, Tatsuno Shuichiro and others, held a meeting in the fall of 1901, on the verge of the Diet's assembly, and compiled a memorial asking chiefly for a reduction in the number of the standing committee. The memorial received the approval of a majority at a general meeting of the Party, but in the absence of Marquis Ito no further step was taken. On the return of the Marquis he announced that the proposal should receive his attention, and about a year later he informed the Party at a general meeting that for the present there should be no change of organization. This decision, coming after nearly a twelvemonths' deliberation, was not favourably received. The malcontents came together again, and the Party leaders, apprehending an agitation which might have disintegrating effects, adopted the policy of wholesale opposition to continuing the increased land tax. In short, according to the *Jimmin*, the land-tax problem was seized upon merely as a weapon to ward off dangers theatening the cohesion of the party. This manœuvre succeeded for the time. No one thought of discussing re-organization in the heat of the fight that ensued. But now that the Diet is approaching its eighteenth session, the malcontents have returned to their old position. The *Jimmun* adds that the Osaka manifesto ought not to have been given to the public so soon; that it had been drafted and submitted to the recalcitrants, but that its immediate appearance in the column of two newspapers had not been anticipated, and that, in view of the fact, nothing remained for the Tokyo fellow-thinkers except to follow suit with a memorial of their own, though they were not able to endorse the Osaka document in its entirety.

These explanations, it must be observed, come from a Liberal organ, one of the proprietors of which newspaper, Mr. Sugawara Tsuto, is among the leaders of the recalcitrants. It is therefore impossible to suppose that the whole affair is a mere "fake," as the *Chuo* would have us believe. There can be no doubt about its reality, though if nothing be at issue except the question of the number of the standing committee, serious results need not be anticipated. Meanwhile what is to be said about the *Jimmin's* statement that the *Seiyu-kai's* opposition to the Land-Tax Bill was simply an expedient to hold the Party together by giving them a war-cry? How many will be found to believe that Marquis Ito would have lent himself to such a manœuvre? Very few we are persuaded. Is, then, the *Jimmin* the mouthpiece of a disaffected section of the Party, or is it simply a curiously indiscreet, inaccurate organ?

There are all kinds of side issues, and a corresponding number of conjectures and contradictions, but we refrain from perplexing our readers with such details.

A programme of administrative organization has been elaborated by the Department of War and announced in the *Official Gazette* to go into effect from May 1st. The gist of the scheme is that several offices are amalgamated, a few are abolished, and a few are newly organized. We can not decipher the final result so far as finance is concerned. Accurate analysis will doubtless be made by-and-by. In the meanwhile we can only say that the general effect of the changes is in the direction of economy.

A CATALOGUE OF KOREAN GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES ROMANIZED.

It will be good news for all that have to do with Korean names of places, especially for journalists, that an excellent and tolerably comprehensive catalogue of such names in their Romanized form has just been issued from the press of the Imperial University in Tokyo. The authors are Mr. B. Koto, Professor of Geology in the Science College, and Mr. S. Kanazawa, Lecturer on the Korean Language in the College of Literature. "Authors," we say, but the parts taken by the two gentlemen are somewhat unequal, the manuscript having been prepared by Professor Koto and the reviewing and amending done by Mr. Kanazawa. In 1883 there was printed at the office of this journal a "Manual of Korean Geographical and other Proper Names Romanized," which had been compiled at H.B.M.'s Legation. This book has served a most useful purpose during the twenty years of its existence, and Messrs. Koto and Kanazawa have now embodied its contents in their new publication, slightly changing the Romanization, however, though whether the changes are for the better or the worse we do not venture to affirm, having lost all faith in that phase of the Imperial University's performances, since it allowed itself to be betrayed into the inexplicable vertigo of altering to forms that do not at all convey the desired sounds certain syllables of the *kana* which in their original shapes had done unimpeachable duty for nearly half a century. It is not certain, we think, that the new publication will entirely replace the old, for the British Legation work has three manifest advantages, namely, that it is at once intelligible, that it describes what each of the catalogued places is, and that it adds their latitude and longitude. But the University Catalogue is not immediately intelligible. Like its predecessor it gives two parallel columns of names, but the reader is left to discover for himself what these columns signify, no information to that effect being added. The latitudes and longitudes too are omitted, as are also the descriptions. On the other hand the University volume contains the ideographs corresponding to each province; a serviceable addition. Of course by dispensing with two columus the University authors have obtained a volume of very handy size, which, doubtless, was their object. They deserve the greatest credit, for their arduous work will never be rewarded financially. They give the fruits of their knowledge to the public practically *gratis*. And from the same point of view we venture to express our high appreciation of the University's liberality in bearing the expense of the publication.

SCANDALS.

The latest person involved in the Exhibition scandal is Mr. Jomi Eisuke, the celebrated metal worker of Kyoto. In connexion with the apprehension of Mr. Matsuda Shiro, of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, information became accessible that competition for business relating to the Exhibition had betrayed some of the competitors into devious methods of improving their chances. Thus in the rivalry of silversmiths who sought to obtain the order for striking medals to be handed to prize-winning exhibitors, Jomi Eisuke is supposed to have passed the limits of legitimate competition. We trust that the suspicion will prove unfounded for it would be indeed a pity that such a stigma should attach to one of Japan's most eminent artist-artizans. Of course the law could not lay its hands on him, but his reputation would suffer. It is now conjectured that much of this kind of thing has been going on with regard to the Exhibition and that ugly discoveries are not unlikely to be made.

The trial of ex-Governor Kano, of Shimane Prefecture, has covered with disgrace two noblemen, Viscount Seki and Baron Funakoshi. Both appear to have conveyed bribes on account of book-sellers to Mr. Kano. Baron Funakoshi's name is found in the records of the preliminary examination only, but when the public trial took place on the 10th instant, Viscount Seki frankly admitted that he had transmitted two sums of 700 *yen* and 400 *yen* respectively to Mr. Kano, and that he had himself received two sums of 300 *yen* and 100 *yen* to which he gave the name of loans. Viscount Seki did not come into immediate contact with the booksellers. There was another go-between, Mr. Murakami Riukitsu, an *employée* of the Household Department, who set Viscount Seki the example of plainly confessing what he had done. Sentence in Mr. Kano's case remains to be pronounced. His defence took the inevitable form of flatly denying Viscount Seki's testimony.

The non-officials accused are alone faring well in this affair. Five of them were acquitted on the 11th instant, including Mr. Hara Kyoichiro, proprietor of the Kinko-do store. Insufficient proof was the ground of acquittal.

As the result of further preliminary trials two educational officials have been discharged on the ground that the evidence against them was insufficient, while two others were committed for trial on the usual charge on April 8th in the Tokyo District Court. The same day M. Okubo, an official of the Department of Education, was released on bail of *yen* 500.

The preliminary examinations of Y. Terauchi and two other educational officials were concluded in the Tokyo District Court on April 14th, and all three were committed for trial on the usual charges. The same day R. Kamao, ex-Governor of Shimane prefecture, S. Masuchi and two other educational officials were released on bail of *yen* 700 for Mr. Kamao and *yen* 300 each for the others.

In the Tokyo District Court, B. Konaka, principal of the Higher Female School, Oita prefecture, was sentenced on April 15th to 2½ months' imprisonment with hard labour, and a fine of *yen* 10 while the bribes, *yen* 700, were confiscated. The same day, preliminary examinations of I. Awoki secretary of Kyoto prefecture, and two educational officials were concluded. They were committed for trial on the usual charge.

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THE ANTI-RITUALIST LECTURE.

We regret that the original purpose of the Rev. R. C. Fillingham in coming to Japan, could not be carried out in its entirety. He visited this country in search of "absolute rest," and it is a pity that he was not suffered to find it. He would not then have delivered in Yokohama a lecture which did no credit either to himself or to the cause he championed. Religious zeal is a very admirable thing in its way, but it is historically responsible for many doings that are far from admirable, and we could gladly dispense with displays of it such as are mainly calculated to stir up strife and contention. Mr. Fillingham set out by disavowing any intention of dealing in personalities and by promising to "rest his subject on higher ground." His apologue to that preface took the form of a caricature of a scene witnessed by him in Christ Church on Good Friday, where he "saw a little curate making all his genuflexions, ladies bobbing up and down in their places as if they were bathing in the sea, and one person nodding her head like a toy Mandarin." If that kind of talk be the "higher ground" of the anti-ritualists, if that be their conception of avoiding personalities, then their standards are not appreciable by every-day folk. We ourselves have not the smallest faith in ritualism, if by ritualism is meant forms and ceremonies that neither produce nor evince sincerity. But we recognise that in this world there are many people for whom these outward observances have value, significance and even exalting potentiality, and we hold that to interdict ritualistic observances in the case of such people, is to ignore the emotional side of human nature. At all events, whether ritualism be a disfiguring excrescence on Christianity, or an appropriate expression of its essence, the importance of the thing can scarcely be classed with that of promoting a spirit of harmony and concord in any community, and when bearers of fire-brands like the Rev. R. C. Fillingham come into our midst, publicly pass essentially unkind and offensive judgments on the conduct of people who are practising their faith and reverencing its tenets in all sincerity and according to their humble lights, and endeavour to kindle passions which can only furnish material to blasphemers, we find ourselves asking whether there has not been some loss of the sense of proportion. A zealot may deserve respect though he fails to evoke admiration. The Vicar of Hexton will not suppose that those who, like ourselves, differ from his methods, are unwilling to concede his benevolence or to applaud his fervour. What we think is that nothing distorts the fair proportions of Christianity so much as an atmosphere of intolerance, especially where non-essentials are concerned, and that the Yokohama community would be happier and better could it continue to live beyond the reach of such passionate influences as Mr. Fillingham represents.

THE NAVAL REVIEW.

The naval review at Kobe seems to have passed off brilliantly, the weather being most propitious and the arrangements good. Twenty-eight war-ships, thirteen destroyers, and twenty-three torpedo-boats took part. They were ranged in four lines, a fifth being formed by seven foreign vessels, two of which—the *Glory* and the *Blenheim*—were British, and one each German, Russian, French, Italian and American. The Emperor in the *Asama*, steamed slowly—5 knots is the speed mentioned—round the whole 5 lines, and subsequently gave audience to twenty-four foreign officials and naval officers, as well as to a number of Japanese. Luncheon was served on board the *Asama* and *Izumo*, covers being laid for over 1,300 persons, including foreigners. His Majesty's message to the fleet extolled the conspicuous progress that had been made but urged the officers and men to renew their exertions so as to consummate the Imperial wishes, it being plain from the present condition of the world that success depends upon naval development. In the evening the Minister of Marine gave a ball in the Japanese Chamber of Commerce. Kobe was finely illuminated, and the foreign residents, who on these occasions never fail to display a remarkable spirit of loyalty, organized a torch-light procession in which over a thousand persons are said to have taken part. A brilliant scene was also presented in the sea adjacent to the Emperor's villa at Maiko, forty-one ships assembling there and showing an illumination of electric light.

JAPANESE RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

Tokyo journals are interesting themselves in the affairs of the Seoul-Chemulpo line—the Keijin Tetsudo as it is called—, which they evidently think has been over-favourably treated by the Government. Originally the Treasury acquired the line at an expenditure of 1,800,000 *yen*, and in transferring the concern to private ownership, it was agreed that this sum should be paid back by 1903. But a change of terms has now been conceded, the Government having agreed that the debt may be discharged by yearly installments spread over a period of 20 years and not carrying any interest. Such a concession is not unnaturally thought a little too generous. It is pointed out that almost any enterprise would be sure of success were its initial expenditures defrayable on like terms. But the point to be considered is, could the Treasury have done any better. That is very problematical, we think.

Meanwhile the *Keifu Tetsudo* (Seoul-Fusan line) is going ahead. The directors have announced the issue of the last installment of shares, namely, 64,316; bringing the total to 500,000, which represent the whole capital, or 25 million *yen*. It is said that if the Company succeeds in negotiating its foreign loan of 10 millions, financial questions will cease to trouble it.

Work began on this line in August, 1901, and is expected to be finished by the fall of 1905, an estimate which seems to us rather too sanguine. Building operations are going on from either end, and 22 miles—*i.e.* 11 at the Fusan end and 11 at the Seoul—are now finished and actually in use. Last August the continuations were taken in hand, and have been pushed so vigorously that by August next two further lengths, 22 miles each, are expected to be opened, making 66 miles finished and leaving 197 miles to be built. The present programme is to construct another 45 miles at the Seoul end and another 28 at the Fusan end by March, 1904; 30 miles at the Seoul end and 50 at the Fusan, by the close of 1904, and the remaining 44 miles during 1905. That will be quick. Apparently the locomotives and rolling stock are obtained from America.

MR. BREDON.

Mr. Bredon will be entertained, if he is not annoyed, by the comments that his coming has elicited from some of the Tokyo journals. They decline to believe that visiting the Osaka Exhibition is the principal cause of his journey. Rather do they connect it with the attempts now constantly attributed to other Powers to replace Sir Robert Hart by one of their own nationals, should the question of his successor become a practical reality, and in the meanwhile to contrive that as few British subjects as possible shall be appointed to the junior ranks of the Customs Service. Mr. Bredon, it is supposed, makes his present visit to Japan with the object of enlisting her assistance to avert both of these results, his programme being to obtain the conservative cōoperation of Japan on condition that her people are favoured in the matter of appointments. It is not for us, of course, to contradict or confirm these surmises, for we know nothing about Mr. Bredon's intentions or instructions. But one remark may be made in this context. It is that all Japanese commentators on the important question of the Inspectorate-general of Customs in China seem to ignore China's conventional obligation to appoint a British subject to that post so long as British trade bulks largest in the total of China's foreign commerce. That is an engagement to which the Peking Government is likely to be held, even supposing that it showed any disposition to evade it. Concerning the condition as to the bulk of British trade, nothing seems less likely at present than that a member of another nationality will obtain ingress through that door, and, for the rest, should an extraordinary decline of commercial vitality overtake Great Britain, she will have ceased to trouble herself greatly about the personality of the Chief Commissioner of Customs.

FRANCE AND SIAM.

It is evidently not believed in well-informed Parisian circles that Siam's political interests are seriously threatened by the negotiations into which the Governor-General of Indo-China has entered with the Bangkok Court. Of course the badgering and heckling that M. Delcassé underwent at the hands of the Opposition and even at those of a section of the Colonial Group, might not unreasonably have been expected to colour his intentions in sanctioning M. Beau's intervention. But if the Minister has yielded to his assailants so far as to allow an effort to obtain larger concessions from Siam, there is neither evidence nor suspicion that he contemplates abandoning the Convention, which has been well described as "a third guarantee of Siamese independence and even integrity." No one except those in the innermost circle can describe in exact terms the intention entertained by M. Beau and endorsed by M. Delcassé, but the belief is that the Governor-General has no larger aim than to secure the construction of two lines of railway which he considers necessary for the commercial development of Indo-China and which would enter Siam. The Paris correspondent of *The Times* says that the effect of building these lines would be to bridge the desolate zone between Korat and Mekong, and thus rehabilitate France's influence in a sphere formerly marked as hers on the maps but now handed over to Siam. The system of railways contemplated by M.

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Beau would "drain away from Bangkok a certain amount of products, converging them upon the French province of Cambodia and enriching Saigon and Hue."

"If," the same authority goes on to say, "the Siamese were to prolong the Korat line to Ubon it would tend to draw off to Bangkok all the traffic which at present passes by Pnom Penh and Saigon. Likewise a line linking Battambang to Bangkok or to Chentabun would probably be equally disastrous for French trade. But M. Beau well knows this, and M. Delcassé is no doubt as alive to these facts as either the president of the Colonial group or the Governor-General of Indo-China. The obvious proof, indeed, that he is so may be found in the perusal of Clause 4 of the convention of last October. By this clause the Bangkok Government agreed to come to a previous understanding with France in case it desired to obtain the construction by foreign capital in the Siamese portion of the Mekong Valley of railways, harbours, or canals. This stipulation implies the preoccupation of the French Foreign and Colonial Offices as to the trend of the trade routes in the *Hinterland* of Cambodia.

The event marked last night, therefore, by the publication of M. Delcassé's letter is in no sense the *coup de théâtre* which certain misinformed commentators have sought sensationally to make out. It is, on the contrary, merely a necessary and logical stage in the development of that active forward policy of economic expansion which ever since M. Doumer's viceroyalty inspired the counsels of the French Colonial Office. Moreover, what has just taken place is the intelligible corollary of Clause 4 of the convention of last October. In this Imperialistic movement westward there is nothing to arouse Siamese apprehensions. The convention which has been so attacked remains a third guarantee of Siamese independence and even integrity. But the mission which Frenchmen have displayed in the desire to obtain from M. Delcassé fuller light on the real significance of his convention, and especially of Clause 4, will not, it is to be hoped, have quite escaped notice at Bangkok. There is a lesson to be learnt therefrom by Siam—and it is in the interests of general peace in the Far East that she should lose no time in learning it."

THE IMPERIAL MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES.

A new departure has been made by the managers of the Imperial Museum of Antiquities (*Teikoku Hakubutsu-kwan*) in Uyeno Park. They have collected a large number of remarkable specimens of thecountry's *pre-Meiji* art, including several hundreds of pictures, and they announce that the collection will be on view in the Museum from the 12th inst. to the 4th proximo. This should prove a great attraction. Tokyo is full of visitors at present. The Imperial Hotel is said not to have an unoccupied room. Probably the number owes some of its dimensions to the Osaka Exhibition, but even without that special load-stone Japan attracts a growing multitude of tourists every spring. Many of them come to Tokyo persuaded that they will find there such displays of Japanese works of ancient art as are not to be seen anywhere else. That is a misconception. The superiority of European and American collections of Japanese art objects to Japanese collections may be pretty accurately measured by the difference in the opulence of the collectors. It has never been a Japanese custom to have private museums, and for every Japanese capable of indulging such a taste, there are a score of Occidentals. So it results that in Europe, and still more in America, one may see Japanese art collections such as have no existence in Japan. None the less by pursuing the method now adopted at the Uyeno Museum, that is to say, by drawing upon the heirlooms of many private families, a group of objects may be assembled more truly representative of pure Japanese art than are the constituents of probably any single Western collection. We should think, therefore, that foreign residents and tourists alike will welcome this opportunity.

THE QUESTION OF READERS.

An Imperial Ordinance settles the much discussed question of the compilation of text books. To the Department of Education is now reserved the exclusive right to compile text-books of morals, of national history, and ofgeography, as well as readers. Other kinds of text-books may be compiled independently as heretofore, and the power of selecting from among them will remain with governors of prefectures. Further, the local committees, which are supposed to have facilitated the bribery and corruption now making such a scandal, are abolished. There is one provision which we do not clearly understand; namely, that when there are several text-books of the same kind, choice among them shall be made by governors. The general character of this provision renders it somewhat obscure.

It is not yet publicly announced how the printing and publication of these State text-books will be managed. The number required annually will be 5 million text-books of morals, 10 millions of readers, 1 million of geographies, and 1 million of histories; making 17 millions in all, which will cost 1,700,000 *yen* at 10 *sen* each. The Department of Education must have a special grant if it undertakes this work.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A replica of Cook's Tourists Agency seems likely to be established in Japan. Mr. Minami Teisuke, his wife, his two sons and his two daughters are all to take part in the work, and the association will be called the "T. Minami and Sons' Tourists Agency." The object is to afford for travellers the facilities that can be furnished by a company fully organized so as to command all kinds of accommodation, provide the fullest travelling conveniences, supply information as to routes, objects of interest and so forth, and furnish competent guides of a trustworthy character. Mr. Minami, by whom this enterprise is projected, has many qualifications for the work, having travelled abroad and occupied high positions in the Government service, notably the post of Consul at Hongkong. Apparenttly the Agency would be maintained entirely by remuneration received from transportation companies and other sources of that nature, so that no charge of any kind would be imposed either directly or indirectly on tourists availing themselves of its services. We see no reason why this enterprise should not prove a success. Unquestionably something of the kind is needed in Japan. What occurs to us, however, is that, if possible, arrangements should be made to secure cōoperation between the Japanese agency and Cook's, for whatever confidence the former can win from the travelling public must necessarily be local only, whereas Cook's agents are in a position to influence a wide circle in Europe and America. We believe that a representative of Cook's came to this country some time ago with the view of including Japan in the agency's field of operations. But he met with no encouragement, the companies to which he applied declining to give any discounts; unwise reluctance on their part, we venture to think. However, even if Cook's people stretched out their hand to Japan, the first essential step would be to organize a Japanese cōoperative association of just the kind contemplated by Mr. Minami, and if the latter looks to achieve complete success, he will doubtless seek to affiliate himself with Cook's. At any rate his project, should it mature, will prove a great convenience to foreign travellers.

A witty Frenchman once said that words were given us to disguise our thoughts. The following letter proves his contention to the hilt:—

N———N———& Co., Ltd.
No——Yokohama, Japan.
General Exports and Imports.

Yokohama, April 8th, 1903.

Messrs.———

We beg to say congratulations righteousness more and more. At weself company beg to say for several Nursery kinds of monthly payment to lend commerce, we will hope notwithstanding many a few your kindly order.

All order executed with care and promtness at Moderate price.

Yours faithfully,

N——N—— & Co.

We presume the poor man wishes to say that he lends out plants on the hire-system.

The Empress left Tokyo on the morning of the 12th instant at 8 o'clock, her departure thus taking place one day sooner than the time originally announced. We are not acquainted with the reason for this change of plan. Her Majesty was to spend the night of the 12th at Nagoya, reaching Kyoto on the 13th and it is announced that the Emperor will leave Maiko on the same day and enter Kyoto at about the same time as Her Majesty.

The *Official Gazette* publishes an ordinance forbidding Japanese subjects to imitate or alter coins, notes or bank paper current in foreign countries. Any one violating this veto, or found in possession of instruments or machines used for the purposes here interdicted, will be liable to a maximum penalty of one year's imprisonment, and a fine of 200 *yen*.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes in a strain of strong criticism with reference to the nobility of Japan. It takes as its immediate text the Awomori distress, in the relief of which foreigners showed conspicuous charity. From the list of names, says our contemporary, the nobles were conspicuously absent, and among the few that did subscribe, not one could be called a prominent peer. The explanation is that they do not know what is happening around them, and that they still live in the atmosphere of nursery ignorance engendered by feudal customs. They seem to be without public spirit, without a sense of self-respect. They do not even contribute to the support of the schools at which their children are educated, the whole of the expenses being defrayed from the Imperial purse. The *Jiji's* is a very severe and outspoken article, concluding with a plain warning to the nobles that unless they mend their ways the public will ultimately become disgusted with them.

The *Official Gazette* announces that on the 3rd instant Mr. J. H. Gubbins resumed his duties as Japanese Secretary of His Britannic Majesty's Legation in Tokyo, with the relative rank of First Secretary of Legation.

The *Jimmin* catalogues the Banks in Tokyo which now have sums of over a million *yen* lying idle in their vaults:—

	Unemployed. Yen.
First Bank	2,556,436
Mitsubishi	2,408,504
Fifteenth Bank	1,130,408
Yasuda Bank	1,014,678
Third Bank	1,000,557

The Welcome Society has certainly made

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a notable effort in connexion with the Osaka Exhibition. In addition to compiling a handy and useful guide book to the Exhibitian and to other resorts, it has arranged for giving badges to all that disburse a small sum—5 *yen*—at its Osaka office, the object of the badge being to confer on the bearer quite a number of privileges, which are carefully catalogued in a list entitled "Notice to Foreign Visitors." Alike in Tokyo and in Osaka the wearer of one of these badges can obtain admission to numerous places which every tourist ought to see, but the whole of which very few tourists would be at all likely to see unless they took advantage of the facilities organized by the Welcome Society. Undoubtedly the Society is to be heartily congratulated on its exercise of intelligent enterprise, and foreign visitors also are to be congratulated on having such an association to clear the path for them and to act as guide and friend.

FIRES.

There have been two fires in the provinces. One in Fukui, on the 14th instant, destroyed 1,056 houses, and caused the death of 4 persons and the serious injury of 2; the other in Toyama on the following day, burned 120 houses but did not involve any casualties to human beings.

About 6.30 a.m. on April 9th fire occurred in the kitchen of the Bluff Hotel, No. 2, Yamatecho, Yokohama, but it was immediately quelled with little damage.

It is stated that a fire occurred in the fire-works factory at Matsue in Hiroshima prefecture on April 9th with the result that one woman was fatally injured and three firemen were slightly hurt.

Fire occured at Ohara-hama village, Ojikagori, Sendai, on the night of April 10th, with the result that over fifty buildings were destroyed.

Fire occured at Ishida village, Shimo-Arakawa, Toyama prefecture, on April 13th, destroying forty buildings.

Early on the morning of April 13th fire broke out in a house near the Imperial Detached Palace in Kyoto, where Her Majesty the Empress had just arrived. Thirty-two buildings were burned down and one person was killed.

On the night of April 13th fire broke out at Sunamoto-cho, Tokushima prefecture, destroying 16 buildings.

About 12.30 p.m., on April 15th, fire broke out in a house, at Fukutomi-cho, 1-chome, Yokohama, but it was put out before it could spread to the surrounding buildings. The cause is not yet ascertained.

The *Kokumin* has received a telegram from Osaka stating that fire broke out in a shop in the Exhibition, on April 14th at 4 a.m. It was immediately put out before serious damage was caused.

Fire broke out at Midoricho, Yama-gori, Aidzu, on April 14th, destroying 12 buildings.

The same day, fire occured at Nakashin-machi, in Fukushima and burnt down 15 houses. Two fires took place also on the 14th at Kanda-machi, Otaru, and Zenihako village, in Hokkaido; the former destroyed 8 houses and the latter 45. Fire broke out on the 14th at Samukawa village, Ehime prefecture, destroying 25 houses and 3 telegraph poles.

Some malicious person fired a pistol shot on Tuesday at a train at the Tsuka station on the Tobu Railway near Tokyo. A window was smashed and one of the occupants was injured.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT TO A MARINE.

Further particulars with reference to the accident which resulted in the death of Geo. E. Pettit (25), a marine of the British cruiser *Blenheim*, differ from the facts as at first reported to us. It appears that Pettit, who was under the influence of drink, was with a member of comrades returning from Tokyo on Monday by the 8.40 p.m. train when suddenly, without warning or apparent cause, he jumped from the carriage just as the train was approaching Kanagawa station. Whether the other men were aware of the act, whether if so they endeavoured to communicate with the railway officials, does not appear. Pettit broke his right arm in falling and, lying with his legs on the other line of rails, was run over by a passing train a few minutes later, sustaining dreadful injuries to his legs. Though attention seems to have been attracted to his condition and a couple of constables arrived nothing was done apparently to succour the man beyond placing him on a shutter, and it was not till Mr. Alan Owston, who had learned at the station of the occurrence, appeared and insisted on steps being taken, than the man's hurts were attended to by assistants at the Hakuai eye hospital—a short distance away, and even this service is alleged to have been grudgingly rendered on the plea that the patient was not suffering from an eye disease. Assistance was after a time sent from the *Blenheim*, and Pettit was removed early on Tuesday morning to the Royal Naval Hospital and died shortly afterwards. From the nature of his injuries it is barely probable that the man's life could have been saved; but the local police are said to have been more intent on taking notes of the occurrence than of obtaining that medical help which might have been successfully applied.

The funeral of deceased took place on Wednesday morning, naval honours being accorded, the body being borne on a gun carriage and a volley being fired over the grave.

THE JAPAN CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The twentieth annual session of this conference was held in the city of Nagoya, April 1—7th, Bishop David H. Moore presiding. The conference began with a Communion service at 2 p.m., on the day of opening, a large company of believers participating, after which the roll of the conference was called, and forty-five responded to their names. The total membership was eleven foreigners, forty-eight Japanese preachers, and six probationers.

Four young men, missionaries in Korea, were admitted "on trial," the mission in that country not yet having reached the rank of a conference. After passing the examination for entrance to the conference, each member must take a four years' course of study. At the end of two years he may be admitted to "full connection" and thus become entitled to vote in the conference. He may also be ordained a deacon, and thus become entitled to perform the rites of marriage and baptism, and assist in administering the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. At the end of his course of study he may be ordained an elder, and thus become a full-fledged minister of the gospel, and eligible to any position within the gift of the church.

Besides the four already mentioned, there are three in the studies of the second year, two in the third, and one in the fourth year. Three completed the course of study, and two of them were ordained elders; the other having been previously ordained in America under a special provision called the "Missionary Rule."

One was ordained a deacon.

A. M. Brooks, who has returned to the United States, was transferred to the Iowa Conference; and Dr. W. S. Worden was "located at his own request," as he has engaged in medical practice in Yokohama.

There are two "superannuated preachers," who have outlived their days of usefulness in the effective ministry, and are supported in part from what is called the "Conference Fund."

The statistics gave the following:

Full Numbers of the Church	3,460
Probationers	1,700

Baptisms during the year:

Children	100
Adults	651

The year had been one of substantial growth in all departments of the work; accordingly it was a disappointment to find the statistics showed a loss of fifty-six in membership over the previous year. Upon inquiry being made it was found that one preacher in reporting last year had written 91 for 19. It was also found that in some cases the church records had been pruned of the names of all members whose whereabouts were unknown. There are reported:

Sunday Schools	101
Officers and teachers in same	316
Sunday Schools	5,516
No. of Church buildings	40
Probable value	¥129,760
No. of Parsonages	24
Probable value	¥12,825
Paid for building and improving Churches and Parsonages	2,723
Paid on Old Indebtedness	902
Present Indebtedness	1,701
The amount of conference collections, that is, those ordered by the General Conference of the Church for the support of its various benevolent enterprises was	¥ 1,286

Although there was an apparent decrease in membership there was an encouraging gain on the financial side; which ordinarily indicates an increase of interest in church matters. There was raised under the head of:

Other Collections	¥ 2,132
Pastoral Support from the Churches	5,469
House Rents	402

These last two items show that the church has progressed already about one-third, of the way toward self-support, that being about 50 per cent of what the Missionary Society is contributing toward the evangelistic work of the conference:

There was also reported under Current Expenses	¥ 2,887
Sunday School Expenses	610
Conference Missionary Society	532
Annuity Fund	171
Church Building Loan Fund on hand	1,331

The conference repeated its action of a year ago, urging upon the General Conference of the Church the desirability of taking steps toward an early amalgamation of all the Methodist bodies at work in Japan, into a Japanese Methodist Church. Such preliminary action has already been taken by the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

The annual conference of the Methodist Protestant Church was also held in Nagoya at the same time; and delightful fraternal greetings were exchanged; and a union service of the two conferences was held on Sunday morning. This service was in striking contrast with some held every day and evening in addition to the routine work of the conference. At 4 o'clock on Sunday Bishop Moon preached to a good audience of foreigners and Japanese in English. The annual conference of the workers of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was also held at the same time. The results of their work for the most part are tabulated in the statistics of our conference.

This invasion of Nagoya by about one hundred missionaries and Japanese preachers from all over the northern half of Japan for a week must result in an increased interest in Christian work in that city. It was felt by all that never before was the outlook of the Christian Church in Japan so encouraging and hopeful. The field is ready for the harvest, but the labourers are few.

CHARLES BISHOP.

Tokyo, April 11th, 1903.

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TRUTH.

GENERAL interest attaches to a controversy between the *Japan Times* and the *Echo de Chine* with regard to the credibility of a statement emanating from the Roman Catholic missionaries in Szchuan. The missionaries predicted a recrudescence of Boxer *emeutes* in that province this spring, and the *Japan Times* traversed the prediction, its confident belief being that nothing serious need be apprehended. It also observed, parenthetically and perhaps unnecessarily, that considering the sources of their information, the Roman Catholic missionaries were not by any means above suspicion of bias. Against this passing comment the *Echo de Chine* girds vigorously. It vindicates the character of the missionaries, and, in return, it makes a *riposte* of its own, namely, that Occidentals entertain for truth a respect very different from that entertained by the peoples of the Far East. It is this last allegation that lends interest to the discussion. So far as the Roman Catholic Missions are concerned, nothing can detract from the esteem in which their character is held by all Occidentals in the East, and in our eyes there is only one more trustworthy source of information about Chinese affairs. That source is Japan. Every one at all qualified to speak knows what a thorough study the Japanese make of China at first hand; what untiring diligence their agents bring to the solution of Chinese problems, and what great facilities they enjoy compared with any other people. They are almost unique in these respects, and assuming that a Japanese journal derives its information from the best Japanese sources, we should be disposed to attach exceptional credit to its statements of facts. Apart from that, however, the important point is whether these matters are appreciably affected by any difference in the degree of respect paid to truth by Occidentals and Orientals. There is, we think, a difference. The Japanese—let us reduce our remarks to them frankly—are utilitarian in their practical recognition of the obligations of truth. They hold that the necessity to be truthful does not completely over-ride the dictates of expediency, and that if to "say the thing that is" would certainly involve troubles, especially troubles for others, which can be avoided by some elasticity of statement, then such elasticity is permissible. We do not pretend to lay down any hard and fast dictum on this point. We offer merely the teaching of our own experience, for whatever it may be worth, and our experience is that where simulation or dissimulation is distinctly the lesser of two evils, a Japanese will not sacrifice so much to truth as will the type of human being called in the Occident a "Christian gentleman." Which theory works out more advantageously for the greatest good of the greatest number, is a large question, not calling for immediate discussion. But one thing may be confidently affirmed, namely, that not in the realm of Occidental journalism, as a whole, would any man of experience look for striking displays of obedience to the highest canons of verity. On the contrary, it is there he would look for exhibitions of indifference to truth where a sensation can be produced or a temporary controversial advantage gained. Our Shanghai contemporary is particularly unfortunate when it imports this question of morality into newspaper utterances about China and the Boxers, for it was precisely with regard to the Boxers and their doings in Peking that one of the most heartless and wholesale deceptions on record was practised at the expense of the Occidental public. Nor, indeed, is Shanghai the place, *par excellence*, whence journalistic challenges to discussion about relative veracity issue with grace. At all events it is much to be desired that the average Occidental should divest himself of his Pharasaical confidence in his own superior veracity; confidence which so ill endures the test of practice as to be itself a contradiction of the virtue to which it lays claim.

POLITICAL.

IT would appear as though the long-threatened split had actually occurred in the *Seiyu-kai*. The details are still a little obscure, but the broad facts are that about a hundred of the members of the House of Representatives present at the naval review, held a meeting subsequently in Kobe, and adopted a manifesto which has been sent to the head-quarters of the Party and is also being passed round among the rank and file. It is a very strongly-worded document of some length, and its gist is that the signatories revolt emphatically against submitting any longer to the leadership of Marquis ITO. They do not mention the Marquis by name, but they declare that the spirit of constitutional institutions is flagrantly violated by an organization which reduces the great bulk of a party to the position of hirelings and slaves, and requires them to give unreasoning allegiance to a small clique of leaders whom they have no voice in choosing. The manifesto therefore advances two proposals; first, that the members of committees and the leaders in general shall be elected by the Party at large, and secondly that all important questions shall be determined by general vote.

It may prove, of course, that this incident is greatly exaggerated, but we doubt whether mere rumour, even in its most audacious mood, would have ventured to invent the wording of a long manifesto such as that attributed to the recalcitrant members. Besides, there have been for some time whispers that an incident of this kind threatened, and for our own part we have always feared that the calm, patient and far-seeing statesmanship of Marquis ITO might at any moment overtax the capacity of such men as form the rank and file of the *Seiyu-kai*. Disciplined obedience to their leaders is exactly the quality in which Japanese party politicians have hitherto shown themselves deficient, and if Marquis ITO with his fertility of expedient, consummate tact, and profound knowledge of men and things, can not correct this deficiency, no one in Japan is capable of doing so. As for the consequence of this rebellion, should it prove permanent, the most prominent result would be to reduce the Lower House to a state of chaos, unless the Progressists throw in their lot with these seceders from the *Seiyu-kai—Kakushin-ha*, or "reformers," as they call themselves—, in which event the power of the majority would be transferred to Count OKUMA'S hands. But that is a mere speculation. All that can be confidently affirmed is that an insurrection has occurred against the leadership of Marquis ITO and his lieutenants, and that in the face of such an open revolt, it will be hard to restore coherence to the ranks of the great Party. It need scarcely be related that the revilers in the press continue their occupation, not at all deterred by the contradiction of events. They had fallen back upon the fable that the Ministry intended to consummate a scheme of wholesale bribery during the progress of the festivities in Kobe and Osaka. They now have recourse to the subterfuge that the corrupt intention existed, but that the agents who were to have carried it into practice found the door shut in their face by the vehemence of the seceding members. Yet such a secession might easily be supposed to have a welcome from those in power, since if it accentuates the hostility of some of the Cabinet's foes, it must tend to soften the implacability of the rest. There has not been, so far as we can remember, any more interesting complication in the progress of Japanese political evolution.

CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE.

THE returns of China's foreign trade for 1902, just issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs, are accompanied by a particularly interesting preface from the pen of Mr. F. S. TAYLOR, the Statistical Secretary. Mr. LONGFORD, writing some years ago in Nagasaki, first pointed out that Japan was rapidly bridging the interval between the bulk of her foreign trade and that of China. But only the observant few paid at the time much attention to his comment—indifference which might be excused seeing that the interval between the two trades remained still considerable. There is practically no interval now. China's trade during 1902 totalled 529½ million taels, and Japan's figure for the same year was 530 millions of *yen*. "What the foreign trade of China might be," says Mr. TAYLOR, "is shown by a comparison with Japan, which, with a population of less than one-seventh, spends almost exactly as much as China on foreign goods. But before such expansion can be looked for, domestic trade must be relieved from the taxation of goods in transit, local

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industries must be assisted instead of being hampered by excise and by taxes on raw materials, and the enormous resources of the country must be developed."

As to the pessimistic views held by some folks with reference to the commercial solvency of China, Mr. TAYLOR has no sympathy with them. He attaches little importance to the Government's complaints about being compelled to pay the Indemnity in gold, or to the fact that silver appears to be leaving the country. China's foreign debt, he observes, is trifling compared with her size and potential resources, and a small adjustment between imports and exports would redress the balance. Yet from the figures in the returns it would seem that imports exceeded exports in 1902 by 111 millions of taels in round numbers. Even after the necessary corrections have been applied—that is to say, after duties and charges have been deducted from the imports and added to the exports—the difference remains 65 millions of taels. Moreover, if we examine the returns for the past 13 years, it appears that imports exceeded exports by a total figure of 695 millions of taels, approximately, and whatever corrections be applied, that is a formidable fact. Of course, if opium could be eliminated, the balance would be nearly corrected, for the value of the drug imported during that 13-year period, exceeded 450 millions of taels. But opium can not be eliminated. It is there to stay, and although, so far as the returns show, China managed last year to escape with a net drain of specie amounting to only 23¼ millions of taels, it is plain that she can not have discharged with that sum her liabilities on account of surplus purchases totalling 65 millions, and it is further plain that during many years past she bought more than she sold. In short, with such a record she could not adopt the gold standard without anticipating constant anxiety on the score of her "unfavourable balance" of trade.

Writing about tea, Mr. TAYLOR re-iterates the complaint that during the past 20 years there has been a great falling-off in quality and style, though last season showed some slight improvement. He deplores the indifference shown by the Chinese towards any foreign suggestions about changes in cultivation or manufacture, whereas Indian and Ceylon growers pay the closest attention to every detail; and he notes that although the export duty was reduced by one-half last spring, it is still 12½ per cent. on common teas, to which must be added an almost equal amount for *likin* and internal taxes. Thus China tea is burdened with taxes representing some 20 per cent., in competition with teas that pay no taxes or duties of any kind whatever. All these things considered, there is not much wonder that the tea trade, once monopolized by the Middle Kingdom, is now virtually moribund. Possibly the opening of the Siberian Railway may tend to develop Russian demand, for no less than 3 million lbs. went to Europe by that route in 1902.

It is observable that the maritime carrying trade of China continues to be almost monopolized by Great Britain, Japan and Germany. The total tonnage last year was 54 millions in round numbers, of which 50 per cent. fell to Great Britain's share, 17 to China's, 14 to Japan's and 13 to Germany's. All the other Powers, including France, Norway, Russia and America, had 6 per cent. between them.

The revenue collected by the Customs in 1902 amounted to over 30 millions of taels. This had been predicted by Mr. TAYLOR in his Report for 1901, and his forecast proved correct, although the conditions were exceptionally unfavourable. Speaking of manufactured goods, he says that Japanese productions, made of cotton imported in the raw state from China, are able to return to China and compete successfully with the home-made yarns which are heavily taxed. In short, the Japanese mills though obliged to pay export duty on the raw cotton, together with the cost of two transportations between China and Japan, and finally import duty on the yarns as they re-enter China, can undersell the Chinese yarns in China, a striking record. China avenges herself slightly in the matter of hats made at Ningpo out of wood shavings imported from Japan. Why can not Japan work up this industry on her own account?

"MAN'S PLACE IN THE UNIVERSE."

THE remarkable essay recently compiled by Mr. A. R. WALLACE, on the subject of man's place in the universe, has not been suffered to go unanswered. Professor PICKERING of the Harvard University, has entered the lists, choosing the *Independent* for arena. Professor PICKERING does not undertake to controvert any of Mr. WALLACE'S theses. He admits that he "can in general find no fault with the facts as stated" by the latter, and he adds that the whole subject lies on the outermost bounds of human knowledge as at present extended. But he does think that the data admit of different interpretations from those assigned by WALLACE, and these different interpretations he embodies in his essay.

First, he holds that though the more powerful our telescopes and cameras, the smaller the number of stars revealed by them, still the diminution is steady and uniform, whereas it ought to be sudden did it result from an approach to the limits of star-strewn space. Hence one or all of three hopotheses may be tenable; namely, that as we recede from our sun the stars grow smaller; that as we recede they grow farther apart; and that there is in space an absorbing medium which makes the remoter stars seem fainter than would otherwise be the case. But it will appear to ordinary minds that so soon as a perpetual diminution in the size of the stars, or a perpetual increase in their distance apart, is admitted, their numerical infinity ceases to be conceivable. Thus whether we take WALLACE'S route or PICKERING'S route, we reach the same goal.

In the next place, Professor PICKERING holds that while the dark spaces in the sky may really be starless, while they may in fact be avenues stretching to endless regions of obscurity, they may also be nothing more or less than vast clouds of non-luminous gas blotting out the light of all stars beyond them. Possibly, he thinks, the universe, extending infinitely in all directions, may be filled with this non-luminous gas except in "small scattered pockets where the gas has begun to become luminous and to condense into stars and stellar systems." "Near the centre of one of these comparatively small pockets is located at the present time our own sun with its attendant planets, while what we in our ignorance call the whole universe, may be simply one among many of these little isolated stellar regions." Evidently this hypothesis would be more intelligible if it were accompanied by some explanation as to why, under conditions apparently invariable, volumes of luminous and non-luminous gases should be created so as to exist side by side. At all events Mr. WALLACE'S theory assigns to sky-darkness the intelligible definition of unlit space. Professor PICKERING requires us to suppose that it is space impervious to the passage of light.

It is when we come to the problem of determining the centre of the Milky Way that solid difficulties present themselves. The Milky Way, says Professor PICKERING, has no uniformity of shape such as would enable us to find its centre. "It is on the contrary a branching structure of most irregular form and brilliancy, sometimes one side being the brighter and sometimes the other," and no evidence exists to prove that our earth is either within one degree of the Milky Way's median plane, or within ten per cent. of the central radius of that plane. Assuming, however, that we are within one degree as to medial plane and within ten per cent. as to central line, "it may readily be shown that there are from one to ten thousand stars that are just as likely to hold the central position as we ourselves." Besides, we are moving at the rate of 14 miles a second toward one side of the Milky Way. If, then, we are near its centre to-day, where were we a hundred thousand years ago? As to that, there can be no answer, of course, until we know what the Milky Way itself is doing in the matter of motion.

After all, however, Professor PICKERING admits that Sir WILLIAM HERSCHEL'S view remains the best to hold, by the light of present-day knowledge, namely, "that the stellar universe, as we know it, is in the form of a flattened disc, such as might be formed by two watch-glasses, and that we are not far from the centre of it."

As to the question whether any other heavenly body contains, or is fitted to contain, beings such as we are, Professor PICKERING does not attempt to follow Mr.

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WALLACE's elaborate reasoning. It appears, however, to be his broad conclusion that elsewhere in the universe there may be beings who, as LAUNCELOT said of the youths of King ARTHUR's Court, "will come to all and more than all" that we are. "It has been said," he writes in conclusion, "that if an angel were to have paid a brief visit to earth once every hundred thousand years, he would have come perhaps a thousand times since the earth first separated from the sun, but only once would he have found intelligent life upon its surface. From this we may argue that if we ourselves could now visit a thousand planets that were capable sooner or later of supporting life, on only one of them could we properly expect to find inhabitants of a degree of intelligence equal to that, let us say, of our own ancestors ten or twenty thousand years ago."

Our readers will probably agree that it is all very inconclusive, and that if WALLACE can not prove his theories, neither can PICKERING refute them, which, indeed, he does not pretend to do.

BODY POLITIC & CIVIL SERVICE IN CHINA.

CHAPTER IV.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

The Empire proper of China at the present day is divided into eighteen independent state legislatures—直省.* The present system dates from the time of the Yuan or Mongol dynasty (A.D. 1280-1341). In early times immediately after the break-up of the feudal system, the Empire was divided into thirty-six departments 郡,—the name for a prefecture at the present day. Later on these departments were brought under the control of several administrative units—路 or 道, corresponding to the intendancies of circuit of the present day, or provinces properly so-called. The heads of these administrative units before the Yuan dynasty were under the direct control of the State departments at the capital. But under the Yuan dynasty, the provinces were given "home rule." Thirteen travelling state departments, or itinerant state legislatures, 中省行書, were created outside the Capital. These itinerant state legislatures thus became the governorships of the provinces at the present day. The last Ming dynasty inherited the system from the Yuan or Mongol Emperors, adding two more governorships, making fifteen in all. The present dynasty added three more and changed the name 行省 itinerant state legislature into 直省 independent state legislature. What therefore are now known to foreigners as the eighteen provinces of China are not provinces in the ordinary sense of the word: these so-called provinces are really States or Crown dominions (Reichsland), like Alsace and Lorraine and Canada, with quite an independent state legislature: in fact, if they may be so-called, "home-rule" provinces. The heads of these provincial State legislatures take no orders from the State departments in Peking, but only consult with them 咨文, reporting direct to the Emperor. Mr. Mayer in his "Chinese Government" truly says:—"The Central Government of China is arranged with the object rather of registering and checking the action of the various provincial administrations than of assuming direct initiative in the conduct of affairs. The Central Government may thus be said to criticise rather than to control the action of the provincial administrations, wielding, however, at all times the power of immediate removal from his post of any official whose conduct may be found irregular or considered injurious to the stability of the State."

Now what is further to be remarked in the government of China, is that it is not family or patriarchial government, but really military government.

At the head of the Central Government, the Emperor is the supreme dictator. The Empire proper, as we have seen, is divided into eighteen independent state legislatures or "home rule" provinces. Each of these "home rule" provinces maintains an army corps, 軍. As a rule two of these army corps are formed into an army—路, and the two "home rule" provinces in which this army is maintained, are brought under the control of a Military Administration. The commander-in-chief of this army is the high functionary known to foreigners as Viceroy or Governor-General of the province. The full official title of the so-called Viceroys, such for instance as the Viceroy of the Hu Kwang provinces, is in Chinese 總督湖廣路軍務—literally, Inspector-General of Hu Kuang Army, or Army Administration. In literary language the so-called Viceroy is styled 制軍—Military Administrator, and in popular speech, 制台, *Chih t'ai*†—His Excellency the Administrator.

The military Administrator, or Viceroy, has properly nothing to do with the civil administration of the provinces under his command. The initiative 主政 in civil affairs belongs to the Civil Governors. In military matters alone, the military Administrator or Viceroy has the sole power of initiative. But besides purely military administration, the Administrator or Viceroy has also under his immediate control all the ways and means of raising revenue for the maintenance of the Army, such as the Customs, salt gabelle and, in some provinces, also the *lekin*, &c. All public work departments also in which Imperial as distinguished from local or provincial interests are concerned, such as arsenals, river conservancy, keeping up of highways, foreign affairs, &c,—all these also come under the jurisdiction of the Administrator or Viceroy.

Moreover the Administrator, as the officer highest in rank in the provinces, necessarily represents the Emperor and is thus invested with the prerogative of the Imperial Dictatorship. Thus although in purely civil affairs, the Administrator has not the initiative, he has yet the right of veto 刻. In fact, the Military Administrator or Viceroy now is called upon to exercise a general supervision over all civil as well as military matters and to bring to the notice of the Emperor any irregularity in the administration, civil and military, and to impeach any officer or functionary whose conduct he considers detrimental to the good government of the provinces under his command. In this way all civil functionaries as well as military officers are brought under his immediate jurisdiction, and all acts of civil administration also have to be brought to his cognisance. Thus the military Administrator or Viceroy of the provinces really represents the Emperor in his capacity as Military Dictator. It is curious to note here that the one prerogative of the Emperor which is reserved, is the power to sign the death warrant, except in military cases or when the equivalent of European martial law has been proclaimed. All death warrants for the execution of persons of the civil status in China are signed by the Emperor.

The salary of a Military Administrator or Viceroy is nominally fixed at from Tls. 15,000 to Tls. 20,000 (£2,000-2,500) per year. Besides this, however, he is entitled to draw from different sources of revenue a certain sum called 公費, or civil list, for representation or other purposes of public utility. Out of this civil list the Administrator defrays all the expenses of his personal staff called 幕府. The personal staff of an Administrator or Viceroy generally consists of:—

1. 刑名老夫子—Adviser on Criminal Law.
2. 錢穀老夫子—Adviser on Laws of Property. Besides these, there are also private secretaries called 書啓, who carry out the work of private correspondence.*

The members of the personal staff have no official standing.

The public establishment in the residence or yamên of a Military Administrator or Viceroy now consists of:—

1. 中軍—Chief of Staff.
2. 武巡捕—Aides-de-Camp.
3. 戈什哈—Orderlies.
4. 文巡捕—Gentlemen ushers.
5. 監印委員—Officer in charge of the Seal.
6. 收呈委員—Officers for receiving plaints and petitions.

The Chief of Staff is the executive officer in the Head-quarters Staff or General Adjutant's department 營務處. He is also the Commandant or Colonel of the Administrator or Viceroy's Regiment 督標. The military aide-de-camp and gentlemen ushers are officers and civil functionaries who act as marshals of police and as such are responsible for the keeping of order within the yamên or residence. They also act as ushers, aides-de-camp to military officers and gentlemen ushers to civil functionaries. The orderlies, called *ko shih ha* 戈什哈 (Manchu for a page) are young petty officers of the Army who are detailed to do the duty of waiting upon the Administrator on all public occasions and also to act as carriers and messengers in the public service.

The officer in charge of the seal is specially appointed to be present as a witness on all occasions when the administrator's seal of office is affixed to public documents. The officers for receiving plaints and petitions sit within the residence or yamên on stated days as a court and examine all persons who have plaints or petitions to present, to see that they are in order before laying them before the Administrator.

The public establishment of a Military Administrator or Viceroy further consists of ordinary clerks—who are in charge of the archives. These clerks 書辦 are divided

* The word 省 *shing* means to revise, to check—hence State department or legislature. The Japanese still retain the word for their State Departments.

† 制 *Chih* means administrative organization and also to administrate; 台 *t'ai* means a tower or platform *i.e.* the high court whereon the Administrator sits and presides. The question what Chinese functionary is entitled to the address "Excellency" may be here laid at rest. The Chinese word *t'ai* is the equivalent of "Excellency." All Chinese civil and military officers who are addressed with the *t'ai* in their titles—such as Tao-tai, Fan-tai, Nieh-tai or Yi-tai, Chen-t'ai, Hsieh-tai are entitled to the address Excellency.

NOTE.—In many provinces such as now the Military Administration or Viceroyalty of the Hukuang provinces, officers of the regular service are appointed to the staff of personal secretaries who receive salary from the public funds. These secretaries are now called 文案.

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into six sections or bureaus corresponding to the six departments of state in Peking:—

1. 吏房—Bureau for Civil Service.
2. 戶房— „ Revenue.
3. 禮房— „ Religion and Education.
4. 刑房— „ Criminal Law.
5. 兵房— „ War.
6. 工房— „ Public Works.

In addition to the above there are now in most provinces two additional bureaux.

1. 軍須房—Bureau for Army Supplies.
2. 洋務房— „ Foreign Affairs.

Public Departments.

The two most important public departments in every provincial administration under the control of the Administrator are:—

1. 營務處—Head-quarter staff.
2. 善後局—Committee of Ways and Means.

The function of the Head-quarter staff is to assist the Administrator or Viceroy in working out the details of army administration, framing of regulations, distribution of rewards and punishments, camp and field inspection of troops, issue of general orders, &c. This department combines with its purely military duties also the function of Commissariat and Paymaster's Department. The department is put in commission with the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province (known to foreigners as Provincial Treasurer) as President. The purely military duties are discharged by the 中軍 Chief of Staff.

The Committee of Ways and Means, known to foreigners as the Board of Reorganisation, was first created after the Taiping rebellion to relieve the Head-quarters staff of its function of dealing with financial questions and army supplies for the army of volunteers or irregulars which had been called out to suppress the rebellion. This department has in most provinces now charge of all public funds under the control of the Military Administrator as distinguished from the provincial revenue proper.

The establishment of a public department in the provincial administration as a rule consists of:—

1. 總辦—Chief Commissioner.
2. 會辦—Assistant Commissioner.
3. 幫辦—Deputy Commissioner.

The Deputy Commissioner, who acts as executive officer of the department when under a certain rank, is given the name of

4. 總 [illegible]—Director or Secretary to the Board.

5. 委員—Department officers.
6. 司事—Assistants.

The department officers must be persons actually holding official rank whereas the assistants are persons holding no rank.

Besides the two public departments already mentioned above, there are now in almost every provincial administration many new public departments recently created for carrying out works of Imperial interest and so-called reform. In this way the money in the country which should be spent throughout the country is now drained and collected into the centres of these military administrations, or vice-royalties, for the maintenance of these public departments. As these public departments do not publish any report of the work done or of the money spent, it can be easily imagined that these departments easily become nurseries of corruption, peculation, nepotism, incompetency, idleness and dishonesty, which not only cause a waste of public funds, but what is more serious, are the cause of the demoralisation of the public service throughout the Empire.

The Civil Governor.

We have seen in the above that under the Yuan or Mongol dynasty the provinces were given "home rule" and thirteen itinerant independent State Legislatures were created outside the capital. The high functionary appointed at the head of each of these provincial State Legislatures was given the rank and title of—中丞 President of the State Council. The Ming dynasty, which succeeded the Yuan or Mongol dynasty, adopted the system of provincial administration of the Mongol Emperors, but at first limited the powers of the provincial governors and changed the rank and title of the Governors to simple Commissioner 布政司使. Later on, however, Imperial Commissioners with the title 巡撫軍民 were sent out on tour through the provinces to see to the grievances of the people and army. These touring High Commissioners were afterwards permanently retained as the Governors of the present day, while the already existing Commissioner for carrying out the provincial administration became merely an executive officer under the orders of the Governor.

As we have said above, the initiative, 主政 in civil affairs, belongs exclusively to the Civil Governor. Thus the Civil Governor is responsible for the proper adjustment and equitable conduct of the civil administration. His special duty is to look after the moral and material well-being of the population under his rule. He is required to see to the purity and efficiency of the civil service 吏治. He has to examine and report on the fitness of all candidates for civil office known as expectant officers, sent from the Department of State for civil service in Peking. In every three years he is required to send to the Emperor a confidential report on the character, ability and efficiency of the service performed by every functionary holding office in the province.

The initiative in all public works and measures of provincial or local, as distinguished from Imperial, interest, such as police (保甲), arrest of criminals (緝捕), establishment of schools and education (學校), care of the poor and relief for the distressed (賑務), &c., belongs to him. He is further required to send to the Emperor regularly reports on the state of the weather, the results of the harvests, the stock and prices of grain and other food stuff, in fact on all subjects bearing on the moral and material well-being of the people under his rule. In all criminal cases of persons of civil status and in all civil suits, his court is the court of last instance, subject, however, nominally to revision by the Military Administrator or Viceroy.

In the three provinces of Shantung, Shansi and Hunan, which are not brought under the control of a Military Administration or Viceroyalty, the commander-in-chiefship of the Army Corps in each of these provinces devolves upon the Civil Governor.

The salary of a Civil Governor is nominally fixed from Tls. 10,000 to Tls. 15,000. But like the Military Administrator, the Civil Governor is also entitled to a certain sum called 公費 or Civil List for representation and other purposes of public utility.

The public establishment of a Civil Governor is the same as that of the Military Administrator or Viceroy. The Civil Governor is, besides, honorary Colonel or Commandant of ■ special Regiment called the 撫標—Governor's Regiment. The actual Commandant of the Regiment, in his purely military duties, comes under the order of the Military Administrator or Viceroy.

The Executive Council.

The Civil Governor of a province is assisted by an Executive Council composed principally of two high functionaries:

I. 布政司使—Lieutenant-Governor.
II. 案察司使—Chief Justice.

The Lieutenant Governor is now known to foreigners as the Provincial Treasurer. Under the Ming dynasty and before the appointment of the present Civil Governor, he was actually the head of the provincial administration. When the latter was appointed, the Lieutenant-Governor became merely an executive officer under the orders of the Civil Governor. The Lieutenant Governor may properly be called the Provincial Secretary or Premier of the provincial administration. All acts of civil administration are executed and carried out through him by order of the Governor. All civil appointments are by law required to be proposed 詳 by the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Justice while the Governor has only the power of confirming or rejecting. In fact, the law requires that all acts of civil administration are legal only when such acts are made by the advice and with the consent of the Executive Council composed of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Chief Justice.

The other special duty of the Lieutenant-Governor is to control and administer the finance of the Province. The public treasury is under his charge. Hence he is known to foreigners as the Provincial Treasurer.

1. 布政司經歷—Registrar.
2. 布政司理問—Secretary.
3. 布政司庫大使—Keeper of the Treasury.
4. 布政司都事—Department assistants.
5. 布政司照磨—Audit clerks.

The Chief Justice.

One Chief Justice known to foreigners as the Provincial Judge is appointed to every provincial administration. He is the Minister of Justice for the provincial state legislature. All criminal cases as well as all civil suits come within his jurisdiction. He is empowered to call upon all law courts within the province to forward to him all depositions and judgements in all law suits and, if necessary, to order a new trial or to have the whole case brought up for trial before him. All death sentences upon persons of civil status are passed by him and only confirmed by the Governor before being sent to the Emperor for the issue of the death warrant.

The public establishment of a Provincial Chief Justice consists of:—

1. 案察司經歷—Registrar.
2. 案察司理問—Secretary.
3. 案察司知事—Department Assistant.
4. 司獄—Superintendent of the Jail.

The Military Administrative Council.

While the Executive Council of the Civil Governor is formed of the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Justice, the Council of the Military Administrator includes besides the above two, also two other high functionaries, namely:—

I. 督糧道—Grain Commissioner.
II. 監法道—Salt Commissioner.

Taxes upon land in China are paid partly in money and partly in kind. The revenue derived from the land tax paid in kind is under the control of the Grain Commissioner.

The Salt Commissioner is the Chief Comptroller of the revenue derived from the Government Salt Monopoly. The officers

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under the orders of the Salt Commissioner are:—

1. 運同—Assessor.
2. 運副—Assistant Assessor.
3. 提舉—Inspector.
4. 運判—Deputy Assessor.
5. 監課大使—Commissary.
6. 批驗所大使—Examiner.

Circuit.

We have seen that what is generally known to foreigners as a province in China is really a State Legislature. Each of these State Legislatures is divided usually into ten or more departments. Several of these departments are brought under the administrative control of a high functionary known to foreigners as the Taotai, or Intendant of Circuit. These Intendancies of Circuit may be properly called provinces into which the provincial State Legislature is divided. Before the creation of the provincial State Legislature, these provinces or circuits were the highest units of administration in the provinces. In fact these circuits correspond exactly to what is called a province in Germany. The Taotai, or Intendant of Circuit, is the Ober President of the province. His official title in Chinese is 分巡兵備道—sub-governor and military commandant. He is, in fact, the Civil Commandant of the troops within his circuit and is therefore empowered to call upon the military officer in actual command for the service of the troops whenever the public tranquillity or other interests of the Government require such a measure. The Intendant is also judge of a superior court of appeal from the lower courts of the departments. He also is empowered to interpose in lawsuits arising out of the collection of taxes. In many places such, as Shanghai, Hankow, &c., he acts also as Superintendent or Chief Comptroller of the Customs. In fact, the circuit or province being a subdivision of the provincial state legislature, is properly in itself the centre of one unit of independent administration.

Departments.

The subdivision of the country into departments dates back to the time of the breaking up of the feudal system. The first Emperor of the T'sin dynasty (B.C. 221) divided the Empire into 36 departments. In each department he appointed a governor or prefect 守, and and also a military commandant or prefect of police 尉.

A department at the present day is called a *fu* 府. It is about the size of a county in Great Britain. The constitution of administration in a department in China corresponds very much to that of a *Regierungsbizirk* in Germany. The chief functionary presiding over the department is called a 知府—prefect. The prefect is the executive officer of the Intendant of Circuit or Taotai. He is responsible to the Intendant for the proper adjustment and equitable conduct of affairs within the sphere of all civil administration.

The public establishment of a prefect of a department consists of:—

1. 府經歷—Registrar.
2. 照磨—Audit Secretary.
3. 司獄—Jail Warden.

County Departments.

Some of the modern departments which coincide with the very early subdivisions of the country, retain their ancient nomenclature of *Chow* 州—shires. But as some of the lesser subdivisions of the departments also retain their ancient nomenclature, these larger county departments, to distinguish them from lesser, are called *Chiu-li-chow* 直隸州—independent countries departments, while the lesser sub-divisions are called 昔州 county magistracies. The chief functionary presiding over a shire or county department is called a 知州 or sheriff. The functions and duties of a county department sheriff are exactly the same as those of an ordinary department prefect.

Boroughs.

Some of the great townships and sea ports of great commercial importance are made into centres of independent administration called *Y'ing* 鎮—boroughs.* Some of these boroughs are under the jurisdiction of the department prefect. Some on the other hand, being too large in size or importance, are made independent boroughs 直隸鎮; independent of the jurisdiction of a department prefect. The officer appointed over an independent borough holds the rank of a 同知 Prefect Assessor or Assistant Prefect and that presiding over an ordinary borough holds the rank of a 同判—Deputy Prefect. These Assessors or Assistant Prefects and Deputy Prefects, besides, are generally appointed to special branches of administration such as police 緝捕同知, water police 海防同知, river conservancy 水利同知, special mixed courts such as that of Shanghai, and also where there is a Manchu garrision.

District Magistracy.

Each department for purposes of administration is subdivided into administrative district or magistracy 縣. The *hsien*, or district magistracy, is the first unit of administration in China, like that of a prefecture in France. In Japan the corresponding class of officials are called governors by foreigners. In Chinese official language the district magistrate is also called governor, 令—literally, order-giver. Being the unit of administration, the duties of a district magistrate, like those of a prefect in France, are multifarious. Education, finance, administration of justice, collection of revenue, works of public utility, in fact, everything within the sphere of administration is included in his functions.

The public establishment of a district magistrate consists of:—

1. 縣丞—Chef de Bureau, or Assistant Magistrate.
2. 主簿—Recorder.
3. 典史—Chief Clerk of the Police Court.

The Chef de Bureau, or Assistant Magistrate, is the executive officer of the Magistracy, who is appointed to assist the Magistrate in his multifarious duties. In the absence of the magistrate he is empowered to act on his behalf.

The Recorder is the Chief Magistrate's assistant in his judicial capacity. The Chief Clerk of the police court is under the direct orders of the Recorder. All warrants for the arrests of criminals are made out by him. He is also responsible for the safe custody of prisoners and for making a correct return of them in the magistracy jail. The Chief Clerk of the police court, is, in fact, the head of the police department in a district magistracy.

County Magistracy.

As we have seen above, some of the modern subdivisions of the department which lie within the limit of the ancient subdivisions of the country, now retain their ancient name of *chow* 州 or shires. The functionary at the head of such a subdivision of the department is called a 知州—county district magistrate. The duties and functions of a county district magistrate are precisely the same as those of an ordinary district magistrate.

The public establishment of a county district magistrate consists of:—

1. 州同—Assistant county magistrate.
2. 州判—Deputy county magistrate.
3. 吏目—Chief of police.

Arrondissement.

Each district magistracy is again subdivided into many *hsu* 司, subdistricts or arrondissements. A deputy magistrate 巡捕 is appointed over each of these subdistricts or arrondissements. This officer is responsible for the keeping of order and is empowered to deal with petty cases and minor offences.

Local Government.

The commune or unit of local government in courtesy is called a *pao* 鄉. It is composed of so many *hsiangs* 鄉 or parishes. The Government of a *pao*, or commune, is called 約鄉—local government board. This board under the direct supervision of the district magistrate is composed of the gentry or country gentlemen of the different parishes or *hsiangs* included in the *pao* or commune. The local government is empowered to raise a police force of its own 鄉團. The board is responsible for the keeping of peace and order within its sphere of influence. It is therefore empowered to arrest offenders against the public peace and either to deal with them summarily or to send them to the district magistrate. The board also is entitled to raise revenue and take in hand all public works of local improvement, such as building of dykes, canals, keeping up of roads, &c.

In towns and cities, the parishes are called *p'u* 鋪. The same system of local government applies to the parishes in towns as in the country. In each parish in town as in country, a village sheriff is appointed who is known as the *ti pao*, or *p'ao cheng* 保正, headman of the parish. The *ti pao* is the executive officer of the district magistrate in the parish and sees that all orders of the latter are carried out. In all law suits, civil and criminal, and in all depositions proving domicile, documents to be legal must bear the *ti pao's* seal.

General Remarks.

It will be seen from the above that the system of provincial administration in China is also at bottom based on military occupation. The Emperor as supreme Dictator may be considered as the Commander-in-Chief of the Army Corps. The Military Administrations or Viceroyalties are the Divisions in the Army Corps. The Governorships are the Brigades. The circuits or provinces are the Regiments. The departments or *fu* are the Battalions. The district magistracies, which are the units of administration, are the Companies. The subdistricts or *hsu* 司 are the squads. The *hsiang yo* 鄉約, communes or local government boards, lastly, may be regarded as the corporalship of the companies.

There are, in the above, three systems, so to speak, in the machinery of administration. In each system there are three units:—first, what may be considered as the constructive unit which gives the order; next what may be called the executive or administrative unit which distributes the order and sees

* The township of Hankow was originally under the jurisdiction of the magistrate of Hanyung. But two years ago H. E. the Viceroy Chang obtained permission from the Throne to create the township of Hankow into a borough. The borough of Hankow therefore now is independent of the jurisdiction of the magistrate of Hanyung.

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that it is properly carried out; and lastly what may be called the working unit, which actually carries out the order. In the first, or highest, system:—

I.

1. The Emperor at the head of the Central Government is the constructive unit who gives out the orders or policy to be carried out.
2. The Military Administration or Viceroyalty is the Executive or Administrative unit which distributes the orders and sees that they are properly carried out.
3. The Civil Governorship is the working unit which actually carries out the orders.

II.

In the second system:—

1. The Civil Governorship is the constructive unit who gives out the orders.
2. The Lieutenant-Governor (known as Provincial Treasurer) and Chief Justice forming the Executive Council, represent the executive or administrative unit which distributes the orders and sees that they are properly carried out.
3. The *Taotai*-ship Intendancies, or circuits, or sub-provinces are the working units who actually carry out the orders.

III.

In the last and lowest system

1. The *Taotai*-ship, or Intendancies of Circuit, form the Constructive unit which gave the orders.
2. The *Fus* or departments are the Executive or administration units which distribute the orders and see that they are properly carried out.
3. The *hsien*, or district magistracies, are the working units which actually carry out the orders.

To an impartial observer, the evil of the present day in China is really not so much misgovernment as no-government. The cause of this state of no-government in China is not far to seek. In order to meet the exigencies arising from the coming of foreigners, the resources of the country have been drained for what may be called Imperial purposes; while the provincial or local interests of the people have been necessarily neglected. While Imperial questions occupy the attention of the Government, High Functionaries, such as Viceroys or, as they should properly be called, Military Administrators in the Provinces, who are charged with the duty of attending to Imperial questions and interests, usurp more than their due: they exercise all the power not only of spending public money but also of advancing men in the public service, while the Civil Governors who are responsible for provincial or local interests have no power at all. Moreover, an oligarchy, or clique of men, in the public service who pose as "progressive" mandarins in order to curry favour with foreigners, and who, while the policy of the Imperial Government is one of conciliation towards foreigners, are thus pushed forward to conduct "foreign affairs,"—such men get all the favour in the service and grow rich, while other honest officials who are responsible for the local interests are left to starve with the starving populace.

KU HUNG-MING.

Nanking, 14th February, 1903.

DR. HALL'S SENDAI LECTURES AND HIS MISSION TO JAPAN.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, delivered a course of lectures to large audiences in the Lecture Hall of the Second High School (Sendai) on the 4th, 5th and 6th instants. The present writer does not purpose giving a full report of these lectures, as they will no doubt be published later on. He was privileged to hear the last lecture, only, the subject being the claims of Christianity to be considered the absolute religion. Dr. Hall has a most impressive manner and his lectures, regarded merely as oratory, are well worth listening to. An air of sincerity, and extreme earnestness of purpose marked all his utterances. His language was such as is seldom heard from pulpit orators in this part of the world—chaste, succinct, logical and with a due amount of that quality known as nervousness. It is perhaps no exaggeration to say that Dr. Hall succeeded in presenting his subject in as fascinating, and, we might add, as sublime a manner as was possible. Professor Hino's interpretation was defective. He had a poor command of language, and the language that he mostly used is best described as altogether lacking in dignity. After listening to Dr. Hall's fine sentences one's sensibilities were distinctly shocked when Professor Hino's laboured *sokugo* began. It is to be regretted that Dr. Hall did not provide himself with a better qualified interpreter. If either of the Dr. Inoues could have stood on the platform and could have given to the audience Dr. Hall's ideas in Japanese in as grand a form as they were expressed in English the effect on Japanese ears would have been most telling. The interpreter repeated himself frequently and in a few instances went to the length of putting in remarks of his own in explanation of what Professor Hall had said. The opinion of good judges of the capacity of Sendai audiences seems to be that Dr. Hall's discourses were too philosophical to be generally understood. A lecture on absolute religion can only be comprehended by specially trained minds. The Japanese as a people take little real interest in philosophy, metaphysics or abstruse religious ideas. Such of the English teachers in the Second High School as attended no doubt understood Dr. Hall's lectures. In the whole town it is just possible that 20 or 30 other persons might be found to whom such lectures when put into Japanese would be intelligible. But as we understand the object of Dr. Hall's visit to Sendai and to Japan, he came as a scholar bearing a special message to scholars, and, this being so, we have no right to find fault with him for not bringing his discourses down to the level of the semi-educated people who formed the majority of his audiences in Sendai. Dr. Hall, we believe, is sincerely desirous of making use of every available means for rendering his mission successful, and yet in listening to his lecture last night one thing which struck us most forcibly was the lecturer's entire ignorance of the attitude of the modern Japanese scholar to orthodox Christianity. Had Dr. Hall been aware of the actual state of opinion among educated men in Japan on miracles, the alleged Divinity of Christ and the other alleged supernatural elements on which orthodox Christianity is based, he never could have sustained that ultra-optimistic tone which marked his utterances from beginning to end. Dr. Hall asks Japanese scholars to accept orthodox Christianity as the only absolute religion. The proofs he adduces of its absoluteness of a non-supernatural kind are precisely those which have been urged by men as eloquent and as able as Dr. Hall with equal force in favour of Buddhism or Hindooism as an absolute religion. Having been engaged in the study of Japanese modern thought for a quarter of a century, we perhaps may without presumption claim to know what are the opinions of the great majority of educated Japanese on religion, ethics and philosophy. We have no hesitation in saying that eloquent as were Dr. Hall's appeals, and strongly as he put the cause of Christianity, unbaptized Japanese scholars will make no response worthy of his consideration. This sounds very disappointing, but Dr. Hall, we take it, prefers to know the truth however unpleasant it may be. It may damp his ardour somewhat, but he can turn it into other channels. He will perhaps excuse us for saying that he has come to the wrong place for obtaining the type of scholarly converts of which he is in search. The intellectual position occupied by modern Japanese scholars towards supernaturalism is precisely that of the great majority of highly educated men in Europe and America. While admitting that Christ was in some respects superior to any moral reformer the world has seen, Japanese scholars reject altogether his supernatural origin, what theologians know as his Divinity or Godhead. Miracles they deem unproved and unprovable. In the personality of God few Japanese scholars believe, considering that whatever definition may be given to this term it is impossible to get rid of the authropomorphic taint which adheres to it. Their pantheistic views seem to them to represent far grander conceptions of deity than the personality attributed to God by Christians. The Christian conception of God appears to them to be illogical, in that it attributes to Him qualities that seem to be contradictory. In the region of philosophy they consider Christianity to be in every way inferior to Buddhism and Hindooism, for they do not regard the philosophy nor the logic which the Christian fathers learnt from the Greeks as distinctively Christian at all. Christ, they say, was a great moral magnet who exercised an enormous influence over the ancient world, but he was no philosopher, nor is philosophy directly taught in the Bible. As for the rise and progress of the Christian religion, on which Dr. Hall dwelt at the close of his last lecture in Sendai, it resembled in many important respects the rise of Buddhism and even of Mohammedanism, for propagation by the sword was not a characteristic of Mohammedanism in its early stages. Christianity spread in the West in superstitious ages when credulity was at its height. In modern times the tendency of enlightened thought is all in the direction of discrediting the supernaturalism on which orthodox Christianity is based. You, say the Japanese scholars, Dr. Hall, ask us to accept Christian supernaturalism as the basis of the absoluteness which you claim for your creed. It amounts to this, as all other claims that you have put forward in favour of Christianity apply to other creeds as well, and yet you urge us to appeal to reason. In as far as we appeal to reason so far must we unequivocally reject the supernatural basis for what you call a universal religion. That, in a nutshell, is the attitude of non-Christian Japanese scholars to the faith preached by Dr. Hall, and we may add the attitude of a growing section of baptized Japanese also. No one can have perused the translations from Japanese magazines which have been appearing in these columns for the past ten years without being convinced that Japanese leaders of thought will never grant the premises on which the success of Dr. Hall's mission entirely depends. But we would not be understood as saying that his visit to Japan has been fruitless. He has undoubtedly done a great deal of good, if only in showing Japanese gentlemen and scholars what a thoroughly up-to-date theological professor who resides in one of the great centres of Western civilisation is like; if only in showing how temperate, how conciliatory, how broad-minded, how thoroughly refined in every sense of that word, how noble in purpose, how intensely enthusiastic a modern Christian apologist can be. The Japanese come across types of our Western races that represent a very low level of civilisation—men of whom most of us are ashamed. We cannot but rejoice when such men as Dr. Hall visit these shores. That Dr. Hall should have attempted an impossible task we deem to be a subject for regret. He may not know that if there is one point on which the men who can claim to be authorities on Japanese mental characteristics agree, it is the indifference of the nation to those deep, vital and to certain Western minds all-absorbing religious problems which Dr. Hall has been discussing. Aston, Chamberlain, Satow all agree about this. We would recommend Dr. Hall to read what has been written on this topic by men who have approached the sub-

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ject as open-minded, unbiassed scholars in search of incontrovertible facts. Even Mr. Chamberlain's article on "The Japanese People" in his "Things Japanese" is very instructive on this point. Modern Christianity as a system of ethics a large number of Japanese will no doubt accept. They like its optimism, its progressiveness, and even its novelty. As to its authority, that in their opinion does not go one inch beyond its utility. It is a system which works well in the West and can be made to work here. In a future life in our sense of that term few educated Japanese believe. In the conscious immortality of individual souls they have no kind of belief. The Rev. C. Munzinger in his *Die Japaner*, as quoted by Mr. Chamberlain in his "Things Japanese," describes the nation to which Dr. Hall's message has been addressed as "busy, deft, practical, somewhat superficial withal, not deep, not given to introspection. Extraordinarily perspicacious, not profoundly contemplative. Highly ethical, not highly religious." We must confess to a feeling of disappointment that a man of Dr. Hall's calibre should have embarked on an enterprise which he himself, if we mistake not, will one day see to have been foredoomed to failure in all essential particulars. But your modern American is nothing if not enterprising, and the secondary benefits derived and conferred by Dr. Hall's visit to this country may go far to alleviate the pain which failure to attain a highly cherished object invariably causes earnest minds.

WITH THE HEAD-HUNTERS OF FORMOSA.

[Read before the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday, April 17th, 1903].

"Ilha Formosa" (Beautiful Isle) exclaimed the old Portuguese navigators as they sailed down the west coast of the big island which lies one hundred miles to the eastward of the coast of Fukien, and, though the Chinese called their one time dependency "Taiwan," and the Japanese still continue to do so, the euphonious Portuguese name is the one which, I venture to think, will stick to the island so long as foreigners draw maps and compile geographies. From all accounts Formosa richly deserves her name: the scenery of the plains on the west coast is lovely in the extreme, while amid the mountains that dominate the whole of the eastern portion of the island the panorama seldom falls short of the majestic. Situate as it is between Lat. 22° and 26° N., the vegetation cannot help being luxuriant. The island has an area of about 15,000 square miles, which is half the size of Scotland, or a trifle larger than the American States of Vermont and Connecticut. In length about 264 miles and of a breadth at its widest of about 80 miles, Formosa is practically divided into two great natural divisions—the hills and the plains—by a range of lofty mountains which intersect the island almost from north to south. The mountainous district, says Mr. Davidson in his monumental work "The Island of Formosa," is almost wholly confined to the eastern half and continues to the shore itself, where cliffs with an estimated height of six thousand feet present a perpendicular face to the sea. These are believed to be the highest sea-coast cliffs in the world. In the midst of these rugged scenes are found the descendants of the oldest of Formosa's known inhabitants, the savage aborigines with which we intend to deal this evening. But before tracking them to their haunts and describing a few of their customs I would like to mention one or two historical facts. Chinese annals first mention Formosa in A.D. 608, when the island was already inhabited by a race of Malay origin. Vague references continue to be made to the place in succeeding centuries and we read of expeditions being sent to subdue the natives, but none would seem to have met with much success, and when the first Western people to visit the island, the Portuguese, arrived some time between 1557 and 1590, they found the Chinese settlers strictly confined to the plains and the aborigines triumphant in the hills. The Portuguese do not seem to have made any settlements on the island.

Long previous to the sixteenth century Japanese sea-rovers made many piratical descents on Formosa, and the Chinese littoral, more particularly during the turbulent period of the Ashikaga Shogunate. In 1620 the Japanese, who always seem to have hankered after the island, made a serious attempt to found a trading colony at Kelung, despite the large number of Chinese already settled there and prospering. The *daimyo* of Satsuma supported the traders, sending an armed expedition but history is silent regarding the exploits of this little band of warriors. The Dutch arrived in 1634 and founded several settlements, and traces of their occupation are still to found in the splendid masonry of the ruins of the forts Zelandia and Provintia. Though the traders among the Dutch were actuated by purely mercenary motives and went to the island for the sole purpose of getting all they could out of it in the shortest possible space of time, some Lutheran missionaries who accompanied them were moved by nobler impulses and the progress they made in converting the aborigines to their faith was really marvellous considering the shortness of their stay. Mr. Davidson, in fact, declares the success attained by the Dutch missionaries in Formosa "has never been equalled in any land peopled by so-called barbarians." In 1661, the rule of the Dutch came to a sudden close, Koxinga, the famous pirate chief, expelling them after several severe battles. Koxinga was the offspring of a Chinese pirate and a Japanese mother. He consolidated his power in Formosa, ruling wisely and well, but died at an early age. His grandson was easily pursuaded to resign the Formosan Crown to the Emperor of China, and the Chinese continued in possession till the close of the Japan-China war of 1894-5. By the treaty of Shimonoseki Formosa then passed into the hands of the Japanese Government, the formal surrender taking place on June 1st, 1895. The new masters had, as you know, a rather disagreeable time of it to start with, having to reduce a formidable Chinese rising in the South which was organized by Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag leader of Tonkin notoriety. But law and order were slowly evolved and the island seems now to have entered upon the prosperous days of peace.

With this short introduction we will turn to the Head-Hunters of Formosa. Mr. Davidson tells us in his book that he had placed at his disposal much original material concerning these interesting people, which had been compiled by Mr. Y. Ino, who, by devoting many years to the study of the Formosa aborigine, has become the leading authority on the subject.

Mr. Davidson in the chapter devoted to "The Inhabitants of Formosa" says:—Prior to the arrival of Dutch and Chinese, the savage tribes, or so-called aborigines, were spread over the whole island. Along the large fertile plain which forms the western half of the island, they were found everywhere. The Taiwan group, which retired before the advance of invaders to the mountainous region of the south and to one small part of the plain in the extreme south, occupied in the early days a large tract of land in the south-western part of the island. It is possible that the name of this tribe suggested to the first Chinese the name "Taiwan," which was later adopted for the whole island. The fact that the savages, in these early days, prospered and were at one time strong and powerful has been handed down to us by Chinese historians. One ancient Chinese geographer writes: "Their abodes, scattered everywhere, covered an area as large as a thousand *li*. The number of the tribes was very great, each of them forming a band consisting of five or six hundred or a thousand people. Each tribe had over it a chief whose command was absolute. They were a courageous people and gloried in warfare." Again from historical accounts of the Dutch we learn that there were two hundred and ninety-three tribes in the comparatively limited sphere of the foreigner's influence. From these and other writings we may safely infer that the tribes throughout the island were very numerous in early days.

Little is known as to the origin of these savage peoples. We may safely assume, however, that Formosa has been the home of some groups for at least two thousand years. Chinese historians report that, on the arrival of the first Chinese in the island (in 608 A.D.), they found different tribes existing, whose language was quite foreign to them. We also learn that they were of Malayan or Polynesian origin, their short stature, their yellowish brown colour, their straight black hair and other physical characteristics, as well as their customs and language, bear sufficiently strong resemblance to the natives of the South Seas to confirm this. It seems also that these tribes did not all arrive in the island at the same time, or land at the same place. Some trace their Formosan ancestors to a more ancient date than others; some landed on the western coast, others on the eastern; some established themselves in the south, others in the north. Though occupying limited areas, we find a more or less wide distinction between the tribes of one district and those of another. This distinction extends not only to dress, habits, and customs, but even to language; there being in several instances groups of these savages whose language is unintelligible to a second group. Taking note of these differences, recent investigations show that the savages of the island come under eight divisions. As many tribes, some showing minor characteristics peculiar to them, comprise a division, we will use the term group. The savages of the island may be classified as follows:—

1st—Atayal group.	5th—Paiwan group.
2nd—Vonum group.	6th—Puyuma group.
3rd—Tsou group.	7th—Ami group.
4th—Tsalisen group.	8th—Pepo group.

Of the above, the Pepo (Pepohoan), Puyuma, and Ami groups are known to the Japanese as "Jukuban," or domesticated savages. The Pepo live in the western plain, and the Puyuma and Ami groups in the eastern plain. The savages of these three groups have been despoiled of the greater part of their lands by the Chinese. Influenced by the superior strength and intelligence of the new-comers they have abandoned many of their original customs, some of them even their language, and have adopted the customs and speech of the Chinese. It is this abandonment of ancient customs that has brought on them the designation of "domesticated savages." The other groups dwell in the central mountain range, some occupying districts of five or six thousand feet elevation. The traditions of all, however, agree that they did not occupy the rough mountainous districts prior to the arrival of the strangers. Then in undisputed possession, the vast and fertile plain of the western half was their home land, and here they enjoyed a life of ease and plenty. It was their defeat in the struggle for supremacy with Chinese immigrants that drove them into the mountains.

The Pepo alone remained to compete with the strangers with a cruel result only too apparent; the Chinese proved the fittest and survived, while the savages decreased year after year in numbers and in influence, until now the population of the Pepo group is but one-tenth of what it was a century ago, and is in a poor and miserable condition. Notwithstanding this, they at one time formed a prosperous and powerful state, occupying the most fertile districts of the extreme western plain, and possessing a geographical advantage over the other savages of the island. They even constructed boats and feeble rafts of timber with which they crossed the dangerous Formosa Channel, undertaking expeditions to other lands. Not only did some of the Pepo group invade the southern coast of China, but they crossed the Bashee Channel to the south, maintaining communication with Luzon island. These facts are known from their own traditions and from the works of Chinese historians. They seem to have reached the height of their influence during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. It was only one hundred years ago, after they met defeat in their struggle for existence, that their prosperity was transferred to their opponents; and by the assimilating power of Chinese civilization and the oppression of the Chinese authorities, they retained but a minute, portion of their former domains.

The other groups, unlike the once powerful Pepo, retired on the approach of strangers to the hill regions where from the natural inhospitality

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of their position they were able to avoid the struggle for existence with the foreign people; and as they have retained their warlike and primitive nature, they have been practically successful in preserving their original independence and status.

According to the latest Japanese statistics these savages number about 113,529 souls, spread over 7,500 square miles, or about one-half the entire surface of the island. Those living near the plains, as I have already said, have adopted many garments after the style of their former Chinese oppressors, but the more inaccessible tribes go about much more scantily clad. Tatooing is general, both for men and women, the marks having a certain mystic significance in some cases, in others being signs of certain social position. or rank. Some tribes also remove certain teeth under the impression that this mutilation of the jaw tends to improve their appearance, the teeth pulled up being generally the two lateral incisors. The diet of these so-called savages is rather varied, consisting of millet, rice, sweet potatoe and taro, together with the flesh of deer and wild pig. Their huts are generally very primitive in construction and only a few groups seem acquainted with the art of pottery-making and wood-carving. Marriage customs vary with different tribes, but on the whole it seems that the sexes meet on terms of equality, while in some instances so much more advanced are they than Europeans or Americans, that the girls have the privilege of choosing their own husbands. Even among the less-advanced the ceremony of capture—such a prominent rite among most savage races—is reduced to the most rudimentary form. Before the Dutch missionaries began their labours among them the aborigines had a peculiar law which forbade a man living continuously with his wife till he was past 50, while the women were not allowed to become mothers of the race until the mature age of 37. These customs, once abolished, have never been revived. Among the more southern tribes, the Puyuma for instance, the family system centres round the female. "If a woman favours the attentions of a certain suitor and marriage is decided on, the man transfers himself to the house and family of the wife. The obtaining of a husband is thus chiefly under the control of the woman and her family. It is the wife's family that is responsible for the young husband. The latter's family renounce all further claim to him."

With regard to Head-hunting, I again quote Mr. Davidson. He says:—Of all the savages in the island the Atayals are the most active and aggressive in head-hunting. This pernicious practice has entered into their life, and plays so prominent a part in their whole social system as to have become almost ineradicable so long as a remnant of their old life remains. The Atayals consider head-hunting justifiable, in fact obligatory, in the following cases:—

1. To be assured of a year of abundance, the heads of freshly killed human beings must be offered up to their ancestors.

2. To qualify for entrance into the Councils as a recognized adult.

3. To gain favour with the unmarried female, making it possible to obtain as wife one of the most attractive damsels.

4. To obtain rank and influence. The degree of respect and admiration gained among fellow savages is dependent upon the number of heads secured.

5. To gain for the individual and his family, and even for the tribe, freedom from pestilence. For instance small-pox is sometimes prevalent; to drive out the pest the nearest relatives of the patient will engage in a head-hunting expedition.

6. To be considered victor in a dispute or to recover one's standing after having committed some offence against one's fellows. Thus, when two savages quarrel and cannot arrive at a settlement both parties disappear; and the first to return with a head obtains a settlement of the dispute in his favour. Also one who is suspected of having offended against the established rules of the Atayals may clear himself of reproach by bringing to his village a newly decapitated head.

Taking the above into consideration, it would appears that head-hunting enters into the religion of the Atayals. Furthermore, according to the moral standard of the people, it is positively obligatory on every male adult unless such individual is prepared to incur the hatred and probably the hostility of his comrades. Head-hunting is a dangerous occupation, and the Atayal frequently meets his death. The event of a brave returning unharmed and bearing the much-prized head of his victim is consequently an occasion for great rejoicing. On his approach being heralded it is not uncommon for the members of his village—men, women and children, to rush out and greet him. The story of his exploit is listened to with keen joy, the brave praised for his valour, and a celebration takes place in which dancing and the drinking of wine plays a most prominent part. Every village possesses a small narrow platform supported on wooden or bamboo poles some three or four feet high. It is out in the open air and on it are placed the heads obtained by the braves of the village. This repository is under the charge of a village chief, and the heads are never removed. After exposure to the rain and ravages of insects and rats, the trophies are soon reduced to glistening skulls; and, to the stranger, are the most striking objects to be seen in a savage village. Some villages possess several hundred heads, and the smallest habitation as a rule some ten. Tradition speaks of one brave who himself had captured 500 heads. The average at present for a recognized brave is about ten.

Among other tribes the practise is steadily falling into disuse and the Japanese entertain a hope that before long it may be entirely a thing of the past. The Formosan head-hunter stalks his victim, lying in wait for him amid the jungle, and Mr. Davidson in one striking passage describes how it is done. I take the excerpt from his chapter on "Camphor." "The wild man from some hidden spot on the hill-top patiently waited until the settler left for the forest, and then speeding down with stealthy foot he sought a friendly clump of underbrush near the pathway along which he knew his man would pass. Here as quiet as death he watched until the unsuspecting Chinese passed; then crouching he left his retreat, followed for a few steps, and then upright, with the full strength of his sinewy arm the spear was thrown. His victim falls to the ground severely wounded, the savage promptly finishes the deed with a long knife, and, severing the head from the body, throws it in the bag which he carries for the purpose, and disappears in the forest." From all accounts the wildmen of Formosa are prompted to attack the Chinese by memory of the fearful atrocities which the latter perpetrated upon them, and so when the Japanese came with gentler manners and different ways of handling the aborigine, they escaped the "sudden death," an immunity for which they are doubtless thankful.

Mr. Davidson, in a private letter says: "Not all the savages are head-hunters. The southern tribes are gradually giving up the barbarous practise. Thus only the Atayal group, which occupies the northern third of the savage territory, deserve to be termed head-hunters. There are, I believe, no savages in the world, when their limited population is considered, who take as many lives as these Formosan Atayals. In 1898 the Atayals attacked border-camphor workers and others 303 times and succeeded in killing or wounding 635 persons, chiefly Chinese, and 1898 was not a bad year either. During one month the savages attacked on 45 different occasions, causing injury or death to 85 persons. This is one attack every sixteen hours. This means a strenuous life not only for the savage, but for the unfortunate border resident, who has added to the usual cares of this life, the unpleasant necessity of continually keeping an eye open for the wild man with the gun, for unfortunately at present the savages all have firearms."

In Mr. Davidson's opinion the Japanese Government could easily dispose of the Formosa savage. They have only to destroy the jungle. But the destruction of this means the destruction of one of the principle sources of the income of the State—the camphor trees. It is thus no savage, no camphor, and the Japanese have decided that they will take the evil with the good.

And now to sum up. I once more quote Mr. Ino *verbatim et literatim* from Mr. Davidson's book:—The social condition of the Formosa savages, taken as a whole, may be briefly described as follows:—They have ceased to lead a nomadic life, and now live in villages and are subject to certain social restrictions. They have emerged from a state of isolated individuality, and are now under the control of chiefs. They no longer make their homes in caves or trees, but have learned to build huts of wood and stone. They have more or less religious ideas, and worship the spirits of their ancestors. They have passed from the age of stone and bone as materials for their implements, and now utilize iron, though they do not yet understand the treatment of metals. Whereas formerly both sexes went naked, they now wear certain simple garments. They no longer make fire by rubbing together pieces of wood, but utilize flint and steel. They are not wanting in a sense of the artistic. The designs and coluor effects which are shown in their cloth give evidence of this, and some are very skillful in carving. They show fondness for music; and, in addition to simple instruments such as bamboo jewsharps and one-string bows, both of which are capable of rendering various tones, some of the tribes possess a kind of flute, with which they accompany their native songs.

As regards domestic relationships, the Formosa savage recognises as near relations his descending line of offspring or ascending line of parentage for three generations in the following order:—Parents and brothers of parents; parents, father and mother, and sons and daughters of brothers of parents, and brothers and daughters; sons and daughters of brothers, and grandsons and granddaughters.

The above, considered as near relations, are under the following restrictions:—

1. Marriage is not permitted between them.
2. Near relations must protect and give special help to widowers, widows, and orphans, who require assistance.
3. The funeral of near relatives must be attended (Formosa savages avoid approaching the dead; and, unless the deceased was a near relative, will never attend a funeral).

The strong distinction made between adults and youths is very striking. The savages do not count age by years, but rather by strength, and ability, thus unholding the adage, "Man is no older than he feels." They confer, by certain formal ceremonies, the status of adult on a youth whose physique gives evidence of maturity; and, among some groups, one who, lacking in strength, gives evidence of valour by bringing in the head of a stranger. The adult status is generally designated by tattooing some part of the body, or by extracting certain teeth. The privileges enjoyed by adults are:—

1. They are considered persons of capacity and responsibility.
2. They are permitted to marry.
3. They are permitted to chew betel-nut (chiefly among the Tsalisens).

Although marriage customs vary among the different groups, still there are no tribes that do not recognize marriage as an important event, or that do not endeavour to render it impressive by requiring the performance of certain formal ceremonies. The relationship between husband and wife continues until death; and a woman is not permitted on the death or disappearance of her husband to remarry. Unfaithfulness on the part of a wife is unheard of, and prostitution and other immoral practices are practically non-existent. Some of the savages living on the border, corrupted by their contact with Chinese, have on rare occasions been found suffering from a certain disease, but no such cases have been reported among the savages of the interior. This, together with the strict observance of monogamy, the affection of parents for their children, the deep sorrow shown by members of a family on the death of one of their number, the respect shown to elders, gives evidence of a social state not only far superior to that of other savage tribes of the

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Pacific, but of a condition which, when compared with society under our much vaunted civilization, does not always reflect great credit on us.

The social organization of the Formosa savages is briefly as follows:—A chief is appointed, either by inheritance or election, and the peace of the village is in his keeping. Although there are two different forms of social organization,—that of self-government and that of despotism among the savages,—yet in general, the mere existence of a moral code, established by custom and tradition, keeps the savage in order. Each tribal member has such a deep respect for the opinion of his fellows and considers his own interests and the interests of the community so inseparable, that he looks upon a crime against others as equally an injury to himself. True brotherhood is exemplified among these savage tribes to a degree not found elsewhere. Consequently, a chief is but rarely called upon to severely discipline his followers. When his assistance is required it is usually to provide punishment for some petty offence.

The penalties are in keeping with the provocation and the views of the tribes on morality, and the chief endeavours to keep himself within precedent.

Crime is not regarded alike by the various groups. Frequently different tribes, perhaps living in close proximity, have different social standards. The following, however, are the principal crimes commonly recognized:—

1. Adultery.
2. An impolite or immoral act which is liable to disturb or endanger the existence of the whole tribe.
3. The stealing of any article the property of one of the tribe.
4. Disrespect towards elders (chiefly among the Amis).
5. Murder of one of the tribe (the killing of an outsider is not considered a crime; but, on the contrary, receives high commendation).

For the above offences punishment is generally inflicted as follows:—

1. Capital punishment (chiefly inflicted for adultery).
2. Permanent or temporary banishment from the tribe.
3. Confiscation of property (there is no example of the confiscation of houses).
4. Whipping (beating on the back or thighs with bamboos or wooden sticks).
5. Censure (a chief will publicly censure an offender).

The men and women of the Caucasian races have much to learn from this simple code, and in perusing it there must inevitably rise in the minds of the reflecting the thought that, after all, our boasted western civilization has not so very much to vaunt itself about.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.

The Yokohama Customs rendered a decision on April 14th upon a protest filed by Messrs. Bruhl Frères, No. 22, Yokohama. The firm imported a certain number of cameras on which the appraisers imposed 25 per cent. *ad valorem* duty under No. 490 of the Tariff. The importers protested, insisting that the duty should be imposed as in No. 15. The protest was not sustained.

Another decision was rendered on the same day by the Yokohama Customs upon a protest filed by the China and Japan Trading Company, No. 89, Yokohama. The firm imported a certain quantity of sodium on which the Customs imposed an *ad valorem* duty of 10 per cent. under No. 136 of the Tariff. The firm protested on the ground that the duty should be imposed under No. 270. The protest was not sustained.

TRAGEDY IN HONGKONG.

Capt. F. J. Pentreath, formerly chief officer of the *Afridi*, but lately promoted master of the steamer *Sikh*, was found dead in his cabin on board the *Sikh* in Hongkong harbour on April 7th. It is suggested that he accidentally shot himself while cleaning his revolver. Capt. Pentreath was only 30 years old and unmarried.

PRAYER AND EFFORT FOR MORE JAPANESE CHRISTIAN WORKERS.

At a recent meeting of the Missionary Association of Central Japan, the subject under discussion was "The Gaining and Training of Candidates for the Ministry." A carefully prepared paper was read, and the discussion that followed was unusually long and earnest. All felt the seriousness of the situation. Opportunities are rapidly multiplying, but many pass unused. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few." So strongly did the Association feel on the subject, that it appointed the undersigned committee to prepare a suitable appeal, and send it out to the Churches and Christian workers in Japan.

Many forces have been working to deplete the ranks of Japanese Christian workers, and to deter others from responding to the call to "come over and help us," but we thank Almighty God for the heroic self-denial and self-sacrifice with which many of our Japanese brethren have resisted the temptations to ease and place and power, and have set their faces like a flint to continue steadfast in the high calling whereunto they were called of God. In this, they are but following in the footsteps of the Master, and proving themselves real heroes of the Cross of Christ. He came as the Revealer of the Father and the Saviour of men, and He shrank from no sacrifice that would uplift His brother-men. He "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister." He toiled in loneliness, and weariness, and pain, and humiliation, and He did it with unfailing courage and devotion.

We thank God that the heroic lives to-day in the hearts of many of His followers in Japan. And, well it is so, for the bearer of the Glad Tidings in this land must needs often suffer weariness, and opposition, and privation for the Master's sake. It has been so from the beginning, and will continue so till the end. But the work is a noble one. It enriches the personality of the worker, and urges him on to his best endeavor. God uses those in it for the salvation of individuals, and the enriching of the moral and spiritual life of the nation. We believe that the truest patriots in Japan to-day are the workers for Jesus Christ. But the fact remains that there are vast multitudes demanding our pity and compassion. They are as sheep without a shepherd. They are ready to be taught the Way of Life, but there is no teacher to teach. Shall we not pray with new faith and zeal that the Lord send forth more labourers into His harvest? And shall we not be instant in season and out of season, in public and in private, to help our young friends to hear and obey the voice of God and give themselves heroically to this high and difficult calling?

Forty years ago, Garibaldi issued his trumpet call to the young men of Italy, and said, "I offer you hunger, and nakedness, and sickness, and death. But come, rally around my standard, for only thus can Italy be made free and independent." Thousands of young men responded to this call; they threw off the yoke of the enemy, and freed their beloved land.

Japan must be free, but the Truth alone can make her free. Let us pray and work, that the flower of the young men in the Church of Jesus Christ in this land may hear the call of their great Leader, respond to it like men, and give themselves, soul and mind and body, to the glorious work of freeing their fellow countrymen from the bondage of sin; and that, like Isaiah of old, they may rise up and say with lips that have been touched with the live coal: "Here am I, send me."

We suggest that Sunday, May 10th, be set apart as a day of special united prayer to this end, and that all Pastors and Evangelists preach on the subject on the same day.

But we must needs pray without ceasing, and add all diligence to prayer. "Ask and it shall be given you."

(Signed) J. D. Davis, G. H. Chapman, T. H. Haden, } Committee.

LAW CASES.

MOURILYAN HEIMANN & CO.'S BANKRUPTCY.

The hearing of claims by the following creditors against the estate of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., bankrupts, was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 9th.

The creditors and the amounts they claim are:

1.	K. Uyeno	Yen	38.70
2.	Tingshit Shu	„	33,075.86
3.	G. Umeda, late Mayor of Yokohama City	„	537 60
4.	Russo-Chinese Bank	„	55,770.58
5.	G. Umeda, late Mayor of Yokohama City	„	2.50
6.	A. H. Groom, 138, Nakayamate 3-chome, Kobe	„	6,500.00
7.	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	„	22,004.52
	Interest	„	274.89
8.	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	Silver	$46,213.09
9.	A. H. Groom, Kobe,	Yen	85,000.00
10.	W. D. S. Edwards No, 99, Kobe	„	1,200.00
11.	Li Chung-chong, Twatutia, Taipeh, Formosa	„	25,000.00
12.	Yun-Foo Sam	„	5,426.26
13.	A foreign firm, Yokohama	„	27,889.10
	Interest	„	294.56
14.	K. Ogiwara, Formosa	„	6,000.00
15.	The Yokohama Specie Bank Ltd.	„	248,029.07
	Interest	„	4,036.41
16.	The Yokohama Specie Bank Ltd.	„	1,152.83
17.	The Yokohama Specie Bank Ltd.	U.S. gold	$8,566.45
18.	Kong Leon Hwan	Yen	24,063.56
19.	H. Oshikawa and two others	„	7,883.25
20.	Harold Charles Pigott	„	40,000.00
	Interest	„	2,000.00
21.	Samuel, Samuel & Co.	„	10,953.08

(Other two or three creditors have applied to the court for leave to enter claims.)

Mr. Hioki, barrister, liquidator for the bankrupt firm, was present and Mr. Sato and nine other barristers for the creditors.

The claims of the creditors—Nos. 1 to 10—were examined. Counsel for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation asked that a summons should be issued to Mr. H. C. Pigott as an expert to give opinion as to proving the signature on a letter from the agent of the bank in Twatutia, Formosa. To this the Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL, SAMUEL & CO.

This case, instituted by Mr. Hioki, the liquidator of the bankrupt estate of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., against Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., as to which an interlocutory judgement was given on March 19th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on April 10th.

After the interlocutory judgement regarding the responsibility of Mr. E. C. Davis was given, the hearing of the principal claim was resumed.

Defendants stated that they recognized that Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. had invested a capital of *yen* 226,250 in the camphor monopoly business, which they carried on with defendants in Formosa. The capital, however, was not applicable to the present claim of plaintiff, for the reason that on starting the business in the island, there was needed capital amounting to *yen* 1,810,000 in all, one-eighth part, that is, *yen* 226,250, of which was to be deposited as a guarantee with the Formosan Government. As guarantee money, Mourilyan Heimann, and Co. invested the required amount in the form of a draft which defendants endorsed, promising to pay the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation or order on the due date, and the draft was also certified by the manager of the bank, with whom defendants made a contract that the draft was to be deposited in the Bank of Formosa and the deposit receipt was to be transferred to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation as a guarantee of the certificate of the manager. Then having obtained Industrial Loan Bonds valued at *yen* 226,250 from the Bank of Formosa, defendants deposited them with the Government of Formosa as a guarantee for three years. After three years, the bonds

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were to be given back to defendants and then all credits and debits were to be wiped off. The three years had expired before February 17th, 1902, when the decree of bankruptcy of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. was given and the obligation for the investment of the plaintiff was extinguished. Therefore it was seen that plaintiff was illegally claiming in this case.

Plaintiff held that to make an investment in the camphor monopoly case, Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Co. made three promissory notes for *yen* 226,250 in all addressed to Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., who endorsed the notes, which the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation also certified. The promissory notes were then deposited in the Bank of Formosa at three years' fixed deposit, and loan bonds were obtained from the bank and these were then transferred to the Government of Formosa as a guarantee. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. however, owed debts to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation against the promissory notes which the Bank of Formosa had collected on the due day from the former bank.

Defendants applied for the examination of Mr. Thos. S. Baker, sub-manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, as a witness, to prove the fact of the debts, but the Court rose without coming to a decision.

The case was then adjourned till April 17th.

DR. ROKKAKU v. ZIEGFELD.

The suit instituted by Dr. Rokkaku against Mr. F. H. Ziegfeld, administrator of the estate of the late Mrs. Jeannette L. Brower, was brought up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on April 10th.

Plaintiff claimed *yen* 500 as the cost of embalming the body of the late Mrs. J. L. Brower, who died on September 12th, 1901. The operation was performed under the instructions of the late Dr. Eldridge, who had attended the deceased and stated that her body was to be sent to her native place in the United States. Plaintiff asked defendant for payment but the latter refused on the ground that the charge was too high.

The case was adjourned till May 6th.

R. SATO v. C. THWAITES & CO.

The suit instituted by R. Sato against Messrs. C. Thwaites and Company came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 15th, when judgement was given as follows:—

1. Defendants are ordered to pay *yen* 2,366.40 to plaintiff.
2. One-third costs to be paid by plaintiff.
3. Two-thirds costs to be paid by defendants.
4. On depositing *yen* 800 plaintiff will be permitted to temporarily seize the property of defendants in order to enforce payment.

MUKAI v. RUNGE AND THOMAS.

In the Yokohama District Court judgment was given by Judge Kato on April 15th in the suit instituted by Mukai, woollen cloth dealer in Tokyo, against Messrs Runge and Thomas, dismissing the claim of the plaintiff with costs.

MOURILYAN HEIMANN & CO.'S BANKRUPTCY.

The hearing of this case which was adjourned on April 9th came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 16th when the following decisions were given as to two creditors, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and Mr. W. D. S. Edwards Kobe.

(1) The claim of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for *yen* 22,004. 52 and interest *yen* 274.89 was dismissed.

(2) A preferential right was permitted to *yen* 50 out of *yen* 240 (a part of the whole claim *yen* 1,200,) of the claim of Mr. W. D. S. Edwards.

The Korean cruiser *Mo Yang*, which has been reconstructed at the Uraga Dock, left for home on April 8th. She was formerly the *Kachidate Maru* (originally the *Pallas*) of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, which the Korean Government purchased to form the nucleus of a navy.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two robbers entered the dwelling of a rice dealer named T. Hamano, Hakozaki-cho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, early on the morning of April 12th, and threatened the family with a sword. On an alarm being given they fled.

Appraisers of Customs throughout the Empire held a meeting in Osaka on April 15th. They discussed the tariff concerning *ad valorem* duties and other questions.

It is officially reported that owing to the damage done to the railway between Tokuyama and Fukuyama, trains on that section of the Sanyo Railway Company have been suspended.

The preliminary examination of H. Kitabatake, ex-Judge of the Kyoto District Court, who is charged with having received bribes, concluded on April 14th. He was committed for trial.

Captain J. L. Parfitt, who commanded the P. & O. liner *Arabia* on the famous Delhi Durbar trip, has been appointed to the post of Marine Superintendent of the Company, and retires from active sea service.

Mr. Kipling is never cheap in the commercial sense, but *The Times* paid very dearly for his poem on Feb. 27th. Had the poet or the editor been content to wait a week or two at least £50 might have been saved. Mr. Kipling, however, is such a sound commercial investment that a three-shilling a-word rate was not a serious obstacle, and, as his poem contained 385 words, the cost of telegraphing it—unless the Post Office would treat a Kipling rhyme as news—would be £57 10s., not charging, as the Post Office probably did, for punctuation.

It is stated that a compromise has been arranged in the dispute which arose between K. Okano, silk dealer, and Messrs Mendelson, Bros., in which the sum of *yen* 2,859.88 was involved. The Yokohama District Court found for Messrs. Mendelson Bro., dismissing the claim of plaintiff. Okano appealed to the Court of Cassation, Tokyo. Four Japanese silk dealers, thereupon offered to act as arbitrators between the parties and the firm magnanimously accepted the proposal. As a result Messrs. Mendelson on April 16th accepted their award and agreed to pay half the claim.

In the Admiralty Division, London, Mr. Justice Bucknill has just concluded the hearing of an action arising out of a collision in the River Scheldt between the P. & O. s.s. *Socotra* and the Southdown Steamship Company's *Dallington*. The casualty occurred on February 1st. The Court held that the *Dallington* was anchored at a proper place, and that the collison was solely caused by the careless navigation of the pilot of the *Socotra* (which had a tug towing ahead), whose employment, under the Belgian law, was not compulsory so as to relieve the owners of the *Socotra* of liability. This case, finished within a fortnight of the collision in a Continental river, is probably a record in expeditiousness.

A test of a machine-firing gun, the invention of Dr. S. N. McLean of Cleveland (Ohio), was made in the presence of General Nelson A. Miles and General Joseph Wheeler in that city on March 26th. General Miles was present as the president of the Board of Fortifications. The firing was done from the top of a tall building into Lake Erie. The McLean gun shoots twenty-five times with one pull of the trigger. A circular plate fitted to the side of the weapon feeds the cartridges. Gas generated by the first explosion sets the plate automatically in motion. The gun can also be used as a machine-gun.

The acting Japanese Consul, at Honolulu, Mr. Okabe, has issued a warning to Japanese residing in the islands about leaving for the mainland of the United States without the permission of their Government. The Consul points out to them that, by virtue of an act of the Japanese empire for the protection of emigrants, Japanese subjects are not permitted to leave the empire without a passport or permit, which states to what point they may go. At the present time the Japanese Government is not permitting any of its subjects to go to the mainland of America, but is permitting numbers to go to Hawaii. If the latter the Consul says, go from Hawaii to the mainland without the proper permit or passport from their Government, they are liable to the same punishment as if they left their country for the mainland without the proper permit.

A very successful dance was given on Wednesday evening by the "King's Daughters" at the Public Hall. The hall was tastefully decorated (by Mrs. Manley) with evergreens and cherry blossoms and a very pleasant time was spent in dancing to the music of the Town Band. In the course of the evening there was an excellent cold supper. The proceedings, however, really opened in the afternoon with a children's dance, at which also there were games of various sorts and a large number of little ones took part. It only remains to be said that the refreshment stalls, which were charmingly decorated, were in charge of Mrs. Eagling, Miss Abbey, Miss Abenheim, and Miss Daisy Abbey. The candy table was presided over by Mrs. Kuhn, Miss Manley, and Miss Florence Mendelson, while Miss Cameron and Miss Rose Cameron had charge of the lemonade stall.

The exhibition of water-colours, now being held at No. 76, Main Street, by the Basuke Sketching Club, is well worth a visit. This is the fifth exhibition which the Club has given and we are glad to note that the improvement so evident last autumn continues. Of course Mr. Basuke's own work still predominates, but he does not stand so far away from his pupils in technique and versatility as he used to do. Mr. Kobayashi, whose work in previous exhibitions we have commented on with much pleasure, again shows some very pleasing studies, particularly striking being a large street scene which is bathed in the glorious sunlight of a midsummer's day. Mr. Kosuke, Mr. Takeuchi and Mr. Watanabe are also deserving a meed of praise for their contributions to the exhibition. The finest picture in the whole display is the work of Mr. Basuke himself. The scene is at Atami and the artist has skilfully transferred to his canvas the wonderful effects to be seen as the giant rollers surge in from the vast Pacific after a heavy gale. The play of light and shade on the big mass of heaving, breaking waters is admirably visualized. Mr. Basuke has seldom done better work than this.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. FILLINGHAM'S LECTURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the report of Mr. Fillingham's address as printed in this morning's issue of the *Japan Mail* the lecturer appears to hint that Christ Church, Yokohama, is specially threatened by dangerous teaching and ritual. I think it may take some of the sting out of this imputation if I point out that to the best of my belief neither teaching, nor ritual there are in advance of what is found in S. Andrew's Church and Trinity Cathedral, Tokyo, or in the English Church at Kobe; and further that the ritual of no one of these Churches can be considered exaggerated or disloyal by those who have opportunity of giving the subject of the Church's ritual patient consideration.

ARMINE F. KING.

S. Andrew's House, Shiba, Tokyo, April 13th.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As the ecclesiastical affairs of Yokohama are so much under discussion at present, I was prompted to make enquiries as to the attendance at Christ Church on Easter-day. I am informed that 143 people communicated, this being an increase of 40 on last year, when the number was the largest at that time on record. The collections amounted to *yen* 196, which also represents an increase of *yen* 60 on last year's offerings, I can myself bear witness to the fact that the attendance at all the services contrasted very favourably indeed with the previous year.

I am informed that the number of people who attended Mr. Fillingham's (or was it the "Church

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Association's"?) meeting was 26,—which you, in your report, call a "fair" attendance. Comparisons are odious.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, CHURCHMAN.

Yokohama, April 14th, 1903.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Churchman" has been misinformed as to the number of people who attended Mr. Fillingham's address; the correct number was 40, exclusive of the newspaper reporters.

This, considering the state of the weather, and the fact that many were away for the holiday may, I think, be called a "fair" attendance.

Several people have expressed their regret to me that they were thus prevented from hearing the address.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

W. K. WILSON.

Yokohama, April 15th, 1903.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have always deprecated writing to the newspapers on matters connected with Christ Church, but when the Clergy of St. Andrew's House, Shiba, enter into the controversy, I think, though one of the Committee of Christ Church, the letter should not remain unanswered. The statement is carefully safeguarded by the reservation "to the best of my belief," but if the writer of the letter would refer to his Bishop, he will find he is in error, that at least on one point has a change been mnde at the wish of the Bishop, and that in other points the Service is conducted somewhat differently to those under the Bishop's more direct control.

Further it would be well for your correspondent to post himself as to the very latest teaching and ritual in Christ Church, as there is no doubt that the Morning Service on Easter Sunday last made a distinct advance in the latter.

Yours faithfully, E. FLINT KILBY.

Yokohama, April 14th, 1903.

THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of March 30th is a letter by "Another Citizen" on the above subject, which is a genuine surprise to me. Referring to my letter, which appeared on the 18th ult., he says that to him it "appears to give a wrong impression," and adds that he "fancies the picture would be truer to life turned the other way around." If we write either to ask for information or to discuss intelligently some important question, some good may result; if, like Job's *friends*, only to rehash the things "we know," by tradition, for instance, little good will result. I was therefore disappointed after reading his letter carefully through to find no evidence of his statement that "the Dominion of Canada is the only country in the world whose people has kept up a continuous vengeful, spiteful animosity towards the United States." He does give the Behring Seal Dispute as evidence of that assertion. But does he not know that the Canadians were awarded very substantial damages by the Paris Arbitration which adjudicated that case? How he ever could have got the impression, which he seems to have, that the Canadian sealers simply went out in their vessels into the open sea—"to give Uncle Sam a dig in the ribs"—passes my comprehension! He implies that the Canadians had no interests in sealskins. Their vessels were seized and confiscated in the open Sea by U.S. armed vessels. As he says, Californians were seized also. The Canadians claimed damages for all the confiscations, for loss of time, &c. They claimed that they were not poaching but were acting in a perfectly legitimate manner in catching seals as they had done for many years. They also claimed that the United States Government was acting in the interests of a monopoly which desired to get control of the sealing business. After some years of vexatious delay the matter was submitted to arbitration in Paris and the Canadians came off victorious. There may have been, as he says, some extravagant language used in British Columbia at the time, for the British Columbians felt very sore on the matter, especially when the United States delayed and dallied about submitting the matter to a board of impartial arbitrators. Now I would like to ask any intelligent reasonable man of any country if a full, fair history of that sealing dispute shows that Canada acted in a "vengeful, spiteful" manner? Moreover, does "Another Citizen" know that the United States Government refused for several years to make the appropriation necessary to pay the damages awarded to Canada? Perhaps he would inform us how many years elapsed after the award before it was paid.

My knowledge of the feelings of Canadians leads me to dissent from his assertions about Canadian animosity and misgivings towards the United States. In the Muskoka and Parry Sound Districts, where many United States citizens have summer cottages, I have never heard of such a thing as the Stars and Stripes being molested in any way. United States citizens may and do display their flags and national emblems on cottages, on their persons, or in processions safely in Canada. Several times Canadians have been insulted and molested because they displayed their national emblems in the U.S. I believe that the general feeling among intelligent Canadians is one of profound regret that the U.S. either cannot or will not be fair and neighbourly towards them.

In my former communications I did not intend to lay down such a thesis as "A. C." suggests, viz., that Canada "has invariably been in the right and the U.S. in the wrong," but I admit that the facts I gave look that way or at least, humanly speaking, justify Canada in feeling that she need hardly expect fair treatment from the U.S. His "extremely simple" answer that any hostility on the part of the Americans (I suppose he means U.S. citizens by Americans, but we will overlook the arrogant application of a Continentalism to one single country) "is the natural result of and response to a much stronger feeling on the part of the Northern country," is so "extremely simple" that it comes very near—no, I do not want to give way to my feelings, so I will agree with him and say that it certainly is "extremely simple." It would have been a wise thing on his part to point out a single well-authenticated historical example of that hostility. Let us turn over a few pages of history.

In 1783, after the struggle for independence, the U.S. entered into a solemn treaty with England at Versailles. This treaty clearly stipulated that colonists who because of their loyalty had had their lands and rights confiscated during the war should be indemnified by having their lands, property and civil rights restored, debts owing to them were to be collectable again, and they were to be protected and enjoy their freedom. No sooner were the remnants of England's army withdrawn than the legislatures and courts of the new Republic set these provisions of the treaty at naught. They not only deliberately but violently broke their sacred word, by allowing the loyalists to be hounded, beaten, driven into exile, denying them justice in the courts and thus sowing the first seeds of bitterness and distrust. Does any one wonder that these exiles arrived in Canada feeling that they could have faith neither in the promises nor good intentions of their neighbours. After some decades there gradually grew up in Canada a sympathy for the U.S. During the War of Secession this was manifested actively, for it was felt that disaster to the U.S. would be disaster to the world. There was little or none of that sympathy for the slave states which England showed. Upwards of 50,000 Canadians fought in the armies of the North. Indeed, a strong feeling looking towards Union with the U.S. began to develop. But this feeling was nipped in the bud and the sympathy manifested during the war was chilled by the abrupt termination of the Reciprocity Treaty by the U.S. in the hope that it would compel Canada to come into the Union and by the amazing disregard of all international right and law in the matter of the Fenian invasion. U.S. citizens armed, drilled, marched forth into a friendly country in time of peace, wounded, and killed neighbourly citizens, destroyed property, were driven back by Canadians, and the U.S. Government has never yet had the decency to pay for the loss and damage incurred by Canada.

To say nothing of Alien Labour Laws and McKinley and Dingley Tariffs, which were aimed particularly at Canada, I would invite "A.C." to look at the Alaskan question once more. Many U.S. citizens, papers, and representatives say that Canada never raised the boundary question until a few years ago when gold was discovered. The truth is that just eight months after the U.S. Congress passed the legislation necessary to implement the treaty by which Russia ceded Alaska to the U.S. Canada drew attention to the indefiniteness of the boundery and asked the U.S. to join her in delineating the boundary. The treaty was negotiated in 1867, Congress legislated on it in July, 1871, Canada communicated with the U.S. in March, 1872. In November the U.S. replied to the Canadian communication, which was in every way friendly, and proposed a joint friendly commission. The reply from Mr. Secretary Fish was that the matter would be laid before Congress. It was not. For several years Canada drew attention to the matter in the most kindly way possible, always to receive the same indifferent reply. Thus the matter stood until President Cleveland's time when he, still ignoring the necessity of definition of boundaries, advised settlement of the disputed regions which would, as he said, "necessarily complicate the situation and furnish a convenient pretext for refusal." Now the matter has become *complicated* but was there anything "agressive" or "vengeful" or "spiteful" in asking, as Canada did, to delimit the boundaries before any settlements were planted or any mineral wealth discovered? Does "A. C." know how the officials impede and obstruct in every possible way Canadian shippers who ship goods through in bond from, say Vancouver, to Dawson and other places in the Klondyke, violating international bonding privileges and engagements in their desire to show their spite toward Canada? Does he know anything of the tearing down of the British flag from the Canadian Customs house at Skaguay? Does he know anything of the grossly insulting and untruthful language used in the U.S. Congress lately by a member named Cochrane? If he knows these and many other such things, how could he have written as he did that "the picture would be truer turned the other way around?" If he doesn't know will he kindly read and meditate and ask if it is not about time for U.S. citizens as well as the U.S. Government to admit that there may be two sides to a dispute in which they are concerned?

Canada has long been desirous of the good-will and friendship of the U.S. and the present ruling party in Canada for many years made that one of the prominent planks of its platforms. An evidence of the good-will of Canada towards the U.S. lies in the ready prompt manner in which she permitted U.S. gunboats to pass down her canals and through her territory during the war with Spain only a few years ago, although she was a neutral and although the U.S. had churlishly refused Canada the use of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal in 1885 during the Canadian North-West rebellion when there was no quesion of neutrality to complicate the matter.

Last year Canada bought from the U.S. $45,800,000 more goods than the total of all the goods sold by the U.S. to Mexico, Central and South American States, and intelligent Canadians know that their own prosperity is very largely affected by the prosperity of the U.S., so it puzzles me to see how Canada can be accused of jealousy of the U.S. prosperity. Frequently she has sought reciprocity with the Repub'ic only to be rebuffed, until, as a Canadian M.P. lately said, the U.S. will, he feared, awaken when too late to the fact that she had lost her opportunity for close relations with Canada.

May I ask "A.C." one question more and then be done with a question somewhat painful to Canadians who wait and hope for "the picture to be turned" so far as the spirit and attitude of the U.S. toward them is concerned. Once at a commemorative gathering of an Historical Association which met on the banks of the Niagara River, where both U.S. and Canadian citizens were present, the writer heard some of the U.S. citizens state that they regretted that their public school histories were very partial and unfair and that thus many grew up with wrong impressions of Canada and England—that these school books were responsible for much of the animosity sometimes unfortunately displayed toward Canada—that, for instance, the war of 1812 was represented as being full of disasters and shame to England and resplendent with glory to the U.S.—that they hoped such books would soon be replaced by more truthful and accurate ones. Is there any truth in such statements. Personally, I hope and pray that the U.S. may prosper and flourish more and more and always stand in the forefront of the earth's nations in all that makes for universal freedom, progress, justice and righteousness, and I find it hard to feel constrained to write as I have written of her.

Yours sincerely and thankfully,

AMERICAN CITIZEN.

April 9th.

"WHY I AM NOT A RITUALIST."

On Saturday afternoon the Rev. R. C. Fillingham, M.A., Vicar of Hexton, gave a lecture in the vestibule of the Public Hall, Yokohama, on the subject, "Why I am not a Ritualist." Mr. J. P. Mollison presided and there was a fair attendance.

In opening the proceedings Mr. Mollison said he had been asked to introduce to their notice Mr. Fillingham, who was known to some present, having preached in Yokohama some four or five years ago and given a great deal of pleasure to his listeners. He (the Chairman) was sure he would give equal pleasure to those who heard him on this occasion.

Rev. R. C. Fillingham said he was present at this meeting under somewhat singular circumstances. He came to Japan because he wanted absolute rest. He had been working for the Protestant cause in England and the doctors said he must have a long voyage and had better go to Japan, and the first thing he knew when he landed was that there was a ritualistic crisis in Yokohama and that there was likely to be a fight. He found a storm cloud rising in Yokohama and when he was asked to assist in preserving the old faith he could not refuse. So there he was to help in the cause as best he could. He was not going to deal in personalities; he would rest the subject on higher ground and tell them that evening why he was not a ritualist. A local journal had said there was no need for him to give this address, to tell people why he was not a ritualist. But that was a mistake. There was a great deal of need for him to speak for half the clergy of the Church of England were ritualists, declaring that

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they had the prayer-book and the formularies on their side, and it was necessary to refute them, and show them to be what they were, traitors to the Church of England—(applause). He was not a ritualist because ritualism was an absolutely new religion. Roman catholicism had a logical position, it went back to the fourth century after Christ, which was pretty ancient, and so with Protestantism and others, but this new, this mongrel, thing, which was neither fish nor fowl nor good red herring he—had nothing but contempt for it. The High Church party was instituted at Oxford in 1833; Protestanism went back to the time of Jesus Christ. Mormonism was older than High Churchism. He did not wish to believe in a modern sect like that. Ritualism was also a schism. He was told that he was schismatic because he preached in Nonconformist chapels, but they did not know what schism was. It was a rent within, not without a body. The next reason why he was not a High Churchman was its sordid and contemptible orgin. In 1833 there was a great reform movement in England, religion being included among the objects of it. A Bill was passed, which the Rev. Outram Marshall called an iniquitous measure, for the suppression of a number of useless Irish Bishoprics, that, having no flocks, were not needed. When it was passed through Parliament the Minister in charge of it said that unless the Bishops in England put their houses in order the same course would be adopted in England. They knew that when they touched a parson's pocket they touched a sore point. The Bishops were then alarmed, and a number of parsons and clerical-minded laymen, who were worse than the parsons, met and resolved to try and show the people that the Church was not the curse to the country that it was supposed to be. So they started the High Church movement, and preserved the endowments of the Church. He did not want to have anything to do with it if it had such a sordid origin. Another reason why he was not a High Churchman was that it was a revival of paganism. The Rev. Outram Marshall said there had been a wonderful revival of religious life; it was nothing of the sort, it was religious death. They found nothing in the four Gospels about apostolic succession, nothing about a particular Church or organisation. Nothing could have been simpler than the early Church. It all came in with the so-called conversion of the Emperor Constantine; with him half-converted heathen came into the Church, and brought their heathen notions with them. They had lights, vestments and incense, and they brought them in. They had Venus to worship in the heathen churches, and now they had the Virgin Mary. It was simply a grafting of heathenism on to the Church. The Catholic revival was thus a great revival of paganism. He was not a High Churchman because their conception of God was so narrow and antiquated. They were told that God was the Universal Father and Creator, and that He filled all things living with plenteousness. Jesus Christ revealed Him as a real, loving Father. That was a grand conception of God, but the Catholic and High Church conception of Him was that He was confined to one particular sect. He was charged with schism because he went to Nonconformist pulpits, and they were said to be outside the Covenant, and that it was a great sin to go to Nonconformist chapels. That conception of God made Him only a tribal God, the head of a little, petty organisation. He could not be a High Churchman and believe in such a blasphemous conception of God. Again, he was not a High Churchman because their theory about the Church was so ridiculous. They held him guilty of schism because he went to Dissenting chapels and, therefore, Dissenting ministers, having no orders, were not a branch of the Catholic Church. According to the High Church belief, there were three branches of the Catholic Church, the Roman, the Greek, and the Anglican. The three branches all said they were right, and so what was right in one country was wrong in another. The Pope was infallible at Rome, but fallible at Birmingham, and the Virgin Mary was inmaculate at Calais, and stained with sin at Dover. He would like to know where the line of division was on the seas. It was a statement that proved itself wrong. He was not a High Churchman, because their doctrines were absolutely contrary to reason. The doctrine of the Presence was absurd. When the wafer was reserved in a box and was declared to have become the real body and blood of Christ, what became of the Infinite, Whom heaven and earth could not contain? He was locked up in a box, unable to get out, if that doctrine were true. Another reason was that it was quite unreliable. Supposing their claims to be true, and that Nonconformists had no valid ministry, and that divine grace could only flow through a properly ordained priest, they had no apostolic succession. The Church of England had none, for it broke down at the time of the Reformation. The first Bishop of the reformed Church was Matthew Parker, who was consecrated by a man named Barlow, who was not a bishop at all, not having been consecrated. Henry VIII. thought he could make bishops, and he appointed Barlow one without his being consecrated, and they, therefore, had no proper bishops in the Church today. Some thought that the attributes of grace were obtained by material things, and there were sentences in the Prayer Book by which they made out that the Church was Catholic. By sentences in the Absolution service, in the Catechism, and in the service of the Holy Communion they made out that the Church held what was called Catholic doctrines. But in order to find out what the Church of England really meant they had to go back to see what the founders of the Church of England meant. That was the only thing they could do. The Church was different from the Church of Rome because it had no living voice. His point was that the Church of England was reformed in the 16th century in order to get rid of the Catholic doctrines—to get the doctrines of the Mass and the Real Presence out of it. The High Church position was that at the Reformation they did not get rid of the doctrines of Absolution, Mass, and Confession, but that they only got rid of the usurped authority of the Pope, and that there was no break with the past. That was their position, whether they said so or not. But the High Church contention was a great travesty of history; any Board School boy could refute it. What were the martyrs put to death for? They were not put to death for not refuting the authority of the Pope. They were charged with a denial of those other doctrines, the very doctrines which the High Church party are introducing into the Church. They could take, for examples, the cases of Ridley and Latimer. He had the record of the actual charges preferred against them by the Roman Catholic Bishops at Oxford. They were charged with denying that the actual body and blood of Christ was present on the altar; that was what they denied—(hear, hear)—and also that there was no propitiatory element in the Mass. They now maintained that those who said there were similar sacrifices should not belong to the Church of England, but should join the older body, whose doctrine they had borrowed. When Cranmer saw his friends go to their death his faith failed, and he said he might be mistaken. But when the emissaries went to him to urge him to save his life, did they say that if he acknowledged the authority of the Pope he would be safe? They had the documentary evidence of Cardinal Pole to show that he was asked to deny what he had said, that God was not present in the sacraments on the altar. He (the speaker) maintained that the Reformation was an entire break from the past, and was a getting rid of the doctrines he had mentioned. He maintained that the Church was a Protestant sect and not a branch of the Catholic Church. His point then was that the Church was really Protestant and his reason for not being a High Churchman was that it was foreign to the spirit of the Church of England. Further, he objected to ritualism because it made its devotees painfully absurd. When he saw a little curate making all his genuflexions, ladies bobbing up and down in their places as if they were bathing in the sea, and one person nodding her head like a toy mandarin, as he saw at Christ Church on the previous day, I well, it affected his sense of humour. When he saw the bathing machine business and that one particular person nodding every time the Holy Name was mentioned he declined to take part in it. To see a man who had scraped through Oxford or Cambridge, with the lowest possible degree,—to see that little man come forward and say that he was the representative of the King of Heaven, and could forgive sins, and bring down God upon the altar, to see him going down the street of his village with all sorts of little medals,—why it was a sight sufficient to make the very cocks and hens in the village laugh.—(Laughter). Ritualism involved disobedience to the Church and how men could reconcile their ritualistic practices with the conditions under which they entered the Church passed his comprehension. He could only understand it on the ground that ritualism had something called moral theology which taught that a man might do no wrong if he was furthering the interests of his own Church. Wilfred George Ward put the thing very plainly when he said that according to ritualism if you thought you would do good then lie like a trooper—and they were lieing like troopers all the time. Finally he was not a ritualist because he regarded ritualism as a national danger. It seemed to him that if a man or nation became enfeebled in mind and dependent upon priestly advisers then by a natural law the body would also become enfeebled. He believed ritualism to be a danger both to the soul and the body. If a man loved his faith, his children, and his country he must fight the very beginnings of ritualism, and there were signs of such a change in Yokohama.

The CHAIRMAN said be was sure they would all join in giving Mr. Fillingham a most cordial vote of thanks for his very able and interesting address, which came most opportunely at this time in Yokohama. (Applause).

Mr. FILLINGHAM thanked the meeting, and said he would be fully rewarded if he had done anything to hearten them in their fight against ritualism, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman. This was heartily accorded and the proceedings then terminated.

THE ABANDONED HEAVEN.

I sought for heaven long: o'er fields of blue
And golden flow'rs I thought to find its place;
Or up a golden stair and wandering through
The whirling clouds to climb to heaven's face.
I found at last, but found it in this world.
A land of glamour and of green empearled.

Call it Japan: call it the Golden East,
The land of flowers or the land of dreams,
The land of lost desires and longed-for feast,
The land where fancy riots; life but seems
A vision of the long lost times of old,
And all the scenery is clothed in gold.

The maples flush with crimson-scarlet hue,
The cherry blossoms float like clouds of snow
Along the walks, where, clad in fluttering blue
And variegated colours, people go
To worship Nature in its highest moods,
And gaze in rapture at the enkindled woods.

See! up and down the stairs, go—angels, is't?
Or grown up fairies dressed in silken garb?
It hardly matters, where such scenes exist
And modern soldiers ride on prancing barb!
There must have been, in long-lost ages past,
Some magic gods who all this spell have cast.

The sky is crimsoned with the fading light
And melts in hues from yellow into blue,
Blue so deep dark that ether seems in sight,
And other worlds beyond come into view.
Did once, I wonder, some diviner birth
Visit from up above this gracious earth!

For see! the land is prearranged in scenes
To cut the sky space in serrated line;
And all along the blue lake's border leans
The carefully artistic twisted pine.
The very islands are arranged in plans,
So fairylike and droll were never man's!

Some god in shining garments surely came
And gave directions to these cunning folk
How to dispose the greenery, as frame
For clouds and sunshine; hidden pow'rs bespoke;
There's such a curious twinkling at the eve
That, if you've never seen, you'd ne'er believe.

The whole world glows and glitters; fairy hues
Dance on the little houses made of wood:
For, what in other lands the inspector sues,
Here the whole nation finds both fine and good.
A golden glamour covers wood and field,
And all the windows yellow glimmers yield.

As if to double, in enchanted spell
That which is nothing, cannot oft be seen,
There is another artifice I'd tell,
To aid the imagination in this green
And golden-crimson artificial land,
Where even tiny stones seem bold and grand.

This added glow is due to fields of rice
That grow in shallow ponds of water, moist
And glistening betwixt the rows, like ice
Or crystal glass, or opal,—so is't
A double scene we see in every view:
If there be only one hill, we see two.

The man who really is some toiler, poor
And ill—fed, stunted, ignorant, appears
A gorgeous ruler of the earth; and your
Fancy can paint him as a thousand years
The same, in overshadowing hat and thin
Blue cotton clothing,—genius, sprite or djin.

He works and delves and grows his tiny crop;
He marries, rears his children, and then dies.
But up he comes again, as rise and drop
The riceplants, so the man will fall and rise,
Ever the same,—an artifice he's gained
To scoff at death: to live he has but deigned.

He rules this earth, this curious tiny wight;
He rules the water as he rules the plants;
It seems that, truly, he must rule the light,
The golden colours, birds, clouds, crickets, ants.
He makes some motion with divining rod,
And lo! the scene made glorious, as by God!

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We see a few bare wind-swept straggling trees:
Among their branches float the flecks of snow;
Whistles adown the hill an ice-cold breeze,
And all the earth seems pinched and cold below.
Then whispers man a single spell-word, "Plums!"
And lo! at once a glorious summer comes.

The trees burst forth in white and scarlet fringe,
The world is changed as by magician's rod;
And every garden patch has caught a tinge
Of some faint fragrance over mud and sod:
The sun is brought within the hidden spell,
His rays are softened like the muffled bell.

Then every child, who really plays in mud
And sits in puddles, scampers unkempt home,
Returns in garb so golden, orange-blood
And violet tinted, that no missal tome
Could ever hope to rival all their hues,
Nor sky in Italy their lovely blues.

How is't the change can come? I vainly strive
To explain the inexplicable. 'Tis not
Within man's power all this spell to rive
From ordinary earth. There is, then, what
Must be ascribed to Gods, the gods of old:
But where they've gone to now, I've not been told.

Tokyo, March 8, 1903. H.S.

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the H. & S. Bank for the above fund:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	23,269.93
Per H. & S. Bank, Kobe	391.87
"Friend"	100.00
	23,761.80

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE DREYFUS AFFAIR.

London, April 9.

In the French Chamber on Monday, ex-Premier Brisson charged the ex-Minister of War, General Cavaignac with concealing General Pellieux's letter from his colleagues. General Cavaignac gave a confused and unconvincing explanation.

The Government promises an administrative enquiry.

COUP D'ETAT IN SERVIA.

The King of Servia has executed a curious *coup d'etât*. He suddenly promulgated a decree revoking the constitution which he had granted on April 19th, 1901, dismissed the Senate, dissolved the Skupstchina, and annulled a number of laws passed by it, and he then promulgated another decree restoring the constitution. The motive of his action is not explained.

NEW EDUCATION BILL.

The Education (London) Bill is unfavourably received.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

The British imports for March show an increase of £6,000,000 sterling and the exports an increase of £3,000,000 as compared with the month of March last year.

SERVIA.

London, April 10.

By submerging the Constitution for a few minutes yesterday, the King of Servia succeeded in ridding himself of a number of radical Senators and State Councillors. He then restarted the Constitution with a clean slate.

GENERAL WHITE PROMOTED.

Sir George White (Governor of Gibraltar) has been promoted to the rank of Field Marshal.

A BYE-ELECTION IN ENGLAND.

In the election to fill the vacancy for the Cranborne Division, to replace the late Mr. W. S. Caine (Liberal), Sir Wilfrid Lawson (Lib.) received 3,558 votes and Mr. Strauss (Unionist) 2,869.

THE STRIKE IN HOLLAND.

The Dutch Chamber has passed an anti-strike law by a large majority. The strike is unabated.

SIR EVELYN WOOD.

London, April 11.

Sir Evelyn Wood has been promoted to the rank of Field Marshal.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO PARIS.

At a Cabinet Council held in Paris it was decided that President Loubet and all the Ministers should receive King Edward at the railway station on May 1, and that a grand dinner will be given at the Elysée on May 2.

THE EVACUATION OF MANCHURIA.

The Moscow correspondent of the *Times* wires that despite the strenuous opposition offered by certain Russian Ministers, it has been finally decided that the evacuation of Manchuria must be completed with consistency, the urgent necessity thereof being based on economic grounds.

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

M. Stcherbena, the Russian consul who was shot at Mitrovitza, is dead.

THE KING AND M. LOUBET.

London, April 12.

The *Debats* states that it is considered certain M. Loubet will return King Edward's visit.

SILVER FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

The Treasury at Washington continues its purchases of silver for the Philippines.

KOUROPATKIN TO VISIT THE FAR EAST.

General Kouropatkin, Russian Minister for War, starts in a fortnight on a two months' tour in the Far East, in the course of which he will visit Port Arthur, Dalny, Japan and Vladivostock.

NEW TREASURY APPOINTMENT.

The Hon Arthur Elliot, M.P., for Durham, has been appointed Financial Secretary to the Treasury.

FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES.

An American force captured Bacolod, the Moro stronghold in Mindanao, on Wednesday.

ILLEGAL RAILWAY COMBINE.

The United States Appeal Court has decided that an amalgamation of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern Railways was an illegal combination. The decision is regarded as a great victory for President Roosevelt, at whose instance the suit was initiated. It completes the estrangement between the great capitalists and his party, and is likely to have important political and commercial results.

M. REVOIL.

London, April 14.

The sudden resignation of M. Revoil, Governor-General of Algeria, on the very eve of President Loubet's visit, has caused embarassment though the arrangements for the President's visit have not been modified.

THE MULLAH.

A later telegram states that the Mullah has fled from Walwah northwest to Dik. Italian Somaliland is now clear of the enemy.

THE KING AT GIBRALTAR.

King Edward held a grand review at Gibraltar of the garrison.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The London *Standard* says it has reason to believe that an agreement was concluded last week by which England, France, and Germany participate equally in the control of the Bagdad Railway, the revenue of which is be guaranteed by the Turkish customs. Three British directors have already been chosen.

M. REVOIL'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of M. Revoil, Governor-General of Algeria, is due to a personal dispute between himself and M. Combes, the Prime Minister.

THE "REINA CRISTINA."

The Americans have raised the Spanish cruiser *Reina Cristina*, which was sunk by Admiral Dewey at Cavite in Manila Bay. Eighty skeletons were found on board. In the hull there were fifteen shell holes. The American authorities offered a funeral with naval honours to the dead, but the Spanish propose taking the remains to Spain.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

London, April 15.

President Loubet left Paris on Sunday en route for Algeria. He had an enthusiastic reception at Marseilles.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward has left Gibraltar.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The Imperial Ottoman Bagdad Railway Company has been formally constituted at Constantinople with a capital of fifteen million francs. One of the Managers of the Dentsch Bank has been appointed President, and the Administrator of The Ottoman Bank in Paris, Vice-President. The British Director has not yet been appointed.

THE DUTCH STRIKES.

London, April 16.

The Dutch strikes are collapsing.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

President Loubet has left Marseilles.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The directorate of the Imperial Ottoman Bagdad Railway Company at present consists of nine Germans, seven Frenchmen, two Swiss, and one Austrian. The conditions of the participation of British capital are not yet definitely settled. The nominal capital is thirty million francs; the amount given in yesterday's telegram was share capital.

THE CANAL BLOCKED.

A barque(?) has sunk in the Suez Canal by a Russian cruiser and has blocked the Canal since Monday. The *Orizaba* and *Plassy* are delayed.

THE CANAL OPEN.

Later.

The Suez Canal is open.

LOUBET AT ALGIERS.

President Loubet arrived at Algiers on April 15th and was received by the foreign warships with simultaneous salutes of twenty-one guns.

THE MURDERER OF STCHERBINA.

The murderer of Stcherbina, Russian Consul at Mitrovitza, who had previously been sentenced to fifteen years' imprisonment, has now been sentenced to death in consequence of an imperative representation from Russia.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

FRANCE AND SIAM.

Saigon, April 8.

At the request of the Minister of Siam in

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Paris, the delay in the ratification of the Franco-Chinese Convention of the 7th of October last, is extended to 31st December 1903.

THE NEW MAYOR OF PARIS.

M. Deville, Nationalist, has been elected president of the Municipal Council of Paris by a majority vote.

KING EDWARD'S VISIT TO FRANCE.

The King of England will come to France officially on the 2nd of May.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

Saigon, April 12.

Mr. Revoil, governor-general of Algiers, tendered his resignation, in consequence of his relationship to the editor of a journal in the province who is conducting a violent campaign in favour of the Chartreux. The resignation has been accepted, although M. Revoil declared that he was entirely a stranger to these articles in the press.

President Loubet sets out to-morrow for Algiers. This incident does not modify the programme of his voyage.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, April 14.

President Loubet, on his way to Algiers, arrived at Marseilles yesterday morning, after short stays at Arles and at Aix. There were brilliant official ceremonies, and the popular receptions were enthusiastic.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, April 16.

President Loubet has set out from Marseilles for Algiers. He is always much cheered.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN TOKYO.)

CHINA.

Peking April, 13.

Prince Ching has been appointed to succeed Yung Lu as a member of the Grand Council.

THE NAVAL REVIEW AT KOBE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, April 10.

The naval review was an unqualified success. There were four lines of battleships, cruisers, destroyers and torpedo boats. The visiting warships were H.B.M. battleship *Glory* and *Blenheim*; the German cruiser *Hansa*; the Russian cruiser *Askold*; the Italian cruiser *Calabria*; and the French cruiser *Pascal*, which were all drawn up in another line. The Emperor landed at 2.30 p.m. and returned at once to Maiko. Everything connected with the affair was strikingly successful. Both in going to, and returning from, the Review, His Majesty passed through a portion of Kobe's foreign settlement, which, together with the city, was profusely decorated. The fleet and city were illuminated to-night.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

THE BALKAN QUESTION.

London, April 14.

It is rumoured that the Macedonians are contemplating decisive action on April 20th.

It is said that the officials who were authorized by the Sultan to restore tranquility can do nothing to that end. The Albanians are in a condition of desperation.

Eight batallions of Turks are encamped at Filiovitch (?)

The papers in Russia are severely criticizing Austria-Hungary.

Russia claimed the right to exe ute the man who murdered the Consul at Mitrovitza and insisted that imprisonment was not sufficient to expiate the crime.

A BRITISH SQUADRON AT ALGIERS.

A British squadron has proceeded to Algiers to do honour to the President of France.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward is en route for Malta.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Pleiades 1	F. April 17
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Olympia 2	F. April 17
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 3	M. April 20
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar 4	Tu. April 21
America	P. M. Co.	Korea 5	Th. April 23
Seaule	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru 6	F. April 24
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern	Sa. April 25
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. April 27
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. April 27
Europe	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	W. April 29
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. April 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. May 3
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. May 4
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. May 11

1 Left Tacoma on the 26th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.
3 Left Nagasaki on the 16th inst.
4 Left Vancouver on the 4th inst.
5 Left San Francisco on the 4th inst.
6 Left Seattle on the 7th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Sa. April 18
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Kiautschou	Sa. April 18
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hitachi Maru	Sa. April 18
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Sa. April 18
America.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. April 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru	Tu. April 21
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Tu. April 21
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakuai Maru	Th. April 23
Europe	M. M. Co.	Yarra	F. April 24
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Korea	F. April 24
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. April 27
America.....	P. M. Co.	Siberia	W. April 29
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. May 1
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. May 4
America.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. May 6
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. May 9
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. May 13

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,357, Thos. Golding, 9th April,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 7th April, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Oanfa, British steamer, 4,867, Thos. Bartlett, 9th April,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 8th April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 9th April,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 8th April, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 9th April,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 8th April, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Kut Sang, British steamer, 1,495, S. Payne, 10th April,—Saigon via Hongkong, 31st March, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Ce.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 10th April.—Kobe, 8th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 10th April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,204, J. McGillivary, 11th April,—London via ports, and Kobe, 9th April, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Islanda, British steamer, 3,361, J. Anderson, 11th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Knoblausch, 11th April,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 11th April,—Oginohama, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kintschou, German, steamer, 10,881, J. Behrens, 11th April,—Hamburg and Bremen via port, and Kobe, 10th April, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. S. Cox, 12th April,—Iloilo, 4th April, Sugar.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Blenheim, British cruiser, 9,000, Capt. Stoport, 12th April,—Kobe.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 13th April,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 24th March, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,771, H. W. Evans, 14th April,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 12th April, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 14th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 27th March, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 13th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, K. Tsuda, 14th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 14th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 15th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, Y. Yamanouchi, 15th April,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 15th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,008, Negre, 16th April,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 15th April, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Atholl, British steamer, 3,031, E. Porter, 16th April,—Hongkong, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benvolich, British steamer, 2,164, W. Thomson, 16th April,—Saigon, Rice.—Cornes & Co.

Glory, British battleship, 12,950, Capt. W. A. Carter, 15th April,—Kobe, 14th April.

Airlie, British steamer, 1,492, St. J. George, 16th April,—Iloilo, Sugar.—Cornes & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 16th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 16th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 9th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 9th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrani, British steamer, 3,226, R. N. Hill, 9th April,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 9th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 9th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 10th April,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Sumiuoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 10th April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 10th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ismaila, British steamer, 3,381, A. W. Gimblett, 11th April,—Manila via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 11th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 11th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 11th April,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 12th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 13th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophie Rickmers, German steamer, 2,262, H. Pape, 12th April,—Kobe, General.—Raspe & Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 23th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 13th April,—Otaru via Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oanfa, British steamer, 4,867, Thos. Bartlett, 14th April,—Seattle, Wash., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hop Sang, British steamer, 1,115, J. M. Hay, 14th April,—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 14th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, C. W. Benton, 14th April,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,204, J. McGillivray, 14th April,—Uraga, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Satsuma Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,157, R. Iida, 15th April,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 15th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Kut Sang, British steamer, 1,495, S. Payne, 15th April,—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

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PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports:—Major and Mrs. Hanbury, Mr. and Mrs. C. Strakosch, Miss Strakosch, Mr. D. Cory Wright, Mr. A. G. Paton, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Eastwick, Misses Eastwick (2), Miss Hatchell, Mr. and Mrs. F. Horley, Mrs. H. L. Norris, Mrs. Harbord, Mrs. and Miss Moore, Capt. and Mrs. Wilson, Miss Stanley, Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Guest and infant, Mrs. J. T. Tomkins and infant, Mrs. and Miss Abercrombie and child, Mrs. E. A. Anderson, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Travis, Mrs. K. Morton and infant, Miss King, Mr. T. Paros, Mr. M. Conuniji, Mr. G. Hizon, Mr. J. T. Bryan, Mrs. J. Martin, Mrs. Derachin and child, Mr. and Mrs. Fairfax, Mr. S. White, Miss F. Reed, Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. and Miss Cameron, and Mr. W. H. Wilson, in cabin; 4, in intermediate. For Vancouver:—Mr. H. G. Garrett, Mr. J. H. Skelton, Mr. A. Lapse, Lieut. R. E. C. Chilcott, Mr. H. C. Mitchell, Mr. J. N. Sidebottom, Mr. L. Dyson, Mr. D. Raibouchinsky, Miss Worts, Miss Marmion, Mrs. Horsfield, Mr. K. H. von Lindholm, Mr. G. A. Hildreth, Dr. R. Wolfendale, Lieut. E. L. C. Muntz, R.N., Mr. Duncan Glass, Capt. Fagueux, Mr. A. V. Hogg, and Rev. H. G. Johnson, in cabin; 6, in intermediate; 331, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. W. Van Buskirk, Mrs. F. W. Van Buskirk, Mr. J. W. Bixby, Mr. A. H. White, Mr. P. Irvine, Mr. A. Johnson, Mr. C. R. Holcomb, Mrs. Parrish, Mr. T. Poindexter, Mrs. T. Poindexter, Mr. H. Hope Doeg, Mr. Bona, Mrs. Cook, Miss Cook, and Mr. L. Peck, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. H. H. Watkins in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss N. H. Fulton, M. D., Rev. W. J. P. Morrison, Master Morrison, Mrs. C. L. Gorham, Mr. E. W. Oliver, Mr. R. S. Gurley, Mr. F. I. Caughman, Miss A. H. Garter, Mr. Guy Clinton, Mr. Russell Gates, Mr. D. E. Fee, Mrs. H. M. Allbright, Mr. A. V. Dalrymple, Mr. A. S. Campbell, Mr. M. J. Gholson, Mr. J. H. Dugan, Mr. E. A. Probst, Mrs. E. A. Probst and maid, Miss K. Probst, Miss E. Probst, Mrs. P. Irvine, infant and maid, Rev. C. A. Tague and native servant, and Mrs. C. A. Tague and 3 children, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. H. Melladew, Mr. J. I. Perkins, Mr. E. Edward, Mr. J. H. Kudsbury, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Miss Von Fallot, Capt. C. Young, Mrs. Mounier, Mr. Y. Fujimura, Mrs. Fujimura, Mr. S. Sakurada, Mrs. Sakurada and 2 children, Mrs. S. Tamaoki, Master Y. Tamaoki, and Mr. K. Wakabayashi, in cabin; Mr. Shotts, Mr. Hijikata, Mrs. Hijikata, Mr. Ishizawa, Mr. Yamanouchi, and Mr. Takano, in second class; 24 Japanese, 2 Europeans, and 23 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Kiautschou*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. Metzenthin, Mr. R. L. Cocks, Mrs. Panaudt, Mr. Duges, Mr. Coolebrooke, Miss Coolebrooke, Mr. E. Gooley, Baron von Rosen, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. McGrann, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ch. Niggs, Mr. W. G. Sewall, Mr. W. de Mornay, Mrs. Stevenson, Mrs. Dare, Dr. Dreier, Mr. and Mrs. Bridgwater, Consul de Hedenstroem, Mr. G. M. Dare, Mrs. Wichers and family, Mr. H. Oldenburg, Mrs. Bent, Mr. and Mrs. O. Kromschroeder, Mrs. Schubart, Miss Sluyter, Mr L. M. Greer, Mr. A. R. Mom, Mr. Reichart, Mrs. Jerome, Count von Wartensleben, Mr. Heim, Mr. F. Segelken, Mr. K. Schaefer, Mr. R. Seel, His Ex. von Gottberg, Mrs. von Gottberg, Mr. and Mrs. Beinssen, Mr. F. Dancy, Mr. W. Bennett, Mr. A. Ternes, Mr. B. A. Munster, Mr. D. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. McBain, Mr. Freemann, Mr. W. Lipmann, Mr. R. Leuzmann, Mrs. Beal, Mr. C. Refardt, Mr. C. M. Drake, Mr. W. Richtor, Mr. A. Kummel, Mr. and Mrs. Schmusk, Mr. F. Bleifuss, Miss E. Galashou, Miss G. Palmer, Miss Stahlmann, Mr. Blumel, Mr. Jack Lezinsky, Mr. R. Hall, and Mr. R. H. Trebilcock, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. & Mrs. Kawauchi, Mrs. V. R. Bowden, and Mr. R. C. Bowden, in cabin; Mr. Kitamura, in second class; 13 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. H. A. Short, and Mr. and Mrs. A. Kennedy and child, in cabin; Mrs. Fuji, in second class; 12 Japanese, and 4 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. P. J. R. Bisschop, Mr. N. Bliss, Mr. Lucien Boyer, Mr. H. B. Babsen, Lieut.-Com. F. W. Coffin, Mr. J. de la Croix, Mrs. M. A. Dike, Mrs. C. Eckland, Mr. W. E. Guerin, Miss H. E. Guerin, Miss M. M. Gill, Mr. T. Harding, Mr. S. Hayakawa, Mr. G. Kobayashi, Mr. H. Naito, Mr. O. A. Poole, Miss Grace E. Sperry, and Mrs. Encs Smith, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. C. H. Best, Mrs. F. X. Black, Miss L. Black, Mr. G. F. Black, Mr. F. M. Gowey, Mr. J. L. Mitchell, Mrs. J. M. Mitchell, and Mr. M. Sugimoto, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. A. J. Bolles and maid, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. A. Lisfrance, Mrs. A. Lisfrance, Mr. H. D. Morrison, and Mr. H. Schlee, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. P. V. Alpiner, Judge Jas. Blount, Mr. E. L. Curtis, Miss N. Egan, Mr. G. B. Knight, Mrs. G. B. Knight and infant, and Mr. A. Lawless, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Muraour, Mr. G. Inouye, Mr. Fischell, Mr. Ayar Mohan Jaffer, Mr. Abdul Jaffer, Mr. Schallig, Mr. Balmas, Mr. J. N. Childs, Mr. Rob. Whitney, Miss Whitney, Mrs. Loonen, Mr. K. O. MacKenzie, Mrs. Launay, Mrs. Madrille, Mr. Madrolle, Mr. J. K. Kaka, Mr. Jourdan, Miss Lichtemberg, Mr. Tousend, Mr. and Mrs. Maslemikoff and 2 children, Mrs. Ray and 2 children, Consul General Ottensen, Mr. Guggenheim, Mr. Hamada, Mr. A. Boyor, Mr. Oyama, and Mr. Kobayashi, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Tonkin*, for Marseilles via ports (from Kobe):—Mr. Durent, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Rousseau, Dr. Mécre, Miss Mécre, Mr. Terrey, and Mr. Alfred Cowden, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Major-Gen. Sir F. Carrington, Lady Carrington, Mr. Thos. Carter, Lieut. R. E. Chilcott, R.N., Col. A. G. Churchill, Mr. R. H. Dickeson, Mr. N. E. Dinshaw, Mr. L. Dyson, Capt. Fagneux, Mr. H. G. Garrett, Mr. Duncan Glass, Mr. James Gold, Mrs. James Gold, Capt. G. C. Grahame and valet, Mrs. G. C. Grahame and maid, Mr. J. Guillemin, Dr. C. Cuthbert Hall, Mrs. C. Hall, Miss K. S. Hall, Miss E. M. Hall, Mr. D. B. Hall, Mr. Robt. Hamilton, Mr. G. J. Hennessy, Mr. Abel Heywood, Mr. G. A. Hildreth, Mr. A. V. Hogg, Capt. J. Hope, R.N., Mrs. J. Hope, Miss Hope, Mrs. Horsfield, Dr. R. E. Hume, Mr. W. B. Huntington, Mr. L. W. Huntington, Jr., Rev. H. Goodman Johnson, Mr. A. Laspe, Mr. W. H. Lee, Mr. K. H. von Lindholm, Mr. A. F. Maclaren, Miss Marmion, Mr. P. C. Marsden, Mrs. P. C. Marsden, Miss Marsden, Miss H. G. Marsden, Mr. W. B. Meikle, Mr. H. C. Mitchell, Lieut. E. L. C. Muntz, R.N., Mr. C. P. Noyes, Mrs. C. P. Noyes, Mr. Edward Platt, Mr. Thos. Rich, Mr. J. Rutherford, M.P. and valet, Mr. J. N. Sidebottom, Mr. J. H. Skelton, Lieut. M. B. Webb, Dr. R. Wolfendale, and Miss Worts, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. H. M. Allbright, Count Baranoff, Mr. F. I. Baughman, Mr. S. A. Campbell, Miss A. H. Carter, Mr. Guy Clinton, Mr. A. V. Dalrymple, Mr. J. H. Dugan, Mr. R. D. Dunlop, Mrs. R. D. Dunlop, Mr. D. E. Fee, Comte Alphonse de Fleurien, Comte Henry de Fleurien, Miss M. K. Fulton, M.D., Mr. Russell Gates, Mrs. C. L. Gorham, Mr. M. G. Gholson, Mrs. A. C. Grun, Mr. R. Gumprecht, Mrs. R. Gumprecht, Mr. R. R. Gurley, Mr. Theodor Herzog, Miss M. B. Hill, Mrs. P. Irvine, infant and maid, Mr. John H. Jewett, Mrs. J. H. Jewett and maid, Master J. H. Jewett, Jr., Master T. B. Jewett, Master W. Van Duys Jewett, Miss Jessie Jewett, Miss Dorothy Jewett, Mr. Jno. G. Meyer, Rev. W. J. P. Morrison, Master Wm. Morrison, Mr. E. W. Oliver, Mr. H. T. Peters, Mr. E. A. Probst, Mrs. E. A. Probst, Miss K. Probst, Miss E. Probst, Mr. E. Reimann, Mr. D. Riabouchinsky, Mr. W. Smithett, Rev. C. A. Tague and servant, Mrs. C. A. Tague and 3 children, Miss E. G. Wardell, Miss H. M. Wardell, Mr. H. H. Watkins, and Mr. J. Williams, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. C. Kase, Mr. T. Terii, Mr. Victor Pehmseller, Mrs. T. Kita and 2 children, Mrs. Yada and child, Mr. S. Nagao, Mr. K. Hidaka, Mr. T. Yoshioka, Miss Yoshioka, Mrs. Gleman, Miss Gleman and 3 children, Baron M. Iwakura, Mr. Ko Kwan Gen, Dr. H. W. G. Doyne, Mr. and Mrs. Montavon, Miss Rosch, Mr. E. A. Poolman, Mrs. Mounier, Mr. and Mrs. Fullarton, Mr. and Mrs. Orr, Mrs. K. Eller, Mrs. S. Hall, Mr. E. Bentley, Miss Poolman, Mr. P. Wilkinson, Mr. A. G. Osborne, and Miss Twigg, in cabin; Mr. Z. Ishibashi, Mr. K. Yamashita, Mr. S. Mine, Mr. Chin Mou Chow, and Chas. A. Glung, in second class; 32 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. P. V. Alpiser, Mr. C. H. Best, Mrs. F. X. Black, Mr. G. F. Black, Miss L. Black, Mrs. N. Bliss, Judge Jas. Blount, Mrs. A. J. Bolles and maid, Mr. W. H. Boyd, Mr. Lucien Boyer, Miss A. S. Buckbee, Mr. J. G. Conrad, Mrs. J. G. Conrad, Mr. E. L. Curtis, Mrs. T. F. Daly, Miss N. Egan, Mr. F. M. Gowey, Major L. M. Greer, Mr. V. Heller, Mr. C. R. Holcomb, Mr. M. Ichihara, Mr. E. Kann, Mr. G. B. Knight, Mrs. G. B. Knight and infant, Mr. A. Lawless, Mr. A. Lisfrance, Mr. J. L. Mitchell, Mrs. J. L. Mitchell; Lieut. A. R. Moen, Miss K. A. Molt, Mr. H. D. Morrison, Miss C. Post, Miss M. A. Quinby, Mr. T. Sato, Mr. H. Schlee, Mr. M. Sugimoto, Mr. E. Toda, Mrs. E. Toda, and Mr. A. H. White, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. and Miss Takamatsu, Miss M. Crane, Mr. James Summers, Mr. J. D. Mahon, Mr. K. Nambu, Mrs. K. Minagawa, Mr. John Griffin, Mrs. H. Sakaki, Misses Sakaki, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Ben Zok Show, Mr. Thos. E. Addil, Mrs. S. Crafts, and Mr. and Mrs. Dittest, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. K. Katayama and child, Mr. K. Kawakami, Mr. Y. Hagino, Mr. H. Yoshino, and Mrs. R. Nonaka, in second class; 37, in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Business in Yarns is at a standstill; sellers are firm and at current rates there is no demand. For Shirtings there is no demand. The market for Fancy Cottons and Woollens is quiet.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

The metal market is very quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward...	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron...	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

There is no change.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila...	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang...	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The abstention of American Buyers produces a marked weakness in prices. Small business doing.

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QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	...	Y.	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—Extra, Fine	...		—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	...		1,025 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	...		—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	...		985 to 995
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	...		1,030 to 1,040
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	...		965 to 970
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	...		960 to 970
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	...		—
Common—Coarse	...		—
Re-reels—Extra	...		—
Re-reels—No. 1	...		—
Re-reels—No. 1½	...		—
Re-reels—No. 2	...		—
Re-reels—No. 3	...		—
Kakedas—Extra	...		980 to 980
Kakedas—No. 1	...		950 to 955
Kakedas—No. 1½	...		920 to 925
Kakedas—No. 2	...		890 to 900
Kakedas—No. 2½	...		860 to 870

WASTE SILK.

A few arrivals of Kibiso. Business almost impossible on account of the pretensions of dealers.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	...	180 to 185
Noshi—Filatures, Good	...	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	...	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	...	165 to 170
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	...	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	...	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	...	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	...	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	...	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	...	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	...	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	...	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	...	55 to 60

TEA.

A few pounds of new tea have been shown but no estimate of the new crop can be formed from these small samples of forced leaf. If the present mild weather continues it is expected that the *Nippon Maru* on April 21st may take a few packages.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

INDIGO.

Holdiers of Indian Indigo have been trying to obtain advanced prices but there is little demand.

	PICUL
Java, Medium to best	290.00 to 345.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	130.00 to 300.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best	105.00 to 145.00

TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE.

SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 16.

Yesterday's total transactions were 10,910 shares.

MORNING. April.	May.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. April.	May.
—	77.95	Nippon Railway	78.05	78.30
24.40	—	Nippon R'way, 3rd	—	24.50
60.30	—	Sanyo Railway	60.70	61.50
44.70	45.05	Kansai Railway	—	45.30
56.70	57.15	Kiushiu Railway	57.05	57.45
78.60	79.00	Tanko Railway	78.50	79.10
—	—	Tanko R'way, new	—	—
—	24.80	Tobu Railway	—	—
59.80	—	Sobu Railway	—	—
—	—	Boso Railway	—	—
—	—	Narita Railway	—	—
—	—	Narita R'way, new	—	—
—	20.70	Kioto Railway	—	—
23.35	23.50	Hokuyetsu Railway	—	23.50
—	—	Hankaku Railway	—	—
104.20	105.00	Tokio Electric Car	102.50	103.20
86.00	86.60	Tokio Ele. Car, new	84.60	85.50
39.10	64.65	Tokio Electric Ra'y	37.80	63.30
48.30	48.75	Tokio Street R'way	48.50	48.95
84.50	82.10	Nippon Yusen	84.80	82.40
32.60	32.90	Toyo Kisen	32.00	33.05
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—
—	—	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new	—	—
—	—	Tokio Electric Light	—	—
—	—	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	—
42.15	42.45	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	—	42.70
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—

WILD WITH ECZEMA

And Other Itching, Burning, Scaly Eruptions with Loss of Hair.

Speedy Cure Treatment.

Bathe the affected parts with Hot Water and Cuticura Soap, to cleanse the surface of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura Ointment freely, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take Cuticura Resolvent Pills, to cool and cleanse the blood. A single set is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, scaly, pimply humours, eczemas, rashes, irritations, and chafings, with loss of hair, when all else fails.

The agonizing itching and burning of the skin, as in eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair and crusting of the scalp, as in scalled head; the facial disfigurement, as in pimples and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants and the anxiety of worn-out parents, as in milk crust, tetter, and salt rheum,—all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them. Such are the CUTICURA remedies, the purest, sweetest, most speedy and economical curatives for the skin, scalp, and blood ever compounded. Mothers are their warmest friends.

Millions of Women Use Cuticura Soap

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations of women, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves, as well as for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated) are a new, tasteless, odourless, economical substitute for the celebrated liquid CUTICURA RESOLVENT, as well as for all other blood purifiers and humour cures. Put up in screw-cap pocket vials, containing 60 doses.

CUTICURA REMEDIES are sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney. British Depot: 27-28, Charterhouse Sq., London. French Depot: 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 16.

London silver ⅛ higher and China sterling quotations ⅛ to ⅜ higher have caused local rates on China to again rule easier, but all other rates remain firm.

London—Bank T.T.		2 0⅜
—	— Bills on demand	2/0⅝
—	— 4 months' sight	2/0⅜
—	Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅜
—	— 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight		255½ @ 6
—	Private 4 months' sight	260½
—	— 6 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight	per $100.	80¼*
—	Private 10 days' sight do.	79*
Shanghai—Bank sight		92*
—	Private 10 days' sight	93¼*
India—Bank sight		152
—	Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight		49⅜ @ ¾
—	Private 30 days' sigh	50⅜
—	Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ½
Germany—Bank sight		208
—	Private 4 months' sight	213½
Bar Silver (London)		22 1/16

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, April 16.

Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sellers at *yen* 108. Grand Hotels, a few shares can be placed at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Langfeldts, offers wanted. Kirin Breweries, sellers at *yen* 110. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Helm Bros., sellers at *yen* 42½ offers wanted for forward delivery. Y. U. Club debentures sold at *yen* 107. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	108 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	250 Buyers.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Nominal.
Langfeldt & Co.	28 Buyers.
Japan Brewery Co.	110 Sellers.
C. Nickel & Co.	28½ Sellers.
Helm Bros.	42½ Sellers.

Telephone No. 328.

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Provisions of all sorts.

Peek, Frean and Co., London,
Biscuits of every description.

Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin,
Champagne.

J. Witkowski & Co.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR JAPAN.
Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M. 1y.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA STATION.

For Shimbashi—5.30, 6, 6.30, 7.35, 8.10 (express), 8.20, 9, 9.40, 10.10, 10.43, 11.15 a.m., 12.20, 1.20, 1.50, 2.30, 3, 3.30, 4.10, 5, 5.30 (express), 5.40, 6, 7.25, 8.25, 9.10, 9.50, 10.40, and 11.20 p.m.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH, 1903.

BIRTH.

On the 22nd April, 1903, the wife of GALEN M. FISHER, Esq., Tokyo, of a Son.

MARRIAGES.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, on April 20th, 1903, by the Rev. W. P. G. Field, M.A., ROBERT BROWN MCKINNELL, to JESSIE GIFFEN, youngest daughter of Peter Struthers, Esq., Civil Engineer, Edinburg.

On April 20th, 1903, at 75 Bluff, Yokohama, in the presence of Hon. E. C. Bellows, Consul-General of U.S.A., by the Rev. John L. Dearing, D.D., WILLIAM E. LUTZ, Department Superintendent of Education, Santa Cruz, Luzon, P.I., to MARIAN MILLS, of Iloilo, P.I.

DEATH.

On the 22nd of January, 1903, at the Chateau de Chassay, Ste. Luce (Loire-Inférieure) Monsieur JULES LOUIS EMILE ROBERT DE TAILLEPIED DE BONDY COMTE EMILE DE BONDY, formerly Minister Plenipotentiary, Commander de la Légion d'Honneur, de Maite, du Pio-nono, de St. Maurice et St. Lazare, Grand-croix d'Isabelle la Catholique, Grand-officer de Charles III, Officier d'Albert le Valeureux, Compagnon du Danebrog, Chevalier de St. Grégoire-le-grand, de St. Sylvestre, etc., etc.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A STEAMER and a junk collided on the Sumida river in Tokyo on April 18th and the former sank. The crew were rescued by the latter.

MR. TAKAHASHI, member of the Diet for Matsue, who was charged with obtaining money by means of threats was, on April 17th, sentenced to 2 months' imprisonment, a fine of *yen* 30 and 6 months' police surveillance.

THREE fishermen, brothers, living in Omori, were drowned off Haneda point the other day, their junk being overturned by a strong southerly gale.

IN connexion with the bribery charges in Saitama Prefecture, an assistant civil engineer, named G. Takahashi, was arrested on April 16th.

MESSRS. HELM BROS., No. 43, were fined *sen* 50 at the Harbour Police Station on April 19th on a charge of having infringed the regulations regarding lighters and boats.

A CLERK named S. Tanabe (36) of the Hiki Rural Office, Saitama prefecture, was arrested on April 17th on a charge of having received bribes from an official contractor.

A MAN named T. Yano, who murdered a policeman and a coolie at the Nagano railway station last month, was sentenced to death on April 18th in the Nagano District Court.

A CLERK named S. Takuchi, of the Iwamisawa village office in Sapporo was arrested on April 20th on a charge of having embezzled office money amounting to *yen* 346.

THE Yokohama City Authorities have decided to impose a tax of *yen* 3 on bicycles beginning with this fiscal year (commencing April 1st) and the tax will be levied half-yearly.

A RURAL headman named S. Ito of Omachi, Nagano prefecture, was arrested on April 16th on a charge of having forged official letters and embezzled money belonging to the office.

A TELEGRAM dated April 19th from Kumamoto prefecture states that owing to the present unfavourable weather, heavy damage has been inflicted on the mulberry and tea leaves in that locality.

H. HASHIMOTO, one of the staff of the *Toto Nippo*, Tokyo, was arrested on April 19th on a charge of having stolen some silk clothing belonging to a student of the Imperial University.

THE body of an Imperial Guardsman was found in the woods on Terao hill near Asahi village, Tachibana-gori, Tokyo, on April 19th. It is stated that he committed suicide by hanging himself.

A MAN named Tsunekichi living at Abe-gori, Shidzuoka Prefecture, murdered the wife of one of his relations named Sugiyama residing in the same house and severely injured her son. The cause is not reported.

OFFICIALS of the Tokyo District Court searched the dwelling of Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei, M.P., in Ginza, Tokyo, on April 21st. It is said that their object was to secure evidence of an alleged infringement of the Election Law.

ON April 18th an electric tramcar ran over and killed an old man named K. Ito (68) at Arai village near Omori. The two drivers of the car were at once taken under arrest to the Shinagawa Police Station.

ON the evening of April 18th a woman exchanged a paper note of *yen* 10 for smaller notes at the exchange shop of K. Futami, Sakura-cho, Shiba, Tokyo. The note was found to be counterfeit. The shopkeeper informed the police.

A TELEGRAM from Chemulpo states that the steamer *Chiyo Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, had her boiler damaged before arrival at Chemulpo on April 16th from Chinnampo. After temporary repairs at Chemulpo, she was to leave for Osaka the next day. It is added that during the present season heavy fogs are prevalent about the Korean coasts.

Two children of a miner named M. Kurihashi employed at the Ashio Copper Mine, were killed, on April 18th, by the explosion of dynamite cartridges. The children, it is stated, were playing with them as toys.

AN old man named T. Tatsukawa (74) living at Take-cho, Shitaya, Tokyo, attempted to murder a carpenter living with him named T. Shimamura 35) inflicting several injuries with a knife. The cause is said to have been jealousy of the carpenter.

VISCOUNT TERAUCHI, Minister for War, has requested the staff officers of all the Divisions in the Empire, and of all the garrisons in Formosa and China to come to Tokyo by April 29th and be present at a conference which is to be held on the 30th.

REAR ADMIRAL COUNT VON BENDISSEN, Commander-in-chief of the German squadron, who arrived at Kobe by the cruiser *Hansa*, on April 15th visited the tomb in Kyoto of the late Commander Hattori, who was killed during the Boxer troubles.

Two silk dealers named W. Nagashima and S. Yeijima in Ashikaga, Gunma prefecture, are reported to have disappeared rather than pay their promissory notes, which amount in the one case to *yen* 123,000 and in the other to *yen* 34,000. A panic has occurred in the local market.

THE battleship *Retvizan* and the cruisers *Pallada* and *Diana* of the Russian Asiatic Squadron, under command of Rear-Admiral Stakelberg, arrived at Nagasaki from home on April 21st. It is expected that three more will shortly arrive.

Two earthquakes were felt in Yokohama within 8 hours, the first occurred at 9 o'clock on Tuesday evening and the other about 5 o'clock on Wednesday morning. The second was very severe and startled most people from their sleep.

IT is reported by the Isezaki-cho police that a man who bought some cakes worth *sen* 5 in the shop of a confectioner in Chitose-cho, Yokohama, on the night of April 20th gave a one *yen* spurious note in payment and carried off the change, *sen* 95.

H. KAWAI, an official merchant to the Department of the Imperial Household, who had embezzled war bonds of the face value of *yen* 5,000 belonging to Viscount Toda was sentenced, in the Tokyo District Court on April 21st to 6 years' minor confinement.

A JINRIKISHA coolie named Tanaka (21) attempted to murder his employer named Awoki (37) Tokiwa-cho, Yokohama, inflicting severe injuries with a knife, on the night of April 20th. The offender was at once arrested by the Isezaki-cho police. The cause is said to be insanity.

A COOLIE named T. Matsuhara (23) was seriously stabbed with a sharp knife on the Yoshihama-bridge, Yokohama, on April 18th about 7.30 p.m. The police are searching for a man named S. Arai, a coolie (40) who is alleged to be the assailant. The cause of the attack is not known. Matsuhara is not expected to recover.

THE 22nd Bank in Okayama prefecture, held a general meeting on April 19th at which the shareholders criticized the directors on the ground that outstanding credits amounting to over *yen* 227,000 are still out-standing after a long period and that the various debtors are unable to repay. The shareholders decided to cut down the capital and to wipe off the bad debts from the books.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Friday, April 17.

It appears to be thought that the political commotion will be allayed without very serious results. The prime movers seem to have been somewhat discomfited by the premature publication of their manifesto, and though a further and firmer declaration of views is expected from a meeting to be held on the 20th instant in Osaka, the general forecast is said to be that matters will end in more cry than wool. Rumour still insists on connecting the name of Viscount Watanabe Kunitake with the disturbance, but the Viscount himself is reported to be taking things very coolly. It must be confessed, however, that a shock has been given to the public's confidence in the cohesion of the *Seiyu-kai*. There may have been exaggeration, but there certainly has been a display of the spirit of insubordination. No one, we imagine, except Marquis Ito could have held the reins of such a heterogeneous team as the *Seiyu-kai* for so long a time, without satisfying in any way their hunger for the sweets of office, yet it comes rather as a surprise to learn that the team is so heterogeneous.

Two absolutely contradictory reports are confidently published. For one the *Nippon* is responsible. It says that in the sequel of meetings between Marquis Ito, Baron Kodama, Marquis Yamagata and others—our contemporary gives a detailed catalogue of these meetings—an agreement has been concluded between the Ministry and Marquis Ito. But as to the terms of the agreement the Tokyo journal says nothing, though it devotes much space to elaborating the incidents of the various conferences.

From the *Chino Shimbun* comes the other story. It is that all attempts to effect an agreement having proved unsuccessful, the Cabinet has decided to resign, against which decision the only objecting voice is that of the Minister of the Navy. It will be curious to learn which of these diametrically opposite statements is correct.

Saturday, April 18.

The discontent among the rank and file of the *Seiyu-kai* is proving to be much more substantial than certain journals would have had the public suppose. Its chief cause, we gather, is discontent that things should have been allowed to drift so long and that the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* should not have insisted upon securing the rewards that legitimately belong to a political party with an overwhelming majority. That is putting the business, perhaps, on a somewhat inglorious basis, but that, after all, seems to be the sum of the matter. The promoters of the disaffection themselves represent the case somewhat differently. They allege that while the autocratic leadership given to Marquis Ito and his lieutenants was well enough for a time, and may even be said to have been necessary in the circumstances that attended the Party's birth, no one thought of such a state of affairs as a permanency. All looked forward to the speedy advent of the day when the *Seiyu-kai* would become in fact as well as in name a constitutional party, and when important questions of policy would be decided by the majority of the members at general meetings, not by the despotic decision of a small coterie of leaders. These are the views attributed to the reformers by Mr. Ogawa Heikichi, a barrister hitherto unknown to fame, who is now taking a prominent part in the agitation. He ridicules the notion that collusion with the Cabinet can be responsible in any way for a movement which is largely dictated by apprehension lest the Cabinet should be treated too leniently.

It is difficult to gather what measures, if any, the Party leaders have taken in view of this trouble. Some writers allege that the malcontents consist of three sections, namely, men friendly to the Ministry, men merely desirous of making a commotion in the interests of certain personalities, and men genuinely anxious for reform. Naturally it is added that those of the first class, if they can be definitely ascertained, will be expelled from the Party, by which means the disturbance will be reduced to manageable dimensions. It is not to be denied, however, that the trouble has a character more formidable than might have been supposed from the reception originally given to it by some of the Party organs, and that its final settlement will scarcely leave the organization of the *Seiyu-kai* unchanged. The slightest rebellion against the authority of Marquis Ito will do more to discredit the *Seiyu-kai* in the eyes of the nation than any other incident of the Party's career.

A big meeting of the members of the *Seiyu-kai* was held in Yamaguchi on the 17th instant. Resolutions were passed condemning the continuance of the land tax, and calling for administrative re-organization as well as for measures to fix the responsibility for the official corruption now revealed.

Monday, April 20.

Four members of the *Seiyu-kai* have been expelled from the Party. The reason of this drastic measure is not publicly announced, but there seems to be little doubt that their procedure is regarded by the leaders of the Party as having been inspired, not by any genuine desire to benefit the cause they professed to have espoused, but by a sinister wish to create confusion and bring about a rupture. The *Chuo Shimbun*, which has now no rival in abuse of the Katsura Cabinet, insists that these expelled members have been clearly proved to be creatures of the Ministry and to be working at the instance of Viscount Watanabe, who is secretly assisting Count Katsura. Indeed the *Chuo* goes so far as to assert that a sum of fifty thousand *yen* is the basis of this "reform clique" which succeeded in creating such a commotion. Probably very few people retain implicit confidence in the *Chuo Shimbun's* political news. The editors appear to be swayed by prejudices which impel them to accept all rumours injurious to the Cabinet's reputation. The *Jimmin*, itself a party organ, is much more moderate. It is content to explain that the expelled members are convicted of having acted in such a manner as to render their *bonâ fides* more than doubtful. All the journals by which the question is discussed declare that this disciplinary measure is not to be construed as any evidence of intention to muzzle the members of the *Seiyu-kai*. Perfect freedom of speech and open expression of opinion are to be allowed to all that act honestly in the interests of the Party.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not seem disposed to think that the trouble has been fully settled. It considers that out of the 12 men forming the Standing Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* only one half are entitled by ability and services to occupy that position, the other half being persons who obtained the honour in recognition of assistance rendered at the time of organizing the Party. It was never probable that the leadership of these latter six would be quietly endured by the bulk of the *Seiyu-kai* for any extended period, and this question of re-organization will therefore present itself again. As for the *Nippon*, which has been acting the part of a stormy petrel for some time, it declares that the expulsion of these four members will serve only to throw oil on the flames.

The four expelled members are Messrs. Itakura Chiu, Tatsuno Shuichiro, Mochida Wakasa and Ishizuka Juhei.

Count Itagaki has thought it expedient to disavow all connexion with the reform clique. It will be remembered that there had been talk for some time of a revival of the Old Liberals, and that Count Itagaki's name has been associated with that of Viscount Watanabe in the present instance. But the Count declares himself an opponent of the reform clique's programme, and says that had they listened to advice they would never have taken the steps they did. As to the organization of the *Seiyu-kai* the old Liberal leader seems to think that the heterogeneous nature of its components necessitates an exceptional kind of control, and in any circumstances he is emphatically convinced that unless a political party acknowledges and obeys the authority of a leader, there can be no such thing as collective activity or efficiency.

It is to be observed that the four expelled members do not belong to the Tokyo section of "reformers." Those that take interest in this matter have doubtless detected the distinction between the manifesto of the Osaka malcontents and the memorial of the fourteen Tokyo members. At all events that distinction is very clearly recognised by the leaders of the Party, for they have left the Tokyo men to pursue their path uninterrupted, and it is now stated that a grand meeting of all the reformers will be held in Tokyo about the 26th instant, when there will be adopted a scheme of changes concerning the contents of which some sinister and mysterious predictions are hazarded. But the point of chief interest is that the agitation is now seen not to be directed against Marquis Ito at all. No one speaks of assailing his position. Even the most radical of the reformers avow that although their proposal be adopted for reducing the Committee and making its members elective, they accept Marquis Ito's authority as fully and loyally as ever, and further are persuaded that with an elected Committee he will wield more effective away than with a nominated one. Thus the matter is reduced merely to the dimensions of an unessential measure of reorganization. A cardinal change is no longer in contemplation, and perhaps the truest analysis is that a seditious and treacherous attempt was made by some members to utilize for purposes of disruption a movement originally inspired by genuine and loyal impulses of reform.

Nothing more is heard just now about the recent rumour of a compromise between the Cabinet and the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai*. But the *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a forecast which it attributes to a member of the *Seiyu-kai's* Standing Committee. The gist of the statement is that the Ministry aims at separating the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists, though no attempt is made to demonstrate the advantages that would accrue from that result. Two courses are attributed to the Cabinet. One is to refrain from again presenting the bill for continuing the land tax and to substitute

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some other form of revenue—probably an increased tax on sugar. If the *Seiyu-kai* leaders accept that concession, then they must break away from the Progressists, who will certainly decline to endorse it. But if neither section of the Opposition accepts it, if, on the contrary, both sections unite to pass a vote of want of confidence or an address to the Throne, then the Cabinet will resign, declaring at the same time that the Opposition has plainly convicted itself of obstructing the administration merely for the purpose of getting power into its own hands. In utilizing for subsequent purposes the discredit thus brought upon the *Seiyu-kai*, the members of the present Ministry will look to the House of Peers for support, and with that design will proceed to obtain as large an accession as possible to the ranks of the Imperial nominees in the House. Thus, concludes this analyst, if the Cabinet contrives to bring about any such nominations, that will be a trustworthy barometer, and the public will be able to infer that the resignation of the Ministry impends.

Tuesday, April 21.

Tokyo journals are now busying themselves with analyses of the disaffection in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. It is somewhat remarkable to find that even the newspaper which from the first ridiculed the whole incident as unworthy of notice, now takes a full share in discussing motives and causes. Summing up what has been written, we find three classes of agitators indicated by all the critics, though there is a slight difference of opinion as to the leaders of each class. One class consists of men who are in collusion with the Cabinet and who would fain introduce disorder into the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai* on any terms. The second class comprises politicians who, thinking that the localities do not receive enough consideration in the councils of the Party, as at present organized, desire a change for that reason. The third class is made up of men honestly solicitous for the Party's welfare, but apparently ill-fitted to judge of times and seasons. On the whole these utterances of the press, considered collectively, suggest an inference that the agitation will not extend beyond the outer circles of the Party, though it indicates unexpected want of cohesion. The drastic step taken by the General Committee in expelling four members, all of whom hold seats in the House of Representatives, will not fail, of course, to provoke some excitement among the constituents of the men thus stigmatized, but any trouble arising from that source will probably be insignificant, for it may be assumed that the General Committee had full evidence before it acted.

Count Okuma, interviewed by the *Chuwo Shimbun*, strongly deprecates these quarrels. He takes the ground that what Japan wants is a thorough remodelling of the administration; a casting out of the old and admission of the new. The country's condition at present, he thinks, may be compared to that of England in the 18th century, when, owing to domestic confusion and corruption, progress at home and influence abroad were sacrificed, until Pitt appeared upon the scene and accomplished complete re-organization, bringing in the young pure blood and throwing out the old and the depraved. A country's strength depends really on its internal conditions. If these are sound, problems of foreign policy offer no difficulty. Count Okuma is altogether weary of talk about compromise and sentiment. The time has gone by for attaching any importance to these things, and what is wanted now is to throw overboard all lumber of petty differences and personal considerations, so that a strong union may be formed to face the old-fashioned enemy. The Count does not clearly indicate who are the enemy, but he distinguishes them by the epithet "opponents of the people's great hope."

Mr. Kato Takaaki has been interviewed by a representative of the *Jimmin*. He does not profess to be very familiar with the details of these happenings, but as to the question of one-man control, he justly remarks that the *Seiyu-kai* was organized under Marquis Ito's standard. It was precisely because the Marquis undertook to act as leader that the formation of the Party became a practical possibility. That was a special feature of the *Seiyu-kai*, and to destroy that feature would be to remove the foundations of the Party. Politicians having any such aim had better step out of the ranks: they are not in their proper place. As for the so-called "reformers," they appear to be a section without a leader. United action can not be expected of them. Mr. Kato does not claim any definite knowledge, but he altogether discredits the notion that Viscount Watanabe is connected with the agitation. Besides, there is nothing new in these exhibitions of discontent on the part of the Hokushin and Kwanto politicians. They have often taken occasion to familiarize the public with their dissatisfied mood, and their present ebullition may be regarded as a mere ephemeral phenomenon.

Viscount Watanabe's voice is also heard. He seems to speak through a news agency, for nearly all the Tokyo journals publish his utterances. Concerning his alleged connexion with the political agitators, he denies it radically and emphatically. But as to the necessity of reform, he thinks that no one can gainsay it. In the immediate sequel of that interesting declaration, however, a declaration which seems to prelude some important announcement, the Viscount drifts into generalities. He quotes the Biblical saying "blessed are the poor in spirit," and he talks of the whole nation as hungering and thirsting after righteousness. Having hitherto been spoken of as an ardent follower of Buddhism, Viscount Watanabe seems now determined to borrow phraseology from the Christian Scripture. It is not easy to connect his remarks with the spirit of the agitation that disturbs the *Seiyu-kai*, but one thing is plain and intelligible, namely, that he disavows all desire to throw any apple of discord into the ranks of the big Party, though he observes sententiously that "the time seems to be ripe." It may therefore be plainly inferred that although he is not a fellow-worker with the political reformers, he is a sympathiser. That admission will amply suffice to inspire numerous conjectures and to set the tongue of rumour wagging once more.

A fact of some importance is that the *Jimmin*, organ of the old Liberals, asserts the necessity of reform, but denies that the time is appropriate. It recalls the fact that this question was raised last year and temporarily disposed of by Marquis Ito's declaration that things had better remain for the moment as they were. Ostensibly the matter was thus dismissed, but in secret the feeling of dissatisfaction remained. This is not the moment, however, to bring forward such problems for solution. A different duty demands united exercise of the *Seiyu-kai's* full strength, the duty of overthrowing an unconstitutional Cabinet.

Wednesday, April 22.

There have been three meetings between Marquis Ito and Count Katsura within the past few days, and rumour has found materials for a new tale, namely, that the two statesmen have come to an unwritten agreement, Marquis Ito promising to hold his parliamentary forces in check until the end of the session, and Count Katsura pledging himself to resign thereafter in Marquis Ito's favour. The circulation of this story has engendered a corollary to the effect that a deputation of the House of Peers, alarmed at such a prospect, waited on Count Katsura to remonstrate with him. All such talk is ridiculed by the *Jimmin*, which denies wholly that anything of the kind has occurred, and avers that the meetings between the Premier and the *Seiyu-kai* leader were in connexion with entirely different business.

The *Nippon* continues its vigorous attempts to sow seeds of discord in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. It now attacks Marquis Ito on the ground that while he holds frequent conferences with the statesmen in power, he gives himself no concern whatever about the commotion among his own followers, whom, in short, he treats with supreme indifference. Our contemporary's conclusion is that the Marquis does not appreciate the functions of a party leader. The writings of the *Nippon* conspicuously, and those of the *Niroku* in a more remote degree, are calculated to foster the discontent which recently declared itself in the ranks of the *Seiyukai*.

On the 20th instant a meeting of the General Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* was held in Tokyo for the purpose of considering the measures to be taken in the sequel of the expulsion of the four recalcitrant members, that disciplinary step not having been completely successful. Two deputations waited on the Committee. One consisted of representatives of the Shinano constituency, by which Messrs. Tatsuno and Ishizuka, two of the expelled members, were returned. These asked for an explanation of the sentence of expulsion, but the Committee declined to explain, preferring to base its action on the authority distinctly given to it by the regulations. This deputation therefore withdrew, announcing its intention of undertaking an investigation itself. The second deputation was on behalf of the Tokyo memorialists, now called the *Ikki-ha*. They informed the committee that although the despotic organization of the *Seiyukai* may have been necessary at the outset, the time had come for a reform more in accordance with constitutional ideas. The Committee asked whether they had come provided with a scheme of reform, but they replied in the negative. There ensued some conversation, partly in the way of mutual banter, between the deputation and Mr. Ozaki Yukio. The latter denied that the General Committee exercised any arbitrary powers. Such a mistaken notion, he said, was engendered by ignorance of the Committee's methods. If the complaining members took the trouble to place themselves in touch with the Committee, they would discover their error. To this the deputation replied that too much contact with the Committee might have a corrupting influence, and Mr. Ozaki retorted that if members of a party took no interest in its proceedings and no share in its meetings, they might as well belong to the outside world altogether. This interchange of civilities is said by the *Nichi Nichi* to have been altogether good-

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humoured, but of course the deputation withdrew without effecting anything. Neither does the Committee itself seem to have arrived at any decision. Probably the members concluded that the occasion did not call for a definite resolution.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, referring to the various rumours circulating on the subject of the Cabinet's attitude towards the Diet next session, says that although no hard-and-fast decision may yet have been taken with regard to all the bills to be submitted, the bills for naval increment and for continuing the increased rate of land-tax will certainly be introduced as a necessary sequel to the dissolution of the last House of Representatives. The only difference will be that the rate of land-tax will be reduced from 3.3 per cent. to 3 per cent., which reduction the Cabinet makes in consideration of its offer when conferences were held last session pointing to a compromise between the Ministry and the House.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, now one of the most prominent politicians of the time, has allowed himself to be interviewed by a member of the *Nippon's* staff, with whom he has conversed on a number of topics. His first comment is on the threatened disruption in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. Such incidents, he says, are not new, but the present example differs from those preceding it in the fact that the agitators, instead of seeking to gain preliminary support among the Party leaders, appealed at once to public opinion, from which it would seem as though some newspaper editors had influenced their action. He denies that there is any disposition on the part of the *Seiyu-kai* to abandon its conflict with the Cabinet. Nothing of the kind can be alleged, for, pending the gathering of the Party's leaders in Tokyo, their views and intentions are not known. Mr. Ozaki further alleges that Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi will decline the position of President of the Lower House next session, and that Messrs. Matsuda Masahisa, Hara Kei and Ebara Soroku are talked of as his successors, but that Mr. Matsuda seems the most likely candidate.

The Government's attitude towards the Seoul-Fusan Railway is another matter discussed by Mr. Ozaki. He thinks that if interest on the Company's bonds be guaranteed at 6 per cent., there is no occasion for the Treasury to give any pledge as to repayment. Were the interest lower the case would be different, and thus, after all, the problem hinges finally on the rate of interest. But Mr. Ozaki does not, apparently, take note of the fact that a guarantee of interest for a fixed term of years, constitutes no security for the re-payment of principal. If the Treasury guaranteed even 4 per cent. so long as the principal of the debt remained unredeemed, there might be no difficulty in finding a foreign lender. But the Treasury, as we understand, does not guarantee anything of the kind. Its original arrangement was a six-per-cent. promise for 15 years, which is evidently insufficient security for a foreign loan, and as the railway itself, being in Korean territory, can not be hypothecated by a Japanese company, the only feasible method of getting foreign assistance is a Government guarantee for the payment of principal. To us it seems that the questions of interest and principal are quite independent in this case.

Thursday, April 23.

Meetings continue to take place in Kyoto between Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Katsura, Baron Komura and Baron Utsumi. Some newspapers insist on interpreting these conferences as a prelude to agreement between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai*, but others have the good sense to admit that perhaps some different subject of great national importance may be occupying the attention of Japanese statesmen. As to the so-called "reformers," they furnish materials for various kinds of comment, being laughed at here, abused there, incited elsewhere and exhorted in some quarters. The *Nippon* and *Niroku* are now openly accused of endeavouring to blow into a flame the embers of discontent, a criticism from which we can not dissent. The *Jiji Shimpo*, as usual, adopts the wisest tone. It reminds the rebellious section of the *Seiyu-kai* that whereas they have inscribed on their political banner the motto "administrative reform," they seem inclined to inscribe upon their party banner "confused organization." They are disgracing their Party; bringing it into public discredit. If the *Seiyu-kai* goes to pieces, it will not be too much to say that political parties in Japan have proved a failure.

Friday, April 24.

Again the air is full of rumours about the political situation. Authorities of no less importance than the *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* print announcements in double-leaded type to the effect that the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai* leaders have come to an agreement. The *Asahi* does not explain the nature of the terms, nor is the *Nichi Nichi* positive about them. But the latter's analysis is that whereas the Ministry will introduce its bills for naval increment and the continuance of the land-tax at an increased rate, it will gladly withdraw the land-tax measure and substitute any financial scheme proposed by the *Seiyu-kai*, the Party leaders, on their side, pledging themselves not to introduce any resolution of want of confidence or any address to the Throne. The *Nippon* also asserts that some *entente* has been elaborated, but all the other Tokyo journals deny it. Their interpretation of the recent meetings between Cabinet Ministers and the Elder Statesmen is that a problem of foreign politics was under discussion, the Ministry having decided to adopt a strong attitude for which they naturally desired the endorsement of Marquises Ito and Yamagata. These journals hold that the Cabinet and the Elder Statesmen are agreed as to that matter, but they refuse to believe that there has been any bridge constructed over the previously existing chasm.

The *Asahi* has a leading article on the question of home politics. We find there an echo of the old criticism that, in existing circumstances, there can not be any such thing as an independent cabinet in Japan. The influence of the Elder statesmen is so great and the country's trust in them so profound that no Ministry can act without consulting them. Thus subordination is the rule of the hour. The Cabinet is subordinate to the Elder Statesmen; the *Seiyu-kai's* General Committee is subordinate to the Party's leader; the rank and file are subordinate to the Committee, and even to their constituencies since, while in their hearts approving of the land tax, they vote against it to please the farmers Content and smooth working are not permanently possible when no one enjoys freedom of thought or action.

At the recent general elections the public of Tokyo were much surprised to find that the name of Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei stood at the head of the poll. Mr. Iwaya is a successful tobacconist whose career has not been such as to suggest that the metropolis of the Empire should confer so signal an honour on him. But he is an open-handed gentleman, and that trait of his character suggested some injurious conjectures about the instruments of his success. It now appears that the authorities have obtained evidence pointing to wholesale violation of the Law of Elections. No less than three hundred voters are said to have seen the colour of Mr. Iwaya's money. That may be an exaggeration, but certainly six have been arrested, and rigorous search has been made of Mr. Iwaya's premises. He himself is absent in Osaka, and it is hinted that the police will lay hands on him when he returns.

THE NAVAL-INCREMENT QUESTION.

Concerning naval increment the *Jiji Shimpo* has an excellent article. It takes for immediate text the programme of Great Britain, and notes that in spite of the great expenditures required by the South African war as well as by the works undertaken in its sequel, the English Government has mapped out a scheme calling for an increased outlay of over three million pounds on account of the Navy. There are folks in Japan who argue that because her ally is taking such efficient steps to augment its naval strength, this country may rest on its oars. The *Jiji* tears that doctrine to shreds. It alleges that there can be no satisfactory alliance if one of the parties sits with folded hands trusting entirely to the other, and it maintains that even though the necessities of her position were less pressing, the example set by Japan's ally would impose upon her the responsibility of making some corresponding effort.

THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

Saturday, April 18.

Rumour continues to attribute to Russia the intention of making the implementing of her promise conditional upon China's consent to some other demand, the nature of which, however, is not even hinted. It is stated by the *Asahi's* correspondent that a state of siege was proclaimed at various places on the 4th and 5th instant, and that, so far from making preparations to evacuate, the Russian troops have been engaged in manœuvres involving a great deal of tent work. Russian officers allege, it is said, that these operations have reference to some dispute between their country and Japan in Korea, but as there is no such dispute it is scarcely conceivable that any explanation of the kind has been offered, though indeed the stories current in Manchuria of late indicate remarkable ignorance of events in the outer world. We find it difficult to imagine that if any question of importance were really at issue between Peking and St. Petersburg, any question of such a nature that its solution would be connected with the evacuation of Manchuria, the public could have remained in complete ignorance of it up to this time.

On the other hand, it is confidently alleged in some quarters that out of the four thousand Russian troops recently stationed in Mukden, the whole, with the exception of five or six hundred, have been withdrawn; and, further, that the military evacuation of Newchwang has been practically completed,

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though the rendition of the civil administration is deferred pending the arrival of the Taotai from Mukden. The *Asahi* and the *Yomiuri* agree in alleging that the troops to be removed aggregate thirty thousand, but that, as no superior limit is imposed with regard to the dimensions of the force employed by Russia to guard her railways and mining enterprises, the soldiers withdrawn from the positions hitherto held by them, may merely be transferred to contiguous posts where they will lose their character of an occupying army while retaining all their potentialities for military aggression.

The sum of the whole matter, judging by the information received up to the present, seems to be that the operation of evacuation has been delayed, and that the reasons of the delay do not lie deeper than ordinary unreadiness and procrastination. There is no evidence to warrant the belief that Russia is seeking to make her withdrawal the basis of some fresh concession.

Tuesday, April 21.

The *Niroku Shimpo* publishes in double-leaded type and with all possible prominence an alleged copy of an agreement, said to have been concluded in Peking, between the Chinese Foreign Office, represented by Prince Ching and Wang Wen-shao, and the Russian Minister. The document sets out by declaring that, in connexion with Russia's promise to evacuate the north-eastern part of Shinking and the whole of Kirin within the time indicated as the second period of withdrawal, the Government of St. Petersburg desires to make arrangements such as shall evince its good will towards its neighbour and friend, China. Therefore it is agreed that after the withdrawal of the Russian forces China shall undertake the duty of protecting Russia's railway in the evacuated districts, as well as the persons and properties of Russian railway officials and of all Russian subjects engaged in mining, road-making or other enterprises, China pledging herself to give full compensation for any injury to life or limb or any destruction of property resulting from failure to discharge this obligation. Further, since it is not desirable in the interests of peace and tranquillity that a needlessly large force of Chinese troops should be posted in Shingking and Kirin, Russia suggests that the following numbers shall be the superior limit, which shall not be exceeded without consultation with the Russian commander-in-chief in Liaotung, the corresponding question with regard to the Amur region to be subsequently settled. The maximum numbers are:—

	Shingking.	Kirin.	Totals.
Infantry	8,000	7,000	15,000
Cavalry	5,000	4,000	9,000
Artillery.....	2,000	1,500	3,500
Engineers	1,000	1,500	2,500
Land Transport	1,000	1,000	2,000
Total	17,000	15,000	32,000

Further, in the event of the Chinese troops proving unable to secure the safety of Russian subjects, or in the event of the tranquillity of Manchuria being threatened with disturbance owing to the opposition of other Powers, Russia shall put into the field her East-Asian force of railway guards, and should they prove insufficient, shall supplement them by troops from Europe. Finally, in no circumstances and on no pretext whatever shall the troops of other Powers be admitted into Manchuria, and should they be admitted the fact shall be regarded as an evidence of hostile feeling on China's part. Moreover, China shall as far as possible decline to allow to foreigners the privilege of free travel in Manchuria until Russia consents to the same.

We do not suppose that much credence attaches to this document. Nevertheless it may be taken as an interpretation of the wishes attributed to Russia in some quarters, and as such it has interest.

Wednesday, April 22.

The latest news about the evacuation of Manchuria is not at all re-assuring. It is stated that although the evacuation ought to have been completed by the 8th instant, the only step taken by Russia has been to change the position of some troops at Mukden. Elsewhere there are no signs of any step towards evacuation. The intelligence recently telegraphed to Tokyo that stores of coal are being accumulated at Newchwang, and that measures are being taken to make good any deficiencies in the supplies of food and warlike materials at Vladivostock, is said to be regarded in semi-official quarters as indicating that Russia entertains at present no intention whatever of giving effect to her promise. Another point of some importance is the overland line of telegraph between Korea and China. This ought to be worked by the Chinese and the Korean Authorities in combination, if worked at all. But they have taken no steps to repair it since the Boxer emeute, and now it appears that in spite of the protest of the the two Powers, Russia has established a telegraph office at Antung and is using the line for her own purposes, thus furnishing another proof that she does not contemplate anything like evacuation, for the present at any rate. Some of the Powers are said to have addressed remonstrances to her, but all the above indications go to show that she is not disposed to entertain inconvenient remonstrances. The course of pending events will therefore be watched with much interest.

With regard to the overland line of telegraph from Korea to China, it was originally owned by these two empires. But during the Boxer outbreak it was suffered to fall out of repair, and China took no steps to mend it. Then Russia asked Korea's permission to restore the line. The Seoul Government acceded at first, but the assent was subsequently withdrawn in view of China's objections. The Russians, however, appear to have paid no attention to either Seoul or Peking, and are now consulting their own convenience only in the matter of the line.

Thursday, April 23.

It need scarcely be said that the disquieting news published yesterday with regard to the non-evacuation of Manchuria, inspires several further telegrams. At Newchwang the act of evacuation has been twice postponed, and a situation seems to exist which may easily be prolonged for weeks to come. The Russians say that they must await the arrival of the Taotai from Mukden before handing over the place, whereas the Chinese Military Governor of Manchuria points out, very naturally, that the Taotai must first receive from the Russians some intimation as to the time of their intended evacuation. Thus each side is waiting for the other to move. As to Mukden, the news is that the Russian officers who were supposed to have withdrawn from the town are living there in "mufti," and that the so-called "evacuation" is a mere pretence. The situation is not improved by the fact—persistently rumoured though not yet definitely confirmed—that the Russians have enlisted Bazouks in their service, and that several collisions have occured between these lawless men and the troops of the Chinese Government in the regions of the upper Yalu. The governor of that district, it is added, addressed an inquiry to General Tso as to whether Russia had obtained China's consent to draft Bazouks into her ranks, but Tso replied that no communication on the subject had reached him. We need scarcely note the growth of a suspicion that by employing these turbulent bandits, not in the Yalu region alone but elsewhere also, Russia is deliberately seeking to create pretexts for prolonging her occupation. In the very equivocal circumstances of the situation Russia must expect, and is doubtless prepared, to find that all kinds of sinister motives are attributed to her.

Our readers remember, of course, that a Tokyo journal—the *Niroku Shimpo*—more remarkable for enterprise than celebrated for accuracy, two days ago published the text of a secret treaty said to have been concluded between China and Russia with regard to the evacuation of Manchuria. The same journal now carries its omniscience to the length of publishing the words of a telegram which, it affirms, the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo addressed to his Minister in Kyoto on reading the *Niroku's* revelation. Our contemporary asks its readers to believe that the Foreign Office was thrown into a state of serious perturbation by the news, and it applies some very strong epithets to Mr. Uchida, Japanese Representative in Peking, for failing to discover what was going on. All this is interesting, as showing how thoroughly the ways of that up-to-date product, the sensational journal, have been studied in Tokyo.

THE IMPERIAL MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES.

A very remarkable assemblage of objects of ancient and mediæval art may now be seen in the Imperial Museum of Antiquities at Uyeno. Some enterprising Japanese connected with the Museum have conceived and carried out the idea of bringing together the gems of several private collections and setting them out in the eastern section of the buildings. Only two classes of objects are shown, pictures and bronzes. In the matter of pictures, we cannot say that the display is unique. Motonobu, Tsunenobu, Tanyu, Korin and a few others of the great pre-*Meiji* masters are well represented. Indeed, no finer gallery of Japanese celebrities has been accessible during recent years, though art-lovers who can recall the Tokyo displays in the early eighties, may be disappointed. But there has never previously been such an assemblage of choice bronzes. The contributions of the Sumitomo family are the back-bone of the collection, though the Imperial Household, Baron Iwasaki, Viscount Tanaka and others send several beautiful examples. These bronzes are all Chinese. One or two, taken from tombs, have an age of some 2,000 years, but the majority represent periods from the Later Tsin (265-420 A.D.) to the Tang (618-907 A.D.) dynasty, and all are chiefly remarkable for shape, decorative design and patina. Many of the shapes are familiar to all students of old Chinese art treatises, but a few are quite uncommon, and two or three suggest Egyptian or Assyrian affinities. The patina in many cases is extraordinary. One vase looks as though it had been cut out of *lapis lazuli*, others have a predominant tinge

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of emerald, and two or three show patches of deep purple. Such a collection as that of the Sumitomo family suggests that years of patient search must have been required to get it together, but well-informed persons say that three years have sufficed. Doubtless it is always possible to obtain choice specimens if one is prepared to pay great prices, but we question whether even the Sumitomo purse would have proved long enough for this feat had not national disasters brought into the market Chinese treasures which would otherwise have been quite inaccessible. To such of our readers as take an interest in this class of art work we strongly recommend a visit to the Museum. It remains open until the 3rd of next month, but the first set of pictures shown were replaced by others on the 16th instant, though the bronzes remain unchanged.

CHINA.

Saturday, April 18.

Prince Ching has been relieved of apparently all the high positions hitherto held by him in order that he may fully discharge the duties of the office to which he has now been appointed as Yung Lu's successor. We can not find that the list of the posts he vacates includes the charge of the Foreign Office, though the functions of that position ought surely to occupy him sufficiently. Plurality of offices is one of the commonest official customs in China. Some specially distinguished men have quite a long catalogue of posts appended to their names. Thus Na Tung, who can not yet be said to have risen to the top of the tree, had to be relieved of the Senior Vice-Presidency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of the Lieutenant Generalship of the Yellow Hanchun Banner Corps, of the Senior Vice-Commissionership of Octroi and of the Junior Vice-Presidency of the Board of Revenue, in order to free him for his journey to Japan as Vice-Commissioner to the Osaka Exhibition.

Viscount Aoki left Peking on the 16th instant with the intention of proceeding to Korea. We have not heard anything more of the attempt to connect the Viscount with the international politics of the hour. It was not unnatural that when a statesman of such distinction undertook a journey to Peking, his movements should attract considerable attention, but those that sought to invest him with a semi-official character showed little knowledge of Japanese domestic politics in their present phase.

Monday, April 20.

According to the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent, the British subjects ordered by the Russian authorities to remove from Kulung in Manchuria, have been informed by their Consul, under instructions from the Legation in Peking, that they need not obey the order. We do not remember that Kulung is among the places recently included in the area of a state of siege, and it is therefore hard to believe that any such order should have been issued by the Russians.

The same correspondent states that in addition to Chang-kia-kow and Kiak-tow, where a large extension of the Russian postal system has been effected, arrangements for similar extensions are being made in other quarters.

It is stated that the Mukden Arsenal, which is the second largest in Manchuria, having been duly handed over by the Russians to China, is about to be converted by the latter into a mint. That seems a strange conversion.

Wednesday, April 22.

A brief telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* says that an insurrection has broken out in Canton. Nothing is added about the dimensions of the affair or the incidents thus far connected with it.

There is a rumour that Viceroy Yuan is likely to be removed to some other post. The reason assigned is that he did not pay due attention to the resources of the people on the occasion of the recent visit to the Western Tombs, and that the expenditures incurred, so far from pleasing the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, shocked them.

Prince Tsai Cheng and his suite left Taku yesterday for Japan.

When commenting on the decease of Yung Lu, we ventured to predict that some tolerably severe obituary notices would be published in Shanghai. One of them is now before us. It appears in the "Notes on Native Affairs," a highly interesting corner of the *N.-C. Daily News*. The public are there informed that after Yung Lu had enrolled an army of 100,000 men in Chili, subsequently to the abortive reform movement of 1898, he became nervous lest some of the foreign Powers should espouse the cause of the unhappy Emperor. To avoid such a conjuncture, the Grand Secretary, Grand Councillor and Comptroller-General of the Board of War—for he held those three high offices simultaneously—conceived that the best and most popular plan would be to drive the foreign element entirely out of the country, for which purpose the instrument he employed was the Boxers. Well, we have a very high opinion of the writer who compiles these "Notes" for our Shanghai contemporary, but nothing will persuade us that a clever statesman like Yung Lu—and a clever statesman he undoubtedly was—ever for one instant seriously contemplated the possibility of "driving the foreign element entirely out of the country" by means of such an agent as the Boxers, or that, contemplating that possibility, he not only refrained from openly extending the slightest military assistance to the Boxers until after the attack on the Taku forts by the allied fleets, but also paralysed the efforts of the Peking rabble to capture the Legations. Yung Lu may have been a very bad man, but that he was as black as he is painted by some artists, history will probably deny.

Friday, April 24.

Under the heading of special intelligence from Peking, but without any indication of transmitting agency or any addition of date, the *Niroku Shimpo* now publishes, almost daily, articles or paragraphs on Chinese affairs. It was in this guise that Tokyo recently learned about a secret treaty between Russia and China, which compact appears to be still awaiting the moment of materialization. In the same way we now have a tolerably long account of the present state of Chinese politics. Its gist is that the talk of reform is only talk and that practical realities are likely to remain in the lap of the future. Every one of any importance is represented as looking towards the Empress Dowager, and as bent upon promoting Manchu influence. Yung Lu's death has of course dislocated affairs to a certain extent, but Prince Ching, though a more loyal and conscientious man than his predecessor, is equally subservient to Manchu interests. The three military governors in Manchuria are said to have been creatures of Yung Lu, and they are now reported to be busily currying favour with Prince Ching by means of valuable presents which a certain Power supplies. The result is that Prince Ching is seen to be secretly conferring with the Representative of that Power in Peking, and the other Foreign Representatives are much perplexed to decipher China's true policy. We do not know where this *resume*—of which we have here sketched only the merest skeleton—was compiled or how much credit attaches to it, but we observe that it echoes the pessimistic views recently expressed in the columns of the Shanghai foreign press.

The *Chuwo Shimbun* endorses the views recently expressed by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* as to the character of Russia's foreign policy. It is a policy of all-round enterprise and menace. If she seems to-day to be busy in Persia, to-morrow she will be found pressing forward in Mongolia; if at one moment Korea apparently occupies her attention, the next she is all activity in Macedonia; and while the world imagines that her attention is absorbed by Manchuria, it is suddenly seen that her agents are busy in the Amur region. Thus she keeps many irons in the fire, hoping that some one of them may come out ready for forging into the shape she desires. But the vitally important question for the Far East is her position in Manchuria. She is practically mistress of the place, and experience at Port Arthur and Dalny has shown that her supremacy anywhere means the exclusion of other nations from all share in the local commerce and industry. Japan can not afford to suffer that result in Manchuria. If Chinese authority be restored there, Fusan will one day become a terminus of the Trans-Asian Railway to the great benefit of the place and of those whose influence is paramount there. If Manchuria remain in Russian hands no such result is possible. From a military point of view or from a naval Russia is not a match for this country in the Far East, especially since her hands are occupied with affairs in the Balkan Peninsula. Thus Japan has only to put down her foot, with the moral support of England and America. Have her statesmen the courage or the resolution to do so? That is what the *Chuwo* wants to know.

It is reported by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent that Russia has proposed certain conditions as essential to her evacuation of Manchuria. They are, that China shall pledge herself not to allow Manchuria to fall into the hands of any foreign Power; that the taxes shall be paid into the Russo-Chinese Bank; that Russian officials shall superintend the sanitary arrangements, and that certain mining concessions shall be granted to Russia. It is added that Prince Ching is not disposed to agree to these conditions.

From the same source we learn that, according to a statement reported to have been made by a Russian officer, the withdrawal of the Russian civil administrator from Newchwang will take place on the 26th instant, but that, with regard to Mukden, as a Russian commercial agent is to be stationed there, the presence of a small body of Russian troops will be necessary.

The steamer *Ansgar*, 2,320 tons net, from New York for Sydney, N.S.W., is supposed to have foundered in the Atlantic. Her cargo of wheat and flour was insured with the China Traders' Insurance Co. for £39,000, which has been paid as a total loss.

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KOREA.

Mr. Waeber, who was to have represented Russia at the ceremonies in the Korean capital, has left Sōul, according to telegrams in the Tokyo papers, and M. Pablov, who was on leave in Russia, is now on his way to resume his duties in Korea.

No further statements or conjectures appear with regard to the postponement of the ceremonial. The public seems to have concluded that the programme has been abandoned permanently, and that the reasons for its abandonment are scarcely worth discussing, inasmuch as the reasons for the fête itself were generally inappreciable.

The Korean Government may congratulate itself on one result of the incident. It has become a naval power. Some of the preparations for the ceremonial had reached a stage which forbade their complete abandonment, and among them was the conversion of a Mitsui steamer into a man-of-war. This operation having been completed, the new vessel has reached Chemulpo and been duly handed over. She is called the *Yang-inu*—according to the Chinese pronunciation of the ideographs forming her name—and she constitutes the Korean Navy. Everything must have a beginning.

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has obtained a five-years' renewal of the agreement for farming the ginseng monopoly in Korea.

The British Representative in Seoul is said to have applied to the Korean Government for the grant of a gold-mining concession on behalf of British prospectors.

A fresh trouble is announced with regard to the levying of unlawful transport duties. This has been a serious matter in the case of goods carried by the Nak-dong. In this latter case the Korean Government seems to have sought to evade responsibility by punishing the petty official directly concerned in levying the dues, but inasmuch as he merely acted under orders from his superiors, such a way of shuffling out of the complication can scarcely be suffered.

Several Tokyo journals contain telegrams announcing the death of an Imperial lady in Seoul, but they seem to be uncertain whether the deceased was the grandmother of the reigning sovereign, or his grand-aunt, or his mother. Those that support this last relationship represent her as the widow of the Tai-won-kun. To add to the confusion the *Kokumin* publishes a later wire saying that she is not dead at all but only sick.

It is now regarded as certain that the reported death of the relict of the Tai-won-kun has not taken place. The Seoul correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* wires that this lady—Myong-hon—although a personage of considerable importance, has been virtually confined to her house by official orders for several years, and that all intercourse between her and the outer world having been thus interrupted, it is exceedingly difficult to obtain any accurate information.

Prince Yong, whose alleged attack of small-pox caused the postponement of the coronation ceremonies, is said to have almost completely recovered. But as some curious superstitions prevail in Korea with regard to the transmission of disease, the Palace has been the scene of noisy demonstrations to exorcise the demons of mischief. Perhaps we should seek in these superstitions a comparatively valid reason for the postponement of the ceremonies of coronation.

The rumour that the Emperor of Korea's mother has died, is now said to have had its origin in a scheme on the part of some dishonest merchants who wanted to sell mourning garments. Several arrests of these persons are reported to have been made, and the Seoul correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* adds that a notification has been posted threatening with severe punishment any one found guilty of circulating falsehoods. Apparently the veto has not had drastic effect, for our contemporary's correspondent states that all kinds of stories are in the air and that there is a general feeling of unrest.

Viscount Aoki arrived in Sōul on the 20th instant.

A telegram to the *Kokumin Shimbun* confirms the previous statement that Baron Ginsburg has been officially put forward as representative of the Syndicate to which the concession is to be given for cutting timber on the upper reaches of the Yalu. This concession was obtained from the Korean Sovereign at the time (1896) when His Majesty took refuge in the Russian Legation, but apparently it is to be re-vitalized now.

THE TEXT BOOK AFFAIR.

Mr. Kano, ex-Governor of Shimane Prefecture, has been dismissed from the service and sentenced to three months and a half imprisonment with hard labour, together with a fine of 15 *yen* and the duty of restoring 1,500 *yen*, which he had received as a bribe. Mr. Kano's trial has excited much interest, for he was actually serving as Governor of Shimane when the charge of bribery was brought against him. Hitherto three Governors have been put on trial and two of them have been found guilty, the second being Mr. Mizobe, of Tochigi Prefecture, who was condemned to three months' imprisonment. Mr. Minakata, of Awomori Prefecture, was acquitted.

In the Tokyo District Court, Y. Hirata, educational inspector of Tokyo, and three other educational officials were, on April 20th, sentenced to various lengths of imprisonment with hard labour from 15 days to 2½ months and to pay fines, while the bribes they had received were ordered to be confiscated. The same day the preliminary trials of T. Katayama, teacher of the Kyoto Normal School, and two other educational officials were concluded, the former being committed for trial on the usual charge while the two latter were discharged on the ground that the evidences against them was insufficient. The *Asahi* says that there are still 36 unconvicted prisoners in the Kajibashi detention ward, and further that some prisoners have been released on bail. At the time when this case started there were 152 in prisoners all.

K. Sakamoto, text book publisher, Tokyo, who was charged with having made a false statement in the Court as a witness, was released on preliminary trial in the Tokyo District Court on April 21st on the ground that the evidence against him was insufficient. I. Kimura and K. Chijisaki were enlarged on the same day on bail of *yen* 300 and *yen* 50 respectively. R. Kanao, ex-governor of Shimane prefecture, who had been sentenced to 3½ months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 10, appealed on the same day to the Tokyo Appeal Court. It is stated that the Tokyo Appeal Court will begin the trials before Judge Kakiuchi and Public Procurator Nihe on April 24th, of those who appealed against the sentences given by the lower Court.

THE TURKS AND THEIR TROUBLES.

Considering the alacrity shown by the Sultan of Turkey in accepting the scheme of reform for Macedonia, formulated by Russia and Austria-Hungary, it is very disappointing to find that the consummation of these fair projects is to be prefaced by a deluge of blood. The scheme was radical. It provided for an inspector-general with only nominal responsibility to Turkey; it provided that the soldiers and police were to be officered in the higher grades by nominees of the two cooperating Christian Powers; it provided that the rural police should be recruited in the villages protected by them; that Albanian excesses should be put down; that political amnesty should be granted, and that the finances should be placed on a scientific basis. But Macedonia is not content. The people want real autonomy; such autonomy as is enjoyed by Cyprus and Lebanon, and they are now fighting for it with all the energy of desperation, trusting doubtless that Europe will not stand by and see them annihilated by the huge force—said to number 300,000 men—that Turkey is employing against them. It is necessary to receive with the greatest caution the tales published about Turkish atrocities. Some terrible things have been written in the *Contemporary Review*. An extract is given by an American exchange:—

Some episodes of this awful exodus can hardly be reproduced in an age and country wont to eschew the use of the horrible and loathsome, even in the ennobling service of humanity. But some of the less distressing examples of Turkish methods should find a place in any account of Macedonia which can justly lay claim to historical accuracy. One of the women in Dubnitsa, who seemed more dead than alive, was asked by the kindhearted lady why she looked so utterly crushed in spirit, now that the danger had passed, and life, at any rate, was safe. Amid tears and sighs and convulsive quiverings of the body, the poor creature told the sickening story of how her brother had had his head cut off before her eyes, after which she had to stand by while the ruffians chopped up his body into fragment. Several witnessed the agony of their tender daughters, children of from ten to thirteen—and heard their piercing cries as the men who wore the Sultan's coat subjected them to nameless violence. Numbers of children succumbed to these diabolical assaults, their last looks being turned on their helpless parents or their smoking homes. In one place two children—one aged eighteen months, the other four years—had their skulls split open by the soldiers. Other little girls and boys were deliberately and methodically tortured to death, while a place was assigned to their fathers and mothers where they were forced to listen to the agonizing screams and watch the contractions of the tender bodies each time that the once pretty faces were slowly lowered into the fire into which Turkish pepper had been plentifully scattered. This is in truth a form of torture which only a devil could have invented; for long before death releases the tiny mite, the eyes are said to start from their sockets and burst."

Considering the quality of the periodical from which these shocking tales are quoted, many people will probably credit them implicitly. But we observe that the writer is Dr. E. J. Dillon, a gentleman who demonstrated clearly by his account of the North-China campaign that his power of pen far exceeds the strength of his judgment. It is quite incredible that any soldiers should be so savage as to torture children to death in view of their parents, and it is still more incredible that roasting over slow fires [should be the process employed, or that eyes should start from their sockets and burst before the death of the agonized victim occurs. It is one of the miseries of the age that newspapers and magazines should open their columns to men of such unbounded credulity and such very limited discrimination as Dr. E. J. Dillon.

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AN INTERESTING CASE.

The Court of Cassation has just rendered an interesting judgment. Some time ago a Japanese, by name Kajiwara Inosuke, purchased a steamer in combination with two Chinese subjects. The ship was registered in the name of the Japanese only, who thus became her sole legally recognisable owner. Taking advantage of the position thus obtained, the Japanese sold her and pocketed the money. His Chinese partners instituted proceedings against him in Nagasaki, and obtained a favourable decision in the Court of First Instance and the Court of Appeal, Kajiwara being sentenced to a term of imprisonment and to the payment of a sum representing the share of which he had defrauded his associates. But the Court of Cassation has now over-ruled the decision of the lower tribunals, and has acquitted Kajiwara on the ground that, being registered as sole owner of the ship, he can not be criminally punished for disposing of her. The judgment contains a clause to the effect that a Chinese subject could not lawfully have been registered as part owner of a Japanese vessel. In other words a vessel registered as Japanese must be owned solely by Japanese subjects. If she be owned partly by foreigners and partly by Japanese, she can not be registered as a Japanese vessel. It is at all events evident—and we do not understand how the lower tribunals failed to recognise the fact—that in the eyes of the law Kajiwara was the only owner, and that he consequently could not be held guilty of fraud for selling his own property. Of course the decision of the Court of Cassation does not preclude the unfortunate Chinese from obtaining civil redress.

In connexion with this incident we find the following singular comment in the columns of a local English contemporary: —"It is an interesting case for all foreigners who may be tempted to join with Japanese in business. For example, if Sir Malcolm McEacharn should be induced to put capital into the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, he can now see where he would stand in law." Such a dictum aptly illustrates the text of "blind and naked ignorance delivering brawling judgments all day long on all things unabashed." The Nagasaki case stands altogether apart from the question of foreigners joining Japanese in business; which contingency is duly provided for and duly safeguarded by law. As for the reference to an English capitalist putting money into the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and being then instructed by this Nagasaki case "where he would stand in law," we fear that it must be dismissed as undiluted folly. No English capitalist can put money into the Nippon Yusen Kaisha because, that company being subsidized by the Government, its shares may not be openly held by foreigners; but if an alien purchased shares in any Japanese enterprise not subject to such a restriction, his legal title in the Company's property would be just as valid as that of any Japanese. Evidently the effect of paragraphs like that quoted above must be to create or augment foreign distrust of everything Japanese, and it may reasonably be suggested that before devoting their columns to such mischievous ends, local journalists should endeavour to acquire at least a rudimentary knowledge of the subjects they undertake to discuss.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION.

The official opening of the Exhibition by the Emperor in person took place on the 20th instant at 10.30 a.m. Nearly all the notables of Japan were present and the affair is reported to have been very brilliant. His Imperial Highness Prince Higashi-Fushimi formally reported the readiness of the Exhibition and presented certain maps and other documents. The Emperor, in announcing the opening, noted that the domestic exhibits were double of the number shown at the previous Exhibition, and that they would doubtless give evidence of much progress. His Majesty alluded also to the display of foreign exhibits, an altogether novel feature, from which the country might look to derive much advantage. The announcement ended with an exhortation to increased diligence so that the flower of material civilization might blossom fully. Prince Higashi-Fushimi read a reply. He observed that the number of exhibits exceeded 300,000, being more than double the display at any previous Exhibition, and that the evidences of improved technique were very marked. His Imperial Highness also alluded in flattering terms to the foreign exhibits and concluded with the usual courtesies. The Emperor left the building at 12.10 p.m.

We understand that His Majesty will visit the foreign section on the 24th instant, and that there is some idea of having a Japanese address presented and read on behalf of the foreign exhibitors, the reader to be Mr. R. Kirby, of Tokyo. It is to be hoped that the project will mature, for undoubtedly the impression conveyed would be excellent.

All the spectators of and over 80 years of age, had a special room assigned to them on the 20th instant, and were visited by the Emperor. They totalled three thousand persons, all being citizens of Osaka.

MARRIAGE OF MR. MC'KINNELL.

Monday morning opened with typical April weather, "half tears, half smiles," but long before noonday the smiles predominated and the sun came out in all its glory, throwing a truly bridal halo upon the nuptials of Mr. R. B. McKinnell, than whom a more popular man has never mixed in the bachelor circles of Yokohama. The sacred rites were performed in Christ Church, and long before the stated time a numerous congregation assembled. The Church had been prettily adorned for the occasion by Mrs. H. E. Hayward, Mrs. A. W. Read, and Mrs. E. Wheeler, with a wealth of double cherry-blossom—the flower of the season in Japan—and presented a most charming appearance. Mr. McKinnell, who was supported by Mr. F. W. Thomas, as best man, awaited the arrival of the bride at the altar rails. Miss Struthers, a winsome and distinguished looking bride, was attired in a handsome costume of grey *voile*, richly embroidered, and wore a most becoming white picture hat. She entered the church on the arm of Mr. E. J. Moss, who gave her away, and was attended by Mrs. E. J. Moss, costumed in figured blue silk.

The hymn "The voice that breathed o'er Eden," was sung, and then the impressive marriage ceremony in accordance with the rites of the Church of England was read by the Incumbent, the Rev. W. P. G. Field. At the close of the ceremony the bridal party entered the vestry to sign the register and this being finished left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," played by the organist, Mr. W. Karl Vincent. A reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Moss, Woodside, which was largely attended Dr. Wheeler, in a brief speech, proposed the health of the newly-wedded couple. He referred to the long voyage just completed by the bride and assured her that a hearty welcome awaited her in Yokohama. As for Mr. McKinnell every one knew his genuine worth and all wished him long life and prosperity in the new state of life upon which he entered that day. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and the Best Man returned thanks, after which the happy couple—the bride attired in a most charming going-away dress—drove off to catch the train to Miyanoshita where the honeymoon will be spent. Mr. and Mrs. McKinnell were the recipients of a very handsome array of wedding presents.

THE RULE OF THE PRAYER BOOK.

There can be little doubt, judging from papers lately received from home, that public opinion is gradually focussing itself upon the unhappy divisions so widely separating the two great parties into which the Church of England may now be said to be grouped. Two Bills were recently introduced in the House of Commons for dealing with what are termed the excesses of Ritualism. One is the Church Discipline Bill, which excites some of the members of the English Church Union to fury and makes them give utterance to expressions which, we feel sure, in soberer moments they must regret. This Bill proposes to over-ride the Bishop's veto on prosecutions and to punish the recalcitrant clergyman not by imprisonment but by deprivation of his living. The other is a less drastic measure, proposed by more moderate Churchmen, and relies rather on the Bishops than on the Courts. Reuter's messages have already told us that the first measure has been read once in the House of Commons, but it is doubtful whether it will pass into law, though the present Government can scarcely treat the subject with indifference, for there is on record an amendment which they moved themselves to a previous Church Discipline Bill in 1899, and which declared that "if the efforts now being made by the Archbishops and Bishops to secure the obedience of the clergy are not speedily effectual, further legislation will be required to maintain the observation of the existing laws of Church and Realm." One of the questions, therefore, to be considered is whether the efforts of the Archbishops and Bishops have been effectual, and we find that the *Westminster Gazette*, in discussing the point, says:—

The episcopal opinion is naturally that they have been as effectual as could fairly be expected. The Lambeth judgments against the ceremonial use of incense and the reservation of the Sacrament have, they tell us, been acquiesced in by the majority of the clergy. The Protestant Party, on the other hand, declare that next to nothing has been done, that the Bishops have taken no effectual steps against the clergy who defy them, and that other illegal practices not embraced in the Lambeth opinions continue as actively as ever and are even assumed to be legalised by Church authority, because they were not condemned by the Archbishops. Certainly the number of cases which have come before the public have increased of late, and there have been signs of a renewal of the Church crisis which passed away in 1889 through the diversion of all thoughts to South Africa. Moreover, the Education Bill has made a considerable difference in public opinion. The Church has received a large, if indirect, new endowment from the State. It holds a position of privilege in publicly supported schools, and the ratepayer is now made a party to the instruction of children in its doctrines. The Government theme

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selves found it necessary to conciliate opinion on this subject by accepting the Kenyon-Slaney Amendment, but that, as the public regards it, is only a very partial remedy; and in the new state of facts created by the Education Act, Churchmen must undoubtedly expect a much livelier interest in their doctrines and practice, and a much closer scrutiny of any Romanising tendencies. On the other hand the English Church Union and the Ritualist clergy seem to be wholly regardless of any change in the situation and apparently still insist on their liberty to defy the courts, or, for that matter, the Bishops, when they disagree with them. "Faithfully to refuse to obey any demands, even though they come in the name of authority, which conflict with the law, usages, customs, and rites of the Church, whether œcumenical or provincial, which have canonical authority" is still, as formerly, considered to be the duty of the extreme party.

Passing to another side of the Church question, a side which unfortunately is too often over-looked in the discussion, our contemporary says:—

The charter of the Church of England is a Prayer-book full of ambiguities and purposely so framed as to be capable of various interpretations by different schools of thought. A few of the practices complained of are no doubt definitely outside its limits of doctrine and practice, and if the Bishops, as they ought, allowed the appointed penalties to be applied to these, they could be stopped. But there would still remain by far the larger part of the doctrine and practices to which the Protestant Party objects, and if a strict conformity to the Prayer-book were exacted all round, that party itself might be compelled to adopt a good many of the practices which it considers mediæval. The remedy which would be the obvious one for a free religious community would be to amend the Prayer-book, but there is no machinery for doing this except that of a secular Parliament, which could not be expected to undertake this task, and which, if it did undertake it, would find its authority rejected by a large majority of Churchmen. The Church, therefore, while it remains established, is bound to a Prayer-book compiled in the sixteenth century and admiting an immense variety of interpretations, Protestant or Catholic. There is eventually only one remedy for the layman who objects to the Catholicing process, and that is disestablishment, and we can only say to the clergy and Anglican laity who object to disestablishment that this remedy will be taken unless they bring the doctrine and practice of the Church into conformity with general opinion. A Church Discipline Bill may meet a few extreme cases, but the question must finally be judged not by these but by the general tendency within the Church of legal and permissible doctrine. An Established Church must conform to opinion; a Free Church may govern itself.

THE BIJITSU-IN EXHIBITION OF PICTURES.

In the Gogo-Kan at Uyeno the Nippon Bijutsu-in and the Society of Japanese Painters are now holding their spring exhibition. There are many pictures of considerable merit, but one carries away from the display a strong impression that no progress has been made since last year, and that there are even signs of retrogression. It should be premised, perhaps, that these are not pictures in the pure Japanese style. They represent an effort to wed the arts of the West and of the Far East; an effort which has been watched with much interest for several years. Hence, when progress is spoken of in this context, the reference is to evidences that the marriage can be effected successfully and that its offspring will be attractive. We begin to entertain doubts. It appears that the Japanese artist has not yet "found" himself in such work. He is still groping after an undiscovered something. Fine ideas visit him: delicate ideas, romantic ideas, and even poetical ideas. But he can neither express them nor fix them so as to make them speak clearly from the canvas. He is living in a land of haze. His aspirations end in mist and his struggle to be large finds no resource except the expanse of his canvas. Sometimes where his drawing is admirable, his composition well balanced and his subject impressive, he fails in monotony of tone, in dreary absence of centralization. Sometimes when he carries the spectator into an ethereal region where the impression of breadth and atmosphere is almost over-powering, he spoils everything by outlines that recall the studio of an immature observer. Yet there is in these pictures an undefinable something that suggests a noble idea in embryo. Several steps of development are necessary, however. Their nature, of course, described. If it could, achievement would can not be accurately not be still distant. But hope remains though in the presence of considerable disappointment. The exhibition ought to be visited by every one that has any concern for the future of this school of Japanese artists, or, indeed, for the future of Japanese pictorial art. We do not allege that there are many striking pictures, or even many that rise above the level of mediocrity, but certainly there are many that offer much food for thought.

THE MINES OF SOLOMON.

The present idea is that the Zambesi region is the Ophir of the Old Testament, the place where David and Solomon procured the vast stores of gold attributed to them by the Bible. There have been many conjectures, more or less plausible, about the locality of the mines, but *The Engineering and Mining Journal* now states the matter in the following striking form:—

"Between that great river (the Zambesi) and the Sabi, in the modern Rhodesia, there are many thousand old mines, two hundred and forty of which afforded the beginnings of undertaktngs now in course of actual exploitation. This extensive series of old workings reaches from north of the Zambesi to the Murchison Range in the Transvaal. Messrs. Hall and Nea, who have also written a book about it, estimate that the area covered is 750,000 square miles. Within this area there are ruins of entire cities, fortresses, and temples, bearing plentiful evidence of the ancient worship of Baal-Ashera and the civilization which characterized the Himyarites of Southern Arabia.

"The discussion of this fascinating problem presents three features of particular interest; in the first place, all the old legends impute the gold of Ophir to Arabia, where gold, in quantity, has not been found, the idea of rich resources having grown from the fact that the gold of the ancient world passed through the hands of the Arabians, who were the great traders and pirates of antiquity, and of a much later historic period also. The 'gold of Arabia' therefore obviously belongs to the category of the Greek Kalends. Secondly, the African negro, as we know him and find him, never could have done this work save under the compulsion of a higher race. Moreover, if we accept literally the Biblical statistics, the output of Ophir must have been colossal. In 1 Chron. xxix 4, we read that King David contributed to the building of the Temple no less than 'three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir.' A talent being 114 pounds Troy, these three thousand talents would be worth over eighty million dollars of our money. These must have been "powerful" diggings from which such tribute could come to the Hebrew monarch. No such scanty gophering as has been seen in Nubia will explain the wealth of the Semitic kings nor that of the Ptolemies, all of whom obtained great stores of gold from an unknown El Dorado.

"It appears likely that Solomon's treasure-vaults have been uncovered. It is still a fascinating subject of conjecture how the ore was treated and shipped from the interior to the Red Sea, although the methods of the Arab trader serve as connecting-link between the transport systems of widely separated periods. Historic sentiment is not lacking in the consideration of the fact that if the Hebrews did indeed direct the work of this ancient Ophir in the Zambesi country, their descendants, in Hamburg, Berlin, and London are to-day the active promoters of the great era of mining development which has reopened this very tract to the industry of the modern world."

On April 19th a thief entered a dwelling at 3,590. Negishi, Yokohama, where Mrs. F. S. Mayer, and sisters are living and stole some clothes valued at about *yen* 80. The Bluff Police have recovered the clothes.

THE GOLD STANDARD FOR CHINA.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai announces that the Chamber of Commerce at that place has passed a resolution declaring that the adoption of the gold standard by China is a necessity. There has been a great deal of interesting and more or less able correspondence in the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News* on this subject, and from the general trend of it we were prepared to find that the voice of the community would take the note now sounded by the Chamber of Commerce. Nothing, indeed, remains for China except is adopt the gold standard, and to adopt it as quickly as possible.

Perhaps we may be allowed to add here a word of personal explanation. Some of our readers have apparently found difficulty in reconciling our present attitude towards the question of the standards with our attitude of some years ago towards bimetallism. They infer that we have changed our views. We should not be at all reluctant or ashamed to admit a change of view, had riper experience showed the subject to us under an altered aspect. But the fact is that we have not changed our views one iota in theory. If the conditions existing twenty years ago continued to exist to-day, we should now advocate bimetallism as stoutly as ever, and we still remain firmly convinced that bimetallism would have been at once the justest and the most expedient system the nations could have adopted. But it seems to us almost farcical to talk of bimetallism now-a-days. The world has made up its mind; the foremost nations have irrevocably committed themselves to the gold standard, and any attempt to upset what must now be regarded as the established order of things, would involve on a vast scale the very evils adduced formerly by the bimetallists as an argument against the demonetization of the white metal. It is the part of common sense to bow to the inevitable. The old hope has to be abandoned though the old faith may remain unbroken.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

In the columns of the *Niroku Shimpo* there is published a portrait of Baron R. Rosen. It is not a bad likeness, all things considered, but it invests the face of this universally popular diplomatist with features of sternness which nature has not given it. Accompanying the picture there is an appreciation of the Baron's character. He is spoken of as an "old diplomat" (*ro-gaikwan*), of "perfect polish and ripe experience" (*yenman seijuku*), who "makes suavity and placability the guiding principles of his policy" (*kwanwa onju wo mune to suru*), and whom his country has wisely selected to represent it in Japan at a time when troublesome questions may offer themselves for the two empires' solution. The writer has a word to say about Mr. Iswoloky also. It calls him "progressive and energetic" (*shinshu kwatsudo-teki*); says that under "a calm demeanour he hides strong purposes" (*chinyu kakan*), and that he is essentially a "man of deeds" (*yuiaru*). It may be interesting to these two statesmen to know in what kind of estimation they are held by one section at any rate of an observant and shrewd nation.

On the 18th instant His Excellency Mr. Alexandre Iswolsky, hitherto Russian Representative in Tokyo, was received in

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farewell audience by the Emperor in the Palace at Kyoto, His Excellency Baron Rosen, Mr. Iswolsky's successor, being received at the same time for the purpose of presenting his credentials. Subsequently the two Ministers lunched in the Palace. We need scarcely say that the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Iswolsky from Japan is sincerely regretted by a wide circle of friends. The departing Representative's relations with the Japanese were always of the pleasantest character, and on the whole we should say that during his tenure of office the dimensions and influence of the pro-Russian party in Japan have grown, in spite of the obstacles presented to such a consummation by fortuitous incidents.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a long article on the "Century Dictionary" which it applauds in the strongest language, and, at the same time, it expresses satisfaction that the proprietors of *The Times* have seen their way to offer this valuable work to the Japanese on such easy terms. What those terms are the advertisements have already made known to the public. We observe, it may be mentioned *en passant*, that a Tientsin journal laughs at the *N.-C. Daily News* for praising the "Encyclopedia Britannica," and alleges that there should be a new edition of the great work every five years. That is a magnificent idea. It implies a fine conception of the avidity and munificence of the reading public. To purchase a new edition of the Encyclopedia every five years would require, not only a very long purse, but also a very spacious library.

Municipal trading, so-called, or, in other words, the operation by a town or municipality of various public utilities, is rather more common in Great Britain than in the United States. It is true that the larger number of such operations are in such public utilities as waterworks, markets, baths and gas works, enterprises in which many American municipalties have an active interest, but British municipal enterprise is also manifested in electric lighting and the operation of street car lines, cemeteries and harbours. A Government report on this subject notes the fact that 299 corporations are now engaged in municipal enterprises of various sorts. These cities and towns contain 13,093,870 people, and the capital employed is *yen* 1,179,350,696, of which *yen* 980,952,070 was borrowed, and of this latter sum *yen* 158,127,368 has been repaid. The average annual income of these works is placed at *yen* 126,925,240 and the annual working expenses at *yen* 80,070,197. Nottingham is an illustration of the extent to which some cities have embarked in municipal enterprises. Up to March 31, 1902, that city borrowed for use in its various undertakings—water, gas, electricity, tramways, markets, baths and cemeteries—a total of *yen* 27,681,208. The gross annual income was *yen* 4,660,000, working expenses averaged *yen* 3,046,000 and the net profit in the several undertakings results in a saving of *yen* 316,000 per year to the taxpayers.

Earnest attention is being directed anew in England toward a short Transatlantic route that has been talked about for a score of years past. The absorption of several steamship lines into one corporation controlled in the United States and its general advancement in the shipping trade have throughly aroused the British public, and it is now plainly said in some quarters that if England does not immediately develop the shortest route project, the United States will step in and reap the golden harvest. Commenting on this project, Mr. Frank W. Mahin, the U.S. Consul at Nottingham, says:—"One of the best natural harbours in the British Isles is that of Galway, on the west of coast of Ireland. Almost straight across the Atlantic is St. John's, Newfoundland. The distance between these two outports is but 1,816 miles; from Liverpool to New York it is 3,116 miles, and from Southampton 3,095 miles. The time from New York to London could, it is claimed, be easily shortened twenty-four hours by the St. John's-Galway route. It is assumed that transit by land between New York and St. John's would be a material time-saver, while on the British side the railway and steamboat distance from Galway to London is less than from Queenstown, where hurrying passengers are now accustomed to debark or embark. The harbour of Galway is said to be capable of almost indefinite expansion and development, and is protected from Atlantic storms by the Arran Islands, which form a natural breakwater across the entrance. The fact that mails could be interchanged a day quicker each way than now is considered a very strong argument in favour of this route."

All the Japanese newspapers of Tokyo publish a paragraph to the effect that experiments made by the experts of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce have clearly established the error of Dr. Koch's theory that tuberculosis is not transmissible from human beings to animals and *vice versa*. The particulars are mentioned of experiments conducted with twelve oxen, all of which were successfully infected with bacilli taken from a human patient.

The Bank of Japan has issued in pamphlet form an English version of its Annual Report for the year 1902. Since the Report has already been re-produced in these columns, we need not now make any detailed reference to it, but may limit ourselves to congratulating the staff of the Bank upon the admirable manner in which the Report is compiled, and upon the soundness of the policy which inspires the publication of such documents in English.

Baron Iwasaki and Baron Shibusawa are opposed to the amalgamation of the Sanyo and the Kiushiu Railways; not that they condemn the project itself, but that they regard its consummation as premature. In this matter it would seem that the shareholders and the Directors of the Kiushu Company are not of the same mind, the shareholders being in favour of immediate amalgamation whereas the Directors advocate postponement. Barons Iwasaki and Shibusawa are not on the board of Directors: they are merely prominent shareholders. But they take the same view as the Directors, and it is very probable that their recommendation will be adopted.

Some of the Echigo Oil companies seem to be doing a fine business. The Takarada Trust, in its report which will be issued on the 29th instant, shows a net profit of 354,572 *yen* for the half year, which becomes 399,801 *yen* by the addition of money brought over from the previous account. Out of this a dividend of 40 per cent. is to be declared, absorbing 300,000 *yen*. The other two companies working in Echigo are the Nippon and the International, concerning which no figures are yet published.

A new issue of exchequer bonds to the amount of 10 millions of *yen* is announced. The maximum rate of interest is put at 1.5 *sen* daily, or 5.475 annually; the money must be paid by the 30th of April; applications must be sent to the Bank of Japan by the 27th instant, and repayment will be made on the 29th of February, 1904. The proceeds of the transaction will be applied to redeem the last issue of exchequer bonds.

This Company, although it has had to pay considerable sums on account of recent conflagrations, continues to prosper remarkably. On the 20th it held its semi-annual general meeting, when the report showed a net profit of 305,825 *yen*, out of which a dividend, at the rate of 17 per cent. was paid, absorbing 42,500 *yen*, and a sum of 263,325 *yen* was carried to the reserve.

At last the celebrated Zojo-ji is to be handed over by the Tokugawa family to the municipality of Tokyo, its ancient owners retaining possession of only the ancestral graves. This matter has long been under discussion, for there could be no doubt that the maintenance of the temple over-taxed the resources of the Tokugawa. The citizens of Tokyo, most patient citizens, will now have to put their hands a little deeper into their pockets.

It is announced that on the 29th instant at noon the marriage of Mr. Harold Ingalls Sewall and Miss Virginia Simms Evans, daughter of Admiral Evans, will take place in Trinity Cathedral, Tokyo, and that immediately after the ceremony a reception will be given at the British Legation. The bridesmaids are to be Miss Aoki, Miss Lera, Miss Mary Lloyd and Miss Helen Takayanagi.

HANOI EXHIBITION.

On Friday evening, on the occasion of the return from Hanoi of Mr. Otsuka Takuzo, general delegate at the Hanoi Exhibition, the Nippon Boyeki Kyokwai (Japan Trade Association) gave a grand dinner at the Society's Club, No. 15, Kiobashi.

Mr. Ikeda Kenzo, manager of the 100th Bank, Chairman of the Society, presided. Mr. J. Adam, 1st Interpreter, French Legation, and Mr. L. Suzor, of Yokohama, were invited.

Mr. Ikeda, in a very much applauded speech, related the beginning of the organization of the Japanese Section in this Exhibition, and warmly thanked his guests for the services they rendered on this occasion.

Mr. Otsuka charmed his auditors with a very interesting account of his stay in French Indo-China. The Exhibition proved to be a complete success and the commercial relations between Japan and Indo-China will be improved and increased in a very interesting way.—*Communicated.*

A N.Y.K. CAPTAIN MISSING.

A telegram received by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha reports that the Captain of the *Kawachi Maru* is missing. The *Kawachi* left Suez on April 10th so that the message was probably sent from Perim.

The master of the *Kawachi Maru* was Mr. J. S. Thompson, and from the fact that his name appeared in the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's lists as late as the 16th but was replaced on the 17th by that of Mr. C. A. Lee, chief officer of the *Kamakura Maru*, which left Penang for Colombo on the 14th, it may be supposed that Mr. Lee will change over at Colombo. The *Kawachi*, we presume, is being brought as far as Colombo by her chief officer, Mr. S. C. Hiortdahl.

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CHINA IN THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE "ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA."

IT is, of course, out of the question to attempt anything like a review of the series of remarkable essays forming the Supplement to the "Encyclopedia Britannica." These essays are the work of the greatest specialists of the day in their own several lines, and it is work so carefully and exhaustively done as to defy criticism and command highest commendation. But in the particular fields of China and Japan it may not be presumptuous to speak a few words of comment.

Twenty-five pages are devoted to "China" and three to the "China-Japan War of 1894-5," the former being by Mr. GEORGE JAMIESON, C.M.G., and Mr. V. CHIROL (Foreign Editor of *The Times*), and the latter by Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, K.C.M.G., F.R.S. (Editor of the Department of Military Affairs in the Encyclopedia). These eminent authors follow the prescribed routine in dealing with their subject; that is to say, they commence with "Geography and Statistics" and conclude with "Recent History." Under the sub-heading of "physical geography" highly interesting matters are discussed, from the immense lime-stone belt in the Yangtse provinces, indicating a period of long quiescence, when the central and northern regions of China were submerged under deep water, to the wonderful loess beds of the north. We have nowhere found such a graphic and succinct account of the loess:—

> The loess is a solid but friable earth of brownish yellow colour, and when triturated with water is not unlike loam, but differs from the latter by its highly porous and tubular structure. Among its constituents, next to the argillaceous basis, fine sand and carbonate of lime predominate. It spreads alike over hills and valleys, smoothing over the irregularities, and has a depth in many places of over 1,000 feet. It is not stratified and has a tendency to vertical cleavage. It is full of fossil land shells, and contains bones of quadrupeds, but has no remains of either marine or fresh-water shells. From its porous nature water never lies on the surface. The rainfall is at once absorbed as by a sponge. On the other hand, moisture is retained in the lower portion for long periods. The drainage is consequently not carried on the top. Whatever streams or rivulets there are, at once cut their way through the friable earth to the subsoil, carrying down the debris to be deposited on alluvium on the plains. As the cleavage is vertical the banks fall in, in perpendicular slabs, leaving a vertical wall on each side, often hundreds of feet in height. This is always the case in the newly formed small affluents of the larger streams, and even in the older rivers the valley never slopes gradually down to the river bed, but approaches by a series of terraces, each backed by a vertical wall separating it from the next above. The consequence of this is that communication in a loess-covered country is exceedingly difficult. Seen from a distance, the valley may present a gentle undulating appearance, but as it is approached it shows a perfect labyrinth of deep cuts with perpendicular walls, among which the traveller without a guide may wander indefinitely, seeking an exit. The loesss soil is extremely favourable to agriculture. It bears excellent crops, and not merely on the lower grounds, but at altitudes of 6,000 and 8,000 feet. Wherever loess is found, the peasant can live and thrive. Only one thing is essential and that is the annual rainfall. As no artificial irrigation is possible, if the rain fails the crops must necessarily fail. Thus seasons of great famine alternate with seasons of great plenty. It appears also that the soil needs little or no manuring and very little tillage. From its extremely friable nature the soil is easily broken up, and thus a less amount of labour is required than in other parts. The extreme porosity of the soil probably also accounts for the length of time it will go on bearing crops without becoming exhausted. The rainfall penetrating deeply into the soil in the absence of stratification, comes into contact with the moisture retained below, which holds in solution whatever in organic salts the soil may contain, and thus the vegetation has an indefinite store to grow upon. Another peculiarity of loess in China is that it lends itself readily to the excavation of dwellings for the people. In many places whole villages live in cave dwellings dug out in the vertical wall of loess. They construct spiral stair-cases, selecting places where the ground is firm, and excavate endless chambers and recesses which are said to be very comfortable and salubrious dwellings.

The writer repeats RICHTHOFEN'S hypothesis that loess is produced by the combined operation of air-currents and rainfall. The rainfall carries down debris and the wind transports fine dust and sand from the steppes. This dust and sand is caught among the herbaceous vegetation, where it mixes with the decaying leaves and roots, which latter, as they descend vertically, are probably the chief agents in producing the vertical cleavage. We must confess that RICHTHOFEN'S explanation has never seemed to us altogether satisfactory, though certainly it takes due account of the enormous physical changes that are produced by the action of the wind in Central Asia.

The authors are disposed to accept a somewhat low estimate for the population of China. They put the area of the 18 provinces at 1⅓ millions of square miles and the population at 378 millions, in round numbers, the corresponding figures for Manchuria being 362,310 square miles and 12½ million souls.

Concerning the climate, they say that as a whole the climate of China compares favourably with that of any other part of the world lying between the same parallels of latitude; that the greater part of the country may be called a white man's land, and that no district is specially trying to Europeans. There are areas in Yunnan, however—areas lying at the bottom of deep ravines of the Mekong and Salween rivers—some of which are notorious for malarial fevers, and others are the home of the bubonic plague.

Excellent accounts are given of the constitution and the government, and notably interesting paragraphs deal with the native press and the social condition of the people. The first genuine native paper, the *Shenpao*, made its debut in Shanghai in 1870, and there are now some thirty-five dailies in circulation, about one half of them issued from Shanghai. There are also at least as many magazines and other periodicals, emanating chiefly from the mission presses. "The effect of this mass of literature on the public mind of China," say the "Encyclopedia" writers, "can not but be of first-rate importance. It must tend, more than anything else, to dispel the darkness and to promote ideas of reform and progress." No press law exists, but it is of course within the competence of the Government—theoretically the most autocratic Government in the world—to suppress a journal and imprison its editor at any moment and on any pretext. Such things have never been done, however. The existence of the press is tolerated and by some officials it appears to be even encouraged. By and by the law will have to take some cognizance of this essentially modern innovation.

Concerning the social condition of the people we are told that it is very low when compared with European standards. About 80 per cent. of the population live by agriculture, one half being owners of their farms; the other half tenants. Only a small proportion are labourers. But owing to the operation of land-laws which dictate equal division of property among children, the size of holdings has been gradually reduced until the condition of owner and tenant-farmer alike is little better than that of a common labourer. Sometimes a family of six persons subsists on the returns obtained from a farm of one acre, and occasionally the estate of an individual does not exceed one-tenth or one-twentieth of an acre. The great majority of holdings run, however, between one and three acres. A family possessing ten acres is regarded as in luxurious circumstances. Hence there are no territorial magnates of the type of the European aristocracy. But there is something very like them, namely, a class of ex-officials who invest their savings in land. On the death of one of these, his sons consider it dignified to refrain from dividing the land. They prefer to live together, sharing equally, and that process being carried on from generation to generation, it results that what was originally a small household assumes ultimately the dimensions of a large clan, its scions winning positions in officialdom, and bringing to the common stock the fortunes they thus acquire. Owing to the official rank obtained by members of such a clan, they are able to resist the aggressions of loca officials, and even to intimidate the latter by threatening to report them to the Throne; not an idle threat, as within the wide circle of their connexions there are always found some having access to the ear of the Court. These clans are the literati or gentry. "Usually intensely bigoted and conservative, they present a serious barrier to progress, especially if there is a foreign element in it."

Many readers of "China" in the "Encyclopedia" will probably find greatest interest in the section devoted to "Recent History." It is an admirable marshalling of events, the whole of the empire's modern annals from the accession of Kwang Su to the present time being compressed into the limits of 10½ pages, or about twenty thousand words. Necessarily an account so epitomized must be lacking in some respects. But the writer seems to have been wonderfully successful in collecting cardinal facts and setting them forth compendiously and clearly. If anything be missing, it is, we think, the spirit of sympathy. Little thought is taken of China's point of view. She emerges from the story in colours darker than strict justice seem to warrant, for, after all, she had her own grievances, and whatever intrinsic value

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attached to them they were very real in her eyes and should receive consideration from an impartial historian. She did not throw the gauntlet in the world's face in 1900. It was the world that threw its gauntlet in her face at Taku, and greater account might be taken of that cardinal feature. In the story of the China-Japan war of 1894-5, also, fuller attention might perhaps have been given to the extremely embarrassing situations constantly created for Japan by China's anomalous attempts to exercise practical sway in the peninsular kingdom without accepting any responsibilities, and by her constant differentiation against Japan's interests. Neither is it correct, so far as our information goes, to allege that Japan had ten thousand troops in Korea before the close of July, 1894. Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, in his essay on the "China-Japan War," which immediately follows the section on China's "Recent History," puts the number at five thousand, a figure nearer the truth. We learn, also, for the first time from these pages that the Japanese attack at Asan on the 27th of July "was repulsed, but the Chinese evacuated their position during the night." In Shanghai, indeed, there was talk of such a repulse, but nothing of the kind was heard of in Japan, nor do we think that the statement could be supported by evidence. These, however, are very minor points. They do not perceptibly impair the general excellence of the work, which will deservedly rank as the standard history of the period it covers. No doubt the same accuracy and acumen mark the pages of the "Encyclopedia's" Supplement throughout, making it the most valuable book that any English-speaking man can have in his library.

THE FAR-EASTERN QUESTION.

IT may be assumed that the Chinese Government finds itself at this juncture between the devil and the deep blue sea. Doubtless it is pelted on the one side with vehement representations from Great Britain and Japan, which two Powers are bound to protect their interests in Manchuria, while on the other side stands Russia, thunderbolts in hand. The reflection forced upon all observers is that Russia is disturbing the peace of the world in a most unpardonable manner. There is no difficulty in understanding the spirit of enterprise that prompts her, or in appreciating the law of expansion which she, in common with all virile Powers, has to obey. But the victims that she tramples under foot in her relentless march to southern seas can not find much comfort in such academical reflections, neither can those be readily placated into whose tranquil existence she introduces factors of commotion and unrest. Being at present a very unlovely object, she must dispense with the luxury of being loved, until she furnishes some proof that she has not been making game of the world during the past three years for the sake of prosecuting her own aggressive designs. We ourselves still have confidence that she will furnish such a proof, for we can not imagine that she has deliberately resolved to precipitate issues of the gravest nature. It may very well be that her continued occupation of Manchuria, in defiance of solemn promises and in default of any plausible pretext for forswearing herself, would not provoke war. We can not immediately realize the spectacle of any Power, or combination of Powers, deliberately undertaking the task of forcibly expelling her from Manchuria. But we can conceive, and we do most certainly foresee, that if China suffers her to remain there, the Peking Government will have to compensate the other treaty States by equivalent concessions elsewhere; concessions not, perhaps, equally enormous, but scarcely less fatal to the preservation of the Middle Kingdom's integrity. It has been well said that China might placidly reconcile herself to the loss of Manchuria, Mongolia, Thibet and all other outlying regions, so long as the Eighteen Provinces remained to her. Probably in their heart of hearts her statesmen entertain some such creed, and are consequently restrained from regarding with very angry eyes the enterprises undertaken by Russia against their country's non-vital adipose. Russia has that advantage. But when demands for compensation are preferred by other States, China can no longer find unessential excrescences to satisfy them, and thus, even though war be avoided, something very like the break up of the Middle Kingdom would be the alternative. In short Russia's Fabian procedure, if she persists in it, must prelude complications of the gravest nature, and since she necessarily appreciates all these things, we can not easily imagine that she intends to force the situation.

JAPAN IN THE SUPPLEMENT OF THE "ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA."

INDEPENDENTLY of many scattered geographical notices, and of a special paper on lacquer manufacture, no less than 64 pages of the "Encyclopedia's" Supplement are devoted to Japan. Of this very ample allowance, 46 pages are from the pen of Captain BRINKLEY, and the remainder are by the late Professor W. ANDERSON, Mr. E. F. STRANGE and Mr. W. G. ASTON. Captain BRINKLEY treats of the geography, the history, the army and the applied arts; Professor ANDERSON of pictorical art; Mr. STRANGE of lacquer and illustrated books, and Mr. W. G. ASTON of recent literature. Under the heading of "Geography and Statistics" a very full account is given of the physical features of the country, its population, climate, railways, central and local administration, law and the law courts—including special reference to laws affecting foreigners—, taxation, finance and education. In his essay on recent history the author has sought to make clear the story of the Restoration and the fall of feudalism, and to account for the singular wave of radicalism that swept over Japan at that momentous crisis of her history. He shows that although imperialistic in its prime purposes, the revolution may be called democratic with regard to the *personnel* of those that planned and directed it, for it was in truth the work of a little band of fifty-five men, whose ages did not average more than thirty and of whom only five were territorial nobles. He shows also how the distrust engendered by the ambition of the Satsuma clan became the first germ of representative institutions in Japan, and he traces what may be called the autonomic forces which, once set in motion, pushed the great movement from stage to stage until it culminated in a general regeneration of the empire's institutions. The Satsuma rebellion, which may be regarded as the final parting of the ways, is definitely attributed to clan ambition and a conservative reaction; a view that will probably be traversed by men holding SAIGO's memory in loving reverence, though we believe that it will have the endorsement of all statesmen qualified to judge at first hand. It need scarcely be said that the development of political parties and the story of the Diet's struggle to extend its prerogatives are treated fully, and that finance occupies a prominent place in the review. In the columns devoted to the latter, we find that the wealth of the country at the close of 1901 is estimated at 5,273 millions of *yen*, and that the income derived by Japan from her capital is put at 1,463 *yen* annually. The method of arriving at these figures is given in detail and will probably be found interesting by Japanese statisticians. Thereafter the writer passes on to the subject of foreign trade, in connexion with which he makes a statement worth quoting:—"Japan's trade with the outer world was built up chiefly by the energy and enterprise of the foreign middleman. He acted the part of an almost ideal agent. As an exporter his command of cheap capital, his experience, his knowledge of foreign markets and his connexions enabled him to secure sales such as must have been beyond reach of the Japanese working independently. Moreover he paid to native producers" (there is here a misprint, "consumers" for "producers") "ready cash for their staples, taking upon his own shoulders all the risks of finding markets abroad. As an importer he enjoyed, in centres of supply, credit which the Japanese lacked, and he offered to native consumers foreign produce laid at their doors with a minimum of responsibility on their part. Finally, whether as exporters or importers, foreign middlemen always competed with each other so keenly that their Japanese clients obtained the best possible terms from them."

The subjects of extraterritorial jurisdiction and treaty revision necessarily occupy a prominent place in the pages devoted to Japan, as they certainly occupied a promi-

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nent place in the empire's foreign relations and in the lives of the foreign residents during thirty years. Since an attempt has been publicly made to prove that the foreign resident's part in this drama is misrepresented in the pages of the "Encyclopedia," that the foreign resident himself is held up to obloquy, and that the story contains contradictions and inaccuracies, we quote it verbatim, though it makes a large demand on our space, in order that our readers may estimate for themselves the justice of these criticisms:—

It has always been considered expedient, and certainly it is wise, that the subjects and citizens of Occidental Christian states, when visiting or inhabiting Oriental countries which are not Christian, should be exempted from the penalties and procedure prescribed by the criminal law of the latter; that they should continue, in short, to enjoy, even within the territories of such countries, the privilege of being arraigned before tribunals of their own nationality and tried by judges of their own race. In civil cases a division of jurisdiction is arranged, the question being always adjudicated by a tribunal of the defendant's nationality, but in criminal cases jurisdiction is wholly reserved. In pursuance of that principle the various Powers having treaties with Oriental nations establish consular courts within the latter's borders, and the jurisdiction exercised by these courts is called "extra-territorial," to distinguish it from the jurisdiction exercised by native or territorial tribunals. The system was applied to Japan's case as a matter of course, in 1858. It had been similarly applied in the 16th century, in the days of her first foreign intercourse, and just as it had then been a cause of the Dutch traders' imprisonment within the narrow limits of the island of Deshima at Nagasaki, so in the 19th century it necessitated the confinement of the foreign residents in settlements grouped around the sites of their consular courts; for the plainest principles of prudence forbade that these residents should have free access to provincial districts far remote from the only tribunals competent to control them. The Japanese negotiators in Yedo raised no objection to the embodiment of this system in the treaties. But it was one of the features most vehemently condemned by the conservative statesmen and politicians in Kyoto, and no sooner had the administration been restored to the Emperor than an embassy was despatched to Europe and America with the object of inducing Occidental Governments to revise the treaties, in the sense of abolishing consular jurisdiction and changing the tariff so as to enable Japan to obtain a larger revenue from customs duties.* This embassy sailed in 1871. It had a specific right to raise the question, for the treaties contained a provision declaring them to be subject to revision in that year. As a matter of course the embassy failed. The conditions originally necessitating consular jurisdiction had not undergone any change justifying its abolition. Neither the character of Japan's laws nor the methods of her judicial procedure were such as to warrant foreign Governments in entrusting to her care the lives and properties of their subjects and citizens. It must be confessed, on the other hand, that the consular courts themselves were not beyond reproach. A few of the Powers, notably Great Britain and the United States, had organized competent tribunals and appointed expert judicial officials to preside over them. But a majority of the Treaty States were content to delegate consular duties to merchants, who not only lacked legal training of any kind, but were themselves engaged in the commercial transactions upon which they might at any moment be required to adjudicate in a magisterial capacity. Thus it happened, sometimes, that a Japanese subject desiring to invoke the aid of the law against a foreigner who seemed to have wronged him, found that the defendant in the case would also be the judge. In any circumstances the dual functions of consul and judge could not be discharged by the same officials without anomaly, for his *rôle* of consul compelled him to act as advocate in the initiatory stages of complications about which in the position of judge he might ultimately be required to deliver an impartial verdict. It would be an error to suppose, however, that the course of consular jurisdiction in Japan was disfigured by many abuses. On the whole the system worked satisfactorily, and if it hurt patriotic Japanese, it also saved them from innumerable complications into which they would have blundered inevitably had they been entrusted with a jurisdiction which they were not prepared to exercise satisfactorily.

Nevertheless, they determined from the first that no effort should be spared to qualify for the exercise of a right which is among the fundamental attributes of every sovereign state—the right of judicial autonomy. In any circumstances the recasting of their laws and the reorganization of their law courts would have occupied a prominent place in the programme of general reform suggested by contact with the Western world, but the "extra-territorial" question certainly stirred them to special legislative efforts. With the aid of foreign experts they set themselves to elaborate codes of criminal and civil law, excerpting the best features of European jurisprudence, and adapting them to the conditions and usages of Japan. They also remodelled their courts, and took steps, slower but not less earnest, to educate a judiciary competent to administer the new codes. After twelve years devoted with partial success to these great works, Japan in 1883 renewed her request for the abolition of consular jurisdiction. She asked that all foreigners within her borders, without distinction of nationality, should be subject to her laws and judiciable by her law courts, as foreigners found within the borders of every sovereign state in the Occident were subject to its laws and judiciable by its tribunals of justice, and she supplemented her application by promising that its favourable reception should be followed by complete opening of the country and the removal of all restrictions hitherto imposed on foreign trade, travel, and residence in her realm. From the first it had been the habit of Occidental peoples to upbraid Japan on account of the barriers opposed by her to full and free foreign intercourse, and she was now able to claim that the barriers were no longer created by her intention or maintained by her desire, but that they existed because of a system which theoretically proclaimed her unfitness for free association with Western nations, and practically made it impossible for her to throw open her territories completely for the ingress of strangers.

A portly volume might be filled with the details of the negotiations that followed Japan's proposal. Never before had an Oriental state sought such recognition, and there was extreme reluctance on the part of Western Powers to try the unprecedented experiment of entrusting the lives and property of their subjects and citizens to the keeping of a "pagan" people. Even the outlines of the story cannot be sketched here, though it abounds with diplomatic curiosities, and though several of its incidents do as much credit to Japan's patience and tact as its issue does to the justice and liberality of Occidental Governments. There is, however, one page of the history that calls for brief notice, since it supplies a key to much which would otherwise be inexplicable. The respect entertained by a nation for its own laws and the confidence it reposes in their administrators are in direct proportion to the efforts it has expended upon the development of the former and the education of the latter. Foreigners residing in Japan naturally clung to consular jurisdiction as a privilege of inestimable value. They saw, indeed, that such a system could not be permanently imposed on a country where the conditions justifying it had nominally disappeared. But they saw, also, that the legal and judicial reforms effected by Japan had been crowded into an extraordinarily brief period, and that, as tyros experimenting with alien systems, the Japanese might be betrayed into many errors. A struggle then ensued between foreign distrust on the one side and Japanese aspirations on the other—a struggle often developing painful phases. For whereas the case for the foreign resident stood solid and rational so long as it rested on the basis of his proper attachment to the laws and the judiciary which the efforts of his countrymen through long generations had rendered worthy of trust and reverence, and on the equally intelligible and reasonable ground that he wanted convincing proofs of Japan's competence to discharge her novel functions with discretion and impartiality before submitting himself to her jurisdiction, it ceased to be a solid and rational case when its champions undertook, not merely to exaggerate the risk of trusting Japan implicitly, but also to demonstrate her radical unworthiness of any trust whatever and to depict her under aspects so deterrent that submission to her jurisdiction assumed the character of a catastrophe. The struggle lasted eleven years, but its gist is contained in this brief statement. The foreign resident, whose affection for his own systems was measured by the struggle their evolution had cost, and whose practical instincts forbade him to take anything on trust where security of person and property was concerned, would have stood out a wholesomely conservative and justly cautious figure had not his attitude been disfigured by local journalists who, in order to justify his conservatism, allowed themselves to be betrayed into the constant *rôle* of blackening the character of Japan, and suggesting harshly prejudiced interpretations of her acts and motives. It is one thing to hesitate before entering a new house until its fitness for occupation has been ascertained: it is another thing to condemn it without trial as radically and necessarily deficient in this respect. The latter was in effect the line often taken by the opponents of Japan's claims, and, of course, no little resentment and indignation were aroused on the side of the Japanese, who chafing against the obvious antipathies of their foreign critics, and growing constantly more impatient of the humiliation to which Japan was intentionally condemned, were sometimes prompted to displays of resentment which became new weapons in the hands of their critics. Throughout this struggle the Government and citizens of the United States always showed conspicuous sympathy with Japanese aspirations, and it should also be recorded that, with exceptions so rare as to establish the rule, foreign tourists and publicists discussed the problem liberally and fairly, perhaps because, unlike the foreign communities resident in Japan, they had no direct interest in its solution.

At last,(1) after long years of diplomatic negotiation and public discussion, European Governments conceded the justice of Japan's demands, and it was agreed that from July 1899, subject to the previous fulfilment of certain conditions,(2) Japanese tribunals should assume jurisdiction over every person, of whatever nationality, within the confines of Japan, and the whole country should be thrown open to foreigners, the "settlements" being abolished, and all limitations upon trade, travel, and residence removed throughout the length and breadth of the realm. Great Britain took the lead in thus releasing Japan from the fetters of the old system. The initiative came from her with special grace, for the system and all its irksome consequences had been imposed on Japan originally by a combination of Powers with Great Britain in the van. As a matter of historical sequence the United States dictated the terms of the first treaty providing for consular jurisdiction. But from a very early period the Washington Government showed its willingness to remove all limitations of Japan's sovereignty, whereas Europe, headed by Great Britain, whose preponderating interests entitled her to lead, resolutely refused to make any substantial concession. In Japanese eyes, therefore, British conservatism seemed to be the one serious obstacle, and since the British residents in the settlements far out-numbered all other nationalities, and since they alone had newspaper organs to ventilate their grievances, and exhibited all a Briton's proverbial indifference to the suavities and courtesies of speech and method that count for so much in disarming resentment, it was certainly fortunate for the popularity of her people in the Far East that Great Britain saw her way finally to set a liberal example. Nearly five years were required to bring the other Occidental Powers into line with Great Britain and America. It should be stated, however, that neither reluctance to make the necessary concessions nor want of sympathy with Japan caused the delay. The explanation is that each set of negotiators sought to improve either the terms or the terminology of the treaties already concluded, and that the tariff arrangements for the different countries required elaborate discussion.

Until the last of the revised treaties was ratified, voices of protest against revision continued to be vehemently raised by a large section of the foreign community in the settlements. Some were honestly apprehensive as to the issue of the experiment. Others were swayed by racial prejudice pure and simple. A few had fallen into an incurable habit of grumbling, or found their account in professing to champion foreign interests; and all were naturally reluctant to forfeit the immunity from taxation hitherto enjoyed. It seemed as though the inauguration for the new system would find the foreign community in a mood which must greatly diminish the chances of a happy result, for where a captious and aggrieved disposition exists, opportunities to discover causes of complaint cannot be wanting. But at the

* The tariff was fixed originally on a basis of 10 per cent. duty on imports, but in 1850 Japan consented, under heavy pressure and even armed menace, to reduce the rate to 5 per cent. This, too, was only nominal, for the conversion of *ad valorem* duties into specific was managed in such a manner that the sum actually levied on imports did not average as much as 2½ per cent. of their value at the port of shipment

(1) It would be incorrect to suppose that the responsibility for the delay can be thrown entirely on the foreign side. More than once an agreement had reached the verge of conclusion, when Japanese public opinion, partly incited by political intrigues, rebelled vehemently against the guarantees demanded of Japan, and the negotiations were interrupted in consequence, not to be again resumed until a considerable interval had elapsed. This point will easily be understood when we say that whereas, at the outset of the discussion, Japanese officialdom had the matter entirely in its own hands, and might have settled it on any basis, however liberal to foreigners, without provoking, for the moment at all events, seriously hostile criticism on the part of the nation, there gradually grew up among the people, *pari passu* with journalistic development, with the study of international law, and with the organization of political parties, a strong sense of what an independent state has a right to expect, and thus the longer the negotiations were protracted the keener became the popular scrutiny to which they were subjected, and the greater the general reluctance to endorse any irksome concessions. Had foreign diplomacy recognized the growth of that sentiment, and been content to take moderate advantage of the Japanese negotiator's mood, the issue might have been comparatively satisfactory to foreigners. But by asking too much and haggling too long, Western statesmen lost their opportunity of obtaining any substantial guarantees and had ultimately to hand over their compatriots to Japanese jurisdiction on pure trust.

(2) be main, indeed the only notable condition was that the whole of the new Japanese codes of law must have been in operation for a period of at least one year before the abolition of consular jurisdiction.

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eleventh hour this unfavourable demeanour underwent a marked change. So soon as it became evident that the old system was hopelessly doomed, the sound common sense of the European and American business man asserted itself. The foreign residents let it be seen that they intended to bow cheerfully to the inevitable, and that no obstacles would be willingly placed by them in the path of Japanese jurisdiction. The Japanese, on their side, took some striking steps. An Imperial rescript declared in unequivocal terms that it was the Sovereign's policy and desire to abolish all distinctions between natives and foreigners, and that by fully carrying out the friendly purpose of the treaties his people would best consult his wishes, maintain the character of the nation, and promote its prestige. The Premier and other Ministers of State issued instructions to the effect that the responsibility now developed on the Government, and the duty on the people, of enabling foreigners to reside confidently and contentedly in every part of the country. Even the chief Buddhist prelates addressed to the priests and parishioners in their dioceses injunctions pointing out that, freedom of conscience being now guaranteed by the Constitution, men professing alien creeds must be treated as courteously as the followers of Buddhism, and must enjoy the same rights and privileges.

Thus the great change was effected in circumstances of happy augury. Its result were successful on the whole. Difficulties, it is true, were not altogether absent. The Japanese made some mistakes, and the novelty of the experiment predisposed the conservative foreigner to be hypercritical of the working. Never before since the crown of civilization was placed upon the head of the Occident had Western Christians passed under the jurisdiction of Oriental "Pagans." This unprecedental act of trust on the part of Occidental Governments did not signify a corresponding access of confidence on the part of Occidental subjects and citizens. The average European or American approaches the contemplation of all the acts of the Japanese people in a spirit of condemnation or condescension, and considers that he practices praiseworthy self-denial when he pays to Japanese laws or their guardians even a moiety of the deference that he would intuitively render in similar circumstances in a western country. Administration can never achieve more than a success of sufferance when the ruled stand upon a plane higher than that conceded to the rulers. But it has been shown, at all events, that the measure of tolerance which foreigners are prepared to display is sufficient for the working of the novel system, and that all the sinister predictions once so freely uttered about the vindictive advantage which the Japanese would certainly take of their newly-acquired power were baseless. Foreigners residing in Japan now enjoy immunity of domicile, personal and religious liberty, freedom from official interference and security of life and property as fully as though they were living in their own countries.

Dr. ANDERSON'S review of the pictorial art of Japan, which, being compressed into three pages, is necessarily of a more or less sketchy nature, must nevertheless be called the clearest and most succinct statement that has ever been published about this great subject. We are inclined to think that he slightly over-estimates the permanence of direct Chinese influence upon Japanese artists, but he is certainly right when he says of Chinese pictorial art and of its Japanese scion, that though "of imperfect evolution, it was for thirteen centuries the only living pictorial art in the world," and that "the Chinese deserve the honour of having created landscape painting." Coming to the birth and evolution of the Japanese School, the *Yamato-riu*, Dr. ANDERSON notes the adoption of entirely now conventionalies, one of the most remarkable being "the spiriting away of the roof of any building of which the artist wished to show the interior." That criticism has been taken up, as some of our readers may remember, by a distinguished sinologue, who indulges in frank ridicule of such an unnatural freak. But how, we should like to know, does a European artist show an interior? Does not he also "spirit" away not only the roof, if necessary, but also such walls as would impede clear vision? In short, this is only another example of the old experience that to the eyes of some people everything not familiar looks *outré* and extravagant. Passing to the fourth period, the period when the "Popular School" was born, we note with some surprise that Dr. ANDERSON throws a great deal of doubt on MATAHEI and denies the existence of "any reason to believe that his labours had any material share in determining the creation and trend of the new school." Yet whether a majority of the many so-called surviving specimens of his work be genuine or spurious, it surely can not possibly be denied that his influence on pictorial art was great and radical. It was MATAHEI that imparted to the draped human figure graces never previously conceived by Japanese painters. Before his time men and women had never been represented as units of every-day life, its frivolities and its amusements. They had been caricatured but not portrayed, and it is very doubtful whether without MATAHEI'S delightful ideal, art could ever have been attracted into this new route.

Dr. ANDERSON also contributes an essay on "Glyptic and Applied Art," but in this he seems to have sacrified too much on the altar of brevity. His appreciations, however, are very hearty and may be recommended for the perusal of those—and their name is legion—who imagine that Japan never produced any sculptors comparable with the celebrities of ancient Greece. We observe that Dr. ANDERSON follows the popular legend which ascribes the carvings on the *Chokushi-mon* of the Western Hongwan-ji in Kyoto to HIDARI JINGORO. But this gate originally formed part of the cebrated palace built by the *Taiko* on Momoyama, and destroyed by his orders after the conspiracy of HIDETSUGU. HIDARI JINGORO was in his cradle, if indeed he had yet been born, when the *Chokushi-mon* was transferred to its present place.

Mr. ASTON, as we have said, is the author of the essay on "Recent Literature" in Japan; that is to say, the literature of the period from 1867 to 1900. He devotes very little space to the subject, barely a page, but into that brief compass he manages to compress a remarkable amount of information. Evidently his opinion is that all modern Japanese literature, that is to say, literature worthy of the name, is permeated with Occidental influence. Mr. ASTON, indeed, speaks throughout of "European" influence, but that, we presume, is his tribute to the old fashion of speech in which Europe has always been a synonym for the West. He notes that the necessity of providing access for the nation, with its new ideals, to the stores of Western knowledge, inspired the first group of *Meiji* writers, with Mr. FUKUZAWA at their head, and that from 1879 a wholly changed school of novelists came into existence under the influence of a translation of LYTTON'S "Ernest Maltravers." Of these fiction-writers he gives a well-digested though curt *resumé*, and he then passes into the historical academy, where, however, his comments seem to us somewhat defective in appreciation. He ignores the really excellent contributions that have been made by some writers to our knowledge of the history of the country, and he speaks only of such works as TOKUTOMI'S *Shorai no Nippon*, Yei's "Treatise on Education," and the "History of Japanese Literature" by MIKAMI and TAKATSU. There are many other works more representative and more worthy of mention. In the field of poetry we find a somewhat wider notice. The late, much lamented, Professor TOYAMA gets full credit for having set the example of grafting western poetical ideas and diction upon the old Japanese stem, and Mr. ASTON considers that works like the *Hana Momiji*, the *Natsumushi Suzumushi* and the *Wakana-shira*, which he describes as "vague and dreamy but pleasing and melodious lyrics," "give promise of better days for the art of poetry in Japan."

FIRES.

At 11 p.m. on the 17th inst., a conflagration broke out in Otaru and destroyed 900 houses together with 13 store-houses before the flames were got under control. The branch office and 5 stores belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha were burned, as were 70,000 sleepers belonging to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. A violent wind was blowing at the time, and on the 18th instant when telegrams were despatched from Otaru the gale still continued, and the flames threatened to spread from the sleepers to the coal stores of the Tanko Company.

Further details about the fire in Otaru are given by a telegram which says that 906 buildings were burned. One person was killed and five injured. Considerable cargo just landed from some steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and stored in the godowns was destroyed and the loss is estimated at about *yen* 100,000. The loss of the Hokkaido Colliery and Railway Company is estimated at about *yen* 10,000.

According to further investigations as to the recent great fire in Otaru, the buildings burnt numbered 1,120 and the loss is estimated at over *yen* 1,000,000.

Early on the morning of April 16th fire occurred in a house, at Shinjiku, Tokyo, destroying fifteen buildings. About the same time, fire broke out in the shop of a stationer in Honjo. Eight buildings were burnt down.

It is stated that two fires were started by incendiary means in the compound of the 5th Regiment, Takasaki, on April 16th, but were put out before the flames caught the buildings. On the 19th a bugler having broken into a safe in the office, stole money amounting to over *yen* 200 and absconded. Since then all the soldiers are confined to barracks but five are missing.

A fire occurred at Asahi-machi, Sapporo, on April 21st, with the result that fifty-seven buildings were burned down.

The same day, fire broke out at Nishikawa-machi, Hakodate, destroying 28 houses and partially injuring 5. Early on the morning of the 22nd fire occured in the house of a carpenter, named K. Kawase, Kakigaracho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, and the flames having been driven to the neighbouring houses by the strong wind in spite of the heavy rain, six buildings were destroyed and three partially injured.

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YOKOHAMA CRICKET AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

The annual general meeting of members of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club was held at the Pavilion on Friday afternoon. Mr. D. H. Blake, Vice-President, occupied the chair and there were over fifty present.

On the motion of Mr. F. H. Bugbird seconded by Mr. F. E. White the minutes of last meeting were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN said before proceeding with the regular business he had a very pleasant duty to perform. As they all knew, Mr. K. F. Crawford was shortly to leave Yokohama and take up his residence in England. He was sure they were all very sorry that he was leaving them, and not only had most of them expressed their regrets in person but there had been a spontaneous desire on the part of a large number of members to express in a tangible form their good wishes to him. The result was that it had been decided to present to him some token of their friendship (applause). He had been a member of the Club for about fourteen years, during which he had been three times Captain of Cricket, in which position he (the speaker) thought they would all agree that he had done a great deal to further the prestige of the Club (applause). He had also on several occasions been a member of Committee and there also he had done sterling work to which he (the Chairman) was personally able to testify. On Mr. Crawford's departure they would lose a valuable member of the Club and one they could ill afford to lose, but they must content themselves with the reflection that their loss would be the gain of others. He was sure he voiced that evening the feeling of all the members when he said that they deeply regretted Mr. Crawford's departure and that they wished him and his family health, long life and prosperity in their native land.—(Applause.) I present to you Mr. Crawford, continued the Chairman, this silver bowl which I hope you will accept from your friends in the Club and I hope it will be a reminder to you of the many happy hours you have spent on the cricket field in Yokohama and of the numerous friends you will leave in Japan.—(Applause.)

Mr. K. F. CRAWFORD said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thank you very much indeed for the extremely handsome present you have been kind enough to give me. I feel it is altogether too good. I have not done sufficient for the Club to deserve anything like it, though I have always done my best in cricket, baseball and football. Although I am leaving Japan my interest will not cease and I assure you I will take as much interest in the Club while in England as I have always done. I thank you all for your very great kindness (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN said he had to still further ask indulgence of the meeting as to a small innovation. As they were aware during the football season a series of matches were held between teams of six aside and the result was that the team captained by Mr. Sydney Wheeler were victorious. In continuation of what was originated last year he had much pleasure in presenting to the successful competitors a small token of appreciation of their energy and their desire to uphold a very prominent sport (applause).

Having stated that he occupied the chair instead of Mr. Dodds, the President, because the latter was unfortunately obliged to resign his office,

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen: We have met here this afternoon for the purpose of passing the accounts and the report for the last year, and, to elect a new Committee in the place of the one now retiring. Before proceeding with that work, however, I wish to make a few remarks supplementary to those contained in the report. In the first place, I wish fo express the regrets of the Committee that this meeting has been so long delayed. According to the Bye Laws of the Club, the General Meeting should be held in February, but, as the Interport Association Foot Ball Match does not take place until the middle or end of February, and, as it seems proper that the result of this event should be included in the report, I think a sufficient reason is established for amending the rules to provide for the holding of the Annual General Meeting at a later date than February. Notwithstanding remarks to the contrary in some of the individual reports, I do not think it can said that the results of the year under review have been unqualifiedly satisfactory, and, I believe the majority of members will endorse this opinion. It cannot be denied but that unusual enthusiasm has been shown in Tennis and Football, with a corresponding decrease of interest in Cricket and Baseball. I hope, however, that this is merely the proverbial "Lull before the storm," and that, during the coming year, we may have a regular "Cloud Burst" of enthusiasm in the last two branches of athletics. I think it worthy of mention here that Rugby Football has been initiated during the last season as a regular interport event, and with such success that I hope it has been permanently established (applause). Through an inadvertence no mention has been made in the report as to the cricket gear, but I may now say that it will bear considerable replenishing. As to the accounts, I think they may be considered satisfactory. The Debit Balance is larger than we would like to see it, but it is explained by the fact that we have had more than the usual amount of "extraordinary" expense during the period under review. It may also be added that the revenue from donations, smoking concerts, and various other entertainments was not forthcoming last year to the same extent as in former years. As to your retiring Committee, I regret to say the Club has been most unfortunate. Very early in the season the sad death occurred of Mr. Earle C. Swan, who had proved himself a very energetic and capable acquisition, and I am sure all members of the Club will deplore with me this unfortunate circumstance. Our Captain of Cricket, Mr. E. W. Maitland, was obliged to leave for home on a vacation about the middle of the season and prior to the interport Contest, so we have been deprived of his assistance on the Committee and his valuable aid on the Cricket Field. Our President, Mr. James Dodds, was also obliged to resign his position on account of personal reasons, so, altogether, I think it fair to say that the Committee have worked under unusual disadvantages, and I hope the fact may temper the criticisms of members should they have any to offer. We will now proceed with the regular business of the meeting.

Mr. FLINT KILBY thought the Chairman's reference to Mr. Dodds' retirement might be misunderstood, and instead of saying "was obliged to resign" it would be better to say simply "also resigned."

The CHAIRMAN thought there would be no great danger of misunderstanding.

The CHAIRMAN, in introducing the report and accounts for the past year, regretted that they had not been in members' hands for any length of time, but hoped they would now be fully digested. If there were any questions to ask or criticisms to pass he would be glad to hear them, otherwise he would ask someone to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. H. W. Kilby pointed out that the report credited R. Nicholson with breaking the Pole Jump record with 9ft. 1in. at the annual sports in 1902. In the first place he thought it undesirable that records of mere visiting members who did not become full members, should be considered; and secondly on reference to the newspaper reports of the sports on 13th May, 1899, it would be seen there was a better record, namely 9ft. 2in., made by E. W. Kilby, who should be credited as holding the pole jump record.

Mr. BATHGATE explained that the account of the athletic sports had been drawn up by him, owing to the lamentable death of Mr. Swan, and he had to go on such data as were furnished him by others. The facts mentioned by Mr. H. W. Kilby had not until now come within Mr. Bathgate's knowledge, but they certainly ought to be taken duly into account and the matter put right.

Mr. H. W. KILBY quite understood how it came about, and that it was an inadvertence.

The CHAIRMAN said the Committee would be obliged if Mr. H. W. Kilby would give them the data from which he had quoted, in order that the matter could be rectified.

Mr. J. Dodds pointed out that the record of prizes during the sesson had not been quite fully kept. One omission was the prize now on the table at this meeting, presented by Mr. Daniel, and won by Mr. Edward Kilby for the highest score in the Interport Cricket Match; this was not mentioned in the report, although there was one paragraph set apart for an account of the prizes. Another which Mr. Fradgley got, the bowling prize, had been omitted——

Several members pointed out that this one was mentioned in the report.

Mr. DODDS accepted the correction and went on to mention another prize, a bat, won by Kilby in the Kobe match; it was given by the President for the highest aggregate score.

The SECRETARY said there was no official record of these prizes having been given. This in fact came as quite a shock to him—(laughter)—as he had never had any letter from Mr. Daniel notifying that he had been so good as to give a prize. Of course it was desirable to have all these things properly recorded, but this was the reason for the omission—the Secretary was not informed.

Mr. DODDS—Were not some of them recorded on the notice-board in the Pavilion?

Mr. BATHGATE said they were.

The SECRETARY said in that case he ought to have noted them accordingly.

Mr. DODDS explained that he was thinking of the winners, not the donors, in raising the point. The Secretary quite agreed.

Mr. BERRICK asked about the election of Mr. Thorn as captain of the baseball commitee, referred to in the report. He had no knowledge of any such election.

The President explained that the election was by all baseball players in the club; if Mr. Berrick had not received the notice, it was unintentional, and he was sorry.

There being no further questions, the report and accounts were adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was to elect officers and committee. According to the rule, the president, vice-president and captain of cricket had to be elected separately and then the committee. He read out a number of names that had been sent in as candidates.

Dr. WHEELER was elected president, by acclamation.

Mr. BLAKE was unanimously elected vice-president, despite his protest that he would be away from Yokohama four months.

For the office of Captain of Cricket there were two nominees, Mr. H. W. Kilby and Mr. F. E. White. The ballot resulted in the election of Mr. White.

The CHAIRMAN said Governor Sufu and Mr. H. A. C. Bonar, British Consul, were honorary members and patrons of the Club and had to be re-elected at this meeting, but Mr. Flint Kilby poidted out that Mr. Sufu held office so long as he was governor and no election was necessary.

Mr. WHITE proposed the re-election of Mr. Bonar as honoray member and patron, remarking that at a time when the Club were likely to have trouble over the ground he used his influence on their behalf and he (the speaker) thought he ought to be elected for life.

Mr. FRADGELEY seconded and the proposal was carried.

In reply to Mr. Dodds,

The CHAIRMAN said the Committee had received a communication from Mr. Clarke with reference to school boys making use of the cricket ground, but as it was so near the annual meeting they thought the matter might be brought up here and decided or referred to the incoming Committee.

Mr. DODDS proposed that the incoming Committee be instructed to take into favourable consideration the question of allowing the use of the ground to school boys, of course with suitable restrictions.

Mr. FLINT KILBY seconded and remarked that when there was a former school in Yokohama the boys of which had the use of the ground, some of the best athletes, some of the best cricketers and some of the best football players in Yokohama learned their game under those conditions. He

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was sure there would be no difficulty in making restrictions. Of course a master must attend, and the boys must leave when the master left. He thought it was only right that the rising generation should have an opportunity of learning those manly games which the Club was there to uphold.

Mr. Thwaites proposed that it should be a definite instruction to the Committee to grant the use of the ground with restrictions, but on the motion of Mr. Dodds being put to the meeting it was adopted.

Mr. MOLLISON offered his congratulations and he thought the congratulations of the meeting to Harry Kilby for his very excellent record at cricket last season—an average of 10 more than ever made in Yokohama—and said if all the young men in the club took the same interest in the game the success of cricket here would be assured (applause).

Mr. DODDS added his support to Mr. Mollison's remarks amid applause.

At this stage the ballot for the Committee was announced as followed :—F. O. Stuart, W. S. Moss, J. H. Bathgate, S. Wheeler, W. Y. Showler, and H. W. Kilby.

Mr. MERRIMAN called attention to the fact that there was no one on the Committee to represent baseball which gave much satisfaction and amusement in Yokohama, and was he thought the best game in the world. It was a great mistake not to have a member for baseball. It was true Mr. Blake was on the Committee but he would be going away soon for some months.

The CHAIRMAN said he was sorry, but Mr. Merriman withdrew his own name and when he saw both Mr. Thorn's name and Mr. McChesney's name he said at once neither would be elected. It was unfortunate but it could not be helped.

On the suggestion by Mr, E. Kilby that Mr. Blake should appoint some one in his place when he went away some conversation took place on the rules, Mr. Flint Kilby pointing out that the Committee ought to have called a special general meeting to elect a successor to Mr. Dodds when he resigned and suggesting to the incoming Committee that when Mr. Blake goes away they should comply with the rules.

On the motion of Mr. W. S. Moss a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. F. H. Bugbird for his services as Honorary Secretary.

Mr. BUGBIRD replied.

On the motion of Mr. Dodds a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman and the meeting then separated.

REPORT SEASON, 1902—1903.

During the past year, interest has been well maintained in the various Sports encouraged by the Y.C. & A.C. As will be seen from the statement of accounts the overdraft now amounts the *yen* 3,140, which need not be considered a source of anxiety by the members.

The Club has now 241 members on its Books; 46 new members having joined the Club during the past year.

THE GROUND—The increased interest taken in all games, particularly Tennis, has given the ground a great deal of wear. The ground is being thoroughly manured and is considered in good order.

During the year the track in front of the pavilion has been re-cindered and the fence repaired.

Hot Water Apparatus providing hot water to the Baths and Lavatories has been installed to the great convenience of members.

ACCOUNTS—A reference to the Abstract included in this Report will show the financial position of the Club, which the Committee consider satisfactory, as, through the Debt is greater by *yen* 100 than it was a year ago, the present accounts include more than the normal proportion of special expenditure.

CRICKET—The season 1902 may certainly be considered one of the most interesting the Y. C. & C. Club have experienced. Mr. H. W. Kilby, who has the highest batting average, with 67.5 for 13 innings, makes a record; the best average previously was 57.87 made by F. E. White, in 1897. In the Interport games Messrs. Hancock of Kobe and F. W. Kilby each made a century for their respective sides, and the grand total of runs for the match was over 900, which is another record. The other important branch of the game, Bowling, shows a great falling off, however, if compared with the analyses of the previous year, and it is in this line that younger players are requested to make their best efforts.

At the commencement of the season players were very keen and 10 matches were played up to the end of July, but from this date to the Interport match in October, these were only four games, The absence of the Navy during the latter part of the season probably accounts to some extent for the falling-off.

The Interport match was very exciting, the result being in doubt right through the whole game; Kobe eventually winning by five wickets.

PRIZES—Mr. James Dodds kindly presented a bat for the best batting average, and Mr. F. E. White for the highest aggregate of runs; both were won by H. W. Kilby with an average of 67.5 for 13 innings, total number of runs 675. This player's average is far ahead of that of anyone else: his brother E. W. Kilby being next, with 35.58 for 13 innings, total runs 427.

Mr. E. W. Maitland gave a prize for the best bowling average in the Interport match, which was won by E. G. Fradgley with 5 wickets for 78 runs, average 15.6.

H. W. Kilby with an average of 62.20 also won the prize presented by Messrs. P. B. & E. B. Clarke. This prize has to be won two consecutive seasons by the same player in order to be finally held.

BASE BALL—It is with the keenest sorrow and regret that we have to chronicle the death of Mr. Earle E. Swan, the Captain of the team. During the short time in which Mr. Swan had the management of this sport under his control, he had with characteristic energy, inspired confidence and enthusiasm in both the older and younger exponents of the game, and everything pointed to a very successful season. This result however was not realized, owing principally to the untimely death of Mr. Swan. Mr. C. H. Thorn was unanimously elected to the vacant position which he filled with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the members interested.

Owing to the presence of American Men-of-War in the harbour, an unusually large number of matches were played, but, unfortunately, our opponents were generally too strong for us. We also had the usual number of matches with Japanese teams from Tokyo and Yokohama, and in these events honours were about equally divided. The annual interport contest took place at Kobe and was won by our opponents by two games to nil.

The Base Ball gear on hand at the present time is inadequate for the coming season and some new supplies will have to be ordered.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.—This interest in this game during the past season has been very keen and the Club may be well satisfied. Its reputation with visiting teams has been well kept up; the local players having proved victorious in every match played. The following is a list of the matches:—

Y.C. & A.C. v. H.M.S.

25 Oct. 1902	*Rambler*	won	7 to 0
8 Nov. 1902	*Goliath*	"	2—1
15 " "	*Goliath*	"	2—1
25 " "	*Glory*	"	2—1
24 " "	*Amphitrite*	"	6—0

The Interport Match played at Yokohama, on 14th February 1903, in perfect weather, was won by the Y.C. & A.C. by 3 goals to 1. The Club's team was made up as follows:—W. J. Waddilove (goal); W. S. Moss and A. Kingdon (backs); W. J. White, W. B. Mason and E. G. Fradgley (half backs); K. Van R. Smith, H. W. Kilby, J. E. Moss, O. Strome, and J. F. Drummond (forwards).

A six a-side competition was again played this season on the English League system, instead of on the Cup system of last year, and was won by:—S. Wheeler (capt.); W. B. White, T. S. Cartwright, H. E. Hayward, A. W. S. Austen and J. Graham, this team obtaining seven points out of a possible ten. Mr. D. H. Blake kindly presented medals to the winning Six.

RUGBY FOOTBALL—Besides practice games, matches have been played against H.M.S. *Goliath* (2), H.M.S. *Goliath* (men), H M.S. *Glory* (2), and the Kobe R. & A. C., the Club winning three, drawing one and losing two.

The principal and most interesting match was the game on Christmas day versus the Kobe R. & A. C. which, played in a gale of wind, resulted in a win for the Y.C. & A.C. by the narrow margin of one try to nil. This match inaugurates a series of annual interport Rugby games and for which a Shield has been subscribed in Kobe and Yokohama.

The great interest shewn for Rugby Football this season will, it is hoped, continue.

LAWN TENNIS—The revival of interest in this game has been most noticeable and a Single Champion tournament, also a Double Handicap were both brought to a successful conclusion. There were 88 individual entries for the two events. The thanks of the members are due to Mr. David Jackson for kindly presenting the Championship Cup, which was won by H. R. Barnard, who holds it for the year under review. Should the same player win it during the coming season the Cup will become his absolute property. The Double Handicap was keenly contested, the winners being H. W. Kilby and F. O. Stuart.

ATHLETICS—The usual Spring Meeting was held on 17th May in fine weather.

The following records were broken viz:—

Quarter Mile, 1901 record broken by C. E. Libeaud (timed from scratch to finish) 53⅘ Secs.

120 yds. Hurdles, 1901 record broken by J. F. Drummond in 17 Secs.

Long Jump, 1901 record broken by J. F. Drummond with 20' 11½"

Throwing the Cricket Ball, 1901 record broken by E. C. Swan with 114 yds. 1' 5"

Pole Jump, 1878, record broken by R. Nicholson with 9' 1"

Putting the Shot, 1899 record broken by R. Nicholson with 36' 8½"

Again the thanks of the Members are due to the donors of the prizes, their generosity enabling the Committee to select handsome prizes for all events.

The usual table of Club Records is appended :—

Event.	Record.	Date.	Names.
100 yards Sprint	10⅘ secs.	Oct., 1884	E. Abbott
120 yards Sprint	13¾ secs.	Nov., 1880	F. V. Samuels
150 yards Sprint	16¼ secs.	Nov., 1873	E. Abbott
300 yards Race	38 secs.	Nov., 1873	W. Brent
Quarter Mile Race	53⅘ secs.	May, 1902	C. E. Libeaud
600 yards Race	88¼ secs.	Oct., 1874	J. J. Dare
Half Mile Race	2m. 9 secs.	May, 1876	A. H. Dare
One Mile Race	4m. 45 secs.	May, 1876	A. H. Dare
One Mile Walk	8m. 20 secs.	May, 1874	A. T. Watson
120 yards Hurdles (to 3' 6" Hurdles)	17 secs.	May, 1902	J. F. Drummond
High Jump	5' 6¾"	June, 1901	W. P. Wise
Long Jump	20' 11½"	May, 1902	J. F. Drummond
Hop, Step and Jump	41' 8¼"	June, 1901	J. F. Drummond
Throwing the Cricket Ball	114 yds. 1' 5"	May, 1902	E. C. Swan
Throwing the Hammer (16 lbs.)	88' 4"	Nov., 1877	A. J. Smith
Putting the Shot (16lbs.)	36' 8½"	May, 1902	R. Nicholson
Pole Jump	9' 1"	May, 1902	R. Nicholson
Drop-Kick	49 yards	Oct., 1874	G. Hamilton

BAR—The increased accommodation has proved a great boon to those who have been practising at midday for the interport matches, many members taking their tiffin in the pavilion.

The nucleus of a reference library has been formed, and thanks are due to Messrs. Duff, Lammert, Sharp and A. Scott for gifts of books.

Through the kindness of one or two members arrangements have been made whereby the club will in future be furnished with up-to-date literature in all the various kinds of Sport.

THE HONORARY TREASURER IN ACCOUNT WITH THE YOKOHAMA CRICKET AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS—SEASON 1902-1903.

RECEIPTS.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Subscriptions :—		
First half year	1,344.00	
Second half year	1,416.00	
Tokyo Members	12.00	
Visiting Members	21.00	
		2,793.00
To Entrance Fees		570.00
To Rent received from Ladies' Hockey Club		50.00
To Rent received from Lockers		60.00
To Sale of Club Ribbon, Sashes, &c.		85.00
To Proceeds of Lime Light Demonstration of "America Cup" Races given by Dr. Reid Mackay & J. P. Mollison, Esq.		72.45
To Surplus on Sports Account		255.89
To Surplus on Bar Account		220.76
To Rent of Ground for Bicycle Meet		50.00
To Entrance Fees to Tennis Tournament.		88.00
To Balance at Debit of Club at 31st Jan., 1903		3,139.71

PAYMENTS.

By Balance from last Account	3,033.84
By Working Expenses, including Wages, Horsekeep, &c.	1,789.84
By Match Expenses, including Rugby Interport Match, *less* Receipts	239.07
By Ground Rent for Year to 31st March, 1902	410.28
By Fire Insurance	154.50
By Interest	171.17
By Cost of New Stable and repairs to fence	382.50
By Cost of Installation of Hot Water Apparatus	498.42
By Gear purchased	553.59
By Sashes, Ribbons, &c. purchased	92.60
By Tennis Prizes	59.00
	7,384.81

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FRANK O. STUART,
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.

N. G. MAITLAND, W. B. WHITE, } Auditors.

Yokohama, 14th April, 1903.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In the *Jitsugyō Jiron* we find an interesting and instructive article entitled "Three Officials of the Finance Department," which we proceed to epitomize. The three officials who are represented as wielding the most power in that Department are Dr. Sakatani Yoshirō, the Vice-Minister and head of the Statistics Bureau, Dr. Megata Tanetarō, Shuzei-Kyoku-chō (Head of the Revenue Office), and Mr. Matsuo Shinzen, Rizai-Kyoku-chō (Head of the Bureau of Management of Financial Affairs). Dr. Megata undoubtedly is the most powerful of the three, says the *Jitsugyō Jiron*. It will be remembered, proceeds this magazine, how skilfully he silenced his opponents in the Diet. He pinned them down and rendered them helpless somewhat after the manner that a cat-fish is held down by a calabash (*hyōtan de namasu wo osayeru yō na aritama de*). After he had spoken his adversaries found that there was nothing to be said in reply. His knowledge of financial affairs is most intimate, and what is more, he has the courage of his opinions. With the establishment of the provincial revenue offices under an officer called the *Sūzeichō* (Head of the Revenue Office) all manner of abuses sprang up, and Dr. Megata determined to withdraw the authority granted to local officials and bring all the provincial revenue offices under the direct control of the Department of Finance and, despite all the local opposition to this measure that he encountered, it was carried through, the revenue offices being reduced from 47 to 25 and the present Central Government offices called Zeimu Kanri-kyoku superseding the prefectural bureaux.* In keeping the estimates within reasonable bounds, in dealing with the demands of the various Departments and adjusting their many differences Dr. Megata shows great ability. He accompanied Count Matsugata on his European tour and was his right-hand man on every occasion. But though doing such excellent work for the Department, he has little connection with the outside business and political world. Is it on this account that he is not promoted to a higher post than the mere head of a bureau?

Mr. Matsuo has been called "the living dictionary" of the Finance Department, so minute and so accurate is his knowledge of financial affairs. Though by no means learned, he gives one the impression of being thoroughly well informed on all home and foreign financial questions. Though somewhat grey-headed, he keeps himself abreast of the age by intercourse with leading men. He has a wonderful memory and his knowledge of foreign affairs is considerable. As a deviser of temporary expedients for tiding over financial difficulties he has no equal in the Department. He keeps himself in touch with outside business men and so facilitates the carrying out of any scheme that the Department may have projected. But his education having been imperfect, he is wanting in initiative power, and hence his manipulation of finance lacks the permanency and stability which characterises well thought out, comprehensive schemes. The numerous expedients resorted to for making two ends meet during the past three or four years have for the most part been devised by Mr. Matsuo. Dr. Sakatani, though lacking the decision of character possessed by Dr. Megata and the shrewdness of Mr. Matsuo, has the advantage of having been most thoroughly trained in all the technique of finance. His influence in the Department has been steadily growing since the adoption of the gold standard. Though as a debater in the Diet he is not quite so crushing as Dr. Megata, great weight is attached to what he says. In the outside world he has the support and advice of Baron Shibusawa, and so he has risen to be Sōmu chōkan (Vice-Minister, this title having been substituted for *Jikan*.) Comparing the three men, the following conclusion is reached: Dr. Megata has great influence in the Department and is invaluable in the Diet, but is quite out of touch with the outside business world. Mr. Matsuo, though a failure in the Diet, is most useful to the Department and to a certain extent has succeeded in establishing a connection with the outside world. Dr. Sakatani, while wielding considerable power in all three spheres, is perhaps most influential in the business world. The *Jitsugyō Jiron* winds up with the remark that the designing of new schemes for obtaining revenue is entrusted to Dr. Megata; the subjection of these schemes to approved economic principles is undertaken by Dr. Sakatani, while to Mr. Mr. Matsuo is entrusted the contrivance of the 101 shifts which keep the great financial machine in motion.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun-sha* has published in Japanese a series of biographical notices of noted writers under the title of *Jū-ni Bungō* (十二文豪), supplemented by the lives of 5 other authors, making 17 volumes in all. Short accounts of the books written by each author are given. The preparation of the whole series has taken ten years. Here is a list of the works in the order of their appearance: (1) Carlyle, by Hirata Hisashi; price 18 *sen.* (2) Macaulay, by Takenokoshi Yosaburō; 18 *sen.* Ogyū Sorai (Butsu Sorai), by Yamaji Yakichi; 18 *sen.* (4) Wordsworth, by Miyazaki Yaokichi; 18 *sen.* (5) Goethe, by Takagi Isaku; 18 *sen.* (6) Emerson, by Kitamura Montarō; 18 *sen.* (7) Chikamatsu Monzaemon, by Tsukakoshi Yoshitarō; 18 *sen.* (8) Arai Hakuseki, by Yamaji Yakichi; 18 *sen.* (9) Hugo, by Hitomi Ichitarō; 30 *sen.* (10) Tolstoi, by Tokutomi Kenjirō; 25 *sen.* (11) Rai Sanyō and his Age, by Morita Shiken; 1 *yen.* (12) Takizawa Bakin, by Tsukakoshi Yoshitarō; 50 *sen.* In addition to these the series contains Lives of Dr. Johnson, Schiller, Byron, Shelley and Kakinomoto no Hitomaro. In noticing these books Mr. Tsukakoshi, the author of several of the volumes, says that though their compilation has stretched itself over so many years, the writers do not consider them to be in any sense great works. In publishing them they only aim at creating an interest in literature and thus leading the way to more extensive studies.

* * *

It not unfrequently happens in this country that a matter which to foreign observers appears to be trivial becomes the one absorbing topic of a large section of the nation for many weeks at a time. Of course the excitement is largely kept up by newspapers that live on agitation of one kind or another, but on the other hand there is a large public which is never better pleased than when giving vent to its feelings in reference to some Government action or inaction. The discussion which has been going on for some time on the Tetsugakkan affair is a case in point. It seems to us that there are many aspects of the question at issue between the general public and the Mombushō which are of considerable interest. We compress from the newspapers a short history of the affair. In Muirhead's "Ethics," a work that has been much used in this country as a text-book, there is a passage which justifies regicide under certain conditions. It teaches that men's actions are either good or evil according to the motives of the persons acting. It is maintained by the Mombushō that this is a theory which needs very careful handling on the part of the teacher. It is quite true that, as has been pointed out by several newspapers, the Department has hitherto paid no attention whatever to the danger of using Muirhead's book, though during a series of years its inspectors have visited schools where the book has been in constant use. In the case of the Tetsugakkan the school-inspector, Mr. Kumamoto, seems to have had his suspicions in reference to the soundness of Mr. Nakajima Tokuzō's views, and to have taken action accordingly. Mr. Nakajima has hitherto been the lecturer on Ethics in the Tetsugakkan, and is fairly well known in literary circles as a writer. When he was questioned by the school-inspector as to whether in his lectures he had taken any steps to guard the passage in the text-book used from misinterpretation, he replied that he thought no measures of the kind were called for. In order to test the results of what was deemed carelessness on the part of the lecturer, the answers to examination questions on the role played by motive in determining the quality of actions were carefully gone over by the inspector.* It was found that the students were quite unaware of the abuses to which such a theory might give rise. Thereupon the Department of Education withdrew its license from the school. One of the privileges enjoyed by the school was the right of its graduates to be appointed as teachers in Government schools without passing a further examination. The withdrawal of this privilege naturally caused great excitement among old graduates of the school. It is maintained by many leading organs that the text-book incident called for no such sweeping measure, that whatever may have been the indiscretion committed by an individual teacher connected with Dr. Inoue, it was most unfair to punish the whole school for his misdemeanours. In defending the Mombushō there are persons who maintain that Muirhead's treatment of the subject under discussion is altogether defective and that therefore the Department is quite right in condemning the book. But if this be so, why has the Department allowed the use of the book in its schools for so many years? The *Jiji Shimpō* condemns the action of the Department now and in past years, and maintains that the Mombushō has never had any ethical policy worthy of the name, but has gone on from make-shift to make-shift as the years have rolled by. Its action, says this journal, is ever impulsive rather than rational, and most of its officers have habitually done their work in such a perfunctory manner that it is no wonder that abuses have grown up here and there. This journal has no faith in the methods pursued by the Mombushō. It would be quite easy to select from its issues during the past two or three years quite twenty anti-Mombushō articles. According to the *Jiji Shimpō* the Department needs thorough reorganization. But this is another question. To return to the Tetsugakkan incident, Mr. Nakajima Tokuzō has sent numerous letters to the newspapers in self-defence. Dr. Kuwaki Genyoku, the translator of Muirhead's work, has also written vigorously against the Mombushō's views on the question at issue. The Literary under-graduates of the University are on the side of Mr. Nakajima. So is Mr. Maruyama Mitsukazu, the well-known German scholar, who has expressed his views at great length. There are those who say that the whole commotion has been made possible by over-sensitiveness as to even the appearance of disloyalty; and they go on to point out that even if it be admitted that theoretically Muirhead's teaching is open to abuse, as a matter of fact the respect for royalty in this country is far too great to allow of any injurious influence proceeding from such abstract arguments as those used by Muirhead in the passage in question. Dr. Kuwaki remarks that the comments of the foreign press in Yokohama and Tōkyō show how ill-informed are the writers of these comments on ethical subjects. Their maintaining that Muirhead's teaching is open to misconception shows that they have not studied Muirhead to any purpose. Do they suppose that Japanese scholars who have made the study of Ethics the chief work of their lives would recommend or translate a book for use in Japanese schools which contained dangerous teaching? Misapprehended and confusedly treated, a number of subjects become dangerous. The passage which now forms the topic of discussion must be considered in connection with Muirhead's whole argument as to the part played by inten-

* It often strikes us that the Japanese are under the impression that a differently organized institution or office demands a new name. The multiplication of names and titles of all sorts in this country is quite astonishing.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* It is one of the rules of the Mombushō that all licensed private schools shall preserve for five years the examination papers sent in by the students at the graduation examination. We presume that one of the objects of this rule is to enable the Department to test the soundness of the instruction imparted on any given subject.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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tion and by motive in determining the quality or nature of actions. There are not a few cases where intention considered alone conveys a wrong impression as to the nature of an action. A parent beats a child and hurts it very much, intending to do so. This might be pronounced cruelty, and frequently is so considered, but if it can be proved that the parent aims at benefiting the child morally by the punishment and it is allowed that the beating effects this purpose in a better way than any other form of punishment, then the quality of cruelty at once disappears and the beating is to be regarded as a kindness shown to the child. Dr. Kuwaki goes on to show that properly understood the Utilitarianism of Muirhead is entirely free from the liability to abuse complained of. It is recognised by this system of Ethics that the choice of means for the carrying out of good purposes is by no means a matter of indifference, nor does the good quality of the motive atone for the bad quality of the means. There are numbers of instances where actions which, when considered in themselves would be best left unperformed, become quite obligatory when a special motive for performing them exists. In illustration of this Dr. Kuwaki refers to the remark of Mencius in reply to the query of one of his disciples. In China bodily contact between the sexes of any kind was at that time strictly forbidden. A man and a woman might not shake hands even. This being a part of the ethical system of the country, one of the disciples of Mencius asked how he should act were the bride of his elder brother about to be drowned; might he touch her? To which the reply was that of course he might touch her in order to save her; that his good motive justified the resort to what in the absence of such a motive would be considered an improper action. I do not say, proceeds Dr. Kuwaki, nor does Muirhead say, that the end justifies the means, but rather that a moral end gives to the means a moral character; whether it be a virtuous character or a wicked character depends on a variety of considerations. Muirhead's statements on these questions have none of the baldness attributed to them by uninformed newspaper scribblers*. Mr. Nakajima, in defending the course he has followed, observes that since the students who enter the Tetsugakkan are grown up men who have read a number of books on ethics and other subjects, he deemed it quite unnecessary to put them on their guard against misreading any special passage in Muirhead's book. In his general teaching on ethics he had enlarged constantly on the importance of loyalty to the throne and to the State and it was unfair to make examination answers the ground for imputing disloyalty to a lecturer on Ethics. The *Jiji Shimpō* says that a distinction must be drawn between theoretical teaching and practice. There are numerous theories current in the world which if pushed to their logical conclusion would be found very awkward. Darwin's theory that we all come from monkeys might be so explained as to represent all the monarchs of the world as without any title to the homage of their subjects. Had not the authorities better follow the Emperor Chingwang and burn the books in use and bury the scholars alive, for there is danger connected with them all?

To our minds the writing to be found on this subject in the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun* for philosophic calm and persuasive logic is quite ideal. Mr. Nakajima, says this independent journal, holds no dangerous opinions whatever. Of this any one who wishes may convince himself by reading his book on Morality. As to his having a leaning towards democracy (alleged by some), he is one of the extremest of loyalists, as may be seen by referring the chapter on regal authority (*Kunken*) in his book. Here quotations are made by the *Asahi* from Mr. Nakajima's work. If, in the opinion of the Mombushō, Mr. Nakajima was wanting in precaution it would have been quite enough to dismiss him, continues the *Asahi*. But to visit his alleged delinquency on every graduate of the Tetsugakkan was altogether unwarrantable. If this is the principle on which the Department acts, then the summary dismissal of all persons engaged in teaching on account of the bribes received by certain teachers would seem to be quite justifiable.

The *Chūō* asks why the Mombushō franked the translation of Muirhead's Ethics and allowed it to be used in schools, if its teaching is so dangerous as is now pretended.

An important Ethical Society called the 丁酉倫理會, Teiyū Rinrikai, of which Dr. Murakami Sensei, Dr. Motora Yūjirō, Dr. Kuwaki Genyoku, Mr. Ukita Kazutami and other well known scholars are members, at a meeting held a short time ago unanimously passed the following resolution: "We do not consider Muirhead's teaching on motives in any way dangerous from an educational point of view, and in lecturing on Ethics Mr. Nakajima's leaving the passage under discussion as it stands without commenting on it is in our opinion not neglect which calls for any severe censure." Here is the original of the resolution:—*Warera wa Muirhead no dōki setsu wo kyōikujō kiken to mitomesu. Mata rinrigaku wo oshiyuru ni atari, Nakajima ga sono inrei (quoted passage) wo sono mama ni nashi okitaru shōchi wo motte, fukaku togamubeki fuchūi ni arazu to mitomu.*

* * *

In the *Shinjin* (No. 2) Mr. Ebina Danjō writes at some length on the present state of politics in Japan under the title 政界時感 *Seikai-jikan*. We can do no more than transcribe the salient points touched on by Mr. Ebina under the headings of the original essay. (1) *Political Parties.*—A political party is a permanent body of citizens who agree in desiring to see the business of legislation and government carried on in a particular way. For the proper development of political parties it is essential that there should exist a large section of a nation which takes an intelligent interest in political affairs, from whom parliamentary representatives may be chosen. The efficiency of political parties is largely dependent on the willingness of the members of these bodies to subordinate all private interests to those of the party. While any of the above conditions are unfulfilled, no political party can be safely entrusted with power. (2) *Party Cabinets.*—One of the principal objects of a political party is to exercise supreme control over legislation and the administration of government, and it cannot be said that constitutional government is complete until this goal is reached. This truth is by no means realized in Japan to-day, for there exist many politicians who are altogether opposed to the very notion of establishing party cabinets here; and there is a party whose avowed principle it is to do its utmost to prevent this form of government taking root in the country. I refer to the Teikoku-tō; whose very existence under the constitution is an anomaly. That a constitutional form of government implies the establishment sooner or later of party cabinets seems to me to need no demonstration. (3) *Is the immediate establishment of party government to be desired?*—I am not opposed to party cabinets by any means, but the impression I have received from intercourse with the members of various political parties is that the time is not ripe for entrusting the supreme control of the country's affairs to any existing political party. The members of these parties are mostly neither well-educated nor upright. They possess none of the qualities which would warrant their being entrusted with power. Until there appears in this country a party consisting of high-principled, intelligent and well-informed men it is idle to talk about establishing party-government. It would involve too many risks to attempt it just at present. (4) *The conflict between the Supra-party Cabinets and Political Parties.*—In attempting to justify the existence of a number of statesmen who make a point of standing aloof from all parties, some writers have maintained that such politicians may be regarded as forming a separate political party of their own. But this is playing with words. A supra-party number of statesmen are certainly not to be regarded as an organized body at all. They possess none of the essential qualifications of a political party. These statesmen may temporarily act together in a cabinet, but neither that nor the fact that they agree in the necessity of holding aloof from parties is sufficient to entitle them to be regarded as a political party. The existence of this class of politicians undoubtedly blocks the path which constitutional government has to traverse on its way to perfect consummation. It is one of the essential conditions of any form of constitutional government whatever that the Cabinet and the legislative bodies should work together and not repeatedly collide as they have been doing in past years. The existence of supra-party cabinets to-day is in defiance of the Constitution which was promulgated so many years ago. How is it that they are still tolerated by the nation? There are two reasons. One is because the upper classes as a body are opposed to political parties; the other is because all existing parties are corrupt, and hence unfit to be entrusted with power. In Europe and America even the highest classes lend their support to great political parties and so party-government works smoothly.* But here there is a large number of well educated politicians who would think it derogatory on their part to join any one of the existing political bodies. We reach the conclusion, then, that the character of our political parties is the chief cause of the slow progress made in the development of constitutional government. (5) *Recent political developments.*—Marquis Itō, from being a member of a Clan Government advanced to become the Minister-President of a Supra-Party Cabinet. But he was shrewd enough to see that such a Government was only a temporary expedient, and that only by the organization of a powerful political party could nominal representative government be converted into a reality. He set about the work in right earnest. But there gathered around him the riffraff of the political world, and though he succeeded in commanding a majority in the Diet and even went as far as forming a Party Cabinet, the whole movement came to an ignominious end for the time being, owing to the opposition of the House of Peers, which was backed by Marquis Yamagata; and so the pendulum of the Government clock swung back to supra-party conservatism once more. The creation of the Katsura Cabinet was a step backwards. Itō and Okuma are both bent on its overthrow. No patriotic Japanese can regard these internal dissensions with anything but regret. While Western nations are engaged in thinking out great schemes for the extension of empire and commerce and are growing rich by leaps and bounds, we are spending our time and strength in disputes about the form of government we should adopt. There are not wanting shrewd Europeans who predict that before the twentieth century ends it will be clear to all the great nations that parliamentary government is unsuited to the spirit of the age.

* * *

A Dictionary compiled by the renowned Arai Hakuseki, which hitherto has only existed in manuscript form, has now been published by the Kōbunkan, a book-shop that is better known by the name of its founder, Yoshikawa Hanshichi. The work has been edited by Dr. Ōtsuki, the compiler of the *Genkai*. It consists of four clearly printed volumes and a supplement. We have been favoured with a copy by the publisher and are therefore in a position to furnish an account of its character. The occasion for the publication of this valuable work is of considerable interest. Yoshikawa Hanshichi, the founder more than 50 years ago of the well-known prosperous bookshop bearing that name, died last year. According to Buddhist rites, on the hundredth day after the death a religious ceremony called *Hōji* is held, and then it is customary for the nearest relative to present something whereby the spirit of the deceased may be comforted. The

* This is perfectly true. The world would fare better if journalists would only write on subjects which they have studied and cease pretending to possess universal knowledge.—WRITER OF SUMMARY.

* This is hardly true of all western countries. In Germany, for instance, there is continual friction between the Chancellor and the Diet, and from the days of Bismarck's chancellorship onwards the latter has been regarded very much as a thorn in the side of the Emperor.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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present Mr. Yoshikawa, remembering how interested his father had been in the publication of books throughout his whole life, considered that nothing would please him better even in the land of Shades than to see his son faithfully following in his footsteps, and so, simply as a memorial, the dictionary which bears the name of 東雅 *Tōga*, has been prepared and distributed among the relatives, friends and acquaintances of the founder of the Yoshikawa house. The name is purely Chinese, the character for East representing Japan, and the character *ga* being derived from the compound 爾雅 *Jiga*, a term applied in China to a lexicon that explains fully the names of things. The meaning of the title then is "A Minute Explanation of Japanese Names of Things." The words explained are arranged under the main subjects to which they belong. Here are a few of the classifications: Heaven, earth, man, mountains, rivers, festivals, ethics, utensils, fish, birds, beasts, food, etc. Hakuseki observes in the introduction to his work that it is probable that in most cases when originally given names were simply used as a means of identification of objects and had no special significance, but that in later ages various meanings had been attributed to them by ingenious minds. In the case of Japanese there had been a considerable amount of borrowing from other languages. Some of the words had become so much assimilated as not to be recognized immediately as foreign words. *Büidoro* (glass) and *toromen* (woollen woven stuff) were introduced by the Buddhists. *Kantera* was derived from the Dutch *candelaar*, and so on. To the student of Japanese, Hakuseki's *Tōga* should prove to be a book of considerable value owing ■ the great authority attached to the name of the compiler and to his extensive acquaintance with ancient literature. But of course it would be going too far to say that the derivations to be found in the *Tōga* are in all cases reliable. In some instances the researches of other scholars have unearthed abundant material to show that Hakuseki was misled by tradition or by relying on untrustworthy authorities and that now and again he gave the reins to his fancy. We append as specimens of the nature of the whole work his definition of the terms *Kami* (God) and *hito* (man) "*Kami*. Originally the term referred to men. In Japan the term *Kami*, when used in a broad sense, refers to high personages such as Emperors or high officials, as in *Okami**, and also to things that are to be esteemed, as when the hair of the head is called *kami*. It is used also to express holiness in men." The term *hito* is derived according to Hakuseki from "*hi* the word for soul (靈, tamashii) which is also used to express virtue, *zen*, and *to*, which stands for 止, *todomaru* and for *tokoro*, place; so that the whole meaning is the 'dwelling-place of the soul,' and therefore it is that man is spoken of as *Bambutsu no rei*, (the soul of the universe)." On these and other similar definitions of Hakuseki's Japanese modern scholars have much to say, but it is impossible to enter on the discussion here. In connection with Arai Hakuseki we may be pardoned for calling special attention to the carefully prepared translation of his Autobiography, published in Japanese under the title *Hyōchū-oritaku-shiba-no-ki*, by Dr. G. W. Knox, to be found in Vol. XXX., Part II. of the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan—a most valuable and highly instructive literary contribution to the Society's Transactions.

At the close of the *Tōga* will be found a short account of the late Mr. Yoshikawa Hanshichi's life, written by his intimate friend Dr. Ōtsuki. Dr. Ōtsuki's connection with the late Mr. Yoshikawa dated from the beginning of the Meiji era and this is what he tells us about the career of the noted bookseller. He began life as an apprentice-boy in a rice-shop. Objecting to the methods of making money resorted to by rice-merchants, he left the service of his master and entered the employ of a confectioner. Considering that the devouring of sweets was bad for the stomach, he determined to try his hand at another occupation. He apprenticed himself to a second-hand store-keeper, but soon discovering that most of his master's profits came from ignorant customers on whom counterfeit articles were palmed off under the pretence of being genuine, he could not bring himself to lend his assistance to such dishonest practices any longer, and he then determined to try and get employment in a bookshop, as he considered that booksellers traded for the benefit of their fellow-men rather than for personal gain. He stuck to this occupation and in the year 1864 and for several following years, when the communication between Edo and Ōsaka was still in a very imperfect state, he realised a good sum of money by hawking Ōsaka books in Edo and Edo books in Ōsaka, and by this means he was able in 1870 to start a bookshop in Minami-Temmachō—a shop that has remained open ever since. In 1872 he opened a reading room at his own home, where for 1 *sen* per hour eager, poor students were able to consult the best authors. This perhaps was the first reading room established in Japan. He soon won the confidence of the officials employed by the Imperial Household Department as well as of those of other Departments, and the publication of many important books was entrusted to him, and thus his house rose to be considered one of the most trustworthy of big publishing concerns. It is stated that when subsequent commemorative services are held in his honour his son purposes to celebrate the occasions by the issue and distribution of other valuable works now in the course of preparation. The display of such admirable tact by the present Mr. Yoshikawa in utilizing what is too apt to degenerate into a meaningless ceremony for the fulfilment of that nobility of purpose which marked the whole of his father's life—a life devoted to nothing else but the spread of useful knowledge—has formed the subject of laudatory comment throughout the whole Japanese literary world.

* In attempting to define the meaning of this Japanese term it must be borne in mind that the Chinese ideographs by means of which it is expressed, 神 and 上, have no special authority except as expressions of the views of early Japanese lexicographers. This Hakuseki thoroughly recognizes in his definition of the term *Kami*. (WRITER OF SUMMARY).

A MEMORIAL SERVICE IN THE SECOND HIGH SCHOOL.

On the 13th instant a most touching Memorial Service was held at Sendai in the Hall attached to the Second High School, in connection with the deaths of the two unfortunate students drowned at Yuriage on the 2nd instant. The Japanese *Tsuito-kai*, which literally means "a Mourning Meeting," always strikes us as one of the most interesting and impressive functions which amid the decay of so many old customs still retain their hold on the mind of the nation. We have nothing in the West that precisely corresponds to it. It is not our custom to take leave of our beloved dead in any such way. While professing to believe that the departed still exist and that in another world they will see them again, most Christians could not bring themselves to deliver solemn public addresses to the dead in the way the Japanese habitually do. Even prayers for the dead are objected to by all non-ritualistic Protestants. With the Japanese the funeral service, even if attendance at it be possible, does not take the place of the *Tsuito-kai*, which has a special character of its own as a means of affording such solace as is obtainable to sorrowing friends and relatives. The ceremony performs many functions. It gives an opportunity to survivors to show their regard for the deceased, and to express the sorrow caused by his removal from their midst. And it is used as an occasion for reminding survivors that there is nothing more uncertain than the length of human life. The modern method of conducting these ceremonies is to place a photograph of the deceased on a platform table, which is often surrounded by evergreens. In the case of the service at the Sendai High School on the 13th inst., *mochi* and other articles of food were placed in front of the photographs. Some eight or nine addresses to the deceased students were read. The Director led off as representative of the school. He was followed by the head of the Boating Club, Mr. Tamamushi. Next came the addresses of various students. That of Mr. Tsukahara, a very able German student, was of great length. It was a carefully reasoned out discourse—a discussion on the inequalities of human lot, on fate and necessity and the helplessness of man in the midst of nature's superior forces. Each address was read in a subduced tone of voice, the reader having his back to the audience and evidently not aiming at being heard by most of those present. The language of the eight or nine addresses read struck us as always dignified and impressive and sometimes as extremely eloquent. We should very much like to see a collection made of well written addresses to the dead. They would, if translated with care and accuracy, perhaps teach us more than we now know as to the feelings and ideas of the majority of Japanese in reference to their lost ones. One peculiarity of the documents, which after being read are solemnly laid on the temporary altar in front of the pictures of the deceased, is this, they contain information which seems out of place in an address to the dead. The spirit is informed in what year and on what day of the month the tabernacle in which it has dwelt graduated and other incidents connected with the life of the deceased. So that we are forced to the conclusion that while in form the address is made to the dead, the object of its delivery is to give information to the living. There are not a few Christians who, in addressing the Almighty, give items of news, or state certain facts which are altogether out of place in a prayer. We once heard a Japanese Christian state the day of the month in a prayer addressed to God. If these things are common among us we can hardly be surprised to find that the Japanese address to the dead partakes very much of the character of the funeral sermon to the survivors. With no other information to guide us we might be inclined to infer that the addresses to the dead imply that the Japanese believe in the actual conscious future existence of the souls of their departed friends, but this notion is contradicted flatly by every one who knows what the Japanese really think.

It seems that the first accounts of the boating disaster that involved the loss of two valuable lives were incorrect. One of the survivors at the close of the Memorial service gave a connected narrative of the whole affair. The boat had turned around and was on its way back to the shore when an incoming wave entered it from the stern and swamped it. One of the deceased students, Iga, was seen a moment after to be floating by the aid of an oar. Out of the eight men four kept close to the boat, thinking this to be their best chance. Iga seems to have had no strength either to reach the boat or to strike out for shore. The water had been rendered icy cold by the melting of the snow in the distant mountains, and it is supposed that Iga lost the use of his limbs. Ayugase with two other men struck out for the shore, a most perilous course to take, as it afterwards proved. Ayugase accompanied his friends for a few hundred yards and then was seen no more. The other two managed to reach the beach, but they had been under water so many times and had been so repeatedly dashed down while standing on the beach that they both became unconscious when within the reach of a few boys who happened to be playing on the beach. The four students who clung to the boat were rescued by some fishermen and brought to land without being much the worse for their wetting. The bodies of the two students, though diligently searched for day after day, have not been found. The father of Mr. Ayugase, a man of considerable property residing in Utsunomiya, was present at the sad ceremony and was much touched by the feeling displayed by the whole school. It seems that the *Niroku Shimbun* was responsible for the first alarming report that 28 students belonging to the Second High School had been drowned, which was the cause of much telegraphing on the part of anxious friends. It is most probable that the telegram read thus, 二ハ and instead of being read as *ni wa* was read *nijū-hachi*.

News has since reached us to the effect that Mr. Ayugase's corpse was picked up by some fishermen on the 17th inst near Shiobuta, about 12 miles distant from the scene of the boating disaster. It is reported that Mr. Iga's corpse had been seen, but not recovered.

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DEATH OF MARQUIS DE NEMBRINI GONZAGA.

We announce with regret the death of Marquis C. de Nembrini Gonzaga, which took place at his Kamakura villa very early on Thursday morning. The Marquis had not recently been in good health and within the past few weeks serious changes in his condition have been apparent to his friends. Apoplexy would appear to have been the cause of his demise.

The deceased gentleman was a native of Dalmatia in Austria, having been born at Zara, but his father was born in Ancona. The Marquis studied engineering at Munich and later at Berne, and, entering the Austrian naval service, came out to Japan many years ago. In 1878 he settled in Tokyo, but a few years later he moved to Shanghai, returning in the early eighties to Japan, which he never quitted afterwards. He obtained ample employment in Tokyo as a translator and interpreter, being proficient in at least five languages, and finally some years ago he was appointed to act in these capacities at the Kanagawa Kencho, where, indeed, his services were really those of a foreign adviser. The Marquis was always present at official events, and record should be made of his courtesy in supplying members of the press with information which would not otherwise be easily obtainable. The deceased gentleman was the holder of many decorations, as well from the Emperor as Japan as from other sovereigns. He was born in Feb. 1850, and was therefore 53 years of age at the time of his death.

AN ABSCONDING COMPRADORE.

A Chinaman named Kwan How Chong, compradore of Mr. J. Johnstone, No. 7, Yokohama, is reported to have absconded with about *yen* 3,000 belonging to his employer. It is said that the Chinaman borrowed money from Chinese residents and Japanese merchants, which he spent on Japanese loose women. Mr. Johnstone has informed the Yokohama District Court of the conduct of his employee.

The above information is derived from Japanese sources. From enquiries which we have made, however, we gather that the sum involved is not *yen* 3,000, but *yen* 1,200. This consisted of rents, insurance premiums and other collections which Mr. Kwan "gathered in" on Good Friday, and in consequence of the holidays he had practically till Tuesday to clear away, for though Saturday was an office day he had been given leave of absence to go to the baths. The absconder was one of the best known Chinamen in Yokohama. Educated in San Francisco, he could speak and write English fluently; had often acted as interpreter in the British and American Courts and was official interpreter for the U.S. Consulate-General when the United States assumed the protection of Chinese during the war with China. He had been ten years in Mr. Johnstone's employment.

YOKOHAMA CRICKET AND ATHLETIC CLUB.

We understand the Officers of the Club for the ensuing year are:

President	Dr. E. Wheeler
Vice President	D. H. Blake
Captain of Cricket	F. E. White
Secretary	W. S. Moss
Treasurer	F. O. Stuart
Ground	W. Y. Showler
Athletics	S. Wheeler
Football	H. W. Kilby
Tennis	J. H. Bathgate

Athletic Sports.

We learn that it has been definitely decided to hold the Athletic Meeting this year on the afternoon of Saturday, the 30th May.

We are requested to state that members wishing to make use of the ground for training purposes may at once make use of the outside (earth) track. The grass will be available for the same purpose on a date to be announced later, but not later than the first of May.

LAW CASES.

JOVANSEN v. CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED.

The hearing of this case, adjourned on March 24th, was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on April 17th.

Mr. H. J. Neville was present as a witness, having been called by Counsel for defendants.

Plaintiff objected to Mr. Neville being called, he being a Director of the Club Hotel, Ltd., and therefore a late employer of defendant.

The Court agreed to examine Mr Neville for guidance in deciding the facts in dispute.

The case was again adjourned till April 22nd at 1 p.m.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

The hearing of this case, instituted by Mr. Hioki, Liquidator of the bankrupt estate of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., against Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co., was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on April 17th.

Counsel discussed the points upon which it was thought desirable to examine Mr. Thos. S. Baker, Sub-Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the court agreed to examine him on May 6th. The Court then rose.

CUSTOMS DECISION.

The Yokohama Customs gave a decision on April 15th upon a protest filed by Mr. R. Schuffner, No. 25, Yokohama. He imported certain cloth of cotton and woollen mixture, and duly presented the certificate of origin. The authorities imposed duty according to No. 324 of the Tariff. The importer protested on the ground that the cloth was a kind of lustre by nature and insisted that duty should be imposed according to No. 334 of the same Tariff. Having examined the cloth, the Customs found that it is an alpaca coming under No. 324-c. The protest was dismissed.

YAMADA v. SIMON EVERS & CO.

The hearing of the case instituted by K. Yamada, sugar dealer, against Messrs. Simon Evers and Co. which was adjourned on Feb. 20th came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 18th when H. Kamiya was examined as witness. He deponed that he was in the employ of the plaintiff from the beginning of 1895 to the end of last year, when he left there to start business. During his employment in the shop of the plaintiff two sugar dealers named Komiya and Watanabe were carrying on business with plaintiff, who was connected with Messrs. Simon, Evers and Co. and other foreign firms in the importation of German granulated sugar and other kinds of sugar. In October, 1901, plaintiff promised to sell Komiya 1,000 bags of granulated sugar, and Watanabe 2,000 bags. Witness did not remember exactly the price, but thought it to have been about *yen* 10.80 per 100 *kin*. The weight of one bag was one cwt. which is convertible into Japanese weight at 84 *kin*. The promise to sell was written in two letters which were, he remembered, given at the same time to the two customers, but sometimes such promises were not made by letter. The sugar involved in the present promise had been ordered from Messrs. Simon Evers & Co. who were to import it from Germany; its quality was to be first class refined granulated sugar and the bags were to be marked "Crown" and "S.A.C." The number of bags was 3,000 in all and these were to be imported during three months, March, April and May, 1902. Witness attended to make the contract for the importation of 3,000 bags of sugar in the office of Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co.

Showing the original of the contract, counsel for the defendants stated that at the foot of the contract there was a clause "for staining caused by contents the importers are not responsible but only for damage by sea water." Apparently the alleged damage to the sugar was caused by the contents. Also he showed two letters addressed to defendants by plaintiff, asking them to lower the price to a certain rate on the pretext that the goods were damaged by sea water, on which damage the customer would refuse to take delivery. In fact last year the sugar business was very dull after the consumption tax was enforced, and it seemed that the plaintiff was unable to take delivery of the 3,000 bags of sugar at the due times. Plaintiff then asked reduction of the price and afterward complained of the damage, insisting that it was done by sea water.

Counsel for plaintiff held that the clause in the contract was added afterwards without the consent of the plaintiff. It was easily seen by the quality of the ink and the writing that the addition was made by a person whose writing was far different from that of the original writer. The two letters shown by defendants could not to be recognized as evidence because they were not written and signed by the plaintiff himself.

Cross-examined, the witness stated that the clause regarding the sea water damage, it seemed, was added afterwards. He did not know when or by whom it was inserted, though he attended to make the contract under the instructions of his employer. The letters asking a reduction of the price of the sugar were written and signed by him on behalf of his employer, but he was not specially authorized to do so.

Defendants' counsel then pointed out that there was a conflict in the statements given in cross-examination. On one hand, the witness recognized that the letters asking a reduction of the price in consequence of sea water damage to the sugar were written by himself. On the other he made a statement that the clause regarding damage caused by sea water in the contract was added without notice to the plaintiff. If he was really asking to have the price reduced in consequence of sea water damage he would have understood that such damage is sometimes caused on long voyages. Then he must recognize the clause of the contract in dispute on the ground that the insertion was properly made between the parties.

The witness stated to the Court that about half of the lot of sugar was damaged.

The case was again adjourned till April 30th.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. YAMADA.

The hearing of this case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on April 20th.

K. Matsuda, chief clerk of the Bonded Warehouses, Midori-cho, was examined again. He deponed that the 3,000 bags of Sugar in dispute were brought by the steamer *Saxonia* in April and the steamers *Austria* and *Servia* in May last year. Some of them were sent direct to the Bonded Warehouses from the steamers, and the others were stored in the sheds in the Customs compound and then removed to the warehouses.

Counsel for the defendant applied to the Court to examine the tidewaiter of the Customs who was on duty at the Warehouses, Midori-cho, when Mr. J. Dodds took out a quantity of sugar as samples. The court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till April 22nd.

INFRINGEMENT OF THE AERATED WATER MANUFACTURE REGULATIONS.

In the Yokohama Local Court Mr. H. Koch, No. 164, was examined before Judge Hasegawa and Public Procurator Kumagai on April 21st, on a charge of having infringed the regulations for aerated waters manufacture. The Public Procurator stated that Mr. H. Koch on March 18th this year sold a number of bottles of champagne cider without the necessary label on each bottle across the cork stopper, bearing the date of manufacture.

The evidence showed that Mr. Koch was guilty of the offence stated by the Public Procurator against him and it was also found that he had already been convicted on the same charge and fined *yen* 2 on June 9th, 1902.

Sentence was then passed of a fine of *yen* 2.50 under Arts 6 and 13 of the Regulations and Art. 92 of the Penal Code.

(Art. 92 of the Penal Code says—"When an individual already condemned to a criminal or a correctional penalty, commits a delict, the correctional punishment is augmented one degree.)

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F. W. HORNE v. W. S. STONE.

This case which was adjourned on March 18th came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 21st, when Counsel for the plaintiff, having presented evidence to the Court concluded his argument that graphophones and batteries were always made in separate factories and that the order of the defendant for the graphophones was not accompanied by any order for batteries. Counsel for the defendant also presented evidence, including the order book, and held that the graphophones, the batteries and other accessories were ordered at the same time from plaintiff but that plaintiff failed to import the batteries.

Discussion between Counsel ensued, and the Court adjourned, to give judgement on April 27th at 1 p.m.

MR. IRWINE'S CASE.

In the Public Procurators' office of the Yokohama District Court, Mr. H. Y. Irwine, No. 72, Bluff, was examined on April 21st on a charge of having assaulted a postman on April 17th. It is not yet ascertained whether the Public Procurator will send the case to the Court for preliminary trial.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. YAMADA.

This case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 22nd when Counsel for defendant lodged in the Court the name of the tide-waiter for whom he applied at the previous hearing, to examine as a witness. The witness is named Mori Masaki. The case was then adjourned.

JOVANSEN v. CLUB HOTEL.

The hearing of this case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on April 22nd, when a Japanese grocer named K. Kurata was examined. He deponed that he was patronized by Club Hotel for 20 years, selling fresh fish, vegetables and preserved provisions. Mr. Jovansen asked him for an illegal commission on the provision business. The rate of the requested commission was 20 per cent., but witness declined on the ground that his profit was not so great as to allow such high rebate to Mr. Jovansen. The witness added that Mr. Jovansen also asked Meidi-ya, provision dealers, Honcho-dori, and Mr. Durand, stable-keeper No. 83, for commission, but he did not know whether they paid him a commission.

Counsel for plaintiff having summed up the statements of the witnesses, entered upon a very lengthy discussion, which took about 2 hours. Counsel for defendant them summed up for his clients and the case was adjourned till April 30th when judgement will be given.

The Court rose at 7 p.m.

S. TSUJI'S CASE.

In the Yokohama Local Court before Judge Hasegawa, Mr. S. Tsuji, Captain of the steamer *Hakuai Maru*, was sentenced to a fine of *yen* 3 on April 22nd on a charge of having infringed the Harbour Regulations on April 8th.

CARL ROHDE & CO. v. KUKITA.

This case, instituted by Messrs. Carl Rohde & Co. against K. Kurita, woollen cloth dealer, for which judgement was given on March 30th in favour of the plaintiffs, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano, on April 23rd on the motion of the defendants.

Defendant protested, insisting that his predecessor Shotaro Kurita made a contract on Feb. 16th, 1900, to purchase 64 pieces of woollen cloth at the price of 62 pence per yard from plaintiff, and his predecessor took delivery of 12 pieces in September and died in the same month, 1900, and that this responsibility on the contract could not be established.

Counsel for the parties repeated the explanations given to the Court in previous hearings after which defendant applied to the Court to examine T. Sasaki, Manager of the Shoyei Ginko, Tokyo, as a witness. The Court agreed.

The case was then adjourned till May 7th.

THE ALLEGED ASSAULT ON A POSTMAN.

A postman named Okumura complained on April 17th to the Bluff Police that Mr. H. Y. Irwine, No. 72 Bluff, had refused to receive letters at the front entrance of his house, ordering him to go to the side entrance. On the postman objecting to this the foreigner pushed him and assaulted him causing injuries which will keep him from duty for a week. Mr. Irwine's statement as given to the police is reported to be that the postman rang the front door bell and on its being answered by a lady she found him soiling the floor with his dirty feet. She then asked him to deliver the letters at the side entrance, but he insisted on her receiving the letters, saying that he was discharging his duty to the Japanese Government and that he should deliver his letters at any entrance that suited him. Mr. Irwine at that moment appeared and repeated the request already made to the man, but the latter took hold of Mr. Irwine's coat and urged him to accept the letters. A struggle ensued in the course of which, so it is stated by the police, Mr. Irwine kicked the postman.

The following account of the alleged assault upon a postman, reported in our last issue, has been obtained by us from Mr. Irwine :—

At 1.15 p.m. on Thursday, a postman went to the residence of Mr. H. Y. Irwine, No. 72-B, Bluff, and rang the bell furiously. The servant answered the bell, and upon seeing it was a postman asked him to kindly take the letters round to the back as usual. Whereupon the postman refused to do so, and said he would deliver the letters where he pleased. The servant explained that it would not take any longer to go direct to the back by the back gate, than come to the front and ring the bell and then wait for some one to come and take them from him. Still he protested and came inside, covering the carpet with mud, as it was raining, and shouted "Dekinai, dekinai." Mr. Irwine, hearing a commotion going on, went to see what it was all about, and again requested him to go to the back, as letters delivered previously in the front had been lost, owing to the postman throwing them down anywhere, if it so happened that the servant did not hear the bell and kept him waiting. He still obstinately refused to comply, and then Mr. Irwine motioned with his hand that he was to leave the house. The postman then caught him by the arm and demanded that he should accompany him to the police station, whereupon he was pushed out of the door. Still he came back, and gripping Mr. Irwine by the waistcoat endeavoured to pull him out. He was then slapped on the face and sent sprawling into the road. A policeman came up at the time and took him in charge. The inspector of the Bluff Station was surprised to see the man appear the following day with a doctor's certificate stating that he should lay up for a week, as when he was brought to the police station all he appeared to have received in the way of injury was a scratch on the hand and a slight bruise on the face.

The medical inspector from the Central Bluff Police Station was then ordered to examine the postman and declared he was not hurt at all, but was merely trying the old trick for compensation

LATEST NEWS OF THE "FANNIE KERR."

The Shell Line steamer *Volute*, which arrived at Kobe on Monday, passed the derelict *Fannie Kerr* (registered No. 2,286) of Liverpool on April 8th in Lat. 22.31 N. and Long. 121.30 E., being then S. by W. true, 15 miles off Double Peak, Formosa. The ship was still on fire. The chief officer of the *Volute* boarded the vessel and brought away a few mementoes of his visit. These consist of a bell, which is still in good order, notwithstanding that the ship has been knocking about at the mercy of the elements for the past nine or ten months (she was reported a total loss in June last), the remains of a chronometer (in a solid molten mass), a cruet, (in a like state), a metal plate and a spoon. The chief officer reports that the decks have all fallen in, that five of the beams have gone, but portions of the saloon are still intact. He descended by the companion way, stepping into ashes up to his hips. The ashes were still hot. He thinks there are about 800 tons of coal still intact on board.

The Japanese sloop of war *Yamato* is reported to have made two attempts to find the *Fannie Kerr*, being successful at the second try. The derelict, still burning, was discovered only two *ri* from the east coast of Formosa. The *Yamato* does not appear to have taken any steps to destroy the wreck but returned to Takao to report.

ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

Whatever may have been the reason which induced the English crusaders to place upon their surcoats the crimson cross of St. George, and thus led to his definite adoption as the Patron Saint of the race; or whatever may be the rationale of the evidence which made Dr. Pettingal to doubt that any such personage ever existed; or the credibility of the facts which caused Gibbon to believe that St. George was Bishop of Cappadocia and a man of most cruel and mercenary habits (habits which led him to a well-deserved death, says the coldly analytical historian)—there can be no gainsaying that he is definitely enshrined in the hearts of the English nowadays as assuredly as St. Andrew is in the hearts of Scotsmen, St, Patrick in the hearts of Irishmen, and St. David in the hearts of Welshmen. The men

Who filled the spacious time of Great Elizabeth
With bursts of song,

Which even now re-echoes through the land; did more even than the Crusaders to spiritualise St. George, his dragon, and his cross, and it is to them that we must look for an answer to the riddle which his emblems present to men of the present day. Properly emblazoned, St. George sits on a white horse and busily engages in a fight with a dragon. To the Elizabethans the White Horse represented Death, and St. George, seated on Death, therefore, from their point of view, trampled the heathen under foot. This imagery would also suit the temper of the men who fought in the Crusades. But folks of the twentieth century prefer to take a higher and broader, nay more spiritual, ground than that in reading the blazon of St. George. Therefore to them the emblems of England's patron saint connote manliness and courage and daring; while, as in the olden time, they still include the vanquishing of evil and the overthrow of tyranny.

For some years now the Englishmen of Yokohama, gathering under the Crimson and White Banner of St. George, have given a ball at the Public Hall to celebrate the anniversary of the Saint, and this year again they extended a widespread hospitality in similar fashion. The function proved highly successful, being very largely attended and passing off with all the *eclât* imaginable. The number of charming gowns worn was very noticeable, and the many English and American naval uniforms present added to the gaiety of the scene. The Hall of course was tastefully decorated, roses, the typical flower of England, being used as the dominant note of the scheme. These were hung in garlands and festoons from the ceiling, around the pillars of the gallery, and elsewhere. Over the stage hung the motto of the Society, "St. George and Merrie England," and under the gallery the Society's silken banner bearing the emblazoned Arms of England. Portraits of early English Kings also adorned the walls, while shields of St. George were placed on every available panel. Besides these were two medallions of Britannia, and St. George and the Dragon, the work of the late Prof. Chiosonne; large portraits and paintings of King Edward VII., Queen Alexandra, and the late Queen Victoria; while two brass mortars flanked the stage. We should mention that the floral and other decorations were the handiwork of Mrs. E. H. R. Manley, and the taste displayed in the arrangement reflects great credit upon her.

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Two bands were in attendance, being placed behind a highly ornate floral screen in the gallery. They were the band of H.M.S. *Blenheim*, and the Yokohama Town Band. As the guests assembled the *Blenheim's* band discoursed a selection of national airs and then the following programme of dances was discussed:—

1.—Waltz.....
2.—Waltz.....
3.—Lancers.....
4.—Waltz.....
5.—Two Step.....
6.—Waltz.....
7.—In the Barn.....
8.—Waltz.....
Supper Extras. 1.....
2.....
3.....
9.—Waltz.....
10.—Two Step.....
11.—In the Barn.....
12.—Lancers.....
13.—Waltz.....
14.—Two Step.....
15.—Waltz.....
16.—Sir Roger de Coverley.....

At the conclusion of the eighth dance, trumpeters from H.M.S. *Blenheim* blew a fan-fare, after which the music of "The Roast Beef of Olde England," by the band of the same ship, announced Supper, whereupon a stately procession, headed by Mr. James Walter, the President, with Mrs. Barclay; Mr. Barclay, First Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation and Mrs. James Walter; Mr. A. G. Morey Weale, Vice-President, with Mrs. H. A. C. Bonar; Mr. Bonar and Mrs. E. C. Bellows; Mr. L. J. Healing and Mrs. Hobart Hampden; Mr. Hobart Hampden and Mrs. David Jackson; Mr. R. D. Robison and Mrs. J. C. Hartland, etc., led off to the Supper-room, which had been arranged, and most charmingly set out, in the small hall. The *Menu* was as follows:—

Turkey.
York Ham.
Cold Chicken.
Cold Capon.
YE ROAST BEEF OF OLD ENGLAND.
Galantine of Tongue.
Cold Roast Sucking Pig.
Cold Roast Mutton.
Cold Corned Kobe Beef.
Salads.

Charlotte Russe.
Champagne Jelly.
Wine Jelly.
Prune Jelly.
Cream Cakes.
Chocolate Cakes.
Strawberry Ice Cream.
Finger Biscuits.
Coffee. Tea.
Beef Tea.

Dancing was afterwards renewed and kept up till the small hours of the morning.

The Committee in charge of arrangements were, Mr. James Walter, President; Mr. A. G. Morey Weale, Vice-President; Mr. H. W. Kilby, Hon. Treasurer; Messrs H. M. Arnould, F. J. Hall, L. J. Healing, P. de C. Morriss, C. Thwaites, and A. Bellamy Brown, Hon. Secretary. They were assisted by the following Stewards:—Messrs. V. R. Bowden, F. R. Daniel, E. Eddison, F. L. Elliott, John W. Hall, F. S. James, J. Williamson Jones, D. Marshall, W. H. Percival, and R. D. Robison.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Two robbers entered the dwelling of a Tokyo fish-dealer on April 16th. Having threatened the family with swords they cleared away with *yen* 3.60.

Measles prevail severely in Oita Prefecture. Apparently 136 cases appeared all at once on April 16th in the Kochi elementary school, which was at once closed.

In the Kobe tea market, samples of tea arrived on April 20th—105 kin from Kochi prefecture and 200 *kin* from Shidzuoka. The quality generally proves to be better than that of last year.

Tobacconists in Japan will hold a meeting in Tokyo on May 5th and 6th to discuss the question of the Government's tobacco monopoly. It is stated that they will present a petition to abandon the present system.

Constructive work on the Canton-Hankow railway is to be carried on from both ends of the line.

The Hongkong and Whampoa Deck Co., Ld., has secured the contract for repairing the M. M. S. *Tonkin*.

H.I.H. Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria will leave Nagasaki for Kobe by the steamer *Siberia* on April 24th.

A telegram dated April 22nd from Ashikaga reported that the market for various woven goods is generally dull.

The French authorities are reported to have offered £28,000 for the dredger *Canton River* which was sunk and afterwards raised in Hongkong harbour.

The Hiroshima City Assembly decided, on April 22nd, to establish a Chinese and Korean Language school in that city and to spend *yen* 1,568 annually for its maintenance.

A trumpeter named D. Matsuda (24), of the Takasaki Regiment, was arrested in Tokyo on April 22nd on a charge of having stolen certain money from the safe in the barracks.

A telegram from Lyons was received in Yokohama on April 22nd stating that much damage has been inflicted on sericulture in France but the injury in Italy is comparatively slighter.

T. Murata, the acting-chief of the Board of Forests, at Maebashi, Gumma Prefecture was arrested on April 22nd on suspicion of having received bribes from the timber dealers to whom the products of the forests were sold.

A coolie named S. Arai, who attempted to murder another coolie named T. Matsuhara, by seriously stabbing him with a knife, on the Yoshihama bridge, Yokohama, on April 18th, gave himself up to the Kagacho police station on the night of the 22nd.

Major Denny, lately Deputy Assistant Adjutant-General at Hongkong, and Mrs. Denny, are at present travelling in Japan. Major Denny leaves Yokohama by the *Empress of India* on May 1st for Canada, to take up his new appointment of Chief Intelligence Staff Officer to the Canadian Forces at Ottawa.

Shanghai papers report that a fatal accident occurred on board the U.S. monitor *Monadnock* on April 13th, during target practice with a 3 lb. calibre gun. One of the crew, who was in a boat just below the gun, stood up as the gun was being fired and the ball penetrated his skull, death occurring six hours later.

A man named K. Ishikawa, in the employment of Mr. E. H. R. Manley, No. 1, Bluff, Yokohama, committed suicide on Saturday in his room on the compound by hanging himself with a cord. The cause is reported to have been temporary insanity.

Three men armed with swords entered the Ebisuya restaurant, Chiyoda village, Chiba prefecture, on the night of April 17th and stole a sum of money. They also carried two of the women servants of the restaurant to a neighbouring mountain and outraged them.

The Czar recently conferred decorations on police officials in Kanagawa Prefecture: 3rd class of St. Anne on Messrs. Hamada, Superintendent of the central police station, and Ikariyama, nspector of the settlement station; 3rd class of St. Stanislaus on Mr. Yuasa, inspector of the harbour station, and silver medals on constables.

An Australian cable says that much excitement has been caused by the announcement of the discovery of gold in Arltunga, a desolate district in the northern part of South Australia, 1,060 miles from Adelaide. Syndicates are being formed and prospectors are flocking to the territory. The South Australian Government has sent an official geologist to make a report. Experts think the discovery important.

It is stated that two mail bags containing letters were missed on April 18th while in course of transport with other bags from the Morioka post office to the Miyako post office. In one of the missing bags, there was cash amounting to *yen* 1,200, so it is supposed they were stolen by some one who knew of the money.

The Department of Finance gives statistics as to the money savings in post offices throughout the Empire as follows:

	Amount deposited. Yen.		Depositors. Yen.
1875.....	15,000	.....	1,800
1878.....	286,000	.....	14,100
1881.....	821,000	.....	38,900
1884.....	5,260,000	.....	141,200
1887.....	18,213,000	.....	568,800
1890.....	19,970,000	.....	813,700
1893.....	26,155,000	.....	1,060,200
1896.....	28,251,000	.....	1,273,300
1899.....	23,455,000	.....	1,397,600
1902.....	28,536,000	.....	2,707,500

With reference to the presidency of the K. R. & A. C., which, it will be remembered, Mr. Campbell consented to fill until the return of Mr. Lightfoot, the latter gentleman on arriving from Europe withdrew his name in favour of Mr. Campbell. Owing to the exigencies of business, however, says the *Kobe Herald*, Mr. Campbell declared himself unable to continue in office and a committee meeting was called at which it was agreed to ask Mr. Lightfoot to reconsider his action and to occupy the position for the year. The difficulty is now at an end, as we understand Mr. Lightfoot has consented to act as president of the K. R. & A. C.

The Kobe Athletic Sports were brought off on Saturday afternoon in beautiful weather. There were no fewer than seventeen events and the meeting passed off quite successfully. Afterwards at the Gymnasium, Mr. Lightfoot before the prize-giving commented upon the unfortunate weather that had been experienced during the past week, which had made training almost impossible, and congratulated Mr. Gordon Stephen, son of a very old member of the club, on winning the Swan Challenge Cup. Mrs. Lightfoot presented the prizes. Kobe thus brings off her sports before the Yokohama ground is opened for training.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The principal feature at last night's meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society was a paper, read by Mr. W. Karl Vincent on behalf of the President, upon the Headhunters of Formosa, compiled principally from Mr. Davidson's *magnus opus*, "The Island of Formosa." Following the lecture came some 46 lantern slides, most of which were made from photographs taken by Mr. Jas. W. Davidson, U.S. Consul in Formosa. These proved very attractive. After showing the extent of territory occupied by the aborigines—half the island, in fact—the pictures displayed the quality of the scenery amid which they live, first among the foothills, and later in the high mountainous regions of the east coast. Following these came pictures of the various groups of tribes and their manner of living, houses, implements, and rattan bridges. Next were shown the queer places in which the aborigines store their collections of heads, with the different arrangements which some tribes make of the skulls; while the last ten slides showed a Japanese expeditionary force making its way to a head-hunting village to punish a raid.

The second part of the programme was as follows:—

Piano Solo....."Sérenade".....Chaminade.
Miss A. Watt.
Recitation....."The Gift of Tritemius".....Whittier.
Miss Rosie Cameron.
Songs..."A Song of Sleep"...Lord Henry Somerset.
"Ye banks and braes."
Mr. Kenneth Dodds.
'Cello Solo....."Romanza".....Hummel
Mr. A. W. Cruso.

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ROOSEVELT ON THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

SPEECH AT CHICAGO.

President Roosevelt left Washington on April 1st for a trip westward. The newspapers note that the only foreign representative who went to the station to see him off was Baron Speck von Sternberg, the German Minister. They also record that in the course of a conversation between President and diplomat the former asked the latter whether he would be in Washington when he (the President) returned, and upon receiving an affirmative reply, said:

"That is good; we will have some long rides together."

The Baron told the President that his horses were in India and would not be here for some time. Instantly the President turned and gave orders that during his absence his riding horse and that of Mrs. Roosevelt should be placed at the disposal of Baron and Baroness von Sternberg.

"I should be very much pleased," said he to the Baron, "if you and the Baroness would ride them while I am away."

As the train drew out the President called "Good-by, Baron; I appreciate your coming very much.

The trip of Mr. Roosevelt is planned to extend over nine weeks and three days and the party will travel a little more than 14,000 miles. We read also in our exchanges that the President rode over the Allegheny Mountains in the cab of one of the engines drawing his train. His first important speech was made at Chicago and was on the Monroe Doctrine. We should like to reproduce it in full, but space forbids, and we content ourselves with the following summary:—

In the course of the address, he said:—

Ever since the time when we definitely extended our boundaries westward to the Pacific and southward to the gulf, since the time when the old Spanish and Portuguese colonies to the south of us asserted their independence, our nation has insisted that because of its primacy in strength among the nations of the western hemisphere it has certain duties and responsibilities which oblige it to take a leading part thereon.

We hold that our interests in this hemisphere are greater than those of any European power possibly can be, and that our duty to ourselves and to the weaker republics who are our neighbors requires us to see that none of the great military powers from across the seas shall encroach upon the territory of the American republics or acquire control thereover. This policy, therefore, not only forbids us to acquiesce in such territorial acquisition, but also causes us to object to the acquirement of a control which would in its effect be equal to territorial aggrandizement. This is why the United States has steadily believed that the construction of the great isthmian canal, the building of which is to stand as the greatest material feat of the twentieth century—greater than any similar feat in any preceding century—should be done by no foreign nation but by ourselves.

The canal must of necessity go through the territory of one of our smaller sister republics. We have been scrupulously careful to abstain from perpetrating any wrong upon any of these republics in this matter. We do not wish to interfere with their rights in the least, but, while carefully safeguarding them, to build the canal ourselves under provisions which will enable us, if necessary, to police and protect it, and to guarantee its neutrality, we being the sole guarantor. Our intention was steadfast; we desired action taken so that the canal could always be used by us in time of peace and war alike, and in time of war could never be used to our detriment by any nation which was hostile to us. Such action, by the circumstances surrounding it, was necessarily for the benefit and not the detriment of the adjacent American republics.

After considerably more than half of a century these objects have been exactly fulfilled by the legislation and treaties of the last two years.

Concerning the Venezuelan affair, the President said:—

The concern of our Government was, of course, not to interfere needlessly in any quarrel so far as it did not touch our interests or our honour, and not to take the attitude of protecting from coercion any power unless we were willing to espouse the quarrel of that power, but to keep an attitude of watchful vigilance and see that there was no infringement of the Monroe doctrine—no acquirement of territorial rights by a European power at the expense of a weak sister republic—whether this acquisition might take the shape of an outright and avowed seizure of territory or of the exercise of control which would in effect be equivalent to such seizure.

Both powers assured us in explicit terms that there was not the slightest intention on their part to violate the principles of the Monroe doctrine, and this assurance was kept with an honorable good faith which merits full acknowledgment on our part. At the same time the existence of hostilities in a region so near our own borders was fraught with such possibilities of danger in the future that it was obviously no less our duty to ourselves than our duty to humanity to endeavour to put an end to that. Accordingly, by an offer of our good services in a spirit of frank friendliness to all the parties concerned, a spirit in which they quickly and cordially responded, we secured a resumption of peace—the contending parties agreeing that the matters which they could not settle among themselves should be referred to The Hague tribunal for settlement. The United States had most fortunately already been able to set an example to other nations by utilizing the great possibilities for good contained in The Hague tribunal, a question at issue between ourselves and the republic of Mexico being the first submitted to this international court of arbitration.

The Monroe doctrine is not international law, and though I think one day it may become such, this is not necessary as long as it remains a cardinal feature of our foreign policy and as long as we possess both the will and the strength to make it effective. This last point, my fellow-citizens, is all important, and is one which as a people we can never afford to forget. I believe in the Monroe doctrine with all my heart and soul: I am convinced that the immense majority of my fellow-countrymen so believe in it; but I would infinitely prefer to see us abandon it than to see us put it forward and bluster about it and yet fail to build up the efficient fighting strength which in the last resort can alone make it respected by any strong foreign power whose interest it may ever happen to be to violate it.

Boasting and blustering are as objectionable among nations as among individuals, and the public men of a great nation owe it to their sense of national self respect to speak courteously of foreign powers, just as a brave and self-respecting man treats all around him courteously. But though to boast is bad, and causelessly to insult another worse, yet worse than all is it to be guilty of boasting, even without insult, and when called to the proof to be unable to make such boasting good. There is a homely old adage which runs: "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far." If the American nation will speak softly and yet build and keep at a pitch of the highest training a thoroughly efficient navy the Monroe doctrine will go far. I ask you to think over this.

President Roosevelt who, as we have already reported, is on a long tour through the western States, and whose speech at Chicago on the Monroe Doctrine we have dealt with, arrived at Milwaukee on April 3rd and was entertained the same evening by the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association. His address on this occasion was occupied entirely with trusts. In the course of his speech he said:

I think I speak for the great majority of the American people when I say that we are not in the least against wealth as such, whether individual or corporate; that we merely desire to see any abuse of corporate or combined wealth corrected and remedied; that we do not desire the abolition or destruction of big corporations, but, on the contrary, recognize them as being in many cases efficient economic instruments, the results of an inevitable process of economic evolution, and only desire to see them regulated and controlled so far as may be necessary to subserve the public good. We should be false to the historic principles of our Government if we discriminated, by legislation or administration either for or against a man because of his wealth or his poverty. There is no proper place in our society for the rich man who uses the power conferred by his riches to enable him to oppress and wrong his neighbors, nor yet for the demagogic agitator who, instead of attacking abuses as all abuses should be attacked wherever found, attacks property, attacks prosperity, attacks men of wealth as such, whether they be good or bad; attacks corporations, whether they do well or ill, and seeks, in a spirit of ignorant rancor, to overthrow the very foundations upon which rest our national well-being.

Their great prosperity, he went on to say, with its accompanying concentration of population and wealth, its extreme specialization of facilities and its development of giant industrial leaders had brought much good and done evil. For a portion of the evil he thought remedies could be found. The President then quoted from previous utterances in which he had dwelt on the necessity of the nation (without interfering with the power of the States) assuming supervision and regulation over the great corporations. He referred to the legislation that had come into existence with regard to trusts, to the report made to Congress by the Industrial Commission, and to the latest anti-rebate law passed by Congress which, he said, greatly strengthens the interstate commerce law. This new law prohibits, under adequate penalties, the giving and as well the demanding or receiving of such preferences, and provides the preventive remedy of injunction. The vigorous administration of this law—and it will be enforced—will, it is hoped, afford a substantial remedy for certain trust evils which have attracted public attention and have created public unrest. This law, he continued, represents a noteworthy and important advance toward just and effective regulation of transportation. Moreover, its passage has been supplemented by the enactment of a law to expedite the hearing of actions of public moment under the anti-trust act, known as the Sherman law, and under the act to regulate commerce, at the request of the Attorney-General; and, furthermore, additional funds have been appropriated to be expended under the direction of the Attorney-General in the enforcement of these laws.

All this, he said, was a great and substantial advance in legislation, but more important even than legislation was the administration of the law, and on this he called the attention of his audience to "the way in which the law has been administered by the profound jurist and fearless public servant who now occupies the position of Attorney General, Mr. Knox." He continued:

The Constitution enjoins upon the President that he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and under this provision the Attorney-General formulated a policy which was in effect nothing but the rigid enforcement, by suits managed with consummate skill and ability, both of the anti-trust law and of the imperfect provisions of the act to regulate commerce. The first step taken was the prosecution of fourteen suits against the principal railroads of the Middle West, restraining them by injunction from further violations of either of the laws in question.

About the same time the case against the Northern Securities Company was initiated. This was a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey with a capital of $400,000,000, the alleged purpose being to control the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific Railroad Companies, two parallel and competing lines extending across the northern tier of States from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean. Whatever the purpose, its consummation would have resulted in the control of the two great railway systems upon which the people of the Northwestern States were so largely dependent for their supplies and to get their products to market being practically merged into the New Jersey corporation. The proposition that these independent systems of railroads should be merged under a single control alarmed the people of the States concerned, lest they be subjected to what they deemed a monopoly of interstate transportation and the suppression of competition. The Governors of the States most deeply affected held a meeting to consider how to prevent the merger becoming effective, and passed resolutions calling upon the National Government to enforce the anti-trust laws against the alleged combination. When these resolutions were referred to the Attorney-General for consideration and advice, he reported that in his opinion the Northern Securities Company and its control of the railroads mentioned was a combination in restraint of trade and was attempting a monopoly in violation of the national anti-trust law. Thereupon a suit in equity, which is now pending, was begun by the Government to test the validity of this transaction under the Sherman law

At nearly the same time the disclosures respecting the secret rebates enjoyed by the great packing-house companies, coupled with the very high price of meats, led the Attorney-General to direct an investigation into the methods of the so-called beef trust. The result was that he filed bills for injunction against six of the principal packing-house companies and restrained them from combining and agreeing upon prices at which they would sell their products in States other than those in which their meats were prepared for market. Writs of injunction were issued accordingly, and since then, after full argument, the United States Circuit Court has made the injunction perpetual.

The cotton interests of the South, including growers, buyers and shippers, made complaint that they were suffering great injury in their business from the methods of the Southern railroads in the handling and transportation of cotton. They alleged that these railroads, by combined action under a pooling arrangement to support their rate schedules, had

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denied to the shippers the right to elect over what roads their commodities should be shipped, and that by dividing upon a fixed basis the cotton crop of the South all inducement to compete in rates for the transportation thereof was eliminated. Proceedings were instituted by the Attorney-General under the anti-trust law, which resulted in the destruction of the pool and in restoring to the growers and shippers of the South the right to ship their products over any road they elected, thus removing the restraint upon the freedom of commerce.

In November, 1902, the Attorney-General directed that a bill for an injunction be filed in the United States Circuit Court at San Francisco against the Federal Salt Company, a corporation which had been organized under the laws of an Eastern State, but had its main office and principal place of business in California, and against a number of other companies and persons constituting what was known as the salt trust. These injunctions were to restrain the execution of certain contracts between the Federal Salt Company and the other defendants, by which the latter agreed neither to import, buy or sell salt except from and to the Federal Salt Company, and not to engage or assist in the production of salt west of the Mississippi river during the continuance of such contracts. As the result of these agreements the price of salt had been advanced about 400 per cent. A temporary injunction order was obtained, which the defendants asked the Court to modify on the ground that the anti-trust law had no application to contracts for purchases and sales within a state. The Circuit Court overruled this contention and sustained the Government's position. This practically concluded the case, and it is understood that in consequence the Federal Salt Company is about to be dissolved and that no further contest will be made.

The above is a brief outline of the most important steps, legislative and administrative, takenduring the past eighteen months in the direction of solving, so far as at present it seems practicable by national legislation or administration to solve, what we call the trust problem. They represent a sum of very substantial achievement. They represent a successful effort to devise and apply real remedies—an effort which so far succeeded because it was made not only with resolute purpose and determination, but also in a spirit of common sense aad justice, as far removed as possible from rancor, hysteria and unworthy demagogic appeal. In the same spirit the laws will continue to be enforced. Not only is the legislation recently enacted effective, but, in my judgment, it was impracticable to attempt more. Nothing of value is to be expected from ceaseless agitation for redicai and extreme legislation. The people may wisely and with confidence await the results which are reasonably to be expected from the impartial enforcement of the laws which have recently been placed upon the statute books. Legislation of a general and indiscriminate character would be sure to fail, either because it would involve all interests in a common ruin, or because it would not really reach any evil. We have endeavored to provide a discriminating adaptation of the remedy to the real mischief.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. FILLINGHAM AND CHRIST CHURCH.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With reference to the letter of Mr. King, I fail to see how the fact that the services at Christ Church, Yokohama, are in conformity with those of the English churches in Tokyo and Kobe, affects the issue. I have heard of various standards of orthodoxy: I have heard of General Councils, and I have heard of divisions of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council: but this is the first time I have heard that the infallible seat of authority resided in Tokyo and Kobe. The theory is certainly new and ingenious. I hope that Canterbury, Rome, and Constantinople will take note that when Tokyo and Kobe have spoken, the cause is ended.

Seriously, what we have to fight in Japan is the beginning of the evil. When evening communion is abandoned—when the eastward position is taken—when the doctrines of Baptismal Regeneration and the Real Presence are preached—(and I know that all this is the case at Yokohama)—then we have the thin end of the wedge. If we are quiescent, all will follow, and the church will be unprotestantized.

The moderate High-Churchman and the advanced Ritualist are doing the same work: they are undoing the work of the Reformation, and substituting Paganism for Christianity. The only course for a Christian to take is to fight the very beginning of the evil. The real issue between us and the Ritualists is this, what shall we worship? God, or a bit of bread? The latter form of worship is Paganism pure and simple, and I will fight it as long as God gives me health and strength.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,

R. C. FILLINGHAM.

Kyoto, April 15th, 1903.

A PROTESTANT POPE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Says Mr. Fillingham, apropos of standard of ritual to be observed in the Church of England:—

"I hope that Canterbury, Rome and Constantinople will take note that when Tokyo and Kobe have spoken the cause is ended."

And we are meant to infer, I suppose, from this bit of sarcasm, that Tokyo, Kobe and Yokohama should take note that when Mr. Fillingham has spoken, they too must hold their peace.

Thank you, Mr. Fillingham, but when we wish to find a Protestant Pope, we will select someone whose credentials for orthodoxy inspire somewhat more confidence than do yours. Meanwhile, we prefer to settle for ourselves our own methods of worship without any stranger's interference.

Yours faithfully, CHURCHMAN.

Yokohama, April 20th, 1903.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

EUROPEAN CENTRE OF GRAVITY SHIFTED.

London, April 17.

President Loubet conferred the decoration of the Legion of Honour on the Admiral and nine officers of the British Squadron.

The *Telegraph* says this is the first time in fifty years that a British naval officer has been permitted to accept a French decoration.

The Times discussing the King's visit to Paris says it can scarcely be doubted that there has been some shifting of the European centre of gravity. There is not the smallest incompatibility between France's Russian alliance and the maintenance of a cordial friendship with Britain.

THE KING AND THE FRENCH.

Later.

The King has arrived at Malta, where he had a brilliant reception. The French appear determined to omit nothing in order to pay fitting honour to His Majesty. Their programme includes a race meeting at Longchamps and a great review at Vincennes. A distinguished admiral and a general have been appointed to attend upon His Majesty during his stay.

KING EDWARD AT MALTA.

London, April 18.

King Edward received a great ovation on landing at Malta. He replied in separate speeches to various addresses presented to him, and attended the Opera in state.

PRESIDENT LOUBET IN AFRICA.

President Loubet has gone to Oran.

SOMALILAND.

Reuter's Aden correspondent wires on the 17th inst. that, according to a despatch from General Manning received there, Manning's column engaged the enemy to the south-west of Galadi, inflicting heavy losses on them and capturing immense quantities of live stock. The British had only one man killed.

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

Later.

It is officially announced at Constantinople that the Sultan's Mission to pacify the Albanians has been surrounded by several hundred Albanians at Ipek, and that the members of the Mission are practically prisoners.

The Albanians absolutely decline to accept the Macedonian Reform Scheme.

ACCIDENT TO "SHAMROCK III."

Shamrock III. was caught in a squall at Weymouth and completely dismasted. Sir Thomas Lipton was knocked down a hatchway and bruised, but not seriously.

London, April 19.

One of the *Shamrock III.'s* crew was drowned in the recent accident, and several were injured. King Edward telegraphed his sympathy to Sir Thomas Lipton.

BRITISH SYNDICATES IN CHINA.

The *Westminster Gazette* is informed that at the instance of the British authorities, the Peking Syndicate and the British-Chinese Corporation have concluded an agreement to work jointly all their railway concessions to the north of the Yangtze, thereby terminating the prolonged rivalry which has hampered the Foreign Office and prevented it from supporting British railway enterprise in China, to the benefit of foreign competitors.

THE MOORISH PRETENDER.

The Moorish Pretender is advancing on Fez. He is confident of a triumph. His intention is to proclaim himself Sultan and demand the recognition of the Powers.

THE BALKANS.

Russia and Austria have again warned Bulgaria against encouraging the Macedonian insurgents.

THE "CRISTINA" SAILORS.

The Spanish Government has decided to bring the skeletons found on the sunken warship *Cristina*, home to Spain.

PACIFIC CABLES.

London, April 20.

The United States Government has granted permission for the landing at Guam of the Dutch-German cable from Celebes and the Pelews, connecting the projected American cable to the Philippines.

THE PORTE AND THE POWERS.

The Austrian and Russian Ambassadors have adopted an unprecedented course in demanding a joint audience of the Sultan to urge upon him the necessity of pacifying the Albanians.

THE BALKAN TROUBLE.

London, April 21.

The Turkish forces are concentrated at Ferizovitch, under Rashdi Pacha. Their first duty will be to liberate the Sultan's peace commissioners, whom the Albanians are detaining as hostages.

The Austrian and Russian Ambassadors have warned the Sultan that unless the Albanians are suppressed the consequences will be serious; that the whole result of the disaster will fall on the Ottoman Government, which will find itself entirely unsupported.

The Italian and German representatives have had seperate audiences at which they made similar representations.

KING EDWARD'S TOUR.

London, April 21.

The question of King Edward visiting the Pope is much discussed. Official statements are carefully withheld, but a growing belief is that a visit will be arranged.

The King reviewed 8,000 bluejackets and marines, and five field batteries of artillery at Malta.

SEVERE COLD IN EUROPE.

The prolonged spell of bitter cold weather in Europe is causing havoc in the orchards and vineyards. It culminated in snowstorms throughout the continent.

There were twelve hours of snow in Berlin, which was cut off from communication with Russia. The Scandinavian trains were embedded in the snow.

THE TROUBLED BALKANS.

London, April 22.

After the Austrian and Russian Ambassadors had seen the Sultan on Friday last,

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the Porte telegraphed for 20 more batallions of men from Asia Minor.

SIGNOR PRINETTI.

Signor Prinetti, the Italian Prime Minister, has resigned.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward sailed from Malta on the morning of the 21st inst., escorted by 14 ships.

Later.

His Majesty has arrived at Syracuse.

FIGHTING BULGARIANS.

A band of 500 Bulgarians crossed the frontier and fought throughout the day. They were eventually driven off by the Turks, losing 30 killed.

GERMAN RAILWAY ENTERPRISE IN CHINA.

London, April 23.

A German Asiatic railway company has been incorporated in Berlin with a capital of half a million sterling, to construct Chinese state railways, the financing of which will be undertaken by the German Asiatic Bank and its allied establishments.

MILITARY RIOT IN PRETORIA.

Five men of the Leinster Regiment have been sentenced to death at Pretoria in connexion with a military riot which took place on March 28th.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, April 17.

President Loubet has arrived at Algiers. He was greatly cheered. The English, Russian, Italian, and Spanish squadrons came to salute.

SEVERE COLD IN FRANCE.

Saigon, April 19.

The snow and the cold are causing severe distress in France, especially among the lower orders.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

President Loubet has arrived at Oran where he was cheered.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF ALGIERS.

Saigon, April 20.

M. Jounart will be nominated Governor-General of Algiers.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

President Loubet has visited Tlemcen.

MOROCCO.

It is telegraphed from Morocco that the partisans of the Pretender have gained possession of Ougya, in the vicinity of the Algerian frontier.

MACEDONIA.

It is announced from Macedonia that bloody encounters have taken place between the Albanians and the Turkish troops.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Saigon, April 22.

The session of the Councils-General has just been opened. The majority of those assembled approve the domestic policy of the Cabinet.

THE PRESIDENT IN ALGIERS.

A fantasia of ten thousand Arabian horsemen of the nomad tribes has taken place at Kheider, in Algiers, in honour of President Loubet.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST.")

GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Berlin, April 22.

The Reichstag accepted the bill concerning the secrecy of elections.

NEW ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER.

The successor of Prinetti is the Minister of Naval Affairs, Vice-admiral C. Morin.

GERMAN-CHINESE RAILWAY COMPANY.

A German-Chinese railway company, ltd., has been constituted. The first stock amounts to 10 million marks. The German haute finance is engaged in the undertaking. Mr. von Hausemann is president.

THE BALKANS.

Berlin, April 23.

The Porte, according to the wishes of the Powers demanding reforms in Macedonia, has sent strong forces to Old Servia to suppress the machinations of the Albanese against the reforms. If this measure of the Porte should prove a failure then the Powers will intervene at once or later. The French press and a part of the Russian press are very much disposed to action. The English press expect that the visit of King Edward to Paris will result in an agreement concerning joint special political action regarding the Balkans.

CHINESE CUSTOMS.

The report according to which Germany objects against the remaining of the administration of the Chinese customs under English direction is false.

GERMANY AND THE U.S.

In the U. S. a strong philo-germanic reaction has taken place against the last intrigues directed against the intended visit of the American squadron in Europe.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru 1	F. April 24
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern 2	Sa. April 25
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Tacoma 3	M. April 27
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia 4	M. April 27
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	W. April 29
Europe	M. M. Co.	Caledonien 5	W. April 29
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	W. April 29
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 6	Th. April 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. May 3
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. May 4
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. May 11
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. May 14
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. May 19

1 Left Seattle on the 7th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 22nd inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
4 Left Shanghai on the 21nd inst.
5 Left Shanghai on the 23rd inst.
6 Left Hongkong on the 22nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	W. April 29
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	Tu. April 28
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia	W. April 29
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Th. April 30
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Th. April 30
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. May 1
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern	Sa. May 2
Europe	N. Y. K.	Wakasa Maru	Sa. May 2
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. May 4
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	Tu. May 5
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. May 6
Europe	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	F. May 8
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. May 9
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. May 13
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. May 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. May 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Themis, Norwegian seteamer, 2,700, Thommasen, 17th April,—Saigon, 9th April, Rice.—Otto Reimers & Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, J. Nagao, 17th April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sophie, Norwegian steamer, 854, N. O. Fagerland, 18th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Rujput, British steamer, 3,615, J. Bullock, 18th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—To Order.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 18th April—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 18th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 19th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 19th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Courrie, British steamer, 3,155, A. E. McDonnell, 19th April,—Batoum, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hip Sang, British steamer, 1,040, M. Crockett, 19th April,—Hongkong, Rice.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, F. G. Purrington, 20th April,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 20th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 20th April,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 19th April, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kentucky, U.S. flagship, 11,500, Capt. C. H. Stockton, 20th April,—Kobe.

Oregon, U.S. battleship, 10,288, Capt. W. T. Burwell, 20th April,—Kobe.

New Orleans, U.S. cruiser, 3,769, Capt. R. R. Ingersoll, 20th April,—Kobe.

Helena, U.S. gunboat, 1,392, Capt. Sperry, 20th April,—Kobe.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 21st April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 4th April, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,326, Bretmun, 21st April,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 20th April, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 21st April,—Kobe, 20th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 21st April,—Yokkaichi, 20th April, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 22nd April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 23rd April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 23rd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 23rd April,—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Atholl, British steamer, 3,031, E. Porter, 17th April,—Manzanilla and San Francisco, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Serbia, German steamer, 2,377, Knoblausch, 17th April,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 17th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taurus, Norwegian steamer, 1,367, A. Seebery, 18th April,—Moji, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Islanda, British steamer, 3,361, J. Anderson, 19th April,—Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kiautschou, German steamer, 10,881, J. Behrens, 18th April,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,872, J. Campbell, 18th April,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Socotra, British steamer, 3,919, C. J. Benton, 18th April,—Marseilles and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 19th April,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 19th April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, F. E. Cope, 19th April,—Kobe, General.—NipponYusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 19th April,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. S. Cox, 19th April,—Kuchinotsu, Rice.—Cornes & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 20th April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, Y. Yamanouchi, 20th April,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 21st April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 21st April,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saphie, Norwegian steamer, 854, N. O. Fagerland, 21st April,—Chinkiang, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 22nd April,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 23rd April,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 23rd April,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glory, British cruiser, 12,950, Capt. W. A. Carter, 23rd April,—Woosang.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 23rd April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 23rd April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Antope, British bark, 1,428, G. E. Murray, 23rd April, —San Francisco, Ballast.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Airlie*, from Iloilo:—Miss J. A. Read, Miss M. Mills, Miss E. S. Paxton, Miss S. Price, Miss M. E. Polly, Mrs. J. M. Healy, Mr. C. C. Scott, Mr. W. E. Lutz, Mr. H. S. Mead, Mr. A. F. Eastman, and Mr. C. A. McClure, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosai Maru*, from Shanghai via porrs:—Lieut.-Col. Kuroki, Rear-Admiral Uriu, Com. Miyake, Mr. H. Sato, Mr. S. Aoki, Mr. S. Nakamura, Mr. S. Sato, Mrs. Y. Sato, Mr. K. Kataoka, Mr. K. Kataoka, Mrs. C. Yamashita, Mr. S. Kuroki, Mr. K. Kuroda, Mr. K., Nomura, Engineer Unosawa, Mrs. Unosawa, Engineer Yoshioka, Mrs. Yoshioka, Mr. and Miss Burwell, Mrs. H. A. Field and baby, Mrs. C. M. Tozer, Mrs. F. B. Uphan, Mr. Ottovon Stetton, Mr. Gorbuck, Mr. F. H. Abbey, and Mr. Struthus, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. Yeguchi, and 18 Japanese, in second class; 62 Japanese, and 42 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Gale, Mr. D. E. Leyfersh, Mr. C. F. Minnitt and servant, Mr R. W. Borthwick, Mr. C. von Herder, Mr. H. R. Williams, Jr., Mr. F. G. dos Remedios, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Mr. Newson, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Andrews, and Mr. A. L. Pitcher and wife, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss Ida Finlay, Mr. S. J. Bens, Mr. A. A. Sachse, Mr. J. Pinquard, Mr. G. Sirtori, Mr. J. A. Ballard, Mr. H. V. Henson, Mr. Joaquim, Mustares, Mr. P. Blum, Mrs. Bans and infant, Mr. J. G. Enbree, Mr. F. Pooles, Mr. C. E. Benjamin, Mr. J. F. Bertram, Mrs. H. V. Henson, Mr. J. G. Moner, Miss H. E. Kerth, Mrs. McGovney and infant, Mr. J. W. Johnson, Mr. F. S. Stratton, Mrs. M. Elsasser, Mr. J. R. Denyes, Mrs. Denyes and 3 children, Mr. C. M. Simmers, Mr. P. F. Longherry, Mr. H. Linn, Mrs. Stratton, Mr. J. C. Ismer, Mrs. P. Brady, and Mr. Jas. Simpson, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss H. Steel, Miss J. Gilespie, Mrs. S. H. Frank, Miss E. Frank, Miss A. Lewis, Mr. A. Jansen, Mr. K. Ancora, Mr. Harry Scullin, Mr. C. H. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. K. Gilmore, Mr. Geo. Coombs, Mr. and Mrs. S. Tevis, Mr. and Mrs. Willcox, Mrs. G. H. Jupp, Mr. F. A. West, Mr. R. Pullitzer, Mr. A. A. Birrings and valet, Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Imanishi, Mr. J. O. Averill, Mr. W. Hohmeyr, Mr. and Mrs C. D. Clark, Sir Randolph Baker and valet, Mr. J. B. Wyeryard, Mr. and Mrs. G. Paulding, Mr. W. H. Rice and valet, Mr. F. S. Fernard, Mr. F. P. Solomon, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Simpson, Mr. W. B. Delano, Mrs. A. Parrow, Major P. Crement, Miss L. Dorian, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Horst, two daughters and governess, Mrs. H. Bedinger, Mr and Mrs. C. H. Pepper, Master Pepper, Mr. J. W. Norton, Mrs. Lieut. F. Sandoz, Rev. Dr. H. Bedinger, and Miss C. Bedinger, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. L. Barr, Mr. H. Komada, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bour and child, Mr. E. G. Crig, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bell, Miss Daisy Bell, Mr. Y. Yokota, Mr. A. C. Bryer, Mr. and Mrs. N. Gottleil and child, Mr. W. J. Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Bell, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. Dr. C. Brown, Mr. E. Crackenson, Mrs. R. G. James, Miss Sarah Godwin, Mr. S. Fessenden, and Mr. W. S. Emans and wife, in cabin. For Manila:—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. L. E. Wright, Major G. W. Barbour, Mr. R. R. Richmond, Mr. Phil. Seldner, Rev. W. A. Rader, Mrs. W. A. Rader, Mr. A. Spitzel, Mr. H. C. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Evans, Dr. W. P. Wilson, Miss W. Spaulding, and Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Carrick, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. L. L. Terry, Mr. W. A. Akers, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rettig, Mrs. N. G. Van de Vanter, Mr. and Mrs. H. Thomas and 2 children, Mr. Adolf Chuk, Mr. H. C. Chuk, Mr. F. Kellner, Mr. A. S. Edwards, Mr. J. Bocker, Mr. D. G. Moore, Dr. C. Minward, Mrs. W. B. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Glass, Miss F. Glass, Miss L. Thompson, Mr. A. L. Young, Mr. L. O. Woodruff, Mr. Rudolph Scherer, Mrs. W. S. Wright and family (3), Mr. H. Wilson, Miss F. J. Wilson, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. R. M. B. Parker, Mr. G. H. Johnstone, Mr. L. O. Woodruff, Mr. J. P. Trafton, Miss Edith Woodruff, Mr. and Mrs. Thos C. Ridgeway, Mr. W. B. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Caryl Young, and Mrs. G. M. Wisner, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Kiautschou*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. A. Serno, Mr. S. Warning, Mr. E. Becker, Mr. F. R. Daniel, Mr. Khoon Therd and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Neville, Mrs. Westphalen, Mr. C. T. Oberlein, Mrs. Komor, Mr. H. Rose, Mrs. Schubart, Mrs. Sluyter, Mr. H. Oldenburg, Mr. F. D. Renton, Mr. von Ritter, Mrs. Higgs, Major Higgs, Mr. G. M. Walker, Mrs. Hannah Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Earl. H. Potter, Mr. V. Snowmann, His Ex. Lieut.-Gen. von Gottberg, Mrs. von Gottberg, Mr. F. Seegelken, Mr. K. Schaefer, Mr. T. W. Irwine, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Wason, Mr. and Mrs. C. Betts, Master Betts, amah and boy, Miss Roosen-Runge, Mr. W. F. Sipman, Mr. Schilling, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, Mrs. B. R. Berrick, Miss A. Mendelson, Mr. B. R. Berrick, Mr. Boehlke, Mr. H. A. Poole, Mr. Jules Mulkay, Mr. F. W. Horne, Consul Max Kutschera, Mr. W. T. Paegne, His Ex. Baron and Baroness d'Anethan, His Ex. Melegari, Madame Melegari, His Ex. Thya Raja Nuprabandh, Mr. C. Refardt, Mr. and Mrs. H. Abegg, Mr. and Mrs. Kessler, Mr. See Hawck, Mr. and Mrs. F. Brett, Mr. M. Kaufmann, Miss Blumenfeld, Mr. R. Amthor, General Consul de Sievers, Mr. and Mrs. Ziegfeld, Master Ziegfeld, Mr. A. Meier, Miss A. Meier, Mr. Tanabe, Bishop Roosegarde, Mr. and Mrs. J. Guggenheim, child and servant, Mr. K. O. Mackenzie, Rev. Edward Thompson, Mr. Ray Reger, Mr. and Mrs. Adolf Wendt and 2 children, Mrs R. Sachse, Miss Wendt, Mr. J. A. Harmssen, Mr. H. Rosen, and 8 German soldiers, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hitachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. I. Yamaoka, Mr. M. Hamada, Mr. I. Yoshida, Mr. K. Sonoda, Mr. R. Kondo, Mr. T. Suda, Mr. A. Marks, Mr. Hart, Miss Hooper, Lieut. Colonel Tsuneyoshi, Mr. W. Assoomal, Mr. K. Chelavan, Mr. S, Sakurai, Mr. Baxendale, Miss Baxendale, Countess S. Hisamatsu, Mrs. M. Oda, Mr. K. Wada, Mr. H. Ikeuchi, in cabin; Mr. Y. Hojo and child, Mr. T. Sekine, Mr. G. Yusawa, Mr. R. Yusawa, Mr. H. Kawasaki, Mr. T. Ono, Mr. and Mrs. R. Suzuki, Mr. N. Unno, Mr. K. Numata, Mr. S. Kakehi, and Mr. K. Mayejima, in second class; 29, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. T. Ashton, Rev. J. M. Baker, Mrs. J. M. Baker and child, Master Albert Baker, Mr. J. A. Ballard, Mr. Roman Batllo, Mr. L. D. Baun, Mrs. L. D. Baun and child, Mr. S. J. Bens, Mr. Chas. Benjamin, Mr. V. F. Bertram, Mr. Otto Boas, Mr. Alex. Bona, Dr. Thos. Borgan, Mrs. Thos. Borgan, Mrs. P. Brady, Mr. W. D. Card, Mrs. W. D. Card, Mr. D. P. Clark, Mr. J. E. Corley, Mr. K. F. Crawford, Mr. E. Crossmann, Mr. J. R. Denyes, Mrs. J. R. Denyes and 3 childrens, Mr. T. Earshaw, Mrs. M. Elsasser, Mr. J. E. Embree, Miss I. Finley, Mr. J. M. Foster, Mr. C. M. Gandy, Mrs. C. M. Gandy, Mr. P. C. Giles, Mr. C. R. L. E. Harvey, Mr. W. B. Hathawey, Mr. Hsu Chin-Chun, Mr. H. V. Henson, Mrs. H. V. Henson, Mr. H. S. Hooper, Mr. J. C. Isner, Mrs. M. V. Jerome, Mr. Wm. Jessop and valet, Mrs. Wm. Jessop and maid, Mr. J. W. Johnson, Mr. W. Jones, Mr. B. Komatsu, Miss H. E. Keith, Countess Laltazzi, Mr. D. Lanyon, Mr. H. Linn, Mr. P. F. Loughrey, Mr. D. O. McGovney, Mrs D. O. McGovney and child, Mr. J. C. Moreo, Mr. J. Mustares, Mr. J. Alvarez Net, Mr. Thos. F. Nonweiler, Mrs. Thos. F. Nonweiler and child, Mr. J. E. Norman, Dr. Pinguard, Mr. F. S. Poole, Mr. W. E. Pulliam, Mr. W. J. Robertson, Mrs. W. J. Robertson, Mrs. A. A. Sasche, Mr. Sao Ke Alfred Sze, Lieut. A. Sartoris, Mr. G. Sirtori, Consul S. Shimizu, Mr. Jas. Simpson, Mr. L. Sterne, Mr. F. S. Stratton, Mrs. F. S. Stratton, Mr. C. M. Summers, Mr. Ernest Thompson, Mrs. Ernest Thompson, Mr. A. C. H. Cole Watson, Mrs. A. T. Webb, Mr. G. Wilke, Mrs. G. Wilke, Mr. F. G. Williams, Mrs. F. G. Williams, and Mrs. F. W. von Buskirk, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. G. Acebo, Mrs. G. Acebo, 2 children and amah, Miss G. Acebo, Miss H. Acebo, Mrs. W. A. Akers, Mr. H. B. Babson, Mr. W. Baggalay, Maj. G. M. Barbour, Mr. G. R. Bedinger, Rev. H. Bedinger, Mrs. H. Bedinger, Miss Bedinger, Miss M. Bedinger, Mr. L. Barr, Mr. C. E. Bell, Mrs. C. E. Bell, Miss Bell, Mr. J. H. Bell, Mrs. J. H. Bell, Mr. A. C. Bryer, Mr. A. F. Carrick, Mrs. A. F. Carrick, Mr. H. C. Cheek, Mr. C. D. Clarke, Mrs. C. D. Clarke, Lieut.-Com. F. W. Coffin, Mr. A. W. Cook, Mrs. A. W. Cook, infant and amah, Mr. R. Cox, Mr. E. G. Craig, Mr. A. S. Edward, Mr. T. L. Eliot, Mr. W. S. Emmens, Mrs. W. S. Emmens, Mr. W. D. Evans, Mrs. W. D. Evans, Mr. S. Fessenden, Miss Sarah Goodwin, Mr. J. S. Hanna, Mr. A. S. Hay, Mr. W. Holmeyer, Mr. E. G. Huse, Mrs. R. G. James, Mr. H. Kellner, Mr. H. Komada, Mr. H. C. Lewis, Mr. E. S. Mathews, Mrs. M. McPhee, Dr. C. Milward, Mr. D. G. Moore, Mr. F. H. Parrish, Mrs. F. H. Parrish, Mr. Theo. Poindexter, Mrs. Theo Poindexter, Mr. E. Quackenbush, Rev. W. A. Rader, Mrs. W. A. Rader, Mr. Jones Reid, Mr. F. J. dos Remedios, Mr. R. R. Richmond, Mrs. S. C. Ridgway, Mr. Thos. C. Ridgway, Mr. Sawatari, Mr. Rudolph Scheren, Mr. Phil Seldner, Mr. C. G. Smith, Mr. W. I. Smith, Miss W. Spaulding, Mr. A. Spitzel, Mr. L. L. Terry, Mr. J. P. Trafton, Mr. W. B. Walker, Mrs. W. B. Walker, Mr. H. R. Willins, Mrs. F. I. Wilson, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. H. Wilson, Dr. W. P. Wilson, Mrs. G. M. Wisner, Mr. N. Wittenberger, Mr. L. O. Woodruff, Mrs. L. O. Woodruff, Gov. L. E. Wright, Mrs. L. E. Wright, Miss A. Wright, Master H. Wright, Miss C. Wright, Mr. Y. Yokota, Mr. A. L. Young, Mr. Caryl Young, and Mrs. Caryl Young, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No change to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38¼ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.95
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles...	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach...	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

The metal market continues quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅝ inch and upward...	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron...	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box...	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅝ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

No change to report.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market continues steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila...	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang...	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

On the 21st-22nd telegraphic news that the weather in Europe was unfavourable, caused apprehensions as to the future should it continue; some Lyons firms started buying on a large scale and caused prices to go up from 10 to 20 *yen*. It is unnecessary to say that such news seems highly premature.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y. 1,065 to 1,070
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,030 to 1,035
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	990 to 995
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	970 to 975
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	980 to 990
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	970 to 980

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Re-reels—No. 1½	950 to 955
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	980 to —
Kakedas—No. 1	955 to 960
Kakedas—No. 1½	925 to 930
Kakedas—No. 2	895 to 900
Kakedas—No. 2½	865 to 870

WASTE SILK.

The season is practically at an end. There are still a few arrivals of Kibiso, but business is difficult on account of the pretensions of the Japanese. No noticeable change in prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Filatures, Good	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Some small packages have been shipped but the prices so far do not establish a market.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

INDIGO.

No change.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best	290.00 to 345.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	130.00 to 300.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best	105.00 to 145.00

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 23.

London silver and China sterling quotations are both unchanged and local rates continue steady but firm.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/0 7/32
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255⅜ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight	260⅝
— — 6 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	81*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	79¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	90*
— Private 10 days' sight	91⅛*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight	49⅜ @ ⅝
— Private 30 days' sigh.	50¾
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ½
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
Bar Silver (London)	23 7/16

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, April 23.

Kirin Breweries, sellers at *yen* 105. Buyers at *yen* 100. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Langfeldts, buyers at *yen* 28. C. Nickel & Co. debentures, buyers offer *yen* 110. Y. U. Club debentures, sales at *yen* 107. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	108 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	250 Buyers.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Nominal.
Langfeldt & Co	28 Buyers.
Japan Brewery Co.	105 Sellers.
C. Nickel & Co.	28½ Sellers.
Helm Bros.	42½ Sellers.

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TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE
SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 23

Yesterday's total transactions were 7,270 shares.

MORNING. April.	MORNING. May.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. April.	AFTERNOON. May.
78.00	—	Nippon Railway	—	—
24.40	24.50	Nippon R'way, 3rd	24.30	24.50
—	—	Sanyo Railway	—	—
44.60	45.00	Kansai Railway	44.65	45.00
56.75	57.35	Kiushiu Railway	56.95	57.45
77.30	77.95	Tanko Railway	77.40	78.00
—	—	Tanko R'way, new	—	—
24.85	—	Tobu Railway	—	—
—	—	Sobu Railway	59.50	60.15
—	—	Boso Railway	—	—
25.40	25.70	Narita Railway	—	26.00
—	—	Narita R'way, new	—	—
19.85	—	Kioto Railway	—	20.00
23.50	23.80	Hokuyetsu Railway	—	—
—	—	Hankaku Railway	—	—
102.55	—	Tokio Electric Car	102.40	102.10
85.45	86.10	Tokio Ele. Car, new	85.40	86.10
—	62.90	Tokio Electric Ra'y.	37.45	63.00
—	48.95	Tokio Street R'way.	48.35	48.85
84.50	81.75	Nippon Yusen	84.45	81.90
—	—	Toyo Kisen	—	—
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—
27.90	28.20	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	27.96	28.10
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new.	—	—
70.75	71.15	Tokio Electric Light	—	71.30
—	—	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	—
42.65	42.95	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	42.50	42.70
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new	—	—
—	—	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
175.40	176.40	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	175.10	176.80

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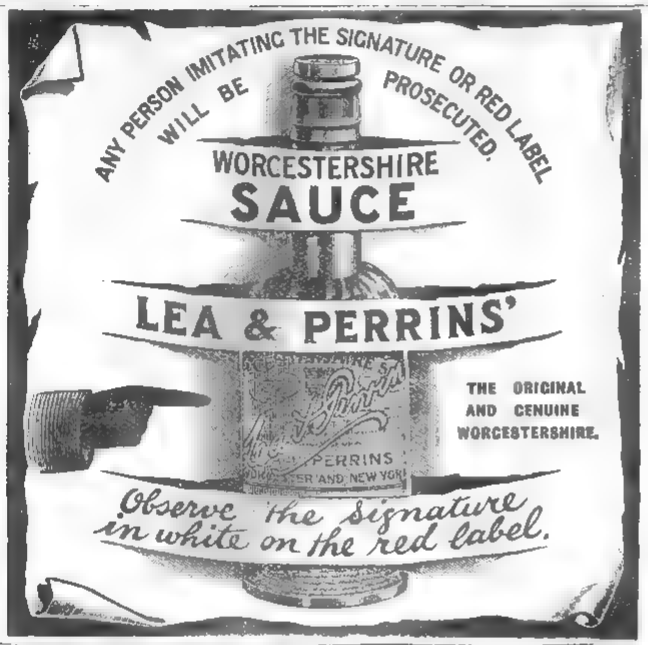
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 1ST, 1903.

BIRTH.

On the 27th April, 1903, the wife of P. NYFFENEGGER, Esq., Hotel Metropole, Tokyo, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

At Zaimokuza, Kamakura, Marquis C. DE NEMBRINI GONZAGA.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. S. HISAMIDZU was appointed Consul at Seattle on April 29th.

A CASE of cholera appeared in Hiroshima Prefecture on April 27th.

Two men named Yokoyama and Egawa, living in Asakusa, Tokyo, have been arrested as accomplices of counterfeiters.

AN omnibus was over-turned at Kanasugi, Shiba, Tokyo on April 28th and one passenger was injured.

MR. INOUYE SEIKICHI, Toyama prefecture, was, on April 24th, elected by the highest tax-payers a member of the House of Peers.

PRINCE Rupprecht of Bavaria arrived at Kobe on April 26th at 2.30 a.m. by the steamer *Siberia*. He landed at 10 a.m. and left for Kyoto an hour later.

IT is stated that the construction of wireless telegraph stations at Keelung, in Formosa, and Nagasaki will be completed about the middle of May.

THE Railway Bureau has decided to reduce the rate of freight on tea, to $\frac{1}{10}$ *sen* per 100 *kin* per mile. The new rate will be enforced from May 1st.

A CASE of suspicious cholera appeared at Wakamatsu-cho, Kyobashi, Tokyo, on the night of April 26th, and the victim was at once removed to the Hiyoshi Hospital.

A SCHOOL boy named Uchida (12), living in Fuma village, Chiba prefecture, committed suicide by hanging himself with a belt. The cause is not stated.

A FARMER named A. Furusawa, living in Kashiwa village, Higashi-katsushika, Chiba prefecture, murdered his grandfather on April 27th. The cause is said to be a dispute as to property.

GOLD bullion valued at *yen* 144,632 arrived at Nagasaki from Shanghai, on April 27th. The bullion is to be transported to Kobe. It is reported that this is a part of the Chinese indemnity.

IT is stated that the steamer *Shonitsu Maru* sustained some damage when off Shimonoseki during the recent storm. She was towed in by another steamer but proceeded to Osaka on April 25th.

IT is stated by the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the next session of the Diet will open on May 11th instead of May 8th as originally arranged. The Emperor is expected to return from the south before May 11th.

A PRINTER named G. Tomita, living at Kamezawa-cho, Honjo, Tokyo, was arrested on April 26th on a charge of having published obscene pictures. At the domiciliary search, 800 pictures and over 50 wood cuts were seized by the police.

IT is stated that the Kumamoto Emigrant Company received an order for 500 working men from the Government of Mexico. The Japanese emigrants will be sent by a steamer of the China Commercial Steamship Company.

Two men armed with swords entered the dwelling of Captain T. Yoshizaki on April 28th during the officer's absence. The robbers, having over-awed his wife and a maid, stole money amounting to about *yen* 65.

A MAN named K. Nozaki (29) Senju-machi, Asakusa, Tokyo, who on Jan. 22nd murdered I. Takahashi (29) through jealousy, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour by the Tokyo Court on April 28th.

THE dead body of a man, aged about 50, was found in the Ishikawa canal, Yokohama, on April 23rd. Eight serious injuries were found on the body, and it is supposed that he had been murdered and thrown into the water.

SOME goods cars of a train were derailed on April 28th at 1 p.m. between Hikita and Yanagase in Fukui Prefecture, causing damage to the line; but the repairs were completed by the evening of the same day.

A TELEGRAM under date April 27th, from the Japanese Consul at Lyons, states that frosts prevailed last week in various places in France and Italy causing damage to sericulture. The silk market is very steady.

TOKYO papers state that the Emperor of China has conferred decorations on Princes Kwacho and Nashimoto, and seven high officials of the Department of the Imperial Household, and the Governor and two other officials of Kanagawa prefecture.

CAPTAIN TROLLE, who was here recently in the royal Siamese yacht *Mahachakkri*, has resigned his command in order to return home and take a higher position in the Danish Navy. He will be succeeded by a Siamese so that for the first time a native will have charge of the royal yacht.

IT is stated that the Empress, who is now staying in Kyoto, gave *yen* 1,000 on April 29th to be divided among the Blind, Dumb and Deaf School, the Orphan Asylum, the Charity House and the Charity Dispensary in that city.

A MAN named I. Ono (25) attempted on April 29th to murder with a chisel a woman at Kanatomi-cho, Koishikawa, Tokyo. The victim was at once removed to the Rakusan hospital where she lies unconscious. The cause is said to be jealousy.

IT is stated by the *Asahi* that General Kouropatkin, Russian Minister of War, left St. Petersburg on April 29th by the Siberian Railway for the Far East. It is expected that he will arrive in Japan about the end of May after his tour in China and Korea.

ACCORDING to a telegram dated April 27th from the Government of Formosa, there have been 421 cases of pest since its first appearance in January to the present time, and 332 persons died. The plague still prevails in the neighbourhood of Teck-cham.

THE Shimonoseki city authorities decided on April 29th to raise a loan of *yen* 700,000, which is to be used in the construction of water works. It is said that the Kwangio Ginko (the Industrial Bank) consents to supply the money at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum to be repaid in 25 yearly installments.

MR. HIROMI, of Osaka, has purchased a Norwegian steamer of 1400 gross tonnage for *yen* 130,000 and named her the *Chitori Maru*. Mr. Harada of the same city has bought a steamer of 1800 tons belonging to the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co. and named her the *Kichisei Maru*. They will be run on the North China coast from May 5th.

THE police have been making a raid upon the milk-sellers of Yokohama, with the result that some seven prominent Japanese milk-dealers have been warned to forthwith improve the quality of their milk or abandon the business. In Tokyo the authorities have suspended several milk sellers lately.

A TAILOR named A. Kawashima (24) living in Negishi, and a woman of the town named Yasu (21) attempted to commit suicide by cutting their throats with razors early in the morning of April 23rd in a Magane-cho brothel. They were removed to the hospital at once. The woman died later. The cause is reported to be monetary trouble.

Two sailors named Neha and Koidzumi, belonging to a steamer of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, quarrelled with each other on April 23rd in a grogshop in Ashibikicho, Yokohama. The former attempted to shoot his companion with a revolver but missed and shot the wife of the keeper of the grogshop, injuring her severely in the breast. The offender was immediately arrested.

EARTHQUAKES and storms prevailed in various parts of the provinces on April 22nd. In Ashikaga a severe shock was felt at 5 a.m. A similar shock was felt in Mito at 5.05 a.m., its duration being unusually long. About the same time a severe shock was felt in Utsunomiya. Since the night of the 21st shocks have been reported from Maidzuru lasting the whole of the 22nd, and it is supposed that much damage has been inflicted on buildings and cultivated fields.

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THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

Friday, April 24.

Things do not improve in the direction of Manchuria. From Seoul the *Kokumin's* correspondent wires that the Russians are importing arms and ammunitions of war into the regions on the lower reaches of the Yalu, and that their troops show no signs of evacuating Fenghwang. At the same time the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that no Japanese subject has actually seen the Russian troops alleged to be in Fenghwang; that according to the statement of a traveller who recently returned from Mukden, all the Russian soldiers except 300 have been withdrawn, but that these 300 are to be a permanent garrison; that 500 more are encamped in the vicinity; that 1,500 were recently marched into Port Arthur, and that a battery of 8 field-pieces has passed northward from Newchwang by Tasihkiow. The *Niroku's* news from Peking is that Prince Ching and Ku Fung-ki have had an interview with the Russian Representative, and have informed him that England and Japan are pressing strongly about the Manchurian question; that they threaten to make inconvenient demands from China and even to send troops to protect their interests; that Russia should therefore take steps at once to implement her engagements, and that she should at any rate communicate to the Powers the reasons of her delay with a view to placating them. On the other hand the *Hochi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, writing over date of the 16th instant, says that Mukden was recently visited by three Japanese, Mr. Kawashima, of the Peking Legation, Captain Naritomi, of the Peking force, and a Lieutenant from Shanhaikwan. They found that the Russians in Mukden were openly declaring the imminence of the evacuation, and had already taken measures to that end, handing over the gates of the city to the Chinese. But the same correspondent adds that Russia is not really removing her soldiers. She is merely taking away their uniforms, and employing the men in agricultural pursuits so that they will be available for military purposes at any moment. Newchwang remains in *statu quo*, but there is no reason to think that its evacuation will not be soon accomplished according to the plan here outlined. Meanwhile the *Chuuo Shimbun* publishes intelligence from St. Petersburg to the effect that the Russian Foreign Office has intimated to the Foreign Ambassadors the imminent reality of evacuation, but that incompleteness of preparations is urged as a pretext for delay; which attitude effectually disarms remonstrance.

Some Japanese journals seem disposed to give currency to a belief that Russia's preparations are most active on the Korean frontier along the line of the Yalu. They say that she is massing a strong force at Fenghwang; that she is laying up stores of coal and provisions at Autung, and that her so-called evacuation assumes the character of a menace in the direction where Japan can least of all afford to be a quiescent observer of warlike demonstrations.

All the Tokyo journals announce that the two vessels now cruising on the northern coast of China, namely, the *Atago* and the *Oshima*, are to be immediately re-inforced by the *Akitsu*, the *Naniwa* and the *Takachiho*. It is further alleged that the Manchurian question received earnest attention at a Cabinet Council on the 23rd instant.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, always moderate in its tone and even partial to Russia, remarks shrewdly that the multitudinous reports pouring into Japan from North China contrast strangely with the absence of all intelligence on this subject from the European side. Our contemporary's inference is that Europe believes in Russia's promises and counts confidently on evacuation. But, the *Nichi Nichi* continues, it does not always follow that the wishes of St. Petersburg are reflected in the actions of the man at the front. The Russian officer at the limits of the Tsar's vast empire and the Russian statesman in Peking, often have very different points of view, and the former frequently follows the indications of his own conception quite independently of the latter's policy. Passing from particulars to generalities, the Tokyo journal insists on the extreme unwisdom that Russia would show if she deliberately provoked the umbrage of China and of the world by attempting to garrison Manchuria permanently.

That is just what we ourselves think. We do not by any means endorse the high eulogies of Russian diplomacy heard in some quarters, but we are entirely persuaded that had the St. Petersburg Government deliberately contemplated the tearing up of its pledges and the continued occupation of Manchuria, it would have devised some method other than the utterly clumsy course of open infraction and public retention. The true explanation seems to be that the man at the front is obeying his own instincts within limits. The question is, what are these limits, and can they be reduced to pacific dimensions.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* is vehement, it need scarcely be said. There are ample materials for vehemence. It evinces, however, one interesting apprehension; namely, that the outcome of the situation may be another Russo-Japanese convention. This fear is founded on the fact that Marquis Ito, proverbially moderate towards Russia, has been closely consulted by the Cabinet, and that Mr. Ozaki Yukio, a prominent member of the *Seiyu-kai* Committee, is all for an understanding with Russia. The *Yomiuri* thinks that another convention would be simply a series of fresh concessions. We need scarcely offer any comment in this context.

Saturday, April 25.

The terms demanded by Russia for evacuating Manchuria are published by some of the leading journals of Tokyo in almost identical terms. They are:—

1.—That the Chinese Government shall not appoint Viceroys or Governors in any of the three provinces of Manchuria.

2.—That with the exception of Newchwang no part of Manchuria shall be opened to foreign trade.

3.—That no mining concessions shall be granted in Manchuria except to Russian subjects

4.—That the duty of guarding the railways shall be performed by Russian troops.

5.—That the training of Chinese troops in Manchuria shall be entrusted to Russian military experts only.

6.—That Russian officials shall have the sole supervision of the customs in Manchuria.

7.—That Russia shall have the right to establish a commercial bureau in Mukden.

The above conditions are said to be embodied in a secret agreement and to be supplemented by a declaration that no foreign Power shall be allowed to have any voice in the matter. The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent alleges that Great Britain and Japan are resolutely opposing any such convention—as well they may, indeed—and that Prince Ching also is against yielding, but the *Asahi's* correspondent reports that the Prince is disposed to accede to the 4th and 6th conditions, namely, that the railways shall be guarded by Russian troops and that the customs shall be under Russian control. According to the *Nichi Nichi's* information, Prince Ching is very determined. He is represented as saying that these demands have nothing to do with the evacuation of Manchuria and that what Russia has to do is to implement her engagements. If she has any proposals to put forward, they can be subsequently submitted. But according to the same authority there are two parties in Chinese officialdom, a moderate party and a strong party, the former being disposed to concede much for the sake of peace. Meanwhile the evidences that Russia has no intention of giving practical effect to her promises of evacuation are said to be growing more and more palpable. If she moves her troops at all it will be merely to change their quarters through a small distance, and she shows no signs whatever of handing over Newchwang. The *Asahi's* correspondent affirms that Russia has thirty battalions of Chinese troops on duty in Manchuria; that she pays the non-commissioned officers and officers from 20 to 100 *yen* monthly and the rank and file 15 *yen*; that she requires the local officials to find this money; that she has taken into her service over a thousand Bazouks in the Fenghwang region; that she has been planing to excite disturbances, and that, to her satisfaction, some six or seven hundred bandits are raiding the neighbourhood of Mukden. At Fehling there are some signs of evacuation, the troops having been withdrawn from within the city and posted outside.

Viceroy Yuan, according to the *Niroku Shimpo's* Peking news, addressed a strenuous memorial to the Throne on the 15th instant with reference to the evacuation question. The Viceroy sets out by emphatically declaring that Russia has made no attempt, nor shown any evidence of attempting, to carry out her engagement with regard to Manchuria; that, in short, she is deliberately disregarding her promises. Yuan then summarizes the pretexts advanced by her; namely, that the insurgents are not yet fully quelled and that the security of Russian life and property can not be guaranteed; that the Chinese troops which would replace the Russian are not properly trained, and that they could not preserve peace and order; that if Russia withdraws, some other Power will step in, to China's serious embarrassment; that unless Russian forces are on the spot, railway and mining enterprises can not be carried on, and so forth and so on. The Viceroy does not think it necessary to deal in detail with these specious pretexts. He regards them as merely an attempt to deceive Chinese officials and to afford an excuse for continuing Russia's occupation. China, he grants, is in a somewhat exhausted condition after her recent troubles, but she still remains one of the most extensive and thickly populated among the independent countries of the world, and if ever an occasion offered for putting forth her strength, it is when the cradle of the Imperial dynasty is threatened with foreign aggression. However, England and Japan are with China in this matter, and are prepared even to take a direct part in the negotiations with Russia according to the trend of circumstances. It is then China's plain course to avail herself of this assistance and confront Russia boldly. "Why should our Foreign Office hesitate?" Unhappily, there is not now any man like the late Viceroy Liu who has the ability, the influence, and the resolu-

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tion to charge himself with the duty of safeguarding the national integrity. Therefore Yuan prays the Emperor himself to take this matter in hand, to rouse the spirit of the people, to avail himself of the goodwill of England and Japan, and to direct his officials into the undeviating route of treaty enforcement.

Sunday, April 26.

Manchurian affairs continue to occupy a large place in the columns of Tokyo journals. The *Asahi's* correspondent, referring to new demands said to have been preferred by Russia, says that, in addition to an engagement for the non-alienation of the Three Provinces, Russia requires to have control of sanitary arrangements, and also asks for the right to use the Chinese telegraph poles for stretching wires of her own.

Again it is announced—this time by Chinese emissaries sent to inspect the state of affairs in Manchuria—that Russia's measures of so-called evacuation are limited to changing the quarters of her troops, and that she is enrolling and busily training a considerable force of Chinese soldiers.

The same correspondent says that while China avows her inability to accede to Russian demands, her statesmen have not yet adopted any firm attitude of refusal, whereas the Russian Representative is vehemently declaring that until his country's terms are accepted there shall be no evacuation.

Although the matter is not immediately connected with Manchuria, it may be mentioned here that the Governor of Ili is said to have reported to Peking that Russian engineers are busily erecting telegraphs in the Sinkiang district, and are evidently bent on bringing the system into connexion with their Trans-Asian line.

The Kinchow telegraph authorities are said to have sought instructions from Peking with respect to a Russian demand for permission to stretch wires on the Chinese line from that place to Takushan. This Kinchow is not the town of the same name in the Liaotung Peninsula. It is in the neighbourhood of Shanhaikwan, being the point where the Tientsin-Shanhaikwan railway approaches the coast of the Gulf of Pehchili. Takushan is on the northern side of the Yalu. This line of telegraph would thus bring the Korean frontier regions into direct communication with Shankaikwan for Russian purposes.

It need scarcely be said that the demands of Russia, as formulated by rumour, assume larger and larger dimensions. She is now said to require that her rights in Manchuria shall not be in any degree impaired by evacuation and that the *status quo* in Mongolia shall remain unchanged. When the list of these demands was submitted to the Empress Dowager by Prince Ching, the Grand Secretary, Her Majesty is reported to have laughed and said:—"According to this arrangement, the operation would not bear the slightest resemblance to evacuation."

It is rumoured—*Asahi's* correspondent—that when Prince Ching, on the 22nd instant, despatched Lieng Fang to the Russian Legation with a message to the effect that the demands put forward by St. Petersburg were very embarrassing to China, the Representative replied that China's embarrassment did not seem a matter of sufficient importance to be made the subject of a telegram to his Government, and that what he wanted to know was merely whether the demands were accepted or declined. In the face of China's invertebrate policy such peremptoriness is potent.

The Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg has wired to his Government, according to rumour, that the Russian Foreign Office assures him of the intention to carry out evacuation, but the Minister opines that this assurance will remain academical so long as China refuses to accede to Russia's new conditions.

A special telegram to the *Niroku* from Peking says that the British and Japanese Representatives are very active. They warned China unequivocably on the 24th instant that if the procrastination of Manchurian evacuation assumed any character of permanency, Great Britain and Japan would find themselves obliged to take steps for the protection of their interests. They therefore required to know what assurances China could obtain from Russia as to the exact period for which the measure of evacuation is to be prolonged. They added that their Governments could not possibly consent to recognise any agreement between Russia and China, under whatsoever pretext it might be concluded, such as might prove injurious to the interests of Great Britain and Japan; and that should there be any necessity for a new convention or memorandum relating to the administration of Manchuria after evacuation, such convention or memorandum must be submitted for the approval of Japan and England. In fine they required a definite answer from China within five days as to whether she accepted or rejected the conditions here formulated.

In the conclusion of the above telegram it is added that the Representatives of Great Britain and Japan, acting under instructions from the Governments in London and Tokyo, have made their Russian colleague acquainted with the nature of the remonstrances addressed by them to China.

We need scarcely say that rumour busies itself very industriously elaborating the demands supposed to have been submitted by Russia in Peking. The public is now asked to believe that every list hitherto put forward has been of a very partial nature, that other conditions of a much more onerous character have been secretly formulated. But, so far as we know, the best information accepts as accurate the seven conditions stated above, namely, that neither governor nor viceroys shall be appointed by China in the Three Provinces; that with the exception of Newchwang no part of Manchuria shall be opened to foreign trade; that all mining privileges in Manchuria shall be reserved for Russian subjects; that the railways shall be guarded by Russian troops; that Russian military experts shall be employed to train the Chinese forces in Manchuria; that the customs duties shall pass through Russian hands, and that a Russian commercial bureau shall be established in Mukden.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* associates the United States with England and Japan in a strong protest against Russia's demand that no part of Manchuria shall be opened except Newchwang.

Chang Chih-tung is reported to be working hand in hand with Viceroy Yuan to defeat Russia's designs.

Shanghai comes to the front with a declaration that Russia has ordered 700 tons of biscuits, a formidable quantity, worthy of Shanghai, though the sender of the telegram qualifies it by saying that war is not believed to be actually imminent. The *Jiji Shimpo* credits the fact of an order but ridicules the amount. However, the *Jiji* has its own story to tell; namely, that No. 57, Yokohama, Messrs. Ginsburg and Company, placed an order on the 9th instant with Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., and another firm, for 56,000 lbs. of biscuit, the whole quantity to be delivered in 15 days, and that another order for 200,000 lbs. has been given out in Tokyo. These things are in addition to purchases of biscuits and Cardiff coal already reported from Nagasaki.

With regard to the opinions of the Japanese press, we observe that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is changing its pacific attitude. It notes that whereas originally the Japanese nation regarded the restoration of Manchuria from a more or less sentimental point of view, it has now become in their eyes a problem of practical importance, since 1,656 of their countrymen are settled in Manchuria and the number increases monthly. The majority of these are householders, and it is beyond question that if any enterprises of importance were started in Manchuria Japan would supply the labour. In these circumstances she would long ago have established consulates and pressed for the opening of the country, but all measures of that sort have been hampered by the confusion that exists between the actuality of Russian authority and the theory of Chinese supremacy. The time has now come, however, when all the Powers concerned in the equal development of tradal opportunities and in the preservation of China's integrity—and Russia has frequently declared herself to be one of these Powers—must unite to promote their legitimate aims.

The *Jiji Shimpo* observes that while the precise details of Russia's demands are still somewhat obscure, their general tenor can not be mistaken. They mean nothing more or less than the transfer of sovereign power in Manchuria from China's hands to those of Russia. It is not to be denied that Russia has great material interests in Manchuria; that she has built railways there and leased important strategical positions. But it is equally indisputable that the territorial title is vested in China, to whom also the administrative supremacy belongs. Russia can not fail to appreciate the necessity of terminating the temporary military occupation which abnormal circumstances sanctioned. Yet she has formulated conditions which would render evacuation illusory. There should be no doubt about China's attitude towards such conditions, and if China has not sufficient resolution to reject them, it will not be possible for the Powers to stand by with folded hands. A main purpose of the Anglo-Japanese alliance is precisely to avert such contingencies, and Russia herself has repeatedly disavowed all intention of disturbing the *status quo*. If unfortunately her procedure troubles the tranquillity of the Far East, the responsibility will be on her shoulders.

The *Hochi Shimbun* repeats its analysis of Russia's adventurous policy; her bold essays in various directions with the hope, invariably justified, of a good proportion of successes to failures; and repeats also its condemnation of Japan's meticulosity and hesitation in the presence of crises. It further denounces Russia's Manchurian procedure in most unequivocal terms, calling it the extreme of arbitrariness (*bogaku bugin no kyodo mo koko ni itatte kiwamarēri*). The *Hochi* concludes with these words:—"This country has already a definite policy in the matter of the Manchurian problem. History and reason both point naturally and unmistakably in the same direction. Yet we are called on to witness the presence of Russian troops in Manchuria continued until this day. We are unable to comprehend such a state of affairs. Russia is acting in accordance with

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her regular habit; Japan is obeying her tendency to hesitation."

The *Asahi Shimbun* does not think that Russia really wants all the things she has asked for. Underlying these conditions, which would reduce China's position in Manchuria to a mere shadow, there is the purpose of maintaining a military force in the Three Provinces, and ultimately annexing them. "We are compelled to say," writes this journal, "that Russia has proved herself to be without continuity of morality. China must now be urged to insist on Russia's observance of the second Article of the convention for the evacuation of Manchuria. If China does not agree to do so she must be reminded of the responsibility she will incur in connexion with the disturbance of the peaceful balance of power in the Far East. She must be required to adopt whatever measures are essential to guarantee us against losses resulting from that disturbance. That is the plain duty of the Japanese Government. The time has come. Our conviction is assured."

The *Kokumin Shimbun* writes the story of the incidents that have culminated in the present crisis, and declares that neither Japan nor the other Powers can regard this matter in the light of a conflagration on the opposite bank of a river.

Monday, April 27.

Another convention is placed before the public. It is communicated to the *Asahi Shimbun* by its Peking correspondent and is said to have been concluded between the Russian local authorities and the Chinese Governor of the Amur region. The five principal conditions among twelve embodied in the document are:—

1.—The East China Railway Company shall be entitled to freely mine for coal within a distance of 30 *li* (10 miles) on either side of its lines.

2.—The same Company shall have the prior right to mine for coal outside the above limit of 30 *li*, and should any other foreigners or any foreign company apply for mining privileges outside that limit, the Governor of the Amur shall consult the East China Railway Company before granting permission.

3.—If the Company undertakes mining operations beyond the 30 *li* limit, it shall proceed in accordance with the regulations of the Chinese Government.

4.—Should these mining operations involve the removal of houses or graves, or cause injury to arable land, the Company shall arrange with the owners for the payment of a suitable indemnity.

5.—The Company shall have the privilege of felling timber in either public or private forests on payment of a proper price.

This agreement is said to have been signed last year in December and to have been forwarded by the Amur Governor to the Foreign Office in Peking where it obtained approval and the ratifications were duly exchanged. The *Asahi's* correspondent alleges that a similar convention was concluded in the first place with the Governor of Kirin, but that when the Governor of the Amur was asked to make the same agreement, he showed much unwillingness. The Russians, however, insisted strenuously that no question of injury to China's interests was involved; that the sole object was to obtain coal for the use of the railway, and that other minerals were not in any way concerned. Finally the governor yielded, and it may thus be assumed that the Company has acquired these privileges in both Kirin and Amur. One is inclined to doubt, however, whether the *Asahi's* information is strictly correct, for the element of exclusiveness connected with the coal-mining privileges granted throughout the whole of Kirin and Amur would bring the convention into immediate conflict with China's treaty obligations to other Powers.

Tuesday, April 28.

Manchurian affairs continue to occupy a prominent place in the columns of the Tokyo press. The most interesting item of news is a statement—by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent—of the latest terms which Russia seeks to impose as essential to evacuation. They are seven and as we believe them to be accurate we reproduce them in full:—

1.—That the Three Eastern Provinces (Manchuria) shall never be sold or leased to any foreign Power. ("Other Power" is the exact expression in the *Jiji's* message, but that would be too blunt, we imagine, even for Russia's present methods).

2.—That China shall agree to the laying by Russia of a second line of telegraph side by side with the present Chinese line from Port Arthur to Mukden.

3.—That under no pretext whatever shall China hereafter employ foreigners for service in North China. ("North China" is the expression used, and as the correspondent might have said "Manchuria" without any additional demand upon the telegraph, we presume that he means "North China," far-reaching as such a term would be. Further, the word "employ" does not point to military service alone. It includes service in any capacity, such as the discharge of customs duties for example).

4.—That the customs dues collected at Newchwang shall be paid into the Russo-Chinese Bank; that the commissioner of customs must be a Russian subject, and that the same commissioner shall discharge the duties of sanitary inspector.

5.—That no part of Manchuria with the exception of Newchwang, shall be opened to foreign trade.

6.—That the *status quo* shall be continued in Mongolia, and that no change whatsoever shall be made in its administrative system.

7.—That all privileges enjoyed by Russian subjects prior to the Boxer outrage shall be restored.

Subsequently to the receipt of the above message, the *Jiji's* correspondent despatched a second telegram affirming the correctness of the seven conditions quoted above, and saying that the first and third terms—namely, that the Three Eastern Provinces shall never be sold or let to any other Power, and that no foreigner shall be employed in North China—are regarded as a deliberate violation of the privileges already acquired by other nations under international agreement, and are consequently causing much indignation among foreigners. As for the fifth article, which would forbid the opening of Manchuria with the exception of Newchwang, the correspondent remarks that such a stipulation would be in direct contravention of America's new treaty with China, and that, consequently, it will certainly be opposed by Washington. But, for the matter of that, it is emphatically contrary to the spirit and letter of all the treaties, for a most favoured nation clause would become a mere burlesque were any one Power competent to stipulate for the exclusion of all other Powers from a region to which its own subjects have free access.

As for the stipulation about Mongolia, the correspondent interprets it to constitute an indirect intimation that Russia, regarding Manchuria as her own property, sees no occasion to prescribe any conditions about its administration. Our readers will observe, however, that in previous versions of the terms formulated by Russia, there was a provision that no Chinese viceroy or governor was to be appointed in Manchuria; and that there were also terms about mining and railway guards. With regard to mining privileges, it may be that they are believed to be sufficiently provided for in the separate conventions with the Governors of Kirin and Amur, which were described in our last issue; and as to railway guards, Russia perhaps thinks that, in view of the position she will occupy in Manchuria should the above demands be conceded, there is not the slightest occasion to seek any conventional sanction in such a matter.

The *Jiji's* important intelligence is supplemented by a statement that Russia fully expects to have her demands rejected, and that she is merely seeking some pretext for continued occupation. But that is not news: it is mere conjecture.

A later message says that Prince Ching and Viceroy Yuan strongly urged upon the Foreign Office the unreasonable character of Russia's proposals, declaring them to relate to matters altogether independent of evacuation, and recommending that they be refused emphatically. The Foreign Office in said to have adopted this advice. It conveyed an unqualified refusal to the Russian Representative, and since then no further communication has been received from the latter. We believe the above to be a substantially accurate statement of the position at the date of latest advices.

The *Nippon* publishes a message from its Peking correspondent, dated the 25th instant. We there read that the Chinese Representative in St. Peterburg telegraphed to his Government, on the 23rd instant, an account of an interview with Count Lamsdorff. The Russian Minister said that it was the desire of his Government to duly discharge all the obligations of friendship towards a neighbouring empire, and that, consequently, the withdrawal of Russia's troops from Shingking and Kirin would be duly effected. Some delay was necessary, however, owing to the existence of obstacles which must be overcome by way of preliminary to evacuation. The first of these difficulties was that large bodies of bandits had made their appearance in the two provinces and that the Chinese governors were apparently incompetent to quell them. The second was that a state of law and order had not yet been established in the two provinces, and that, consequently, there could be no security for Russian life and property were the troops withdrawn. The third was that the sanitary arrangements at the various towns in Manchuria being now in the hands of the Russian troops, if these were withdrawn things would revert to their former evil condition, thus endangering the health of Russian residents. The fourth difficulty was that no organization yet existed for safeguarding the privileges of railway building and mining acquired by Russians in the two provinces. The fifth, that the administrative system to be adopted by China in the two provinces after evacuation had not yet been settled. The sixth and last point was that no secret treaty had yet been concluded between Russia and China for dealing with the contingency of a third Power attempting aggressive enterprises in Manchuria in connexion with any future disturbance.

It must be admitted that the *Nippon's* correspondent has at least succeeded in constructing a statement which, were it credible, might suffice to set the world laughing at Russia's expense. For it would be beyond the power of human ingenuity to establish any intelligent connexion between the words put into Count Lamsdorff's mouth and the demands preferred by his instructions in Peking. We believe that the *Nippon* correspondent manufactured his story out of whole cloth. There is a great deal of such tailoring now-a-days.

Wednesday, April 29.

We are now at the stage when probably for a few days no official news of any great importance will be published. The Chinese Government has signified its complete inability to accede to Russia's demands, and

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we may assume that the intimation was accompanied by a reminder of Russia's conventional and unconditional obligation to withdraw her troops. Everything now depends upon the resolve adopted in St. Petersburg, and pending some trustworthy knowledge of that, all news must be received with the fullest reservation. It may be mentioned here that some of the most detailed despatches "from Peking" published by certain Tokyo newspapers appear to be merely a collection of clever conjectures, perhaps occasionally conceived at the place of their publication and quite innocent of having made any journey over the wires. One journal especially is always far ahead of official information, and we do not know that in any instance hitherto its "previousness" has been endorsed by events. Recently it announced the conclusion of a secret treaty between Russia and China, the text of which it published in full, making it a basis for subsequent attacks upon the incompetence of Japanese diplomatists who had failed to discover the existence of such an important document. The very same journal is now publishing "forward" accounts of the uncompromising attitude adopted by the Chinese Government towards Russia, and of the very vertebrate assurances given by the Peking statesmen to England and Japan. It really does not seem to matter much to a large section of Tokyo readers whether a newspaper makes reckless sport of them or not. We greatly doubt whether they have anything like a just appreciation of the value of a journal like the *Jiji Shimpo*, which never substitutes conjecture for information, and which brings conscience as well as enterprise into its news department.

The *Jiji Shimpo* published an extra on the evening of the 28th containing an account of an interview between its Peking correspondent and the Russian Representative in that city. The latter is alleged to have said that Russia's reason for not desiring the opening of Manchuria is that the Japanese, American and British nationals coming there, do not tread the route of commerce only, but also meddle in politics. If China employed foreigners for service in Manchuria they would prove so many obstacles to the full exercise of legitimately self-defensive operations by Russia, for the more influence foreigners acquired there, the more embarrassing would their presence be. Russia during many years had spent large sums and devoted the lives of many of her subjects to the development of Manchuria, and Japan and England, neither of which had spent a cent. or lost the life of one soldier on that account, had not the remotest right to interfere now. He found it impossible to understand that Japan, not content with the position she enjoyed in Korea, should seek to stretch out her hand to Manchuria also. So long as Russia neither took Manchuria nor left it she found herself assailed by all sorts of remonstrances at the hands of other Powers, and the statesmen whose voices were now paramount in St. Petersburg had concluded that the best way would be to incorporate the three provinces at once in Russia's dominions.

The same correspondent adds that the United States Representative in Peking told him that the Washington Government was emphatically opposed to Russia's demands about the non-employment of foreigners and the continued closure of Manchuria, and that America would not tamely submit to such a state of affairs. He further reports that the British Representative, on the 25th instant, conveyed to the Chinese Government a warning similar to that previously conveyed by Japan, namely, that the granting of Russia's demands would be a flagrant violation of the rights of other Powers and that England could not possibly consent to it.

Our contemporary also gives another version of the seventh of the Russian demands. He now makes it read, not that the privileges enjoyed by Russian subjects prior to the Boxer outrages shall be restored, but that the privileges now enjoyed by Russia in Manchuria shall be definitely recognised.

A telegram from London to the *Jiji*, dated the 27th instant, says that *The Times* declares its full confidence in the resolution of the Japanese nation and in the ability and prudence of the Japanese Government. The telegram adds that the United States Ambassador in St. Petersburg has addressed to the Russian Government a question partaking of the nature of a remonstrance about Manchuria; that Mr. Conger in Peking has also been instructed to convey to the Chinese Government strong objections to Russia's demands; and that, according to *The Times'* Berlin correspondent, Germany will maintain a mien of unconcern *vis-à-vis* Russia's procedure.

Thursday, April 30.

There is, as we foresaw, little news from Peking. Things are practically at a standstill. A telegram despatched to the *Jiji* on the afternoon of the 28th says that the Chinese Government's official refusal of Russia's proposals was to be sent in that day. The *Niroku Shimbun*, *more suo*, goes ahead of all other sources of news, and publishes a cablegram to the effect that the Russian Representative has waited on Prince Ching and informed him that by making known Russia's proposals to a third Power, China has insulted the Tsar; that if good relations are to be preserved between the two empires, mutual concessions are necessary, and that China's method of refusing Russia's proposals peremptorily and *en bloc* does not open the path to any concessions. He concluded by recommending the Chinese Government to reconsider its position. But the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* news is that Prince Ching has asked Russia to reconsider her's. It need scarcely be observed that the *Niroku* has already proved itself too "previous" to be readily credited. The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent adds that Russia's demands, though substantially expressed in the seven articles already published, are in truth more subversive of China's sovereign rights than even those conditions would imply.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, telegraphing under date of the 28th, says that Russia's attitude is very firm; and that her *Chargé d' Affaires* speaks as though Manchuria were altogether within the scope of Russia's free action, no other Power having any title to interfere. The correspondent further says that although the stage of official remonstrance has not yet been reached, excitement is growing in official circles, and that British and American residents are much incensed against Russia, whose demands they consider wholly inconsistent with the rights of other Powers. He adds that news has been received confirming the report of Russia having sent twenty thousand troops to the banks of the Yalu.

In the seven demands attributed to Russia and now known to be substantially correct, it will be remembered that one stipulated for the permanency of the administrative status in Mongolia. This condition caused bewilderment. Some critics were disposed to believe that "Mongolia" had been erroneously reported and that "Manchuria" should be substituted. Others conceived that by inserting "Mongolia" the Russian Government intended to convey a constructive idea of its supremacy in Manchuria; supremacy too effective to require any stipulation. Yet another view was that Russia merely seized the occasion to extend the sphere of her ambition. It now appears, from the latest versions of the demands, that Manchuria and Mongolia are both included. The system that Russia desires to preserve in Mongolia is that of the Aimaks; a system of divided authority well adapted to offer little obstacle to absorption by a strong Power.

The *Jiji Shimpo* comments in severe terms on the language said to have been used by the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* in Peking to its correspondent. It says that such words of menace are not likely to intimidate Japan. They only excite her amusement. Japan's sole object is to preserve the integrity of China. If that can be accomplished, she is content. Russia's position is very different.

A very vehement tone is adopted by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It applies to Japan's foreign policy the epithet *uketachi*, a term used by fencers to express the attitude of standing on guard. Defensive measures can never be really effective unless they are converted into offensive when occasion offers. The method adopted by Japan's politicians, the method of merely pushing back the wave of aggression as often as it gathers inconvenient volume, is like seizing the scabbard of a drawn sword in order to avoid a wound. The aggressive potentiality must be cut off root and branch; must be driven completely out of Manchuria. That is the *Yomiuri's* notion.

A telegram published by the Foreign Office in Tokyo on Wednesday evening, announces briefly that news has been received indicating the complete evacuation of Shingking by the Russian troops. This intelligence, presumably trustworthy, adds to the perplexity caused by the whole of the Manchurian episode. It is scarcely conceivable, indeed it is virtually impossible, that the withdrawal of the Shingking garrison can have been a consequence of China's refusal to entertain Russia's proposals. A military measure of the kind is not an affair of a few hours' arrangement and of a day's consummation. If the troops have been indeed withdrawn, the resolve to withdraw them must have been effectively existent for some time. On that hypothesis, what can have been Russia's purpose throughout? We can not attempt to form any intelligent conjecture without further evidence. It will be, of course, observed that the evacuation affects Shingking only. Kirin's fate remains to be decided.

Friday, May 1.

There are naturally some doubts as to the interpretation to be put upon the news officially received in Tokyo on the evening of the 29th instant, namely, the news that the evacuation of Shinking had been completed. It now appears that on the 26th instant Admiral Alexieff issued a notification which was published by the Russian journal at Port Arthur in the sense that the Russian troops had been completely withdrawn from Shingking, and that all restrictions upon the travel of aliens in the province were removed from that time. The intelligence wired

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to Tokyo was taken from the Commander-in-chief's notification, but it remains to be seen what Admiral Alexieff means by evacuation. Certainly up to the 26th instant no independent intelligence from any part of Shingking could be construed as indicating either that evacuation had been consummated or that steps pointing to its consummation were in progress. The *Asahi Shimbun* opines that Admiral Alexieff has peculiar ideas about withdrawal, and that he may perhaps consider that Russia's conventional responsibilities are discharged by shifting or interchanging the quarters of her forces. But that, of course, is mere persiflage. If the Admiral has issued such a notification, we have not the least doubt that he intends it to be read literally. The troops may not yet have actually marched out, but Russian military authority may have been withdrawn and arrangements may be in progress for the removal of the soldiers.

From Peking the correspondent of the *Asahi* sends a long telegram the gist of which is that Russia is believed to be attempting to make the best bargain she can, not expecting to obtain more than a fraction of her demands but still pressing for them. The Chinese, on their side, appear to be treating the whole matter with indifference which amounts almost to levity. Last year, when the same question was under consideration, Liu Kun-yi and Chang Chih-tung strongly memorialized the Government, to which their remonstrances imparted the necessary resolution and intelligence, but on this occasion no Viceroy or high dignitary of State has raised his voice.

We find it difficult to reconcile this last statement with previously received news that both Viceroy Yuan and ex-Viceroy Chang had addressed strenuous memorials to the Throne, urging the danger of yielding to any of Russia's demands about Manchuria.

The same correspondent reports a conversation between himself and a certain foreign Representative who expressed the opinion that, though Russia may have originally intended to carry out evacuation unequivocally, she has been moved in the interval to a mood of reluctance by the spectacle of Japan's rapidly growing enterprises in North China and by contemplating her own ledgers where very large sums are entered on account of the expenses of occupation. Hence she has conceived the idea of finding an exit from her dilemma in that clause of the Convention which relieves her from the obligation of evacuating in the presence of interference by a third Power. In pursuance of that device she has formulated tentative demands such as have brought England and Japan vehemently into the arena, and she can now point to these two as interfering Powers before whom retreat ceases to be a conventional duty. The diplomat responsible for this very recondite interpretation predicts that the question will take long to solve.

It would seem that Peking is kept in a state of perplexity by the reports sent from Manchuria. General Tso is said to have telegraphed from Mukden that evacuation is going on. Thus the whole affair becomes a clueless labyrinth, or would so become had not Russia herself, by formulating new demands, furnished one point of clear light at any rate.

The *Asahi* observes editorially that this news sent by its correspondent confirms the views often expressed by itself, namely, that Russia is merely seeking a pretext for remaining in Manchuria. She does not look for China's consent to her demands, but she does look for some outcome which will open a route to the evasion of her obligations. "Does Russia desire," the *Asahi's* proceeds, "to tear up the treaty for the rendition of Manchuria concluded by her with China on the 8th of last April? Alexander the First said that treaties were the outcome of merely paper and ink. Does the present Emperor of Russia hold international compacts in like contempt? Not to withdraw troops though the time for withdrawing them has come, and to keep troops in the territory of another Power for a reason which is not a reason at all, is the same as an unwarranted invasion of that Power's dominions. No greater insult could be put on a State." Our contemporary goes on to say that if China were a strong Power there would be nothing for her but to draw the sword. She is a weak Power, however, and the duty of preventing this breach of treaty devolves largely on those whom it directly concerns in the next degree. The situation may not come to another Crimean war. But it is well to remember that at the time of the Crimean War the British Cabinet was under the direction of a statesman noted for his pacific disposition and for his friendliness to Russia. Yet his hand was forced as may be the hands of his successor to-day. Japan does not want war by any means. She prefers peace, and would gladly see Russia quietly fulfil her engagement. But if preservation of tranquillity in the Far East and the protection of Japan's vital interests have to be considered, Japan will not be backward.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* also writes editorially. Its remarks may be very briefly summarized. They amount to saying that Russia's present attitude is a distinct menace to the peace of the East and to the integrity of China. The St. Petersburg statesmen are well aware of Japan's sentiments. They know that she desires peace and the tranquil opening of the Orient to commerce and intercourse. If, in the face of that knowledge, they insist on pursuing their present purpose, a grave crisis will arise, and upon Russia alone the responsibility will rest.

The *Jiji Shimpo* also publishes telegrams from Peking. One is to the effect that on the 28th instant the United States presented a note to China protesting that the closure of Manchuria and an interdict against the employment of foreigners in North China, would be a plain violation of the treaty with America and of the latter's already acquired rights.

The *Niroku Shimpo* publishes a new secret treaty. The other, it says, has been withdrawn, and this new one has reached the hand of Wang Wen-Shao but is still unknown to Prince Ching! The treaty consists of five clauses. Need we reproduce them, or need we add that Wang Wen-shao has been heavily bribed to promote the adoption of this covenant? Oh for some new liar with an imagination! The flight of canards that began with the Casini bird has become inexpressibly monotonous. A clever inventor with some originality might rise to rapid eminence in these times of iterated sameness.

The French Representative in Peking, according to a paragraph in the *Jiji Shimpo*, is said to have declared his country's intention of going hand-in-hand with Russia in this crisis.

GERMANY AND MANCHURIA.

The imperative necessity that always confronts Germany in Europe is to give no offense to Russia. Her policy is strongly swayed by that object. Nothing that occurs in the Far East has any importance, comparatively speaking. Thus we can well understand that she feels no disposition whatever to interfere with Russia's doings in Manchuria. But it must be confessed that her desire to maintain close relations with the Great Northern Power has placed her in an equivocal position. For certainly her action in 1895 did not evince any indifference to the fate of Manchuria. In 1895 she joined Russia and France for the purpose of wresting Manchuria from Japan's grasp, on the pretext that the tenure of the place by a foreign State would jeopardise the independence of Korea, for which Japan had fought, and would also imperil the peace of the Orient. If she had any interest in either of these things eight years ago, she ought to have much more interest now as the lessee of Kiaochow and the possessor of a "sphere of influence" in Shantung. Yet her newspaper press is said to have declared that Manchuria is nothing to Germany. Well, after all, inconsistency is a venial sin according to the modern code of international morality. And, moreover, Germany's inconsistency in this instance looks altogether insignificant compared with Russia's. The latter's effrontery—we can use no other term—is really magnificent. When her doings on her own account to-day are contrasted with what she did to Japan in 1895, one can not but regard her as grandly free from "the sin of small minds." A great many Germans and a great many Russians must be wishing heartily that imperial expansion did not involve such sacrifices of respectability.

Another reflection suggested by recent news is that the German newspaper press has incidentally exposed its interpretation of what is meant by a "sphere of influence." Russia's proceedings in Manchuria are to be acquiesced in by the world because Manchuria is her "sphere of influence." Of course it was not to be expected that the fictions with which the Powers have evaded their consciences during the past few years in the Far East, would long survive the pressure of events. "Spheres of influence" are the lineal descendants of the buffer States formerly surrounding China. She treated them as tributaries and always refused to give a working definition of their relation to herself, but the test of practical intercourse with the Occident soon shattered her visionary theories. So, in turn, European nations steadily declined to say what they meant by "spheres of influence." Germany is the first to speak clearly. According to her, a sphere of influence is a region to be annexed by the influential Power when opportunity offers or expediency suggests. No one can deny that in his heart of hearts he ever supposed a sphere of influence to be anything else, but we are glad that neither the practical demonstration nor its endorsement has come from Great Britain. This, of course, is a very distinct step towards the partition of China. If spheres of influence are to be so construed, she can not be in doubt any longer as to what is before her.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Saturday, April 25.

There is no break in the interminable series of "ayes" and "noes" representing journalitic conceptions of the situation between the Cabinet and the Opposition. If the 23rd instant was a day of assertion, the 24th proved a day of denial. At the former date, most positive statements were circulated to the effect that an *entente* had been established, and that the Ministry would remain in office until the close of the Diet's approaching session at all events; at the latter, these statements were contradicted with equal confidence. If it were permissible to sound such rumours with a view to discovering some deep psychological purpose, one might imagine that the Ministers of the Crown and the leaders of the Opposition desired to reconcile the public mind with either conjuncture by accustoming it to contemplate both.

Monday, April 27.

There seems to be no doubt that an *entente* has been established between the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* and the Cabinet. The lines of the agreement are said to be that the Ministry will refrain from attempting to pass the bill for continuing the increased rate of land tax, and will not resort to direct taxation of any kind for purposes of naval increment, funds for that object being procured elsewhere. In short, the Ministry consents to abandon one major feature of its programme—the land tax—while adhering to another—naval increment—and the *Seiyu-kai* leaders, in consideration of national interests, will not persist in opposing the Government. On the evening of the 25th instant Marquis Ito, who is now in Tokyo, entertained the members of the General Committee at dinner in the Imperial Hotel and consulted them. It is said that some questions were raised as to the Cabinet's responsibility for dissolving the House of Representatives and for interfering in the elections, but these issues are not deemed cardinal. The Progressists, however, have still to be consulted. To the above general facts the *Niroku Shimpo* adds the detail that funds for naval increment are to be obtained from two sources: first, administrative reform, which will give 5 millions; and secondly, economies in the Naval Budget, which totals 23 million *yen*. Some allege that from this budget about one-fifth can be saved, in which case 9,400,000 *yen* would be the available aggregate. But that is probably an over-sanguine estimate.

Wednesday, April 29.

Among the Tokyo journals only two, the *Kokumin* and the *Nippon*, affirm positively that an *entente* has been established between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai*. All the others speak of the matter as still doubtful. But from the moment when Marquis Ito gave his consent, there could not be much doubt about the course that would be taken by the more influential section of the Party. Nevertheless it seems to be certain that there is still a tolerably strong body of men among the *Seiyu-kai* who can not yet persuade themselves, if indeed they can ever be persuaded, to accept any compromise such as that proposed. Thus the editorial comments of the *Jimmin*, which, as our readers know, is the organ of the *Kwanto-ha*, continue to be of the most vehement description. So far from indicating a spirit of conciliation, they betray the strongest resentment, and if they may really be regarded as an expression of political feeling, it would be necessary to infer a split in the ranks of the Party. But what would then become of the seceders? They would probably find themselves absorbed into the ranks of the Progressists, which can not be the fate they court. Summarizing the situation, the less sanguine and more numerous section of the Tokyo journals see four hills that have yet to be surmounted before the valley of peace is reached. The first is situated in the General Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* itself. A consensus has not there been reached. The second lies in the direction of the Progressists, who, having joined the *Seiyu-kai* for the explicit purpose of overthrowing the Cabinet, will now find themselves badly left. The third is among the members of the *Seiyu-kai* at large. When summoned to endorse the *entente*, a good many of them may break away. The fourth is the House of Peers. That Chamber would certainly welcome an *entente* which involved some sort of concession on the part of the *Seiyu-kai*, but will it take such a view of an agreement signifying a radical surrender on the side of the Cabinet? Such is the analysis of the situation according to several journals. But they appear to forget one important point; namely that these reflections which present themselves to-day to onlookers must have been patent long ago to political leaders and grey-headed statesmen. Successful compacts are always preceded by arrangements for dealing with their immediate and palpable consequences. We may be sure that Marquis Ito was secure in the allegiance of the great bulk of the *Seiyu-kai* before he invited the General Committee to dinner in the Imperial Hotel, and that Count Katsura knew already what kind of reception the proposed *entente* would receive from the leading peers when he made his final arrangements with Marquis Ito.

Thursday, April 30.

It becomes more and more evident that the *entente* between the Cabinet and the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* will not be accomplished without some impairment of the latter's solidarity. Various local branches have passed resolutions indicating more or less strenuous revolt against the idea of peace and concord. But on the whole this ordeal will probably prove advantageous to the big Party. Marquis Ito and the able politicians standing closest to his banner, can not desire the association of men who fight for place without regard to principles, and who grasp at opportunities without considering their opportuneness. If in its new orbit the Party shakes off a cluster of these disorderly satellites, its dimensions may be reduced but its strength will be increased. We refrain from wearying our readers with details of the partial rebellions that are declaring themselves here and there. The only really interesting feature is that the original recalcitrants, who inaugurated the recent commotion by means of a manifesto in Osaka and a memorial in Tokyo, now claim that they were inspired by the wisdom of prevention; that their object was to avert precisely the act of weak yielding which has to-day taken place; and that Marquis Ito having lapsed into heedless dotage, is no longer fit to be a leader of men. Among the names of these seceders we find those of Messrs. Kusaka, Nemoto, Suzuki and Sugita. Under what flag, we wonder, will they take the field? Is the Diet to be again a scene of warring factions? Possibly the *Meiji* statesmen may emerge from this crisis at the head, finally, of a strong party. That would be a very pretty piece of generalship.

The newspaper editors of the Opposition have again held a meeting, this time for the purpose of protesting against the *entente*. We observe that nearly the whole of the *Jimmin's* staff were present. It is further stated that the Progressists are determined to stand firm. Count Okuma is reported to have declared that Marquis Ito is too apt to yield to sentiment. It is not likely that he has lowered his lance altogether to the Cabinet, but there is much to apprehend. The Count entirely applauds the idea of an *entente*. He appreciates the difficulty of Marquis Ito's position, buthe believes that the Marquis, in turn, must appreciate the forces that have presided at the birth and growth of the politicians forming the nucleus of the *Seiyu-kai*, and that if this *entente* defers in any degree the constitutional consummation for which the fight has been carried on and for which the Progressists joined the *Seiyu-kai*, it can not be approved.

CHINA.

Telegrams from Peking speak of two Imperial Edicts issued on the 22nd instant, which indicate a disposition on China's part to approach the currency question seriously. In one Edict Prince Ching and Ku Hung-ki are directed to consult with a view to the establishment of a mint in Peking where coins shall be struck to meet the demands of the entire empire. Subsequently all taxes, customs dues and *likin* are to be paid in this currency; uniformity of system is to be established between the central and the local treasuries, and the confusion now existing is to be effectually remedied.

The second Edict relates to the organization of a department of commerce in Peking. Prince Ching had originally presented a memorial on this subject, and his suggestions were approved by the Grand Council and sanctioned by the Emperor. It is therefore ordered in the Decree that Prince Tsai Ching, Viceroy Yuan and Wu Ting-fong are to take steps for organizing the department, and to arrange its functions with a view to the development and encouragement of commerce and industry, seeking the Sovereign's sanction for the system elaborated by them.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a telegram from its correspondent in Peking to the effect that, according to rumour, France has preferred some very important demands in connection with the province of Kwangsi. It is very conceivable that the French Government should take advantage of the present occasion to put forward proposals which would probably be minimized by the comparative magnitude of the Manchurian question, and which might give some vicarious assistance to Russia.

Owing to the departures of His Excellency M. Dubail, French Representative in Peking, and of M. Casanave, Secretary of Legation, both of whom return to France on leave, M. Panafieu, Secretary of the French Legation in Tokyo, will take charge of his country's interests in Peking as a temporary measure. M. Panafieu will probably leave Tokyo soon for that purpose.

There are said to be now twenty-six subjects of Japan in the employment of the Vice-regal Government of Pehchili. Recently on the occasion of the Imperial Court's visit to Paoting, Their Majesties received these employees in audience, and treated them with special favour, bestowing Orders on nine of the number.

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KOREA.

Japanese journals state that of late Russian and Chinese subjects, acting together, have been crossing the Yalu to the Korean side and cutting timber in the regions about Mount Paing-ma. Application for instructions made to Seoul by the local Korean officials elicited an answer that though permission had been given for the felling of timber along the banks of the Yalu, such permission does not extend by any means to the forests of Paingma, and immediate steps must be taken to check these depredations. How are the officials to enforce this order?

All the Japanese papers in Tokyo contain a statement couched in identical terms, to the effect that Hong chong-u, the Korean who killed Kim Ok-kyun in Shanghai eight years ago, has been promoted to be governor of Quelpapart. He recently proceeded thither to take up his duties, and it is added that, acting in concert with, or by the advice of, French missionaries, he enjoined upon the inhabitants of the island the necessity of not renting houses to Japanese subjects; not selling objects of daily necessity to them; not agreeing to take service under them; and not buying goods from Japanese merchants. Any one violating this injunction is to be condemned to penal servitude. Finally, any person attending the Japanese school of languages will be beheaded. There are 1,500 Japanese subjects in Quelpart, and the result of the new Governor's action is that they will have to withdraw from the island. On the 9th instant they sent a fishing boat to Mokpo to pray for succour.

The news about Korean procedure in Quelpart has caused some journalistic excitement in Tokyo. A strong article appears in the *Asahi Shimbun*. The various recent instances of anti-Japanese procedure are enumerated, namely, the illegal taxes on the transport by the Nak-dong, the veto on the circulation of Japanese bank notes, and now this Quelpart business. Reviewing the whole, the Tokyo journal thinks that a policy of conciliation is no longer feasible in Korea and that intimidation must be resorted to.

It is to be observed, however, that Hong chong-u was appointed to be governor of Quelpart fully a year ago, and to this we may add that no news of the outrageous proceedings now attributed to him has been received officially in Tokyo, which fact renders the report exceedingly apocryphal.

Another piece of intelligence also comes from Seoul, namely, that a Belgian subject has been appointed to the place of chief adviser to the Korean Government with a salary of a thousand *yen* a month. It is alleged that when the Japanese Representative in Seoul made inquiry of the Korean Foreign Office some time ago with regard to this affair, he was distinctly informed that nothing of the kind was contemplated. Yet the Belgian chosen for the post is now said to be actually *en route* for Korea. Of course what interests Japan is that any foreign adviser should be put above the head of Mr. Kato, to whom the leading post belongs by agreement.

We recently commented on a most useful publication just issued, namely "A Catalogue of the Romanized Geographical Names of Korea." The work has now been supplemented by a "General Map of Korea," in folder form of very handy dimensions, which bears the name of Dr. Kato. Considerable portions of Korea are still a *terra incognita* to cartographists. Dr. Kato's new map does not fill up all the lacunæ. But it is incomparably the most minute and satisfactory of any map hitherto published, and it has the further signal advantage of giving all the nomenclature in accordance with a uniform and scholarly system. The Japanese are taking a signal lead in instructing the world in the geography of the Far East. At the commencement of the war of 1894 and 5, they published a map of Manchuria and Northern China showing research altogether beyond any standard attained by previous compilers. Last year they published a map of the sphere of Russian enterprise in the Far East; a map which was a veritable surprise so remarkable was the evidence it afforded of long and laborious investigation. Who are the Japanese by whom these works are done? One hears nothing at all of them until results are actually achieved. They seem to have the faculty of self-effacement until the convenient moment, a most useful faculty in the circumstances. The only feature that dissatisfies us in Dr. Kato's map, is that he has avoided giving—except in one or two cases—the English names which several of the littoral points in Korea have received, and by which they are known to the whole of the Occident. Apart from the uses that these names have come to serve, we should be sorry to see them forgotten, for they are among the innumerable monuments of British enterprise that the Far East offers. It must occur to many people when they examine the map, that the landmarks of England's leadership in the past are gradually being effaced by the kleptomania of modern diplomacy. Spheres of influence are replacing accomplished facts.

Several Tokyo journals publish an interesting item of intelligence about Korea. Our readers have doubtless noted that from time to time there has been talk of troubles arising out of abuses of timber-cutting privileges granted by the Korean Government to Russia. On the 27th instant, for example, news was received that these privileges had been pushed as far as the forests of Mount Paing-ma, which lies several miles inland on the Korean side of the Yalu River and which is consequently said to be entirely beyond the range of the concession. Baron Ginsburg, as usual, occupies a conspicuous position in this matter, but the actual concessionaire is said to be a Mr. Kurino. Russia wants sleepers for her Trans-Asian Railway, and she naturally seeks them wherever they can be found most conveniently. It has now occurred to the Japanese that they also want timber for the construction of the Seoul-Fusan Railway, and that they are entitled to ask for any privileges granted to another Power. Accordingly, the Japanese Representative in Seoul is reported to have submitted to the Korean Government a request to be accurately informed as to the terms of the concession granted to Russian subjects, and it is expected that when he obtains the desired information, he will ask for similar privileges on behalf of Mr. Abe Nisuke, who has submitted an application.

The *Nippon*, the *Niroku*, the *Jiimmin* and other journals publish an identical paragraph to the effect that in consequence of the news received at Masampo from Quelpart, a small force of police was despatched from the former place to the latter, and that, further, the *Saiyen* has been sent from Sascho. We have already stated that up to the 27th no official intimation of the alleged Quelpart outrages had been received in Tokyo. Hence this sequel to the account published journalistically on the 27th instant must be regarded with much doubt.

It is now stated that the proximate cause of the Japanese Representative in Seoul having approached the Korean Government with reference to timber-felling privileges along the head-waters of the Yalu, is that a Japanese subject, Mr. Abe, has become associated with a company of Chinese and Koreans engaged in that enterprise, and that it seems natural and proper to seek for Japanese subjects the same privileges as those enjoyed by Russian. Tokyo journals state that the charter granted to Mr. Barino was for five years, dating from 1896, and that it was renewed for three years from 1901.

We read in the *Asahi* that a telegram has been received from Mokpo announcing a state of disquiet in Quelpart, and that the *Saiyen* has actually started from Sasebo for the former place.

Viscount Aoki arrived in Chemulpo from Seoul on the 28th instant, and was to deliver an address at the invitation of the Educational and Sanitary Society. The Japanese Representative in Seoul and Mr. Kato were to attend, and there was to be a social entertainment after the address.

It seems probable that the rumours reaching Tokyo from private sources about arbitrary anti-Japanese conduct on the part of the Quelpart local authorities are much exaggerated. The latest of these stories points to new restrictions imposed on transactions between Koreans and Japanese, and attributes to the ex-assassin Governor a statement that Quelpart not being conventionally open to foreign trade, Japanese subjects have no right to reside there and engage in commercial transactions. Since, however, that objection would apply equally to the French missionaries, the Governor is alleged to have explained that in their case he is influenced by special instructions from the Foreign Office in Seoul. We can not discover, however, that officially received intelligence bears out these tales. Nothing appears to be assured except that some kind of obstruction to Japanese commercial transactions has been offered by the local authorities, but as to the extent or the details no definite information is yet forthcoming. It is not correct, either, to say that the *Saiyen* has been specially despatched from Sascho to Quelpart in connexion with this matter. The *Saiyen* is stationed at Masampo, and she would naturally be employed to communicate with any adjacent region of Korea where official investigations were necessary.

It is wired from Korea that a report having been received by the Authorities in Seoul to the effect that thirty Russian soldiers had made their appearance at Wiju, an inquiry was addressed to the Russian Representative at the Korean Court, who replied that the men had no purpose other than to protect Russian subjects engaged in legitimate enterprises of timber-felling, as sanctioned by the Korean Government. If this tale be true it indicates an extension of the potentialities connected with privileges obtained from an Oriental State by an Occidental. The guarding of railways and lines of telegraph built by foreign concessionaires is a right which appears to have received the sanction of the most modern codes of international law, but

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if this duty is to be discharged in the case also of persons felling timber, why not then in the case of persons working mines or carrying on any enterprise that involves the local employment of capital? These relations, which are supposed to mark the progress of material civilization, have a snowball-like tendency to automatic self-development.

Meanwhile alarmist rumours continue to be circulated about the massing of Russian troops along the northern bank of the Yalu. A few days ago the number concentrated there was said to be twenty thousand; now it is put at thirty thousand.

The Emperor of Japan and the Emperor of Korea have each subscribed for an additional two thousand shares of the Seoul-Wiju Railway. That brings to 30,000 the total number of shares thus far placed.

NAVAL INCREMENT.

Publicists who raise their voices against the appalling expansion of armaments that constitutes a feature of present-day civilization, have drawn attention to the huge increase of Japan's expenditure on account of her Navy during the past ten years. It is very true. Unless there be discovered some feasible means of checking this international rivalry in the manufacture of weapons of destruction, a general rebellion on the part of the tax-payer or a paralysis of productive enterprise may be apprehended. We do not know whether all our readers have followed closely the debates in the House of Commons on the Navy Estimates, but for the information of those that have not done so, it may be interesting to point out that the discussion elicited the fact that Great Britain's outlay on account of her Navy was only ten millions sterling in 1875. In that year Mr. Childers broached the Three-Power standard. He held that should England, at 24 hours notice, become entangled without an ally in a war with the three principal Powers, she should have strength enough to hold her own in the Channel, in home waters, in the Mediterranean and in Chinese and Colonial waters. The First Lord's view received the tacit endorsement of the country, a fact which can be more readily understood by observing that the expenditure of the three principal maritime countries of continental Europe amounted at that time to only 8¼ millions sterling. But thereafter Russia, France and Germany steadily increased their appropriations, so that in 1885 they were spending an aggregate sum of over 12½ millions annually, in round figures, whereas England's outlay remained at 10 millions. This can not be too clearly remembered. During those ten years from 1875 to 1885, it was not England that offered any example of naval expansion: it was Russia, France and Germany. The record of the following ten years tells the same story though in less striking language. By 1895 the Three Powers had increased their naval outlays to 25 millions, whereas England's expenditure had risen to only 17 millions. Then England woke up. She appreciated the danger threatening her, and it must be confessed that her rivals spared no pains to sharpen her appreciation, for their newspaper press and their politicians declared in the plainest terms that the purpose of the time was to deprive Great Britain of her naval supremacy, which is essential to her very existence, since without it her commerce and her homesteads would lie at the mercy of over-sea enemies. Therefore she set herself to make up leeway, and so she is now spending 34 millions annually, or nearly 3½ times her outlay in 1875. We are not in the slightest degree proud of these figures. On the contrary, we regard them as a veritable parody of twentieth century civilization. But it is only just to call attention to the fact that England did not issue the challenge or start the race of ruinous competition. She held back for twenty years, and it was not until the danger of hesitation became too plain to be ignored that she at last consented reluctantly to join the struggle. We think she will be now found to have some lasting power.

THE "NIPPON RIKKO-KAI."

The following has been handed to us for publication:—"The Nippon Rikko-kai, a Society for encouraging self-supporting students, was organised in January of the 30th year of *Meiji* (1897) with the object of enabling poor students to receive an education calculated to enlighten their spirit as well as to increase their knowledge. It has already succeeded in providing means of self-support for over 400 students, by establishing several departments of work, such as the delivery of newspapers and milk, employment agencies, peddling, copying, printing, book-publishing, American-tour agency, lecturing, school-information agency, free-medical-treatment agency, &c. In truth the society has done its best for the relief of needy students, but the number of these being very great, the services it was originally capable of rendering proved little more than a drop of water in the ocean. Measures were therefore taken last year to hold a benefit concert in the Music Academy at Uyeno, Tokyo, under the auspices of Prince Konoye, Count Okuma, Count Hijikata, Baron Shibusawa, and such prominent parliamentary members as Messrs. Kataoka, Ebara, and Shimada. The concert being aided by Dr. von Koeber, Miss Koda, and other eminent musicians, proved very successful, and the funds thus obtained were appropriated for the extension of the society's business. But the great want hitherto experienced by poor students is that of a private school where they could receive instruction free of charge. Hence the society has now undertaken to establish a free middle school, for which purpose it hopes to procure funds by concerts held in various localities. The past career of the society as well as the marked success it has achieved leave no doubt as to the honest enthusiasm with which it has striven to assist the indigent but promising youths of the present generation. The promoters of a concert which was held in Yokohama at the Hagoromo theatre on the 27th instant at 4 p.m., declared their intention of contributing the entire proceeds to the society, and with this in view, they earnestly solicited generous ladies and gentlemen to patronise the work by attending the concert."

Probably this is a matter that has never presented itself very vividly to the foreign public. Yet the object for which the Rikko-kai labours appeals to the sympathy of every one acquainted with the facts. There are scores of poor lads in Tokyo who earn their school fees and their means of livelihood by pursuing the hardest and most menial occupations in the intervals of their studies. Before the sun is well above the horizon some of them have secured a pittance by delivering newspapers or acting as milk-men; in the afternoon others may be seen setting types or carrying them from the case to the compositor; not a few devote several hours daily to peddling some stock of cheap wares, and those that can obtain employment as copyists, or book-binders, or errand-boys count themselves fortunate. It is always going on, quietly, uncomplainingly, this brave struggle to win the means of acquiring access to the schools without making any demand on poor parents in country districts or in the city itself, who watch their children's efforts with hearts saddened by their own inability to help. Few features of Japan's daily existence suggest greater hopes for her future than the patient, unflinching fortitude of these youths. Doubtless their counterparts are to be found everywhere; or, at all events, in every nation that makes a mark in history. But it has often seemed to us that the number in Tokyo is disproportionately large, especially when the very inexpensive nature of education is Japan is considered. It is splendid training. Youths that have won such a fight against the *res augusta domi* will prove to have in them the stuff of which heroes are made, and from that point of view a stern philosophy might suggest abstention from all interference. But it is impossible not to long to assist them as soon as one becomes acquainted with the bitter reality of their struggle towards the light, and when one reflects that many must fail, if not perish, in the effort.

THE RUSSIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN PEKING.

If, as we have no reason to doubt, the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent has accurately reported the statements made to him by the Russian Representative in that city, the latter must have taken very little thought before speaking. He is alleged to have said that neither England nor Japan had spent a cent of money or the life of a soldier upon Manchuria, and that, consequently, neither Power had the smallest right to interfere there. Now, even so far as England is concerned, the Russian official's statement is flagrantly erroneous, for not only was Newchwang opened in the sequel of military operations which cost England much blood and treasure, and not only was Talien Bay the rendezvous of a British fleet and a British army between the years 1858 and 1860—the first foreign fleet and foreign army that ever visited Manchurian shores—, but also the railway from Shanghaikwan to Newchwang has been built with English money. These important facts might possibly have escaped the attention of a Russian official speaking under the influence of patriotic excitement. But how can he possibly have forgotten that in the war of 1894-5 Japanese blood and Japanese treasure were freely poured out in Manchuria; that two Japanese armies marched through the country, one northwards from the Yalu through Fenghwang, the other westwards *viâ* Antung to the banks of the Liao and to Newchwang; that a third army landed at Pitsewo and captured Talien and Port Arthur; and that a fourth moved northward from Kinchow right up the Liaotung peninsula, and joined the eastern force under General Katsura after considerable fighting? How can he possibly have forgotten that in the spring of 1895, the whole of the southern part of Manchuria from the Yalu to Tienchwangtai was in Japanese military occupation, and would have remained permanently a part of the Japanese empire had not Russia, Germany and France interfered on

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the ground that the preservation of Manchuria to China was necessary to the independence of Korea and to the peace of the Far East? Manchuria, as we have already taken occasion to remark, is not a bright spot in the annals of Russian diplomacy, but these utterances of her Representative in Peking really sound too reckless to be quite credible.

THE SUGAR QUESTION.

Mr. Okada Jiyemon, President of the Tokyo Electric Railway Company, who was returned for the House of Representatives at the last elections, has published an essay on the advisability of obtaining funds for naval expansion by increasing the sugar tax. He notes that the revenue derived from the land tax last year, at the rate of 3.3 per cent., was 46,996,212 *yen*, which would become 34,760,000 *yen*, in round numbers, were the rate reduced to 2.5 per cent., the old figure. It is now understood, however, that the Ministry, in consideration of the concessions it declared itself willing to make at the conferences during the last session, would not have asked the next Diet for more than 3 per cent., which means that instead of obtaining 11,700,000 extra from the tax, the sum accruing will be only 7,312,520 *yen*. That is not an amount worth disputing about, in Mr. Okada's opinion. But as to the possibility of dispensing with the increased rate of land tax and obtaining the required amount by administrative economies, Mr. Okada is very doubtful. He prefers an addition to the sugar tax, and in elaborating his argument he adduces the following figures:—

ANNUAL CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR IN JAPAN.

	Catties.
1896	352,797,521
1897	428,517,546
1898	577,228,426
1899	424,254,636
1900	558,971,253
1901	710,136,020
1902	505,179,638

With regard to this table it is to be observed that the abnormal import in 1901 was influenced by the prospect of increased taxation, and that the figures for 1902 are not complete, being carried up to the end of January of this year only, whereas the fiscal year extends to March 31st. At all events the table shows clearly that the consumption is steadily increasing. The official estimate of tax collected from sugar in the year ending March 31, 1903, was 6,070,000 *yen*, of which amount more than 4½ millions had been collected up to the end of January, and as February and March are the chief months for importing this staple, no doubt is entertained that the estimate was fully reached, if not exceeded. For the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1904, the Treasury put down 7,184,637 *yen* in the Budget, but as all the extra supply imported in 1901 was probably exhausted in 1902, Mr. Okada thinks that the yield from the tax in the fiscal year just opened will be fully 8,400,000 *yen*. His idea, then, is to double the rate of impost. Sugar, he says, is the cheapest article in Japan at present. The market price of the best quality is now 10.45 *yen* per 98 catties—that is the unit of weight used by sugar merchants—, and if the tax were doubled, that is to say, if an additional 2.80 *yen* were imposed on that quantity, the cost would become 13.25 *yen*, or an appreciation of 2.8 *sen* per catty—; less than three farthings. These are the figures for sugar of the highest quality. The price of the lowest quality would not be augmented by more than 1 *sen* (a farthing) per catty. It is thus plain that consumers would not appreciably feel the proposed change, while, on the other hand, it would bring a sum of some 8½ million *yen* to the Treasury. Folks engaged in the sale and preparation of sugar would naturally object. There are 86,410 of these people and there are 22,993 refineries. But their case scarcely deserves consideration, for the result of making such a paltry addition to the price of the staple could not affect its consumption. It is to be remembered, however, that small as the addition to the selling price seems, the selling price itself is only 10.66 *sen* per catty, and consumers would certainly be very sensible of a measure which compelled them to pay 13.50 *sen* instead of 10.66. Nevertheless, we agree with Mr. Okada that this is an exploitable source of revenue, though for the moment the question has academical interest only.

WEDDING IN TOKYO.

The marriage of Mr. Sewall and Miss Evans took place on Wednesday, the 29th April, at noon, in Trinity Cathedral, Tokyo, the ceremony being performed by the Right Reverend Bishop McKim, assisted by the Rev. J. A. Welburn. A very tasteful scheme had been adopted in decorating the Cathedral. The flowers employed were those of the cherry, the wistaria, and the azalea, and the effect was at once chaste and rich, a particularly pretty idea being the suspension of two bells of cherry-bloom over the aisle. Mrs. Wood presided at the organ, and the beauty of the music was much enhanced by the assistance of the leading violinist of the U. S. S. *Kentucky*. Unhappily the weather proved very unfavourable, but no deterrent influence was apparent, the cathedral being filled to overflowing by an audience that included many of the *elite* of the capital. Nearly all the members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique were present, and among the Japanese were Marquis and Marchioness Oyama, Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, Mr. & Mrs. Chinda, Viscountess Tanaka, Baroness Sannomiya, and Mrs. Nagasaki. The bride, who wore a dress of renaissance lace over *crêpe de chine* with court train of accordion-pleated liberty satin, a veil of white tulle and a wreath of orange blossoms, and who carried a bouquet of white wistaria, had for maid of honour her sister, Mrs. Marsh, and for bridesmaids Miss Aoki, Miss Lera, Miss M. Lloyd and Miss H. Takayanagi. Mrs. Marsh wore a dress of mauve silk trimmed with guipure lace, and the bridesmaids' costumes were of canary yellow crêpe and gauze over white. They had large white tulle *choux* in the hair and they carried bouquets of purple azalea. Mr. W. Sewall acted as best man and the ushers were Mr. Wilson, Mr. Hohler, Count Hatzfield, Dr. Mechlenburg, Lieutenant Merritt, Lieutenant Butler, Mr. Gasco and Mr. Horne. The bride was given away by her father, Admiral Evans, and immediately after the ceremony the guests proceeded to the British Legation, where a reception was held, a cold collation being followed by dancing until three o'clock to the music of the band of the U.S.S. *Kentucky*. It is understood that the newly married couple proceed to North China for their honeymoon, returning to Japan in June.

In connection with the discovery of the opening of a Russian espionage bureau at Lemburg, Galicia, Dr. Ossolinski, a high official in the Austrian revenue department, and three Austrian officers have been arrested as spies.

INFORMATION SOUGHT.

Referring to the case of the steamer jointly owned by Chinese and Japanese subjects, the *Japan Gazette* says:—"While the Japanese papers mostly write in calm and dispassionate criticism of the case, showing enough mental power to see the importance of fairplay even with a Chinaman, our pseudo-Japanese contemporary deplorably misdirects its energies to vilifying ourselves." The "vilifying" and "billingsgate" against which our contemporary protests consisted in quoting a few lines from Tennyson. But of course, the great poet is nothing better than, a "vilifier" and a user of "billingsgate" when judged by the standard of diction that obtains in Yokohama journalism. However, that is neither here nor there. What we really desire to draw attention to is these "Japanese papers" which have been "mostly writing in calm and dispassionate criticism of the case." Where are they? We have not seen one of them. Every morning it is part of our daily task to make ourselves acquainted with the writings of all the journals published in Tokyo, with the exception of the *Yorozu Choho* and the *Mainichi Shimbun* and, of course, the wholly minor newspapers. But not one editorial comment have we found on this particular case. Not one solitary article. Where are they then, we repeat, these "Japanese papers" that have been "mostly writing in calm and dispassionate criticism"? They are in the imagination of our good contemporary. Elsewhere they have no existence.

CHILDREN IN MITO.

It would seem that there is a new and unfamiliar type of Japanese child in Mito. At least we do not recognise it in the description given by Mrs. E. B. Andrews of Mito, writing in the Special Lenten Number of *The Spirit of Missions*. Mrs. Andrews' essay is called "What the church can do for Japanese children," and it is very probable that her theme may have betrayed her into unconsciously magnifying the need that exists for Christian ministrations among the little ones in Mito. "Children here," she affirms, "are not taught to be kind to one another or to spare one another's feelings." Side by side with this remarkable assertion there is a picture of "a Japanese girl dressed for a heathen festival." Why is it that some of the missionaries persist in applying the term "heathen" to the religion of Japan? It seems to us that the epithet is particularly incongruous in the mouth of a lady who laments that Japanese children are not taught to be kind to one another or to spare one another's feelings. Does she display any faculty for sparing the feelings of others when she publicly employs the epithet "heathen" is speaking of Japanese children and Japanese mothers? Here, again, is her description of the process of disciplining a class of Japanese children.

But a year ago, our children were about as hopeless a collection in whom to hope to instil reverence and order as one would hope to face. The first children's service (it still lives vividly in our memories) even after much coaching, swept us right off our feet, so to speak. Everybody fell over everybody else in the maze of shifting places, while a violent onslaught was made, during the hymns, on any misguided small person who was excitedly trying to find the right number in New Testament and Psalter. Those not engaged in painfully personal criticism were singing off the key and carrying all before them, drowning out any sound of the organ from the persons who were better qualified to lead. Then, too, others who could read fairly well, deaf to all appeals, obligingly assisted the officiat-

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ing priest with his part of the service. Now, all is different. They can be trusted with any one for a reverent, intelligent and earnest Even-song. The Creed, Lord's Prayer, *Nunc Dimittis* and six or more hymns, even the tots known perfectly. The responses are prompt, regular and hearty. Now it is the joy of our hearts to have a special service with them. How much of the deeper significance of it all they have assimilated one cannot know. But at least, with each telling, they must learn more and more.

These boisterous, unruly little girls, falling over one another, engaging in painfully personal criticisms, and reading and singing in defiance of all remonstrance, are about as unlike the gentle, docile, sweet-tempered, and polite children which we ourselves have learned to consider typical of Japan as a wild cat is unlike a canary-bird.

Mrs. Andrews concludes her essay thus:—

One frequently reads in books about Japan (smart people likely write them in England or America) trite statements such as this: "Japan is the children's Paradise." Never could there be a greater misconception of existing conditions. I wish such people could look over our back fence. It takes no further travel from our home to find a specimen study of the kind of paradise a Japanese child enjoys. These children apparently arrive in the world with the set conviction that the objective point of life is in the possession of freedom, gained by the complete subjection of the mother. This emancipation is usually quite accomplished, except in instances of encounters entailing a demand for sheer physical strength, by the age of two. What poor misguided heathen woman could withstand the struggle longer? After that a sort of guerilla warfare is carried on—in which sudden and unexpected assaults in memory of inflicted injuries, past and present, are made by either party. The child finally takes to the street with a younger member of the family, or someone's else family, on its back. It is then out of the range of excruciating pinches when at close range, of sudden outbursts of temper to which it falls victim, or the goadings which hang over it in the gruesome treats invoked of ghosts, devils, avenging gods, and the like.

One realizes here, even more than at home, the meaning of Christian love. It is impossible to live in Japan without feeling that home life, and hence child life, cannot be improved until the Sun of Righteousness has found His own place in the hearts and homes of the children of Japan.

What a picture! What a caricature! The children of Mito, or at any rate the section of them with whom Mrs. E. B. Andrews has come in contact, are not Japanese children, nor are their mothers Japanese mothers. That is all there is to be said.

THE SUIKOSHA ENTERTAINMENT.

The *tableaux vivants* and other entertainments organized by the pupils of the Peeresses' School at the Suikosha on the 25th and the 26th instant, won much admiration. Something like two thousand persons attended, and as it would have been impossible to accommodate them all at the same time within the building, arrangements had been made for a sort of garden party which occupied the attention of those unable to gain immediate admission to the spectacular and musical treat. Care had been taken to provide an English explanation of the various tableaux. Thus their historical significance became comprehensible, which of course, greatly enhanced the attractiveness of the display, though the magnificent costumes of mediæval Japan worn by the fair performers would alone have been sufficiently interesting. The music, too, was excellent; at all events the purely Japanese part of it, for though the foreign portion deserved much praise in the matter of execution, a bad piano spoiled the effect. Our readers are already acquainted with the laudable purpose that inspired the promoters of this entertainment. Dispensing with comment, therefore, we append the programme:—

Naval Band.

Nô Music { Drum ..... Miss Tanaka.
Song ..... Madame Sakura.

Koto, Samisen & Kokyû... { Miss Nakaguma. Miss Honda. Madame Sakura. Madame Sakai. Madame Fukuoka.

Historical Tableaux.

Ancient Times, *Obako* ..... Madame Iziuin.

Fujiwara Period, *Akazone Emon* ..... { Viscountess Tamura. Madame Ouchida.

Classical Dance with Koto accompaniment.

{ Koto ..... { Madame Ijiuin. Madame Ouchida. Madame Osada.
{ Dance ..... Madame Sugakawa.

Historical Tableaux.

Kamakura Period. *Amashôgun* ... { Mme Ishiwata. Miss Wada.

Pretender's Period. *Iga-no-Tsubone.* Madame Yuri.

Nô Dance { Song ..... { Miss F. Kadenokoji. Miss Tanaka.
Dance ..... { Miss V. Kadenokoji. Miss Shimo.

Piano ..... { Miss Yano. Miss Senjiu.

Historical Tableaux.

Civil War Period, *Yamanouchi Kazutoyo's Wife*... ..... { Mme. Sakura. Miss Magai.

Tokugawa Period, *Kasuga-no-Tsubone* ..... { Mme. Osada.

Kômei Dance (New Dance by the pupils of the Peeresses' School.)

Foreign Dance.

Refreshments.

Pictures, Writing, and Articles made by the members will be exhibited in a special room and given away to Subscribers.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei has been arrested on a charge of bribery and corruption at the recent elections. There seems to be some sympathy with him in Tokyo. After all, people say, fortune might have accorded him the small grace of taking his seat once in the House of Representative before his political aspirations ended in a prison cell. But, on the other hand, less emotional critics hold that he travelled out of his proper furrow, and that justice has overtaken him. He may yet escape from the meshes of the law, however. We hope so, for it is indeed a pity to see such a fate overtake a man of signal energy and enterprise.

The students and Professors of the Imperial University have resolved, it is said, to erect a bronze bust of Professor Janson, who, during a long series of years, contributed materially to the advancement of veterinary science in Japan.

The Emperor has bestowed the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure on the late Marquis Nembrini in consideration of meritorious service.

We learn that Mr. G. A. Forrest, hitherto employed in the Osaka High Commercial School, has been appointed to succeed Dr. J. N. Seymour at the Second High School, Sendai. There were many candidates for the post vacated by Dr. Seymour, who leaves Sendai for the purpose of visiting England. We hope that Dr. Seymour may find it possible at a future date to resume his educational labours in Japan, for he possesses gifts such as few teachers have, and the excellence of his work as well as his attractive personality are fully appreciated by Japanese students.

The Paris correspondent of *The Times*, writing under date of March 15th, says:—

A letter I have received from a well-informed friend abroad asks me whether I can do nothing to enlighten public opinion as to the true cause of Dr. von Holleben's retirement from his position as German Ambassador in Washington. My friend writes—

"I have every reason to believe that the German Government was fully and unmercifully informed by Dr. von Holleben of the state of American feeling towards Germany aroused by her policy in the Venezuela question. The ex-German Ambassador was, indeed, in my opinion, one of the most loyal officials and most efficient public servants that Germany has ever had, and certainly by far the best Ambassador or Minister she has ever sent to Washington. He had the great merit of not hesitating to tell unpalatable truths, and he kept himself remarkably well-informed regarding American public opinion. I am satisfied that he was entirely innocent of the blow below the belt at Lord Pauncefote. That shabby trick was played in Berlin, and it is one which will take longer to forgive than any other that has come from the same quarter."

The Chinese Government has sent Orders and valuable presents to the Imperial Princes and high officials of the Imperial Household Department who assisted the receiving and welcoming Prince Tsai Cheng on the occasion of his recent visit to Japan.

Prince Tsai and his suite arrived at Shimonoseki on the 27th instant, having been detained two days by bad weather between Taku and Japan. It appears that the Prince will remain about a week in Osaka, but that Mr. Na Tung will proceed to Tokyo after a brief stay in the city of the Exhibition.

A serious accident occurred to Lieut-General Baron Oku, Commandant of the Eastern Army Section, on the 28th instant. As he was riding past the Britith Legation, his horse, alarmed by some workmen engaged in repairing telegraph poles, rushed into the plantation above the moat and dashed his rider against the trees, finally rearing and falling with him. The Lieut.-General was carried in an unconscious condition to the Military Hospital close at hand, where he lies in a precarious state. He received severe injuries to the head and chest.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A FOREIGNER AT KYOTO.

Mr. H. R. Corkhill, vice-managing-director of the Oriental Printing Company at Kyoto, met with an extraordinary accident early on Friday morning, which we (*Kobe Chronicle*) regret to say terminated fatally on the following day. It appears that Mr. Corkhill had retired to rest at his usual time on Thursday night, but at about half-past twelve the other occupants were aroused by hearing a window open, and then, immediately afterwards, a heavy fall on the ground. Going outside they found that Mr. Corkhill had fallen from the window of the second story, about twenty feet from the ground, and was there lying unconscious. He was carried back into the house as carefully as possible and doctors were sent for. They found that he had broken his left leg and left arm, and on further examination ascertained that he had sustained a serious internal injury. The broken limbs were at once set, and an operation was performed with a view to giving the unfortunate man some relief, but, despite all the attention that was given to him by the Japanese doctors who were summoned, complications set in and Mr. Corkhill died shortly after 7 o'clock on Saturday morning.

It is supposed that the deceased gentleman had awoke in the night and stumbled by mistake through the window.

ALLEGED ASSAULT ON THE HIGH SEAS.

A seaman named John Smith, of the American ship *Acme*, is at present detained in irons on board at Kobe on a charge of having assaulted the Captain on Dec. 23rd. It is not known whether the man will be tried by the Japanese authorities or taken on to Honolulu.

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NAVAL INCREMENT.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* continues to employ its powerful influence in support of the naval increment scheme. Let it be carried out, says our contemporary, from whatever source funds be obtained. Certainly, we (*Japan Mail*) say in turn, it must be carried out. There is no alternative but international self-effacement. The time has not yet come for making our beds on roses of mutual trust and affection. It is pleasant to find that faith in a premature millenium still survives, and that it obtains support even among the foreign communities of the Far East, whose members their circumstances naturally dispose to a fighting mood. We are all bound to agree with academical expositions about the duty of cultivating peace and goodwill upon earth, and of substituting the still small voice of diplomacy for the roar of the cannon. What has been written in Kobe and Shanghai in that sense, is very nice and very proper. The world will perhaps live up to such creeds some day or other, and we freely grant that to educate it as quickly as possible should be the aim of all publicists. In the meanwhile, however, we can not see safety in hopes of foreign benevolence and forbearance. Armaments must be made strong enough to defy peace-breakers, and, by way of unhappy corollary, even men whose business takes them into pacific paths only, must join naval leagues and form associations tending to generalize the spirit of resistance to aggression and to educate national patience under the burdens that these necessities impose. Unquestionably there would be a serious lacuna in the moral life of any nation if everybody lent his voice to swell the cry for big armaments, and if none spoke in defence of the higher and more humane creed that ought to command obedience. Therefore Exeter Hall and its disciples, wherever they are found, should be respected. We observe, however, that none of these disciples was in his place in the House of Commons on the 16th of March, when the Navy estimates came up for discussion. One member did indeed express a passing regret that whereas "any two Powers" used to be the minimum standard of British naval strength, "any three Powers" had now become the order of the day. But he did not advance this by way of serious protest. It was a mere grumble against the inevitable. Indeed, the strongest advocate of a more civilized era was Mr. ARNOLD-FORSTER himself, who, when introducing the Navy estimates, said:

> I have to present to the House Navy Estimates of a magnitude, I believe, unparalleled in peace or war. I do so as the official representative of a great Department; but I do not forfeit my position as a private citizen; and as a citizen I cannot help sharing the regret which I am sure every member of the House must feel that the bitter competition and rivalry among the nations continues and makes this enormous, unproductive expenditure a necessary burden. I think we shall all agree that discontinuance of the rivalry among the nations of Europe would be of universal benefit in the highest degree.

"Enormous" was not an exaggerated epithet to apply to these estimates. What Mr. ARNOLD-FOSTER had to tell may be most easily understood by putting it into tabular form thus:—

	Added to the Navy in 1902.	To be added in 1903 under the old programme.	To be added under the new programme.	Total.
Battle Ships	4	6	3	13
1st class Armoured Cruisers	5	11	4	20
Sloops	2	2	—	4
Destroyers	4	4	15	23
Torpedo Boats	3	[illegible]	—	11
Submarines	6	3	10	19
Repair and Distilling Ships	2	—	—	2
Second-class Cruisers.	1	—	—	1
Third-class Cruisers...	—	—	3	3
Scouts	—	—	4	4

This represents a fleet of 100 vessels in all. The House of Commons passed the programme without audible objection to its magnitude, and the *Jiji Shimpo* may well be moved to draw the attention of its countrymen to what their ally, England, is doing. It is scarcely necessary, we presume, to remind the Japanese that when Great Britain became their ally, she expected them to continue their efforts to keep abreast of the time, and she certainly did not expect them to regard her as a protector justifying inactivity on their own part.

THE SHIP-OWNING CASE.

THE case of the *Keiko Maru* seems likely to be more and more obscured by the comments it is locally receiving. One of our contemporaries, the *Japan Gazette*, writes at some length on the subject, but truly it seems to us that its article shows complete misapprehension of the facts. What has to be observed, at the outset, is that the Chinese who were part-owners of the vessel, are not deprived of the right to seek pecuniary compensation in the courts of Japan. They have failed to secure the criminal punishment of the Japanese subject who shamefully defrauded them, but it is now open to them to seek a civil remedy. Apparently our contemporary does not understand that a civil claim, according to Japanese law, may be correlated with a criminal charge for purposes of judicature. In that event, the failure of the criminal charge involves temporary failure of the civil claim. But only temporary. Proceedings of a purely civil nature may fortwith be instituted, and their issue is not in any way affected by the judgment already delivered in the criminal prosecution. Hence the Chinese subjects concerned in this matter, are now free to seek a remedy in the civil courts.

Further, it is necessary to consider the meaning of the law, as hitherto applied in this instance, and to consider what has actually taken place. The law requires that vessels registered as Japanese and therefore entitled to all the privileges of coast-wise trade—privileges interdicted to foreign ships—must be owned solely by Japanese subjects. Whether it is nationally wise to impose these limits on the cabotage of the empire is not here the question. We have only to consider the law as it stands. Now it is obvious that such a law can not operate in an actively preventive manner. It can not prevent private arrangements between foreigners and Japanese subjects. It can not prevent the British owners of a British ship, for example, from having the vessel registered in the name of a Japanese subject, and thus surreptitiously obtaining for her the domestic privileges enjoyable by a *bonâ-fide* Japanese vessel. What it can do, however, is to withhold its protection from the illegal interests thus created. The law courts can say and do say:—"We have no competence to scrutinize private arrangements, but if they are deliberately submitted for our scrutiny, we are precluded from endorsing or enforcing any illegal element they present." Hence when a ship is registered in Japan as a Japanese-owned vessel, the courts of criminal law can not possibly recognize any alien right of ownership in her. A precisely analogous case is the ownership of real estate. Aliens are not allowed to own real estate in Japan. But the interdicting law has not at its disposal any machinery capable of preventing aliens frour owning land vicariously through the intervention of Japanese subjects. Many aliens do so. They register the land in the names of Japanese friends whom they trust. If, however, the foreign secret owner wishes to invoke the aid of the law courts by way of protection against fraud on the part of his Japanese confidant, the courts then find themselves in a position to vindicate the law by denying such protection. The original transaction being illegal, no incident arising out of it can be protected or punished by legal tribunals. It appears to us that there should be no difficulty in comprehending these facts. Moreover, we doubt whether the Shanghai Chinese concerned in this matter deserve all the sympathy they seem likely to receive. For what was the object of their procedure? What did they seek to compass when they allowed their property to be registered as the sole possession of a Japanese subject? Why did they take that obvious risk? We must know something at least about that side of the question before we consent to regard them as innocent victims of a disgraceful bit of chicanery. Our local contemporary's remedy is:—"Let the foreigner who errs in this matter be fined reasonably and moderately if necessary and the offence discontinued, but this could all happen without stopping the robbed one from pursuing the robber and obtaining justice." That is to say, let the foreigner be punished for entering into an illegal transaction, but let the benefits of the transaction be secured to him by the law courts. In truth such a dictim tempts us to quote TENNYSON again, even at the risk of being charged with writing "billingsgate." The Courts of Japan might as well apply themselves to bottling moonbeams as to imposing "reasonable and moderates fines" upon aliens that engage in such transactions. The Chinese in this case, as our contemporary himself acknow-

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ledges, are in Shanghai, entirely beyond the reach of Japanese jurisdiction. They can not be fined even reasonably and moderately, nor can any means be devised for discontinuing the offence other than precisely the means employed by the Court of Cassation, namely, refusal to guarantee an alien against the risks he deliberately incurs when he engages in such transactions.

It is the purest persiflage to represent this matter as reflecting injuriously upon the commercial credit of Japan, or as "bringing on her laws and judges the mistrust of other nations." Japan's commercial credit is bad enough, and the administration of her laws leaves very much indeed to be desired. But neither would her credit be improved nor her judicial procedure ameliorated if her criminal law courts lent their aid to enforce illegal contracts.

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

IT was stated in our last issue that on the 25th instant Marquis ITO entertained the members of the General Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, and having explained to them that the Cabinet had resolved to shape its financial policy in accordance with the will of the majority in the Lower House, advised the abandonment of further opposition on the part of the *Seiyu-kai*, since the point of real importance for a political party was to secure the adoption of its principles, not to obtain the reins of power. It appears that this indication did not at the moment arouse any very marked opposition. The Committee resolved to hold a meeting on the 26th for the purpose of considering the situation in connexion with their leader's suggestion. But when the meeting took place, the Committee are said to have shown a plain line of cleavage, one section insisting that the Ministry should be held responsible for the dissolution of the last House of Representatives; the other contending that since the Cabinet had made act of surrender, the conflict need not be pressed any further. Neither side showed any disposition to subserve its views to those of the other, and after a discussion lasting until 5 o'clock, the meeting broke up, to come together again on the 27th. At this moment of writing we have not learned the result, but judging from a leading article in the columns of the *Jimmin*, which represents the section of the party formerly led by Mr. HOSHI TORU, the idea of abandoning the fight with the Cabinet is received with much discontent in some quarters. It would seem to be the conviction of the politicians for whom the *Jimmin* speaks that a measure of punishment ought to be inflicted on the Ministry. In fact these publicists obviously hold the doctrine that the Ministers of the Crown live in a nursery presided over by the party leaders, and that it is the function of the latter to discipline the former duly and sufficiently. Of course this strange theory is based on the misconception that a system of party cabinets has been established in Japan, and that a Ministry holds office by a mandate from the Lower House. Nothing of the kind is present in the case. That is what the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists are struggling to bring about, but pending the success of their efforts they can not reasonably expect that their system shall be put into operation by their opponents. Viscount TANI, speaking through the columns of the *Nippon*, justly remarks that neither is the Cabinet bound to bring forward in the next session a replica of the land-tax bill, nor is the *Seiyu-kai* bound to renew its assaults upon the Ministerial citadel. Whichever side takes that course will be the challenger to conflict. The Viscount does not think that either will throw the gauntlet. We agree with him.

RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.

HAVING now received authentic information as to the nature of the demands preferred by Russia in Peking, the public are able to form something like an intelligent perception of the situation. The first conclusion, we imagine, will be one of bewilderment. Not that any reader of history need be at all surprised to find Russia endeavouring to plant her foot firmly in Manchuria. When she obtained her "lease" of Port Arthur and Talien, and when she secured the right to build, guard and operate two railways, one traversing Manchuria from north to south, the other crossing its north-eastern section, we ventured to affirm that the "Three Eastern Provinces" of the Chinese Empire had practically passed into her possession, and that the chances of her restoring them to their nominal owner at any future date were about equal to the chances of Great Britain stepping out of Egypt. Probably the vast majority of observers shared that view, and there would consequently be no element of astonishment in the feeling now excited by Russia's continued tenure, had she not deliberately created for herself an almost impossible situation. Publicists are accustomed to regard her diplomacy with admiration, because it possesses the vital characteristics of tenacity and daring, and because it is free from fetters of responsibility to that least intelligent of all tyrants, popular sentiment. But we doubt whether historians have often had a more perplexing task than that which will confront them when they attempt to deduce from Russia's Far Eastern diplomacy since 1900 any indications of dexterous statesmanship. After the Boxer *emeute* her position was uniquely favourable. Fate seemed to have shaped all its courses with deliberate intent to make the game easy for her. Nothing was necessary except to sit quiet. She was in Manchuria. She had practical possession of it. Her presence there was justified by conditions of an almost interminable nature. No obligation devolved on her to make any promises such as the perpetually recurring accidents incidental to Chinese misgovernment would not have justified her in evading. In short, by the commonest exercise of diplomatic craft and without putting a weapon into the hands of any of her enemies, she might have made her own judgment the sole arbiter of her ultimate action in Manchuria. Yet, so far as outsiders can see, she went out of her way to propose a convention which, while it constructively acknowledged her obligation to sign a hard and fast contract of some kind, amounted at the same time to a confession of aggressive designs, and was altogether unlikely to obtain China's consent or the world's acquiescence. Even after that strange proceeding, she might still have reverted to an attitude of reticent procrastination, for there was very little danger that any one would call her to serious account so long as she could plead the inscrutable excuse of Chinese incompetence to protect foreign life and property. Deserted, however, by her usually useful faith in time and masterly inactivity, she persisted in a series of pragmatical negotiations, and when finally she emerged from them, it appeared that she had bound herself hand and foot by unconditional promises which pledged her to definite steps at fixed dates and thus deprived her of all the unchallengeable freedom she originally enjoyed. From that position one imagines that the easiest exit would have been a frank declaration of inability to trust Chinese administration; a declaration which might easily have been made plausible by well contrived events. At any rate, if the implementing of their promises had to be prefaced by fresh demands, the St. Petersburg statesmen might have so far deferred to public intelligence as to harmonize their askings with their apparent difficulties. They have failed to do so. Out of the seven conditions formulated by them, two only bear any logical relation to the situation, though both are belated. They are the demands that no part of Manchuria shall ever be leased or sold to another Power, and that all the privileges enjoyed by Russian subjects before the Boxer *emeute* shall be restored in full. The latter may mean more than its mere words imply, but at all events the two demands, as they stand, can not be called unwarrantable. It will further be admitted readily enough that permission to use the poles of the Chinese telegraph for the purpose of stretching Russian wires between Port Arthur and Mukden is petty enough to suit the context of any convention. Such a matter is not worth a moment's discussion. But the other conditions are of a very different calibre. No foreigners to be employed in North China; no opening of any part of Manchuria except Newchwang; the payment of the customs dues into Russian hands; the employment of a Russian to superintend their collection, who also shall have control of sanitary affairs; and the permanence of the administrative *status quo* in Mongolia—all these things are entirely without any

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intelligible bearing upon Russia's pledges of evacuation. Those pledges were unconditional. If they meant anything at all they meant that Russian military occupation was to cease at a fixed date, and with it were to disappear all traces of the mastery that occupation gave her. Yet she now stands forward and declares that the withdrawal of her troops not only must leave her dictatorship intact, but must also involve the isolation of the whole of Manchuria, Newchwang excepted, from intercourse with the outer world; and further that, although she is herself a co-signatory of a protocol by which the entire revenue of the Chinese customs is hypothecated for the payment of an indemnity to foreign Powers, she now requires that a considerable part of that revenue shall be placed at her sole disposition. It is unnecessary to note what must be patent to every one, namely, that this proposal to close Manchuria hermetically constitutes the most flagrant possible opposition to the frequently avowed purpose of the United States, Great Britain and Japan, and that it represents a policy which the civilized world of the twentieth century can scarcely be expected to endorse. Detailed criticism, however, is deterred by the effect of the bewildering *ensemble*. The perplexity is to conceive what Russia really contemplates, or to detect any thread of wise continuity running through her whole procedure in Manchuria. Why should she represent herself to the nations in this light? It is not merely that she openly practises the immoral device of making the discharge of a solemn promise conditional on the acquisition of a set of entirely new privileges. It is that she seems quite reckless of the character her method of international dealing must acquire in the eyes of Oriental nations as well as Occidental. The course of her relations with China from the seventeenth century downwards was marked by statesmanship of a very different order. She gained her ends, it is true, and added constantly to her dominions, but, on the other hand, she emerged from every crisis with an enhanced reputation for adroit management and with an additional claim upon her opponent's respect and awe. What a contrast her handling of the Manchurian problem presents to all that! We seem to see in it the reflection of a conflict in her domestic politics; a conflict which leads at one moment to the ascendancy of a conciliatory mood, at another to the supremacy of a recklessly aggressive one. Unfortunately it is the latter which appears to preside now, and even though the former should re-assert itself before the point of supreme danger has been reached, the reputation of the Great Northern Power will remain tarnished and her expansive impulses will be invested with a new character of menace to the world's peace. We frankly grant that she must expand. She is at the stage of her existence when the law of growth governs her imperatively. But her expansions hitherto have been presided over by a diplomacy which robbed them of their most dangerous potentialities, and if that diplomacy can no longer be relied on, the outlook certainly becomes very black.

OLD DAYS AND OLD SCENES.

[READ BEFORE THE YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY ON FRIDAY, MAY 1ST, 1903, BY MR. J. P. MOLLISON.]

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES and GENTLEMEN:—What I have to say to-night must in no sense be considered a literary effort worthy of the traditions of the Yokohama Literary Society, but rather an attempt to interest you in a more or less conversational way in my recollections of "the days of long ago." When I took round at this large audience and think of the poor fare I have to place before my hearers, I feel as if I had brought you here under false pretences, but it is too late to draw back now, and I can only hope that you will pardon my shortcomings and make the best of what I can only call a "pot-luck" meal. Before going further, too, I feel that I owe an apology to your ex-President and my good friend, Mr. Dearing, for not making my appearance on this platform during his term of office, because it was to him that my half-promise to do so was first made, during a very enjoyable trip we made across the Pacific together in the autumn of 1900 It was not his fault that I did not make my bow before. He was most strenuous in his efforts every season to bring me up to the scratch, but I always managed to evade him on one pretext or another, and when he retired I hoped I had escaped the ordeal altogether. His mantle, however, descended on equally energetic shoulders in the person of Mr. Bellamy Brown, your present President, and his persuasive eloquence extracted another promise that it is my object to endeavour to fulfil to-night.

With these preliminary remarks I will now ask you to go back with me, those who can in memory, and those who cannot in imagination, to the spring of 1864, when, after a course of three-and-a-half years' training in a Tea-broker's office in Mincing Lane, London, I obtained an engagement as tea-taster in one of the merchant-prince firms of the old China days. Such a position was then looked upon as the stepping-stone to fortune, and it was only through influence or by the payment of a high premium to the tea-broker, that the educational advantages necessary to such a career were obtainable. Although China had then practically the monopoly of the world's supply of the fragrant leaf, the Indian tea-trade being still in its almost unconsidered infancy, and Ceylon yet unknown as a tea-growing country, the hopes and ambitions of the young tea-taster were not always fulfilled. On the contrary, the blanks were many and the prizes few. But to resume. After a summer holiday in Scotland, to brace me up for the trying climate that was supposed to await me in China, the autumn of the same year, 1864, found me on board the P. and O. steamer *Massilia* on my way to Hongkong. The *Massilia* was a two-funnelled paddle-boat of, I suppose, 3,000 tons or thereabouts, and was looked upon as the pride of the Fleet, being capable of doing perhaps 12 knots an hour under favourable circumstances.

A voyage to China in 1864 by the P. & O. Company's connections—then known as the Overland Route—was a very different affair to what it is to-day. In the first place the passage-money was much higher—I think to Hongkong it was £155—but this included wines and liquors of all kinds, even champagne being served on Sundays and holidays, and there was no reduction for teetotallers. The passengers, too, were of a different stamp. The word "globe-trotter" had not been coined, because the "Grand Tour" still stopped short at Egypt and nobody dreamt of going to the Far East for pleasure, much less of girdling the earth. The bulk of the passengers, therefore, consisted of Army officers and Civil servants returning to India or going out for the first time, grass widows returning to their husbands, and an occasional young tea-planter. These formed the Indian contingent, which, I may say, considered itself of a different clay to the China-hands, and expected more delicate handling in consequence, a treatment I may remark in passing, they did not receive. It may interest you to know that amongst my fellow-passengers, bound to China, were the mother of that popular broker, Mr. E. C. Coutts; his uncle, George Coutts, well-known in China and Japan, who died in Shanghai a few years ago; Mr. R. A. Mowatt, (afterwards Judge of the British Court in Yokohama) Mr. Aston (of subsequent Japan and Korea fame)—both young men going out as student interpreters, the one to China, the other to Japan. We sailed from Southampton, calling at Gibraltar and Malta, and so on to Alexandria. The Suez Canal was not then in existence, so we were carried by rail to Cairo, where the Southampton contingent had to wait 5 days for the Marseilles lot, who joined us there. We stayed at the old Shepherd's Hotel, which many of you, no doubt, remember as an old-fashioned, essentially Eastern hostelry, very different from the modern palace that now occupies the same site. The five days at El Grand Cairo passed all too quickly; there was so much to do and to see, with donkey races and shopping to occupy our leisure hours when there was nothing special to do. A moonlight excursion to the Pyramids, on donkeys, was perhaps the most interesting and enjoyable feature of our stay at Cairo and one that will ever remain in my memory.

On continuing the railway journey to Suez, we joined another P. & O. clipper, the *Golconda*, Capt. Beazley, and on our way down the Red Sea encountered terrific heat. I understand from those who have lately travelled out that way that age has not tempered this trying part of the voyage in any respect. Aden recalls to my mind my first introduction to the diving boys. "'Ave a dive"; and a ride to the cantonments was considered, just as at the present day, quite the proper things to do while the ship stayed for a few hours off "the barren rocks of Aden." By this time the passengers were all on more or less friendly terms, though divided into cliques, and theatricals were mooted and came off with great enthusiasm, I making my first appearance on any stage. I will quote the Epilogue that was written for the occasion, as it will show you how a voyage in the "sixties" was passed

When you hereafter dwell upon the time
You visited Gibraltar, hard to climb,
When Malta once more rises with its towers,
Its quails, its ices, beggars, fruits and flowers,
When Alexandria with her mills appears,
And from the steamer you depart with cheers;
When once more at the Pacha's board you dine
And dust inhale along the Pacha's line,
When like a weary flock you seek the abode
Of Cairo's Shepherd, hurrying load on load,
When you survey again the Mosque, the well,
The cliff o'er which the last fierce Mameluke fell,
When Cairo ladies riding—alas they ride
So as their melting eyes from glances rude to hide—
When you array yourselves in pugg'rees brave,
Or yet more venturesome your crowns clean shave,
When you again from Cairo's donkey's fall,
And reach the expectant earth in graceful sprawl,
When you ascend the Pyramids at night,
And Arabs swindle you, and serve you right;
When you once more the torrid desert tempt,
And you reach Suez all unwashed, unkempt,
When Red Sea heat produces gaspings, pantings,
And pulls you down just like so many Bantings,
When the Golconda's band again inspires
The dance, in spite of all the climate's fires,
When Aden's cliffs tempt you to go ashore—
Only to vow you'll never go there more—
May all these scenes your memories recall
Before we say adieu! at bitter Galle.

At Galle we said good-bye to the Calcutta passengers and joined the *Ottawa*, one of the oldest boats of the P. & O. Company, but considered good enough for the China passengers. My chief recollections of her relate to the innumerable cockroaches which invested the vessel, and the insufferable odour of opium which pervaded the old craft from stem to stern.

I spent a few days in Hongkong, whilst the senior partner in the firm to which I was engaged

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was making up his mind to which treaty port to send me, and during that time Hongkong regatta took place. I mention this because rowing in the P. & O. "four" were two men who afterwards came north and became close friends of mine—Mr. J. Rickett, so well-known to many of you as P. and O. agent here for many years, and Mr. Tripp, the veteran sportsman of Shanghai, both, I am happy to say, still to the fore. After a short stay in Canton I was transferred to Shanghai and a flood of happy recollections comes surging up when I recall old names and old faces whose first acquaintance I made on the shores of the Whang-poo. Among others whom I met there was the late Sir Harry Parkes. I made his acquaintance at a theatrical supper party, after an amateur performance in which I had taken part in petticoats, being introduced to Sir Harry under my theatrical name of Miss Kate Coventry. He was on that occasion, as always, very apt and complimentary in the conversation that followed. As interesting too, to the younger members present, I may recall that the first interport cricket match between Shanghai and Hongkong took place in those far-away days, viz., in 1866. The northern port sent the visiting team and the event created great excitement, as you can well understand. To show the interest and enthusiasm that was taken by the older members of the community I may mention that the firm of Gibb, Livingston and Co. placed their steamer *Dumbarton* at the disposal of the cricketers for the passage down, and Jardine, Matheson & Co., the *Glengyle* to bring them back again, absolutely passage free. The *Dumbarton* was soon after sold to the Japanese—one of their earliest purchases of steamers—and a story is told that the native engineers after taking possession and starting the engines found they could not stop them, so had to drop anchor and move round in a circle at the length of the chain until the steam was exhausted. Unfortunately I was unable to join the Eleven, much to my disappointment, though I thereby escaped a terrible amount of leather-hunting in Hongkong. The home side won the toss and kept Shanghai in the field for a day and a half to the tune of some 450 runs. Of course Shanghai were badly beaten, but they had a magnificent time and got their revenge next year, when Hongkong sent up a team to play the return match. On that occasion two matches were played, both of which we won easily, and I had the pleasure and privilege of assisting the home team. As matter of local interest I may mention that Captain Brinkley was one of the Hongkong XI. and did yeoman's service both with bat and ball. Another member of the team was Lieut. Tanner, afterwards Colonel Tanner, who was drowned with many other enthusiastic and famous cricketers, including Captain Dunn, in the unfortunate *Bokhara* disaster when returning from Shanghai to Hongkong with the cricketing eleven in 1892. The late J. B. Manson, brother of the now well-known London specialist in ailments peculiar to the Far East, was captain of the Shanghai Eleven.

I came first to Yokohama, to make arrangements for a permanent stay, in January, 1867. It was just after the Great Fire, which took place in November, 1866, and the small settlement was still a scene of devastation. Practically the whole place was destroyed, including shops of every kind, and most of the residents lost everything except what they stood in. I remember receiving a letter at Shanghai from Farley, an old London chum, who, with Jack Fraser, was among the sufferers, describing the state of affairs and asking me to send any clothing I could spare. My friends had their offices at the bungalow on No. 7, one of the few buildings spared, and lived in a large two-storied house situated on Lot 18, Bund, occupied by the firm of George Barnet and Co. No. 7 had been the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fraser, and when the fire was at its height it was thought advisable to remove their furniture to the godown as more likely to stand than the bungalow, with the result that the godown was burnt and the dwelling-house escaped. It is difficult to recall what Yokohama looked like in those early days, but I remember very well taking tiffin with my friends Gustavus Farley and J. A. Fraser, who lived with Mr. Gay—all of whom have joined the majority—in a little bungalow that stood on Lot 30, the entrance being from the side street, adjoining Ahrens and Co.'s present offices. This bungalow stood in a large garden that stretched down to Main-street and along to where Messrs. Thwaites and Co.'s place now stands. In fact, I don't think I am wrong in saying that Mr. Gay's bungalow was the only building that stood on the space surrounded by Water-street and Main-street and the two side streets adjoining Nos. 29 and 32. The Bluff, of course, was almost unbuilt on, with the exception of the Camp at the top of Yatozaka, which began near the Naval Hospital and extended round what was known as the Colonel's corner, past the Cemetery to Mr. Poole's present house, where what was designated the south gate stood. The camp itself was formed partly by the grounds of the present Naval Hospital, known as the North Camp, on which stood the officers' mess, just where the present tennis lawn is situated; and the South Camp extending, as already said, to Mr. Poole's house in one direction and along to Mr. C. D. Moss's on the other, with the parade ground in a hollow formed between what we know in these present days as lots covered with houses and intersected by a broad road. The mention of the parade-ground recalls many sporting scenes, including athletic meetings, football matches, etc., and I have been told even cricket matches were played there with great enthusiasm, although the place was destitute of a blade of grass. From the South Gate I don't remember any houses until we come to what was known as Public Spirited Smith's bungalow, which was situated at the left hand corner down the hill leading to the German Hospital of the present day. Smith's garden extended up to the main road, taking in where Mr. Jensen's residence now stands, and was a famous place in those days. Public-Spirited Smith received his cognomen because of the zest he threw into all matters concerning the good of the common weal. He was the first European to import vegetable, fruit, and flower seeds, and was constantly inviting friends to go up and inspect the results of his efforts. These efforts can be seen to-day, for Wirgman immortalised in the pages of the *Japan Punch* Smith's huge cabbages, cauliflowers, and what not. Smith's memory still lingers green in the memory of the older Japanese gardeners of Yokohama, and only the other day a friend of mine, while talking with one, was told that he (the *wakiya*) helped Smith to plant the eucalyptus trees to be found here and there about the Bluff. Past Smith's bungalow and down towards the Rifle Range was a narrow roadway where now a densely populated Japanese village stands. This road had high hedges on either side and I remember on the first occasion I walked along it, the place was described to me as the Lovers' Lane. From the corner of Smith's garden, along the main road, the first residence I can recall was Mr. Strachan's bungalow on No. 8, known as the Thatched Cottage, and thence to the Race Course there was nothing but cultivated fields. No "dirty village" existed, and opposite the top of Jizo-zaka—then known as Coffee House Hill, because of a rest-house that stood where Mr. Hunt's house now stands—the unoccupied space now occupied by Lots 217-218 was the favourite starting place of our Pony Paper Hunts. The course usually followed a succession of fields and drops down to the Wishing Bridge, and then branched away to the left past the Jizenkai Hospital towards Mississippi Bay and back by various routes to the finish on the Rifle Range. The Rifle Range was a great feature in our amusements of that day, having formed the community's race-course before the formation of the new one at Negishi, and some of the steeplechase jumps were still remaining and came in useful at the end of a paper hunt as an exciting finish to the run. The Rifle Range was really what its name implies, and the Tir Suisse used to hold most enjoyable rifle meetings there at least once a year and dispense unbounded hospitality to their numerous friends. There was also a rifle club in existence, due chiefly to the energy of the late Arthur Barnard, who was an enthusiastic rifle-shot and sportsman generally. Later on, too, the Athletic Club had its running path at the bottom end of the Rifle Range, and held many meetings in which several residents of to-day used to take a prominent part, notably Mr. Alfred Dare and Mr. E. Flint Kilby. I hope to show you a picture of the old ground, by and by. The first, and, I think, the only, Interport Athletic Meeting took place on the Rifle Range. I took part therein and won the old Scots contest, the Hop, Step, and Jump, for Yokohama. To return for moment to the top of Coffee House Hill. I should tell you that there was a guard house and sentry there, close to Mr. Jewett's present residence, up to shortly before I arrived, and long after I came, a sentry was posted at the foot of Camp Hill, just below Dr. Wheeler's, who challenged everyone going up and down after nightfall. The mention of sentries recalls the successive Regiments that occupied the Camp before and during my time. Before I came there were the 20th, and when I arrived the 9th were just completing their term, to be followed by the 10th, of whom I have the pleasantest recollections. You may not all know that Mr. H. Vincent, father of our musical friend, belonged to the 20th Regiment. The officers of the 10th Regiment were good fellows all, and thrown so much together as they were with the residents, they did much to make things lively in the Settlement, both in sport and socially. Their hospitable guests-night, once a week, I shall never forget, or the old mess-room, of which I shall presently show you a picture. The Marines followed the 10th Regiment, and we saw the last of the Red-coats in August, 1874.

From the Camp along the Bluff to Mr. Jackson's house and beyond was an absolute blank so far as foreign residences were concerned, and with nothing but fields and scrub and trees it was indeed well named the Bluff. I remember there was an oyster stall kept by an old Japanese woman just across the road from where Mr. Happer now lives, and there seemed to be less danger then in eating the succulent morsels than there is now-a-days. Here I might mention that these recollections of the surroundings of Yokohama are given on the strength of my earliest visit in January, 1867, which only lasted for a few weeks. After making arrangements for a permanent residence I returned to Shanghai and closed up my affairs there, and when I came back in May the builder had been already at work on the Bluff and changes rapidly followed. It may be interesting to mention that the steamer route to and from Shanghai was the direct one—the outside track it was called—the Inland Sea being closed to foreign traffic and Kobe still unopened as a port to foreign trade. I travelled, I remember, by the P. & O. steamers *Aden*, *Ganges* and *Singapore*, and on my return trip in February, 1867, to Shanghai, had for fellow passenger—whom I then met for the first time—my dear and constant friend, Mr. R. D. Robison. When I came back from Shanghai in May, as already said, the builder had been actively at work both on the Bluff and in the Settlement, but it was not until the Spring of 1868, when I returned from a nine months' trip home, that any marked change on the Bluff was noticeable. During my absence the British Legation had loomed up, occupying with gardens, etc., all the ground now occupied by Mrs. Mendelson's house, the Mission School, Capt. Allen's bungalow, etc., whilst the Secretary's house included Mr. Blum's and Mr. Runge's present places. Old Dr. Hepburn had his residence where Mr. Payne now lives. Farther along the north-eastern Bluff, on Lot 159, Capt. McDonald had built the "Firs," and on the site of Mr. Jackson's present house a perfectly ideal semi-foreign semi-Japanese bungalow had been built by one of the Grauert brothers, in the middle of an equally delightful garden, the whole presenting so charming a picture that it was christened "Paradise" by some lover of nature. The lot, which included Mr. Gibbens present place, was long known by that name. At the other end of the Bluff, Mr. Marshall, of the then great firm of McPherson and Marshall, had secured all the ground extending from Mr. Healing's residence to the corner where Jizo-zaka and the main road meet, and erected a large bungalow just where Mr. Healing's

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house stands, the rest of the grounds up to the corner forming a charming garden. Mr. McPherson—known as "long McPherson" from his great height,—was the discoverer of the hill named after him, which you all know so well. Mr. Marshall was the father of the present P. and O. Agent in Shanghai, who himself has spent some years in Kobe and Yokohama. Mr. Wilkin also built a house at that time on No. 2, and Mr. Beato, a well-known name to old residents, after completing a bungalow, afterwards removed, where Mr. Jewett now lives, started a series of bungalows beginning where Mr. Davis now resides along to Mr. Wadman's, the row being christened "Beato's toothpicks," because of the cheapness and flimsiness of their construction. Mr. Marshall's residence, by the way, was christened and long known as Windsor Castle, because of the undoubted fact that Mrs. Marshall was the acknowledged Queen of our small society, and her house recognised as the open door in the way of generous hospitality. The word society reminds me that when I first arrived here the number of lady residents besides the officers' wives, could be counted almost on the fingers of one hand.

Before leaving the subject of buildings, of which you have doubtless had enough, I must just mention one of the oldest residences on the Bluff that I had almost forgotten. I allude to what was known as the Crow's Nest, which was situated at the extreme end of the spur that stretches past where Mrs. Mendelson lives on the left hand and Miss Orth's present home, the site as near as I can remember, being actually situated on the lot now occupied by Mr. Johnstone. This was then a thick wood, approached by a footpath, and considered quite in the country. The "Crow's Nest" was built and occupied by George and Julius Dare, and I am glad to be able to show you a picture to-night of this interesting Bluff dwelling house of those far-off days.

Turning to other subjects, it may interest you to hear of my first visit to Tokyo, or as it was then called, Yedo, which took place in the early part of 1867. The Tokaido was by no means safe then; in fact, it was only a few years before, that the Richardson affair, which you have all read of, took place. My first visit was made by sea in a small gun boat. My companions were the late Captain (afterwards Admiral) Hewett of H.M.S. *Basilisk* (the latter, by the way, a paddle boat, built of wood, I think, at that, which I mention to show the style of British man of war that came to Japan in those days) and Mr. Loureiro, the Portuguese Consul. We anchored outside the forts at Shinagawa and landed in a small sampan across the flats at Takanawa, not far from where the present Railway Station stands. The British Legation, whence we were bound at the invitation of Sir Harry and Lady Parkes, was actually an old and commodious temple, beautifully situated amongst the trees at Takanawa, and famous as the scene of the night attack that was made on it in Sir Rutherford Alcock's time by a party of *ronins*, so graphically described in Black's "Young Japan." The late Mr. Lowder was then a Student Interpreter in the Legation. After tiffin a large party of us sallied forth for a ride through Yedo, and to show you the condition of affairs that then obtained I must tell you that an equally large number of Guards was considered necessary for our safety, *Yakunin* as they were called—dressed in *hakama*, and with those curious inverted basin like lacquer hats or helmets fastened under the chin with double cords. They were, of course, armed with the inevitable two swords of those days, and rode in groups before, behind, and on both sides of us, so that we formed quite an imposing party, and excited a good deal of interest and curiosity no doubt to the populace of Yedo. My recollection of where we went is very indistinct, though I can recall of course the imposing moats and moat walls—the succession of *Daimyo Yashiki*, and chiefly the beauty and grandeur of Uyeno Park, with its broad approach, a densely crowded thoroughfare then as now. It was an interesting day, as you can understand, and we returned to Yokohama in the evening well satisfied with our outing. My next visit to Yedo was also by boat, not a steamer this time, however, but a four-oared whaleboat, with Japanese rowers, belonging to the old American firm of Augustine Heard & Co., whose premises were on No. 6, Bund I am reminded that then and for some years afterwards most firms had a pullaway boat, always waiting at a private flight of steps from the Bund wall, to take us afloat on shipping business, or to see friends "off home." A favourite point was just opposite No. 6, and I can recall many send-off parties starting from there for the San Francisco and other steamers up to 1873 at least. This convenient privilege was withdrawn later because it was taken advantage of by some unprincipled folks to do a little smuggling. My trip to Yedo in the whaleboat, which you can understand meant a long day, was with my old chum Farley, who was going up to Tsukiji to see a Mr. da Roza, a well known Portuguese, then and for years afterwards, a successful middleman between foreigners and Japanese, for everything not coming quite under the category of legitimate business, such as arms, powder, steamers, etc. He lived in a small Japanese house on Tsukiji. I remember clearly the feeling of something like timidity with which we stole up to his place, half expecting to meet a two-sworded man at every corner, and, speaking for myself, it was with feelings of relief that I found myself safely in the whaleboat, and on our way back to Yokohama.

When I returned from home early in 1868 one of my first thoughts was the making of a cricket-ground and the formation of a cricket club. I found an enthusiastic coadjutor in the person of a young fellow named Ernest Price, whose brother had played with me for Shanghai against Hongkong the year before. Together we obtained permission to clear and turf some 60 yards square, on the middle of what was known as the New Swamp. This extended from the broad road which leads past the present cricket ground right away to the Motomachi creek, being bounded on the north-east side by a broad path running past the Kagacho Police Station till it joined the third bridge. The so-called Swamp, which had been filled in some years before, was 3 feet lower than it is to-day (being again raised later to admit of building operations). The place was then a wilderness of scrub and stones, amidst which the outfielders had to take their stand. Nevertheless we had some good matches up to 1870-71, chiefly against officers of the 10th Regiment, who were a keen cricketing lot. The site of the present cricket ground was then a kind of inland lake connected with the sea by the tidal creek that runs under the Bridge as you approach the Railway Station. I propose to show you to-night a picture of George Dare in a sculling boat, crossing a spot just about where the present cricket ground stands.

My first trip to the Hakone district may perhaps have some interest for you. It was in the early summer of the same year, 1868. The hosts, if I may call them so, were Sir Harry and Lady Parkes, and the guests included, Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, probably well-known to all of you, then a student interpreter, a couple of army officers, and some others, whose names I forget. Two members of the Legation Guard, without whom Sir Harry never went out into the country in those days, accompanied us, one being the trusty Pet. Peacock who is still well to the fore at the British Legation, Tokyo. There were no jinrikishas, of course, then, whilst carriages were few and far between, and the only way of getting about was on horseback. Lady Parkes, I may say, was a splendid rider and enthusiastic horsewoman. We took the country paths across the hills to Totsuka, joining the Tokaido there and continuing along that highway to Odawara without incident, except that a child was run over by Lady Parkes, when going at a fast canter through the village of Hiratsuka. This necessitated the pulling-up of the whole cavalcade. I remember there was quite a scene and it was only after long discussion with the villagers, through Mr. Wilkinson, that the matter was ended satisfactorily by a monetary payment. Soon we reached the Odawara River, which was in flood, and over which we were carried by coolies on stretchers supported on their shoulders. At the town of that name we stopped for the night, and walked up the pass of Hakone next day, stopping for tiffin on the way at the village of Hata, the chief tea-house of which was then in its zenith, and a beautiful specimen of the Japanese rest-house. A picturesque garden, rocks, ponds and natural waterfalls from the mountains at the back, formed a sight new to all of us and met, I remember, with our most unbounded admiration. Some years after the village of Hata was burnt down, and this tea-house destroyed, never to be again rebuilt, as the development of Miyanoshita and later on of the railway gradually changed the Hakone Pass from being the chief highway through that part of Japan to what it is now, a mere mountain road. The site of the beautiful old Hata tea-house may still be traced, but its glory departed never to return more than 25 years ago. At Hakone we stopped at Kashiwaya, a large tea-house standing next to that occupied for years by the Hannen family, previously by Sir Harry Parkes and later by myself, viz. Yamakiya's. Sir Harry used practically to transfer the legation there for the summer months. A delightful walk over the hills to Atami, and thence by man-of-war, the *Argus* to Yokohama ended my first country trip in Japan, an altogether delightful one.

It was after that that Hakone was the scene of a battle between the soldiers of the Mikado and the Shogun, and on my next visit, a year later, the large red gates and guard houses at either end of the village were found to be full of bullet holes, which we naturally examined with much interest. Miyanoshita at that time was practically unknown to foreigners, the only one who had visited it being the late Mr. Wirgman, of *Japan Punch* fame. The second, I believe, was a man in my own office, Mr. Barrow, and a word or two about his trip may not be uninteresting. Rumours had reached us of the charms of what was talked-of amongst Japanese as a delightful resort in the mountains, so Mr. Barrow determined to investigate it, and this was the way he set about it. His only companion was a large black retreiver named "Jack." I remember as if it were yesterday his start on a fine morning in May with a knapsack on his back and Jack at his heels. His object was to find Miyanoshita on foot, and although it was considered a very venturesome thing for one man alone to take such a trip he reached, his destination without incident, meeting, as the saying is, no one worse than himself, and receiving the greatest politeness from the numberless Japanese he met on the Tokaido, and every attention at the villages where he stayed the two nights he spent on the way. Jack was a constant source of wonder and delight to the villagers of all ages, who had of course never seen a dog of the kind before. He proved to be a sort of passport to their goodwill, because of his good temper, obedience and docility, in spite of his huge size. I remember Barrow telling me that to Jack he attributed the great success and enjoyment of his trip. From Miyanoshita he wrote that he had found a perfect Paradise in the Hills, and the accounts he gave us afterwards of delightful experiences so excited our interest that a party of four, Jack Fraser, Henry Barlow, Adolf Milsom, and myself, (of whom I am the only one left,) made the trip the following year, and found that Barrow's description had in no way exaggerated things. Miyanoshita was then a small village with only one teahouse, but that a very large and beautiful one, Naraya's. Past its massive, black, *torii*-like gate ran the pathway, with the wooded hill now cut to the top by a winding path from Fujiya's, starting directly opposite at a distance of a few feet. Fujiya's was undreamt of, in fact the village consisted practically of Naraya's, with a few scattered houses, and one or two shops for the sale of carved wood-work, which is still such a feature of the present-day at Miyanoshita. Of course such a thing as foreign food was unknown and we had to take supplies of every kind with us on packhorses, which were sent on a day or two ahead of us in charge of boy and cook. I am reminded here that on that occasion we hired a waggonette to take us to Odawara and back, the charge for which was fifty Mexican dollars, then worth in the neighbourhood of 4/- or 4/6—or say £10 sterling.

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Another better known country resort in those days was Miyagashi, on the Oyama range of hills, and a word or two about my first trip there may not be uninteresting inasmuch as it was the first and only occasion on which I met one of the *daimyos'* trains, so common in those days. That was also in 1868, and the party was the same as the Miyanoshita one, except that a good fellow named Tom Merry, one of our best amateur actors, who died in 1873, took the place of Milsom. The only accommodation at Miyagashi then, and I believe now, was an old temple, the head priest of which was our host, and a very jovial one at that, not averse to the pleasures of the wine cup. It was on our return journey, for of course we walked both ways, that we met the *Daimyo's* train. We were walking across the Atsuge plain when it loomed up in the distance, and with no means of getting out of the way short of turning back, an action that we felt if they had sighted us might be misconstrued, there was nothing to do but go on and meet it. As it approached and we were recognised as foreigners, a halt was called, and the leaders motioned to us to take the left side of the road, which of course we did, although we knew we were thereby placing ourselves in the best position to be dealt the first and favourite Japanese sword cut, usually given in the act of drawing. We also came to a halt and waited with some heart-fluttering for what was to happen next. The signal was given and the train moved on towards us. I forget its exact composition, but remember distinctly the leading and closing bands of two-sworded men in the old-fashioned dress of the retainers of the time, with, I think companies of archers between them, and the closed norimons in which were carried the *Daimyo* and his family, on their way, we afterwards learned, to the temples of Oyama. Nothing but scowling faces, it seemed to us, met our gaze the whole length of the train, for it must be remembered that not very many years before the Richardson affair had taken place on the Tokaido, for which a heavy indemnity had been exacted, the latter fact probably known and resented throughout the length and breadth of Japan. However, nothing happened. We stood quietly with as unconcerned looks as we could command until the last *samurai* had passed, and then we resumed our way, with a feeling of relief that is more easily imagined than described. I remember telling Sir Harry Parkes of this experience and his expression of approval of our behaviour, because the slightest indication of offensiveness in attitude or manner on our part, he said, might have had the most serious consequences.

The mention of a *Daimyo's* train reminds me of another train that I witnessed passing along the Tokaido at Hodogaya, the occasion being no less than the entry of the Mikado into Yedo in 1868, after the close of the rebellion that led to his occupation of a throne that His Majesty has filled with such conspicuous benefit to his country and people ever since. It was officially intimated that foreigners would be allowed to witness the procession when passing Hodogaya, under certain restrictions. Accordingly many of us took advantage of this and walking out to Hodogaya found a place reserved for us behind a bank, alongside the road, in a grove of big trees. Carrying out the old tradition in Japan, which still exists, that royalty must not be looked down on from a height, we were particularly requested not to stand *on* the bank, but *behind* it, so as to be strictly on a level with the cortege, whilst still having it in view. Presently shouts of "*shita ni iro!*" "*shita ni iro!*" announced the approach of the procession, and the crowds of Japanese that lined the roadsides, to a man bent down with their heads to the ground not daring to lift their eyes until it was past. This procession reminded me of the *daimyo's* I have already mentioned, except that it was larger and more imposing in the number of the two-sworded men, archers, spearmen and retainers generally, and naturally more elaborate in the matter of banners, bannerets, and general display. His Majesty was carried in a magnificent norimon, which, however, at this late date I cannot attempt to describe. There is certainly one person here to-night, probably more, who were present on that occasion, I refer to my dear old friend, Mrs. Hubbard, and in the course of a recent conversation with her about old days in Yokohama I found that her memory on this point, and many others was much clearer and more retentive than my own. But time is getting on and I must hasten to a close, but not without mentioning my first trip to Daibutsu, which was made, I think, in 1868, when the assassination of Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird of the 20th Regt., who lie buried in Yokohama Cemetery, was still very fresh in people's minds. Of course I rode on horseback, a friend from India being my only companion, and equally of course we carried revolvers, but neither on that occasion nor on any other of the numerous trips I made into the country in the early days did I ever find it necessary to draw mine. Many of you probably know the actual spot where poor Baldwin and Bird were cut down, but for the benefit of new-comers I may mention that it was just at the corner of the road leading down from the railway crossing, at which you turn almost at right angles, before crossing a little bridge on the way to the Kaihin-in. The road which the railway crosses was then a continuation of the famous avenue leading from the Temple of Hachiman to the Sea, and as we rode down it, and approached the historical spot I am quite sure that our hearts beat somewhat faster than usual. There were two large trees, of which, I think, one at least still remains just round the corner of the avenue and on the railway side of the small bridge, behind which the two ruffians waited for their victims, rushing out as they turned the corner and cutting them down before they had time to draw a pistol or do anything in self-defence. It was a cold-blooded deed and it is satisfactory to know that the murderers were discovered and suffered condign punishment, being decapitated. I remember some eight years ago, talking to an old countryman at Kamakura who was a frightened witness of the whole scene and who helped to carry Lieut. Bird, still breathing, into a house which stood on the other side of the road just opposite the trees that had formed a hiding-place for the murderers. Poor Baldwin was actually lying dead on the road, and Bird only lived for an hour or two without being able to speak a word as to how it happened. The only account was furnished by Japanese eye-witnesses, one of whom I've already alluded to.

But to get to a more cheerful subject before I close, and carrying you forward a few years I would just say a word or two, about the opening of the first railway in Japan, that between Tokyo and Yokohama, in which I, as a member of the Chamber of Commerce Committee, had the honour of taking a part. This was in 1872 and as you can understand was a most imposing ceremonial. The Mikado and his Ministers came down to Yokohama, all dressed in the quaint Court dresses of the olden days, flowing brocades and the curious head-gear that is only to be seen now in old pictures. The Japanese were present in thousands and the whole foreign community turned out, headed by a deputation formed, as I have said, of the Chamber of Commerce Committee, the Chairman of which body, the late Mr. Marshall, delivered a congratulatory address to the Mikado. There were several foreigners presented to His Majesty, on this great occasion, the only one amongst them still in Japan I believe being our old friend, Dr. Wheeler, then medical officer to the British Legation at Tokyo.

I had intended telling you something of the sports of Yokohama in the old days, of which there was no lack, but time is up. Sufficient to say that besides cricket, football, athletics, paper hunts, both foot and pony, &c., &c., rowing had already taken a strong hold on the young men of the community, headed by George Hamilton, still, I am glad to say, hale and well in New York, who inaugurated the Rowing Club, and whom I have often heard affectionately spoken of as the father of rowing in Yokohama. He was in my own firm, and with Evan Fraser, also now a resident of New York, the late Sir Nicholas Hannen, Lieut. Wright, of the Marines, and the late Mr. Glenny, of Gilman and Company, as cox, formed the crew that won for Yokohama the first four-oared interport race in 1871. I shall have the pleasure of showing you a picture group of this gallant crew in the course of the evening. The mention of pictures reminds me that time is exhausted and I fear your patience is exhausted as well. If, however, these very imperfect reminiscences of old days and old scenes have had any interest for you I shall feel well satisfied, and amply repaid for the time and trouble spent in compiling them.

CENTENARY OF THE BRITISH & FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The inaugural meeting of the Centenary of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held at the Mansion House, London, on Friday, March 6th, 1903. The Lord Mayor (Sir Marcus Samuel) presided, and amongst others present were the Lady Mayoress, Mr. A. J. Balfour, the Earl and Countess of Litchfield, the Earl and Countess of Stamford, the Marquis of Northampton (President of the Society), Bishop F. F. Gore, Bishop Montgomery, the Dean of Windsor, Mr. Caleb R. Kemp (Chairman of the Committee of the Society), Mr. Robert Barclay (Treasurer), &c.

The Lord Mayor, having opened the meeting, the Marquis of Northampton said a hundred years ago there were in the whole world fewer than fifty translations of the Bible. There were now translations of the whole Bible in a hundred languages, and of portions of the Bible in 330 different languages, and it was mainly through the work of the Society that these translations had been made. The Society had circulated 180 million copies of the Bible, the New Testament and portions of the Bible, and each year the circulation increased.

Mr. Balfour said those who had listened to the figures given by the Marquis of Northampton might well feel pride and something of astonishment at the extraordinary work done by the Society in the last hundred years. How many institutions founded 100 years ago have gone on during a century of their life, steadily growing in influence, steadily increasing their work, never having to withdraw on account of a mistake, always conscious that such work as they have been able to do has been for the highest benefit of mankind? Very few. Putting the question of religion aside, what a benefit to philology and allied sciences that great work must have been. But it was not philology or any other science that had made people subscribe, and he hoped that they would continue to increase their support. It was religion. That was the motive force that must be behind any effective work the Society was to do, and any effective appeal to the country for funds. He knew it was needless to argue before such an assembly the benefit of the Bible to mankind. But this idea was not of universal acceptance, and for a few minutes he would imagine himself addressing an audience not wholly in accord with the work of the Society. Suppose, for instance, that an objector was to say that the Society was founded under different conditions to those at the present time. Missionary effort was at the time of the Society's foundation mainly devoted towards the aborigines of America. China was merely a field for speculation and incipient conquest. Since then the Society had to deal with religions which went back beyond the Christian Era, belonging to ancient literary and cultivated nations, nations with a philosophy of their own, and an educated priesthood. How did they expect, this objector might say, to exert any influence on them by merely giving them a copy of the Bible in their own language. His answer to this was that it was a missionary problem, and that religious societies must differentiate in their fields of labour. And perhaps this objector might raise another point, and tell them that their founders started their efforts when Biblical criticism was in its infancy. In the last hundred years sacred books had been subjected to examination so minute, to criticism so learned, to comparison with literature of a similar date so searching that he had no doubt scholars of to-day looked at the Bible in a different way to those of a hundred years ago, and this critic would ask them if these facts did

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not stop their enthusiasm. Such a conclusion must be repudiated with all the strength they had. In his view the ever-increasing knowledge of the history of Israel, the history of the nations influenced by Israel, or of those who had influenced the Jews, added to the knowledge of the Roman history of the period, all greatly augmented the value of the Bible to an educated community. To the unlearned he truly thought the Bible was what it had always been: a source of consolation, hope, and instruction. To the scholar the knowledge of it was augmented in interest, and his belief not diminished in comparision with that in pre-critical days. If he were right, of what infinite value the work of the Society must be. At home we were perhaps too much absorbed in our own religious differences. Therefore, was it not well that they could meet in a cause not depending on sectarian beliefs? It must increase the charity, and widen the outlook of those who took part in it. Those who lived in a narrow circle took a parochial view of everything. There was nothing parochial in the work of this Society. The fact that 450 million people had never yet seen the Bible carried them away from any little differences. When they brought this imagination to bear on the variety of civilisations with which this Society was concerned it would always help them to put any difference in its right perspective.

FIRES.

Fire broke out at a village near Noshiro railway station on April 23rd, destroying seventy buildings.

Fire broke out on Friday night about ten o'clock in a godown on No. 153, Yamashitacho, leased by Messrs. Boyes & Co., but the flames were extinguished before much damage was done. The contents of the godown were insured. Tobacco ash left by a coolie at work in the godown during the day is believed to have been the cause.

Early on Sunday morning fire occurred in the house of an old furniture dealer named K. Tsuchiya, No. 625, Uyenomachi, Bluff, Yokohama, destroying the original building. It is rumoured that the fire was intentionally caused.

On the morning of the 25th a fire occurred in Kamakura. Two buildings were burned down.

A telegram from Wakayama stated that fire broke out on April 25th in a rice refining mill, destroying the building and machinery. There will be heavy loss.

The same day a fire occurred at Komakairi, in Tottori prefecture, and 45 buildings were destroyed.

Fire broke out at Yokote-machi, Akita prefecture, on April 26th and destroyed 760 buildings, including the police station, telegraph office, and so forth.

Fire occurred at Chiba-machi, in Chiba prefecture, on the same day, destroying five houses.

The same day, fire appeared at Kita-Ichijo, Sapporo, and burned down the Methodist Church and 12 houses.

Details of the fire that occurred at Yokote-machi, Akita prefecture, have been given and show that 1,200 houses were burned down and four persons killed.

On the night of April 26th fire broke out in the Okano Post Office in Niigata prefecture, destroying the building in which it originated.

Fire broke out in the Sawai elementary school, Tsukui, Kanagawa prefecture, on April 24th, burning down the whole building. The cause is said to be incendiary.

Fire occurred in an elementary school, Honsho-machi, Yurigori, Akita prefecture, on April 29th destroying 124 houses.

In the fire-works manufacturing godown, Kitaku, Osaka, powder exploded on April 29th at noon destroying the building. Fortunately no one was injured by the accident.

FUJI.

O silent mountain Presence! Being pure
And white amid thy clouds, thy shining peak,
Framed round thy fires, for all men is a sure
And constant symbol, never far to seek.

Like Love among the passions, stand'st thou there,
Or coldly calm or passionate by turns;
For all life's lesser boons thou hast no care,
Yet still the slumbering hell within thee burns.

Around thy base the peasants mildly toil,
Planting their ricefields, patient, hoping all
Life's pains may wring from thy time-wearied soil
Some portion that may save them from Death's pall.

The children paddle in thy shining streams
That rush, snow-fed, in torrents blindly on
To yonder sea, whose glistening bosom gleams
With waves that from thy silvern crest were won.

Thy plains are dotted o'er with rice-straw ricks
Poor barren fields, on lines symmetrical!
Up stony pathways climb the fanatics
To worship thee, mountain majestical.

The barefoot farmer, toiling in the mire,
Turns oft his gleaming mud to gain his rice;
Sees in his rice pond, thee, his sanctifier;
Feels in his bosom, thee, Love's sacrifice.

Silent yet helpful, lonely yet admired,
Crown of a reeking and mud-weltered plain,
Cold and reposeful, once by violence fired,
Of all thy torments, beauties but remain.

Passions may stir the yielding heart of man,
Unnerve his actions, and embrue his hand
In blood soon shed, till temple's sacristan
Tells of momentous deeds throughout the land;

Thou heedest not! but ever art the same,
Most present when unseen and veiled in cloud;
Thou art the eternal Truth without a name,
Felt by the poet, worshipped by the crowd.

Around thee, watchful, as to Love is Joy,
Near to the distant, distant to the near,
A guardian girdle of white snow peaks, coy,
Shunning thy glance, attendant, yet in fear:

Smile thou and all smile; frown and all will frown;
Gleam brightly and all eyes are turned on thee;
Let but thy fringe of misty curtains down,
Nought in the landscape is there now to see.

O solitary mountain, one true thought
Of grandeur amongst all this tiny throng!
How like art thou to that great Truth I sought
And seeking found, though yet the way was long.

Afar I saw the gleams above the mist;
Afar I followed, constant though misled:
Is that the peak? or clouds by wild winds kissed?
Is this the living truth? or is Truth dead?

Is there within the nation, in the soul,
One solid, fix'd, and never-changing point?
Can we find in us,—one, or else the whole,
Some true uprightness we can King anoint?

O man and nation, take from this thy sign!
Constant in little, weak in love or hate,
From truth to error thou shalt ne'er decline,
Small in all else, if yet in one thing great.

From mud arises greatness,—as with flow'rs
The lotus-bloom from mire will still uprise:
So thou, when thou dost leave the wanton hours,
Shalt rise to heights of even higher skies.

Volcanic fires that slumber 'neath the snows
Have piled, in distant pasts, great heights like these;
And every fleck of snow that lightly goes
To fall on thee, adds to thine ecstacies.

Seasons there are, the soul can not attain
To scale the mighty peaks of distant Love;
And yet when summer winds do blow again
Easy it is to climb to heights above.

And whether East or West we climb up first,
Or North or South, the top is only one:
So with that nobler and diviner thirst
All conquering Truth finds, when the climb is done:

Whether from sacred China man would climb
Confucius-led, or from the plains of Ind,
Scorning the heats and wreckages of Time
Renewing Buddha,—or with Homer blind,

Tracing in Greek the pathway unto Christ,
Or yet in ways of Science he would tread,
One, only one, the view so dearly prized—
Spirit of Living man and not the dead!

Within the land are heights oft clad with snow,
Surrounded with deep moats and mires of clay:
Still onward, onward, ever upward go,
And thou shalt be rejoiced upon that day,

When thou thyself dost stand where Buddha stood,
Dost stand with Christ, with Homer or with Jew;
And witnessing the nation's cost of blood,
Canst, down the nation's life, see clear the view

Of Life triumphant, when by Love inspired;
Of Love all glorious, when Love calmly reigns,
Instils the valour, gives that glory fired
By nation's needs—and Joy brings out of pains.

So canst thou, nation! and so canst thou, man!
Thyself upraising, lead the eyes of those
Who dimly heeding, under toil's dull ban
Weld age-long friendships, making friends of foes.

Failing in labour, commerce, teaching, all,
Thou yet shalt rise, and rising shine more bright;
Find more uplifted heights in every fall
And whitely shining make the world more light.

Love, once thy dread, and all thy dearest bane,
Costing great monuments of fear and woe,
Now shines triumphant—pleasure after pain:
A glorious mountain peak ablaze with snow!

H. S.

Shidzuoka, Easter Morn, 1903.

LAW CASES.

P. SARDA v. D. TAKAGI.

The hearing of this case, instituted by Mr. P. Sarda against D. Takagi, a Japanese tailor, was brought up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on Monday. Mr. Fujiwara was present for the plaintiff.

Plaintiff claimed *yen* 143.13, rent of a room in a building at No. 123, Yamashita-cho. Defendant occupied the room on October 3rd, 1902, on a lease of *yen* 38 per month for a term of two years from Oct. 1st, 1902, to September, 1904. In the lease it was stipulated that if either of the parties were willing to cancel the contract three months' notice should be given, and that the monthly rent should be paid on the first day of each month. Defendant deposited *yen* 76 with plaintiff as guarantee. After a month, defendant left the room without giving notice to plaintiff and the monthly rent was not paid.

Defendant held that after two months of the lease, *viz.*, on November, 1902, he applied to plaintiff to cancel the contract and returned the key of the room, and plaintiff consented without referring to the contract. The rent for the two months was paid by the guarantee money, *yen* 76.

The Court reserved judgement till April 29th at 1 p.m.

F. W. HORNE v. W. S. STONE.

This case, instituted by Mr. F. W. Horne against Mr. W. S. Stone, claiming *yen* 668.99 for loss on a transaction in graphophones and accessories, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano, on April 29th, when judgement was given:—

1.—Defendant was ordered to pay plaintiff *yen* 616.85 and interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, from Jan. 25th, 1901, to execution of judgment.

2.—Defendant to pay the costs.

3.—Remainder of plaintiff's claim dismissed.

JOVANSEN v. CLUB HOTEL, L'TD.

This case, instituted by Mr. Jovansen, ex-Manager of the Club Hotel, Limited, against the Directors of the Hotel, claiming *yen* 16,775, including salary and passage expenses back to Europe, came up again in the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kato, on April 29th, when judgement was given:—

1.—Defendants were ordered to pay *yen* 2,050 to plaintiff.

2.—The costs to be borne by both parties.

3.—The remainder of plaintiff's claim was dismissed.

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P. SARDA v. D. TAKAGI.

This case, instituted by Mr. P. Sarda, French architect, against D. Takagi, Japanese tailor, claiming as rent, *yen* 143.13, came up again in the Yokohama District Court, before Judge Kato, on April 29th, when judgment was given :—

1.—Defendant was ordered to pay *yen* 110 to plaintiff.

2.—Costs to be paid by defendants.

3.—The remainder of plaintiff's claim was dismissed.

YAMADA v. SIMON EVERS' & CO.

The hearing of this case, which was adjourned on April 18th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on the 30th, when counsel repeated statements made at the previous hearings

Plaintiff applied to adjourn the case till after May 4th when another suit instituted by the same parties on the same goods will be heard.

The Court agreed and the case was then adjourned till May 12th.

SCANDALS.

Y. Ishii (36) a clerk of the Tokyo City Office, and M. Takino (36) an official of the Tokyo Tax Administration Bureau, were on April 23rd arrested on a charge of having embezzled money amounting to about *yen* 2.000 belonging to the Tokyo City Office. It is stated that the latter, who is a graduate of the Tokyo Fine Arts School, imitated official documents and stamps in the most adroit way. On the 23rd some women of the town on whom the officials had spent the money were examined by the authorities of the Metropolitan Police Office.

Two clerks of the Mii county office, in Fukushima Prefecture, were arrested on April 24th on a charge of having stolen money belonging to the office. It is reported that there are others concerned who are still at large.

A clerk named M. Cho, of the Chiba county office, in Chiba Prefecture, was on April 24th arrested on a charge similar to the above. He attempted to commit suicide, injuring his throat with a knife.

K. Sewa, barrister, Tokushima Prefecture, was arrested on April 24th on a charge of fraud.

The chief of Yashiro village office, Yamaguchi Prefecture, was arrested on April 25th on suspicion of having received bribes.

An officer named M. Kumada, of the Military Uniform Supply Bureau, was arrested on April 23rd on a charge of having received bribes from merchants patronised by the bureau.

In connection with the scandal in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the authorities of the Tokyo District Court searched the house of an assistant engineer named Y. Abe, and on the evening of the same day the official was arrested.

In connexion with the text book scandal N. Katsura, educational inspector of Shimane prefecture, was committed for trial on the usual charge on April 23rd after preliminary examination in the Tokyo District Court. S. Sudzuki was enlarged on bail of *yen* 100

T. Ishii, a member of the *Seikyo Shimbun*, Kanazawa, Ishikawa prefecture, who was charged with blackmail and fraud was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment with hard labour, a fine of *yen* 5 and 6 months' police surveillance, in the Kanazawa District Court on April 22nd.

In connexion with the text-boox scandal, T. Koreishi, principal of the Osaka Normal School, was, on April 22nd, sentenced to three months, and a half imprisoment with hard labour, and a fine of *yen* 15, the bribe of *yen* 2,000 which he had received, being ordered to be confiscated.

In the Tokyo District Court, T. Masuto and another educational official were, on April 27th, sentenced to 2 months' and 1½ months' imprisonment with hard labour respectively, and a fine of *yen* 7 each, and the bribes they had received were ordered to be confiscated. S. Suzuki, educational inspector of Yamanashi prefecture, was discharged on the ground that the evidence against him was insufficient.

S. Yano, a prominent book publisher in Tokyo, who was arrested on a charge of embezzlement and fraud, was released on April 27th, on bail.

In connexion with the text book scandal cases. M. Ishida, principal of Saitama Female Normal School, was discharged as the result of the preliminary trial in the Tokyo District Court on April 28th. T. Kosugi and another educational official were committed for trial after the conclusion of the preliminary examinations.

In the Tokyo District Court, T. Ono, educational inspector of Osaka prefecture, was on April 29th sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment with hard labour, a fine of *yen* 10 and to pay costs of *yen* 1.40, the bribes he had received being ordered to be confiscated. Y. Kanakubo was discharged because of insufficient evidence. The same day R. Hasumi, of the Noko Bank, Gumma prefecture, was committed for trial in the Local Court after preliminary examination, on a charge of having served as intermediary in transferring bribes from text book publishers to educational officials.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A case of cholera which recently appeared in Kobe resulted fatally on April 28th. The victim was a man named I. Takeichi.

Mr. Iwaya, M.P., who was recently arrested on a charge of contravening the Law of Elections, was examined in the Tokyo District Court before Preliminary Judge Midzuhara on April 28th. He applied for bail, but was refused.

Native papers state that on April 28th a suspicious Russian steamer entered Osaki Bay, which is within the Takeshiki fortification area. The steamer was at once ordered to get outside the limits, the captain explaining to the authorities that he had taken shelter from storms.

The *Asahi* states that Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria, who is in staying in Tokyo, will have audience of the Emperor after the latter returns from the west.

The Kyushu Railway Co. held a general meeting on April 29th and decided to issue debentures amounting to *yen* 6,000,000, and to pay a dividend at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum.

The dead body of a youth apparently of about 15 years was found in the canal under the Yato bridge near the Grand Hotel on April 29th. It is supposed to have been in the water for a fortnight and to have floated in from the sea.

Major-General the Earl of Dundonald, commanding the Canadian militia, in his report states that the ceremonial part of the training has been abolished. He has converted the camps into schools of instruction in fighting efficiency.

K. Ono, an official, and one other of the Osaka Municipal Office were, on April 29th, arrested on a charge of having received bribes from contractors who had been patronized by the office. The judicial authorities at the same time made visits to the dwellings of S. Amakawa, a member of the municipal assembly, and others.

Mr. Smalley, the New York correspondent of *The Times* is said to be transmitting "marconigrams" to his journal daily at a cost little in excess of the telegraphic rates between England and France. Private messages between England and France are charged 2d per word, and between New York and London 1s. per word.

A merchant named H. Yomo (41), living at Yonezawa-cho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, who embezzled money amounting to *yen* 30,000 on April 23rd from another merchant with whom he was engaged in business transactions, was arrested on the 24th in a restaurant known as the Matsuya, Dzushi, by the Yokosuka police. The next day he was removed to Tokyo. It is said that the man refused to state where he had concealed the money, and persisted in saying that he had lost it.

Mr. and Mrs. Home Cook, who are passengers on the *Empress of India* for England *vid* Vancouver, were recipients of a handsome present before leaving Kobe. The presentation took place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Cook, and consisted of a magnificent silver salver, upon which was engraved the inscription "Presented to Mr. and Mrs. R. Home Cook by their Kobe friends on the 29th of April, 1903."

The presentation was neatly made by Mr. Lucas, and Mr. Home Cook fittingly replied.

The Paris *Figaro* on April 12th published details of the approaching visit of King Edward to France, according to which His Majesty will enter France from Italy on the first of May. The King will be met in Paris at the Bois de Boulogne Railroad Station by President Loubet and the high officials of the Republic, and escorted to the British Embassy. Various entertainments have been arranged for the Royal visit. King Edward, accounding to the *Figaro*, will leave Paris on May 4th.

On the arrival of the Japanese mail steamship *Tamba Maru* in the Thames on March 24th, the captain reported that one of the passengers, an English gentleman, was missing. The gentleman in question was Mr. W. Simpson, who embarked at Hongkong and was proceeding to London. For some long time he had suffered from insomnia. Whilst the vessel was passing through the Mediterranean, Mr. Simpson was missed by the steward, and although a search was made throughout the vessel his whereabouts could not be discovered. Mr. Simpson was the manager of the Minerva Cigar Factory at Manila, where he had been resident for some years.

A case worth recording is reported in the Tokyo papers. A man named H. Seki, aged eighteen years was subjected to preliminary trial in the Tokyo District Court, on a charge of incendiarism. After examination he was discharged, the judge deciding that he was insane. The public procurator concerned in the matter carried the case to the Tokyo Appeal Court, which quashed the decision of the preliminary judge and ordered re-trial in the Tokyo District Court—the tribunal, it will be observed, which had conducted the preliminary examination. The result of this trial, before Judge Miyaka, was that the accused was sentenced to nine years' major confinement.

The members of the Yokohama Amateur Photographic Society opened an exhibition (the second annual event of the kind) at the Yokohama Kurabu, Public Gardens on Saturday April 25th, and their work will remain on view till May 5th. The show of photographs is not by any means extensive and the Yokohama Amateur Photographic Society do not seem to receive much patronage. There is only one catalogue in English, which is lent to visitors and has to be returned at the door. Some of the pictures are good—we may mention a view entitled "Fujimi Waterfall," another of Fuji, and a very striking picture of the beach at Maiko. But, as we said last year, we have our doubts about the so-called "amateur" element in this organization.

A snake gourd dealer named Y. Nagasaki, living at Amanuma Bluff, Yokohama, was arrested by the Kagacho police on April 26th on a charge of embezzlement and was removed to the detention ward of the Yokohama District Court on the morning of the 27th. He is stated to have received 34 bales of gourds valued at *yen* 500, consigned to him by a farmer in Shidzuoka, at the end of March, for which a draft was drawn through the First Bank. The consignee was unable to meet the draft, but the transport agent meantime stored the bales in his godown. On April 10th, however, Nagasaki obtained the bales from the transport agent's godown on the pretext that he had promised to sell them to Mr. Dinsdale, No. 32. He then concealed them in a godown at Ishikawa-machi.

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AMERICAN TOPICS.

Immigration figures for March show that 65,376 aliens entered New York. This is an increase of 7,710 over the same month last year.

Captain Charles Herbert Stockton has been selected as the naval attache of the American embassy at London, to succeed Captain Richardson Clover, who has been assigned to command the *Brooklyn*.

Mr. William A. Pinkerton, the famous chief of the Pinkerton Detective Agency, accompanied by several detectives, passed through Hongkong on his way to Manila the other day. He is said to be establishing agencies in the Far East, and is supposed to be on the track of some "big game."

A sensation has been created in American military circles, and throughout the United States generally by the announcement that General Corbin, Adjutant-General of the Army, has been rejected or "blackballed" by the Metropolitan Club of Washington. It is stated that the action was taken on account of certain allegations against the General's character and that it was a general action of the club.

The New York Board of Aldermen on March 31st adopted a resolution urging immediate passage of the legislative bill to permit the city to construct and operate a lighting plant. The resolution declared "that the high-handed method, exorbitant charges and inferior service of the several lighting companies have become well nigh unbearable."

Not to be outdone in diplomacy by Emperor William, the Sultan of Turkey has asked Miss Alice Roosevelt, the daughter of President Roosevelt, to christen the Ottoman cruiser *Medjidia* when that vessel is launched at Cramps' shipyard early in May. The authority for this information is Lieutenant Sabri Bey of the Turkish navy, who has charge of the construction of the *Medjidia*.

French financial houses are reported to be contending with American, British and German bankers for permission from President Castro to take up the Venezuelan debt. Mr. Bowen today received information from Caracas that the French Minister was in frequent communication with the Banque d'Escomptoir with a view to converting the Venezuelan debt and establishing a French bank in Caracas.

The Children's Aid Society of New York city conducts special schools for crippled children who are not able to attend the public schools. The schools, four in number, started in 1898, have now an enrollment of 248 pupils. The cost of educating the children is $30.19 per capita as against $200 in the average institution for the crippled.

The Virginia legislature has passed a drastic liquor law, which in its practical workings, will bring about prohibition in parts of the state. It makes it necessary for any applicant for aliquor license to get on his petition the signatures of a majority of the registered voters of the district; a form of local option which is likely to work disastrously to the saloons.

Harvard's astronomical authorities announce the discovery of a new star recently found by Mme. Ceraski, of Moscow. The new star belongs to a class known as the Agloe, variable—that is, it is partially bright, but occasionally is partially eclipsed by an intervening star. This discovery is due to the recent gift of Andrew Carnegie, which enabled exhaustive study of the photographic plates in possession of the astronomers, and out of 250 or 300 covering the region in question thirty plates have been found to contain impressions of the new star.

According to current reports, Canada is to have another transcontinental railway. Its terminal will be at Quebec in the east and Port Simpson, B.C., in the west. The road will run parallel with the Canadian Pacific, but will be from 200 to 400 miles farther north, traversing the very heart of Canada through the wheat and pulp-wood belt. The road will be called the Trans-Canada Railway. The proposed line, so say the reports, will shorten the distance between England and Japan and China by over 700 miles.

A summary of the life insurance companies in the United States prepared by *The Spectator* shows assets on the first of January aggregating $2,100,138,473—an increase for the year of $187,778,198—and the surplus over all liabilities amounted to $295,629,768. The payments to policy-holders were very nearly $200,000,000, and the total amount of insurance in force was not much less than $9,000,000,000, an increase of nearly $1,000,000,000 during the year. In the last five years the amount of life insurance in force has increased 53 per cent. These figures relate to ordinary business. Industrial insurance in force Jan. 1 amounted to $1,305,164,072, an increase of 64 per cent in five years. These figures are striking evidences of prosperity.

United States Consul Cole has, according to a note published by the official *Dresdener Journal*, expressed regret to Premier Metschenbach of Saxony for giving Dr. O'Brien, the American dentist, who was recently expelled from Saxony, a certificate expressing sympathy with him and reflecting on the Saxon Government. The note, says Mr. Cole, was asked for in explanation of the occurrence, and, in an interview with the Premier he admitted he had furnished Dr. O'Brien with a certificate at his request in order to help him in America. Mr. Cole added that in so doing he had no intention of charging the Saxon Government with acting arbitrarily, and expressed regret at the fact that he had been drawn into the matter.

A Kingstown (St. Vincent) telegram of April 2nd said:—The last eruption of the volcano Soufriere was the longest and, considered geologically, the most interesting. It lasted from March 21 until the morning of March 30. The volcano again became active on the night of March 30, when a startling phenomenon was witnessed, the crater, appearing like an electric arc, being reflected upon mountains of clouds. The Soufriere continues to show signs of disturbance. The agricultural office reports that the districts to windward of the Soufriere resembles the surroundings of a gas works. The young vegetation is again obliterated by cinders from the volcano. A dozen different kinds of ejecta were thrown out during this eruption.

Messrs. Ralli Bros., the largest, richest, and oldest export cotton house in the world, have decided to abandon their American cotton department. The firm has its headquarters in London, and branches at New York and at Bombay, Calcutta, and Marseilles, besides Liverpool and Manchester. This step will be a surprise to the general trade. Messrs. Ralli Bros. have been in the cotton business at New York for 38 years, and had 100 agents and correspondents throughout the South. They adhered strictly to the legitimate purchase and sale of cotton for export, refusing to join in any speculative movement or "pool" connection. It was the strongest and most popular house in the trade. The Cotton Exchange regards their retirement as a distinct loss to America's trade, as the firm was most conservative and the richest in the business, handling many hundreds of thousands of bales every season.

The wide channel at Niagara between the American shore and Goat Island, known as the American Falls, was almost dry on Sunday, March 22nd. This was due to an immense "ice jam" at the head of Goat Island, which had diverted the water to the Canadian side. Even residents thronged to witness a sight that they had never imagined possible. Above the ice jam the water was three feet higher than usual; below it, it still ran close to the mainland, but practically the entire river bed was bare. Men, women and children romped about, regardless of the possibility that the breaking of the ice jam might submerge them at any moment. Many mementoes were taken from spots not likely to be visible again for ages. Between Green Island and Goat Island and between Goat Island and the mainland people walked at will, while the glory of the Falls was reduced to a thin trickle.

In answer to hundreds of inquiries which have reached the War Department relative to the prospects of the Philippine hemp crop, the following statement has been made: "The Bureau of Insular Affairs report that there has been some delay in getting the hemp crop of the province of Albay to the two chief shipping points of the province, viz, Legaspi and Tabaco. Earnest efforts are being made by the insular government to repair roads and facilitate transportation, but it is not thought that the outbreak of ladronism will seriously affect the situation, as the governor of the province of Albay has reported to Governor Taft that the output of hemp in March will be a little in excess of February, and that the indications for April are for a small output, due in part to the disturbed conditions in the western part of the province, but chiefly to the drought prevailing there. Should this condition continue during April the output will be seriously affected, but the southwest monsoon in April usually brings rain, which would save the hemp crop. Should the drought continue next year's crop will be about one-half of this year's production.

JAPANESE IN CANADA.

In his "Speech from the Throne" on April 2nd at Victoria, (B.C.) the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia (Sir Henri Joly), said:—"The Acts of last session disallowed by the Dominion Government will be submitted for re-enactment, in the hope that the Dominion Government may, upon further consideration, recognize the wisdom of such legislation, and that the rights of the province may prevail."

We gather, however, from the Victoria papers that the official statement is hardly correct. As a matter of fact the acts of last session will not be submitted for re-enactment. The *Colonist* is very clear on the matter:—"Bills standing also in the name of Hon. Mr. McInnes, providing for the further amendment of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, relating to employment on works carried on under franchises granted by private acts of the legislature, and regulating immigration into British Columbia—all are in the direction of re-enactment of last session's Chinese and Japanese legislation that was disallowed, while displaying this notable difference: In last year's legislation, Japanese and Chinese were jointly considered, the veto being applied at Ottawa with the explanation that Imperial policy conflicted with any action against the Japanese. This year the bills refer to Chinese exclusively, and will thus test the *bona fides* of the Dominion Government in this matter."

The bills with reference to Asiatic immigration, which were disallowed last year by the Dominion Government, have been re-enacted by the British Columbia parliament. *Apropos*, Hon. T. Nosse, Consul General for Japan, made the following statement:—"I cabled my Government two weeks ago advising it to pursue its policy of restriction of emigration of Japanese to Canada. The reply I received was that the Government of Japan was not desirous of forcing its emigrants into British Columbia, against the wishes of the people of that Province, but was willing to enter into an agreement with Canada binding itself not to allow the members of the Japanese colony in the Dominion to increase numerically during the next ten years. It seems to me that the people of British Columbia should stop agitating themselves over the immigration of Japanese labour and begin to exercise themselves over the possibilities of trade with the Orient, of which Canadians have as yet failed to realise the importance. The valuable market that Japan affords for Canadian exports of almost all kinds is indicated by the comments of Japanese papers on the Canadian exhibit at the Osaka Exposition."

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CHRIST CHURCH, YOKOHAMA.

The following correspondence has been handed to us for publication :—

CHRIST CHURCH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I should have preferred to let the newspaper stir about Christ Church, Yokohama, run its course and come to a natural end; and this, I think, would not have taken very long, for people grow tired of such things. A good deal has been said about me which it would be easy to correct, but I shall not ask you to burden your columns with any defence of myself.

The Chaplain of Christ Church, however, is fully entitled to the publication of the *whole* correspondence, since *extracts* have been published to his disadvantage. It will be found, for example, that the incidental expressions indicating that perhaps there are one or two things which in a Church of my own I might do differently, were not emphasized in the letters, but are italicized in the printed extracts; and I wish to state emphatically that there is nothing whatever in the service at Christ Church which would be regarded as at all extreme or unusual in England, nothing which is superstitious, and nothing to which I cannot heartily assent. Under these circumstances I shall give my unreserved support to Mr. Field, and shall pay attention to no questions in regard to his conduct of the service, whilst unjust and ignorant attacks are being made upon him.

May I ask you to print this as an introduction to the correspondence, if Mr. Field should think fit to communicate it to you.

Yours faithfully, (signed) WM. AWDRY,
Bishop.

April 23rd, 1903.

(COPY)

69 Bluff, Yokohama, March 7th, 1903.

DEAR BISHOP AWDRY,—I learn that you have returned to Japan, and am glad to hear that Mrs. Awdry is fully restored to health.

As I told you, before you went away, that we were grateful to the Rev. Mr. Field for his moderation, and that we liked him "so far," I think it my duty to inform you that I take it all back—from the first Sunday after you left here.

In a conversation I had with you about the Rev. A. Sharp, I made you a promise—*i.e.*, not to discuss Church matters in the *Box of Curios*. I repented of that promise; but, having made it, I have faithfully kept it in spirit and in letter, having neither written nor inspired anything that has since appeared about Church matters in that paper, though you will probably hear to the contrary.

But you also on that occasion made me a promise and though more than twelve months have gone by, that promise has not been kept and we are compelled to either forego Communion altogether, or else to take it in a manner which is singularly distasteful to us as Protestants, and which destroys much of the spiritual benefit of the rite. I refer to the Ritualistic practice of ceremoniously mixing water with the wine in presence of the congregation.

I am, Dear Bishop, Yours faithfully,
(signed) CATHERINE V. WILSON.

(COPY)

8 Sakae-cho, Shiba, Tokyo, 9th March, 1903.

DEAR MRS. WILSON,—Thank you for your letter of March 7th. It is something to have matters said straight out when they are thought.

In regard to what you say, I did not consider that you made me a promise not to write in the *Box of Curios* about Church matters, though it is true that I urged strongly the mischief and irreverence and want of consideration involved in using such a medium in such a way as had been done. I also was grateful to you for having discontinued it. I do not feel that such a promise, if made, could be binding on you without limit; while on the other hand I should not consider there was any reason for me to take into account any complaints of persons who were ventilating them in a way so regardless of the religious feelings of others and of reverence to God.

You, however, have taken a right course as you feel yourself aggrieved, and you have a right that I should attend to what you say.

It is true that the judgment of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the case of the Bishop of Lincoln pronounced that as the law of the Church of England stands, the mixing of water with wine as a ceremony during the Service of Holy Communion is not legal.

I shall send your letter with my reply to Mr. Field, and ask him to discontinue this, unless (as I hope) he learns that, having had your case acknowledged, you are satisfied not to interfere with the conduct of worship on a matter so utterly unimportant in itself.

Mr. Field in complying will make no change in doctrine, no change in symbolism, and no change that anyone would even see that did not go to this most sacred act of worship intending to watch how things were done—surely not a suitable purpose.

I presume that Mr. Field would do what is quite lawful, and indeed desirable, independently of ancient custom. He would probably put water in the Chalice before the Service began. The *only* change would be that those of the congregation who happened to be on the watch, would not *see* him mix the two.

In this there would be nothing underhand, no concealment, for this is lawful on the same authority on which the other is not lawful.

As regards the mixing of water with the wine: it seems very clear that it was mixed wine and water that our Lord blessed and gave to His disciples with the words, "This is My Blood." It is certain that at the year 150 A.D. the mixing was a matter of course, and this of course was a great many centuries before anyone would dream of regarding the Church as 'Ritualistic.' The custom continued down the ages. Symbolic meanings of course were found for it, but they have no kind of authority and are even inconsistent with one another, so that no one is committed to any of them by the fact of water being mixed with the wine unless he chooses. There are reasons also of a very practical kind, of which the clergy hear; for what is used in the Holy Communion should be so far diluted that neither will it call up associations when taken into the mouth, nor affect the throat of a person not used to alcohol.

If you care to have a barren victory, at the cost of keeping up a quarrel over sacred things, you no doubt can do so.

Only I would ask which in that case is the greater ritualist, the person who simply continues an ancient and confessedly harmless custom, which, *accidentally* as it seems, came to be inconsistent with the language of a rubric, or the person who, about an external thing of the smallest importance, which would not even be known if it was not watched for, keeps up bitterness and the spirit of division among those who worship together. Surely if you could take your eyes off the motes, you would be able to see the sunlight, and that is far more worth seeing.

The only element in the case which is of real importance, is the peace of God's servants and the honour of God, and this can only be got by falling in heartily with what is done—not by each pulling to get just a little of his own way.

Forgive me, Yours sincerely,

WM. AWDRY,
Bishop.

(COPY.)

No. 72, Settlement, Yokohama,
March 30th, 1903.

The Rev. W. P. G. FIELD, M.A.,
Incumbent, Christ Church, Yokohama.

SIR,—I respectfully beg to remind you of the illegality of the hereinafter mentioned ornaments, acts and ceremonies which you are in the habit of using and practising during Divine Service and the administration of the Holy Communion, and request that same be discontinued, viz.

a. The use of lighted candles, when not required for the purpose of giving light.

b. Standing on the West side of the Communion Table and thus hiding the manual acts during the Prayer of Consecration.

c. Mixing water with the wine, during the Service.

d. Elevating the Paten, Cup and consecrated elements.

e. Adoring the consecrated elements.

f. Kneeling before the consecrated elements.

g. Forming a proceession other than what is necessary to enable the Choristers to proceed direct to their seats in the Choir.

h. Breathing on the bread and chalice.

The several acts, practices, ceremonies and ornaments above mentioned are unlawful additions to and variations from the form and order prescribed by the Statutes of Uniformity and the Book of Common Prayer, and the Constitutions and Canons Ecclesiastical and have been respectively decided to be illegal in and by the judgments of the Ecclesiastical Courts made and pronounced in that behalf, as follows:—

Elphinstone *v.* Purchas.
Hudson and others *v.* Tooth.
Clifton *v.* Ridsdale.
Martin *v.* Mackonochie.
Dean *v.* Green.
Read *v.* Bishop of Lincoln.
Hibbert *v.* Purchas.
Masters *v.* Durst.

In consequence of the retention and use of the aforementioned illegal ornaments and ceremonies, many of the members of Christ Church, as well as other inhabitants and parishioners, are prevented by conscientious motives from attending Divine Service and from partaking of the Holy Communion.

Independently of their illegality, the acts and practices above mentioned are connected with and suggestive of superstitious doctrine, borrowed from the Church of Rome and symbolical of her errors, and are contrary to the order of our Communion Service and the terms both of the Liturgy and Articles and are not conformable to the principles of the Reformed Church of England.

I am sending copies of this letter to Bishop Awdry (who has already acknowledged the illegality of one point brought to his notice, viz. the mixing of water with the wine during Service, and, I understand, he has requested you to discontinue this), and the Chairman of Trustees of the Church.

I am, Sir, Yours respectfully,
(signed) W. K. WILSON.

(COPY.)

No. 72, Yokohama, March 31st, 1903.

Rev. W. P. G. FIELD, M.A.,
Incumbent, Christ Church, Yokohama.

SIR,—Since writing the enclosed, I am informed that one, at least, of the illegalities complained of has been discontinued, and shall be very glad to hear that this is true, not only of one, but of all.

I am, Sir, Yours respectfully,
(signed) W. K. WILSON.

(COPY.)

234, Bluff, March 31st, 1903.

To W. K. WILSON Esq.

Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter, which shall receive the attention due to it.

Yours faithfully,
(signed) W. FIELD.

(COPY.)

Shiba, Tokyo, 2nd April, 1903.

DEAR MR. WILSON,—I beg to acknowledge Mrs. Wilson's note of March 10th (I do not suppose she looked for any acknowledgment or I should have written at the time) and yours of March 31st, with two enclosures, copies of letters written to the Rev. W. P. G. Field on March 30th and 31st.

I do not propose to interfere unless legally obliged to do so, and I hardly know how I could be legally obliged, especially under the exceptional conditions of the Yokohama Church, and of an English authority to be exercised in a foreign country.

The following is an outline of my reasons :—

1. Some of the things named by you I should certainly have to pronounce to be lawful according to the latest judgments. Some again are interpretations by you of acts which very likely have no such meaning as you put upon them; and the only way in which they could be shown to bear these interpretations would be by Mr. Field being called upon to bear witness about his own meaning; *i.e.* supposing the acts so interpreted really are not legal, to bear witness against himself. Some again are absolutely frivolous, not to say absurd. For instance, you bring an accusation of his "Breathing on the bread and chalice." What can this mean? It is the first time I ever heard of such a practice. It certainly is not Roman, so that it is entirely irrelevant, nor Greek, nor English. If it were done it could be nothing but a private invention of Mr. Field's own. The fact is, of course, that it is *not done*. If it were, no one could see it, for Mr. Field's body would be between it and any spectator. To think of anyone trying to be a spectator at such a time instead of a worshipper! The whole of this charge, however honestly intended, must be a pure invention due to suspiciousness.

2. This temper of suspiciousness is disastrous to devotion; and where it is present, nothing will satisfy it. Yielding is of little use for making peace, for the seat of this evil is not in the accused but in his accuser.

3. The worst of all possible conditions for the spiritual good of the congregation of Christ Church, Yokohama, or of any other Church, is that the lines of its worship should be determined in detail by public criticism or clamour, and this must be the issue if individuals are each to press his own point.

The Church, I believe, is fuller, and the contributions made there are larger than they have ever been before. There seems then to be abundant evidence that the great majority have confidence in Mr. Field and value his ministrations highly. It may be perhaps that neither they nor I should do exactly what he does if we were in his place. His zeal and energy and decision bring upon him criticism and opposition of a kind which is not met with when slackness leaves consciences to sleep in peace. I am heartily thankful to Mr. Field for what he is doing in Yokohama, whether or not I agree with everything he does. And so, evidently, are the large majority of those to whom he ministers.

For the rest I am sincerely sorry, and can say so with real sympathy, for I might easily find myself in a Church where some things from whichever side were distressing to me, which yet for the sake of all had better not be quarelled over. For the sake of all, I heartily support Mr. Field, and rejoice that he is there; and I am sure that all who let the critical and

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suspicious spirit give place to a spirit of worship and a desire to get what edification they can, even though it should not come to them in all points just as they would have chosen, will find much spiritual advantage, and will come to see that any charge of "superstition" was made under a mistake as to the meaning of that to which they took objection.

Believe me, Yours faithfully,

(signed) WM. AWDRY,
Bishop.

I am sending a copy of this to Mr. Field, who no doubt will communicate it to the Trustees.

W. A.

We have been asked to prolish the following letters as supplementary to the correspondence sent us by Bishop Awdry :—

THE QUESTION OF RITUAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Bishop Awdry having omitted one letter from the correspondence, published last evening, I beg to hand you a copy of it. This may possibly suggest the reason *why* he intends to give his unreserved support to Mr. Field and why there is nothing whatever in the Service at Christ Church to which he cannot heartily assent.

I agree with the Bishop that there is nothing whatever in the Service which would be regarded as at all extreme or unusual in *some Churches in* England; but the fact that thousands of clergy are disloyal to their Church is no argument why we, in Yokohama, should countenance the thin end of the wedge being introduced here.

Bishop Awdry complains of unjust and ignorant attacks upon Mr. Field; has Mr. Field denied one of the charges made? I do not think Mr. Field's interpretation of his acts would alter their illegality.

The Bishop pleads ignorance of the charge of "Breathing on the Bread and Chalice"; I refer him to the "Articles to be followed and observed according to the King's Majesty's injunctions and proceedings (Edward VI. 1549)." which read as follows:—

1. That all parsons, vicars and curates omit in the reading of the injunctions all such as make mention of the Popish mass, of chantries, of *Candles upon the Altar, or any such like thing.*

2. Item, for an uniformity, that no minister do counterfeit the Popish mass, as to kiss the Lord's table; washing his fingers at every time in the communion; blessing his eyes with the paten or sudary; or crossing his head with the paten; *shifting of the book from one place to another*; laying down and licking the chalice of the communion; holding up his fingers, thumbs, joined towards his temples; *breathing on the bread or chalice*; showing the Sacrament openly before the distribution of the communion; ringing or sacrying bells; *or setting any light upon the Lord's board at any time; and finally to use no other ceremonies than are appointed in the King's book of common prayer, or kneeling otherwise than is in the said book.*"

Bishop Awdry writes, with regard to the "Breathing," "The fact is, of course, that it is not done"; I have not only seen it done, but my attention has been drawn to it by others who had noticed it.

There is one more point, in the Bishop's letter of March 9th, to which I would like to draw attention, which is, the value he attaches to a promise; "I do not feel that such a promise, if made, could be binding on you without limit;" how far then is a promise binding? Is it possible that he and others of the clergy have the same feeling with regard to their ordination vows, and their assent to the XXXIX Articles; that they are not binding without limits? It would appear so.

In conclusion, I think it may safely be said that, if the Trustees had paid some attention to the feeling of the special meeting, called in August, 1901, instead of directly opposing it, there would probably have been no need for all the dissatisfaction and discussion which has arisen.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,

W. K. WILSON.

Yokohama, April 29th, 1903.

[ENCLOSURE.]

TO BISHOP AWDRY.

DEAR BISHOP AWDRY,—I am obliged for your assurance of this evening that the illegality complained of shall cease. You cite the judgment in the isolated case of the Bishop of Lincoln only allow me to respectfully remind you of that of Hibbert *v.* Purchas, Martin *v.* Mackonochie, Elphinstone *v.* Purchas, Hudson and others *v.* Tooth, Clifton *v.* Ridsdale and of Dean *v.* Green. As to the rest of your letter—yes, truly I forgive it, and am not surprised at it coming as it does from one who has signed the Declaration of the Three Deans in favour of the Eastward Position and Vestments, and the Petition of 1881 for the Toleration of Extreme Ritual. You are at liberty to send my letters to Mr. Field or to publish them and yours side by side in the newspapers if you see fit, as at present publicity appears to me extremely desirable.

I am, Dear Bishop, Yours faithfully,

CATHERINE V. WILSON.

69 Bluff, Yokohama,
Tuesday, March 10th, 1903.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. HALL IN SENDAI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The long article on this subject recently "contributed" to the *Japan Mail* was evidently written from a standpoint so different from that of a large number of other hearers that, in justice to them, amodifying word seems necessary.

Prof. Hino's interpretation was spoken of as "labored *sokugo*," which harsh criticism utterly fails to express the really able work of the interpreter. Everybody knows the extreme difficulty of interpreting such addresses, and all the hearers who understood both languages would doubtless agree that Prof. Hino was not perfect in his interpretation, nor in the use of the Japanese language. But, none the less, he produced those difficult lectures so nearly true to the thought of the speaker, and so sympathetically, that his hearers generally gave him praise, and in some instances very high praise. "It was splendid," was the unsought for remark of one Japanese who is perfectly at home in both languages, and who heard only the lecture that "Contributed" did.

I have heard from over a dozen Japanese and foreigners that they were shocked at the severity of the criticism above referred to, and I do not hesitate to say that those criticisms convey a very wrong impression of the feelings of the audience. To say that Prof. Hino gained many very warm and appreciative compliments would be much nearer the facts as they seem to many of the auditors—I believe a large majority.

The statement concerning the mental attitude of the Japanese towards supernaturalism—that "it is precisely like that of a great majority of highly educated men in Europe and America,"—which means, in the critic's mind, that Christ's Divinity is altogether rejected, is a common one by a few writers. The portion that refers to America is so absolutely misleading, from the President of the United States, through the members of the Supreme Court, to the Presidents of our Universities and Colleges, that one can only marvel at such unqualified writing. The facts with reference to the Japanese seem to me—and I believe I have as wide a personal acquaintance with educated Japanese as "Contributed"—that while the intellectual position of Japanese was, up to a few years ago, as the critic has said, there has recently been a change. There is not now that certainty that there is nothing of value in the supernatural element of Christianity. There certainly is now much more serious thought on the subject than there used to be.

As for the critic's regret that Dr. Hall did not know his audience, and that had he known them he could not have had such optimism, the reply to that might be made long, but while the Christian faith gives optimism to all who hold it, we should have been very greatly astonished had Dr. Hall failed to manifest this. We missionaries who have been here as long as "Contributed" has are optimistic.

Sincerely yours, J. H. DE FOREST.

JAPANESE CHARACTERISTICS AS FOREIGNERS OBSERVE THEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I always deprecate the discussion of Japanese characteristics by foreigners because the most experienced of us have had our associations within a limited sphere. Your notice of Mrs. Andrews' article, however, tempts me to risk a word of explanation. I appreciate fully the editor's feeling as to the impression which the quotations give, and yet my experience leads me to believe that the statements there made are not overdrawn as individual cases. According to your review, the article speaks specifically of Sunday schools, and generally of the training of children in this country; and if you will permit me I will give my own experiences as throwing some light on the subject. I have done considerable Sunday school work, having been connected directly or indirectly with six Sunday schools at one time, and I have organized and conducted a number more; and I could not keep back a smile as I recognized all the features of misbehaviour which Mrs. Andrews mentioned. I do not take the situation as seriously, however, as she does. The conduct spoken of is due to two causes; the 1st is that our Sunday school children are generally recruited from the least cultured families; the 2nd is that they are not used to religious services, and can't possibly regard our Sunday schools as such. To them the schools are a show, and a funny one at that. But in course of time they come to a fair degree of docility.

The second question—the one of training in the home—is more difficult. As I have observed the situation it seems to me that the chief difficulty in our understanding the phenomena which we see is that the Japanese are more uneven in discipline, perhaps, than westerners. That is, they are more indulgent when pleased and severer when angry, than ordinary foreigners. However that may be, there are methods of punishment among the lower orders of the Japanese which the Editor of the *Mail* may never have witnessed. For example, burning with a coal and sticking with a needle are to my certain knowledge recognized and practised methods of discipline. But after all, in a country where the moxa and acupuncture are common methods of medical treatment, it is easy to understand how a dab with a hot coal or a prick with a needle would not really indicate a savage disposition. Japanese on the other hand look upon our use of the switch as very brutal. It is useless to cite instances, but I will simply say that while living in the interior I witnessed far more brutal treatment of children than anything Mrs. Andrews has mentioned. When the Editor says that the children of whom Mrs. Andrews writes are "not Japanese children, nor are their mother Japanese mothers" he is only writing of things outside of his experience. The mistake made by many of us is not in stating the phenomena we have observed, but in drawing general statements from too exclusive an experience. Trusting you will find space for this explanation, let me conclude by saying that I highly appreciate the many admirable features of Japanese civilization.

Yours truly, MIMASHITA.

Yokohama, April 25th.

THE FAMINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I enclose some notes of a tour of inspection taken at the instance of our Famine Relief Committee in Sendai to the distressed districts of Miyagi province. They were kindly published in the English Column of the *Kahoku Shimpo*, published in Sendai, but naturally reached but few foreigners. The notes were also translated and published in the vernacular column of the same paper. But our Committee would like to reach a larger audience and attempt thus to get any help that the foreign Community may be inclined to give to the suffering poor here. While the number is not so large as in Aomori province the suffering is probably just as acute, and we feel it our duty to do what we can to relieve what we can of it. So we ask that you kindly give space to the republication of the report in the columns of your widely read paper.

Yours sincerely, E. H. JONES.
For the Sendai Foreign
Famine Relief Committee.

Sendai, April 22nd, 1903.

THE FAMINE IN MIYAGI PROVINCE.
by Rev. E. H. Jones.

As many people were wanting to know the exact facts of the reported distress among the people of Miyagi Province, who were suffering on account of the bad harvest of last year; and as the Christians of Sendai, Japanese and foreign, had collected a small amount of money, and wanted to distribute it where it would do the most good, Mr. Asonuma, Mr. Peck, of the Middle School, and the writer started out on Thursday, March 19th, for Tamatsukuri and Kuribara counties, which were said to be in the greatest want, to examine into the real condition of the famine, stricken people, and to relieve them so far as our funds would allow.

We had a fine day and after riding in the steam cars to Rogota station, from there to Furukawa in the horse cars, thence to Iwadeyama in a one horse stage, which though licensed to carry six passengers was badly overloaded with five, and finishing the journey in *kuruma* to Onsen township, some 70 miles from Sendai, we found ourselves in a pretty valley surrounded by high hills, with jets of steam appearing in many places, indicating hot springs in abundance.

Being nearly dark we found we could make no visits to the people's houses that night, but by kind letters of introduction from the Vice Governor to the local officials, asking them to render us any help in their power, we soon were favoured by a call from a representative of the local government office, who very kindly furnished us with all the information necessary, and promised to go with us next day to the most afflicted parts of the district and show us the condition of the people.

We were informed that this village of Onsen had 141 houses, containing 762 people. Of these 135

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houses, having 721 people, were in destitution, and the outlook till the end of June, when the food crops begin to come in, was very dark indeed.

Our method of distribution was by tickets indicatings the quantity of Chinese rice to be given to the bearer, and the headmen of the townships kindly offered to deal out rice for these tickets, sending the collected tickets to us in Sendai with the seals of the recipients attached. We gave out no clothes, or 'futons,' for we know by experience in charity work in Sendai that the very poor will always trade their clothes and bedding at an insignificant rate, compared with the original cost, when they get in need of food. We got a list of the distressed from the township office, and after visiting for personal-inspection a small number, we would askthe officers to indicate the most helpless families, then giving or sending tickets to them. There are some 60,000 people in this province suffering from lack of food. Fortunately, but few deaths have yet been reported as being directly caused by starvation, but before the food crops come in there is abundant reason to fear this result. The authorities are planning various public works, road building, straitening of the borders of rice fields, tree planting, etc.; but the preparation for commencing these relief works was so delayed that we fear it will be but little help this season. We shall keep up our organization for relief of the suffering poor of Miyagi province as long as we can collect any funds to distribute. Any friends who may be stirred up to give out of their abundance a contribution, however small, may send the same to our treasurer, Rev. W. E. Lampe, Kwozenji-tori, Sendai, and we will do our best to distribute it with all care so that the most suffering and helpless may be reached. We hope that for the next two months you may keep the famine stricken people of Miyagi province in mind and do what you can to help us. Most of the contributions have heretofore gone to Aomori province, which has been wise, as doubtless the people of that province are in as great distress as those of Miyagi, and the number of those affected being larger they need the bulk of the help. But a portion of your contributions could now be well given here.

Before we retired we had the pleasure of a bath in the natural hot spring of the hotel, which in ordinary seasons attracts a good many visitors. What first surprised the foreigners of our party was the fact that the Japanese can take the hotter of the two tubs provided as well as we could the cooler one. It must be custom that enable them to do it, for a foreigner would certainly be scalded if he went into the hotter one. By an ingenious arrangement cold water is continually running into one of the tubs, and also the flow of the hot water is regulated, so that foreigners, and, I presume, children, can enjoy the bath as well as those who can take the water just as it comes from the spring.

Next morning we were up bright and early, but before we could get breakfast, the hotel people kindly thought that we foreigners needed special attention—to fit ourselves out with umbrellas, and long boots, for we were to have a rainy day, and the road would often be through soft snow and deep mud. It was already half-past eight.

We at last got off and walking up and up got to an elevated tableland, or valley, for we still found hills all around us, called Nakayama. Many were the outcroppings of volcanic ashes, and debris; many hot springs gushed from the hill sides, and we passed on our way a sulphur mine from which a considerable quantity of that mineral is taken out, all showing the volcanic nature of the district.

At last we reached the school of the little hamlet. The children looked very pinched, and their clothes showed evidences of much poverty. The slates and pencils had been divided and subdivided until it seemed as if the little sections of slates, and little crumbs of pencils, could not be used.

The teacher said that many of the pupils attending could only stay a part of the day, for but few could bring a luncheon for the noon hour. He also said that the books were getting in such a condition that the lessons could hardly be learned from them. The county office at Iwadeyama reported that the Tamatsukuri township schools had fallen off since last October from 55,950 children in attendance to 36,636. These children, about one-third of the whole, are out upon the mountains gathering up roots, and every thing edible, to keep the wolf from the door of their homes. Many too are at work making charcoal, and fire wood, to sell for the little money that can be got in that way. On account of the large number who have gone into this business the price has fallen to about half what it was last year. Also the mild weather we had during the past winter has helped to keep down prices. Therefore double as much has to be sent to market to get the same amount of money.

The same is true of chestnut shingles, which are largely made in this district. Formerly a bundle would bring 15 to 28 *sen*—now they have to be carried one half to two *ri* to a market and only sell for 9 or 10 *sen* per bundle. A man can only make one bundle a day. Taking to market consumes a day. So they only get 9 or 10 *sen* for a couple of days work. This often has to supply a family of 10 or 12 with food.

We visited six houses in the Nakayama district. A particular account of a few families will suffice to show the general condition. I give them in the order visited, not selecting them. Some of those visited were even worse than those that are described.

Yuza Yozo, 15 in family, father sick, blind grandmother of 60 years,—only 3 in family can work. The rest are disabled from work by sickness, or by being but young children. House, land, horse, and furniture were already in the hands of the money lender for money to buy food, and that money has been all used up. Now have to eat fern root starch, mixed with a little 'hie.' We learned that the 'hie' is ground-up, chaff and all, so as to prevent waste. Then the food is made into the consistency of gruel to make it go farther.

Ueno Jinnojo—80 years of age. Son-in-law deserted family when the stress came. Young wife only one who can work. Two small children of 3 and 8. Wife works at carrving chestnut shingles to market. But as those who make them are also in great straits themselves they can pay her very little for her work. They can only have one, or at most two, meals a day of fern root starch with a little Chinese rice.

In this same township, there are other places besides Nakayama, that are in just as bad condition. At Sawa, for instance, there are 20 houses out of which 18 are in want. In many of these upland districts the water is too cold to grow rice successfully, and they therefore fall back upon "hie." This as a grain is much inferior to rice and only brings about one-third of the price. They township authorities gave out to the people of Nakayama one 'sho' of rice to each house in February, and one 'sho' in March, for they thought the people were in such straits that they might starve. This is significant of the condition of the poor people for the authorities are not in the habit of doing such things only in extreme cases.

We reached our hotel at nightfall very tired on account of our all day tramp through snow and mud, and very sad at the distress we had seen at Nakayama. It did not seem possible that the poor people could get along till the end of June when the food crops commence to come in. We were informed by the township authorities that an ordinary year gives a crop of rice of 4,050 *koku* in Onsen, but last year only gave 146 *koku*.

From Onsen township we went up next day to a high valley, in the same country (Tamatsukuri) called Onikobe. After crossing a range of hills fully 1,500 feet high and very steep we came down into a valley enclosed on all sides by mountains. The road we came up was too steep for any vehicle to pass. We heard that Gov. Tanabe, himself on a tour of personal inspection, rode up there a few days ago, but we could hardly believe it, for some of the places were too steep for a rider to stick to his saddle.

This is one of the difficulties of Onikobe valley. There is no road by which charcoal, wood, etc., can be sent to market. The cost of getting such cheap products to market is so high that in ordinary times there is no profit; and now when the prices have been so reduced by over-production they cannot be sold without loss. A geyser is to be seen in this valley, which throws up its hot water every two hours, and as it was near our road we went to see it, but it had just finished an eruption, so we were disappointed as we had no time to wait for the next eruption. We were told that the water is thrown up about 40 feet. It is one of the only two of its kind in Japan. We found snow still lying in many places in the valley. The water is generally too cold for raising rice, but the water from the many hot springs so temper some parts that rice is raised to some extent. Ordinary years give about 2,000 *koku* of rice to this valley, but last year only gave 50. So far as rice is concerned, it was an almost utter failure of crop.

The number of houses in this district is 210, with 1,708 people. 113 houses with 678 people are destitute. The people are generally able to piece out their scanty livings from the sale of lacquer work, which is made quite extensively in the valley. But this year on account of the bad times there are no purchasers, and this reliance has been cut off when most needed. The headman of the village, Oba Tosaburo, says he has about filled up his house with lacquer work taken from the people in exchange for rice, but that he is now at the limit of his resources.

A few cases out of many visited in this valley will suffice to show the condition of the people.

Iwai Chotaro.—Parents 64 and 51. Grandparents 82 and 79. Eldest son 34, wife, daughter 14. Son a maker of lacquer work, and farmer. No work now on account of hard times. Wife being ill had to go to hot springs for treatment. Grandmother lying ill. Snow on mountains, and therefor cannot get full supply of fern root. Eat 'tokoro imo' and 'hie'.

Goto Shinshi.—Ten in family, from grandfather of 74 years, to granddaughter of 3 years. Live on 'hie.' Straw in corner of room for bed. No 'futons,' only same filthy rags for coverings and these only half enough to go round the family. In this cold valley how these poor people get along without warm bedding it is hard to conceive. We found no houses where they had anything better than straw and rags for bedding. I presume their 'futons' (comfortables or quilts) are all in the hands of the money lender awaiting better times for redemption.

And so we might go through the list of the families we visited. It was in every case most pitiful to see the destitution. Rough floors without any 'tatami'; 'shoji,' 'karakami,' and all movable furniture long ago in hands of the money lender. House, land, horse now all mortgaged and the money used up.

We planned to go from this county of Tamatsukuri, over the mountains, into Kuribara county, that we might visit Hanayama and Kurikoma townships. The people told us we would find the road impassable on account of the snow. However we determined to try the journey, as we did not relish the return to Onsen. We thought we could hardly find a worse road than that we had passed over. We spent the night at the house of a hospitable farmer of the district, whose family did all in their power to make us comfortable. The people of the only hotel of the place had closed its doors on account of the stress of the times, and had a hard struggle to feed themselves. They could only entertain us by borrowing furniture, and by having to pay beforehand to buy food for us. Our kind host sent out the son of the family to guide us to his house with the light of a friendly lantern. We had been supplied at the last house we had visited with a bunch of a straw, bound into a tight bundle about 3 inches in diameter, which being lit at one end, and kept in motion would give us a fitful light to keep us from stepping off from the narrow path into the muddy rice fields which bordered our way on either side. But when the lantern came we realized as much difference as we did in former days when we gave up paper lanterns to walk in the light of the electric lamps in Sendai streets.

Next day we started as early as our kind hosts could get us off, and after walking till noon we stopped in a big snow field near the highest part of the pass to eat our luncheon. The snow was for most of the way up to this point some two feet deep. The worthy teacher of the Middle School, being a man of weight, often sank down through the snow nearly to the top of his long boots, making big holes for us smaller men of the party to tumble into, until I suggested that it would be a more comfortable thing for the rest of us if he would guard the rear of our train from the lesser dangers that might come from behind. We found this plan much better, for Mr. Asonuma and myself could often walk on the top of the snow where Mr. Peek would sink through.

After reaching the top of the pass we found almost immediate relief from the snow. The Kuribara side of the range was well covered with forest and the road soon improved but for an hour was very steep. After a couple of hours' walk we came into the outlying rice and barley fields of Hanayama township. This side of the range was much warmer. We had moved from winter into spring. As we came down near to the village of Hanayama, and came near the succession of farm houses, it was suggested that it might be well to visit some of the houses on our way down, and save the walk back from the village office, to which we had been in the habit of going for information, and direction. So we called at the next house. We found the farmer preparing fern root for food outside his house. We asked him how about the people of this village. He said they were all in want. He himself was in great distress. We looked around in surprise for he had quite a quantity of 'miso,' hanging up drying, and we saw many others signs that he was not yet in much distress.

While it was probably true that, as compared with other years, this man found it hard to get along, else he would not be using fern root for food, yet there were evident signs in his house that his family were yet far from the point that should call for the intervention of charity to keep him from starving. The was the only case where we applied directly to the houses of the farmers for information. It was suggested by this experience that some of the people of the official reports may have reported themselves as being distressed when there was yet a considerable margin between their condition and actual want. But making all allowance for such cases, there are certainly many thousands of worthy and industrious people in this province who are on the verge of starvation. Only the greatest care on the part of the authorities, and the most generous contributions from the kind-hearted peple of other parts of the province, and country, will prevent many cases of actual starvation.

The remainder of our trip was through the county of Kuribara. We examined many cases in the townships of Hanayama and Kurikoma. The worst cases

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we found were among the charcoal burners and wood cutters, who live in the mountainous parts of the counties visited. We were told that the township office at Kurikoma is so behind in its collections from the people, on account of the poverty of the district, that the small 8 yen salary of the village teacher at Tamayama had not been paid for several months. He, in consequence, was in almost as bad a condition as the poor farmers. His son of 12 years with a bad eye disease, and likely to became blind, could not have medical attendance because of the lack of money.

ILL-TREATMENT OF JAPANESE CHILDREN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I notice that you take strong exception to the remarks made by Mrs. Andrews with regard to the ill-treatment of Japanese children.

I have witnessed far worse treatment of children by Japanese mothers than that described, and whatever the treatment may be by the better class of Japanese, that of the lower classes in cities like Yokohama and Kobe, from any own experience, is often brutal in the extreme.

Only the other day, in my compound, I saw a Japanese woman unmercifully striking a child on the head and face, but being obliged, owing to the nature of my business, to employ a large number of coolies, this, I am sorry to say, is of very frequent occurrence.

The most usual form of punishment, however, is burning with the moxa; a most painful thing to undergo, even to an adult. I have tried it myself and know. To a child of tender years, it must be excruciating agony. Yet you will find that the greater number of the children of the lower classes in Yokohama (beyond which my experience does not go) have their limbs and bodies disfigured with the scars left by the burning moxa.

If you hear from a house the agonized screams of a child, as I have often done, you will pretty nearly always find that the moxa is being applied and on remonstrating as I have often done, at the cruelty, you will be told that the child has been "itadzura."

I saw in Yokohama some little while ago, two women engaged in applying the moxa to a child. One woman was holding the struggling child down, while the other was applying the burning weed to the little one's stomach. The child did not seem to be more than three years old and was screaming dismally. This was in broad day before the passers-by, in the front of a small shop.

I could give many instances of cruelty to children by their Japanese parents and while I believe it is mostly confined to the lower classes, the cruelty is such that unless you have seen it, as I have, you may well disbelieve the statements which Mr. Andrews makes, but which are unfortunately absolutely true. The application of the moxa, at least, on children should be prohibited by the Authorities. It is useless from a medical point of view. It is a horrible disfigurement, and it is brutal cruelty.

I am, Yours truly, B.

Yokohama, April 28th, 1903.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to the alleged brutality of parents to children among the lower classes of Japan, it would appear almost unnecessary to enter into any defence against a charge so indiscriminately launched, especially as it appears to be coupled with a misunderstanding of the custom of the country. To those who have any knowledge of Japan, it will be needless to repeat that corporal punishment—which in Europe is often carried to a degree resembling torture—is never resorted to in the education of the Japanese child, and that any cruelty is therefore a most exceptional ocurrence. Abroad if you hear the agonizing scream of a child issuing from some home, you may conclude with certainly that some ruffian father with mistaken educational views is brutalizing his child; such methods are unknown in Japan.

However, the principal score of complaint brought forward appears to be the burning of moxa (kiyu) which, it is asserted, is used as a punishment or torture. This is never the case; the moxa is only used as a medicine by the lower classes, and also upon children in the case of certain complaints to which most children at an early age are liable. It would therefore be absurd to ascribe the administering of a medicine, however worthless it may be, to cruelty or brutality on the part of the parents. The moxa is a quack remedy which may in many respects safely be compared to the custom of blood letting still in vogue among country people in most parts of Europe.

As to real cruelty, we are obliged to support in our largest metropolis, New York, a society for the prevention of cruelty to children (also called the Gerry Society) which daily has to deal with plenty of real cruelty, as a glance at its records would prove. Cruelty to children in Japan has then apparently not yet reached such a point as to require organized interference, and the instances cited in the previous correspondence may certainly be classed as being very exceptional.

I am, yours truly, "M."

Yokohama, 30th April, 1903.

[We agree entirely with "M," one point excepted. The moxa is sometimes applied as a punishment.—ED. *J. M.*]

IMPORTANT SHIPPING DECISION.

We learn from the New York *Journal of Commerce* of April 7th that "Judge Adams has decided the action brought by the firm of W. J. Buttfield against the steamship *Hudson*, owned by the Standard Oil Company. The decision is in favour of the claimant, and involves damages of, approximately, $12,000.

"It appears that a cargo of teas belonging to the claimant was injured by being stowed in proximity to skins and hides, which, it was alleged, affected the teas.

KING'S DAUGHTERS' CIRCLE.

The result of the Dance given at the Public Hall on Wednesday, the 15th inst., in aid of the K.D.C.'s Emergency Fund, is as follows:—

Receipts	276.72
Expenditure	154.49
Balance	122.23

The thanks of the K.D.C. are due to the *Box of Curios* for printing the Programmes, and to the daily papers for advertising, at reduced rates, and also to all those ladies who by their contributions and help were instrumental in making the Dance a success.

FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions have been received at the H. & S. Bank for the above fund:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	23,761,80
Per Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Kobe:	
"Great Eastern Hotel"	71.50
Total	23,833.30

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

A HOLY WAR.

London, April 24.

A Madrid telegram from Sidi-Bel-Abbes, in Algeria says the tribes in the Sahara have proclaimed a holy war. Troops have been ordered from Kreider to the Sahara.

THE ITALIAN MINISTRY.

Admiral Morin, Minister of Marine, has been appointed Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs in place of Signor Prinetti.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The Times scouts the idea that the British Government is countenancing the Bagdad Railway scheme placing the real control in German hands. Other leading papers vigorously endorse *The Times*. The *Telegraph* says the opposition is entirely due to exaggerated Germanophobia, and recalls British hostility to the Suez Canal.

SERIOUS REVERSE IN SOMALILAND.

Later.

A special telegram reports a reverse in Somaliland. Ten officers and 180 men were killed out of a total force of 220. There are no details.

THE SOMALILAND DISASTER.

London, April 25.

Col. Plunkett's column, consisting of 160 men of the African Rifles, 48 men of the 2nd Sikhs, and two Maxims, was attacked by Somalis at close quarters. The casualty list is the same as that previously reported. General Manning is marching to extricate Colonel Cobbe.

BRITISH BUDGET PROPOSALS.

The British Budget shows an estimated expenditure of £143,954,000 and an estimated revenue of £154,770,000. The Income Tax has been reduced by fourpence, involving a loss of £8,500,000 in the revenue. The Corn Duty has been remitted, involving a loss of two million pounds sterling. Sugar, coal and tea have been left untouched, leaving a working surplus of £370,000.

The South African and China Wars cost 217 million pounds sterling. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that he hoped to recover 34 million pounds sterling from South Africa and six million pounds from China.

Consuls rose ¾ on account of the Budget, which is generally well received.

An amendment to reduce the duty on tea to twopence was rejected and the resolution to leave the tea tax untouched was passed.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

London, April 26.

Russia demands that Prince Ching shall sign an agreement practically ceding to Russia the sovereignty of Manchuria and excluding other nations from the territory.

The German press declares that Germany always regarded Manchuria as within Russia's sphere (of influence) and says that those interested must settle matters with Russia themselves.

The impression at Washington is that Russia's action constitutes a distinct breach of faith with the United States, though no danger of a collision is apprehended.

It is expected that the United States, Great Britain and Japan will join in a firm note to China, insisting upon her non-compliance with the Russian conditions.

KING EDWARD AND THE FRENCH.

It is believed that the malicious attempts to excite hostility against King Edward in Paris will utterly fail.

THE SOMALILAND DISASTER.

The reverse in Somaliland has created the most painful impression, and much anxiety is being felt as to further news.

THE MULLAH DEFEATED.

General Manning has relieved Colonel Cobbe, defeating the Mullah, who lost 2,000 men.

SOMALILAND.

London, April 27.

Gough, with a mobile column, engaged the Mullah's forces near Danop, sustaining a loss of thirteen killed, including two officers. Four officers were wounded. The enemy had two hundred killed.

The troops behaved splendidly, and made four bayonet charges.

The Mullah's forces have been greatly increased lately and now consist of 3,000 well armed horsemen and 80,000 spearmen.

THE U.S. AND THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

London, April 28.

The State Department at Washington handed on April 19th (?) a Note to the Chinese Minister pointing out the danger attending any surrender of Chinese territory. Copies of the Note were sent to the other Powers.

AUSTRALIA AND COLOURED LABOUR.

Australia has notified the British Post Office that the Commonwealth will not

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become a party to any future mail contracts involving steamers employing coloured labour.

MANCHURIA.

Later.

The American Ambassador in St. Petersburg has been instructed to present a note on the subject of Manchuria which, while ostensibly an enquiry, is substantially a strong protest.

Reuter is informed that China has formally refused Russia's demands about Manchuria.

KING EDWARD IN ROME.

London, April 29.

King Edward had an enthusiastic reception in Rome.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

President Loubet has made a triumphal entry to Tunis.

THE SOMALILAND REVERSE.

A dispatch from General Manning says that the troops were placed at a disadvantage by the insufficient stopping power of the service bullet.

MR. CARNEGIE AND ARBITRATION.

Mr. Carnegie has given a million and a half dollars for the erection of a permanent arbitration courthouse at the Hague.

RUSSIA AND THE FAR EAST.

Later.

Gen. Kuropatkin, Russian Minister of War, has started for the Far East. He lunched yesterday at the Chinese Legation.

KING AND POPE.

The King visits the Pope to-day and no one else will be present at the interview.

RUSSIA'S DEMANDS.

London, April 30.

In the absence of official statements, it is believed in Washington that Russia's demands on China are only tentative, and that an eventual reduction of those demands is fully contemplated by the Russian Government.

THE KING AT THE VATICAN.

A later telegram says that the King's visit to the Pope was marked by all the ancient splendour of the Vatican. It lasted half an hour.

RUSSIA REPUDIATES DEMANDS.

It is formally declared in St. Petersburg that the alleged Russian demands on China are a pure invention. This repudiation is regarded as the outcome of the vigorous protests by the interested powers at St. Petersburg. No doubt exists as to the authenticity of the demands.

Lord Cranborne has stated that the question of the demands about Manchuria is engaging the earnest attention of the Government.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, April 24.

President Loubet has visited Blidah and Tizi-Ouzou and has been much cheered.

KING EDWARD.

The King of England has arrived at Naples.

BRITISH FORCE DESTROYED.

An English detachment of 200 men has been annihilated in Somaliland.

RELIGIOUS TROUBLES.

Saigon, April 28.

The sealing of the doors of convents belonging to religious congregations which have failed to receive authorization has given rise to some demonstrations in the provinces, notably in Versailles, Havre, Nantes, St. Nazaire, Poitiers, Nimes, and Finisterre. There have been some arrests.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

In Algeria President Loubet visited Constantine, Batna and Bone. He has reached Tunis, being always much cheered.

MANCHURIA.

Russia has presented new demands before evacuating Manchuria. China has rejected them.

RELIGIOUS DEMONSTRATIONS.

Saigon, April 29.

There have been some demonstrations in Marseilles against the Capuchins, who have been shut up for two days in their convent with a number of partizans. Some conflicts with the police have taken place.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward has arrived at Rome.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, April 30.

President Loubet, accompanied by H. H. the Bey of Tunis, has arrived at Biserta. In his speeches he declares that force secures the maintenance of peace. He says that, thanks to the efforts of thirty years, the alliances, friendships and sympathies gained by France secure her in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace.

THE RELIGIOUS TROUBLES.

At Marseilles the Capuchins, in order to put an end to the disorder, have requested their partizans to leave the convent. At Grenoble the Chartreuse were expelled in the morning. A thousand persons made demonstrations in their favour.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE RESULT OF THE CRAVEN STAKES.

London, April 18.

The following is the result of the Craven Stakes run at the Newmarket Craven Meeting on Friday:—

Sir E. Vincent's *Countermark* 1
Mr. W. C. Whitney's *Pan Michael* 2
Mr. ———'s *Gay Gordon*..... 3

THE RUSSIAN NAVAL REINFORCEMENTS.

Hongkong, April 19.

Three men-of-war belonging to Admiral Stahelberg's squadron left Singapore on the thirteenth instant for the eastward.

KING EDWARD.

London, April 21.

The King at Malta has witnessed a great water carnival. His Majesty sails in the morning and is to be escorted out to sea by fourteen ships.

THE ANTI-RITUAL REVOLT.

London, April 21.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Taylor-Smith, Chaplain General to the Forces, has resigned the presidency of the Army Guild as a protest against the forms proposed for use at the service at St. Paul's Cathedral in memory of those who died in the South African War.

This action is the result of the outcry against what is characterised as a fresh attempt to Romanise the Church.

BRAINS BEFORE BIRTH.

London via Bombay, April 21.

Mr. R. W. Hanbury, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, speaking at Preston, said the responsibilities of Empire were now such that we must not depend on mere wealth or birth to govern us.

It was to Mr. Brodrick's lasting credit that army promotion was now to go by merit and not by intrigue and influence.

TURBULENT ALBANIANS.

London, April 22.

An Albanian fired in the streets of Scutari, Albania, on two judges lately appointed under the Reform scheme. He killed one and wounded the other.

THE DISPUTED SIDING AT TIENTSIN.

Tientsin, April 24.

The decision in the Railway Siding Arbitration was announced this morning.

The disputed land having been purchased prior to 1900 remains the property of the railway; but to avoid disputable points touching prior ownership and right of sale, the railway must pay Prince Su a sum equivalent to the original purchase money.

Prince Su has already abrogated all his rights to Russia; the money therefore goes to the Russian authorities, and both parties are satisfied.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 1	Su. May 3
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 2	M. May 4
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Victoria 3	M. May 4
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. May 7
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru 4	F. May 8
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Zieten	Sa. May
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 5	M. May 11
Europe	M. M. Co.	Salazie	W. May 13
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. May 14
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Hyades	Th. May 14
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	F. May 15
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. May 18
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Tu. May 19
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	Th. May 21
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Korea	F. May 22

1 Left San Francisco on the 24th ult.
2 Left Shanghai on the 29th ult.
3 Left Tacoma on the 17th ult.
4 Left Seattle on the 7th ult.
5 Left San Francisco on the 22nd ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. May 1
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Bayern	Sa. May
Europe	N. Y. K.	Wakasa Maru	Sa. May
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	M. May 4
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Victoria	M. May 4
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	Tu. May 5
America.....	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	W. May 6
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. May 7
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. May 7
Europe	M. M. Co.	Caledonien	F. May 8
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. May 9
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. May 13
America.....	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. May 15
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Hyades	F. May 15
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Sa. May 16
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. May 18
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. May 20
America.....	P. M. Co.	Korea	Sa. May 23

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 4,461, Hugh Nish, 24th April,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 24th April,—Vancouver, B.C., 4th April, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

China, Austrian steamer, 3,855, F. Mosca, 24th April,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Princeton, U.S. gunboat, 1,000, Capt. F. Porter, 24th April,—Manila.

Nurani, British steamer, 2,870, J. M. Thomasen, 24th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Titania, German steamer, 1,258, Shaake, 24th April,—Kobe, General.—To order.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, J. Nagao, 24th April,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Piemonte, Italian cruiser, 2,500, Capt. Armona, 24th April,—Kobe.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 25th April,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pembrokeshire, British steamer, 2,767, J. Dwyer, 25th April,—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Bayern, German steamer, 3,128, H. Bleeker, 25th April,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sikh, British steamer, 3,216, J. R. Stevens, 26th April,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Jason, British steamer, 1,412, Steeves, 26th April,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yorktown (6 guns), U.S. gunboat, 1,710, Com. A. Ward, 26th April,—Manila.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 26th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Blenheim, British cruiser, 9,000, Capt. Stopford, 26th April,—Yokosuka.

Sagami, British steamer, 2,668, P. A. Appleton, 26th April,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, J. T. Smith, 27th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

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Argonaut, British cruiser, 11,000, Capt. Geo. Henry, 27th April,—Hongkong.
Caledonien, French steamer, 2,093, Marcantteti, 28th April,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 27th April, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Pasha, British steamer, 3,827, H. Elliot, 28th April,—Rangoon, Rice.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Marburg, German steamer, 3,880, Stern, 28th April,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 21st April, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 28th April,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, K. Kobori, 29th April,—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 30th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, H. Fraser, 30th April,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hudson, British steamer, 2,376, Burnett, 30th April,—New York via ports, General.—Standard Oil Co.
Segovia, German steamer, 3,796, Th. Foerck, 30th April,—Hamburg via Tsingtau, General.—C. Illies & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Airlie, British steamer, 1,492, St. J. George, 25th April,—Moji, General.—Cornes & Co.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,008, Negre, 24th April,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Themis, Norwegian steamer, 2,700, Thommasen, 24th April,—Moji, Ballast.—Raspe & Co.
Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 24th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Blenheim, British cruiser, 9,000, Capt. Stoport, 25th April,—Yokosuka.
Ruiput, British steamer, 3,615, J. Bullock, 25th April,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Hip Sang, British steamer, 1,536, W. Sawyer, 26th April,—Kuchinotsu, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 26th April,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pembrokeshire, British steamer, 2,767, J. Dwyer, 26th April,—New York via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Yorktown (6 guns), U.S. gunboat, 1,710, Com. A. Ward, 27th April,—Yokosuka.
Jason, British steamer, 1,412, Steeves, 28th April,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 28th April,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 28th April,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Shanghai, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, J. T. Smith, 29th April,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Saganii, British steamer, 2,668, P. A. Appleton, 29th April,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Sikh, British steamer, 3,216, J. R. Stevens, 30th April,—Kuchinotsu, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, from Vancouver:—Mr. N. W. Ryan, and Mr. K. Hamakawa, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. L. Davis, Mrs. Macrae, Miss Bristowe, Miss R. Brunet, Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Papasian and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Norbury, Mr. E Goggins, Mr. Bannechane, Mr. W. T. Payne, Mr. Theo. Eckard, Mrs. K. Furukawa, and 1 Chinese, in cabin; Mr. K. S. Pon, Mrs. K. Yonezawa, Mr. K. Sakurai, Mrs. M. Shibuya, Mr. S. Aoda, and Mr. G. Kanda, in second class; 31 Japanese, and 14 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Iyo Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. Kiuchi, Mr. Kawai, Mr. Kurino, Mr. Fujita, Mr. Nakabayashi, Mr. Koizumi, Mr. Tanaka, Mr. Saito, Mrs. A. W. Henney and child, Mrs. N. O. Wolff, Mr. J. C. Ballagh and child, and Mr. and Mrs. H. P. King and child, in cabin; 23, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. Miyamoto, Mrs. Peter Moram, Mr. F. L. Cotton, Mr. M. M. Sumper; Mr. Onuki, Mr. and Mrs. F. Dickie and 2 children, in cabin; 19, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Bayern*, from Europe via ports:—Mr. W. H. Walker, Mrs. W. H. Walker, Mr. A. Blass, Mr. Carl Jones, Miss E. A. Caruthers, Mr. E. Becker, Mr. C. V. Oberlein, Mr. and Mrs. J. Westphalen, Mr. Kurtter Meer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Abbegg, Mrs. Lewis Turner, Mr. and Mrs. Porter, Mr. J. M. Little, Mr. Alb. Hain, Mr. and Mrs. Weikert, and Mr. H. Dawson, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. H. S. Gray, Mr. C. Derbyshire, Mr. Herbert, Mr. W. A. Pierce, Mr J. C. McBee, Mrs. C. Mayers, Miss C. K. Williamson, Mrs. Anderson, Miss Majorie Anderson, Mr. W. S. Perry and wife, Miss Graham, Mrs. Graham, Mr. H. B. Fleess, Miss F. L. Nichol, Mr. A. B. Anderson, Mr. G. W. Pegman, Mr. E. W. Bratton, Mr. A. F. Watt, Miss Whitenay, Mrs. Whitenay, Mr. W. H. Gregg, Mr. J. W. Cheeseborough, Miss Bloomfield, Dr. Washburn, Miss Atherton's maid, Miss C. V. Valentine, Mr. P. Fuller, Mr. and Mrs. C. Kennedy, Mr. H. H. Stein, Mr. S. Warming, Mr. H. Gunn, Mrs. Komor, Mr. Komor, Mr. P. S. Moss, Mr. A. M. Knapp, Mrs. Liegfelt, Mr. Liegfeld, Master Liegfeld, Mr. Mulkaw, Mr. Poole, Mr. K. Sonoda, Mr. Weigall, Mr. Kutschwa, Mr. H. F. Connisariat, Mr. S. H. Bottlewaller, and Mr. Kauffman, in cabin For San Francisco:—Mr. M. John, Mr. M. McGinn, Miss Machado, Mr. D. Henderson, Mr. C. H. Peabody, Mr. Geo. Wilson, Mr. J. H. Burton, Mr. J. J. McCorry, Miss Reed, Miss H. Kelshaw, Miss Thomas, Mr. H. J. David, Mr. G. H. Harrison, Mrs. T. W. Hellyer, Master L. Hellyer, Lieut. Collins, Mrs. Layton, Mr. and Mrs. G. S. S. Marsten, Mrs. O. F. Campbell, Mr. F. H. Rennie, Mr. K. Wiebel, Mr. E. W. Meredith, Mr M. Lobell, Mr. W. B. Winthrop, Mr. R. S. Van Zandt, Mr. E. Sieberst, Mr. J. Lundel, Mr. C. F. Perry and wife, Miss Harrison, Miss M. Hellyer, Mr. H. H. George, Mr. P. D. Neilson, Mrs. L. G. Ross, Mr. M. Liebert, Miss L. H. Bryan, Miss B. M. Hull, Mrs. G. M. Brink, Rev. Thos. Tracy and wife, J. W. Rennel, Mr. C. Simpson, Mrs. C. Simpson and child, Mr. H. C. Bibson, and Mr. F. Joseph, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. C. P. Hilles, and Mr. Tolliard, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Fred. S. Allis, Mr. J. S. Bradstreet, Mrs. S. C. Bull, Rev. W. P. Boshart, Mr. M. J. Cummings, Mr. Alex. Campbell, Mr. Wm. Cochrane, Mr. W. Dallas, Miss Greeson, Mr. W. J. Greeson, Mr. H. R. Hunt, Mr. J. S. Hopkins, Mr. H. F. Ilse, Mr. F. D. Johnson, Mr. F. E. Kearney, Mr. C. Gunther, Mrs. F. E. Kearney, Mr. E. T. Kearney, Mrs. E. T. Kearney, Mr. E. H. Low, Mr. B. A. Merrill, Mrs. E. A. Merrill, Mr. H. A. McCray, Mr. Postnikov, Mr. J. A. C. Poole, Mr. Charles Schlee, Mr. N. J. Stabb, Mr. W. W. Spencer, Miss E. Thursley, Mr. A. R. Tufts, and Mr. Geo. Willis, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. A. Baud, Mrs. D. Russell, Mrs. Stanhope, Mr. and Mrs. Cheminais, Mrs. Maurice, Mr. and Mrs. Ryonosuke Takeda, Mrs. W. Hemerdinger and maid, Mr. P. Williams and native servant, and Mr. Van Poet, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, Miss J. N. Childs, Mrs. H. D. Gale, Mr. Lewis Peck, Lieut.-Com. Hood, U.S.N., Lieut. Baldwin, U.S.N., Mr. C. W. Early, U.S.N., Gen. and Mrs. Fitzhugh and maid, Mr. L. A. Summerhays, Mr. M. Sullivan, Mr. W. C. Boston, Mr. A. Pickett, Mr. R. C. Sawyer, Mr. J. A. Hendrick, Mr. R. R. Blackney, Mr. G. L. Glick, and Mr. W. A. Greeman, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. B. Anderson, Mrs. L. J. Andrew, Miss Andrew, Mrs. A. L. Bagnall, Lieut.-Com. M. Bevington, U.S.N., Mr. A. H. Billing, Mr. P. Blum, Mr. R. W. Borthwick, Mr. E. W. Bratton, Mrs. G. M. Brink, Miss L. H. Bryan, Mr. J. H. Burton, Mrs. O. F. Campbell, Mr. J. M. Cheesebrough, Mr. R. J. Colebrooke and valet, Miss Colebrooke and maid, Lieut. Collins, Mr. C. E. Conant, Mr. R. M. Cook, Mrs. R. M. Cook and child, Miss E. N. Crane, Miss H. M Crane, Mr. Geo. Cunningham, Mr. N. S. Dahl, Mrs. N. S. Dahl, Mr. A. J. David, Mr. H. P. Emerson, Mrs H. P. Emerson, Mr. Chas. H. Farnham, Mrs. Chas. H. Farnham and maid, Mr. J. H. Fesler, Mrs. J. H. Fesler, Mr. H. B. Ficece, Mr. F. Foster, Mr. J. H. Foster, Mrs. J. H. Foster and maid, Mr. H. A. George, Mr. H. C. Gibson, Lieut.-Com. C. A. Gove, U.S.N., Mr. W. H. Gregg, Mrs. R. B. Haines, Miss Haines, Miss Eva Hardie, Mr. J. A. Harmssen, Miss Eva Harrison, Mr. G. A. Harrison, Mrs. T. W. Hellyer, Master L. Hellyer, Miss M. Hellyer, Mr. D. Henderson, Miss M. B. Hull, Mr. J. F. Jennings, Mr. M. John, Mr. F. Joseph, Mrs. M. Judge and maid, Miss A. Kelshaw, Mr. F. Klein, Mr. E. E. Knight, Mr. R. Knight, Mr. Otto Kromschroeder, Mrs. Layton, Mr. M. Lobell, Mr. M. Liebert, Miss Machado, Mr. Geo. Malcolm, Col. H. Mansfield, Mrs. D. M. Marsh, Mr. G. C. C. Master, Mrs G. C. C. Master, Mr. J. J. McCarry, Mr. M. McGinn, Mr. F. H. Meredith, Mr. C. P. Morehous, Mrs. C. P. Morehous, Miss Morehous, Miss C. W. Morris, Mr. P. D. Neilson, Mr. C. H. Nelson, Mrs. C. H. Nelson, Miss Nelson, Mr. K. Okura, Mr. M. Okura, Mr. W. F. Paul, Mrs. W. F. Paul, Mr. C. A. Peabody, Mr. G. B. Pennimann, Mrs. G. B. Pennimann and child, Mr. F. P. Perkins, Mrs. F. P. Perkins and maid, Mr. C. A. Perry, Mrs. C. A. Perry, Dr. J. C. Perry, Mr. Henry Phipps and valet, Mr. Howard Phipps, Miss Phipps and maid, Mr. Ralph Pulitzer and valet, Mr. J. W. Rennell, Mr. A. H. Rennie, Mr. L. de Ridder, Mr. Karl Riedel, Mr. A. Rosenwald, Mrs. L. G. Ross, Rev. D. Scudder, Mrs. D. Scudder, Mr. R. Barclay Shaw, Mrs. R. Barclay Shaw, Mr. J. Slingenberg, Mr. E. A. Short, Mrs. E. A. Short, Mr. E. Siebert, Mr. C. J. Simpson, Mrs. C. J. Simpson, Mr. E. M. Slater, Mrs. E. M. Slater, Mr. A. P. Stokes, Mr. G. W. Pigman, Dr. C. Stokes, U.S.N., Rev. Thos. Tracy, Mrs. Thos. Tracy, Count E. de Troianowski, Mr. J. H. Tudsbury, Mr. H. W. Underwood, Mrs. H. W. Underwood, Miss C. Valentine, Mr. R. L. Van Zandt, Miss W. Wakelee, Miss West, Mr. H. White, Mrs. H. White, Mr. Karl Wibel, Miss M. G. Wilkins, Mr. Geo. Wilson, Mr. Asa S. Wing, Mr. B. Winthrop, Miss Mary Woodward, and Mr. J. Zundel, in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Offers are on the market for Gassed Yarn to arrive at impracticable limits. Holders have no disposition to give way, consequently there are no transactions. In Shirtings there is a very limited demand for Whites from stock. Clearances of all piece goods continue satisfactory. In Fancy Cottons and Woollens there is nothing to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches...	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, ■ inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150 00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2 60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

There has been some business in metals.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1½ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The Kerosene market is steady.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

Prices are rather higher, owing principally to the improvement in exchange.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since the date of our last report a reaction has set in and there has been a drop of *yen* 20 to 30 of the

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yen 40 to 50 gained lately. Stocks are reduced to 2000 piculs on the spot and 2500 to 3000 in the interior.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ... Y.	1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,060 to 1,065
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	990 to
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,000 to 1,010
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	970 to 980
Re-reels—No. 1½	950 to 955
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	1,000 to —
Kakedas—No. 1	965 to 970
Kakedas—No. 1½	945 to 955
Kakedas—No. 2	920 to 915
Kakedas—No. 2½	875 to 890

WASTE SILK.

There is practically no change to report. No arrivals except Kibiso, which find an easy sale.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Filatures, Good	170 to 175
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	180 to 185
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	165 to 170
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

New crop began to arrive on April 25th but up to the 26th no buying of any consequence was reported. By the evening of the 29th, however, 2000 piculs had been settled at prices varying from *yen* 10 to *yen* 20 above early quotations last year. From the limited quantity on offer it is not easy to judge, but quality certainly seems better than that of last year. Japanese reports declare the quality to be superior to that of last year, but manifest anxiety on account of the present unfavourable weather. At date prices have fallen some five to ten *yen*.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	—
Choice	—
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

INDIGO.

No change.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best...	290.00 to 345.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	130.00 to 300.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best ...	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best ..	105.00 to 145.00

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, April 30.

London silver is a half penny lower, and China sterling quotations have declined $\frac{1}{16}$ to $\frac{1}{8}$, causing local rates on China to rise accordingly, whilst all other rates keep steady, closing for the mail per steamer *Empress of India* as under.

London—Bank T.T. ...	2/0⅜
— — Bills on demand...	2/0$\frac{3}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight ...	2/0⅜
— Private 4 months' sight...	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight...	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight ...	255⅛ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight...	260½
— — 6 months' sight...	262
Hongkong—Bank sight ...per $100.	84*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	81*
Shanghai—Bank sight ...	85½*
— Private 10 days' sight ...	87⅜*
India—Bank sight ...	152
— Private 30 days' sight ...	155
America—Bank sight...	49⅜ @ ⅛
— Private 30 days' sigh ...	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight ...	51 @ ⅛
Germany—Bank sight ...	208
— Private 4 months' sight ...	213¼
Bar Silver (London) ...	24⅜

* Nominal.

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TOKUMIYA.

AUTHORIZED BROKER OF TOKIO STOCK EXCHANGE.
SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: OFFICIAL CLOSING QUOTATIONS OF TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 1.

Yesterday's total transactions were 18,730 shares.

MORNING. May.	June.	SHARES.	AFTERNOON. May.	June.
75.30	75.70	Nippon Railway ...	—	74.95
22.00	—	Nippon R'way, 3rd.	—	—
58.00	58.50	Sanyo Railway	—	57.40
43.40	43.70	Kansai Railway ...	—	42.80
55.30	55.85	Kiushiu Railway ...	—	55.25
75.40	76.00	Tanko Railway.....	—	75.30
33.50	33.80	Tanko R'way, new..	—	33.50
—	—	Tobu Railway	—	—
57.20	57.70	Sobu Railway	—	57.00
—	—	Boso Railway	—	—
21.20	21.80	Narita Railway.....	—	—
10.50	—	Narita R'way, new..	—	—
18.55	18.80	Kioto Railway	—	—
21.30	21.70	Hokuyetsu Railway.	—	—
—	—	Hankaku Railway..	—	—
103.00	103.50	Tokio Electric Car...	—	102.50
83.30	84.00	Tokio Ele. Car, new	—	83.40
36.00	62.50	Tokio Electric Ra'y.	—	61.20
45.70	46.10	Tokio Street R'way.	—	45.10
—	79.90	Nippon Yusen	—	79.30
30.7 0	31.00	Toyo Kisen	—	30.60
—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—
24.90	25.80	Teikoku Shogio Bk.	—	25.90
—	—	Tokio Fire Ins.	—	—
77.00	77.70	Tokio Gas Co.	—	—
—	—	Tokio Gas Co., new.	—	—
69.76	70.20	Tokio Electric Light	—	70.05
—	—	Tokio Elec. Li., new	—	48.50
38.30	39.10	Kanegafuchi Spi'ng.	—	38.80
—	—	Nippon Sugar Refin.	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer	—	—
—	—	Yebisu Beer, new ...	—	—
—	—	Tokio Rice Ex'ange	—	—
159.80	162.70	Tokio Stock Ex'ange	—	160.70

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Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M. 1y.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 9TH, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

OWING to a severe gale, five lighters were sunk on May 5th at 11 a.m. in Naoetsu.

MR. H. WILSON, Secretary of the United States Legation in Tokyo, left for Nagasaki on May 5th.

COLONELS ASHIKAMI, Noma, Fukuhara and Ochiai were appointed Major-Generals on April 30th.

A CHINAMAN in Yokohama was arrested by the Kagacho Police on the evening of May 5th on suspicion of opium smoking.

THE farmers of Yuasa and Arita villages in Wakayama prefecture had a fight on May 1st. Many were injured. The cause is not yet reported.

A TELEGRAM under date of May 1st from Vladivostock stated that the Russian Government has decided to impose 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on the goods imported at that port.

A WOMAN committed suicide on the night of May 3rd by laying herself on the railway, near Uyeno Station, Tokyo, where a train ran over her.

THE *Niroku* has received a telegram from Nagasaki saying that bluejackets in reserve will be assembled on May 6th and will be sent to Port Arthur (?), leaving Sasebo on the 8th.

ONE of a number of coolies who were working at a spot commonly called Miyabara, Honmoku, near Yokohama, was killed by a sudden landslide on May 3rd.

A JINRIKISHAMAN living at Koamicho, in Tokyo, committed suicide by hanging himself on the night of May 2nd. The cause seems from a letter left by him, to have been poverty.

A TELEGRAM from Takamatsu states that the steamer *Oikawa Maru* collided with a sailing vessel outside the harbour on May 5th. No injury was sustained on either side.

THE British steamer *Benarty*, it is reported, went on shore off Shimonoseki on the morning of May 5th. It is stated that the steamer can not be floated unless the whole of the cargo is discharged.

THE children's sports of the Motomachi Elementary School were held at the Cricket Ground on May 3rd. Gymnastics and various kinds of sports were engaged in under the leadership of the teachers.

THE U.S. gunboat *Yorktown* left Yokohama at noon on Sunday flying her home pennant. She was cheered by the other U.S. warships and by the British cruiser and appropriate airs were played by the bands.

THE *Asahi* states that the Department of Finance has purchased Redemption Loan Bonds to the amount of *yen* 208,100 and War Loan Bonds for *yen* 166,900 by redeeming them on the Stock Exchange.

A YOUNG lady, sister of Mr. Shirakami, police superintendent of Ishikawa prefecture, attempted to commit suicide by throwing herself into a river on May 3rd. She was rescued, however. The cause is not reported.

THE Yokosuka Naval Station lost a fish torpedo (No. 6,309) off Kanazawa on March 26th, for the recovery of which rewards are offered—within a month commencing May 1st, *yen* 80, within two months *yen* 70, and within three months *yen* 50.

IT is stated that the *Sado Maru* brought gold bullion amounting to 53,473 ounces valued at over *yen* 2,218,000 from London to Kobe on April 30th. This is a part of the proceeds of the Japanese Government bonds sold in London.

IT is said that after the Emperor and Empress return from the west, the Crown Prince and Princess will pay a visit to the Exhibition. Also that Princesses Tsune, Chika, Fumi and Yasu (daughters of the Emperor) will proceed to Osaka with the same object.

R. SUZUKI, director of the Chiba Commercial Bank, was on May 6th sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour on a charge of embezzlement and his two accomplices to eighteen months imprisonment with hard labour.

A WOMAN named Masayo (19) living at Yoshida-machi, Yokohama, attempted to commit suicide on May 5th, severely injuring herself in the throat with a razor. She was at once removed to the Jyuzen Hospital. The cause is stated to be a dispute with her husband.

A STEAM launch belonging to a man named Iguchi, at Kamakura, collided with a junk of about 500 *koku* off Manadzuru on May 2nd. The former sustained slight damage, but the latter is believed not to have been damaged at all and sailed away immediately after the accident.

EARLY in the morning of May 4th three or four Japanese coolies assaulted three men of the British cruiser *Argonaut* and two foreign engineers of the steamer *Kanagawa Maru* at Okina-cho, Yokohama. The police were soon on the spot and called a Japanese doctor living near by. The assailants were not arrested. The injuries inflicted were slight.

THE Mitsubishi Kaisha has decided to purchase the Goto woollen cloth weaving mill for *yen* 267,000. The company failed some years ago and has never been able to recover. It is said that the mill owed heavy debts to Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co., C. Illies & Co., the Etalishments Orosdi-Back, and some Japanese merchants.

ON the night of May 3rd a man bought a bottle of *saké* for *sen* 50 in the shop of K. Nagata, Fukutomicho, Yokohama, giving a counterfeit *yen* 10 note and walking off with the change. The forged note was at once sent to the Isezaki-cho Police Station.

THE British battleship *Albion* has had to leave Yokohama unexpectedly for Wei-hai-wei. She came here on Friday to land Rear-Admiral Grenfell for the purpose of undergoing a course of treatment at the naval hospital, but a Chinese servant on board having died of plague on Friday morning, it was impossible for anyone, even the admiral, to land without first undergoing quarantine. In the circumstances it was considered best to leave at once for Wei-hai-wei.

A COOK named K. Yamada (38) of a restaurant near Shinjiku station, Tokyo, murdered a maid employed in the same house with a sword on April 30th and then committed suicide. The same day a teacher of gymnastics named K. Nakamura murdered a man named R. Matsumoto with a hatchet, at Takekawa village, Kita-Tama, Tokyo. The offender was at once arrested. The causes of the crimes was stated to be jealousy.

THE fourth annual regatta of the Yokohama Japanese rowing clubs took place off the Bund on Sunday beginning at 9 a.m. The various clubs engaged were those of the Yokohama Specie Bank, the Mogi Bank, 74th Bank, 2nd Bank, 3rd Bank, Tokyo Higher Commercial School, Yokohama Commercial School, Nippon Yusen Kaisha and others. Mr. Otani Kahei was president of the regatta and Mr. Misaki (of the Shokin Ginko) was Vice-President. The races were rowed over a distance of 800 metres and many of them were warmly contested.

A STRONG westerly gale prevailed in Osaka on the morning of May 5th. About 8 a.m. the advertising tower, 260 *shaku* in height (a *shaku* is a little longer than a foot) erected by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha on the outskirts of the Exhibition collapsed, falling toward the south. Three houses were crushed and one jinrikisha coolie who was passing along the road below lost his life. Several persons were injured. The *Yorodzu Choho* states that two persons were killed by the accident. The *Jiji* says over 40 telephone wires and a number of electric lines were broken.

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MANCHURIA.

Friday, May 1.

Side by side with Reuter's announcement that St. Petersburg denies the authenticity of the alleged Russian demands, come numerous items of intelligence in an opposite sense.

On the 29th ult., says the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent, the Chinese Foreign Office handed to the Russian Representative a note emphatically declaring China's inability to accede to the demands, whereupon the *Chargè d'Affaires* submitted a second proposal to the effect that trade by the Liao River should be strictly limited to vessels flying the flag of China or of Russia. This would be such a frank violation of the treaty rights of other Powers that it sounds scarcely credible.

From the same source we learn that no credence whatever is attached to the notification of Admiral Alexieff declaring the evacuation of Shinking to be complete, and announcing that passports would no longer be required by persons travelling to Mukden. So far from evacuation being accomplished, the Russian garrison in Newchwang continues to receive reinforcements and there is no appearance of the rendition of the place.

On the 30th ult. the British Chargé d'Affaires is said to have waited on Prince Ching and presented to him a second strong remonstrance against the acceptance of Russia's demands.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, wiring at 3 p.m. on the 30th, is equally emphatic as to the incredibility of Admiral Alexieff's notification. Our Tokyo contemporary's news is identical with that of the *Jiji* in the matter of Russia's new demand, also—namely, the demand relating to the Liao.

In the *Asahi's* telegrams, however, it is stated that when Prince Ching presented China's refusal on the 29th ult., a vehement discussion took place between him and the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, and that Russia's reply has not yet been received.

The United States protest seems to have been submitted on the 28th ult. It gist was that among Russia's demands there were some to which the Government in Washington could not possibly assent as they constituted infringements of America's treaty rights.

It is stated by the same journal that the leading Chinese in Shanghai have addressed a telegraphic appeal to the Foreign Office in Peking, declaring that if Russia's demands be conceded, a wave of anti-foreign feeling will spread over China, and the subjects and citizens of all the Powers will suffer. Therefore the memorialists pray that the Representatives in Peking will unite their strength to avert such a conjuncture by bringing about an amicable settlement. The Viceroy of Shensi and Kansu also has addressed the Throne, urging the refusal of Russia's demands as they would only constitute a pretext for encroachments by other Powers.

The Chinese Government is said to have turned the tables by demanding information as to Russia's measures of evacuation.

From Tientsin the *Asahi's* correspondent wires that although the Russian Government allows 10 taels monthly to its Chinese soldiers in Manchuria, nearly the whole of the money goes into the pockets of the Russian and Chinese commanders, and that other exactions by these officers have brought them into collision with a "peace-preservation association" formed by natives.

Another telegram from the same place says that the Chino-Russian soldiers along the Yalu River, are without the queue and wear foreign costume, and that although they profess to be employed by the timber-felling syndicate, their numbers and ubiquity render that explanation very apocryphal.

The *Kokumin's* Peking correspondent wires that the Russian *Charge d'Affaires* and the officer commanding the Russian force in garrison there, are going round visiting all the principal Chinese officials; that the French Representative is lending strenuous aid to his Russian colleague, and that the attitude of the German Representative is dubious.

The appearance of Russian soldiers on the Korean side of the Yalu under pretext of being required to protect the employees of the timber-felling company threatens to cause some excitement in Japan. The *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri* both treat the incident in a vehement and indignant manner. They quote the most recent conventions between Japan and Russia as pledging both Powers to respect Korean Sovereignty and to refrain from employing any troops there except for the protection of Legations or Consulates. But we believe that this rumour is grossly exaggerated. At all events we can not find that any official news in that sense has been received.

Saturday, May 2.

The *Jiji Shimpo* published on Saturday a brief summary of the Chinese Government's note in reply to Russia's demands. It seems to have been a curt intimation that China could not accept the demands, and an accompanying request that Russia would proceed at once to discharge her treaty obligations by withdrawing her troops from Manchuria. It is added by the *Jiji's* Peking correspondent that a staff officer has been despatched from the British Legation in Peking to investigate the actual military conditions in Manchuria.

As to the alleged "new demand" preferred by Russia, namely, that only vessels flying the Chinese or the Russian flag should be allowed to navigate the Liao River, the *Asahi Shimbun*, which was originally responsible for the rumour, now says that the description "new demand" is incorrect, and that this was among the conditions put forward by Russia from the first. That deprives the story of much of its improbability, for although such a demand would have been an incredible substitute for the rejected conditions, it might very well have found a place beside a proposal that no part of Manchuria should be opened to foreign trade. However, the whole matter is now enveloped in a diplomatic fog from which it will emerge, let us hope, with greatly softened outlines.

The same journal publishes a very strong message from its Peking correspondent saying that the Alexieff notification as to evacuation is not to be regarded seriously, and that Russia will never leave Manchuria except as a retreating belligerent. This last allegation is attributed to influential foreigners, who might as well have repressed it, one imagines.

Need one say that the indefatigable *Niroku* has a new sensation for its readers. On Friday it informed them that the Japanese Representative in Seoul had preferred a series of demands in connexion with the Quelpart affair, and it actually gave in detail the text of the demands. Secret treaties are always safe ground, but diplomatic notes which have no element of ultimate privacy belong to a more perilous category. The Japanese Representative in Seoul can not even have known clearly what grounds of complaint, if any, his nationals in Quelpart had when he was supposed to be fulminating demands for compensation. So the public will probably look askance at our enterprising contemporary's latest, namely, the text of another series of requisitions addressed by Russia to China, this time with regard to Mongolia. The compiler of these requisitions deserves to be complimented on his ingenuity. He makes Russia ask that her officers shall have practical control of all military forces in Mongolia; that inter-marriages shall be freely permitted between Russian subjects and Mongolians, with a view to promoting friendship; that the propagandism of the Greek Church's creed shall be sanctioned, and that the faith shall stand on the same legal plane with Lamaism. We must pay the *Niroku* the compliment of admitting that in fiction-making fertility it distances all its contemporaries and predecessors.

Sunday, May 3.

The latest intelligence from Peking is published by the *Jiji Shimpo*. It is to the effect that in consequence of the vehement opposition encountered by Russia she has completely changed her attitude and is now seeking to efface the demands previously preferred by her Representative in Peking. The expectation is that the latter may possibly be made a scapegoat. It is added, however, by the *Jiji's* correspondent, that although these objectionable demands may not be pressed, the withdrawal of the Russian troops from Manchuria remains to be accomplished. In order to ascertain the real state of affairs as to that point, it is stated that Great Britain, the United States and Japan have despatched military officials to Manchuria. Another item of intelligence is that M. Lessar is hastening back to Peking in spite of his illness, and that the present Chargé d'Affaires will be recalled, if not deprived of office.

M. Iswolsky has reached Peking. The Japanese Representative was to meet him at dinner in the Russian Legation on the 2nd instant.

From the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent comes news to the same effect as that of the *Jiji*, namely, that Russia has radically changed her policy, that China has developed corresponding determination, and that the speedy evacuation of Manchuria is now being pressed.

That is about the sum of the intelligence received in Tokyo on the subject of Manchuria, but we may add a New York telegram sent to the *Asahi* which says that in answer to the protest of the United States, the Russian Government has virtually repudiated the demands presented in its name in Peking, and has announced its loyal adherence to the terms of last year's convention. The telegram further states that the Secretary of State has announced the combined action of America, Japan and Great Britain in this matter, and that the announcement has produced a great impression in political circles. Meanwhile M. Cassini, Russia's Representative in Washington, is said to insist that no intention on his country's part to evade her conventional engagements is to be inferred from recent events.

Tuesday, May 5.

A member of the staff of some legation which is not named, is stated by the *Jiji Shimpo* to have just arrived in Peking, carrying a statement that no steps whatever in the nature of evacuation have yet been taken by the Russians. This gentleman

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seems to have passed through Mukden, Kiriu, Harbin and Ningtow. He affirms that if there have been slight reductions of military force in some places, there have been increases in others, and that the system of civil government organized by the Russians is still in full operation. He adds that evidences of increased military strength are conspicuously apparent along the line of the Liao River, and he infers that no intention whatever of evacuation is seriously entertained.

This statement is difficult to reconcile, in one respect, with previous reports, received on at least three occasions, to the effect that the military guardianship of the gates at Mukden had been handed over by the Russians to the Chinese. We may further point out that the information collected by an official whose travels brought him to Peking on the 2nd of May may very possibly antedate Russia's alleged adoption of the evacuation policy. It is conceivable that measures of evacuation may be now in progress, though it must be frankly confessed that even those among us who are most disposed to regard Russia's procedure with friendly eyes find almost insuperable difficulty in crediting her integrity of purpose just at present.

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes an important telegram from Peking dated the 2nd instant. It says that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires has signified his desire to withdraw the documents containing seven demands previously transmitted to the Chinese Government and has intimated that the conduct of any further negotiations in connexion with the Manchurian problem will be undertaken in St. Petersburg, the Russian Foreign Minister communicating with the Chinese Representative. The Chargé d'Affaires is said to have added that he himself is no longer authorized to act.

In the same telegram it is alleged that on the 30th of April the Chargé d'Affaires informed Dr. Morrison, of *The Times*, that no such demands as those publicly reported had ever been presented, and he conveyed the same denial to the correspondent of an American journal, adding that any one must be exceedingly credulous who supposed that Russia could put forward such conditions. These denials are contrasted by the *Asahi's* telegraphist with equally positive assurances in precisely the opposite sense previously given by the same Chargé to two or three of his colleagues. The Russian official is further said to have told the correspondents that this interference by foreign Powers merely had the effect of delaying the negotiations and was not unlikely to end in compelling Russia to make the occupation permanent. He was unable to understand, he declared, why there should be so many obstacles placed in Russia's path when she was endeavouring to give a good system of government to Manchuria.

Wednesday, May 6.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi's* Peking telegrams that although the Manchurian problem has been deprived of its immediately acute character by the Russian Government's disavowal of the demands its Representative preferred in Peking, the basic fact remains, namely, that there are no signs of evacuation being carried out, and that the Russian military position in the Three Provinces is, on the contrary, receiving daily accessions of strength. Our contemporary's correspondent speaks of a Russian claim to a concession for a railway from Liaoyang *via* Fenghwang to the Yalu, and says that troops are being posted throughout the districts which such a road would traverse, the excuse given being that tranquillity must be established and preserved prior to the operations of survey and construction. The public know nothing of such a railway, and the inference suggested is that Russia has acquired the right to build lines anywhere she pleases in Manchuria. That is a new theory, to which assent will not be readily given by outsiders. Nothing could throw the Japanese into a greater ferment than the construction of a Russian road connecting the Trans-Asian system with the Yalu River, for that would bring Korea into practical touch with the military resources of the Great Northern Power in Manchuria.

A cablegram to the *Asahi* says that Russian troops are assembling on the southern bank of the Liao, and adds another confirmation of the often received news as to preparations in the direction of the Yalu. Four thousand Chinese banditti are said to have been concentrated along that river on the north, and with them are a thousand Russian cavalry and five thousand infantry. It is difficult to dismiss the whole of these rumours as mere idle talk, but in all probability they are great exaggerations. At any rate if Russia has any desire to avoid serious complications with the Japanese, she will refrain from all enterprises in the direction of the Yalu.

The students in Peking seem to be exerting themselves vigorously to strengthen the Government's action in the Manchurian affair. Their action, taken in conjunction with that of the Shanghai merchants and the Tokyo students, and with the telegraphic memorials said to have been sent in by many local officials, seems to show that public opinion is beginning to be an active factor in Chinese affairs. Should that result be attained, it will greatly modify the situation.

The *Asahi's* correspondent says that the Russian authorities in Mukden are enlisting Chinese subjects as railway guards, and that the great majority of those hitherto taken into the service are ex-convicts. The men wear a uniform with the ideographs "recruits of Great Russia" blazoned between the shoulders behind. This story suggests that there is more embroidery about it than the ideographs, for nothing is less likely than that Russia should take such men into her employ.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* also has intelligence that the so-called evacuation is a mere pretence. Russian troops are concealed by various expedients in the neighbourhood of Mukden and are thus said to have been withdrawn. This news is given on the authority of a member of the Japanese Legation in Peking who is said to have just returned from a tour in Manchuria.

As usual the *Niroku Shimpo* is ahead of all the world with its news. Two days ago the telegraph informed us that military delegates were to be sent from certain Legations in Peking to report upon the real state of affairs in Manchuria. To-day the *Niroku* undertakes to give a detailed account of the reports furnished by these officers. They are represented as saying that evacuation hitherto has not been carried beyond a slight shifting of military positions, and the disarming of a few soldiers who, however, still remain available; that bandits abound, but that while robbing travellers and often ill-treating them, they carefully abstain from molesting any party accompanied by Russian soldiers, and that these bandits are in the pay of Russia. If the *Niroku's* tales are not particularly credible, they certainly indicate fine courage of invention.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes with unusual warmth about the present state of affairs. It notes that although temporary calm has been produced by the alleged repudiation of the "seven demands," there has been no practical measure of evacuation, and, on the other hand, Russia is understood to be preparing to formulate fresh demands. Apparently she is simply playing fast and loose with her international engagements. Nearly a month has elapsed since the date when the evacuation of Shingking and Kirin should have been accomplished, and if things continue thus, the result will be the same as though Russia had obtained everything she asked for, seeing that she will remain in possession of Manchuria. "That result would have serious bearings," says the *Jiji*, "not merely upon trade and commerce but even upon the very existence of the Japanese empire (*rikkoku no rigai*) and therefore the Japanese nation must approach the consideration of this question with the greatest earnestness" (*Nihon kokumin no kono mondai ni kwanshin suru tokoro wa sara ni setsujitsu narazaru wo yezu*).

THE PAYMENT OF THE INDEMNITY.

The gist of China's protest against being required to pay the Indemnity at a rate of exchange differing materially from that which existed when the Protocol was signed is contained in the following statement which formed an addendum to a note addressed by the Chinese Board of Foreign Affairs to the United States Minister as Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique in Peking:—

Examination shows that when the Plenipotentiaries agreed to an indemnity of four hundred and fifty millions, they at that time examined the amortization table in the annex to the protocol, and thus learned that China really could make provision for the annual payments required by the table, and gave their consent.

At that time our Hai-kuan tael could be exchanged for three shillings, English gold—that is for 36 pence. Looking back to earlier years, we find that the usual market price was formerly three taels to the gold pound—that is one tael exchanged for 80 pence. During the past two or three years the rate fell finally to 36 pence, and people generally thought that this was the extreme limit, and that it could fall no farther. Who could tell that it would daily fall steadily to its present point, where one tael is worth but 26 pence? All who buy gold to-day, as compared with the date at which the protocol was signed, must pay one-third more of silver, more or less. These circumstances must be well known to your Excellencies.

After the signing of the new treaty we sent instructions to each of the provinces to provide monthly payments and send them to Shanghai, and also directed the Customs Taotai to pay over each month the proper proportion of the sum mentioned in the table of amortization. That he is at present unwilling to make good any deficiency is not that he is unwilling to act in accordance with the treaty, but is really a strict compliance with the instructions given by the Board at the time as to the amounts to be paid over. As to how to deal with the matter, it appears that the difficulty at present in China's making larger payments of silver is that her receipts fall below the estimate that was made beforehand. The fact that a tael can but buy 26 pence, and cannot buy 36, is one that we have many times reflected upon. If the various Powers will consent that the new Customs tariff may be considered a tariff payable in gold, then every merchant who pays one tael in accordance with the requirements of this tariff must pay sufficient silver to buy 36 pence, and thus it would seem easier to proceed in accordance with the original arrangement. If we receive your consent, then it shall remain for the Customs to make an average, for each month of the rate of exchange, and at the end of each month announce beforehand to the merchants how much a person paying one tael in the following month will have to pay to make good (the exchange). Thus both parties will alike avoid suffering any loss.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Monday, May 4.

A measure of re-organization has been adopted by the *Seiyu-kai* leaders. It bears evidence of concession to the views recently expressed by the clique of malcontents calling themselves "reformers." The latter contended that the system of one-man government should be abandoned, that the number of the General Committee should be reduced; that all appointments of officers of the Party should be by ballot, not by nomination of the leader, and that all questions of importance should be determined by the voice of the Party at large. As is usual in Japan there has been a species of compromise. The members of the General Committee have been allowed to resign, and in their stead a small Standing Committee of three —Messrs. Matsuda Masahisa, Ozaki Yukio and Hara Kei—have been nominated, while on the other hand, a Council (*Kyogi-in*) of thirty have been appointed with Baron Suyematsu Kencho as President. Examining the composition of this council, the first feature noticeable is that it includes the three leaders of the malcontents, namely, Mr. Sugita Teiichi, Mr. Sugawara Tsuto and Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro. Presumably the reformers have agreed to be content with this concession. The second point is that on the roll of the Council are two names which may be considered representative of the Peers, the names of Marquis Kuga and Viscount Akimoto. This is the first instance in Japanese political history of hereditary noblemen agreeing to become working members of a political party, and the innovation is not without significance. It will be observed that the power of nomination and organization is still completely exercised by Marquis Ito, but the new arrangement is declared to be only provisional. The whole question of organization and control will be submitted for deliberation at a general meeting of the Party next winter.

But although the internal affairs of the Party have thus been satisfactorily settled, for the moment at all events, there continues to be a measure of discontent about the conclusion of peace with the Cabinet. Some strenuous members, mainly barristers so far as we can see, are still endeavouring to foment an agitation against any such concord and are exerting themselves actively to that end. They are not likely to accomplish anything tangible.

Tuesday, May 5.

The "reformers" among the *Seiyu-kai* have signified their qualified approval of the change of organization recently effected. They do not profess to regard it as fully satisfactory, but they are content not to press the matter at present lest such a course should disturb the harmony and weaken the united action of the Party. On the other hand, they seem to have substituted a new plea for agitation, namely, opposition to the *entente* with the Cabinet. They make the latter announcement in a very cursory manner, and one may reasonably doubt whether they are accurately interpreted, for to sacrifice their reform scheme on the altar of harmony while openly adopting another course diametrically opposed to the declared policy of the Party's leaders about a more important matter, would be too palpable a contradiction.

There is much that is perplexing in the present situation. The *Jimmin* publishes a statement attributed to Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, from which it might be inferred that an *entente* is not yet concluded by any means. Progress has indeed been made in the direction of an agreement, says Mr. Kataoka, but it is essential that the Cabinet should formulate some financial plan. If they propose to obtain funds for naval increment by administrative and budgetary reforms, they will have to exercise a measure of heroic change such as they seem incapable of achieving. Assuming, however, that they do display such capacity, with what face, then, can they confront the country and the Diet, having failed to undertake for duty's sake what they now perform in obedience to expediency, and having dissolved the Lower House because it demanded the adoption of the very course they are now about to adopt?

Mr. Kataoka, it should be noted, has more or less associated himself with the "reformers." He supplements the above remarks by expressing disapproval of the new organization of the *Seiyu-kai*, which, in his opinion, will leave the members of the Party just as completely in the position of puppets as they ever were.

The *Chuo* also holds its unfriendly tone with little modification. It ridicules the dimensions of the Cabinet's administrative reforms, and avers that a saving of a couple of million *yen* in that direction is not what the country expects. Moreover, it undertakes to interpret Marquis Ito's utterances in a sense embarrassing to the Ministry. The Marquis is said to have admitted that since 6½ million *yen* is needed for naval maintenance and 11½ millions for naval increment, making a total of 18 millions, it may be necessary to revert to the original post-bellum programme of domestic loans. But, explains the *Chuo*, that does not mean that the Marquis looks to domestic loans alone as a source for obtaining funds: he is as resolute as ever in insisting on administrative and financial reforms. And if he has engaged that in consideration of the Cabinet's withdrawing its land-tax bill, there shall be no vote of want of confidence or hostile address to the Throne, so far as the *Seiyu-kai* is concerned, he has not by any means given a pledge binding the movements of his Party in other directions. The members will still demand that a radical programme of administrative and financial reform shall be put into operation, and will refuse to endorse any measures which leave that desideratum unaccomplished.

According to the Tokyo journals that discuss the problem of the Progressists, the latter are divided into three parties. One, under the leadership of the implacable Mr. Inukai, insist that the Cabinet must be held to its responsibility and that its action in dissolving the House of Representatives must be publicly censured. The second, of whom Mr. Oishi is the head, are disposed to adopt a more placable attitude. They would refrain from anything like impeachment, and would adopt an attitude of opportunism. The third belong to the so-called "hat-hidden folks;" that is to say, men who can not look beyond the rim of their head-gear. These hold that nothing could have been more futile than the sacrifice which involved dissolution last session. Nothing whatsoever resulted except a great deal of trouble and expense for themselves. They do not want to incur any such risk again, and they are for supporting the Katsura Ministry. These men are said to be under the leadership of Mr. Hiraoka. But as all the sections obey Count Okuma implicitly in the last resort, nothing like a serious split in the ranks of the Progressists is expected.

Thursday, May 7.

It is evident that there is considerable commotion in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. Several of the members are unwilling to abandon their hope of retaliating upon the Ministry that sent them back to their constituencies and is now abandoning the policy for rejecting which it punished them. Of course at the bottom of all this there is the perpetual desire to drive the Cabinet from office, partly for the purpose of occupying the vacant seats and partly with the object of asserting the principle of party cabinets. None the less this unrest in the ranks of their followers is said to be causing some trouble to the leaders, and the issue of events during to-day and to-morrow is keenly watched. On the whole there is not we imagine, much substantial danger of the situation eluding the grasp of Marquis Ito and his lieutenants. The *Seiyu-kai* will not emerge from this ordeal of self-restraint without suffering some loss of solidarity; but if it breaks away from its distinguished leader, it will find itself wandering once more in the wilderness and further than ever from the land of promise.

In connexion with this subject the *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a programme of finance practically identical with that mentioned elsewhere in our columns. Its figures are:—

	Yen.
Diverted from the Railway Construction Fund	4,500,000
Diverted from the Telephone Construction Fund	500,000
Administrative Retrenchments	1,000,000
Domestic Loan	5,700,000
Total for Naval Increment	11,700,000

Our contemporary adds that if the Cabinet has abandoned its land-tax measure, the *Seiyu-kai*, on its side, has abandoned the grand scheme of administrative retrenchment. The scheme was drawn up by Mr. Hara Kei, and approved by the Budget Committee. It contemplated a total saving of 9,344,642 *yen*, which was considered sufficient for the navy. But now this retrenchment is to be reduced to one million *yen*. Both sides, therefore, make great concessions, and both deserve credit for large-mindedness.

It is supposed in apparently well-informed circles that the finance programme proposed by the Cabinet to the Diet in connexion with the scheme of naval increment will include three sources of income, namely, 6 millions annually from the sale of loan bonds, 1 million from administrative economies and 4½ millions from the railway fund. The total thus procured will be 11½ millions, and as the aggregate sum required is 115 millions, it follows that the work is to be completed in 10 years. The question is, will the Diet endorse the project? We gather that it is expected to do so, though possibly with some modification of the term. But the *Seiyu-kai* will scarcely be able to throw its full strength into the pro-Government scale, unless the so-called "reformers" modify the attitude assumed by them at their meeting on the 3rd instant. On that occasion they passed resolutions signifying qualified approval of the Party's re-organization, which they characterized as a partial step towards the improvements they desired, but declaring their inveterate objection to the *entente*, which they regarded as an unequivocal outcome of the "one-man-control" system. We do not imagine that these malcontents can accomplish anything tangible, but they may reduce the voting power of the *Seiyu-kai*.

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The expectation is that Mr. Kataoka will decline to serve again as President of the House of Representatives. As to his successor, however, there is some doubt. Mr. Kato Takaaki has been spoken of, and every one recognises that he would discharge the duties of the post admirably. But he certainly would not consent to be put in nomination unless success were assured, and that is said to be questionable, as some members of the *Seiyu-kai* retain an effective recollection of his old associations. Mr. Ebara Soroku, seems to be the most likely candidate. He is universally respected and his competence is recognised by all parties.

Friday, April 8.

On the 6th instant a consultative meeting was held by parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai*. This meeting had been anticipated with much interest as likely to furnish a clear indication of the Party's attitude towards the Cabinet. The attendance numbered a hundred and fifty, and the chair was taken by Baron Suyematsu, but as the doors were closed during the discussion, no detailed report can be given. Tokyo papers state, however, that two resolutions were submitted in the name of the Thirty Councillors of the Party, who had held a meeting on the previous evening. The first was that in the 18th session of the Diet the Party should pursue the policy by which it had been guided in the 17th; the second, that if among the bills submitted by the Government there should be any demanding further consideration, a meeting should be held to discuss them. The latter resolution was rejected and the former adopted.

At first sight it might be inferred that the Party has now committed itself to an attitude of opposition. But the best judges do not thus interpret the situation. In declaring that the policy of last session is to be maintained, the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* pledge themselves to limit their opposition to the issues under discussion last session, and as these issues have now been removed from the field of dispute by the Cabinet's concession, there should be no reason to apprehend a collision. The stalwarts present at the meeting evidently interpreted the resolution in that light, for they made a strenuous effort to tack on to it a rider to the effect that the Ministry should be called to account for dissolving the House of Representatives. It was decided, however, in the sequel of some vehement speeches by the malcontents, that this question need not now be determined. Possibly the idea was that it might be brought up again at the general meeting of the Party on the 7th, but its chances of success on that occasion after rejection by the assembly on the 6th, were very small. The fact is, then, that the majority of the Party will not support any motion of want of confidence or impeachment, so that a peaceful termination of the session seems to be now definitely in sight.

The question of the presidency and vice-Presidency of the Lower House also came up for discussion. Some members were in favour of leaving the nomination to Marquis Ito, but the majority desired a public ballot, the result of which was that Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, the former President, received 74 votes, Mr. Ebara Soroku 59, and Mr. Matsuda Masahisa 19, a few scattering votes being cast for other candidates. As to the vice-Presidency, Mr. Sugita Teiichi seems to have been unanimously chosen. Mr. Sugita is the leader of the malcontents. His appointment to the vice-President's chair will certainly be interpreted as a "sop," but the truth is that he has been a very prominent figure in politics for many years, and that he has some claim to the distinction now conferred on him.

A representative of the *Seiyu-kai*, Mr. Ito Daihachi, was sent on the 6th instant to Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi, of the Progressists, to suggest that a conference of the two parties should take place. The *Seiyu-kai's* entente with the Cabinet had already been announced to Marquis Ito by Mr. Kato Takaaki, and by Mr. Hara Kei to Mr. Oishi Masami, but it now seemed desirable that the parties *en bloc* should consider the matter. Mr. Taketomi asked for time to consult his colleagues, which is interpreted to mean that the Progressists wished to learn the result of the *Seiyu-kai's* general meeting on the 7th before committing themselves to anything. It appears to us that the cooperation of the two parties is at an end, and that these pourparlers are only meaningless civilities.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* says that the Progressist leaders have privately decided that they will introduce, independently of the *Seiyu-kai*, a bill impeaching the Government, first with regard to the Exchange question, secondly with regard to the text-book scandals, thirdly with regard to illegalities discovered by the Audit Bureau in the settled accounts of State expenditures, and, fourthly, with regard to the dissolution of the Lower House. Thus there is promise of a very lively debate.

There has been organized a coterie of politicians calling themselves the *Seichu* Club (upright independents). They have held two meetings at the *Koyo-kwan*, the result being a coalition of some thirty members pledged to absolute impartiality and abstention from all party connexions. Among the leaders we find such names as those of Messrs. Taguchi Ukichi, Maruyama Meisei, Yamane Masatsugu, Takanashi Tetsushiro and Takano Takanori. Some of the Tokyo newspapers regard this coterie as the nucleus of a pro-government party, and call it the *Goyo-to*.

Some of our readers will doubtless recognise in Mr. Takano Takanori the ex-chief-justice of Formosa whose dismissal from the bench many years ago created a small agitation, and who fought his case so long and so assiduously. Mr. Takano always used to cling to the title of "judge," having been, as he claimed, illegally deprived of it. But he has at last abandoned the fight, gone through the formality of resigning, and adopted the profession of barrister. He now advertises in his new character.

The old members of the National Union are beginning to bestir themselves again. They no longer maintain their organization. That was abandoned at the time of the Anglo-Japanese alliance's formation. But its abandonment did not mean that the members ceased to interest themselves actively in Far-Eastern politics. They distributed themselves among the various associations called the *Shin-kwan Kyokai*, (China-Korea Association), the *Chosen Kyokai*, the *Toho* (Eastern countries) *Kyokai*, and the *Nichi-Ro* (Russo-Japanese) *Kyokai*. Manchurian affairs are now troubling their temporary quiescence, and on the 4th instant they came together again, and decided to address to Viceroy Yuan and ex-Viceroy Chang, in the name of Prince Konoye, a letter urging that a concession for building a railway from Wi-ju to Newchwang should be granted to an Anglo-American-Japanese Syndicate, and that Manchuria should be at once opened to foreign trade. These are thoroughly practical suggestions, and if they could be carried out, the Manchurian problem might almost be said to be solved. At the same time it is questionable whether an Anglo-American-Japanese syndicate could be formed for such a purpose. Nor would its formation be essential. The opening of Manchuria would serve all immediate aims.

A PAIR OF FINE BRONZES.

Two exceptionally fine specimens of modern bronze casting may now be seen at the Imperial Commercial Museum of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce in Tokyo. They are large plaques, nine feet by five and a half, weighing 250 pounds each. The subjects delineated are the ascending and the descending dragon, well known to students of Japanese art motives, together with clouds and waves, the dragons in high relief and the clouds and waves in *mezzo relievo*. The artist is the celebrated Okazaki Sessei, probably the greatest bronze caster of Japan in certain times. What adds to the interest of these specimens is that the casting of plaques of such large dimensions was a *tour de force* beyond the capacity of Japan's ancient experts. At the Shiba Mausolea there is a magnificent bronze gate, the panels of which are often erroneously supposed to have been made in Japan. They were in truth cast in Korea and brought thence to this country in 1598. Some attempts were made in the seventeenth century to produce similar plaques, but the results were always defective until the days of Okazaki Sessei, who has succeeded perfectly. It need scarcely be added that these plaques were made by the *cire perdue* process.

CHINESE NEWS.

There has been organized in Changsha, the capital of Hunan, an Anti-christian association called *Tuanta Hui*, or *Tuantao Hui*, the former term signifying "short-sleeved society," the latter "short-sword society." The *N.-C. Daily News*, which gives the intelligence, says that owing to the popularily of an anti-foreign crusade among the masses in the interior of China, the society already numbers fifteen hundred men, though it has been but a short time in existence. The members make no secret of their intention to "annihilate Christians and fight foreigners." It is alleged that the local authorities are endeavouring to break up the association but that their success is problematical, and that "a large and formidable outbreak is apprehended this summer in Hunan."

The United States Consul in Canton is stated, according to the *Asahi*, to have telegraphed to Mr. Conger in Peking that an American railway engineer and his companions had been assaulted at a place called Peh-kwan, some 140 miles north of Canton. An official had been despatched for the scene by the Consul, and on receipt of the news in Peking the Chinese Government sent instructions to the Viceroy of the two Kwang to take all necessary steps at once.

PEST ON THE "KAGOSHIMA."

The suspected case of pest on board the steamer *Kagoshima Maru* which arrived at Yokohama from Bombay on April 28th was found on May 6th at 4 p.m. to be a real case of plague. The victim is a fireman. The *Kagoshima Maru* left on the 6th at noon for Bombay after completing disinfection at the station.

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KOREA.

Friday, May 1.

All the leading journals of Tokyo publish a telegram to the effect that the Japanese Representative in Seoul, having applied to the Korean Foreign Office for a copy of the permit granting timber-felling privileges to a Russian subject, by way of preliminary to seeking the same privileges for a Japanese subject, Abe Jinsuke, has received answer that the Korean Government can not grant the same privileges in the same region to subjects of different Powers.

It is further stated that the Belgian whose engagement as adviser to the Korean Government has excited some comment of late, arrived in Seoul on the 28th ult. His arrival was the signal for the presentation of a note by the Japanese Representative, who demanded that Korea should implement her promise of giving to Mr. Kato the position of chief adviser.

Saturday, May 2.

Tokyo journals continue to publish references to the timber-felling question. No great importance appears to be attached to the matter in official circles, and so far as we can make out from the various accounts, which conflict in some details, the Korean Government is the party chiefly embarrassed. Certainly the privilege of felling timber in districts at the head-waters of the Yalu and the Tumên was granted some years ago to Russian subjects, but it does not appear to have been practically enjoyed, and as a term was fixed originally for giving effect to the concession there are doubts as to whether it remains valid. The point is, however, that the Russian authorities regard the concession as exclusive, whereas the Japanese think that according to the most-favoured-nation clause, they are entitled to ask for corresponding privileges. It is of course evident that to grant the same privileges for such a purpose in the same region might, and probably would, lead to serious complications; some definition of the limits within which each concessionaire might work would be essential. In that respect the Russian claim appears to have justice on its side. But there is another complication. The story runs that lumber rights were given by the Korean Government to a Korean company, which entered into partnership with a Japanese subject, Abe Jinsuke, the deed of partnership and its purposes were duly exhibited at the Japanese consulate. Then came the Russian objection, and thereafter a Japanese protest, the issue being, it is said, that the Korean Government, apprehending difficulties between themselves and the concessionareres, as well as between Japan and Russia, are now seeking to induce both sides to abandon their claims. The whole affair would be obviously trivial were it not aggravated in the eyes of certain Japanese publicists by a rumour that Russian soldiers, or at any rate Chinese subjects in Russian military employ, are congregating on the Korean side of the Yalu for the purpose of protecting the Russian lumbermen. It will probably prove that these soldiers, if they have any tangible existence at all, have been magnified into a bogie. No one in Tokyo whose opinion is valuable appears to attach any importance to them. In the present somewhat fevered state of a section of the Japanese public small sparks of potential trouble are quickly fanned into flame, but happily they are as quickly extinguished.

The Quelpart affair is a case in point. From the accounts originally published it would have been inferred that a kind of ostracism had been officially inaugurated against all the Japanese residing in the island, and that they were reduced to extreme straits. But at present the situation seems to be that the Governor of the island—Kim Ok-kun's assassin—has conceived suddenly a notion that foreign subjects or citizens have no conventional rights of residence or trade within the limits of his jurisdiction, and has attempted to carry that theory into practice in a more or less perfunctory manner, discriminating, however, in favour of the French. The Japanese ship-of-war *Saiyen* has proceeded to Quelpart from Mokpo, having the Japanese consul at the latter place on board, and the details will therefore be accurately known in a few days. Meanwhile it need scarcely be predicted that the trouble will be easily arranged.

Sunday, May 3.

The timber-felling question is the subject of further telegrams from Seoul. There is some difficulty in clearly deciphering the various accounts, but it would appear that the company spoken of above, namely, the *Rizai Kaisha* (Ecomonical Company) appointed a Japanese subject, Mr. Abe Jinsuke, to be its representative, and that the Korean Government is endeavouring to nullify the sanctiod previously given to the company, the grounn of this action being that no timber-felling privilege has been granted to a Japanese subject. Mr. Hayashi is nevertheless said to be pressing Abe's claim, a claim founded we presume, on the fact that Abe is a partner in a duly constituted Korean company, and that the admission of a Japanese subject to the company can not lawfully impair on the rights originally held by the latter. Such, we say, seems to be the situation, but we confess that it is obscure. The only clearly emerging fact is that the question of timber-felling privileges at the head waters of the Yalu is producing some complications.

All the leading papers of Tokyo allege that after long delay the Korean Government has at length agreed to grant to Mr. Kawakita Kanshichi the same fishing privileges as those conceded to a Russian company in 1899. This question was much before the public a few years ago. The privileges granted to the Russian company included the right of establishing three stations at different points on the east coast of Korea for boiling down the captured whales and performing other operations connected with them. Mr. Kawakita immediately applied for a similar licence but the Korean Authorities showed much reluctance and have only now been induced to adopt a more liberal attitude.

Tuesday, May 5.

It is stated (*Asahi's* correspondence) that the Korean Government's queries addressed to the Russian Representative in Seoul have not elicited any very clear reply. These queries were directed to two points: one was the employment by Russia of Chinese subjects supposed to be bandits; the other, the felling of timber by her nationals in the vicinity of Peng-ma, which is said to be entirely outside the limits of the lumber concession. As to the former question, the Russian Representative replied that the employees referred to were not bandits, and that they were used merely for transporting timber. As to the latter, he is said to have given no answer. Probably he himself requires to make some investigations.

Wednesday, May 6.

Telegrams from Korea are contradictory but the gist of them is that the Russian Authorities claim to have received the privilege of felling timber on Peng-ma mountain, whereas the Korean Government denies that there has ever been any delimitation of areas within which lumber enterprise might be carried on by the Russians, and further insists, with regard to Peng-ma in particular, that the place is sacred, and that ingress is forbidden to all alike: by no possibility could permission have been officially granted to fell timber there. Each side is said to be persisting in its contention, but we can scarcely believe that the Russian authorities should maintain such an attitude. There may well have been a misunderstanding about the limits of a concession, but immediately on discovering that the religious sentiment of the people would be shocked by timber-felling at Peng-ma, the work would doubtless be discontinued.

Thursday, May 7.

The Quelpart affair turns out to have been quite trifling. Our readers were warned throughout that the reports coming to Tokyo seemed greatly exaggerated, so they will not now be surprised to learn that whatever trivial difficulties existed have been easily settled, and that the stories about boycotted Japanese subjects, the complete cessation of Japanese trade and the Governor's attempt to expel all foreigners except the French, may be regarded as inventions.

It is reported from Wiju that thirty Russian soldiers arrived at that city on the 5th instant, alleging that they were engaged upon a road-surveying expedition.

Fridry, April 8.

It is predicted that the Diet will have to consider a bill relating to the financing of the Seoul-Fusan Railway. Our readers are aware that the Emperors of Japan and Korea recently increased their holdings of this enterprise's stock by 2,000 shares each. The total number of shares publicly subscribed became thus 30,000, representing a capital of 15 million *yen*. But 25 millions are required, and the point is how to obtain the remaining 10 millions. Originally the Treasury confined itself to guaranteeing 6 per cent. on the Company's paid-up capital during a term of 15 years. But of course such a guarantee would not be a sufficient basis for a foreign loan. Hence the proposal now is that the Japanese Government should underwrite the loan, which would be issued in the form of debentures of the Industries Bank. There is here a difficulty. The charter of the Bank limits its issues of debentures to five times its paid-up capital, and the latter being now 2½ million *yen*, it is obvious that the Bank's margin does not suffice for a new issue of 10 millions. Hence the probability is that the Diet will be asked to sanction, first, a modification of the Bank's charter, and secondly the endorsement of the debentures by the Treasury. An impression prevails that the proposed terms are too favourable, and it is thought that if such a bill be presented, the House of Representatives will reject it.

News from Korea continues to indicate that the dispute about timber-felling has not yet terminated. The Korean Government appears to be insisting that Peng-ma mountain is not within the limits of the lumber concession granted to Russian subjects, and the Russian Chargé d'Affaires shows equal insistence in claiming that it is. If the

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information hitherto furnished be exhaustive, it would seem that the action of the Russian official is distinctly arbitrary as well as unwisely aggressive, for even supposing that he believed the Peng-ma district to have been originally included, he should at once agree to its exclusion on learning that a sacred character attaches to it. But we may be tolerably certain that the stories thus far circulated are partial.

It is farther stated that in consequence of this dispute and of the appearance of Chinese soldiers in Russian employ, popular feeling at Wiju is becoming excited. Meanwhile the latest report as to Russian military men having come to Wiju for surveying purposes, is now corrected in the sense that the surveyors do not bear a military character.

THE CHINESE IN SHANGHAI AND TOKYO.

A spirit of strong patriotism has been shown by the Chinese merchants in Shanghai. Receiving news that Wang Chih-chun, Governor of Kwangsi, unable to subdue the rebels, and taunted by the Peking Government for his inability, had invited the French to aid him with men and money, the merchants, notably those of Kwangsi and Kwangtung, held two meetings and sent off vehement telegrams to influential quarters. The idea of these men was that if once French troops obtained a footing in Kwangsi that province and also Kwangtung would pass out of Chinese possession, and the partition of China would commence. Some strong speeches were delivered at the meetings. Allusions were made to the conduct of the allied forces in the north in 1900, and to the conduct of the Russians in Manchuria, but we can not gather clearly from the reports whether the former reference was suggested by the fact that a foreign garrison still occupies the metropolitan province. The Taiping rebellion had to be considered, of course, though it was scarcely a case in point, for neither Gordon nor his predecessors Burgevine and Ward, nor the gallant Frenchmen d'Aiguebelle and Prosper Giquel, can be said to have had under their command soldiers of their own nationality. However, the speaker who cited this incident spoke of Great Britain only as China's helper at that crisis, and dismissed the matter by saying that the times were not analogous and that "the people invited to interfere in Kwangsi were radically different in aims and ambitions." We know now that France has not sent any troops, and that she was never asked to do so. So the Shanghai meetings were unnecessary. But they can not be called useless, for they present the Chinese in a character with which the world is not disposed to credit them. For our own part we think that the sentiments expressed were unfair to the French who, during the past decade, have shown themselves admirably self-contained and who may be confidently regarded to-day as one of the least aggressive nations in the world.

A feature of the above agitation was the share taken by the Chinese Tokyo students in fanning it. They, too, had received information of the Governor's alleged purpose, and they did what they could to defeat it. It does not appear that they addressed any communication to the Shanghai patriots, but the latter evidently attached much importance to the circumstance that the Kwangsi news had reached Tokyo also.

It is stated that the Chinese students in Tokyo are much perturbed about their country's foreign relations. Their inspector, Mr. Wang, happens to be absent, and partly for that reason their excitement has driven them to somewhat disorderly courses. The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that they have abandoned their studies and held meetings at which vehement addresses were delivered, and the advisability was seriously mooted of returning *en masse* to China and urging Viceroy Yuan to memorialize the Throne against yielding to any of Russia's demands. Probably these youths and men—for it must always be remembered that several of the Chinese so-called students are long past the usual age of study—have been inflamed by perusing the columns of journals like the *Nippon*, and the *Yomiuri*, but it is justly remarked by the *Kokumin* that they can not possibly accomplish anything by the methods they are now pursuing.

The Chinese students in Tokyo are reported to have formed a volunteer company and to be exercising themselves in military functions for an hour every day. They purpose sending a delegate to Peking to urge the Government to adopt a strong attitude towards Russia, and they will also despatch some of their number to Manchuria with the object of ascertaining the real state of affairs there. We take these details from the *Chiuo Shimbun*, which adds that several of the female Chinese students have entered the Red Cross Hospital to learn the duties of nurses, so that they may be able to tend the sick and wounded in time of war.

With the exception of the above item of news, the columns of Japanese journals were yesterday void of any telegraphic reference the Manchurian affair. Considering the amount of space they have devoted to it day after day, their silence now comes as a not disagreeable respite.

FOREIGN TROOPS IN CHINA.

In the course of his statement to the Budget Committee of the Reichstag on March 17th, Baron von Richthofen gave some interesting figures about the forces now maintained by foreign States in China. Apart from Kiaochow, Wei-hai-wei and Manchuria, he said that the total number of foreign troops was 7,400 of all arms; England having 1,900, France 1,800, Germany 1,600, Japan 1,050, Italy 900 and Russia 850. *The Times* Berlin correspondent summarizes the German Foreign Secretary's concluding remarks and the debate that ensued, thus :—

Of the German troops 300 were in Peking, 400 at Tientsin, and the rest were at different points in Chi-li. England had reserves at her disposal at Wei-hai-wei and at Hongkong, and in case of necessity she could employ her Indian troops. France had a strong military position in Indo-China and Russia in Manchuria, while Japan possessed all the advantages of geographical proximity. Germany, on the other hand, had only the regular garrison of Kiao-chau, 1,700 men, to fall back upon. In order to make up in some degree for this disproportion, 600 of the troops which were withdrawn from Chi-li had been kept in China to strengthen the garrison of Kiao-chau. In the opinion of Baron von Richthofen those arrangements had fulfilled the assurances given by the Government last year that they would both maintain the political and commercial position of Germany in China and at the same time do their best not to burden the finances of the Empire.

A very animated discussion followed, and it soon became manifest that the committee were unanimous in their opposition to the proposed expenditure. Herr Richter said that he had never attached any importance to the occupation of Shanghai. The Yangtsze could best be policed by river gunboats. The German brigade cost 11,000,000 marks and Kiaochau cost 10,000,000 marks. The expenditure was more than the whole value of their exports to China. German interests fell far below those of the English, the Americans, and the French, and so large a number of troops was, therefore, unnecessary. He asked for some details regarding the new formations of these troops, and Major-General von Einem replied that after the disbandment of the German expeditionary corps mounted detachments had been associated with the two first battalions, and had ultimately been formed into a mounted company. The estimates, however, had not been exceeded.

Herr Richter then proposed to reduce the estimates by 5,000,000 marks but he subsequently modified his proposal to a reduction of 3,000,000 marks. He maintained that it was high time to reduce expenditure in China. He somewhat contemptuously dismissed the Government plea that reductions would make a bad impression. Where there was a population of 300,000,000 there would always be disturbances of some kind. At present every single man that Germany kept in China cost 4,000 marks (£200).

The Clerical Deputy for Fulda, Dr. Müller, vigorously supported the proposal of Herr Richter. If America could withdraw her troops so could Germany. The strength of the German garrisons was out of all proportion to German interests. It was impossible for the Empire to continue indefinitely the expenditure of such sums upon China.

The National Liberal, Dr. Paasche, was of the same opinion, and said that these Chinese estimates were an intolerable burden. Reductions must again be made as was done last year. They were not going to agree to the establishment of a permanent colonial army, and this elaborate military establishment in China was now superfluous; at the utmost they should merely keep their ships in Chinese waters.

The War Minister, General von Gossler, and the Foreign Secretary, Baron von Richthofen, urged that it was imperative to proceed by international agreement in reducing the German forces. Herr Richter's proposal, however, was unanimously adopted, and the estimates were reduced by 3,000,000 marks (£150,000). Permission was at the same time accorded to the Government to make the amounts under the different items transferable.

"OLD DAYS AND OLD SCENES."

In Mr. Mollison's interesting paper on "Old days and old scenes" an allusion is made to the British Legation in Tokyo in the early part of 1867. This has evoked a letter from another old resident, Mr. G. W. Rogers. The latter says:—"Mr. Mollison states that the British Legation was a fine big temple near where the railway station now is, and it was the scene of the famous night attack by *ronin* in Sir Rutherford Alcock's term. I am sure the gentleman will not be offended with me by pointing out that the Legation at the time he speaks of was a temple called Tosenji, at Takanawa, a few cho beyond Shinagawa and opposite the space between the first and second forts." But Mr. Mollison did not say that the British Legation in 1867 was "near where the railway station now is," though that would have been a sufficiently accurate description. What he said was:—"We anchored outside the forts at Shinagawa and landed in a small sampan across the flats at Takanawa, not far from where the present railway station stands." He did not use the word "near" at all, and he merely spoke of the place where he landed as being "not far from where the present railway station stands." However, that is merely the result of hasty reading on the part of Mr. Rogers. Another point in his letter deserves fuller comment. He writes with reference to the attack on the Legation:—"It appeared from what I could gather that the attack was so swift that before the escort could be aroused from their sleep and get clothed and get down their sabres from the hooks, the *ronin* had done their work and fled through the dense shrubbery, taking advantage of the darkness which prevailed. The interior of the building, especially along the corridors, gave evidence of the wild onslaught that had been made." We can not be sure whether Mr. Rogers, when he speaks of "the escort" alludes to the Japanese guards

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(*bettei*) or to the Legation Escort of British subjects. If he intends to allude to the latter he is under a false impression, for the attack took place in 1861, and no Legation Escort then existed. There was a second attack in 1862, but Lt.-Colonel Neale being then Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Rogers obviously, and indeed explicitly, alludes to the event of 1861. We must assume, then, that they were the Japanese guards who, according to him had not been aroused from their sleep, put on their clothes and armed themselves before the *ronin* had done their work and fled. But the fact is that the attack failed of its serious purpose in consequence of the alacrity of the Japanese guards. Mr. F. O. Adams, in his "History of Japan," says :—

"The missing Mr. Macdonald (one of the inmates of the Legation) soon after appeared, safe and sound. He had rushed out of his room in his white sleeping costume, and making his way through a side gate to the front, found a wild scene of tumult and conflict, for the guards were at last up and doing. In the courtyard of the temple itself, and in front of that leading into the part assigned to the Legation, there were groups fighting, men with lanterns running to and fro, and gathering from all sides. Some of the guards attached to the Legation covered him with one of their own Japanese dresses and drew him aside and he was saved from danger."

The guards killed one of the *ronin* and wounded another so badly that he could not escape, while a third left the mark of a bloody hand on the roof of a bath-house as he fled. There was nothing like an unscathed escape of all the assailants.

COUNT OKUMA.

It was not to be expected that Count Okuma should accept the present situation without remonstrance. Speaking, briefly, his Party have been left in the lurch. They joined hands with the *Seiyu-kai* a few months ago, and the two stood side by side at the polls on a publicly proclaimed platform of opposition to the Cabinet. Now suddenly, however, it is announced to Count Okuma that the leader of the *Seiyu-kai* has agreed to an *entente* with the Government. No politician could be expected to accept such a situation without any protest. Accordingly we find that a speech delivered by Count Okuma to his Party on the 5th instant contains some expressions of dissent. We can not find, however, that it evinces any evidences of anger or vehement indignation. On the contrary, the impression produced upon us by its perusal is that the Count spoke calmly and dispassionately. The only part of his speech capable of being construed in a sarcastic light was his account of the announcement made to him by Mr. Kato Takaaki—a very curt announcement that an *entente* had been established. Here we seem to detect a note of irritation in the Count's words, for he says, "if the entente had already been established, there was no occasion for me to express any opinion;" language which suggests that he thinks he might have been consulted beforehand, and indeed most people will agree with him, though for our own part we never regarded the temporary pact between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists as an affair likely to outlive the tension of pending events.

For the rest, what Count Okuma said may be compressed into a few words. He declared himself incredulous that the agreement made by Marquis Ito with Count Katsura must be considered binding on the parliamentary conduct of the former's followers. In short, he declined to conclude that after the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists had united their forces and fought in the same ranks for the same purpose, the *Seiyu-kai* would desert their allies and pass over incontinently into the other camp. He also criticised the Cabinet for submitting to a metamorphosis of its financial policy, and he included Marquis Ito in the criticism. But it is unnecessary to follow the Progressist leader into these details. Circumstances must always have due weight in the councils of a country's financiers. It is quite true that when he was last in power Marquis Ito fought a strenuous fight and won a difficult victory for the principle of carrying on the State's extraordinary enterprises with the proceeds of taxation instead of resorting to domestic loans. It is also quite true that he seems to be now abandoning that principle since he insists upon the reduction of the land tax and upon recourse to domestic loans for the purpose of naval increment should other financial devices prove insufficient. It is true, again, that the present Cabinet abandons its taxation basis and reverts to the loan system. But, finally, it is true that the summer of 1903 and the fall of 1901 are different epochs, and that a corresponding modification of State policy may be wise. We ourselves should have greatly preferred the continuance of the land tax. Our conviction is that the nation would not have felt the burden. Marquis Ito, however, thinks differently, and the question for his followers to consider now is whether they fought last session for the overthrow of the Cabinet purely and simply, or whether they fought for the issue ostensibly asserted, namely, reduction of the land tax to its old figure. Marquis Ito, as we understand, takes the position that the mere expulsion of a Ministry from office ought not to be the object of any responsible party, and that so long as the principles it advocates are carried out, it should be content. If he can educate the *Seiyu-kai* to that standard of political ethics he will have done well.

THE TREATMENT OF WITNESSES IN LAW COURTS.

The license allowed an English barrister in the cross-examination of witnesses is very liberally construed by the occupants of the English bench, and at times a good deal of "heckling" is indulged in when Counsel find a witness hostilely inclined. In Japan the "heckling" is done by the presiding Judge and if the case which we reported on Thursday is a fair specimen of the extent to which it can be carried out, the system here is not to be commended for fairness to the witness. Mr. Thos. S. Baker, Sub-manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Yokohama, was called as a voluntary witness in a case instituted by Mr. Hioki, who is administering the bankrupt estate of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. This firm was interested to the extent of an eighth share in the Formosa Camphor Monopoly Business, the other parties to the transaction being Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., and the latter had to furnish a guarantee in the form of Government bonds as evidence of their *bona fides*. We need not enter minutely into the details of the transaction. Suffice it to say that the money to purchase the eighth portion of bonds was provided by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and deposit receipts of the Taiwan Ginko for the amount were duly endorsed by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. and delivered to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The money, it will be seen, was borrowed purely and simply for the purchase of Formosan Government Bonds to be deposited with the Formosa Government as a guarantee for the proper carrying out of of the Camphor Monopoly, and for that purpose alone. When Mourilyan, Heimann and Co., were declared bankrupt, the Administrator sought to have one-eighth part of the total guarantee money paid into the estate as part of the firm's property, despite the wording of the deposit notes and their endorsements, and failing to get the Bank to see the matter from his point of view he had recourse to the law courts. On Wednesday Mr. T. S. Baker was called before the Court as a witness and subjected to four hours and five minutes of cross-examination by the presiding Judge. The question to be answered was very simple. Was the money put up by Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. themselves, or did the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank merely provide the amount as guarantee money. Mr. Baker explained at length that no money passed to Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., but that the Bank furnished the sum of *yen* 226,250, as guarantee money, which was handed over to Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co. in the form of Government bonds and deposited by them with the Formosan Government. The Judge, as we have said, conducted the whole of the cross-examination, and put the same question practically to Mr. Baker in every possible form throughout the four hours of the Court's sitting—was not the sum lent to Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., and Mr. Baker as steadily answered that it was not, it was merely furnished as guarantee money to be deposited by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., with the Taiwan Ginko, but that Messrs. Samuel Samuel acknowledged by a separate receipt that Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann were participators to the extent of one-eighth share in the profits of the monopoly. The matter should have been cleared up in fifteen minutes, but over four hours were spent by the Court and in the end the utmost ingenuity of the Judge failed to make Mr. Baker alter his original testimony. It speaks well for his physical and intellectual powers that he stood the strain so well. We think that if a little more consideration were shown by Japanese Courts towards witnesses, no harm would be done to the dignity of the Law, while considerable benefit would result.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It appears to be the general belief that in consequence of the decision to dispense with the increased rate of land tax for purposes of naval expansion, the time for completing the latter will have to be extended, the total outlay of 115 millions being spread over such a term of years as will represent an annual appropriation of from 8 to 9 millions. That would be a slow programme; so slow that though it were adopted at the outset, we greatly question whether the nation would have patience to adhere to it. As for the source whence the money is to be obtained, Japanese newspapers do not now speak of administrative reform with anything like their old insistence. They seem to think that the plan pursued will be to revert to the original system of procuring funds for railway extension by means of domestic loans, and devoting to naval expansion the money thus accruing. That is the broad scheme: details need not be described at this stage;

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for it is evident that conjecture has much to do with the framing of the reports that are published.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* calls attention to the fact that the statements of case in the house-tax complication were to have been presented last month (April), but that the period having been prolonged until August at the desire of England, Germany and France, and there being an arrangement that each party to the discussion shall have six months to examine and reply to the other's argument before the Arbitration Committee is convoked, while, further, an interval is allowed before the Committee meets, this last event can not well take place before next April or May. Our contemporary adds that Mr. Miyaoka and Mr. H. W. Denison will probably be sent to represent Japan, and that they may be accompanied by Mr. Ochiai.

There has been another irruption into Tokyo of peasants from Ibaraki and Saitama, to complain of damage wrought by poisonous emanations from the Ashiwo Copper mine. Tokyo newspapers state that the petitioners on this occasion numbered twelve, and that they wished to spend the night of their arrival in the precincts of the Kiyomizu-do at Uyeno. They were moved on by the police, however, and they then proceeded to the gate of the Cabinet, whence they were removed, with some violence it is said, by the police. Finally two of the number were taken to the residence of the Minister President to make a statement of their grievances.

An accident attended with serious loss of life is reported from the Inland Sea. On the evening of the 1st inst. at 10.30 o'clock, the *Hayami Maru*, a small steamer of 120 tons, commanded by a German subject, collided in Tsurushima Strait, Iyo province, with a Korean steamer, the *Kanjo Maru*. The *Hayami* seems to have sunk immediately and out of her crew and passengers, numbering 72 in all, only 41 were saved. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the *Hayami* had on board 17 *geisha* of Tokyo and that 9 of them were saved, the rest being drowned. Apparently these girls had been engaged at the Osaka Exhibition, and for some unexplained reason had taken passage in the *Hayami*. The lost steamer was bound from Ujina for Matsugahama in Iyo.

A telegram from Matsuyama in Iyo province states that four corpses of passengers on the steamer *Hayami Maru*, which was sunk in collision recently, were washed ashore on May 4th, one being the body of a man and the others those of women. It is believed that D. Kiyama, first mate of the *Hayami*, will be examined on May 5th in the Matsuyama District Court.

It is surprising, but none the less true, that the French Chamber paid attention only recently to the probable effect that the crusade against religious orders must produce upon Roman Catholic missions in the East. Considering the persistent zeal shown by France during the past forty years in her policy of protector of missions, one imagines that she should have taken early thought about this phase of the matter. Yet we do not find that even when the question was brought up by a conservative member in the closing days of March, the Chamber showed any sympathy. Certain it is, nevertheless, that if the source whence the Far-Eastern missions derive their sustenance be cut off, the missions must either perish or be reduced to comparatively insignificant dimensions. The member who sought to awaken the Chamber's attention did not pretend to claim any consideration for the missions on their own account. He addressed himself rather to the political aspect of the case, pointing out that if the French missions disappeared, the door would be opened to the representatives of other States, and French influence abroad must suffer accordingly. In replying to this remonstrance the Prime Minister seems to have altogether—intentionally no doubt—overlooked its real import, and to have confined himself to a general recognition of the great deserts of some of the orders, supplementing it by an equally general denunciation of the preaching orders.

It is stated that the Diet will be asked next session to vote a sum of a million *yen* for the purpose of completing the Wakamatsu Foundry. Apparently the chief want now is a smelting furnace, the foundations of which have been laid but funds to erect the building are not forthcoming. One or two other edifices also are required, and the engineers recommend the opening of a coal mine at Yokota in Futase. Apparently the Foundry has been doing a certain amount of work in the shape of making rails and iron plates, though it is not yet able to achieve the original intention of its founders. The number of persons now employed there is given as 25 first-class officials, secretaries 50, engineers 60, employees 96, and workmen 1,380, together with occasional hands 400, and 500 coolies. The present superintendent is Mr. Nakamura Yajiro.

There has been some discussion in England about the use of submarines to attack merchantmen. Inasmuch as the latter can be protected against torpedo-boats during the daytime by a convoy of battle-ships, their passage through the English Channel becomes possible even in time of war. But a submarine is not more visible during the daytime than a torpedo boat is at night, and consequently efficient precautions could not be organized against the former. International law, however, as it is now interpreted, forbids the destruction of merchantmen: it permits their capture only. Hence the employment of submarines in the manner suggested is dismissed as a fruitless topic of discussion. How long, we wonder, would that veto be respected. Suppose that England were at war with some Power of continental Europe, and that it became essential to the latter's safety to strike a blow at British commerce, would submarines be kept in harbour by respect for international ethics?

Mr. Kiuchi, Chief of the Commercial and Industrial Bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, who drafted the amendments of the Exchange Regulations and who returned recently from Europe, has sent in his resignation. This was to have been expected.

Great interest attaches to the account published by *The Times* of the "Encyclopedia's" index which is now in the printer's hands, if it has not already been published. We read that more than 300 persons were continuously engaged in the preparation of the work, and that the preliminary cost, without the expense of printing, was £15,000. The book has more than six hundred thousand entries, which may be said to constitute "a catalogue of all that has been said and done, worthy of record, from the beginnings of history until the present time." As to the method pursued by the compilers, *The Times* says:—

"The reading and summarizing of 26,000 articles, considerable undertaking as it was, yielded no more than a mass of material from which the Index was to be constructed. Every index reference was written on a separate card, and no less than 1,139,500 cards were used for this purpose. Then the whole mass of cards had to be sorted into alphabetical order. Any one who has run through a whist-pack to see that it is perfect, sorting the cards according to their suits and values, will recognize the amount of work involved in the sorting of as many cards as would be found in seventeen thousand packs. More than eighty persons were engaged upon this sorting alone, and the time they spent upon it was such that if one man had done the whole he would have been occupied for more than 22,000 working hours, or eight years of continued labour. This array of cards had then to be edited letter by letter, rejecting superfluous entries, combining cognate entries, until the cards were reduced to about 800,000. Letter by letter, in the meantime, the edited cards were copied upon typewritten sheets, in order that the original cards should not be exposed to accident while in the hands of the printer. Before these typewritten sheets were sent to the printer they were read by a staff of 60 selected proof readers, and every query raised was settled by reference to the page indexed. The next stage in the preparation of the Index was the reading of the first proofs. When these had been corrected they were replaced by a series of revised proofs for further emendation. Final proofs in page form were then carefully examined before the pages were electrotyped. Every possible precaution was taken in order that the Index might be worthy of the national library of reference of which it so greatly increases the utility.

The Crown Prince and Princess are to leave Tokyo at the close of May and will proceed to Kyoto and Osaka, visiting the Exhibition and all the places of note in the Kwansei region.

The Emperor is to leave Kyoto on the 10th instant and will arrive in Tokyo on the 11th. Hence the official opening of the Diet can not take place before the 12th. The Houses meet on the 8th instant (Friday), which day, as well as Saturday the 9th, will be devoted to the business of organization. Monday the 11th would therefore have been the day for the official opening in ordinary circumstances, but the ceremony will now have to be postponed until the 12th, which means that the Diet will not get to work until the 13th.

It is reported (*Jiji Shimpo*) that the Japanese Standing Squadron is about to pay a visit to Chinese and Korean waters. In any circumstances the *Takachiho*, *Naniwa* and *Akitsushima* would have made such a cruise as they are told off for that duty, at but present. they will now proceed in company with the *Shikishima*, flag-ship of Admiral Hitaka, the *Izumo* and the *Tokiwa*, the squadron thus consisting of six ships in all.

Our attention is called by one of the trustees to the omission of Dr. Sasaki's name in the published memorandum relative to the Awomori Famine Relief Fund, and we are asked to say that the doctor merits by his actions the gratitude of foreigners. He left Yokohama at considerable sacrifice, abandoning his practice, accompanying Mr. Weston to the north, and undergoing all the discomforts of a stay in the miserable famine districts simply because he wished to join Mr. Weston in doing good.

The *Official Gazette* now publishes a long list of the Japanese officers who are the recipients of Orders from the Chinese Government in recognition of their conduct during the occupation of Peking. Prince Konoye is among the number, presumably on account of his labours as President of the National Union.

There has been a bad accident at Nagoya. During a celebration by the soldiers of the Third Division on the 5th instant, in connexion with the unveiling of a monument to the memory of the men that perished in

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the China campaign of 1894-5, an arch fell, injuring 10 persons severely and 20 slightly. The arch must have been much more solidly constructed than is usual in the case of such edifices.

A telegram received in Tokyo says that although Russia has been repeatedly asked to withdraw her troops from Manchuria, she gives no sign of compliance but remains unmoved.

It is stated that according to official investigations the relative strengths of the various naval squadrons in Far-Eastern waters are as follow, if the only vessels included in the account be line-of-battle ships, armoured cruisers, cruisers capable of steaming 16 knots and gunboats of 20 knots :—

	Number.	Tonnage.
Japan	30	203,192
England	15	130,380
America	5	38,825
Russia	22	186,249
France	6	38,804
Germany	7	29,713

If, however, torpedo-destroyers, armoured coast-defence ships and coast-defence gunboats be included, the numbers become :—

	Number.		Tonnage.
Japan	64	.....	242,865
England	33	.....	141,710
America	14	.....	55,023
Russia	50	.....	203,945
France	14	.....	60,750
Germany	13	.....	33,909

It is a pity that the *Anglo-Japanese Gazette* does not try to equip itself better in the matter of information. In its issue for March we find the following :—

After the very severe censure which Baron Iwasaki has delivered in connexion with the negotiations which have been pending between Sir Malcolm McEacharn and the Tokyo Electric Railway Company, it seems uncertain whether the Company will be able to carry out its efforts to a successful issue. The plan was to increase the capital of the concern from 800,000 *yen* to 6,000,000 *yen*; but the Australian syndicate which Sir Malcolm McEacharn represents is reported to be dissatisfied with the conditions imposed on the Company by the Government in granting the new charter.

Sir Malcolm McEacharn did not represent an Australian syndicate; there was no question of any new charter; the increase of the Company's capital from 800,000 *yen* to six millions was part of the original plan and had nothing to do with the British capitalists, and we are not aware that Baron Iwasaki delivered any severe censure in connexion with the negotiations.

We have received a pamphlet, purporting to be the first of a series, entitled "Extortion in Canton." It is anonymous, and the avowed object of the writer is to reveal "the culpable and scandalous complicity of foreign consuls with Chinese officials." These anonymous publications are cowardly and contemptible weapons, and we refer to the Canton pamphlet for the sake of denouncing it.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Yokohama Literary Society brought a particularly successful season to a close last evening with a largely attended meeting at the Public Hall. The lecture was by Mr. J. P. Mollison and dealt with the speaker's recollections of early days in Yokohama, from 1867 onwards. Suffice it to say that Mr. Mollison quickly secured the attention of his hearers and held them to the end. Following the lecture came some lantern slides, which comprised forty-one rare and interesting views :—

The late Dr. S. R. Brown's house at Kanagawa; Main Street in 1866; a Main Street Bungalow in 1866; The Crow's Nest; First Yato-bashi; French Barracks at Yatozaka; Widening the Creek; Parade Ground, Sports; Parade Ground, Regiment on Parade; old Athletic Ground at the Rifle Range, 1871; Group of Athletes; Athletes of the Seventies; Bowling Match, Navy *v.* Civilians, 1869; Admiral Keppell at the age of 94; Masonic Hall; Gaiety Theatre; Foreign Volunteer Fire Brigade; Cutting near Explosives Magazines; Race Course with old Grand Stand, and Mr. J. R. Black; Typhoon, the Famous; Typhoon, Dr. Wheeler, and Pet Peacock, 1871; Capt. Helm, 10th Regiment, and Lieut. Oldham, Engineers; Lawyer Marks on Paddywhack; Mr. Kingdon on Mochizume; George Dare sculling over site of present Cricket Ground; Old Cricket Pavilion; Yokohama Interport Four, 1871; International Boatrace, 1872; International Crews, 1873; Fujiyama Pilgrims in the Seventies; the Bund after a Typhoon; Opening of the First Railway, 1872; an old Kuruma; British Consulate as first erected; the Creek at Motomachi; Bluff Gardens; one of the First Jinrikisha; Old English Hatoba; French Legation at Benten; English Legation on the Bluff; Sir Harry Parkes and Daughters.

On the motion of the President a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Mollison, and after a short interval the musical programme which we print below was given. Needless to say the various singers and instrumentalists were in capital form and if the audience could have had its way most of the numbers would have had to be repeated. But an end must come to all good things, though reluctance binds the promptings of the will. The programme's closing couplet ran :—

"And now, good friends, Farewell,
Till Autumn's breezes stir again
The blustery pines."

Piano Duo..."Der Ritt der Walküren".....Wagner.
Mrs. A. Bellamy Brown and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

Violin Solo ....."Adoration" .....Borowski.
Mr. H. A. Poole.

Songs.....(*a*) "Spring Faith" .....Ries.
(*b*) "'Twas April" .....Nevin.
Mrs. J. P. Mollison.

Piano Solo ....."Impromptu" .....Schubert.
Mr. W. Karl Vincent.

Vocal Duet...."The moon hath raised her lamp above".....Benedict.
Messrs. A. H. Atkinson and N. G. Maitland.

THE CHAIR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE AT THE TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

(COMMUNICATED.)

It may not be generally known that Mr. Y. Koizumi (*alias* Mr. Lafcadio Hearn) no longer occupies the Chair of English Literature at the Imperial University. He had the honour of being the last occupant of the post as a separate appointment. His position is now filled by three gentlemen, the Rev. Arthur Lloyd and Professors K. Natsume and B. Uyeda. This is a change which those who know the University well have long anticipated. The money at the disposal of the University for the encouragement of the study of English literature is, considering all the circumstances, more wisely laid out in the employment of three lecturers, two of whom are Japanese, than in entrusting the lectureship to a single individual. These is no use in pretending that things are different from what they are. It is an indisputable fact that the literary graduates sent up to the Imperial University by the High Schools for many years past have not been able to understand English lectures as delivered by foreign professors and have been unable to pass examinations in those lectures aided only by the notes taken by themselves when listening to them. They have had to be helped through their examinations in a variety of ways. They have not been in a position to reap the full benefit of learned discourses on the beauties of style, or the lofty flights of our great poets and the like. It has been a rule that the more eloquent a lecturer has become the less he has been understood, as eloquence leads to rapidity of diction and a free use of hyperbole in most cases, both of which elicit the remark from the ill-prepared student *sukoshi mo wakarimasen*. It may be asked, why not educate students up to the proper level and still continue the English lectures exclusively? That would involve changes in the organization of the Primary and Middle Schools of the whole country which the Department of Education cannot possibly make at the present time with the funds available for such purposes. All things considered, an arrangement whereby two-thirds of the lectures on English Literature are to be given in Japanese and the others lectures are to be delivered by a gentleman who has had great experience in bringing discourses down to the level of his hearers seems to us to meet the exigencies of the situation in every important particular. We do not gather, however, that the new arrangement is designed to be anything more than a tentative measure. In view of the defective preparation of the students in the lower schools, we have always expected that the day would come when the President of the College of Literature in the Tōkyō Imperial University would abolish the Chair of English Literature as an independent function held by one man. There are a great many Japanese nowadays who possess an excellent knowledge of English literature and who are thoroughly competent to express to their fellow-countrymen all the finest of our ideas. One has to remember that it is thought that the Japanese student is in search of and not great proficiency in the knowledge of the English language as used by English or American lecturers. We have often heard it said that the Japanese literary student takes a wrong view of the whole question. That may be so; but he is not to be induced to change his opinion. Most of these students do not study literature out of any special love for it, *but simply as a means of obtaining a degree*. A few literary enthusiasts you will find, but their number is not sufficient to warrant the University's paying a high salary for first-class English lectures on literary subjects. In some of its aspects the new departure may seem to bear the character of a retrograde movement, but we ourselves regard it in no such light. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō is too great an admirer of foreign literature to allow of his taking any steps backward. English literature will not suffer by the change; of that we may be sure. One more observation seems to be called for. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō has on many occasions shown considerable antipathy to certain forms of Christianity. His choice of a clergyman of the English Church as a lecturer on English Literature at the University plainly shows that he is far more liberal-minded and impartial than his many enemies habitually represent him to be.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT AT MURDER BY A FOREIGNER.

Early in the morning (about 12.30) of May 7th a foreigner named Thos. King (42) keeper of the "Cosmopolitan Saloon" No. 136, Yokohama, is alleged to have attempted to murder his wife (Japanese) named Asa (27) inflicting severe injuries on her head and face with a razor. At the same time he dealt a terrible blow with a large cane to his maid named Mine (30) injuring her on the head. It is understood that the offender, his wife and their two children went to rest in a room upstairs about 11 o'clock on the previous night. The servant a little later went to her bed which is in the room next to her employer's. About one hour later she heard a great clamour in the room of her employer, and went to the door of the room at once and opened it to see what was the matter. At this moment King struck her down with the cane. The maid shrieked "*Hitogoroshi!*" ("Murder!") and her cries being heard by a betto employed by Messrs. Cobb & Co. who was passing, he rushed to the scene and found that two women were lying on the floor in an almost lifeless condition. The betto immediately reported the matter to the police station in Kagacho whence officers were sent to the scene. At 3 o'clock in the morning Public Prosecutor Nakamura and Preliminary Examining Judge Hadano of the Yokohama District Court and several police officers went to the house. King, who was still in the house, was removed to the police detention ward, and the two women to the Rokkaku Hospital for surgical treatment. As the police and the judicial authorities refuse to give any information, the cause of the crime can not yet be ascertained but it is said to have been jealousy.

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EXHIBITIONS IN JAPAN.

ALTHOUGH the attendance at the Osaka Exhibition seems to have been good, on the whole, we read in Tokyo journals that the sales of exhibits have not been by any means satisfactory. During the first six weeks after the opening, the total sales reached only 301,185 *yen*, which sum is said to represent about fifteen per cent. of the aggregate value of the exhibits. We infer, therefore, that about 1¾ million *yen* worth of goods remain unsold, and as the public have now had an opportunity of inspecting all the exhibits and selecting the most attractive and the most reasonable, the prospect of further sales on a large scale is not bright. This has been the fate of every industrial exhibition hitherto organized in Japan. Incidentally we may recall the fact that a lottery was organized for the sale of the goods remaining over at the close of the 1891 Exhibition in Tokyo, and that the money of those who purchased tickets still remains to be accounted for. It was understood at the time that some fraud had been perpetrated by those charged with the duty of collection, and that further, there being some doubts as to the legality of the lottery, the course adopted was to lodge the remaining money in the banks until the accumulated interest sufficed to make good the deficiency resulting from the fraud. Ten years have elapsed since then, and if the money was actually lodged, the interest should now amount to a large percentage of the principal. It is surely time to inquire what has happened. Charitable people were disposed to think that the so-called misappropriation had been nothing more than an exercise of "previousness" on the part of those who would have been entitled to commission under any circumstances and who found themselves suddenly embarrassed by a legal obstacle unanticipated until the eleventh hour. But even supposing that these impatient persons put their hands into the till to the extent of thirty per cent.—surely a liberal estimate for commission—, the deficiency thus caused should have been made up long ago. Our own belief is that the major part of the money was paid over at once to needy exhibitors, and that when the lottery turned out to be illegal, the recipients were unable to refund while the sums obtained by disposing of the exhibits proved comparatively insignificant. Thus the amount actually deposited in the banks for the purpose of acumulating may not have been more than 50 per cent. of the sums actually subscribed to the lottery. Whatever the truth may be, we find that the continued reticence of those responsible is ill-judged. Secrecy is the very seedplot of suspicion.

Perhaps the best exit from the dilemma which threatens to result from paucity of sales in Osaka, would be to adopt the scheme of an exhibition in London. That scheme was very warmly advocated by Mr. LOUIS FAGAN, formerly of the British Museum, when he visited Japan in 1894, and it is now again brought forward by Mr. ARTHUR DIOSY. We believe that it would prove a financial success if intelligent discretion were exercised with regard to the exhibits before they left Japan. But if the old mistake were repeated, the mistake of allowing the manufacture of exhibits to be presided over by an uninformed Japanese estimate of foreign taste, failure, partial at any rate, must result. Another point of the first importance is that Japanese artists and art-artizans should divest themselves of their present notions as to prices. One of the best introductions that Japan possesses to foreign customers is the cheapness of her expert labour. She ought to take full advantage of that recommendation, at all events until she has secured a firm market. But some short-sighted advisers have persuaded her that the value she puts on her own productions is a measure of the price she may hope to obtain for them from others, and the consequence is that at exhibitions and on other public occasions her people now-a-days show articles priced at figures higher than equally fine things would command in Europe or America. That is certainly a most blundering method of competition. It is probably responsible for much of the failure recorded at Osaka thus far. If there is to be a successful exhibition in London, prices must be kept at an attractive level.

MR. R. MASUJIMA'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE NEW YORK STATE BAR.

MR. MASUJIMA'S address before the State Bar Association of New York on Jan. 20th, was very able and very interesting. He chose for text "The present position of Japanese law and jurisprudence," and he prefaced what he had to say on that subject by a brief but comprehensive reference to the state of affairs in mediæval Japan, when "there was no system of law" nor any "inflexible rules of justice as in modern law and judicature," the judge being "an arbitrator between man and man rather than a legal officer of the Crown administering the laws of the realm." But although "custom, tradition, and common sense were really the main principles underlying decisions in civil cases," there was a system of criminal law; not indeed a perfect system yet at all events a system, and moreover in the realm of commerce there were "settled forms and customs of doing business," so that the mercantile community may be said to have evolved for itself "a system of commercial operations based entirely upon credit, and credit can not exist in any country unless it rests upon a solid foundation of law, equity and justice." These statements of Mr. MASUJIMA may be news to some people, but the facts on which they are based will be found minutely detailed in the last work on Japan, and indeed some of the most salient are briefly enumerated in his address. But nobody acquainted with Mr. MASUJIMA would have expected to hear from him an unmixed eulogy of his country's jurisprudential condition, and it may be said at once that his note is distinctly condemnatory. For the compilers of the Codes, it is true, he has praise. They "have adopted," he says, "only such ideas and principles as are now considered essential elements of jurisprudence," thus "avoiding many erroneous ideas that have arrested the progress of Western jurisprudence." But then—and here comes the sting in the tail—"they had largely to ignore the proposition that law is the result of evolution, the outcome of circumstances that have grown up in a nation itself," and they "had to miss the beauty of natural growth." This applause, qualified though it is, may be said to represent the whole of Mr. MASUJIMA'S approval, though in a very able *resumé* of the principal features of the various codes, he repeats his appreciation. The dominant tone however, is fault-finding. He finds fault, in the first place, with the system which places at the head of the Judicial department a Minister "neither versed nor trained in law business and administration, being generally a politician of second or third rank whose reforming influence is nil," so that Japan labours under the disadvantage of having no Lord Chancellor or Attorney-General "with sound power and influence to guide the policy and acts of the Government." The office of the public procurator is "merely that of a prosecuting attorney," and as for the judges, they "commit the error of following too closely the letter of the law and thus subverting its spirit." In fact, Mr. MASUJIMA has evidently a poor idea of the judges." They are not generally drawn from the Bar," he tells us, "but directly from the graduates of law schools or colleges by examination." "The Bench is not a post of honour and emolument to which men look forward with ambition." The Japanese lawyer, indeed, is "a man of independent mind capable of appreciating the value of his own career" and that "of the experience gained at the Bar, but the majority of law students never practise at all—they enter the Government service, or the service of some large corporation, and it is their tendency to look down upon the practising lawyer." Yet although the barrister receives so much applause, we are told that "the relation of confidence between lawyer and client, so important in Western life, scarcely exists in Japan;" that "legal advice is not always taken beforehand;" that "there is hardly any conveyancing or chamber practice; that people very rarely think of the lawyer as a professional guide;" and that he "generally gets no chance of learning his client's case until the last moment when the suit is actually pending." The account given of judicial procedure is also very unfavourable:—

> Japanese statements of claim and defense are not pleadings in the strict sense of the word. There is no rule or restriction prescribed as to the way of framing the petition, and nothing as to the form of defense by which the case should be met. The issue

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is not brought out by pleadings; it is elicited by the judge himself, who asks such questions as his ingenuity may suggest. Neither side knows beforehand what will be the line of argument brought forward by the opponents. No distinction between plea and demurrer is understood in pleading. The actual hearing is the first opportunity that a lawyer has for finding out the strength or weakness of his opponent's case. Again, no insistence is made on the necessity of logical harmony between the allegation in the pleading and the oral statement in court. So long as the hearing of the statement of the case has not been concluded, further evidence may be adduced at any stage of the proceedings, provided that it is not done with an obvious intention of hindering the administration of justice. The scope to call witnesses and the right to examine them is limited, the court conducting the examination, on points suggested by counsel. The question of admissibility of a witness must be discussed first in the open court, and it absolutely destroys the value of cross-examination. The result is that the final disposal of a case is slow and dilatory in the extreme. In lower courts there is no system of regulating a review of facts like that of "rules to show cause." All cases are brought up for new trial as a matter of cause and without any inquiry as to the special cause of the same; and the opportunity of new trials is often abused, simply to delay the enforcement of the Judgment.

All this is highly interesting and very valuable, especially as it is the first public criticism of Japanese legal procedure and the Japanese judiciary by a Japanese expert. But it appears to us that Mr. MASUJIMA's pessimism obscures his judgment at the last, for he concludes his able address with these words:—

It may perhaps be thought that it is a great advantage to Japan in the present stage of her pregress to possess her code, but this is not so. It is beyond our power to attain to perfection with ease and rapidity: every one has to grow, to learn, and to reap his experience for himself. There is no difference in this respect between a man and human institutions. There is an inca culable benefit to be derived from that exercise of the faculties when a man gropes his way in the dark labyrinth of a mental and moral wilderness, feeling his way cautiously and with prudence, if happly he may light upon the true path to follow. The gift of codes at this early stage has been no boon to Japan. We have in Japan no Marshall, no Story, none of the great jurists who laid the foundations of your law and Constitution. Nor has it as yet been possible for us to gather either the accumulated stores of experience or to produce the men of original or creative power and character in whom those stores are embodied, and by whom alone even the most perfect of codes can be successfully administered.

However carefully these words be examined, they do not lend themselves to any construction except that Japan would be better without her new codes, although Mr. MASUJIMA elsewhere calls her Civil Code "one of the master-pieces of modern legislation," and admits that, in view of the nation's greatly and suddenly altered circumstances "legislation became ■ matter of urgent necessity!" Is it conceivable that he really thinks the Japanese made a mistake when they equipped themselves with a good system of laws, and that their welfare would have been better promoted by leaving them to "grope their way in the dark labymith of ■ mental and moral wilderness?" Certainly no experience is so valuable to a man as that purchased at the cost of his own loss and labour, but we have never previously heard that fact adduced as a proof that to profit by the experience of others is to do oneself an injury.

The raw silk market has been very dull for some days as no large demand from foreign firms has appeared. The cause seems to be inactivity in the markets abroad. The *Yokohama Shimpo* believes that prices will fall within a few days.

JAPANESE CHILDREN.

SOME interesting letters have been addressed to us by correspondents on the subject of children in Japan. These communications were suggested by criticisms of our own. An essay from the pen of Mrs. E. B. ANDREWS in the *Spirit of Missions* seemed to present Japanese children and Japanese mothers in such a misleading light that we protested. It has been a great surprise to us to find that others share, or at any rate defend, Mrs. ANDREWS' views. Let us restate the gist of her assertions and then devote a few lines to the letters of her supporters.

Mrs. ANDREWS alleged that "children here"—namely, in Mito—"are not taught to be kind to one another or to spare one another's feelings." As to that our comment was that there must be "a new and unfamiliar type of Japanese child in Mito." We did not and do not intend to deny that Mrs. ANDREWS has seen such children as she describes. What we did and do intend to say is that to represent such a method of training children as typical of Japan, to allege that the duty of brotherly and sisterly affection is not inculcated by Japanese parents, would be a very misleading assertion. Mrs. ANDREWS may not have intended so to generalize. It may have been her purpose to limit her remarks to the narrow sphere of her own immediate observation. If so, she ought most certainly to have been more explicit; for when she allows herself, in the same context, to insist that "home life" and "home child life" in Japan "can not be improved" without Christian teaching, she suggests that the shocking state of affairs falling within her own observation is common throughout the country. "Shocking" is the only appropriate term. We can conceive no more flagrant or fatal defect in the education of children than that they should not be "taught to be kind to one another or to spare one another's feelings." Our own experience in Japan extends now to nearly thirty-six years, and were we asked to indicate the most prominent feature of child life in this country, according to our observation, we should unhesitatingly reply, kindness to one another and a disposition to spare one another's feelings. Let any of our readers just think for a moment. Let them think how often they see children fighting in this country; how often they see one child deliberately tormenting another. Do they not on the contrary constantly and repeatedly see surprising spectacles of little boys and girls tenderly nursing babies? Do they not constantly and repeatedly see lads and lasses playing in the kindest, most considerate manner with children much smaller than themselves—the truest test of youthful good-nature? And when do they see big boys or girls thrashing little ones, or children of any age pommelling one another? With such results before us, and comparing them with every-day spectacles witnessed in other lands, we are compelled to arrive at one of two conclusions, namely, that Japanese children are blessed with exceptionally amiable dispositions, or that the training they receive makes them mutually affectionate and considerate, which is precisely what Mrs. ANDREWS denies.

The second picture of Mito episodes is a class of children depicted as extraordinarily unruly; "a hopeless collection" of little ones—"everybody falling over everybody else;" "violent onslaughts being made during the hymns on any misguided small person excitedly trying to find the right number in New Testament or Psalter"; "those not engaged in painfully personal criticism, singing off the key and carrying all before them"; others, "deaf to all appeals, obligingly assisting the officiating priest with his part of the service;" a veritable pandemonium in short. Our comment was that "these boisterous, unruly little girls * * are about as unlike the gentle, docile, sweet-tempered and polite children we ourselves have learned to consider typical of Japan as a wild cat is unlike a canary bird." In a word our experience differed radically from that of Mrs. ANDREWS, and it further occurred to us, although we did not say so, that the fact of these children willingly attending a Christian service held by foreign missionaries, and submitting to be disciplined, might well have been placed in large letters on the other side of the account.

It was at this point that our first correspondent "Mimashita," intervened. He left unnoticed Mrs. ANDREWS' most important statement, namely, that Japanese children are not taught to be kind to one another or to spare one another's feelings, and he proceeded at once to defend her description of an undisciplined mob, avowing that his own experience confirmed it. But then followed an explanation, two explanations; that "the Sunday-school children are generally recruited from the least cultured families," and that, "not being used to religious services," they regard the Sunday School as "a show and ■ funny one at that." Certainly such explanations are ample. They are very necessary, too, for without them the portrait of the Mito class-room would be most misleading. This phase of the matter illustrates a fact which can not be too clearly remembered, namely, that many of the general verdicts pronounced by foreigners about the Japanese, are founded on observations among the lowest orders; observations to which no such weight would attach elsewhere.

We come now to another matter, the treatment of Japanese children by their mothers. Here there can be no mistake about the Mito missionary's intention to generalize. She explicitly undertakes to contradict the legend that "Japan is the children's Paradise," and she contradicts it by an absolutely revolting picture of vindictive cruelty on the mother's part, and of an extraordinarily rebellious disposition on the

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child's. She represents the latter as "apparently arriving in the world with the set conviction that the objective point of life is the complete subjection of the mother;" she represents the conflict between parent and baby as usually terminated at the end of two years, for "what poor, misguided heathen woman could stand the struggle any longer;" she represents the subsequent relations between mother and baby as "a sort of guerilla warfare," in which "either party makes sudden and unexpected assaults" on the other "in memory of inflicted injuries, past and present;" she represents the child as finally taking to the street with a baby on its back, and as then for the first time getting "out of the range of excruciating pinches when at close range, of sudden outbursts of temper to which it falls victim, or the goadings which hang over it in the gruesome threats invoked of ghosts, devils, avenging gods and the like." That is her deliberate account of the relations between Japanese mothers and Japanese children, and her conclusion is that only by the sunshine of Christianity can "home life and hence child life" be improved. Now we were not disposed to treat such an account seriously. To us it seemed one of the most distorted caricatures ever penned, and we dismissed it in five lines, with the comment that "the children of Mito, or at any rate the section of them with whom Mrs. E. B. ANDREWS has come in contact, are not Japanese children nor are their mothers Japanese mothers." Thereto "Mimashita" retorts that "when the editor says that the children of whom Mrs. ANDREWS writes are not Japanese children nor are their mothers Japanese mothers, he is only writing of things outside his experience." That appears to us to be another example of a familiar controversial experience, a reply in the air. When we said that these mothers and these children observed by Mrs. ANDREWS were not Japanese mothers or Japanese children, what could we possibly mean except that they were not typical Japanese mothers or typical Japanese children? Does "Mimashita" intend to affirm that they are typical? Does he intend to affirm that the first two years of a typical Japanese child's life are devoted to a perpetual struggle to gain the mastery over the "poor heathen woman," its mother; that subsequenty there ensues a sort of guerilla warfare, during which each side tries to wreak vengeance upon the other; and that the warfare ends only when the child, taking to street life, escapes beyond the range of "excruciating pinches," "sudden outbursts of temper" and "goadings of gruesome threats?" Does he for one instant intend to endorse that as a correct picture of the typical relations between a Japanese mother and a Japanese child? If he has no such intention, and we should not think of insulting his intelligence so far as to suggest that he has, then what does he mean by alleging that we were "writing of things outside our experience" when we laughed at the picture as a caricature? What does he mean by taking the field at all as a defender of the strange essay in *The Spirit of Missions*?

We pass now to the question of methods of chief punishment among the lower orders in Japan; and here we have two correspondents to answer, "Mimashita" and "B." The former suggests that we have perhaps never witnessed the application of the moxa and acupuncture as forms of punishment. He calls the application of the moxa a "dab with a hot coal," which description obliges us to confess that although we have seen the moxa applied two or three hundred times, perhaps, we certainly never have seen children or grown up people "dabbed with hot coals." However, that is a mere question of phraseology. The fact is beyond query, and must be familiar to every observer, that the application of the moxa is a not uncommon punishment for children among the lowest classes. It is invariably applied either to the middle joint of the fore-finger or to the great toe. And this brings us to "B's" letter. He describes how he saw "one woman holding down a struggling child while another applied the burning weed to the little one's stomach," and he also says that "the greater number of the children of the lower classes in Yokohama have their limbs and bodies disfigured with the scars left by the burning moxa." It appears to us that "B." confounds surgery with punishment. In the case of the application to the stomach of a child, there can scarcely be any doubt that treatment for some ailment was in question, and the same may be affirmed of marks seen on any part of the body except on the second joint of the index finger or on the great toe. Whether the moxa is "useless from a medical point of view" as "B." alleges, we do not pretend to say, having heard a very different opinion expressed by a high authority. At any rate its use as a remedy has nothing to do with the matter under discussion, except in so far as "B's" sympathies may have been aroused through misconception. What has to be considered is whether a flogging in the Occidental style or the application of the moxa in the Japanese style, is the more painful and more shocking form of punishment. There can not be the least doubt as to how a Japanese would answer that question, and assuredly the former is much commoner in Europe and America than the latter is in Japan. As to acupuncture, we have never seen or heard that it is used for punitive purposes. "Mimashita's" statement in that sense is a complete surprise to us, and since reading it we have asked twenty-three Japanese, including medical men, whether they have any experience of such a thing. They one and all denied unhesitatingly that any such practice exists, so far as their own knowledge or experience indicates. We are forced to conclude, therefore, that the case or cases witnessed by "Mimashita" were quite exceptional, and indeed we are almost templed to think that like "B." he may have mistaken the curative for the punitive.

Let us here distinctly disavow any idea of denying that there is cruelty to children in Japan. Of course there is cruelty. There will always be cruelty everywhere so long as human nature remain unchanged. But we confidently affirm, as the result of thirty-six years' observation, that we believe the treatment of children in Japan to be kinder, so far as mere kindness goes, than the treatment of children in any other country with which we are acquainted, and further that quarrelling, and want of mutual forbearance are remarkably absent from young life in this country. Of course we do not pretend to speak any last word except for ourselves. As "Mimashita" truly says, all foreigners, in Japan have only a limited sphere of associations, and each must correspondingly refrain from generalization.

UNDEFENDED PROSECUTIONS.

IT is at a time like the present that the public learn to fully appreciate the exceedingly misleading effects of one-sided journalistic representation. Every one desirous of forming a fair judgment about the Manchurian affair must earnestly wish, again and again, that the Russian side found some worthy representation. But unfortunately people are compelled to construct their opinions entirely out of anti-Russian rumours and Russo-phobe exaggerations of passing events, so that prejudices are perpetually created or confirmed. Our German fellow-residents seem to have keenly felt the injustices and injuries incidental to such a partial position, for, at the cost of some sacrifices, they started a journal of their own last year. It is a journal ably conducted and essentially moderate in tone, but we are bound to say that it has not supplied any sufficient remedy for the defects of the situation. The reason is palpable: the newspaper is published in the German language, and it is precisely to those acquainted with the German language that no appeal against anti-German verdicts is required. Of course the obvious retort is that the chief function of the local journal is to supply information about the fatherland and its affairs to German subjects, and that to combat unreasonable prejudices or dispel unjust delusions is quite a secondary part of its work. We doubt, however, whether any patriotic German would endorse that narrow view of a German newspaper's functions. He naturally and properly wants it to set the public right when they seem likely to be betrayed into conceptions injurious to Germany's reputation, and for that purpose the first essential is that the newspaper should be published in English or in French so as to reach the audiences where such conceptions are apt to be entertained. Practically

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speaking our local German contemporary might as well have no existence for all the correction it furnishes of anti-German writings. The same would be true in a still more marked degree of a journal printed in the Russian language, and thus it really seems inevitable that Englishmen, Americans and Japanese should be condemned to hear only ex-parte statements and items of news at times when the utmost exercise of fairness and dispassionate judgment is necessary in the interests of the world's peace. It is a very unfortunate state of affairs, but that it is almost inevitable can easily be perceived. For it is in truth an outcome of the difference between Russian and British methods of expansion. The British flag follows trade, the Russian precedes it. What constitutes a warrant for conceding to any place the right of British imperial protection is that material British interests have been vested there and that a British community's prosperity has come to depend on their security. Thus at each important point of the empire's tradal expansion there is usually an opportunity for journalistic enterprise, and the pioneers of the country's commerce soon find themselves furnished with a newspaper organ. That is not the sequence of events in Russia's case. Her officials go ahead of her merchants; so far ahead, indeed, that many years often elapse before the latter overtake the former, and in the meanwhile if there are any harvests to be gathered it is the British subject with his capital and his instinctive sense of a profitable opportunity that steps in and gathers them. Perhaps we ought not to wonder that by these experiences Russia has gradually been educated to an exclusive propensity, and that it seems to her a wise policy to close her territorial acquisitions against foreign exploitation until her own people can get ready to exploit them. Still that is one of the national traits that help to expose her to condemnation, and since at the same time she is notable for the magnitude of the accretions that her empire is ceaselessly receiving, she naturally comes in for a great deal of abuse. It is pretty certain that the world would appreciate much more highly its own progress in the ethics of warfare had mediœval campaigns been subjected to the intense scrutiny of the modern newspaper reporter and telegraphic agent. The same is true of imperial expansion. The growth of an empire at the expense of other States must always be a more or less hateful spectacle, but one can not deny that it is managed now-a-days with unprecedented attention to the superficialties of international courtesy. Spheres of influence, states of reprisals, invasions by railways, subjections by financial succour—all these things are so many gloves with which twentieth-century aggressors cover their grasping hands. But they have made corresponding progress in the simulation of standards as well as in the art of applying them to measure the conduct of others, and if a nation happens to be conspicuous for its growth, as Russia is now conspicuous, the execrations showered upon it and the wickedness charged against it suggest that it is grieviously violating all precedents, whereas in truth it may be obeying them in the most up-to-date fashion. If we could hear what the Russians themselves think of it all and what reasons they have to offer, it is possible that our views might be greatly modified. But we never do hear. All the audible voices are occupied uttering accusations or condemnations and none is raised in defence.

RECENT LESSONS.

OF course the dangers of a situation already sufficiently delicate would be needlessly aggravated by publishing such comments as are suggested by a superficial review of recent events in Manchuria and Peking. If we are to conclude that Russia has deliberately adopted a line of policy calculated to destroy her reputation for sincerity of international dealing, it would follow that all hope of pleasant relations with her must be abandoned. Already, indeed, it is a frequently heard comment that to attach any faith to St. Petersburg's promises is merely to display one's own fatuousness. Yet faith of that kind is essential to the peace of the world. From the moment that you declare your total loss of belief in a man's statements, all amicable communication with him must cease. That is evident. Nevertheless many publicists are apt to forget it, and to cry out against the silliness of this or that British Cabinet for leaning on any Russian engagement whatever. Perhaps it might be wholesome in the presence of such criticisms to recall the fact that England has long been known in France as *perfide Albion*, and to reflect that the French could probably justify the appellation very plausibly from their own point of view. In truth the general public never get an exhaustive insight into any story of inter-state relations. The accessible evidence is always *ex-parte*, and men invariably bring to its consideration a strong prejudice in favour of their own nation. None of us can pretend to be fully informed as to even the main features of recent Manchurian developments. What we seem to know is that, instead of implementing a solemn treaty engagement, the Russian Representative in Peking put forward a series of new, and in some respects monstrous, demands, for which his Government now declines to accept responsibility. What we think is that no Representative would have had the temerity to formulate such demands without his Government's cognisance and approval. And what we conclude is that St. Petersburg is deliberately seeking in colossal falsehoods an exit from its embarrassing situation. But it must be observed that the second premise of this syllogism is a conjecture, plausible indeed, but still a conjecture. We do not know that the Russian Representative in Peking did not exceed his instructions. Not so long ago an Italian Representative thrust his country into a position which the statesmen in Rome declared to be unauthorized by them. In that case the erring official—if really he erred—was a diplomat of mature years and long experience. Few incidents could have been more improbable than his surrender to such a vertigo. Therefore most onlookers formed the conclusion that Italy had fallen back upon the hackneyed and time-honoured device of discrediting an agent whose zeal she would have rewarded in the event of his success. Yet no one blamed Italy or charged her with flagrant falsehold. Why should we refuse to believe that a Russian agent in Peking has exposed himself to similar repudiation? It needs a strong exercise of credulity, but so does the alternative theory that Russia is calmly discarding all title to the world's respect. Of the two interpretations we ourselves find the former incomparably the more reasonable and likely, especially when we supplement it by the hypothesis that Russia's policy, having in the interval undergone one of those changes reflected in her Far-Eastern doings during the past three years, may now be in honest conflict with the demands recently preferred in Peking.

Possibly the full explanation of it all will be forthcoming one of these days. In the meanwhile the immediate situation has more interest than any analysis of international ethics. The Russian Government has now transferred the scene of the negotiations to St. Petersburg, and the Russian Foreign Secretary has officially announced that some further conditions are essential by way of preliminary to evacuation. It must therefore be inferred that events subsequent to the conclusion of last year's evacuation treaty prevent Russia from carrying it out in its integrity. She has not hitherto given any intimation as to the nature of those events, but unless they had occurred there could be no conceivable justification for her failure to keep her promise. What she has indicated, however, is the way to secure the preservation of Manchuria to the Chinese Crown. It is a way that was known before, but the importance she attached to it was not known nor were the results of following it so clearly marked as they are to-day. The world now sees that whatever part of Manchuria is opened to foreign trade and residence will be guaranteed against absorption into the Russian empire. The world sees also that Russia, appreciating the fact, desires to keep the whole of the Three Provinces closed. She can not close Newchwang, but outside Newchwang she would fain put up the shutters. Finally the world sees plainly that any part of Manchuria not thus guaranteed will be hopelessly lost to China. Some years ago the then British Minister in Peking, Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, foresaw the policy now prescribed by events, and urged that Talien should be opened. Had his advice been followed, Talien would not now be Dalny nor

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Port Arthur a Russian fortress and ship-building yard. At the time of that sound advice, however, the nations were still doubtful about Russia's intentions. Perhaps Russia herself was doubtful about them. There is not a shadow of doubt now. The open-door policy has the advantage of being enforceable at any moment and of being permanent when enforced. It is the sole and only method of preserving Manchuria to China.

ART FORGERIES.

IN the closing days of March a trial took took place in France with reference to the fabrication of paintings. One of the artists who was accused of being implicated in the forgery made very outspoken declarations to the Juge d'Instruction. He said that he was in a position to prove the existence of a regular factory of fabricated masterpieces, and that he himself had manufactured an important object in the Louvre, the gold Tiara of SAITAPHERNES, which had been purchased a few years previously for the Museum at the cost of four hundred thousand francs. This statement caused no little sensation. If the Tiara was false, might not the country's museums be unwitting possessors of many spurious antiques? Presently, also, it transpired that the authenticity of the Tiara had always been doubted by several competent authorities. In 1896 a Russian professor had publicly denounced it as a forgery; so had three experts in Rome and so had Dr. MURRAY of the British Museum. The last, indeed, showed remarkable acumen and assurance. He declared not only that the Tiara was false, but also that it had not been made in Paris, as the French artist alleged; and that the band encircling the head-piece was the only genuine part of the affair, the rest being of recent Russian manufacture. Incidentally Dr. MURRAY stated an interesting fact, namely, that the Russian who had originally offered the Tiara for sale, visited London the following year with several objects in gold which he wished to sell to the British Museum. "They were all easily recognised as false, but the Russian dealer succeeded in disposing of his wares to a London Jeweller, who in turn sold them to Mr. PIERPONT MORGAN at a tolerably high price, and Mr. MORGAN afterwards presented them to the Metropolitan Museum of New York." Dr. MURRAY added:—"It was doubtless the first time that Mr. PIERPONT MORGAN paid too high a price for anything." It is plain that these disclosures must cause a flutter of anxiety in the breasts of many private collectors and curators of museums. As to the Louvre authorities, they have removed the Tiara pending further inquiries, and at this point Dr. MURRAY's dictum may be inserted that "of all the museums in the world the Louvre contains the fewest forgeries." "Its directors," he went on to say, "are highly competent and prudent, and the circumstance that the pretended Tiara had been admitted to their collection would not diminish the admiration entertained for them by their colleagues or the conviction that the Louvre is the first museum of the world, owing to the authenticity and the value of the contents." Such frank appreciation is very pleasant, but it will not allay the anxiety that the incident has aroused. We shall be curious to see whether any writer in England, France, or America regards the topic from a point of view repeatedly advanced in these columns, namely, the fatuous absurdity of the ordinary collector's affection for the antique. In the first place, age *per se* adds nothing whatever to the charm of a specimen, unless it be a bronze, for the passage of years alone can develop those beautiful patinas which constitute one of the main features of a bronze object of art. Otherwise the true expert attaches importance to age only in so far as it may enable him to identify the work of the particular era when such work reached its zenith of excellence. He never thinks of antedating a piece as does the ignorant collector, because he knows that to antedate it would be to assign it to a period of inferior achievement. Hence it is that he finds so supremely silly the propensity of many collectors of Far Eastern specimens to assign them to the *Ming* or even to the *Yuan* dynasty, thus by a blind conceit depriving them of their real status. In the second place, this clamour for "old things" on the part of men who, in the vast majority of instances, have not acquired any competence to discriminate between old and new, opens a door to the wide practice of frauds such as that of the Tiara of SAITAPHERNES. There is in Japan, for example, a regular trade of that kind. Art artizans, working in the pay of crafty dealers, manufacture pieces which are sold in quantities to tourists and collectors as genuine examples of this or that pre-*Meiji* ware. Very often these works are technically and artistically superior to any genuine example of the wares they simulate. Their manufacturers are in fact greater experts than were the men whose productions they are required to imitate. In such instances the buyer suffers nothing, his sole punishment being that he becomes the possessor and the future exhibitor of a fraud and that he has purchased it at a price far above its real value. But what a degrading influence the whole performance exercises on art progress and how humiliating it is to human intelligence? If people would only learn that except from the standpoint of the historian or the antiquarian age *qua* age adds not one iota to the value of a work of art, they would cease to be the victims of deception and to tempt others to deceive.

THE QUESTION OF RITUAL.

PERUSAL of the correspondence published in these columns with reference to ritualistic practices in Christ Church fills one with astonishment that such profound pettinesses can occupy human minds. The first charge preferred against the Incumbent of the Church was that he mixed water with the wine of Communion in sight of the congregation. Water has to be mixed with the wine. That is admitted, and were the operation performed privately, there would be no ground of offence. But to do the mixing in presence of the congregation is regarded by some people as such an evil thing that they are tempted to forego Communion altogether. Other accusations were subsequently marshalled; as that lighted candles were needlessly used; that the Incumbent stood on the west of the Communion table; that he elevated and adored certain objects; that he formed an unnecessary procession, and that he breathed on the bread and chalice. This last count led to a strange incident. The Bishop, when the charge was brought to his notice, avowed that he had no cognizance of such a practice, and the Incumbent, the very man supposed to have done the breathing, declared that he too was as ignorant as the Bishop. Hence if the breathing took place, it must have been by the purest chance. In these circumstances it might have been expected that the charge would have been frankly withdrawn. But no. The complainant's rejoinder was:—"Now that Bishop AWDRY and Mr. FIELD are cognisant of the superstitution attached to the breathing, is it too much to ask that the practice be discontinued." Thus an obviously accidental incident was quietly elevated to the rank of a "practice." We are bound to say that the champion of the anti-ritualists does not seem to us to have come best out of this discussion. His treatment of the breathing question is supplemented by two other not very edifying examples of controversial methods. Bishop AWDRY, referring to a promise which a lady believed she had given him, said:—"I do not feel that such a promise could be binding on you without limit"; a courteous and liberal admission which had the further recommendation of being strictly just in the circumstances. The commment of the anti-ritualists' representative, however, was this:—"Is it possible that the Bishop and others of the clergy have the same feeling with regard to their ordination vows and their assent to the 39 articles: that they are not binding without limits? It would appear so." That is little, if anything, short of a studied insult. It prepares us for the second example, namely that the Bishop having explained the absence of a certain letter from the published correspondence by saying that he had unfortunately torn it up, not realizing the possible need of it hereafter, his opponent retorted thus:—"It appears strange that Bishop AWDRY should have carefully preserved Mrs. WILSON'S first letter and torn up the second, which contained permission to publish the correspondence, and, at the same time, gave some information which, perhaps, was not generally known." Now

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what does that mean? Only two interpretations suggest themselves; either that the alleged tearing up was a mere subterfuge, or that the letter was deliberately suppressed. Both are equally offensive.

We are not espousing the cause of either ritualists or anti-ritualists. If the latter be accused of almost fanatical meticulosity they may reply, not without justice, that the former also attach importance to ceremonies of a totally trivial nature. Moreover, there are many good men who hold that the smallest concession in matters of conscience must ultimately exercise a demoralizing effect, if not upon others, then upon those that make it. Therefore we speak on behalf of disinterested onlookers only when we suggest that the cause of Christianity is not promoted by public prosecution of such discussions. They simply furnish materials for ridicule to scoffers and unbelievers. Japanese readers of the foreign local press during the past fortnight must have wondered what kind of moral creed this is that educates in its votaries a mood of such intolerance about unessentials, and makes them so ready to suspect each other of unworthy motives.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the *Dokuritsu Hyōron* (No. 3) the editor, Mr. Yamaji Yakichi, makes Mr. Ebina Danjō's "Life of Christ" the text for a very long article on religion in general. There is a certain freshness and absence of conventionality about Mr. Yamaji's writing, which accounts for its popularity among a certain section of Christians. Here are some of the opinions to which Mr. Yamaji gives expression in his essay, entitled "A Perusal of Mr. Ebina Danjō's 'Life of Christ.'"

(1) For religion to prosper it is necessary that there should be a number of men among us whose sermons and writings sell in sufficient quantity to allow of their living on the proceeds of the sale. Though it is fashionable among us to say that men do not need any religious faith, yet as a matter of fact there are many people who welcome definite guidance in this matter. There is no doubt whatever that the men who wield the most power in our religious world are the few who are quite independent of mission funds and who manage to live on what they make by teaching religion. First and foremost among these stands Mr. Uchimura Kanzō, who has succeeded in commanding so much respect that his writings are gladly purchased by a wide circle of readers. Though by no means well off, he is able to live as a gentleman on the proceeds of his pen. Next to him comes Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki, followed by Mr. Ebina Danjō. Both of these gentlemen are independent, self-supporting Christian writers.

(2) There are in the Christian church many more learned Christians than the three above-named teachers, but the drawback with nearly all our Japanese pastors is the fact that as long as they are partly supported with foreign money they have to trim their sails to please the missionaries; they have to teach what the Societies which provide the money consider to be correct. Free inquiry and liberty to teach exactly what is believed there cannot be as long as certain doctrines are endowed, for this is what the present system amounts to.* (*Senkyōshi to tomo ni kyūryō wo gwaikoku kaisha kara ogu; koko ni oite sono sekkyō wa jiyū ni shite, shōjiki naru atawazu; yamu wo yezu, sono kyōkai no setsu ni shitagawazaru-bekarazu*). It is because the three above-named preachers have freed themselves from this thraldom that they are so highly esteemed by discerning people.

(3) To come to Mr. Ebina. He has many followers. What is it that especially attracts them? (a) His advocacy of entire freedom of belief; (b) the earnestness with which he seeks to find out what is true. The Christianity received by us when first preached by the missionaries was accepted as true, but subsequently with most of us doubts as to its reliableness arose. There are those of course who remain doubters for a long time, but others continue their inquiries until they form for themselves a new creed. This Mr. Ebina has done. What he believes now, he believes steadfastly. Hence his power as a teacher.

(4) Mr. Yamaji next proceeds to state his own personal belief. We have many reasons for thinking that Mr. Yamaji is one of a very large class of baptized Japanese, who in the most pronounced manner reject what is known in England and America as orthodox belief.† We commend his confession to the consideration of all who desire to get at the real truth as to the attitude of the modern educated free-thinking Japanese Christian (for contradictory as the terms appear to be, they correctly describe the type of religious devotee to which we refer) to the doctrine proclaimed by the missionaries and their orthodox Japanese followers. Here is the gist of Mr. Yamaji's lengthy confession:—I have great respect for all religions. As to Christianity, in my opinion its most fundamental doctrines are the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. In the system of doctrine which has been built up by the church I take little interest. Christ's teaching did not differ from the teaching of other wise and holy men and I entirely deprecate the assumption of the superiority of Christianity to all other religions, on which the orthodox party are so fond of insisting. All the arbitrary talk one hears about one religion being superior to another seems to me utterly profitless. The purely religious teaching of Christ interests me much, but historical (ecclesiastical) and doctrinal Christianity I care nothing about nor do I believe it has any power to move the heart of man. We cannot believe all that is written in the Bible. In the Gospel records there is much that is mythical; but beneath the shell there is a kernel to be found. At the back of incredible written traditions there is a great personality (*Warera wa Fukuninsho no subete no kiji wo meishin ōki mono nari to shinzu; shikaredomo sono kara wo yabureba naka ni mi ari; shinzubekarazaru denki no ushiro ni hitotsu no ōi naru hinsei aru wo miru*). Christ's great success proceeded from the fact that he was born at a time when the Jews expected a Messiah. That Christ should have believed himself to be sent by God with a message to mankind is no cause for wonder. Other great moral teachers have had the same kind of belief. Confucius expressed this belief when his life was in danger owing to the enmity of *Kantai* (桓魋) in those well known words: *Ten toku wo ware ni naseri. Kantai sore ware wo ikan sen* (I am entrusted by Heaven with a mission to teach virtue, what can Kantai do to me?) It has been so with other highly gifted men. They have believed themselves to be inspired as no others are inspired. It was this conviction that made Shaka say:—"In the heights of Heaven and the depths of earth *I only* am worthy of supreme honour" (天上天下唯我獨尊 *Tenjō, Tenge, Yuiga Dokuson*)‡ Turning again to the consideration of Mr. Ebina's "Life of Christ," Mr. Yamaji says that in the main his views are those of Mr. Ebina. They both agree in the importance of divesting Christianty of those superstitious elements which are now mixed with it and of leaving only such parts of it as appeal to the conscience of mankind (*kiristokyō no uchiyori meishin ni Kau suru bubun wo nozoki, sono jinshin ni yū-yeki naru mono nomi wo sonzai seshimen to hossuru koto ni oite ware wa Ebina to dōkan no ichi nin nari*). There are people who will say that if I think this I am no Christian at all.§ Let them say what they please and call me what they please. It is quite clear to me that invidious comparisons between different religious are quite alien to the spirit of true religion. Confucius, Laotsz, Christ, Shaka, Zoroaster and Mahomet were all great teachers and benefactors of the human race. . . . I have no wish to revive the dying embers of the great theological controversy caused by Mr. Ebina's confession of faith last year; one thing is certain, however: Mr. Ebina has not swerved one inch from the course which he mapped out for himself and his inmost convictions are given to the world in 'The Life of Christ' which he has so recently published."

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpō* reports an address delivered by Count Ōkuma at a meeting of the Young Men's Society connected with the Ushigome Kyōkai; from which we extract the following remarks:—The rise and decline of nations may be traced to a variety of sources, but among them customs play a most important part. Change in customs proceeds so slowly and so secretly that it is apt to pass unobserved by the general public. Men note great changes in the weather or the sudden inroads of disease where health has been wont to prevail, but gradual alteration in the ways of doing things attracts little attention. Yet these transitions are often of vital importance to a nation's well-being. There are three kinds of customs: (1) National Customs, which are not easily altered; (2) Customs which have been originated by the actions of certain men of rank. These, though less permanent than national customs, are less subject to change than (3) the customs which are the product of passing events. Taking a broad view of the results of all the changes to which this wonderful Meiji era has given birth, and speaking generally, we may say that as a nation, though we have benefited materially by our adoption of foreign methods and institutions, our moral progress has been by no means satisfactory. In fact, it is a question whether as a people we have not lost moral fibre as a result of the many new influences to which we have been subjected. Amongst our young men there is a marked tendency to sneer at all the old standards of right and wrong. The attempt of a father to enforce discipline is resented as savouring of the despotism of the feudal age. A forward girl informs her shocked mother that familiarity among the sexes is a part of Occidental civilisation that must be cultivated in up-to-date families. It is difficult for ordinary people to realize how fundamental have some of the changes been that the new era has brought. Who would have supposed a century ago that penniless, loafing students who occupied an inferior room in the upper storey of very second-class lodging houses could rise to the position of Japan's foremost statesmen and make for themselves a world-wide reputation. Yet this is just what happened. When I was a young man nothing could have been much worse than the morality of the young

* Huxley in a very learned and able article argued this point with his wonted lucidity nearly 20 years ago.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† We have repeatedly seen in missionary reports sent home by missionaries glowing accounts of this great man and that great man in Japan who has accepted Christianity. We always are tempted to ask "what Christianity?" The true answer to that question in many cases would be a form of Christianity that no orthodox American or English Christian would acknowledge for a single moment.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

‡ Mahomet of course had the same steadfast faith in the divinity of his mission and this faith was rapidly shared by his followers.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

§ As to the value of non-supernatural religion based on Bible teaching, Principal Fairbairn writing on James Martineau in the *Contemporary Review*, says: "The miracles were surrendered, the moral preeminence of Christ was affirmed, but his physical transcendence denied. Authority was taken from without and planted within, and the system of the later Martineau stood out as one which was formally Christian but essentially theistic and ethical, a refined and beautiful individualism, but it was only nominally Christian. . . . . There is no finer example in the history of thought of the value of the theistic temper or of the victorious force that lives in moral idealism. . . . . He belongs to the great religious personalities of the Nineteenth Century. . . . . He was a tower of strength to the feeble. . . . . He was a prophet of the ideal and the ethical. . . . . Would that all the men who prophesy were as pure in thought, as noble in purpose and as spiritual in imagination as he."—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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fellows who crowded up to Edo in search of fortunes. They were mostly the wildest of unscrupulous adventurers, ready for anything that promised excitement or fame. They were the product of the age. The cables which previously had attached them to long tried, firm anchors had been cut and they were allowed to drift at the mercy of winds and tides. And with a large number of young men it is not otherwise to-day. Development has been intellectual and not moral. The efforts which Christians are making to supply to the country a high standard of conduct are welcomed by all right-thinking people. As you read your Bible, you may think that it is antiquated, out of date. The words it contains may so appear, but the noble life which it holds up to admiration is something that will never be out of date, however much the world may progress. Live and preach this life and you will supply to the nation just what it needs at the present juncture.

* * *

The following observations on Mission work are attributed to Mr. Kozaki Hiromichi by the *Fukuin Shimpō*. We condense what is said under the headings supplied by the *Fukuin Shimpō*. (1) *Evangelistic Work.*—Although much progress has been made in this line, resulting in the general prevalence of the opinion that Christianity affords a suitable basis for ethics, the work lacks organization. The evangelistic work known as the Taikyo Dendō, though effectual to a certain extent, savoured too much of the character of a temporary expedient. (2) *The Union of Sects.*—A history of Christianity in this country would be incomplete if no notice were taken of the tendency to unite shown by Protestant Christians of several denominations. A union of all the Protestant sects is for divers reasons not to be expected, but various bodies have already united. The Presbyterians have united and are known as the Kirisutokyōkai, the Congregationalists are now one church known as the Kumiai Kyōkai; six Methodist bodies have united, the Baptists, and several other smaller bodies have followed suit. At present the Protestant Church consists principally of 5 bodies, the Presbyterians, the Congregationalists, the Episcopalians, the Methodists and the Baptists. The three last will probably never unite, but the Presbyterians and Congregationalists are likely to join hands a few years hence. They were almost doing so not so very long ago. (3) *The tendency of belief among the Kumiai Churches.* There is no denying that in matters of doctrine and theology generally there is a strong tendency among Congregationalists to go to extremes, but all one can say is that as long as men have sufficient faith to enable them to live Christian lives, it is unwise to lay much stress on difference of opinion as to articles of faith and theological teaching. There are people who spend all their strength in profitless controversy over disputed points, but on the whole my opinion is that the majority of our Christians are learning to attach far more importance to active evangelistic work than to mere controvery. (4) *Christian periodicals.* For 13 or 14 years I have been engaged in Christian journalism and here is what I have to say on this subject:—(*a*) Our Christians are backward in purchasing religious periodicals. One reason of this is that the missionaries have been in the habit of distributing tracts and pamphlets among them gratis; so they have grown to think that to purchase a Christian newspaper is a work of supererogation. Hence the subscribers to existing journals are comparatively few. (*b*) It cannot be said that our Christian newspapers and magazines are exactly suited to the tastes of most of the readers. These tastes vary immensely and they need to be studied more than they have hitherto been by the editors of journals. Most editors seem to think that it is enough for them to record their own impressions and opinions. But this is a mistaken view to take. In order to furnish the right kind of matter the demands of the reading public must be carefully considered. (5) *The instruction of converts and the development of Christian life.* If the Church has been successful in making new converts, it has failed in building up the faith of those who have been baptized. (*Nihon no dendō wa arata ni shinja wo uru koto ni seikō seshi mo, kore wo yōsei suru koto ni shippai seri*). More attention must be given to this matter. The following points need special attention:—(a) With many of us religious life is separated from ordinary everyday life. People do not carry their Christianity with them wherever they go. (b) Believers should meet and strengthen each other more than they do. It is easier to maintain a high standard of life when conscious that others are endeavouring to do the same thing. (c) Christians ought to cure themselves of the Japanese habit of unpunctuality. Many people repeatedly arrive late at church and are irregular in other ways. (d) The work of the church needs organizing better. Every Christian should feel himself or herself responsible for something. (e) The Bible needs to be better known. In my Church we have adopted the practice of reading passages in turn. (6) *The influence of Christianity on the nation.* Though the Christian Church in this country is still in its infancy, there are clear proofs that it has already made an impression on various departments of life and specially on the minds of leading writers. Proofs of the truth of this statement are to be found in our literature. There are few books among all those that have appeared in the Meiji era that do not bear witness in some way to the influence exercised by Christianity in this country. Many of the terms now in constant use are Christian terms; such are *sambi*, *yeisei* (eternal life) and *kansha* (?). To the term *Kami* quite a new signification has been given. And as for ethical thought among us it is more permeated with Christianity than with any other religion. If I were asked to state what are the sources of prevailing ethical thought in Japan, I should say that Confucianism and Buddhism combined furnish 4/10 or 5/10 of the elements that it contains and Christianity 5/10 or 6/10 of those elements. In the matter of charity though Christians have by no means always been successful, they can point to institutions like the Okayama Orphan Asylum with considerable pride. Society generally has learnt from Christianity that monogamy is the highest form of married life and when a few years ago the Mormons made a stir here, most of the newspapers were opposed to the introduction of Mormon teaching in this country. Mr. Kozaki's views are highly optimistic throughout, as may be seen from the above extracts.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* reviews a new historical work entitled 日本近世史, *Nihon Kinseishi*, now in course of publication, the author of which is Dr. Uchida Ginzō, a scholar who has given special attention to historical investigations. Though only one volume has as yet appeared, the *Kokumin Shimbun* considers that it merits very high praise. The following is the design of the complete work, which embraces the whole of the Tokugawa era and modern times. Vol. I. Finance and Foreign Police at the beginning of the Tokugawa rule. Vol. II. The literature, religion and customs of that time. Vol. III. The middle part of the Tokugawa era. Vol. IV. Shirakawa Rokuō and his time. Vol. V. The reform of the Bakufu, the opening of the country to foreign trade and intercourse. We are only concerned here with the religious part of the volume which has been published. It furnishes an account of the propagation of Christianity by the Roman Catholic Missionaries. Five reasons are given for their success. (1) There was at this time a predisposition in favour of foreign religions. The spirit that welcomed Buddhism welcomed Christianity. (2) Intercourse with foreigners was associated in the minds of the people with increased facilities for foreign trade. (3) Many warriors welcomed Christianity as a means of checking the growing political influence and unscrupulous practices of the Buddhists. (4) Men were somewhat wearied of turmoil and strife and felt the need of religion and its noble ideals. (5) The exemplary lives of the early Jesuits created a very strong impression in favour of the creed they preached. The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that commercial considerations and the character of the missionaries were undoubtedly the most powerful factors among those enumerated above. That there was a large number of steadfast believers in Christianity at this time nobody doubts. There were men who like Takayama Ukon preferred to end their days in a foreign country rather than give up their Christian belief.

* * *

Ten years ago, says the *Shinjin* (No. 4), the conflict between religion and education was generally considered to be an indisputable fact which though regretted could not be explained away. But it has now become clear to almost everybody that there was no real incompatibility between religion and education. The opposition said to exist was the result of misapprehension on the part of those who took the lead in writing on this subject. Those who asserted that Christianity is opposed to the fundamental religious ideas of Japanese State education were of opinion that loyalty to the throne and patriotism (*Chūkun aikoku*) are the highest of all virtues. They interpreted the Imperial Rescript on Education in an unwarrantably narrow sense and tried to make out that Christian teaching was opposed to it in letter and spirit. By continual agitation they managed to impart to the minds of ill-educated people an entirely false conception of what loyalty to the throne and patriotism consist in. Hence the general admiration for persons who were ready to lose their lives rather than allow a picture of the Emperor to be burnt. Many of the things that these writers said about Christianity were fabrications. They represented Christians as unwilling to observe national festivals; they said that the teaching of the Bible and the teaching of modern science were quite irreconcilable and that Japan must choose between the two. To Dr. Motora Yūjirō belongs the credit of having been the first to point out in a convincing manner how mistaken such notions were and he did much to smooth the path of religion in educational circles. But in our opinion he did not go far enough. He asserted that the widening of the sphere of science meant a constant narrowing of the sphere of religion. But Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō went furthur still towards the raising of religion to its proper rank when in his *Rinri to Shūkyō to no kwankei* (reviewed in these columns) he asserted that religion is not based on cognition, but on feeling and an active will. In the meantime our conceptions of religion underwent considerable alteration. It was realized that religion does not consist of the mere performance of ceremonies, but is the union of the soul of man with the soul of the universe. . . . . Education and religion must go hand in hand with each other. But the question is, how is this to be brought about in this country? There is little prospect that the scholars to whom the education of the young has been entrusted will become religious. On the other hand, those who are religious are not as a rule competent to teach. The hope of the future lies in the possibility of training a new class of young men, who shall be sufficiently well educated and sufficiently religious to become the inaugurators of a new era in our educational world. It is with this hope that we have named this magazine *Shinjin* (The New Man).

* * *

The *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) publishes extracts from a report of mission work prepared by Bishop Nicolai at the request of Dr. D. C. Greene; from which we cite a few passages, to show the tenor of the whole. The Japanese people cannot be said to be very far from the kingdom of God. Shintoism, Buddhism and Confucianism have done excellent work in preserving the nation from deterioration and in nourishing all that is good in the hearts of the people, but these religions, being invented by men, do not impart any high-class teaching to those who accept them. Speaking generally, however, in morality the Japanese are not inferior to Europeans and Americans. Though they have not the law, they "do by nature the things contained in the law." Though the Japanese have got to know the true God and have begun to realize that their own religions are deficient,

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they cannot yet bear the full light of revelation. The report then continues to give the following account of the progress of mission work in the Greek Church. The number of baptisms last year was 1,103, both parents of half of this number are Christians. The following statistics were compiled last January: Churches, 260; converts 27,504; native pastors in full orders, 30; assistant pastors, 8; evangelists, 144; students at training school for evangelists, 16; divinity students, male 84; female, 80; school-teachers, 28; pupils at the Kyōtō Female School, 20; teachers at the same school, 3.

* * *

Twenty years ago it was quite common to hear of angry disputes and bitter feelings between Buddhists and Christians, but in recent times things have greatly altered for the better. So that the affair in Chiba-ken, which has already been several times alluded to in these columns was a surprise to most people. We find in the *Tōkai Shimbun*, a newspaper published in the town of Chiba, an account of the disturbance which in a condensed form reads as follow:—The sect concerned in this anti-Christian demonstration was, it hardly need be said, the Nichiren-shū; this sect from ancient times has been noted for its quarrelsomeness. In the days of Tokugawa Ieyasu it carried on the most violent wrangling with the Jōdo Sect and was proved to be in the wrong. The demeanour of the Sect is anything but a credit to the faith it represents. On March 22nd the sect held an anti-Christian meeting in a Chiba theatre called Hagoromo-tei. This was shortly after followed by a Christian lecture-meeting, at which it was given out that questions about Christianity would be answered. This meeting was largely attended by Buddhist priests and others who were bent on mischief. The disturbance they caused has already been described in these columns by the Rev. F. O. Bergstrom in a letter which was published in the *Weekly Mail* of April 11th. A priest called Sekida, who was the leader of the agitators and an officer of the Salvation Army called Teramoto were summoned to the Police Office and severely admonished. The Buddhists and Christians subsequently held large gatherings for the purpose of stating their cases to the public; after which the commotion subsided.

* * *

Most of the Christian publications draw attention to the fact that in the relief of the famine-stricken people in the northern part of Japan foreigners took action weeks before the Japanese public was aware of the actual situation of affairs, and some of them observe that certain newspapers make a tremendous fuss over subjects like the Ashiwo copper poisoning and neglect to investigate far more serious states of distress. The *Kirisutokyō Shūhō* says that while weeping over the alleged cruelty to female operatives in Saitama Ken and several other comparatively minor evils, many Japanese Christians shed no tears over the fate of their brothers and sisters in the famine districts. We can find nothing new on this subject in the comments published by various organs.

* * *

Dr. Peery of Saga has forwarded to us a small book, covering 40 odd pages, entitled "*Seinen no Daiteki*" (The Enemies of Young Men) published by the Keiseisha. Dr. Peery in the opening pages of this book says that there are certain things that seriously hinder the proper development of young men. The principal of these are (1) Low Ideals. (2) Profitless waste of time. (3) *Sake* drinking and (4) Profligacy. When visiting a lunatic asylum in America two or three years ago, he was informed by the keeper of the Asylum that the two most frequent causes of lunacy were drink and carnal passions. The title of the tract does not give one an adequate idea of its contents. It is mostly taken up with a description of the kind of young man which Dr. Peery desires to see produced in Japan, that is to say, it is positive rather than negative—the things to be avoided being less prominent than the virtues to be cultivated. The "Ideal Young Man" would perhaps better convey an idea of the contents of this tract.

Dr. Hall's visit to Japan has naturally called forth various comments from the Christian press. The *Fukuin Shimpō* publishes information obtained direct from Dr. Hall by one of the staff of the paper on the various topics enumerated below:—(1) The Brahmo-Somaj in India. (2) The Indian upper classes and Christianity. (3) The present state of Christianity in India. (4) The present state of the Higher Criticism in Europe and America. (5) Practical progress. (6) Christianity in Japan—its present state and its future. Dr. Hall is represented as having spoken regretfully of the attitude of a certain section of the Christian Church in Japan to orthodox teaching on the Nature of God, which Dr. Hall says resembles the line taken by the Brahmo-Somaj in India and the Unitarians in Europe and America.‡ The rejection of the doctrine of the personality of God by certain Japanese Christians and their alleged mistaken views on the nature of Christ and on the atonement Dr. Hall thinks are the result of partial knowledge. He premises that further instruction on these subjects will tend to a better understanding of the basis on which orthodox Christianity rests. At present the tendency among certain Christians, says Dr. Hall, is while accepting the ethical elements of Christianity to reject its theology.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF GERMAN STEAMSHIP COMPANIES.

(TRANSLATED FROM THE "NATIONAL ZEITUNG" FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Measured by the dividends, the results of the last year's business of the Hamburg-American Line, and the North-German Lloyd, are very different: here nothing, there 4½ per cent., while last year both companies paid 6 per cent. On examining the actual causes, the difference, in view of the business conditions with which both companies had to contend, is less striking. The over-production of ships, made all the more acute by the unfavourable harvest of some among the principal articles of transportation caused an unusual depression on the freight market. This was only partially offset by the very favourable passenger traffic. Formerly, when their steamship service was substantially confined to New York, both companies depended largely on the passenger business. Now that their lines encircle the earth, the freight business has become the determining factor. The decrease in receipts of both companies are similar:—

	Hamburg-American Line. Marks.	North-German Lloyd. Marks.
1902	19,098,749	19,410,519
1901	22,182,433	23,064,024
Decrease ...	3,983,684	3,653,505

The decrease in receipts of the Lloyd is, in round numbers, M. 570,000 greater than that of the Hamburg-American Line. This is equal to 0.57 per cent decrease in dividends, which still explains very little. The amounts written off constitute the second important item. They are:—

	Hamburg-American Line. Marks.	North-German Lloyd. Marks.
1902	10,879,783	12,610,378
1901	12,429,454	11,829,246*

* less 1,549,671. increase 781,132.

This constitutes a difference of 2.3 million marks, which is equal to 2.3 per cent dividends. Obviously the difference lies in the amounts written off, which on the Lloyd's part, has been increased by ¾ millions and decreased 1½ on the part of the Hamburg-American Line. We next come to the amounts added to the Reserve and Insurance funds:

	Hamburg-American Line Marks	North-German Lloyd Marks
1902	738,823	2,456,404
1201	2,000,000	2,226,416*

* less 1,261,177 increase 189,982

‡ We have heard it asserted more than once by persons in a position to know that a very large section of the Kumiai Christians are thoroughly Unitarian in their belief and sympathies.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

This makes again a difference of M. 1,450,000, in round numbers, 1½ per cent dividends. Finally the interest and general expenses have to be considered:—

	Hamburg-American Line Marks.	North-German Lloyd Marks.
1902	2,942,507	4,125,470
1901	2,827,816	3,889,370

* increase 114,691 decrease 233,100

This is a difference of M. 350,000, equal to a 0.35 per cent dividend, in this case, however, in the opposite direction. We thus reach a pretty exact insight into the causes which resulted in the sinking of the Lloyd dividend from 6 to 0, and that of the Hamburg American Line only from 6 to 4½. Which method of writing off, under the circumstances, is the more correct, cannot be determined off-hand. In order to do that one would have to know something of the condition of the individual ships, at least of the principal ones. It is best not to undertake that.

For the North-German Lloyd the Imperial Mail lines are obviously a constant burden. Seldom has the income from business as yet exceeded the amounts written off, to say nothing at all about interest. In the present instance the income has fallen from M.1,802,000 to M.980,000, consequently only a little more than one-half. The amount written off this time on the Imperial Mail lines is not yet known, but inasmuch as the amount was fully 2¼ millions the previous year, one is safe in saying that the business was again conducted at a very great loss.

In a note to the Lloyds' figures, it is stated that the business surplus during the first months of 1903, were "not inconsiderably higher" than in 1902. This is probably owing to the large increase of emigration. The number of emigrants in 1901, for the months of January and February, was 15,888; in 1902, 18,712; in 1903: 24,576, and in March the number has been so great that the Lloyd had to increase the rate for deck passengers on on its more popular steamers. The freight rates have also gone up considerably. From February to September, 1902, rates stood from M. 1.70 to 2.00 per ton. Then a gradual rise took place. At the beginning of the present year it stood at 2.75 and during the past month 3.70. On the whole the freight rates have become more firm.

SCANDALS.

Mr. M. Harada, a member of the Yamaguchi Prefectural Assembly, was arrested on May 3rd, on a charge of embezzlement.

In connexion with the text book scandal case three educational officials were on May 4th sentenced in the Tokyo District Court to from 2½ months' to 3½ months' imprisonment with hard labour and to pay fines of *yen* 7 to *yen* 15 the bribes they had received being confiscated. The same day, one other suspect was committed for trial as the result of the preliminary examination.

An employee named S. Kinoshita of the Hachioji Tax Office was arrested on May 2nd on a charge of having embezzled money belonging to the office.

T. Miyata and six accomplices who had forged passports and acquired money amounting to over *yen* 6,000 by selling them to emigrants and who were arrested by the harbour police in January this year, were sentenced in the Yokohama District Court on April 30th, one to 10 years' and two others to 9 years' major confinement, and four others to six years' minor confinement.

An educational official was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of dered 10 while the bribes he had received were or-*yen* to be confiscated by the Tokyo Appeal Court, on April 30th. The same day, two officials were released on bail of *yen* 500 and *yen* 150. It is stated by telegram from Kochi Prefecture that an official named T. Machi was arrested on the 29th by authority of the Tokyo District Court.

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R. Naito, president of the Aichi Prefectural Assembly was committed for trial as the result of the preliminary examination in the Tokyo District Court, and R. Hara, a prominent book publisher was discharged on May 1st. The same day two educational officials were released on bail of *yen* 150 each.

The police authorities of Utsunomiya arrested, on May 5th, eleven persons charged with having forged *yen* 10 paper notes.

S. Takaya, Chief of the Otakara village office in Aichi Prefecture, was arrested on May 5th on a charge of having stolen public funds.

An educational official was on May 6th sentenced in the Tokyo District Court to three and a half months' imprisonment with hard labour and to pay a fine of *yen* 15 while the bribe, *yen* 2,250, he had received was ordered to be confiscated. The same day Y. Kobayashi, text book publisher, was discharged as the result of the preliminary trial in the same Court. The *Asahi* says there are forty-two educational officials under the usual charge in the detention wards in whose cases the preliminary trials are not concluded.

In connexion with the scandal in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, a contractor named Y. Obayashi in Osaka was examined on May 5th in the Tokyo District Court as a witness. He was later removed to the detention ward on a charge of having made false statements.

In connection with the forgery of *yen* 10 paper notes it is stated that the forgers arrested by the Utsunomiya police authorities on May 5th had printed 800 notes and had already used 600 of them. The *Choho* says the forged notes were most ingeniously printed so that they could hardly be told from the real ones.

DEATH OF ADMIRAL BELKNAP.

Many residents in Japan and the Far East generally will learn with regret of the death of Rear-Admiral George E. Belknap, United States Navy, retired. He had been detailed for duty in the execution of certain plans proposed by the General Board for establishing a naval base at Key West. Death resulted from apoplexy.

Admiral Belknap entered the Navy in 1847, and rose by regular order of promotion to the rank he held. He fought with distinction during the Rebellion and was executive officer of the new *Ironsides* in twenty-seven engagements. In 1867, as commander of the *Hartford*, he was in charge of an expedition against Formosan natives. For a long period he was engaged in making soundings in the Pacific, and mapping the coast line. While engaged in this work he made the first correct reports on the depths of the Pacific, and invented a device for bringing specimens from the ocean bed. Admiral Belknap was assigned to the Mare Island Navy Yard in 1886, and continued in charge for four years. In 1889 he was promoted to be Rear-Admiral, and was in command of the Asiatic squadron until 1892. In 1874 and again in 1890 he delivered lectures before the Asiatic Society of Japan on the subject of deep sea soundings. In the former year the *Challenger* was engaged in making her famous voyage of deep sea exploration round the world, and Admiral Belknap had just arrived at Yokohama in the *Tuscarora* after running a line of soundings across the Pacific for the purpose of determining the feasibility of a cable route. On the latter occasion the Admiral, then in command of the Asiatic Squadron, read a paper comparing the soundings off the Japan coast with those of other oceanic depths. On the initiative of the German geographer Peternann the names of Belknap Deep and Tuscarora Deep have been applied to certain parts of the Pacific surveyed by the deceased officer.

It may be added that the King's Daughters Circle in Yokohama owed its inception largely to the enthusiasm of Miss Belknap.

SUICIDE OF A FOREIGNER.

A British subject named A. S. Boyle (29 years of age) committed suicide on the race course at Negishi by shooting himself with a revolver on May 5th about 10 a.m. The act is believed to have been done about the time stated but it was not till 11.30 a.m. that the body was found. A Japanese servant named Otsuka, who was on his way with a letter from Rev. E. S. Booth to Mr. C. V. Sale saw the man lying near the Trees, close to the inside rail of the racecourse, and he at once hurried to the residence of Mr. Sale, which is close to the scene, and by telephone reported the affair to the Bluff Police Station. Police officers, accompanied by Drs. Wheeler and Iwata, lost no time in proceeding to the spot, where it was found that death had resulted from a bullet wound in the heart, a six-chambered revolver, of which one chamber was empty lay by his side. Three letters were found in his pockets, one to his mother, who lives at Avonwick, South Brent, Devon, England, another addressed to a friend, "Alan Butterworth, No. 1 c.-s., Nellore, Madras Pres., India" and a third to the Bluff Police Station. These letters were handed to the British Consulate. The letter to deceased's mother said that when she received it he would not be in this world. He was grateful for her kindness in sending him money, but it was not sufficient to maintain him except in the lowest fashion of the country. He added that he had been engaged in several schools but the work was not suited to him. He had no hope of improving his situation, and preferred death in the end. Of this letter, which had been left open, a translation was made by the police and this we have availed of. The letter addressed to the Police authorities said the writer was dying by his own wish. He had some money deposited in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank which would defray the cost of his funeral. He requested that he might be interred with as much privacy and as little expense as possible. He had been lodging in the house of a woman named Tami at No. 2910 Negishi and he wished that all his property in the house be given to her. There were two letters which he wished to be sent by post, one being to his mother and the other to his friend.

Dr. Wheeler's certificate as to the occurrence reads: "May 5th, 1903.—I this day at noon inspected the body of a man named Boyle at the Yokohama Race Course, he was evidently two hours dead. On examination I found a pistol wound about 3 inches internally from left nipple. The bullet I found behind between the 8th and 9th ribs. In my opinion the wound was self-inflicted."

We may add that Mr. Boyle, who was a man of considerable intellectual gifts, was at one time an assistant master at Winton House School on the Bluff, but after that establishment was given up he seems to have gradually sank.

KOBE GOLF CLUB.

The pavilion of the Kobe Golf Club is nearly completed, and will be in order for the official opening on 17th or 24th May, when the championship will be played for. Mr. Groom with his usual liberality will present the prize. Yokohama members are cordially invited. Tiffin will be served on the Links and tea in the afternoon for the ladies. A large attendance is anticipated at Rokkasan, which is now carpeted with red azaleas which will enhance the beauty of the ladies' summer toilettes. The Kobe Golf Club are contemplating challenging the Shanghai Golf Club and are disappointed at Yokohama's failure to obtain a suitable course. The membership of the Kobe Golf Club is 109 and I feel sure that Yokohama could easily obtain the same number if a little more energy was shown by local players.

The Governor of Hiogo Ken will be present at the opening ceremony of the K.G.C.

RED JACKET.

YACHTING.

The yachting season opened in Yokohama on Saturday with fine weather—sunshine and a light to moderate easterly breeze. In fact a little more wind would not have been out of the way.

There is at present rather a poor showing of big boats. *Mary* is busy changing from her cruising rig into racing trim; so also is *Kingfisher*. Neither of these put in an appearance on Saturday. *Haidee* will race this season as a yawl and with her rig allowance will class as a 36-rater. *Golden Hind* is getting new spars and will come along later on.

Spray and *Wanderer* having joined the cruising class, the handicapper will have his work cut out. It will be interesting to watch any contests between *Spray*, the largest, and *Virginia*, the smallest boat in this class. The former rates 34 and the latter 22½. *Molly* will probably be withdrawn from racing and is for sale. *Mosquito* and *Surprise* are unchanged. *Asagao* has received a fixed rudder and more outside ballast aft, which it is believed has improved her windward qualities.

The 21-raters are to be augmented in number by a boat which is now on the stocks. She is from a new design by Burgess, of Boston, and is expected to be a flyer. *Edna* has become the property of Mr. R. D. Robison. *Dryfe* has also changed hands and will race under her new name of *Genette*, as a 17-rater. *Daisy May* will also join the 17-raters, which should thus with *Devonia* and probably *Pinna* afford interesting racing.

The "Lark" class, of which some half a dozen had trials on Saturday, is expected to be a great success. From what has been seen of the performances of the boats they will justify the hopes based on them. Fifteen of these boats will form the class and their first race comes off next Saturday.

Of the 39-raters *Maid Marion* though not entered on Saturday started and sailed over the course. *Haidee* unfortunately got aground, having come rather close in and was only get off after a considerable lapse of time.

The cruising class consisted of four boats, and one of these, *Nina* (late *Swanhild*) was unlucky enough to get on the mud in time to spoil her chances of racing for the day. Of the others *Surprise* led at the start, *Mosquito* next, *Asagao* last. They went out of the harbour in the same order. Going out to the Lightship *Asagao* passed *Mosquito* and took second place. Running in there was something of a luffing match between *Asagao* and *Surprise*, but the latter maintained her place and finished easily ahead. The times were:

	Finish.	Corrected Time.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Mosquito	4.10.35	4.07.35
Surprise	4.07.50	4.04.50
Asagao	4.09.45	4.09.45
Nina, got aground.	—	—

Surprise takes first prize and one record point, while *Mosquito* takes second prize and *Asagao* has two record points.

Winsome, *Pelee* and *Vixen* started in the 21-raters' race. *Winsome* led great part of the way but was finally passed by *Pelee* on the run in from the Lightship. They crossed the line, however, within five seconds of each other. Following are the times:

	Finish.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Winsome	4.12.45	4.12.45
Pelee	4.12.40	4.12.40
Vixen	4.18.40	4.15.01

Pelee takes first prize and two record points while *Winsome* gets second and one point.

THE LATE BARON NOMURA.

Baron Nomura Koreaki died on the morning of May 6th. He had been ill for some time but apoplexy was the immediate cause of his death. The deceased was connected with the Court of Cassation as Public Procurator for many years, and was removed to the retired list in 1901.

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"THE CHIEFTAIN."

A large and enthusiastic audience greeted the Amateur Dramatic Club at their operatic venture on Thursday evening, recalling fond memories of the past century when in 1878—at the old Gaiety Theatre—the Ladies of Yokohama first appeared to grace the local boards in "Trial by Jury." Then, in the very next season, the foundations of the Public Hall were laid by the Choral Society's production of that old "Pinafore" which then was new.

"The Chieftain," which was the work offered by the Club to its patrons on the present occasion, is based on an early, immature effort by the youthful Burnand and Sullivan of 1867. This was entitled "The Contrabandista"; it was written, composed, and produced (18th December, 1867) all within the short space of sixteen days, but did not hold the stage long. Thirty years after, the same *collaborateurs*—then in their prime—joined forces again. They remodelled, extended, expanded, and finally issued a revised version of "The Contrabandista" under the name, style and title of "The Chieftain."

We publish below a synopsis of the plot, or "argument," and have only to chronicle here the success of the representation. The piece was finely mounted, and put on the stage *secundum artem*: the costumes appropriate, and grouping excellent.

As to the performers: our Queen of Song (Mrs. Mollison) and Brady the inimitable, were in good form, and worthily did all that was expected of them. But let us not attempt to gild the Thistle, or adorn the Shamrock with added chlorophyl: we will pass on to those who made their début on this occasion. All did well—even the Manxman came out wondrously, and wrestled manfully with the language of Old Castile—but special praise is due to Mrs. Brockhurst, who at short notice assumed the important part of *Ines*. Intonation, articulation and enunciation were perfect; and, with further stage-experience, Mrs. Brockhurst will become a *prima donna* to be envied.

The concerted pieces, ensembles, and choruses were, on the whole, satisfactory all round, and reflect great credit on the energetic and talented conductor, Mr. W. Karl Vincent. Best congratulations also to the veteran Beart (we first saw him as Sir Joseph "John-Pope-Hennessy" Porter, K. C. B., at Hongkong in 1879) who is a prince of stage-managers, and to his staunch ally, Mr. McWilliams. So well indeed was the opera performed that, with a little more histrionic display on the part of some of the vocalists, and a little more *nous* on the part of the accompanist, we may anticipate a second performance in every respect superb.

The following was the caste:—

Count Vasquez de Gonzago.Mr. N. G. Maitland.
Peter Adolphus Grigg (*a British Tourist in search of the picturesque*).....Mr. G. G. Brady.
Ferdinand de Roxas (*Chieftain of the Ladrones, disguised as Petro Slivinski, a Polish Courier*) .....Mr. J. W. Cain.
Sancho (*1st Lieutenant of the Ladrones*).....Mr. S. H. Somerton.
Jose (*2nd Lieutenant of the Ladrones*) .....Mr. E. W. Kilby.
Pedro Gomez (*Consulting Lawyer, Astrologer, and Keeper of Archives of the Ladrones*) .....Mr. E. P. W. Skrimshire.
Blazzo.....Dr. Norris, R.N.
Escatero.....Mr. S. Wheeler.
Pedrillo (*a Goatherd*) .....Master Neville.
Inez de Roxa (*Chieftainess of the Ladrones*) .....Mrs. Brockhurst.
Dolly (*Mrs. Grigg, Peter A. Grigg's wife*) .....Miss Poole.
Juanita (*the Dancing Girl of the Ladrones*) .....Mrs. Thwaites.
Anna (*a Camerista*) .....Mrs. Wilson.
Zitella .....Mrs. Bellamy Brown.
Nina .....Miss Ross.
Rita (*an English lady engaged to Count Vasquez and in 2nd Act The Countess de Gonzago*) ...Mrs. Mollison.

CHORUS.

Mrs. Bellamy Brown.	Mr. S. E. Unite.
Mrs. Kenderdine.	Mr. G. W. Brockhurst.
Mrs. W. K. Vincent.	Mr. C. Niac.
Mrs. L. E. McChesney.	Mr. F. Pollard.
Mrs. W. K. Wilson	Mr. N. T. Marquetti.
Mrs. A. W. Read.	Mr. Thompson.
Miss Gigray.	Mr. W. B. White.
Miss R. Cameron.	Mr. J. H. C. Goodban.
Miss M. Sharp.	Mr. W. K. Wilson.
Miss Ross.	Mr. B. J. Jackson.
Miss Carst.	Mr. A. W. Read.
Miss Kenderdine.	Mr. O. Lord.
Miss Waddilove.	Mr. C. A. S. Palmer.
Miss Kilby.	Mr. Waddilove.
Miss F. Cameron.	Mr. Murray Mollison.
Miss Neville.	Mr. W. Sidney.
Miss B. Sharp.	Mr. J. F. Drummond.
Miss Bagnall.	Mr. L. E. McChesney.
	Mr. N. B. Morton.

Act. I.—A Mountain Pass Between Compostello and Seville.
Act. II.—Exterior of a Posada.
Musical Director—Mr. W. Karl Vincent.
Accompanist—Mr. A. Mason.
Properties—Mr. C. F. McWilliams.
Stage Manager—Mr. E. Beart.
Scenery Designed and Painted Specially for this Production by Mr. E. Beart.

The story is briefly this:—Mr. Peter Grigg, having concluded the business that brought him to Spain, goes on a pleasure trip, with his photographic apparatus, into the mountains, in order that he may carry back to his wife and family a few pictorial reminiscences taken on the spot. He loses his way, and is captured by a band of brigands, whose Chieftain has disappeared. The law of these Ladrones (or brigands) lays it down that, if the Chieftain does not return within a fixed time, the first man arriving in their midst on a certain day is to be elected their Chieftain, and is to become the affianced husband of their Chieftainess. Should he refuse these honours he is to be shot. Mr. Grigg is captured, and under pressure of carbines, daggers, and pistols, accepts the situation. He is at once enthroned as affianced husband of Inez de Roxas, the Chieftain's deserted wife, or, it may be widow, and becomes the Chieftain of the Ladrones. Count Vasquez, a friend of his, has ventured, disguised, into the mountains to rescue Rita, a young English lady to whom he is betrothed and who has been recently taken prisoner (simply as a matter of business, *i.e.*, for the sake of a ransom) by the Ladrones. Vasquez sends for the ransom, and Rita and he are released, leaving the unhappy Grigg in the mountains with the Ladrones.

On returning to Compostello the Count sends his secretary with money for Grigg's ransom, who is released on parole, but only on condition of his returning when summoned by the Chieftainess. Inez de Roxas and the leading Ladrones disguise themselves and go in search of their missing Chieftain, Ferdinand, who has gone off with the brigands' funds and vainly attempted to quit Spain.

As photographs of the Chieftain are everywhere about, the police would soon be on his track, and so he has to assume the disguise of a Courier. In this capacity he falls in with Mrs. Grigg, who has come out to search for her husband. The Count's secretary returns with the liberated Grigg, and they meet Mrs. Grigg and the Courier at Compostello. But, with the exception of one valise, all Mr. Grigg's luggage has been taken on, and his hotel bill paid, by the Count, who, after his marriage with Rita, is on his way to his chateau, and at the village of Dehesas he and his bride stay to pass the honeymoon. Mr. Grigg, therefore, has to join them in order to regain his luggage, and so, with Mrs. Grigg, and accompanied by the Courier, he arrives to spend a short time with the Count and Countess. The Courier (*i.e.*, Ferdinand de Roxas, the real Chieftain) intends to stick to the travellers, and so return with with them to England. The unhappy Grigg, aware that he has in effect got a Spanish wife, or at least an affianced bride, in the person of Inez de Roxas, dares not confide the truth of his adventure in the mountains to his lawful English spouse, and eagerly looks forwards to meeting the Count and Countess, in order that they may concoct a story which will satisfy the curiosity of Mrs. Grigg, who wants to know what has kept her Peter so long away from her, in Spain, without his having written her a single line. The Count and Countess help him out of the difficulty, and Mrs. Grigg is induced to believe that her husband is an unusually modest, self-effacing hero of romance. But suddenly Inez and the Ladrones, all in disguise, appear on the scene, prosecuting their search for their lost Chief. Inez makes the acquaintance of Mrs. Grigg, passing herself off as the Duchesse de Roxas, and as such Mrs. Grigg, introduces the unlucky Grigg to her. Grigg would deny the story, but the witnesses are all present, and the damning evidence of a snap-shot photograph, taken by the Count, of Grigg and Inez in a decidedly compromising attitude, is produced. Grigg purchases the silence of the Ladrones and with it his own freedom for a hundred pounds down (advanced by the Count), and Dolly (Mrs. Grigg) remains in blissful ignorance of his escape. The Chieftain, Ferdinand, under the impression, from the tale invented by the Count, that the band of the Ladrones is broken up, that they are all killed, and that he is free, recklessly turns up his sleeves (thereby showing his tattoo marks) to go gold-finding, and gaily sings the one song by which the Chieftain of the Ladrones is known to all his followers. They hear it; he is stripped of his disguise, his weapons are taken from him, he is embraced by his loving wife, and welcomed back to the band by his faithful lieutenants, who, besides sharing in the ransom, look forward to participating in the price of the photograph, and to regaining the funds with which the Chieftain had absconded. Peter and Mrs. Grigg determine at once to return to their native land, where their small family is anxiously awaiting them, and, bidding good-bye to all their Spanish friends, they depart.

Readers will be interested in the following description of some of the dresses worn in "The Chieftain," which is kindly furnished us by a lady correspondent:—

Miss Bagnall, a vari-coloured striped skirt with green velvet bolero, trimmed with gold. Green matador hat and sash.
Miss Neville, dark blue skirt. Light blue bolero, and red, black and yellow sash. Hat to match.
Miss B. Sharp, striped skirt. Yellow bolero and red sash. Black hat, with pompons.
Miss F. Cameron, striped vari-coloured skirt. Red bolero and sash. Hat to match.
Miss Kilby, blue skirt. Blue bolero trimmed with silver. Black and silver hat.
Miss Waddilove, striped red and yellow skirt. Yellow bolero and sash. Black hat trimmed with yellow.
Mrs. Read, striped skirt. Red bolero and sash, with hat to match.
Mrs. Kenderdine, yellow skirt. Black bolero, with red sash. Black and red hat.
Mrs. W. Karl Vincent, striped skirt, yellow bolero and hat to match.
Miss Gigray, red skirt and bolero. Blue blouse and sash. Red hat.
Miss R. Cameron, striped skirt, dark green bolero trimmed with yellow and red. Black hat.
Miss M. Sharp, striped skirt, green bolero and sash. Hat to match trimmed with pompons.
Mrs. McChesney, yellow skirt trimmed with black velvet. Black velvet bolero. Striped sash and black hat.
Miss Carst, red skirt. Black bolero. Yellow sash and red hat.
Miss Kenderdine, red skirt. Black bolero trimmed with red. Hat to match.
Miss Ross, as *Nina*, wore blue skirt, red bolero and sash. Red and black hat trimmed with pompons.
Mrs. W. K. Wilson in the 1st act wore yellow skirt and black bolero, with yellow and white sash and stylish black hat. As *Anna*, in the 2nd act, a red skirt and blouse with white apron and dainty cap.
Mrs. Bellamy Brown, as *Zitella*, red skirt, with blue panel having tulips appliqué, blue bolero with flowers appliqué, pompons attached. Black hat, with red pompons.
Miss Poole, as *Dolly Grigg*, first wore a travelling coat, changing afterwards into a pale blue crape trimmed with white lace. Pretty hat and parasol to match.
Mrs. Brockhurst, as *The Chieftainess*, wore in the 1st act a purple velvet skirt and coat trimmed with long points of orange satin. Orange vest. Cap to match with sequins. In the 2nd act, disguised as a Spanish lady, she wore bright red satin and black gauze trimmed with chenille bow knots. A lace mantilla and fan.
Mrs. Thwaites, as *Juanita*, in the 1st act wore pink satin trimmed with black. Black bolero, pink and black hat. 2nd act: green and gold, which was very effective. Scarf on head
Mrs. Mollison's (*Rita*) first dress was of white canvas, pleated skirt, loose coat with pleated bell-shaped sleeves, gold embroidered vest. Yachting cap of white cloth."
In the second act Mrs. Mollison's dress was of

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white lace and silk with lovely embroidery of pale pink irises. Black lace hat trimmed with velvet and green leaves.

The Ladies Chorus in the 2nd act wore white blouses and cotton skirts with a sash. Handkerchiefs tied on their heads. They carried sieves and bags for gold dust.

The chorus of male brigands wore colored coats and trousers, hose, shirts, striped bright coloured sashes and neckerchief, slouch hats oddly trimmed and put on over a handkerchief tied over their long shaggy-looking hair. Brown leggings.

Sancho (Mr. Somerton) sported a maroon jacket with yellow trimming, black knicker-bockers. Big black hat.

2nd act: Disguise. Long black coat, and breeches. Large green hat with gold and orange pompons.

Mr. Cain, *The Chieftain*, disguised as a courier, wore bright blue coat, black knickers. Brass buttons; black and astrachan cap.

The "Cloak of The Chieftain" was of purple with points of yellow.

The "Sacred Hat" was very large, black, with red and gold trimming. It had a long feather upstanding and was surrounded under the brim by shaggy pompons.

Grigg, (Mr. Brady), had a loud checked suit in the 1st act, afterwards donning *The Chieftain's* cloak and "Hat"

Mr. E. W. Kilby as *Jose* wore a blue jacket and yellow trimmings. Brown trousers. Slouch hat. In the 2nd act, a green long coat and breeches and eccentric red hat.

Pedrillo, (Master Neville). Sheep's skin coat; big hat.

Blazzo, the sentry (Dr. Norris), red coat and hat with black trimmings, tan leggings.

Mr. Skrimshire as *Pedro* in the 1st act wore black, and a hat trimmed with yellow; 2nd act as notary, eccentric shovel hat. Long coat and breeches of black. White collar and tie.

All carried knives and pistols in the first act, and the gold washers in the 2nd act had sieves and bags for the gold.

THE BOOKSHELF.

On the Coasts of Cathay and Cipango forty years ago, by WILLIAM BLAKENEY, R.N.; London, Elliot Stock.

A DISTINGUISHED English statesman, one highly placed in the councils of the nation, speaking at a public meeting recently upon the foreign policy of the nation and kindred matters, frankly remarked that although the prospect along the political horizon seemed dark with ominous clouds, he thought the Government would "muddle through." On reading the book which forms the subject of this review one cannot help thinking that the predominating note in the management of even the smallest details which go to make up the vast system known as the British administration is that of muddle, and haphazard muddle at that. Mr. Blakeney, who now gives to the world a picturesque record of his surveying service in the China, Yellow, and Japan Seas, and on the seaboard of Korea and Manchuria, is one of that small band of cartographers of whom the nation knows next to nothing and yet to whom the whole world owes a big and unacknowledged debt. He was the first of the modern race of navigators to make a survey of the Yangtze and his story is well worth putting into print. He says in his preface that "the regrettable ignorance of the hydrography of the Far Eastern Seas led, immediately after the conclusion of the treaty of Paris, in 1856, to the commissioning of H. M. sailing frigate *Actæon* and her gunboat tender *Dove*, for surveying service therein." What kind of craft these vessels were we leave him to tell in his own words. "The *Actæon* was an old and out-of-date six-and-twenty-gun frigate, and when she was docked for survey the authorities found the stern post and stem very much decayed by dry rot, as were several of the after timbers." Ninety days were required to "fix her up," and on the 17th November, 1856, she was towed out of Portsmouth harbour and on the 25th sailed for Spithead to make the best of the way to China. The voyage took 232 days! The *Actæon* was really barque-rigged but the square main topsail and topgallant yards were crossed on the mizen-mast, "so that we might be taken for a full-rigged ship," to speak of her "as a barque was taboo on board," and to save the officers' feelings, on arrival in China waters, she was dubbed the Noah's Ark! The *Dove* was an auxiliary-powered gunboat of 60 h.p. The *Actæon* carried 20 officers and 100 seamen, marines and boys; the *Dove* 30 officers and men. The voyage was full of incident, for the *Dove* had often to be towed, and once while the *Actæon* officers of the "first and second dog-watches were relieving each other the helmsmen, through some misunderstanding of orders, gave the wheel a wrong turn. Instantly the *Actæon* was taken by the lee, every studding sail boom snapped, and though the hawsers were immediately cut, the *Dove* ranged up alongside, and our guns cut her near gunwale down to the level of the deck, crushed her boat at the waist and wrenched off her mastheads, practically crippling her as regards any sail-power." This was in the Atlantic. But matters grew worse in the Indian Ocean. Says the author:—

> At length, on the 17th of May, about midway across the Indian Ocean, and after having bent, for some days, the *Dove's* bower cable and parted it—towing became too dangerous to continue. The *Actæon* at times would be on the descending slope of a huge wave (forty feet from trough to crest) while the *Dove* would be on the ascending; and with the momentum from a sudden gust of wind, would be hauled through the intervening water, which swept her decks from stem to stern. What a life was led in that half submerged craft! We used occasionally to float astern, in hermetically sealed tins, some cooked "grub" from the *Actæon's* officers' mess, otherwise uncooked salt horse, and pork, biscuit and water must often have been their bill of fare.

No wonder that at last the *Dove* chalked on a board, "Let us go." She had had enough, in 10,750 miles of towing since leaving England, to last her for the rest of her cruise. When we read such a narrative as this, how ironical seems the title which a British Admiral has recently chosen for a book, "Hurrah, for the life of a sailor!" The vessels now each took their own course and chosing the channel east of Banka Island, Gaspar Strait, the *Actæon* ran on a coral knoll, now known as the Actæon Rock, and almost finished her surveying career before it had well begun. But Providence was largely on the side of the British Navy in those days, and when the vessel arrived at Singapore and Malay divers reported that only a few feet of the false keel had been wrenched off, the statement was accepted with confidence and the vessel proceeded north.

Nearly a year elapsed before the *Actæon*, "from the exigencies of the service" could be docked at Whampoa; and then it was found that the forepart of the main keel and stern had been so smashed as to leave us in wonderment that we had not foundered on the spot. In the interval she had been sailed through 2,709 miles of the China and Java seas, both of which bristled with hidden dangers, many of them uncharted.

This incident reminds us of an entry in Admiral Keppel's book. He had been slave-chasing in the *Childers*, brig, during 1837 and 1838, off the west coast of Africa, and on May 26, 1838, took his vessel into dock. Says the breezy old seaman:—

> On *Childers* going into dock it was discovered that seven feet of her false keel was partly athwart ships, which accounts for the escape of several loaded slavers. I thought she sailed better on one tack than on the other.

To resume. The *Actæon* arrived in Hongkong on August 10, 1856, and was at once commandeered to take part in the expedition to Canton which culminated in the capture of the city and the deportation of Commissioner Yeh. Mr. Blakeney, though a non-combatant, took an important part in the affair, conducting the surveys of the Canton River, the forts, etc., beside lending a hand generally, as "a naval engineer," though his rank was that of Assistant Surveying Officer and Paymaster. He was next detached to make a survey of the justly dreaded Pratas Reef and then sent off to Formosa on the *Inflexible*, which was commissioned to search the coasts of that island for European shipwrecked seamen, supposed to be held in captivity there. This trip was useless so far as its main object was concerned, no landing being possible on the eastern coast, and no Europeans being found among the Hakka villages of the west, but Mr. Blakeney was able to make some useful surveys during the circumnavigation of the island which have since been embodied in Admiralty charts. He is lavish in his praises of the magnificent coast scenery of eastern Formosa, and fully bears out Colquhoun's remark that "those who have been fortunate enough to skirt the east coast of the island agree that the scenery is among the sights of the world." This trip finished and the Canton trouble having been arranged, the *Actæon* at length sailed north, taking 14 days to make the run from Hongkong to Woosung. Then followed Lord Elgin's famous trip up the Yangtze-kiang to Wuchang, and our author's vessel being included in the squadron a good deal of hard work fell to his share, for the river was then practically unknown to navigators of European ships. The record of the journey is thickly sprinkled with incidents, the vessels grounding with monotonous regularity every day or so, while to add to their troubles the Taipings were active in many of the great cities along the river and several brushes occurred, particularly at Nanking. The average daily progress of the fleet from Shanghai to Nanking was 17 miles, for the surveys had to be made and the proper channels discovered as they went along. It took the expedition a month altogether to reach Hankow, a journey that is now a pleasant voyage of three days and three nights.

Two years and nine months after the *Actæon* left England she was free to carry out her proper commission, the special service of surveying the Yellow and Japan Seas, and the seaboards of Korea, Manchuria and Japan. She left Shanghai on May 2, 1859, and sailed across to Quelpart. Thereafter the book becomes deeply interesting to residents in Japan, and we regret that space does not allow of our quoting as freely as we would wish from its pages. Among the first places visited in Japan was Tsushima. This magnificent anchorage was reached on May 18, 1859, and the vessel remained there till June 8th. In this interval the north-east and south-east inlets of the grand harbour were explored and partly surveyed. Says Mr. Blakeney:—

> The natives clearly intended to watch our movements day and night. We could go nowhere unattended by their guard-boats. They were naturally suspicious of us as being dangerous intruders into the seclusion of their empire, being unaware of the recently made treaty between England and their *de facto* Government, and, for aught they knew, we might be meditating a proceeding similar to that of the British man-of-war on the coast of Japan fifty years before (H.M.S. *Phaeton*, 1808.) * * * * Truly Tsushima has a commanding strategical position in the Japanese and adjacent seas, and is moreover, in my judgment, the grandest haven in the world. I have myself visited twice each of the three usually spoken-of by seamen as the greatest harbours—Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), the Golden Gate (San Francisco), and Port Jackson (Sydney, N.S.W.)—but neither of these can be allowed the palm over Tsushima. Between the two entrance points, having a clear, deep channel of over a mile between them, the harbour stretches nearly eight miles across the island, only the last half mile or so near the narrow opening before referred to being shallow. There are upwards of forty anchorages where vessels of any size could find secure, smooth, suitable resting places. The sinuosities of the shore are such that at least one hundred miles are embraced in this fissure of eight by five miles, and I will hazard the opinion that every man-of-war afloat of every maritime nation of the world, could find room and to spare in its capacious bosom.

From Tsushima the *Actæon* went across to Fusan and had a very frigid reception from the Japanese Governor and his officials, but the survey was carried on nevertheless and in the end the English officers and the Japanese officials fraternized and entertained each other at the festive board, where the best of good-fellowship prevailed. Korea Strait, the Sea of Japan, next the Yellow Sea and the Gulf of Tartary were surveyed and charted and then the *Actæon* came south again and charted the coast of Shantung, visiting the indentation which now bears the name of Port Arthur—from the commander of H.M.S.

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Algerine, Lieut. W. Arthur, the first foreigner who ever sailed in there—and from thence proceeded to the peninsula of the Regent's Sword, which was also duly surveyed and charted. We would fain give extracts from the book describing the first impressions of these now well-known places, but space forbids Suffice it to say that the *Actæon* and *Dove* eventually found themselves engaged in surveying work for the allied squadrons which attacked and captured the Taku forts in 1860, and bore their share in that affair as nobly as possible. Thereafter followed quiet days off the coasts of Japan, where much good work was done to which British Admiralty charts of the present day still bear witness. Incidentally the *Actæon* helped to frustrate a Russian descent on Tsushima. We quote some passages from the book :—

Off and on during the winter of 1860-61 there arrived in Wusung River a Russian ship—no one one knew from whence, or whither bound; secrecy was admirably kept. When stores had to be replenished the Muscovite put out to sea. It was now (1861) at Tsushima, in her Pirate's Cove, and it was the unexpected arrival of the *Actæon* that unmasked her.

* * * *

Under pretence of growing vegetables, as a remedy against scurvy, these Russians had cleared a plot of ground; then they professed to have discovered a leak in their ship—the Japanese were invited off to see the water coming in (which it did, through a valve surreptitiously opened for the purpose). This necessitated some building ashore in which to house their stores; the building, of course, must have a Russian flag flying over it, also of course, Russian sentries must guard it, etc., etc., till by slow degrees there was, in this out-of-the-way spot, a Russian settlement established—to be developed later into an arsenal, for Volunteer fleets coming from the Black Sea to deposit their freights. Honour, "à la Russe" with a vengeance.

* * * *

The Russians had the coolness to say that hydrographical research bought them to Tsushima—being all the while in possession of the British Admiralty chart prepared from the *Actæon* survey published in London, August, 1860, of which, by the way, we had received no copies. The very cove into which they had stowed themselves, tied up head and stem to trees, was surveyed by Bedwell and myself when we found shelter there for the pinnace in August, 1859.

I give the details in hope that Oliphant's charming narrative may be re-read in the light of recent events in the East; specially so by Japanese, who will note, in this incident on their coast forty years ago, that to the "surveying fellows" in the English "Noak's Ark," she owes this checkmate to Russia. This fact, however, would barely be gathered from Oliphant's words:—"We were startled, August, 1861, to come unexpectedly on her (the Russian corvette)." The *Actæon* had come upon this Russian two months before, on June 4, 1861, and it was on this information brought to the knowledge of Admiral Sir James Hope, that he and Oliphant started on their quest in the *Ringdove*. I am not essaying romance but history. That Russia did of set purpose plan a descent upon the Japanese empire as well as on that of Korea, Oliphant supplies the proof in a quotation from a journal published in Vladivostock. Some portion of this I transcribe:—"The island of Tsushima was visited about 1860 (*sic*) by the Russian frigate *Possadnik* and the Russian flag was hoisted but subsequently withdrawn. It is unavoidable to preserve Vladivostock as the base of all serious operations; but also to occupy and fortify Tsushima as a marine station, well-armed and provisioned."

Vladivostock has become a second Cronstadt, but Tsushima still belongs to Japan, and the *Actæon's* officers deserve some credit for their share in that far-distant episode. After the attack on the British Legation in Yedo, Sir Rutherford Alcock arranged that to prevent any misunderstanding, three Japanese officials should accompany the *Actæon*, *Dove* and *Leven* on their surveying trips, and this step proved of the utmost service. The Government at Yedo, it was understood, were not at all anxious for the British survey to be made, and sent on board the vessels a huge map of Japan which had been drawn up under Dutch instruction, a map so trigonometrically correct that it was adopted by the British surveyors to fill up portions unavoidably left blank in their own maps. The survey was finished on November 24, 1861, and then the *Actæon* turned her head towards Old England, bidding a reluctant farewell to Japan.

We spoke in the opening paragraph of this review of the great British policy of muddle, and of the illustrations which this book furnishes of the truth of the remark. The appointment of the old *Actæon* for such an important commission is an instance. Looking back over the years, it can clearly be seen now that had the British Government detailed a properly equipped man-of-war for the purpose and allowed the vessel to proceed straight to its destination, instead of allowing any-one who pleased to divert its services at Hongkong, Shanghai, &c., the British Surveying Party might have reached the coast of Tartary in time for England to have had a voice in settling the conditions of the Treaty of Aigun (May 16, 1858) and could thus have prevented Russia from stealing such a disastrous march upon the unsuspecting Chinese. The Treaty of Aigun really foreshadowed the Manchurian difficulty of the present day. To show, too, how ill-fitted the *Actæon* was for surveying purposes we may mention that her officers had actually to steal some planks from the wreck of H. M. S. *Raleigh*—Keppel's ill-fated frigate which sank off Macao under such dramatic circumstances—wherewith to build a conning-bridge whereon to fix their standard compass! The *Actæon's* speed may be judged when we state that she took twenty-one hours to go from Hongkong to Macao—a three hours' trip nowadays, and was considered to have done the run in fairly quick time! The officers' quarters were veritable cubby-holes, but the non-combatants came off worst. Mr. Blakeney writes:—

"On the lower deck, 4ft. 9in. under the beams, we were in a perpetual state of stew, and maddened by prickly heat, while many of us, while in Hongkong, suffered from small abscesses in the ears, which produced acute earache. The "young gentlemen's mess" was known as "104° Corner." Fresh air could only reach this den by occasional puffs through the scuttle-holes, when the sea was smooth enough to permit of their being opened. My cabin in the steerage, 6ft. by 5ft. by 4ft. 9in., could only be approached when the hammocks were down, by bending nearly double; sleeping in it was out of the question—that could only be had by spreading a manila mat between the guns on the main deck, and stealing (for it was against the law) a snooze there.

There is no mistaking Mr. Blakeney's chagrin that so much of the work accomplished in those days by himself and his brother surveyors should have inured so greatly to the benefit of Russia, for like all English naval officers of his day and generation—and we are not sure that they have not transmitted the feeling to their latter day successors—he disliked "the Muscovite" intensely and could see no good in him. What "the Muscovite's" ambitions were forty years ago can be clearly seen, and Mr. Blakeney prints an interesting extract from his journal which we think should be reproduced in full:—

From Tsugru Strait the *Actæon* crossed the Japan Sea and rejoined the *Dove* at St. Vladimir Bay. During our absence a Russian captain of engineers and a party of six men had arrived overland from Urkutsk, Lake Baikal, to survey their newly-acquired territory on the coast of Tartary. They left Urkutsk in January: he tells us Russian villages have been placed every twenty miles along the Amur and Cossack posts every twenty-five miles on the Ussuri; and that telegraphic communication with St. Petersburg is being established. He tells us that Russian territory now includes (under a treaty signed at the Tartar town of Aigun last year, 1858) all the coast and harbours as far south as Victoria Bay, and that they intend to stretch it still further over the Korean border to Broughton Bay, and ultimately to absorb the whole Korean peninsula."

This note was written by Mr. Blakeney in 1859! No wonder, looking back across the vista of his life, that he protests against the manner in which his country has ignored the "slow, stealthy, subtle advance of Russia, creeping ever southward along the Manchurian seaboard" until she has accomplished nearly all that she hoped for 40 years ago; and that he welcomes with joy the Anglo-Japanese alliance.

Before concluding our review we must note that among the friendships made in Japan by the author, he mentions particularly Dr. Guido Verbeck, then still resident in Nagasaki, and Dr. S. R. Brown of Kanagawa. It was while walking with the latter in the suburbs of the then tiny settlement of Yokohama, that Dr. Brown pointed out to him a wooden board which bore the edict forbidding the teaching of Christianity in Japan. We believe that the only one of these boards now in existence is to be found in the British Museum, having been taken home to England by the Rev. W. Weston in 1895. The high admiration expressed by the author throughout the book for missionary labours in the Far East, is rather discounted by the bitter terms used by him when describing the mercantile communities of the different treaty ports; "dollar-hunters," is the least offensive of his epithets. Again we think it would have been in better taste had Mr. Blakeney used the expression "surveying fellows," a little less frequently.

We may add that many valuable charts, maps and illustrations adorn Mr. Blakeney's volume, making it an indispensable addition to the now portentous list of books dealing with China and Japan.

'Bert Edward, the Golf Caddie, by HORACE HUTCHINSON; London, Murray's Imperial Library; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd.

MR. HORACE HUTCHINSON is about the leading authority on Golf nowadays, and his articles and essays in the periodical press are always worth reading, not only for the intimate knowledge of the royal and ancient game which they display, but also for their singular literary charm. This charm of style does not desert Mr. Hutchinson when he attempts to cast his golf-lore into more pretentious form, and the one or two books which bear his name have a wide circle of appreciative readers. In the volume now under review he is again dealing with his own familiar subject and the result is a very pleasant story—a story that will appeal, we imagine, to all interested in golf and golfers. 'Bert Edward is a Highland laddie who descends from the Grampians to become a caddie at St. Andrews, and having more than the average pertinacity of his race and an unusual stock of level-headedness he gradually rises in his profession till his name becomes a household word to the men and women who find the chief enjoyment of their lives upon the breezy links. A thread of love-making is interwoven in 'Bert Edward's career, and naturally, as it is a case of true love, its course does not run exactly smooth, though the last chapter of the story—as is only proper—sees everything happily arranged. The various characters in the book are well defined, the men showing perhaps the better workmanship. We close our notice of 'Bert Edward with quoting the Author's preface :—

I should be very sorry if any reader of this book were to think I imagined that in the person of Pat Rogie I was giving anything like a picture of the young professional golfer at St. Andrews in the present day. It was some years ago, as the references may show, that 'Bert Edward arrived at St. Rule, or St. Andrews, and in the interval golfing Scotland has arrived at a general standard of sobriety that would have shocked some of the older generation very badly.

After all, if this book has a moral, which I hope it has not, it would seem to be that it is a father's duty to be a drunkard in order to furnish his son with an object lesson in the detrimental nature of drink.

We are in receipt of a copy of the report of the first International Congress of Studies in the Extreme Orient, which was held at Hanoi from Dec. 3rd to Dec. 8th, 1902. We note that papers were read by Mr. J. Takakusu (2), Mr. R. K. Florenz (2), Mr. C. Pfoundes, Mr. N. Ariga, Mr. N. Okamoto, Mr. Cl. E. Maitre, Mr. R. Fujishima, Dr. E. Baelz, and Mr. B. Nanjio, nearly all dealing with subjects relating purely to Japan.

A folder, with a highly decorated cover, is issued by the Government Railways. It gives a number of very good views of the places to be seen along the Tokaido and at other points.

From the Kokuko-sha we have received a pamphlet, written by Mr. C. Maseta. The author's conclusion is that nothing but the

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Christian religion will bring about a reform in the present corrupt state of society, as disclosed in the text book scandal.

The catalogue of the Netherlands-India section at the Osaka Exhibition is a bulky volume, the contents of which bear marks of careful and intelligent preparation. From a brief examination of the publication we are quite ready to believe that the section in question conveys a very fair idea of the commercial and industrial resources of the Dutch Eastern archipelago, a circumstance upon which the joint Commissioners, Messrs. H. Rud. du Mosch, and I. A. Ailion may be freely congratulated.

We are favoured by Mr. Minakami, Superintendent of the Yokohama Customs, with a copy of the Guide (in French) to the Customs, a new edition of which has just been issued. It contains a mass of well-assorted information, and has one or two good illustrations of the Customs and the pier.

LAW CASES.

VAN DER HEYDEN v. STORNEBRINK.

The hearing of this case instituted by Dr. Van der Heyden against Mr. H. L. Stornebrink was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 2nd, when plaintiff repeated the statements of his claim given at the previous hearing.

Defendant brought a counter-claim against plaintiff, claiming from the latter payment of *yen* 8,220 and *yen* 4,726. The former sum is the difference on the rent of the property in dispute, for 137 months from January, 1891, to May, 1902. The latter sum is the balance of wages for 54 months, 1890 to 1894, during which period defendant rendered services for plaintiff as an engineer in constructing a building for plaintiff.

The case was then adjourned till 12th.

GROSSER & Co. v. YAZAWA SHOTEN.

The hearing of this case, instituted by Messrs. Grosser & Co. against S. Aranami, who carries on business under the name of Yazawa Shoten, claiming *yen* 6,075 for loss on a peppermint transaction came up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on May 4th.

Mr. Sawada, barrister, appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Inouye for the defendant.

Plaintiff's Counsel stated that defendant made a contract with them on September 20th, 1902, to supply 20 cases of peppermint oil at the rate of *yen* 7.50 per *kin*, each case to contain 60 lbs. in 12 tins and to be delivered before the end of December in the same year. Defendant made another contract on Oct. 20th, 1902, to supply 20 cases of crystalized peppermint at *yen* 9 per *kin*, each case to contain 60 lbs. and to be delivered before the end of November in the same year. He failed, however, to deliver the goods within the contract time except 10 cases of crystallized peppermint. Plaintiffs then formally called on defendant for delivery on Jan. 23rd and 27th this year but no answer was given. On Feb. 3rd plaintiffs intimated to defendant that both contracts were null and void and at the same time they claimed for loss caused by non-delivery, to which defendant gave no attention.

Defendant's Counsel contended that his client did not enter into contracts to supply such goods to plaintiffs and denied all the evidence which plaintiffs introduced.

Plaintiffs' Counsel applied to the Court to examine Yazawa Totaro, banto of defendant, who is now living in Kobe, and asked that he should be examined in the Kobe District Court under the instructions of the Yokohama District Court. The Court decided to examine the witness in Yokohama.

The case was then adjourned till June 1st.

SIMON, EVERS & Co. v. YAMADA.

The hearing of this case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on May 4th when a tidewaiter named Mori Masakichi, of the Yokohama Customs, was examined as a witness.

In answer to the Court he stated that he was not on duty at the Midoricho Godown when Mr. J. Dodds took a certain quantity of sample sugar in May last year. He was consequently unable to give any explanation as to the case.

Defendant applied to the Court to adjourn the case till afternoon when he would find another tidewaiter who was on duty at the Midoricho Godown.

The Court agreed and then rose.

The court sat again at 1.30 p.m. when defendant applied to have examined two tide-waiters of the Customs named Enomoto and Awoyagi who were on duty on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1902. The court agreed and adjourned the case *sine die*.

STONE v. WATANABE.

The suit instituted by W. S. Stone against H. Watanabe claiming payment for sleepers was to be heard in the Tokyo Appeal Court on May 5th.

J. W. HALL v. F. STANILAND.

The hearing of this case instituted by Mr. Jno. W. Hall against Mr. F. Staniland, claiming *yen* 792, auction commission and advertising charges, for which judgement was given in favour of plaintiff on March 9th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 5th under a protest of defendant.

Mr. Sawada was present for plaintiff and Mr. Hioki for defendant.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that defendant instructed him to sell the ground and building situated on lot No. 2 Bluff, in March 1899, fixing the limit of price at *yen* 40,000. Plaintiff advertised the properties for sale in the local papers and some papers in Shanghai, but defendant sold the properties to Misses Clausen and Priesler for *yen* 30,000 in June 1902. Plaintiff held that he was entitled to recover the advertising charges and commission at the rate of 2½ per cent. on *yen* 30,000 from defendant.

Defendant's counsel contended that defendant never made any such contract with plaintiff.

The case was then adjourned till May 8th at 1 p.m.

DR. ROKKAKU v. ZIEGFELD.

The hearing of this case, which was adjourned on April 10th, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on May 6th.

Plaintiff's counsel repeated his statements given at the previous hearing claiming *yen* 500 as the cost of embalming the body of the late Mrs. Jeannette L. Brower, who died on September 12th, 1901, and whose remains were sent to the United States. He applied to the Court to examine Drs. Wheeler and Munro as experts on the ground that defendant's counsel insisted that the cost was too high. The Court however refused and preferred to examine another witness on May 20th at 2 p.m.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

The hearing of this case, instituted by Mr. Hioki, Liquidator of the bankrupt estate of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann and Co., against Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on May 6th, when Mr. Thos. S. Baker, sub-Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, was examined as a witness.

He deponed that he was appointed to duty in the bank in April, 1900. He accepted three applications from Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. for transmitting money, viz. in April 28th, 1900, *yen* 12,500, and in June 27th, and August in the same year, *yen* 106,875 each. The former amount was deposited with the 77th Bank in the name of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., and the latter were deposited with the Bank of Formosa in the name of Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. as security for the Camphor Monopoly Business. The deposit notes were handed over to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. could, of course, not touch the money, which was standing in the bank's books in the form of a deposit. He did not know exactly the details of the contract regarding the camphor monopoly business concluded by the parties, but he understood that Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. would be responsible for refunding the money to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in case the guaranteed money deposited with the Formosan Government was confiscated. The so-called deposit of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. was entered in the books under the special heading of "Camphor Business." After expiration of three years, Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. were to receive the security from the Formosan Government and then the security was to be handed back to the Bank of Formosa, which would then transfer the money deposited by Messrs Samuel Samuel & Co. to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. The rate of interest on the money advanced by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. was 7 per cent., while that of the Bank of Formosa was to be at a little over 5 per cent. The difference in rates was expected to be covered by the profits gained in the camphor business. Down to the end of 1901, interest was paid at 7 per cent. to Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., and after the bankruptcy of Messrs. Mourilyan Heimann & Co. it was paid at the rate of 5 per cent. which, by misunderstanding, the bank handed over to the liquidator of the bankrupt estate. The desposit receipts were endorsed by Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. (Witness then showed to the court the promissory notes made by Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., and the deposit receipts). He believed that Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. invested the sum of *yen* 222,750 in the camphor business to gain one-eighth share of the profit. The only object of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank defraying the money was to help the business of Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co. who were good customers of the bank, but the bank had no relations with Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Cross-examined. — The two amounts, *yen* 106,875 each, were paid directly to Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., while the other amount *yen* 12,500 was paid to the 77th Bank, which was doing business with the same firm.

The case was then adjourned.

Mr. Thos. S. Baker's examination in the Yokohama District Court on May 6th commenced at 2.30 p.m. and lasted till 6.20 p.m. Just five hours were occupied in giving replies, the witness standing before the Court the whole time, without being given a moment's rest in a chair.

CARL ROHDE & CO. v. KURITA.

This case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 7th, when a Japanese employee of the plaintiff named Inagaki was examined.

The witness deponed that he received *yen* 500 on account of the cost of 610 yards of woollen cloth, in June, 1902, but he did not remember from whom he received payment—whether from defendant or defendant's employee, or whether Shotaro Kurita, father of Kamejiro Kurita was dead. He merely discharged his duties as to Kurita, whose chief buyer was carrying on business in connexion with Messrs. Carl Rohde & Co.

Defendant's Counsel applied to the Court to examine a Japanese, named Shimamura, employee of defendant. The court decided to examine him on May 19th.

JOHN ROBERT v. HIS WIFE RUI AMADA.

The hearing of this case claiming decree of divorce came up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano and two associates and Public Prosecutor Shikko on May 7th. Mr. Akiyama was present for plaintiff and defendant was unrepresented. Plaintiff's counsel stated that plaintiff married defendant on June 3rd, 1889, before Mr. J. J. Enslie, H.B.M. Consul, at the British Consulate, according to the provisions of the Acts 12 and 13 Vict Cap. 68. On the 12th of the same month she deserted him but was induced to return to where she was living at No. 155 Settlement her husband being a turnkey in the British Gaol at the time. After about a month she deserted again, but was again taken back. In October of the same year plaintiff sent her to the Eiwa Female School to be educated, giving

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her *yen* 15 per month, but plaintiff found in January, 1890, that she had again deserted from the school and since then she could not be found. She had been a *geisha* in Yokohama before her marriage and was not educated. Plaintiff believed that she had probably absconded with a lover to whom she was attached before her marriage. Counsel further stated that plaintiff was a native of Scotland. According to the marriage law of Scotland, when one of a married couple deliberately deserts and passes four years without any communication that is cause for devorce. Since the final desertion of his wife there had passed over four years. In reply to the Court, Counsel added that when the couple entered into marriage, the husband was 41 years old and the wife was 21 years. Counsel applied to the Court to examine Mr. H. C. Litchfield as an expert and the Court consented to do so on May 21st.

MOURILYAN, HEIMANN & CO'S. BANKRUPTCY.

The hearing of claims by creditors against the estate of Messrs. Mourilyan, Heimann & Co., bankrupts, which was adjourned on April 9th—when there was concluded the examination of claims Nos. 1 to 10—came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 7th.

On opening the Court, the Judge stated that Mr. H. C. Pigott, for whose examination counsel for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had applied, could not be present being indisposed.

Ten lawyers representing creditors were present. The Court then proceeded to examine the claims, commencing with No. 11, but had not concluded this item.

The case was again adjourned.

FIRES.

On April 29th fire broke out in the village of Mitaka, Kita-tama-gun, Tokyo, burning down a house. The cause was stated to be incendiary and a suspect was arrested the same night.

The same day a fire occurred in the enclosure of the Naval Station, Yokosuka, but was mastered before serious damage was done.

Fire occurred on the evening of May 3rd in the house of a mattress dealer, Idzumi-cho, Tokyo, destroying five houses.

About the same time another fire was discovered in an unoccupied house in Abekawa-cho, Tokyo, but it was subdued before it could reach the neighbouring buildings. It is believed that sparks from the chimney of an adjoining house caused the accident.

On the night of May 2nd two fires occured at Kamakura, one in a house occupied by a man named Hashimoto and the other in the dwelling of a farmer named Yasuda. Five buildings in all were destroyed. The cause is stated to be incendiarism.

Fire broke out on May 3rd at Komatsu-machi, near the city of Yamagata, destroying twenty-two buildings and three telegraph poles.

It is reported that fire occurred on May 4th at the village of Hiratate in Iwate prefecture, burning down eight houses. One person was killed.

Fire broke out on May 4th in the house of a fire-wood dealer, Kioi-cho Kojimachi, Tokyo, destroying three houses.

Fire broke out early on the morning of May 6th in a house, in Uyeno-machi, Kitagata, Yokohama, near the German Naval Hospital, destroying two houses. Incendiarism is reported to be its origin.

Fire occurred on May 5th at the village of Hareyama, in Iwate prefecture, burning down twelve houses including the village office.

On the night of May 4th fire broke out at Kanagawa, burning down one building.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Count Okuma will invite the Progressionists to a garden party to be held on May 10th.

Japanese soldiers numbering 559 left Shimonoseki on May 5th for Korea to relieve the present garrisons.

On the 6th at 9 a.m. a severe shock of earthquake was felt in Utsunomiya, the duration being very short.

It is stated that on the night of May 3rd a severe storm prevailed at Shimonoseki. Three vessels (junks?) were wrecked.

A telegram under date May 5th from Mr. Uyeno, Japanese Consul at Amoy, states that at the present time the pest is raging in the district and over ten cases end fatally every day.

In the neighbourhood of Mito and Urawa, heavy hail fell on May 5th while in the vicinity of Fukushima and Maebashi a severe gale raged on the same day. In both cases damage was caused to tea and mulberry leaves.

A telegram from Kochi prefecture states that new crop raw silk weighing 180 *me* (103 *me*= 37.565 grammes) was brought to the market on May 3rd. It was sold at *yen* 5.20 per 100 *me*. The crop is ten days earlier than last year.

It is stated that the 57 Korean emigrants who arrived in Yokohama on May 6th by the steamer *Coptic* via Nagasaki were ordered back at once by their Government. The reason for their unexpected recall is not known.

The Tokyo Young Man's Christian Association will observe on Saturday and Sunday, May 9th and 10th, the tenth anniversary of the dedication of its building. Very attractive programmes have been arranged for the occasion, and we regret we have not space to print them in full.

It is stated that Mr. Otani Kahei, who was elected one of the standing committee of the Yokohama (Japanese) Chamber of Commerce sent in his resignation on May 6th on the ground that he had no time to attend to the duties, being pressed in business.

Commenting on Viscount Hayashi's initiation into English Freemasoury, the *New York Tribune* says:—"Although there are two Masonic Lodges in Yokohama, one in Tokio and one in Yeddo, they are all under the Grand Lodge of England, and all the members are British." 'Tis news indeed!

On May 4th at 6 p.m. the following election of officers took place in the Yokohama (Japanese) Chamber of Commerce:—

President, Mr. Mogi Yasubei; Vice-President Mr. Kurusu Sobei. Standing Committee:—Messrs. Kimura Riyemon, Abe Kobei, Masuda Masuzo and Soma Nagatane.

According to investigations up to April 30th, says the *Nichi Nichi*, of the new crop tea 252,700 *kin* were brought into the Yokohama market, 208,500 *kin* were sold and 44,000 *kin* remain in stock. Before the first shipment of new tea on the 28th by the steamer *Siberia* the market was very steady, but after that day the price showed a declining tendency. On the 29th demand relaxed and supplies were scanty.

The native papers give statistics regarding the tobacco trade during the months of January and February this year. The export of Japanese cigarettes amounted to *yen* 158,280 which, compared with the figures for the same period last year show an increase of *yen* 57,462. The import of cigars amounted to *yen* 2,333, of cigarettes to *yen* 2,280, of tobacco leaf to *yen* 174,167 and of sundries, *yen* 677.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

The art-publishing business of Mr. R. H. Russell, of New York, has been acquired by Harper and Brothers.

Mrs. Humphry Ward's new novel, "Lady Rose's Daughter," is to be dramatized by "George Fleming" (Miss Constance Fletcher).

Since the publication of her first book, "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," Miss Alice Caldwell Hegan has become Mrs. Alice Hegan Rice.

"A Masque," by Alfred Thomson, presented before their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, at Cliffden, on August 1st, 1740, first edition, was disposed of at Messrs. Sotheby's the other day for £6 10s. This book is interesting as containing the first edition of "Rule Britannia," of which Southey wrote: "This noble ode is destined to be the political hymn of this country as long as she maintains her power."

When the late Charles Godfrey Leland (Hans Breitman) was editing the *Knickerbocker Magazine* he gave weekly receptions that were popular among literary people. There arose at one of these receptions a noisy argument about religion. To quiet them, Mr. Leland cried out, in a voice loud enough to be heard above all:—"Intelligent persons are all of the same religion." A lull ensued, then some one said:—"What religion is that?" "That," answered Mr. Leland, "is what intelligent persons never tell."

Rear-Admiral Frank Wildes, who died recently while returning to the United States, used to be fond of a great start that a Boston clergyman once gave his congregation. "I was born in Boston," Admiral Wildes would say, "and in my boyhood attended church there. Well, at church one Sunday morning there was, it seems, a couple to be married after the service. The minister made the announcement in this way: 'The parties that are to be joined in matrimony will present themselves immediately after the singing of Hymn No. 245—"Mistaken Souls that Dream of Heaven."'"

Messrs. Methuen have in preparation an edition of each of the four folios of Shakespeare, reproduced by photography from perfect copies. The first folio has been reproduced more than once, but no reprints of the second, third and fourth folios have hitherto been issued. A really fine set of the four folios cannot now be bought for less than £3,000. A thousand copies of the folio will be printed, and 750 copies of the four folios will be sold in sets at 12 guineas net each set; 250 copies of the first folio will be sold separately at 4 guineas net, and 250 sets of the second, third and fourth folio will be sold at 10 guineas net.

The late Dean Farrar was an indefatigable worker. His working day when he was at Westminster began at half-past eight o'clock and lasted until ten at night, when he used to allow himself an hour or so with a novel or some other form of recreation. A good deal of his work was done in the library of the Athenæum Club, where he was secure from interuption; when he wrote at home in Dean's-yard, he used to sit at an upright desk near the window with his constant companion, a parrot, close by. Polly used often to break in upon her master's train of thought by insisting upon perching on his finger, and her antics lent a curiously humorous touch to the bookish interior.

Hermann Sudermann, another of whose plays was produced in London in March, is still, notwithstanding the huge reputation which he has acquired, a comparatively young man. He was born in 1857, and began his career as a novelist of the realistic school, though it is by his plays, more particularly "Magda," which has had such an extraordinary fascination for all the leading actresses of the day, that he is best known in Great Britain. A minor difficulty connected with the translation of the last-named play, by the way, has always been that of finding a suit-

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able equivalent for its German title "Heimath"—a word which the Germans say is really untranslatable. La Duse when she played the piece called it "Casa Paterna." Sarah Bernhardt hit on "Le Foyer Paternel" as a first attempt, which was no nearer the mark. "Magda," which she afterwards adopted, was of course only an evasion of the problem.

Piming is a pastime in which an English Bar mess indulges with very little provocation. So much is clear from an interesting glimpse of "high jinks" on Circuit, which is to be found in a letter written by Sir Frank Lockwood to his wife in 1882, which Mr. Birrell has included in his memoir of the popular advocate:—"The Circuit, being in high good humour," he wrote, "proceeded to try Forbes, for that he indecently opened the commission at York in a small bar wig, and not in the full-bottomed wig of a Q.C. Forbes was also charged for falsely and fraudulently procuring himself to be styled his lordship in various newspapers. I, as Attorney-General, prosecuted, and Potter, Q.C., defended, Wills, as leader, presided, and a jury was sworn. The defence of insanity was set up on Forbes's behalf, but miserably failed, as it was proved beyond a doubt he was always alive to his own interests. Of course, he was found guilty, and consequently fined, and so, I regret to say were all others connected with the case."

The announcement that Mr. Clement Shorter is to contribute a volume on Mrs. Gaskell to the "English Men of Letters" series, recalls to mind a couple of passages in the essay on Mrs. Gaskell written by Miss Edna Lyall in 1897. Miss Lyall then mentioned the fact that "owing to the violent attacks to which her 'Life of Charlotte Brontë' gave rise, to a threatened action for libel on the part of some of those mentioned in the book, and to the manifold annoyances to which the publication of the biography subjected her, Mrs. Gaskell determined that no record of her own life should be written." Miss Lyall went on to say: "Mrs. Gaskell's wish regarding her own biography has, of course, been respected by her family; but the world is the poorer, and it is impossible not to regret that the life of so dearly loved a writer must never be attempted." The difficulty here presented has, no doubt, been got over, and Mr. Shorter will have, in the preparation of his volume, the co-operation of Mrs. Gaskell's relatives. Miss Lyall herself gave some biographical details about her sister novelist, some of the particulars having been supplied by Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Gaskell's daughter. Of these, Mr. Shorter, a careful and shrewd gleaner in the literary field, will no doubt avail himself. In external incident the life of Mrs. Gaskell was, of course, not rich.

When the late Mr. Charles Godfrey Leland paid his second visit to England he was, as the author of "Hans Breitmann," welcomed by almost every English literary notability. He visited, among others, the late Poet Laureate, with whom he discussed the merits of Walt Whitman, and pleased Tennyson by reading to him a version, in English Romany, of "Home they brought her warrior dead." To some rather trenchant remarks of Carlyle he had the courage to reply, "Allow me to say, Mr. Carlyle, that in all manner of historical criticism you are influenced by the merely melodramatic and theatrical," and the Sage took the speech in unexpectedly good part. Mr. Leland paid a visit to the first Lord Lytton at Knebworth, and astonished his lordship by his familiarity with Rosicrusian and occult lore. Mr. Leland also met George Eliot on several occasions. "I never detected in her," he wrote afterwards, "any trace of genial humour, though I doubt not that it was latent in her, and I thought her a person who had drawn her ideas far more from books, and an acquaintance with certain types of humanity, whom she had set herself deliberately to study—albeit with rare perception—than from an easy, intuitive familiarity with all sorts and conditions of men. But she worked out thoroughly what she knew by the intuition of genius." When she told Mr. Leland that in order to write "Daniel Deronda" she had read through two hundred books, he longed to tell her that she had better have learnt Yiddish and talked with two hundred Jews!

EX-PARTE ARRAIGNMENT.

With reference to our recent article on the unfortunate fact that Englishmen in the Far East hear only one-sided and prejudiced accounts and comments with regard to Russian doings, the following will be read with interest:—

Translation from an article in the *Vyestneek Evrop* (*European Messenger*) of St. Petersburg.—The title of the article is *Russkie Keetaai* (Russian China) and the author is A. Choostoff, an officer who personally figured in the taking of Port Arthur and the foundation of what he calls the "new Chinese colony" of Russia.

He speaks as follows of the Far Eastern press:—

There circulate in the Far East a number of papers, most of them English and most of them published in Shanghai, Tientsin and Yokohama. As the characteristic note of the Russian newspaper is pessimism so that of the English newspaper is chauvinism. The English newspaper praises all things English and finds fault with everything which is not English and everybody who is not an Englishman; and it is especially hard on the Russians. In fact the dislike and hostility of the English newspapers published in the Far East to everything Russia simply surpasses all belief. In Russia and in Russians they can find absolutely nothing good: and it is not to be wondered at in consequence that a Russian loses control of himself almost when he sits down to read one of these papers. There are no lies, calumnies or jibes too gross to be circulated in these newspapers so long as Russia is the object of them. The reader may be inclined to say that after all it is of no great importance to us what these papers say about us, but therein he makes a mistake for it is of great importance owing to the fact that these English papers have a large number of readers in Japan and now also among the more intelligent classes in China, and that all this filth (*gryaz*) is translated into Chinese and Japanese and printed in the Chinese and especially in the Japanese newspapers, and becomes in that way the property of a great number of the coming men in China and of the great bulk of the Japanese nation. In that way all the reading population of these countries is systematically educated in hostile feelings against Russia and everything Russian.

In the beginning of the year 1899 there appeared in the *North-China Herald* of Shanghai a series of extremely offensive articles on our fleet and its record in war. These articles had the character of historical records and they have never been contradicted from our side. There can be no doubt that they made their influence felt in the quarters which they were designed to reach. That was principally what they were written for.

Besides this, the English newspapers in the Far East are continually circulating with a bad object false rumours of warlike preparations on the part of Russia, by which means they succeed in increasing the enmity of the Japanese towards us. In November, for instance, there appeared in a Shanghai newspaper a communication from a correspondent who made out that 30,000 Russian soldiers were concentrated in Possiet Bay and that, on the Chinese (?) Governors of the adjacent districts inquiring as to the reason for this concentration of troops, the Russian commander-in-chief answered:—"We are preparing to make a descent on Japan." At the same time a telegram was sent to an English newspaper in Yokohama about the landing on the Ulnent (?) Peninsula of some men from a Russian warship, who tore down the Japanese flag and raised in its place the Russian. When such "intelligence" as this is published at a critical time, it cannot fail to do harm, especially if it is not refuted. Our Minister in Peking and our military *attaché* General Wogack, who both know the Far East, share the opinion of General Suboch on this question. (The writer of this article then goes on to tell how it was once reported in a Tientsin paper that the Russian authorities in Port Arthur had interfered with the Dutch Mission there, how General Suboch had asked the Russian Minister at Peking to officially contradict the rumour in question, and how the Minister—a quotation from whose letter is given—replied to the effect that lies were printed about Russia every day in the year by the foreign Press in the Far East and that it was quite useless to think of stemming the torrent. The writer confesses that he by no means agrees with this reply of the Minister.—Translator) I must say that I cannot at all agree with this reply of the Minister because in our days the Press has become a factor that must be reckoned with. It guides public opinion, it reflects public opinion, controversies are threshed out in its columns and if peoples are attacked by it they cannot afford to ignore the attack. The Press is now an indispensable factor, and no ignoring of it can change that fact.

Now, Russians have never defended themselves against the accusations levelled at them every day by the Far Eastern press, and the natural conclusion of many people is that Russia cannot refute these accusations. This system of suffering in silence inflicts the greatest injury on our national prestige in the eyes of the Chinese, the Japanese, the Koreans and the Europeans resident in the Far East. All these peoples have become accustomed to look down pityingly on our culture and our political development.

For the sake of public opinion in China and Japan we must refute these attacks made on our character by the English press and we must not only do that but also show that many of England's actions in the Far East and elsewhere furnish us with enough material and to spare for showing the peoples of the Far East that even England is not perfect. It is very important for us that the Japanese and the Chinese should not be led to entertain a false impression about us and that they should know the truth. The best example we could imitate is that of our neighbours the Germans and French who have both established newspapers in Shanghai. These papers do not overlook any attack on their respective countries; and the result is that the English have ceased attacking them, recompensing themselves however for the restraint imposed on them in this direction by throwing an increased bitterness into their onslaughts on Russia. . . . . The French newspaper of Shanghai defends energetically the interests of France and, by attacking England in some weak spots, it shuts up the mouth of the local English organs when they commence their periodical attack on France. The *Echo de Chine* sometimes defends us too, and is very hard occasionally on the English newspapers for the wild rumours about Russia that they put into circulation. But the French language is not important in the Far East, and even this *sympathique* newspaper cannot have a large circulation. The English language is, on the other hand, current all over the Far East and the English press shapes public opinion in that part of the world. It is therefore incumbent on us Russians to have an organ in the press which should contradict in our interest all the attacks that are made on us. Such an organ should be published in the English language and in Shanghai, the centre of English intrigue in China. We must spare no money in this matter because in the Press as in diplomacy, money is indispensable and, in my opinion, the good such a paper would do us would be greater than the good we could obtain by the use of any other means whatsoever.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MATTER.

(By R. C. Fillingham, Vicar of Hexton.)

"It's rather absurd to make all this fuss about such trifles as whether the clergyman faces East or West, and whether he dilutes the wine or doesn't," said Applebrother.

He was sitting, smoking, on the verandah of the Club at Yokohama, and gazing lazily at the *Empress* steamer, surrounded by sampans and tugs, getting her steam up ready to depart for the West.

"Yes, it seems to me a storm in a tea-cup," continued Applebrother. "I wonder that men like Pelgius and that fanatic from England, Fadler, care to waste their energies over it. If Dollater likes to bow down to a bit of bread, what on earth difference does it make to anyone in the whole Settlement?"

"I suppose you never go to church yourself?" said Westwater.

"I? Of course not. That's one of the advantages of living in the East: you're not obliged to pretend to care about a religion which doesn't interest you. I get a game of billiards on Sunday mornings."

"Then," said Westwater, "if you never go to the church, and have never considered the meaning of the Rev. I. Dollater's performances, perhaps you are hardly a competent judge of the importance of the ritual controversy. Now, I think I can prove that it concerns you really as much as the keenest Protestant of us all. May I ask you one or two questions?"

"O, certainly," replied Applebrother: "it will be like repeating one's Catechism. I shall feel as if I were a good little boy again, and had been to the Rev. I. Dollater's children's service."

"Now, I suppose you are a patriotic Briton?"

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"Yes," said Applebrother," and that's more than you are, from all accounts, for they call you a pro-Boer."

"My dear fellow," said Westwater, "you may find in the long run—when we have the final row with Russia, for example—whether the people who want to make the South African Dutch friends, instead of foes ready to strike us in the back, are the truest patriots. But don't let us complicate the issue. You're a patriotic Briton. I presume you'll admit that priestcraft enervates a nation and eats away its manhood?"

"Well, I've never concerned myself about the matter," returned Applebrother; "priests aren't likely to interfere with me, and I don't see why I should interfere with priests. I'm got my business to attend to, and that's quite enough for me. Never could understand why fellows should make a rumpus about religion. Leave that to the parsons.

"Yes, you'll excuse me saying so, "said Westwater, "but that's just the shallow view that the average man of business takes. He doesn't want to be bothered, and he thinks it doesn't concern him, but it does. Now, I'm convinced that priestcraft does enervate and ruin nations. History shows us it is so. The Latin nations are all decaying and being beaten in commerce, in learning, in warfare, by the Anglo-Saxon and Teutonic races. Why? Because, of a natural law."

"O, hang it!" exclaimed Applebrother, unable to made even a feint of much interest: "natural law is a shade too dry without a drink. Boy! bring me a whisky and tansan!"

"Yes, I know I'm boring you, but I want to make you see the point," persisted Westwater. "If we can only make you indifferent people act, it will be half the battle. Now, the natural law is this. Mind and body are more closely related than we suppose. Look at phenomena like faith-healing, which shows the power of the mind over the body: the patient *thinks* he is going to get well, so he does. Very well. Priestcraft forbids people to think for themselves: when it gets the upper hand, it enervates the *mind* of a nation: then in due course brain and body will be enervated too, and the priest-ridden nation will become the prey of a stronger one. And that's what will happen to England and the States if these Ritualists get their way. And that's one reason why *I* fight them, and why I want to rouse *you*."

"That may be all very well, but I don't see what it has to do with this wretched man Dollater. If he's fool enough to light up a candle when he can see in broad daylight, what can it matter to you and me? Let him turn all the gas on in his church at noon if he wants to, for all I care. I don't see the use of making a fuss about it. If he wants to make an ass of himself, let him."

"Yes, that's the danger;" said Westwater: "You people would ignore him, because he's ridiculous. But folly often does as much harm as actual wickedness. This man means doctrine by his antics, and if he's not stopped at the outset, he'll quietly indoctrinate our children and unprotestantize them. That's the way these men proceed. They attract the young by pretty ceremonies, and then they get hold of them. If they have their way, the next generation will be a priest-ridden generation, and then the old country will lose her place among the nations of the earth. I'm going to do my level best to prevent that. The pest has appeared in this little corner of the world, and I'm going to do my best to stamp it out.

"Well," said Applebrother, "it's nearly time for tiffin. Let's have a cocktail."

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHRIST CHURCH.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I apologize to Mr. Wilson. I was quite unaware of any such practice as "breathing on the bread and chalice," and so was Mr. Field. Mr. Wilson's accusation rested therefore, as stated, on pure, unfounded suspicion.

Several of the "illegalities" charged have been allowed by later judgments to be legal. I do not think it is usual to quote earlier judgments on a question when later judgments have either endorsed or overruled them.

Mrs. Wilson's short letter to me, which you publish to-day, is referred to in one of those which you published the other day. Unfortunately I had torn it up before I knew that anything would come of all this, as it did not seem important.

Wm. AWDRY, Bishop.

Tokyo, 1st May, 1903.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Now that Bishop Awdry and Mr. Field are cognisant of the superstition attached to the "breathing," is it too much to ask that the practice be discontinued, if not on superstitious then upon sanitary grounds.

Bishop Awdry has not yet stated which of the acts objected to, have been allowed by later judgments, and, until this is done, I can only reply upon the latest I know of. I have sent to London for copies of the six latest judgments, which ought to be sufficient evidence for all parties. I am quite aware that the Ritualists are in the habit of quoting the Lambeth judgment of the Archbishop in the Lincoln case, but this was a Court of first instance which had no power to over-ride or vary the judgment of the Supreme Court in Martin *v.* Mackonochie.

It appears strange that Bishop Awdry should have carefully preserved Mrs. Wilson's first letter and torn up the second, which contained permission to publish the correspondence and, at the same time, gave some information which, perhaps, was not generally known.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully, W. K. WILSON.

Yokohama, May 4th, 1903.

CRUELTY TO HORSES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—We have all been much interested in the correspondence and discussions in your columns with reference to alleged cruelty of Japanese to their children. I beg to remark that I entirely agree with you that cruelty to children among Japanese is fortunately not generally to be found. That they are almost criminally indifferent, careless and irresponsible is a fact that is too well-known to need discussion; but, as you say, they certainly seem to mean kindly to their children.

The object of my letter is to call the attention of the public to a cruelty which is far more common, and far more pronounced viz. cruelty to horses. It must indeed be an eye-opener to foreigners who visit Japan for the first time to witness the absolutely disgraceful cruelty which is inflicted upon horses every day in Yokohama and Tokyo. It seems astonishing that a so-called enlightened municipal government should allow, with its eyes open, the deplorable cruelty which is practised on horses. If any of your readers wish to challenge this statement, I would simply request them to post themselves either on Camp Hill or on Jizosaka at any time of day they like, and there they will see sights sufficient to make them quite sick. In addition to this, an omnibus is allowed to run from Hiranuma Station to Sugita, with one wretched horse, half starved, and carrying six people inside and a driver and conductor.

Why should there not be a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, and why should not this matter be properly taken up by the authorities? Let the owners of cart-horses be fined if they over burden their animals going up hills. That should stop it!

It is a crying disgrace, in a country which has as much civilization as Japan has, that a domestic animal, so much valued as the horse, should receive such brutal treatment and so little respect.

I only wish to add that if there is to be any discussion about alleviating cruelty, then let it at once be afforded to horses, which surely require it a great deal more than children.

I am, Sir, Yours faithfully, "X."

Yokohama, 4th March, 1903.

There is such a society but we do not see any results of its existence.—Ed. *J. M.*]

MRS. ANDREWS' ESSAY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your editorial of this morning calls for a word or two on my part of the correspondence regarding Mrs. Andrews' Essay. In the first place you have read my article a little hastily. I did not confuse the use of the moxa with burning with a coal—did not speak of the moxa as a means of discipline. What I said was that in a country where the moxa and acupuncture were common methods of medical treatment burning with a coal or pricking with a needle did not indicate a specially savage disposition. But perhaps the editor had not heard of the forms of punishment which I mentioned. Of course what I meant was that being accustomed to the one the other would not seem particularly harsh.

Another correction ought to be made. I did not intimate that the cases Mrs. Andrews mentioned were typical; but it seemed to me and to others that the editor impugned Mrs. Andrew's truthfulness in the expression that the children she observed were not Japanese children, &c., and I simply stated that I had observed just such things. I am glad that the editor's language was not intended as some of us took it.

Another correction. You say of the moxa as a means of punishment, "It is invariably applied either to the middle joint of the forefinger or to the great toe." The Editor is mistaken in this. I have a very dear friend who is a noble fellow now but laughingly shows the scars where he was burned for mischievousness when he was a boy. These scars are in various places, notably at the base of his neck. What seems strange to us now is his statement that two were burnt on him at one time at a police station for the offence of truancy. This of course occurred some 25 years ago perhaps.

I dislike to be drawn a second time into this controversy lest I be misunderstood as bringing a "railing accusation" where I have no such intention.

MIMASHITA.

April 5th, 1903.

THE TREATMENT OF JAPANESE CHILDREN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It was not my intention to refer again to the subject of ill-treatment of Japanese children, but seeing that "Mimashita" has this morning made a few further remarks on the subject perhaps you will pardon my doing the same.

I am by no means confounding a curative with a punitive treatment as you suggest. I am perfectly aware that the moxa is applied by the lower classes as a remedy for various complaints, notably for "senki" or lumbago, and pains and aches generally. By jinrikisha coolies and such like the moxa is applied along the spine, and from the knee downwards, leaving unsightly scars. I must say I have never noticed it on the "middle joint of the forefinger or on the great toe," as you say. It is frequently applied to either side of the navel to allay pains in the stomach.

The scars made by the application of the moxa are indelible and an operation that leaves such scars must necessarily be extremely painful. If an adult man or woman likes to disfigure himself or herself in this manner, no one is concerned but themselves, but I maintain that applied to little children the practice is a barbarous one and should be prohibited by the authorities. That the lower classes of Japanese doubtless believe that in burning holes in their children's bodies they are administering a wholesome corrective, curative as well as punitive, I do not deny; but I take exception to the *frequent* use of the moxa for no other reason than that of punishment.

A correspondent of yours compares it with the use of the birch or switch, which he states is far more cruel. Whether it is or not is beside the matter. It is a frequent argument when criticising the Japanese to point out that westerners are no better, or worse, in some of their manners and customs. That appears to me no argument at all. Two wrongs don't make a right and to argue that Japanese children should be burnt, because European children are switched is absurd.

I saw, a short time ago, a child about five years old running naked about the beach at Negishi. Its legs and body were simply covered with the moxa scars, some still fresh and bleeding. I asked its mother, who is known to me, the reasons of such cruelty and she gave me the invariable answer, "Itadzura de shiyo ga nai." She had to be continually burning the child with the moxa as a corrective for its naughtiness. This is a fact, and I know of dozens of children in the same district in the same plight. I maintain that punishment by the use of the moxa is barbarous, and parents should be heavily fined who practice this form of correction for their children.

I am, Sir, Yours, &c., "B."

Yokohama, May 5th, 1903.

[We fully agree that the moxa as a form of punishment should be abolished.—Ed *J. M.*]

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Will you allow one who has come in close contact with the people of Japan, especially the children, in several widely separated but representative localities, during nearly a score of years, to say a word on the subject that called forth your severe editorial criticising the article in the *Spirit of Missions* by Mrs. Andrews.

Mrs. Andrews is an entire stranger to me, but, I dare say, she was trying to give to those "at home," financially responsible for the work of missions, a true picture of the conditions with which she has to contend.

Like "Mimashita" I have had a great deal of experience with Sunday School work, not chiefly in

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connection with that in organized churches, but largely in opening new work; however, it has not been confined to the "lowest classes." Right here I think a word of explanation is needed. What is meant by "lowest orders," Do you mean the *heimin* of feudal days or the coolie class of the present? I contend that nineteen-twentieths of the people who are neither nobility, nor aristocracy of "old days" are as typical Japanese as any. Almost without exception, the children with whom I have had dealings have been the regular attendants of the public schools. To illustrate: one Sunday School has been in a garrison town where the children range from farmer's sons through the shop-keeping classes to those of high army officials and here the most unruly and ill-mannered boy of all was the son of an army officer. Certainly the school children are typical Japanese children. In short, I believe that children bearing a "striking resemblance" to those of Mito are not unusual in the parts of Japan with which I am acquainted and in my experience the son of a farmer or carpenter is quite as likely to be "a little gentleman" as the son of an official.

My observation also leads me to believe that the Japanese mother, as a rule, is subservient to the wishes of her children from infancy, especially the boys, unreasonable though they often are, and seldom requires or receives unquestioning and unbought obedience. Often and often, have I expostulated with Japanese mothers for thus doing and, the invariable reply had been that it is regrettable but can't be helped—in Japan.

Only a few days before your editorial appeared a Japanese Sunday School teacher asked her class what a mother promised when she wished her child to do something. Promptly came the emphatic answer *kwashi*. When remonstrating with the teacher for appealing to so low a standard she replied that since it was an ordinary custom for mothers thus to pay their children she thought they would easily understand the point she was trying to illustrate.

It is to our interest and comfort to think the very best of Japanese children, but after varied experience, I am compelled to believe that they, in general, have not the phenomenal docility which some ascribe to them.

Yours sincerely,
A FRIEND OF THE JAPANESE.

Fukui, May 6th, 1903.

[This correspondent represents Japanese mothers as ruling their children with cakes. Is not that a new issue?—ED. *J. M.*]

THE "NIROKU'S" NEWS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reference to the smart piece of news which you reproduce from the *Niroku* in yesterday's *Daily Mail*, I am in a situation to supply the rather incomplete details furnished by the Japanese journal, with the most precise information. This will solve the doubts about those missionaries whose interest in the works which are now going on at Fushi and other ports seems not a little suspicious. Those missionaries can be no one else but Russians or friends of the Russians; and the designs of the Russians upon Toyama Bay are pretty well-known.

But what the *Niroku* appears to ignore will greatly surprise its readers—if they are told of the fact: is that there exists from Wladivostock to Toyama a submarine tunnel with an exit right under the Catholic Church of the latter place. That's where the invasion of Japan by the Northern Bear is to take place. No wonder therefore that the suspected missionaries must have been awfully perplexed on witnessing the works now carried on in the port of Fushi and others, for fear that too deep a digging would swamp the mysterious tunnel which lies just underneath "Caveant Consules."
OIE DU CAPITOLE.

Yokohama, May 6th, 1903.

THE FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

FINAL STATEMENT.

Yokohama, 5th May, 1903.

The Trustees of the Aomori Famine Relief Fund have the satisfaction to submit to their fellow residents in Japan a rough resume of Receipts and Expenditure of the amounts subscribed to this Fund; and a memorandum drawn up by the Rev. Walter Weston, giving details of how this money was expended.

	Yen.
Disbursements in Yokohama and Tokyo for Rice, Awa, Miso and Blankets forwarded to Aomori (as per Vouchers) and carriage of the same	11,099.99
Disbursements in Aomori for supplies and general expenses (as per Vouchers) *yen* 12,656.61 costing to remit	12,661.81
	23,761.80
Total amount of subscriptions, acknowledged in the newspapers	23,833.30

It has been arranged through Mr. Walter Weston that the small balance remaining and any further subscriptions that may be received, shall be left in the hands of Mr. St. George Tucker to be disbursed, in conjunction with the Governor of Aomori, for the relief of those still in need from Famine causes in the Aomori Province.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the invaluable services of the Rev. Walter Weston, who not only gave his time and exertions to the distribution of Relief but entirely at his own expense personally superintended the work, under very trying circumstances.

They also gratefully acknowledge the inestimable assistance rendered to Mr. Weston by Messrs. Parrot and St. George Tucker in the Relief Work.

Public achnowledgment and thanks are also due to Their Excellencies the Governors of the Kanagawa and Aomori-kens for their cordial assistance and co-operation in this work; to the Railway Authorities for carrying supplies to those in need at reduced rates; and to the newspapers of Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki for the great assistance they rendered in the work.

Finally, the Trustees offer their congratulations to their fellow residents for a good work promptly done.

(Sigd.) T. S. BAKER.
" R. D. ROBISON.
" JAMES DODDS.
" J. S. HAPPER for J. W. COPMANN.
" H. J. HOLM.

MEMORANDUM BY THE REV. WALTER WESTON.

In presenting to the Subscribers to the Aomori Famine Fund a statement of accounts, it may be well to add a brief report not only of the extent of the relief afforded, but also of the method of its distribution.

With the active co-operation of the Governor of the Prefecture, I was able, with my colleagues, to make a personal and thorough inspection of a large number of villages in the most severely affected districts, and to arrange for suitable relief supplies to be distributed to the most needy of the starving peasantry. Throughout the whole of these journeys we met with the greatest courtesy, and every possible assistance was afforded by all the local officials, whose intimate knowledge of the circumstances of their people was invaluable in determining the amount and character of the relief needed. After settling these essential conditions, a representative of each household concerned was provided with a ticket specifying the extent of food, etc. to which they were entitled. On presenting this periodically at village *yakuba* they received their share, for which they gave the *soncho* their receipt. The *soncho* himself in each case keeps corresponding accounts which will be handed in to me through the Governor, so that all the supplies provided will be accurately accounted for. In each case these have been provided for a period of two months, by the end of which time it is hoped that other measures instituted by prefectural authorities will begin to take effect with a view to restoring the normal condition of the classes affected by the famine.

After making the above arrangements for the main part of the Prefecture, I was able to secure similar measures for the north-western districts through Mr. St. George Tucker of Hirosaki who did admirable work under very trying conditions. The gratitude of the sufferers relieved was not only most warmly expressed by themselves at the time, but also no less than forty-two letters of thanks have been sent on their behalf by their representatives at various centres throughout the whole of the Prefecture. These all indicate such a genuine and lively sense of the prompt and generous action taken by the Foreign Community in Japan, as must afford conclusive proof of the reality and extent of the sufferings that have been relieved. Moreover, not the least service that the Foreign Community have rendered to the starving peasantry has been that of effectually drawing the attention and enlisting the support of their own Japanese fellow countrymen on their behalf. With regard to the numbers of those who have been relieved we are glad to be able to give the following figures:—

Higashi Tsugaru Gun	1,084
Kami Kita Gun	1,700
Sannohe Gun	2,561
Nishi Tsugaru Gun	673
Kita Tsugaru Gun	815
Naka Tsugaru Gun	750
Hirosaki Shi	169
Minami Tsugaru Gun	550
Shimo Kita Gun	55
Aomori Shi	62
Total	8,419

Amongst those who have kindly sent gifts of clothing, etc., are several working parties of Japanese Christians and others through the instrumentality of Mrs. W. G. Smith and Mr. George Braithwaite respectively, to whom best thanks are due. A welcome gift of *yen* 7 was also handed to the Rev. W. Weston by some young people at Christ Church, Yokohama, through their treasurer, Miss McIvor.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

MANCHURIA.

London, May 1.

Count Lamsdorff has assured the American Ambassador that Russia has no intention of depriving foreigners of the advantages they now enjoy in Manchuria, of conferring any special privileges on Russia, or in any way closing the open door. On the contrary Russia is anxious to attract American commerce and capital.

RUSSIA'S DEMANDS.

Later.

Lord Cranborne has confirmed the fact that Russia has disclaimed any knowledge of the Manchurian demands, of any intention to take exclusive privileges in Manchuria, or of departing from the assurances, she has already given.

KING EDWARD'S TOUR.

London, May 2.

King Edward has left Rome.

GREAT BRITAIN AND SOMALILAND.

During the course of a debate on Somaliland in the House of Commons, the Hon. St. John Brodrick, the Secretary for War, said that the British Government had no intention of administering or holding the country. Its policy was to keep the coastline and protect the friendly tribes, but it was not prepared to incur further heavy expenditure.

A motion to reduce the war supplies vote was rejected.

BOMB OUTRAGES IN TURKEY.

Desperate bomb outrages have taken place in Salonika. The Ottoman aud Mitylene banks were blown up. The Messageries Maritimes steamer *Guadalquiver* was blown in two as she was leaving Salonika. Bombs have been thrown in the cafés and the principal streets.

KING EDWARD IN PARIS.

Later.

King Edward's reception in Paris was highly gratifying.

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the House of Lords, with regard to the Manchurian question, said:—"The Russian Ambassador informed me that the discussions which are proceeding in Peking concern Manchuria alone, and relate to certain guarantees indispensable for securing Russian interests after the evacuation. It is far from the intention of Russia to exclude foreign consuls or to obstruct foreign trade. The development of foreign trade is one of the main objects of Russia.

KING EDWARD'S RECEPTION IN PARIS.

London, May 3.

President Loubet received King Edward at the Elysee and the interview lasted twenty minutes. His Majesty then returned to the English Embassy. Receiving an address from the British Chamber of Commerce, the King said he trusted that the days of conflict between England and France were happily over. The two countries might be regarded as the champions of the peaceful progress of civilization.

King Edward's reception everywhere was remarkably enthusiastic. The King is gratified at the reception tendered him not only by the officials but by the general public.

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London, May 4.

The King's reply to the address presented to him by the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris was unusually warm and is regarded as extremely important. His Majesty said that Providence had designed France to be our dear neighbour. He went on to say:—"I hope she will ever be our dear friend and that all misunderstandings and differences of the past are happily removed and forgotten. I trust that the feeling of admiration that we all have for the French and their glorious traditions may develope into a sense of the warmest affection and attachment."

THE KAISER AND THE POPE.

The Kaiser has visited the Pope in great state.

KING EDWARD IN FRANCE.

London, May 5.

King Edward had two private conferences with M. Delcasse.

A brilliant banquet was given at the British Embassy in honour of President Loubet. The King personally received President and Madame Loubet. Eighty-two persons were present, including Ministers, Diplomatists and their wives.

SALONICA.

A state of siege prevails at Salonica. Italy and France are sending warships.

The Sultan has assured Mr. Zinovieff that active measures are being undertaken to repress the Albanians.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

Later.

In Berlin the semi-official *Post* says that a real Anglo-French *entente* is impossible; friction is sure to occur. Meanwhile Germany is a benevolent spectator, regarding the *entente* as a new guarantee for peace.

President Loubet and his Ministers took a cordial farewell of King Edward at the railway station. His Majesty thanked the President for the cordial reception given him, which he would never forget. He added that it had been an enchanted visit.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

London, May 6.

Mr. G. Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, has moved the second reading of the Irish Land Bill.

Mr. John Redmond severely criticized the details of the scheme and entreated the Government to adopt some essential amendments upon which both landlords and tenants were agreed, otherwise the Nationalists could not support the Bill.

KING EDWARD.

The King entertained the French and English officers at dinner on the 4th May, at Cherbourg, on board the Royal yacht.

KING EDWARD ARRIVES HOME.

London, May 7.

King Edward on arriving in London met with an exceptionally enthusiastic reception, emphasizing the nation's appreciation of the results of his tour.

SOMALILAND.

It is rumoured at Aden that the Mullah attacked a column at Galadi and was repulsed with heavy loss. The British losses were considerable.

GERMANY'S TRADE POLICY.

Later.

The Prussian Minister of Commerce, speaking at Magdeburg, urged the concentration of capital, which was the only weapon Germany had wherewith to fight the United States.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE PERSIAN GULF.

Lord Lansdowne, speaking in the House of Lords, said the British Government would resist the establishment of a foreign naval base on the Persian Gulf by all the means at its disposal, but he was unaware of any proposal to that effect. The Government's policy on the Gulf was to protect and promote British commerce without aiming at the exclusion of the legitimate trade of other Powers.

TRANSVAAL LOAN.

Later.

The House of Commons has passed a resolution guaranteeing the Transvaal loan of £35,000,000, whereof the bulk is to be devoted to the development of the country, including the acquisition and construction of railroads, irrigation of land, and the settlement and conversion of the old Transvaal debt.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

Saigon, May 1.

President Loubet, returning from Bizerta, has arrived at Marseilles.

KING EDWARD IN FRANCE.

The King of England will arrive to-morrow afternoon. Many streets are decorated and flagged.

EXPLOSION IN CANADA.

The mountain Tortue (?) in Canada has erupted. A hundred persons were killed.

PARIS AND KING EDWARD.

Saigon, May 2.

The King of England has arrived. The President of the Republic received him at the station. There was an immense crowd along the whole route of the cortege as far as the Embassy. The acclamations were warm.

MACEDONIA.

The Bulgarians have thrown several bombs in Salonika and have set fire to the Ottoman Bank. Many people have been killed and wounded.

KING EDWARD IN PARIS.

Saigon, May 3.

The King of England, in receiving the British Chamber of Commerce in Paris, expressed his satisfaction at the warm welcome given to him in the French metropolis. His Majesty said that the misunderstandings which may have existed with France are ended and forgotten.

The King went in the evening with the President of the Republic to a representation at the Theâtre-Français. All the way was splendidly illuminated. They had been present in the morning at a review at Vincennes, and at a reception in the Hotel-de-Ville. In the afternoon they went to the races at Longchamps. The acclamations continue.

Saigon, May 4.

At a banquet given at the Palais Elysee last evening, the President, M. Loubet, said that the visit of the King of England would strengthen the friendly relations now existing between the two countries. His Majesty King Edward drank to the *rapprochement* of the two countries in their common interests and in the interests of peace and commerce.

There was a brilliant scene at the Opera and enormous crowds thronged the route and cheered the King.

His Majesty lunched to-day with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

EMPEROR WILLIAM.

The Emperor William has arrived in Rome.

KING EDWARD'S VISIT.

Saigon, May 5.

King Edward the Seventh has presented to the Prime Minister, M. Combes, and to M. Delcassé the Grand Cross of the Victorian Order. His Majesty dined at the Embassy. There were no toasts. The King set out in the morning proceeding *viâ* Cherbourg. Cordial adieux took place at the station. His Majesty expressed feelingly to M. Loubet his thanks and the pleasure his visit had given him.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF ALGIERS.

Saigon, May 6.

The President of the Republic has signed the nomination of M. Jonnart as Governor-General of Algiers in succession to M. Revoil.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward left Cherbourg in the morning. The press of England and that of France agree in expressing the opinion that the visit of the King will powerfully aid the *rapprochement* between the two nations.

THE TROUBLED BALKANS.

Saigon, May 7.

Stores of dynamite have been found in Salonica, and new arrests have been made in the town.

A fight has taken place at Okhorda, near Monastier. Seventy insurgents and 100 Turks were killed.

FAMINE IN KWANGSI.

The Consul at Canton telegraphs to Washington that 150,000 persons are dying of famine in Kwangsi.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST.")

THE KAISER'S TRIP TO ROME.

Berlin, May 3.

The Kaiser, the Crown-Prince, Graf Waldersee and the Reichskanzler Graf Bülow have arrived in Rome.

RELIEFS.

The transport with the reliefs for the East-Asia cruising fleet has left Kiel.

SALONICA.

The disturbances continue in Salonica. A naval demonstration of Austria and Italy is impending. An Italian squadron is already anchoring off Salonica, an Austrian will follow immediately.

THE KAISER IN ROME.

Berlin, May 4.

The reception of Emperor Wilhelm in Rome was splendid, the frenzy of the people being grand. The Kaiser's visit to the Pope took a most cordial course. He was accompanied by the Crown-Prince and Prince Eitelfritz. The Kaiser was in a *tête-à-tête* with the Pope for half-an-hour. The toasts exchanged in the Quirinal glorified the German-Italian alliance in the warmest expressions and dwelt upon its immutability.

THE FRENCH PRESS NON-COMMITTAL.

The French papers for the time being keep silence about King Edward's words concerning the French-English reconciliation.

THE SALONICA TROUBLES.

The incidents of Salonica are of a very serious nature. The number of the dead is exaggerated. Turkey and the Powers urgently remonstrated with Bulgaria. A naval demonstration of the Powers provisionally is not intended. The ships arrived only for the purpose of protecting the foreigners. The German guardship *Loreley* stationed in Constantinople will enter the port of Salonica to-morrow.

MANCHURIA.

The news from Japan states that the Manchurian question there is looked at in a more quiet way than before.

THE KAISER IN ROME.

Berlin, May 7.

The Holy Father presented the Kaiser with a mosaic painting of the Forum Romanum and Graf Bülow with a collection of gold medals stamped by

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the pontiffs in memory of their reign. An enthusiastic crowd accompanied Emperor Wilhelm and King Emanuel when they were received in the monastery of Monte Cassino. The Kaiser and the Chancellor will leave for Schaffhausen, the Crown-Prince returning direct to Berlin.

KING EDWARD IN FRANCE.

The French press state that the visit of King Edward in Paris has not brought about political arrangements but only has caused an improvement of the relations between both France and England.

SALONICA.

No further men-of-war have arrived off Salonica. The relations between Turkey and Bulgaria are very much strained. In Constantinople precautions are taken. The houses of the foreigners and the embassies are occupied by troops.

HUGE AMERICAN FREIGHTER.

A telegram of April 16th from New London (Conn.), said:—The steamship *Minnesota*, built for the Great Northern Steamship Company, of which J. J. Hill is president, was launched here to-day. The vessel, and a sister ship now building, are to be used in the Pacific trade. A great gathering witnessed the launching of this, the largest vessel of the American merchant fleet.

The *Minnesota* is the largest American freighter in the world. She surpasses in size the *Oceanic* and the *Deutschland* but is not as large as the White Star line passenger vessels *Cedric* and *Celtic*. The Minnesota will carry as much cargo as can be laden on thirty-five railway trains, each of twenty of the largest freight cars made. She has sixteen tubular boilers. Her length is 680 feet, beam seventy-three feet, depth of hold fifty-six feet, and her displacement 33,000 tons. Her speed is to be fourteen knots an hour, secured by twin screws and triple expansion engines of 10,000 horse-power.

The vessel and her sister vessel, which is now under construction, are the product of the yards of Eastern Shipbuilding Company, of New London, Conn. It is a significant fact that these two largest vessels of the American merchant marine are to be engaged in the Pacific carrying trade.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian 1	Su. May 10
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru 2	M. May 11
Europe	M. M. Co.	Salazie 3	W. May 13
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Zieten 4	W. May 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru 5	Th. May 14
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Hyades 6	F. May 15
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar 7	F. May 15
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. May 18
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru 8	M. May 18
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 9	Tu. May 19
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Lyra	W. May 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan	Th. May 21
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	F. May 22
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	W. May 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. May 31

1 Left Vancouver on the 23rd ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 22nd ult
3 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 5th inst
6 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
7 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
8 Left Seattle on the 2nd inst.
9 Left San Francisco on the 30th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Sa. May 9
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	M. May 11
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. May 13
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakusan Maru	Th. May 14
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	F. May 15
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Hyades	Sa. May 16
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Zieten	Su. May 16
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kanagawa Maru	Sa. May 16
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar	Sa. May 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M. May 18
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru	Tu. May 19
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. May 20
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Lyra	Th. May 21
Europe	M. M. Co.	Salazie	F. May 22
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F. May 22
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	Sa. May 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. May 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 2

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Phu Yen, French steamer, 1246, N. Thomas, 1st May,—Saigon, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lothian, British steamer, 3,225, J. C. Williamson, 1st May,—New York, General.—Dodwell & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 1st May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeija Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, A. Yamashita, 1st May—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 1st May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Petriana, British steamer, 1,148, Wm. Kerr, 1st May,—Batoum, Kerosene.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Supply, U.S. cruiser, 3,000, Capt. S. H. Schofield, 2nd May,—Guam.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, A. F. Street, 2nd May,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 2nd May.—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 3rd May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 3rd May,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Keemun, British steamer, 4,897, D. Davis, 3rd May, —Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 3rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 3rd May,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 3rd May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 4th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, F. E. Beadnell, 4th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —O. & O. S.S. Co.

Cressy, British cruiser, 12,000, Capt. Tudor, 4th May, —Weihaiwei.

Melpomene, Austrian steamer, 1,854, F. Tosoni, 4th May,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Heathdene, British steamer, 2,277, W. J. Melburn, 4th May,—Iloilo, Sugar.—J. Puig.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 6th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, Parsons, 6th May,—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 6th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nubia, German steamer, 2,234, von Hoff, 7th May, —New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, H. Porter, 7th May,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3995, J. W. Ekstrand, 7th May,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 7th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 1st May,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 1st May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bayern, German steamer, 3,128, B. Bleeker, 2nd May,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,881, J. B. McMillan, 2nd May,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Marburg, German steamer, 3,887, Stern, 2nd May, —Calcutta via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 2nd May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 4,461, Hugh Nish, 2nd May,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kinross, British ship, 1,309, H. W. Campling, 2nd May,—San Francisco, Ballast.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Lothian, British steamer, 3,225, J. C. Williamson, 3rd May,—Hongkong, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yorktown, U.S. gunboat, 1,710, Com. A. Ward, 3rd May,—San Francisco.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 3rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 3rd May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 4th May, —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 4th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 4th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, Y. Tanuke, 4th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 4th May,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nurani, British steamer, 2,870, J. M. Thomasen, 4th May,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 299, R. Scherbinin, 4th May,—Nagasaki, General.—Smith Baker & Co.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 5th May,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hudson, British steamer, 2,376, Burnett, 5th May,—New York via ports, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Argonaut, British cruiser, ——, Capt. Geo. Henry Cross, 5th May,—Kobe.

Supply, U.S. cruiser, 3,000, Capt. S. H. Schofield, 6th May,—Uraga.

Don Juan de Austria, U.S. cruiser, ——, Capt. Ward, 6th May,—Uraga.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, Frank E. Beadnell, 6th May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Keemun, British steamer, 4,797, D. Davis, 6th May, —Victoria, B.C., Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 6th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Piemonte, Italian cruiser, 2,900, Capt. Marquis F. Baggio Ducarne, 6th May,—Yokkaichi via Kobe.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 6th May,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Phuyen, French steamer, 1,246, N. Thomas, 6th May, —Moji, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ernest Legouve, French bark, 1,721, Pillixuyt, 6th May,—New Castle, Ballast.—Order.

Princeton, U.S. gunboat, 1,000, Capt. F. Porter, 7th May,—San Francisco.

Melpomene, Austrian steamer, 1,854, F. Tosoni, 7th May,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 7th May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Courrie, British steamer, 3,155, A. E. McDonnell, 7th May,—Borneo, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Pasha, British steamer, 3,829, H. Elliot, 7th May,—Kobe, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Petriana, British steamer, 1,148, Wm. Kerr, 7th May,—Hiak Pappan, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 7th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 7th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mr. John Griffin, Miss F. Deming, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Glasse, Mr. V. F. Riddee and Mr. S. Miye in cabin; Mr. I. Gould, Mr. S. Ohashi and 11 Chinese in Second Class; 49 Passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Rev. R. F. Alexander, Mrs. Alexander, Miss B. Alexander, Mr. W. L. Crow, Mrs. Crow, Dr. E. L. Potter, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. N. R. Gedge, Mrs. F. Gaylord, Mr. R. V. Dennison, Mr. Chas. H. Rose, Mrs. Rose, Mr. E. C. Dunn, Mrs. A. Bodkin, Miss Bodkin, Mrs. A. C. Bull, Mr. A. C. Gardiner, Mr. G. H. B. Hayes, Mrs. C. G. Smith and infant, Miss N. White, Mr. E. G. Brolber, Mr. F. Gaylord, Mr. H. Baneal, Mr. G. O. Bowers, Mr. S. Haye, and Mr. Dunn, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. J. D. Atkinson, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mrs. E. Emery, Miss Faith Emery, and Miss Emma Hahn, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Miss V. Blair and maid, Dr. W. V. Koch, Mrs. Koch, Mr. E. B. Hibberdine, Mr. A. Kosan, Mrs. Kosan and 5 children, Mr. Chas. Cuttriss, Mr. W. K. Grant, Mr. G. Grose-

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berk, Mr. Lai Kah, and Mrs. Leo Shee and child, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kaga Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. L. Sutor, Mr. C. H. Thorn, Mr. W. E. Sutor, and Mr. W. S. Price, in cabin. In Transit:—Mr. E. Hardy, Mr. and Mrs. Bucknay and 3 children, Mr. Nunsford and child Mrs. Fitch, Miss Price, Mr. C. Davis, Mrs. W. Howard, Lieut. Harvey, Mr. S. S. Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. F. Flayler, Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham and child, Mrs. Macondray and child, and Mr. H. H. Shadgott, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. Arnold, Mr. C. Pemberton, Mrs. Pemberton, Mr. J. F. Robbitt, Mr. T. D. Harris, Miss Dr. Burnham, Miss Clemoux, Miss Freeman, Mr. K. Kanatani, Miss Krouse, Miss Duncan, Miss C. D. Loomis, Mr. G. Ackermann, Mr. E. J. Bates, and Mrs. Senes, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. L. L. Gammell and infant, Master Gammell, Mr. M. Innes, Mr. H. Hugo, Mr. V. E. Miller, Mr. IB. A. Albro, Mrs. E. J. Austin, Mrs. R. E. Chamberain, Mrs. A. McLeod, Mr. S. P. Lee, Mr. C. O. Liddell, Mr. L. G. C. Graham, Mr. J. P. Roberts, Mrs. W. H. Bishop, Miss C. Bishop, Mr. F. T. Clark, Mr. P. Blesky, Mr. C. A. V. Bowra, Mrs. Bowra, Miss Bowra, Master Bowra, Master Bowra, Rev. T. L. Elliot, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. F. de V. Miller, Mr. Poindexter, and Miss Miller, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. A. R. Allan, Mr. H. Beinssen, Mrs. H. Beinssen, Mr. R. Belfield, Mrs. R. Belfield, Hon. Arthur Boyer, Mr. C. Bertram, Mr. G. H. Bethune, Baron von Carstanjen, Mrs. P. B. Clarke, Miss C. P. Clark, Mr. E. L. Cockell, Mr. R. Home Cook, Mrs. R. Home Cook, Miss G. Cook, Mr. W. A. Cruikshank, Mr. H. Gordon Cumming, Mrs. H. Gordon Cumming, Miss Cunliffe, Miss K. O. Curts, Mr. J. Denholm, Major W. A. C. Denny, Mrs. W. A. C. Denny, Mr. H. L. Dennys, Mrs. H. L. Dennys, Mr. Keville Doherty, Mr. L. Watts Doney, Capt. G. Duff R.A., Mr. James Eastwick, Mrs. James Eastwick, Miss M. H. Eastwick, Miss C. L. Eastwick, Miss Edwards, Mr. N. G. Evans, Lieut. M. C. Festing, R.M.L.I., and valet, Dr. R. Fielding-Ould, Hon. Sydney Fisher, Mr. E. Fitzgerald, Mr. P. Fowler, Senator G. T. Fulford, Miss Fulford, Miss M. Fulford, Rev. A. R. Fuller, Miss Graham, Dr. J. C. Graham, Mrs. R. G. Greig, Miss Greig, Mr. G. A. Greig, Mr. H. Guioneaud, Rev. G. H. Hamlen, Mrs. G. H. Hamlen and 3 children, Mrs. Harvey, Miss Hatchell, Mr. W. H. Hay, Miss Hickling, Capt. Hodgins, Mrs. Hodgins and child, Mr. C. R. Holcombe, Mr. H. H. Horsey, Mrs. H. H. Horsey, Mr. Houston, Mrs. Houston, Miss A. M. Hunt, Mr. W. Hutchison, Miss Johnson, Mr. F. R. Jones, Mr. H. E. Kahn, Mr. O. von Kapp, Mr. C. H. Lazard, Mr. C. V. Lloyd, Mr. H. J. Mason, Mrs. H. J. Mason, Mr. J. P. McCoy, Rev. McGaw, Mrs. McGaw, Mr. G McGie, Mr. R. P. McGrann, Mrs. R. P. McGrann, Mr. W. E. Milne-Redhead, Miss. E. S. Mitchell, Mr. C. E. Morford, Mr. W. J. Myatt, Mrs. W. J. Myatt, Mrs. S. E. Newton, Miss Nichols, Mr. F. J. Norbury, Mrs. F. J. Norbury, Mr. J. E. Norten, Paymaster C. R. O'Leary, Mrs. O'Leary, Mr. J. Orange, Mr. A. G. Paton, Mr, Georges R. Pereire, Miss Dr. N.M. Phillips, Lieut. T. E. Pooley, Mr. A. J. Richardson, Miss E. D. Robertson, Mr. R. T. Robertson, Mrs. S. Robinson, Major C. E., Salveson, Mr. John Shearer, Miss Slake, Mrs. Oliver Smith, Miss Dr. S. H. Smith, Rev. W. E. Smith, Mrs. Smith & 3 children, Mr. Hugh S. Smith, Mr. W. G. St. Clair, Capt. E. A. Stotherd, Mr. Carl Strakosch, Mrs. Carl Strakosch, Miss Strakosch, Mr. H. A. Tash, Mr. E. C. Taylor, Mr. Arthur Turner, Mr. J. J. Van Allen, Mr. L. Veyret, Mr. Wahl, Mrs. Wahl, Lieut. C.E. Wallace, Mr. H. M. Warren, Mrs. H. M. Warren, Miss Warren, Mr. H. M. Warren, Master D. S. Warren, Master R. F. Warren, Miss Watson, Mr. G. L. Watson, Mr. R. D. Webster, Mr. Wm. Whiston, Mrs. Wm. Whiston, Miss Whiston, Mr. S. White, Miss E. Williams, Mr. W. H. Wilson, and Mrs. Lee Yick You, and 3 children, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Bayern*, for Europe via ports:—Capt. Trumuler, Mrs. Trumuler, Mr. W. Silver Hall, Mr. James Green, Mr. R. M. Stirling and native servant, Mr. T. E. Carte, Mr. E. Kramer, Mr. H. Clement, Mr. W. A. Pavlow, Mrs. Pavlow, Com. W. Roussine, Mr. Barahacheff and native servant, Madam Iswolski, 2 children and governess, Mr. E. Aeppli, Mr. Geo. Williams, Dr. T. K. Fong, Mr. and Mrs. Porter, Mr. Schilling, Mr. Geo. T. Finch, Mr. Westphal, Mr. H. M. Andrews, Lieut. De la Croix, Prof. Dr. T. Aoyama, Mr. and Mrs. Maslenikoff, 2 children, maid and native servant, Mrs. H. V. S. Peeke, Mr. B. W. Anderson, Madam Iswolski's servants, Mr. Akiyama, Mr. Ikeda, Mr. J. D. McMillan, Mr. J. W. Osborn, Mr. and Mrs. F. Copley Moyle, Mr. S. Kitagawa, Miss Anna Conover, and Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Allcot, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakasa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. Z. Tomotaka, Mr. K. Ugamura, Mr. S. Fumazawa, Mr. T. Komatsu, Mrs. R. Takahata, Mr. A. R. Weigall, Mr. and Mrs. Iwanaga, Mr. T. Masaki, Mr. G. W. Goodison, Mr. T. Okamura, Dr. G. Hotta, Miss E. W. Hallewell, Miss Johnstone, and Mr. H. Tominaga, in cabin; Mr. W. Mori, Mr. K. Narushima, Mr. F. Ono, Mr. and Mrs. K. Watanabe, Mrs. T. Watanabe and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. K. Mitsuyama, Mrs. Mitsuyama, Mr. M. L. Robb, Mr. C. J. Yiebert, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. Lassueur, Mr. E. Spilsburg, and Mr. E. Bowles, in second class; 32, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. D. Atkinson, Mrs. J. L. Atkinson, Miss V. Blair and maid, Miss Carpenter, Mr. Chas. Cuttriss, Mrs. E. Emry, Mr. W. H. Grant, Miss Emma Hahn, Mr. E. C. Hibberdine, Miss Judge, Mr. Lai Kah, Dr. W. V. Koch, Mrs. W. V. Koch, Mr. A. Koosan, Mrs. A. Koosan and 5 children, Mr. P. H. McKay, Mr. V. Meyer, Rev. J. C. Owen, Mrs. J. C. Owen, Rev. W. B. Parshley, Mrs. W. B. Parshley, Mr. A. Rock, Mrs. Lee Shee and child, and Mrs. J. E. Woodward, 2 children and servant, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. B. A. Albro. Mr. L. M. Alvarez, Mrs. M. Atherton and maid, Mrs. E. J. Austin, Mrs. W. H. Bishop, Miss Bishop, Mr. P. Blesky, Mr. C. A. V. Bowra, Mrs. C. A. V. Bowra and child, Master Bowra, Mrs. J. F. Breen, Miss Breen, Miss Grace Breen, Miss Buckbee, Miss Cayce, Mr. E. Ceccaldi, Mrs. R. E. Chamberlain, Mr. F. T. Clark, Mr. Paul Colliard, Mr. J. G. Conrad, Mrs. J. G. Conrad, Mrs. J. G. Conrad, Mrs. J. Lumley Cook, Miss Jessica Cook, Miss N. M. Daniel, Mr. A. Delaine, Mrs. F. Duval, Rev. T. L. Eliot, Mr. C. W. Fitzgerald, Mr. I. T. Frelin, Mrs. H. C. French, Mr. Paul Fuller, Jr., Mrs. L. L. Gemmell and child, Master Gemmell, Mrs. Geo. P. Godsey and maid, Mr. L. G. C. Graham, Mr. M. Hugo, Mr. M. Innes, Mr. A. Johnson, Mr. C. Kennedy, Mrs. C. Kennedy, Mrs. W. S. Lee, Mr. S. P. Lee, Mr. C O. Liddell, Mr. A. McLeod, Mrs. A. McLeod, Mrs. F. de V. Miller, Miss M. Miller, Mr. V. E. Miller, Mr. A. Murcott, Miss F. S. Nichols, Mr. J. Norman Noakes, Mr. E. H. Parrish, Mrs. E. H. Parrish, Mrs. S. Patton, Mr. H. Plante, Mr. Theo. Poindexter, Mrs. Theo. Poindexter, Miss Chandos Pole, Miss Reed, Mr. J. P. Roberts, Mrs. C. H. Selwyn, Mr. Chas. Salter, Miss W. Salter, Mr. T. H. Stewart, Mr. Donald A. Stewart, Mrs. Donald A. Stewart, Mrs. D. D. V. Stuart, Mr. D. D. V. Stuart, Jr., Miss Grace Tennyson, Mr. W. D. Turner, Mrs. W. T. Turner, Mrs. J. W. Wadman, Miss Gemma Wadman, Miss Norma Wadman, Miss Marguerite Wadman, Mr. M. Wilkinson, and Mr. H. Wolff, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Bayern*:—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen and Other Cities	Genoa.	Marseilles	London.	Trieste.
Pollak Bros.	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	315	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	160	—	43	44	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolf & Co.	51	318	—	—	17	—	—	—
Herbert Dent & Co.	—	8	—	—	—	—	1	—
Otto Streuli	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
H. Bernardin & Co.	—	48	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer, Mayet, Guillee	31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Mottet	78	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45
Nabholz & Co.	109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	210	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Gouilloud	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	173	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	—	50	—	20	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	59	—	—
Total	988	621	43	64	17	59	1	45
	1,715				122			

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver:—

	TEA.					
From.	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong	463	—	—	403	—	866
Kobe	—	23	23	—	—	46
Yokohama	10	710	614	—	—	1,334
Total	473	733	637	403	—	2,246

	SILK.				
From.	New York.	Easton, Pa.	South Manchester	Total. Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	134	—	—	134
Shanghai	195	—	—	195
Yokohama	489	16	10	515
Total	815	19	10	844

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—

	TEA.					
	San Francisco.	New York.	Chicago.	Cleveland.	Other Cities.	Total.
Yokohama	396	300	738	268	—	1,702
Total	396	300	738	368	—	1,702

	SILK.			
	San Francisco.	New York.	Easton.	Total
Shanghai	—	—	—	—
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	—	84	27	111
Total	—	84	27	111

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Nothing special to mention in this branch.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38¼ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

Still something passing but nothing special to report.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ¼ inch and upward	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 4.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (¾ to 1¼ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

No change to record.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market is steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been another spurt in Raw Silk this week, buyers for Lyons entering the market freely, not to say excitedly. There is very little stock of fine sizes, so they are taking full sizes at an advance on last week's quotations. Stocks are reduced, but are partially replenished by arrivals of spring reelings.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. 1,080 to 1,100
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,040 to 1,045
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	1,020 to 1,030

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Filatures—No. 2, Fine	1,010 to 1,020
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	990 to 1,000
Re-reels—No. 1½	980 to 985
Re-reels—No. 2	950 to 960
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

There is no stock of Noshi, but Kibiso continues to move in small parcels at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good...	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

New leaf continues to arrive and transactions go on as usual. The quality continues good. We give quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	...35 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	—
Fine...	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

INDIGO.

No change.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best...	290.00 to 345.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	130.00 to 300.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best ...	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best ..	105.00 to 145.00

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 7.

London silver quoted ¼ higher, but China sterling quotations are unaltered and local rates all keep steady.

London—Bank T.T. ...	2/03⅝
— — Bills on demand...	2/03⅞
— — 4 months' sight ...	2/04⅛
— Private 4 months' sight...	2/03⅝
— — 6 months' sight...	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight ...	255½ @ 6
— Private 4 months' sight...	260½
— — 6 months' sight...	262
Hongkong—Bank sight ...per $100.	83⅛*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	81⅛*
Shanghai—Bank sight ...	85*
— Private 10 days' sight ...	87⅛*
India—Bank sight ...	152
— Private 30 days' sight ...	155
America—Bank sight...	49⅛ @ ⅛
— Private 30 days' sigh ...	503⅛
— Private 4 months' sight ...	51 @ ⅛
Germany—Bank sight ...	208
— Private 4 months' sight...	213½
Bar Silver (London) ...	25

* Nominal.

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Yokohama, May 7.

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Club Hotel...	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe ...	70 Nominal.
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Yokohama, November 12th, 1902.

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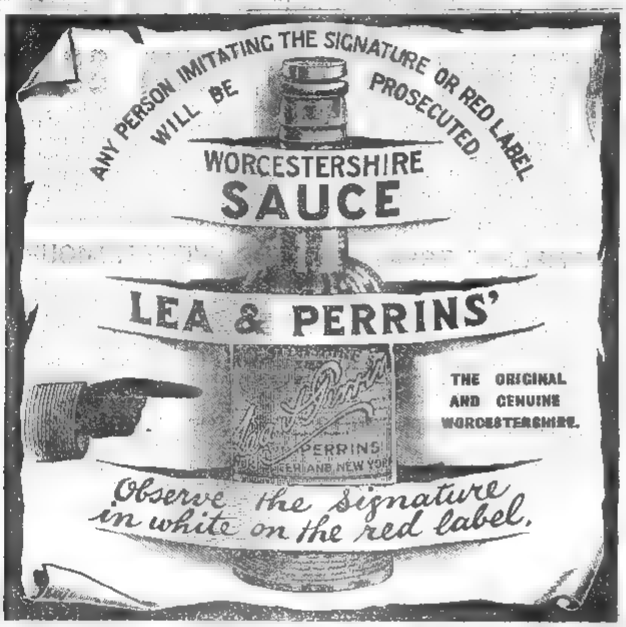

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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE telephone line between Ashinoyu and Kowakidani, Hakone, was opened on May 11th.

THREE cruisers, the *Takachiho*, *Naniwa*, and *Akitsushima*, left Saseho on May 10th for the coasts of China and Korea.

IT is officially stated that the training ships, *Matsushima*, *Itsukushima* and *Hashidate*, arrived at Adelaide on May 7th.

THE dead body of a woman, evidently of the better class, was found in the canal at Nishimoto-cho, Fukagawa, Tokyo, on May 7th.

THE Kyoyeki Bank, Okayama Prefecture, which recently suspended payment, was adjudged a bankrupt in the Okayama District Court on May 8th.

AN old man named S. Nagashima living at Kawasaki attempted suicide by cutting his throat with a razor on May 12th. He is reported to be insane.

THE steamer *Kosai Maru* arrived at Shimonoseki on May 12th bringing gold bullion valued at *yen* 146,170 from Shanghai. The bullion is destined for Kobe.

THE steamer *Niigata Maru*, which has been constructed at the Mitsubishi Dockyard, Nagasaki, was launched on May 10th. The gross tonnage of the vessel is 2,100.

A FISHING boat with nine of a crew encountered a gale on the night of May 4th off the village of Arahama in Miyagi prefecture and was wrecked, all on board being drowned.

THE Tobe police, in Yokohama arrested on May 10th a man who is suspected of having committed the wholesale murders at Kawasaki some weeks ago.

S. MUNESAKI, principal of an elementary school, in Arai-mura, Chiba Prefecture, murdered his two children on May 8th and committed suicide. Insanity is reported to be the cause.

A THIEF entered the dwelling of a wealthy farmer at Toaraino, Toyama Prefecture, on the night of May 8th. He killed the farmer, his wife and their child, and plundered the house.

TELEGRAMS from North-eastern localities state that snow and frost were experienced on the morning of May 11th. The thermometer unexpectedly dropped. Much damage was caused to sericulture.

A WOMAN named Toki Yamaguchi (19) living at Midoricho, Honjo, Tokyo, committed suicide on the night of May 7th by cutting her throat with a sword. Insanity is stated to have caused the act.

A FORGED *yen* 10 paper note was again discovered in Tokyo on May 6th. A man purchased a quantity of rice for *yen* 2 at the shop of T. Oka, Shitaya, Kachi-machi, paying with the forged note and receiving *yen* 8 in change.

SEVERE whirlwinds raged in Nasu and other places near Utsunomiya on May 6th. Hail fell in the vicinity of Kitamura-yama, in Yamagata Prefecture, on the 7th. Damage was inflicted on cultivated fields.

THE Shimonoseki City Assembly have decided to raise a loan amounting to *yen* 650,000 from the Industries Bank (Kwangyo Ginko), with interest at 7 per cent. The capital is to be used in the construction of water works.

A TELEGRAM from Sapporo states that dynamite exploded the other day at the vicinity of Biyei, near the Takatsu railway station, with the result that five workmen engaged on the railway were killed and one was severely injured.

THE Central Tea Guild of Japan has presented a petition through Messrs. K. Aizawa and K. Otani, to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, for a renewal of the annual subsidy of *yen* 100,000 for ten years commencing from 1904. The subsidy expires this year.

A JINRIKISHA coolie named M. Watanabe (32) was arrested by the Kagacho police on May 9th on a charge of having stolen a paper package containing 43 Mexican dollars, which a sailor named R. Harrison, of the British cruiser *Cressy*, had left in his jinrikisha at the English Hatoba. The coolie had already spent five dollars when arrested.

A CLERK named Yasukawa, of the Yokohama Seamen's Club, and two others were arrested are May 7th by the harbour police on a charge of having intended to send four emigrants without passports and without payment of their fares by the steamer *Kaga Maru*. It is stated that they had received the passage money and other expenses from the emigrants.

A TELEGRAM from Taipeh, Formosa, states that the garrison commenced an expedition against the aborigines in Samohai and two other localities on May 10th. The latter offered an obstinate resistance and severe fighting continued for one hour. One soldier was killed and two wounded, while six of the savages were killed and many wounded.

A NUMBER of farmers from the neighbourhood of the Ashio Copper Mine, who intended to proceed to the Home Department to air grievances with reference to the damage caused to their fields by the refuse from the mine, camped in the vicinity of Kurihashi, near Urawa, on the night of May 7th but were dispersed by the police authorities.

A STEWARD named Y. Kataoka in the service of Viscount Higashisono, Tokyo, and an accomplice were arrested on May 12th on a charge of having forged the stamp of the peer and embezzled *yen* 800 from a money lender living in Kyoto, for which the dishonest steward offered property belonging to his employer as security.

THE new German mail steamer *Zieten* has arrived from Bremen on her maiden trip to the Far East. The *Zieten* is under the command of Captain Wilhelm and left Bremen on the 27th of March. She is a twin screw vessel of 4,988 tons displacement, 442ft long, 55ft beam, and 36ft draught, and was built at Dantzig in 1902, and is said to be a comfortable passenger ship.

IT is stated that a foreign clerk named George F. Nash, of the New York Life Insurance Company, Yokohama, on April 20th embezzled a cheque of *yen* 1,000, which the firm had received from its Kyoto branch, and absconded. The company discovered the embezzlement on May 7th and at once reported the matter to the Kagacho Police Station. Nash is reported to have fled to Shanghai.

SHIMIDZU TOKUJIRO (18), an employee of a merchant named Ono, living at Horai-cho, Yokohama, was reported by his employer to the police station on May 12th as having absconded with money amounting to over *yen* 342. On that day his employer had instructed him to collect over *yen* 280 from Messrs. Winckler and Co., No. 256, and *yen* 62 from a Chinese Merchant at No. 131, Yokohama.

THE British Admiralty issued on March 31st a list of 60 chief warrant officers of the Navy who has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant. Nothing, says an exchange, could indicate better the spirit which animates the present Board than this decision to raise so many officers, who began life as second-class boys in training-ships, to the quarter-deck. In the past there have been only three promotions to lieutenant, and these were gained by services in face of the enemy.

THE preliminary examination of the directors of the Kumamoto 9th Bank and an accomplice, on a charge of embezzlement, concluded in the Kumamoto District Court on May 5th. It was stated in the decision given by the judge at the preliminary examination that the directors embezzled money which amounted to *yen* 390,766.84. They also stole a number of Government loan bonds of the face value of *yen* 105,800, and 340 shares of the Hoshu Railway Company belonging to the bank, during seven months from the beginning of April to the end of October, 1900; they also drew *yen* 100,169.89 from the bank by fraud at the end of November in the same year.

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ALARMIST RUMOURS.

May 9th.

On the evening of the 8th instant the *Niroku Shimpo* published an extra containing most alarming news. It said that Russia, without any plausible pretext, was busily despatching troops to Korea; that Japan, compelled by such action to take decisive steps, had placed two divisions under orders to hold themselves in readiness and had issued instructions—represented in our contemporary's columns by several ominous asterisks—to her naval stations; that Great Britain had secretly announced her intention of supporting Japan in every emergency and had even described the course she purposed pursuing by detailed reference to the terms of the Anglo-Japanese alliance and by indicating the probable movement of Indian troops, as well as by undertaking to furnish Japan with money for belligerent purposes and to employ such and such a naval squadron if necessary.

We have had frequent occasion to refer to the *Niroku's* "news" in connexion with the present crisis, and we can only add now that, in our opinion, not the smallest credence can be attached to any of the above statements.

The rumour that Russia is busily despatching troops from Port Arthur to the Yalu district continues to be persistent, and is supplemented by an assertion that she has now massed five thousand men at Kiulien-ching, which place is familiar to historians of the war of 1894-5 as the fortified town lying on the northern bank of the Yalu opposite Wiju. It will be remembered that, according to cablegrams received on the 8th instant, Russia had collected over five thousand men at Fenghwang, and that this item of news was given on the strength of a telegraphic report said to have been despatched by General Tso, the Commander-in-chief in Manchuria, to the Peking Government. Apparently rumour has now transferred the five thousand men to Kiulien-ching, which after all, would not be a great feat for rumour in its present mood.

Another statement, the sole responsibility of which rests on the *Niroku*, is that an erruption of Russian soldiers is taking place into the north of Hamgyong across the Tumen River. Six hundred are said to have gathered in Korean territory and their commander, on being asked what he did there, replied curtly that he had come to protect Russian subjects in the exercise of the timber-felling privileges granted them by the Korean Government. The *Niroku* embroiders this story by publishing a map with a few tortuous lines and the names of two or three places alleged to have been "closed" by the Russians. Thus we have what looks like a lie with a circumstance.

Our readers will perceive that these sensational reports have a certain measure of method. They inferentially attribute to Russia the design of pushing her troops across the Korean frontier at two points, one on the head waters of the Yalu, the other near the mouth of that river. Of course troops so far removed could not be intended to cöoperate directly, but as part of a military plan these doings would be sufficiently impressive.

All the principal Tokyo journals publish an item of intelligence to the effect that 50 Russians have made their appearance at Yong-chhyong, in the vicinity of Wiju, and are there endeavouring to purchase land. This news is said to have been officially despatched to Seoul by the officer commanding the Korean garrison in Wiju, and to have been followed by a reminder from the Koreign Foreign Office to the Russian Representative, pointing out that the acquisition of land in Yong-chhyong by Russian subjects would be illegal, and desiring that steps should be taken to prevent anything of the kind.

The *Nippon* affirms that already 600 Russian soldiers are in Wiju, under pretext of protecting the timber-felling privileges of Russian subjects, and that they are behaving with the greatest arrogance towards the Japanese residents. This is supplemented by a telegram to the *Niroku* to the effect that three Japanese have been wounded, and that one of them is not expected to recover.

It continues to be reported that Russia is obtaining large stocks of biscuits in Japan, and rumour now alleges that she has ordered quantities of telegraph materials as well as ship's cables.

Out of all these stories what appears to be believed in some circles in Tokyo is that Russia is actually massing troops on the Korean frontier, and that her object in doing so is to effect a diversion which will assist her to settle the Manchurian problem according to her own convenience. The pretext attributed to her is the timber-felling question, but the obvious flimsiness of such a pretence renders it incredible. We can not suppose that all these constantly coming items of news from Wiju and adjacent places are entirely baseless, but to us it looks as though Russian subjects were seeking to take advantage of a disturbed situation, rather than as if the Russian Government were deliberately directing operations which could not possibly be tamely tolerated by Japan.

A telegram from the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent attributes a curious procedure to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires. On receiving China's refusal to comply with the Seven Demands, he found it couched in language so courteous as to admit of an exactly opposite construction, and he accordingly addressed a despatch to the Chinese Foreign Office, expressing satisfaction that his Government's proposals had been accepted. The Foreign Office, much perturbed, forthwith penned a categorical rejection of the terms, and thereafter the Chargé d'Affaires had recourse to vehement complaints about the Chinese officials' failure to observe the privacy essential to such negotiations. The latter part of this tale is a *réchauffe*, and the former, if not true, is prettily conceived.

May 10th.

The dispute about timber-felling in the Yalu forests is said to turn upon the interpretation of a clause which, literally translated, signifies that Russian subjects have the right of planting trees at selected places, but does not secure to them any right of cutting. The Koreans insist that the concession must be interpreted literally, but the Russians claim—and it must be admitted that common sense is on their side—that a concession to plant trees would be obviously absurd since they have no desire to undertake the work of afforestization along the Yalu. We doubt whether this version of the controversy can be correct. At all events, if the concession contains the limiting word "selected," it can not be read as conferring unrestricted privileges, and consequently the Koreans would be within their right in excluding the Peng-ma forests.

A telegram sent by the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent is somewhat at variance with the report said to have been made by General Tso to his Government on the 4th instant. Tso reported that the number of Russian troops remaining in Mukden was 300, the number in Liaoyang 900, the number in Fenghwang, 5,100, the number in Tchling, 200, the number in Newchwang 200, and the number in Kaiping uncertain. Thus the total in Shingking stood at about 7,000. But it is now stated that Prince Ching has received intelligence which puts the force in Shingking at 10,000, that in Kirin at 20,000, and that in Amur at 40,000.

As to this question of troops, there are later rumours of an alarmist nature. Several Tokyo papers publish a statement that on the night of the 8th instant Prince Ching received telegraphic news to the effect that fourteen thousand Russian troops with 16 guns had been posted along the lower reaches of the Liao River, and that they were busily engaged erecting fortifications at Tien-chwang-tai. This story is confirmed by a telegram alleged to have been sent to Mr. Conger by the Consul in Newchwang. The telegram says that the Russians have again marched into Newchwang in force, and have occupied the forts on the Liao River as well as those at Tien-chwang-tai, and that 14,000 men are posted at various positions along the seacoast between Newchwang and Port Arthur. The *Jiji Shimpo* supplements these statements by an assertion that two telegrams in a similar sense have reached independent quarters in Tokyo, but that they differ as to the date of the above military measures, one message indicating the 5th of April, another the 5th of May. Apparently all the rumours have their origin in the American Consul's report, but the question is, when that report was sent. If on the 5th of May, then obviously some confirmatory news of such significant events should have come from the Japanese Consul in Newchwang, whereas there has been no such news. If on the 5th of April, then the story is unimportant, and may be regarded as a belated publication. At all events, such movements of troops in the district indicated would be difficult to understand.

While the Tokyo public were discussing the above news, there arrived, on the night of the 9th, a telegram from the Japanese Consul at Newchwang, saying that these military operations were merely exercises, and that they had no political import whatever.

Liaoyang is said (*Asahi's* correspondent) to be a military centre of the Russian occupation. Troops come and go there constantly but the number in garrison at present is some 1500. There are 300 residences for railway officials, 15 barracks and 12 hospitals, and buildings operations are going on.

The United States Representative is said to have required that in the new commercial treaty with China, Mukden shall be declared open for foreign trade and shall become the site of a consulate, and that a foreign adviser shall be employed by the Manchurian Government. These statements sound apocryphal.

Mr. Kawashima and his companions, who were despatched by the Japanese Legation to investigate the state of affairs in Manchuria, are said to have returned with a report that there are no signs of evacuation, and that Admiral Alexieff's much-talked-of notification is waste paper. The *Jiji Shimpo* has a brief article on the whole question. Its gist is that Russia seems to be merely temporizing. She says one thing in Europe and does another in Asia. What is certain is that she makes no

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practical attempt to withdraw her troops, and that while professing to disavow the celebrated "Seven Demands," she is still endeavouring to obtain some diplomatic concessions in Peking. The Powers will have to approach her again, if they have not already done so.

The *Chiuo* publishes a statement that 54 tons of beef have been sent from Nagasaki to Vladivostock; being the largest shipment of the kind ever made from a Japanese port.

KOREA.

Both the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Asahi Shimbun* publish in doubly leaded type a rumour of a very alarmist character. It is to the effect that the Governor of Antung has telegraphically warned the Governor of Wiju that two thousand Russian soldiers are moving towards the latter town. The *Jiji* refers in this context to the lumber dispute. It represents the Russian authorities as insisting that the timber-felling concession granted by the Korean Government covers all the forests along the Yalu, from source to mouth, and therefore includes the woods of Peng-ma, which mountain lies some miles eastward of Wiju; whereas the Korean Foreign Office maintains with equal insistence that the concession bears no such interpretation. Apparently our contemporary connects this dispute with the reported movement of troops, though justly observing that the cause and the effect are very disproportionate. But until the most unequivocal intelligence is received, no one will be disposed to believe in such a step on Russia's part. It would amount to a military invasion of Korea, and being an unequivocal violation of the Russo-Japanese conventions, its consequences must be serious. One fact, however, is not to be ignored, namely that according to the latest report sent by General Tso to Peking, the main body of the Russian troops remaining in Manchuria is concentrated at Fenghwang, which among Manchurian places of importance is the nearest to the Korean frontier.

The purveyors of news about the Far-Eastern crisis are to-day reduced to statements with reference to the movements of Russian Consuls in Korea. The Consul in Chemulpo, we read, has started for the frontier of Korea, and it is noted mysteriously that he was joined *en route* by several companions or attendants. The Consul at Masampho also has set out for Yuensan. Are not these movements very natural? Russia herself may be uncertain about the events that are causing so much talk and conjecture in the Yalu and Tumên districts, and may be anxious to place herself in Consular touch with those sections of the troubled arena. We dare say that other Powers also have despatched emissaries thither.

There are some fresh political disturbances in Seoul. Li Kong-thik has become Minister of War and Yun Yong-son has been admitted to the Cabinet. This is supposed to indicate a recrudescence of the question of raising Lady Om to the position of Empress, as the above two politicians belong to her party.

In spite of explicit official denials that any Russian troops have been sent by sea from Port Arthur to the Yalu, the *Niroku Shimpo* persists in declaring that fourteen Norwegian vessels, lately chartered by the Russian authorities, are busily engaged in the work of transport; that three are now lying at the mouth of the river, and that all fishing operations have been suspended. The *Niroku* lives in a world of its own.

MR. OZAKI YUKIO.

In the columns of the *Jimmin* Mr. Ozaki Yukio repeats his arguments in favour of a Russo-Japanese understanding. This theory of his has come to be known in Japan as *Mankan Kokwan-ron*, or the doctrine of an exchange between Korea and Manchuria. But the truth is that Mr. Ozaki does not now go to the length of openly advocating such an exchange. What the *Jimmin* represents him as saying is that three courses present themselves to superficial observers with regard to the Manchurian problem. One is to preserve Manchuria, including Liaotung, to China. That notion he dismisses as wholly unpractical, Manchuria having passed irrevocably within the sphere of Russian influence. The second course is to neutralize Manchuria under international guarantee. But Mr. Ozaki doubts whether any Powers could be found to unite for such a purpose. The third course is to insist upon the opening of Manchuria to foreign commerce. Here Mr. Ozaki betrays a conviction which seems to us to vitiate his main position. He assumes that the maintenance of the open door in Manchuria would have to depend upon pledges given by Russia, and he declares that in the face of recorded experiences such pledges could not have any value. But, in the first place, it is not on Russian pledges that the Powers would rely in such a matter. It is to China that they would address themselves, and if once Mukden, Kirin and such places became open marts, even the enterprising courage of Russia would scarcely think of attempting to close them or to annex the region in which they stand. In the second place, if Russian pledges be untrustworthy, what is the practical use of advocating a Russo-Japanese understanding? On what basis would such an understanding rest? Does Mr. Ozaki, whose high intelligence is justly respected, does he really think that Japan could expect to find in Russian promises an element of *bona fides* which, according to his own analysis, has been lacking in all their past history? Apart from these criticisms, too, what we chiefly desire to learn is the nature of the arrangement he would propose. It is noticeable that both he and Mr. Mochizuki, who expounds the same policy in the columns of the *Taiyo*, lack the courage of their opinions so far as to shrink from formulating any working theory. Mr. Mochizuki would apparently leave Manchuria to Russia provided that Korea were assured of her independence as a Japanese sphere of influence, and Mr. Ozaki would be equally kind about Manchuria provided that Russia promised to keep her hands off Korea. Such, at least, is our interpretation of Mr. Ozaki's contention. It is obviously and glaringly unpractical. *Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?* And what about England and America in such a compact?

"THE TIMES'" COMPETITION.

The competition announced by *The Times* will be one of the most interesting events of this year. There will be ninety-three prizes, totalling £3,585 in value, the highest being £1,000; the second, £225; the third, £125, after which the number of prizes in the six remaining classes increases from two to fifty, all winners in the last class receiving £10 each. These are ready-money prizes. Successful competitors may choose to take scholarships at educational institutions, by which means they receive a larger amount in the total, but the payments are annual. The competition consists in answering questions propounded by *The Times*. It is undertaken that every question can be fully answered by consulting the 35 volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica, and each competitor is required to consult that source of information only. It is not essential that he should be himself owner of the Encyclopedia. He may borrow the book from a friend or obtain it on loan from *The Times*. But he must pledge himself to refer to no other work. Specimens of the nature of the questions are given in prospectus, as well as explanations of the processes to be pursued in finding materials for answering. Here is one:—

In the eighteenth century, a young commander in the British Navy broke from the line of battle, without orders, to engage one of the enemy's ships. The enemy's vessel struck her colours, but notwithstanding his success the commander was dismissed the service for his breach of discipline. Another commander, defending Jamaica, did the same thing and was so highly praised for his enterprise that a controversy arose as to whether he was really entitled to the credit of having 'originated this manœuvre.' Yet an interval of less than forty years separated the two incidents, and one of these officers had actually served under the other. Name the two officers.

The clue—the specific fact—here is the defence of Jamaica, probably in the 18th century.

Turning to the index entry 'Jamaica' we are referred to Vol. 13, p. 548d,* where we find the article 'Jamaica,' in the historical section of which, on p. 551a, are these words:

'The other principal event in the general history of Jamaica was the threatened invasion in 1782 by the combined fleets of France and Spain under De Grasse. It was saved by the victory of Rodney and Hood off Dominica.'

Following up this, we look at the index entry 'Rodney,' and are referred to Vol. 20, p. 617c. Here we have an article in which we breathe the air of sea-fights, adventure, and heroism, and which will appeal to the schoolboy as well as to his elders, who will find an additional interest in the question of individual responsibility raised. On p. 618b we find a description of Rodney's victory off Dominica and the statement:

'A long and wearisome controversy exists as to the originator of the manœuvre of 'breaking the line' in this battle, but the merits of victory have never seriously been affected by any difference of opinion on the question. . . Rodney arrived home in August to receive unbounded honour from his country.'

The same article, on p. 617c, gives the names of Haddock, Hawke, and Boscawen as officers under whom Rodney served.

Pursuing these clues, which lead to more interesting reading of a similar kind, we find in the article 'Hawke,' in Vol. 11, on p. 534d, this story, which forms the final link in the chain:

'In the engagement off Toulon in 1744, he broke from the line of battle, in order to engage the *Poder*, and although he succeeded in causing her to strike her colours, his breach of discipline was punished by dismissal from the service.'

* After the page number will always be found the letter a, b, c, or d. These letters indicate respectively the first, second, third, and fourth quarter of the page. This to find the particular passage for which he is searching: the reader need look at only one fourth of the Encyclopedia Britannica page.

Evidently no special store of knowledge is needed for answering. Indeed, the competition is intended not to test knowledge but to guage capacity for extracting information from books. Thus anyone can compete with a reasonable chance of success. Of course the ultimate object of *The Times* is to develop general interest in the encyclopedia and to educate a sense of its value as a source of knowledge.

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THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

Saturday, May 9.

The Chinese commander-in-chief in Manchuria is reported to have sent to the Peking Government on the 4th instant telegraphic information in the sense that with the exception of the following troops Russia's forces had been completely withdrawn, namely, 300 of all arms in Mukden, Liaoyang 900, Fenhwang 5,100, Tehling 200, Inkow 200, Kaiping uncertain. All these figures are only approximate. The *Asahi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent, wiring under date of the 6th instant, makes this statement.

The Russian Consul in Mukden is alleged to have informed the Chinese commandant in that city that in spite of the suspicions entertained by England and Japan Russia's unique purpose in Manchuria is to restore tranquillity and secure the safety of her railways.

Tuesday, May 12.

On the evening of the 10th instant the *Asahi Shimbun* issued an extra containing Peking telegrams to the effect that the Russian Government had expressed a desire to amend its Seven Demands but to continue the negotiations on that basis, and that, in consequence of this turn of events, Prince Ching had declared himself sick, and refused to receive visits from either the Japanese or the British Representative.

The same extra contained items with regard to the alleged military activity shown by Russia at Newchwang. Her doings there were said to be of the nature of a demonstration to intimidate China, and the sender of the telegram, having noted that provisions were being rapidly stored at Newchwang and that the forts there as well as at Tien-chwang-tai were being strengthened, added that something of a serious character was evidently pending between China and Russia. But on the morning of the 11th, the *Asahi* announced that having made inquiries in official quarters, it saw reason to doubt the accuracy of the above telegram so far as it related to Newchwang and district. In point of fact, Mr. Segawa, Japanese Consul at Newchwang, had telegraphed on the night of the 9th that there was no appearance of special military activity on Russia's part in the region; that there had been no increase of her forces, and that any movements of troops were to be regarded as ordinary exercises.

With reference to Mr. Segawa's telegram, it is stated that in view of the alarming reports which reached Tokyo, the Foreign Office in the latter city wired to Newchwang for information on the evening of the 9th, and received what seemed to be a reply, in the sense quoted above at 11 p.m. The reply was a full answer, in effect, but in fact it was probably not elicited by the Foreign Office's inquiry, for the interval between the despatch of the latter and the arrival of the response was insufficient to warrant any hypothesis of connexion. It is therefore conjectured that in consequence of the receipt of alarming news in Peking—the news which inspired the reports sent by journalistic correspondents to Tokyo,—the Japanese Representative in the Chinese capital wired to the Consul at Newchwang inquiring as to the truth of the news and suggesting the advisability of communicating with Tokyo.

It is reported by the *Asahi*, on the strength of news from Shanghai, that rumours prevail in the latter city to the effect that the Chinese Government, in deference to the pressure brought to bear on it by Russia, has instructed its delegates for the negotiation of the revised commercial treaties to cease any pourparlers pointing to the opening of any part of Manchuria. This, being a mere rumour, can not command much credit at a time when the air is so full of canards, but since it is absolutely incontrovertible that the only way to save Manchuria from being alienated is to open it to foreign trade, every whisper suggesting the failure of that policy is disquieting. No one can pretend to ignore the fact that if things be left as they are for three or four years longer, Newchwang will be the only part of Manchuria retaining the semblance of a Chinese possession, and thereafter it might fare with Newchwang at any moment as it fared with Batoum and with Port Arthur. Manchuria can be placed beyond the reach of all danger by one measure and by one measure only. It is a legitimate and progressive measure, and it is a measure dictated by the best interests of the world's commerce. Further, now is the psychological moment for taking that measure. Of course the diplomatists of Europe, of America and of Japan appreciate all these things just as clearly as the most astute among us, and in spite of discouraging rumours like that reported above from Shanghai, we shall continue to hope that no difficulties, unappreciated by outsiders, block the path to the practical consummation of the open-door policy. We folks in the Far East can not pretend to have preserved our sense of proportion so fully as to be able to weigh accurately all the conflicting issues that our countries' statesmen have to consider We see only the contingencies directly that imperil our own sphere of interest, and are only too apt to exaggerate their importance, and to query the wisdom of politicians much wiser than ourselves because their larger sagacity restrains them from taking steps which our narrow insight would impel unhesitatingly. It does appear palpable, however, that the United States, Great Britain and Japan, having solemnly and publicly pledged themselves to keep the door of all China open to the world's trade, and being now unmistakably taught by events that Russia deliberately seeks to defeat that policy, should unite to force upon China the sole and only course that leads to the consummation of their purpose and the preservation of her own security.

It is stated that thirty Russian ships-of-war are now assembled at Port Arthur. That is very probable. In Russia's place any Power would take care to make as brave a show as possible of military and naval potentiality. The St. Petersburg Government wants something, and it can not get it except by continued violation of its treaty engagements. Every day that passes without the evacuation of Shingking and Kirin accentuates the arbitrariness of Russia's procedure. Exactly what she wants the world does not yet know, but the world does know only too well that the most effective prelude to successful negotiations now-a-days is a display of force. From that point of view it is interesting and instructive to observe Russia's manœuvres and demonstrations, but that she deliberately contemplates an appeal to the sword rather than the temporary surrender of her purpose, we do not for a moment imagine. Her self-control will be severely tried, indeed, if the Powers force China to open Manchuria, but in the face of anything short of that, she has merely to draw back for a better leap hereafter.

It need hardly be said that the *Niroku Shimpo* again surpasses all other journals in the elaboration of its news. It represents Liao-yang, Tehling, and Newchwang as the scene of rapid military preparations; it represents a combined movement from these three places in the direction of Fenghwang and Kiulien-ching; it represents the land-transport corps as having already marched; it represents an arbitrary interruption of all foreign travel in Manchuria, even merchants being reached by the veto, and it declares that Russian troops are in the act of advancing from Antung towards the Yalu. This last report is confirmed by the *Asahi*, which says that over a thousand men have already crossed the river, that they are behaving with the greatest circumspection towards the inhabitants, that they use money freely to secure the services of Korean subjects as carriers and purveyors, and that they have abandoned all pretence of being concerned about the felling of timber. In short, it is a veritable invasion of Korea. Indeed, the *Niroku* undertakes to give the exact detail of the Russian troops already in Wiju, namely, 500 infantry, 150 artillery, 200 cavalry and 150 engineers, with 3 siege-guns and 5 mountain-pieces. These details, our contemporary declares, have been telegraphed to Seoul by the officer in command of the Korean garrison at Wiju. Somebody believes it all, we presume.

Reports continue to indicate that there is truth in the story of some sixty Russian subjects having arrived at Yong-chwong, near Wiju, where they are engaged purchasing land and houses. They are said to be accompanied by some 40 Chinese.

Persistent reports are also circulated about the massing of Russian forces at Fenghwang, but whereas the number assembled there was 5,000 a few days ago, it is now put at 1,000. This is contrary to rumour's general habit.

It looks very much as though Russian agents were lending their assistance to create an impression of activity and determination at this juncture on the part of their country's forces.

The *Asahi* editorially declares that Russia's object in quite palpable. She is determined to take Manchuria, and she is exhausting every device to attain that end by craft. Whatever she undertakes in whatever direction, her true aim must not be lost sight of.

The Chuo appears to think that the Manchurian question has now assumed a really disquieting character. Strong and resolute action on the part of Japan is essential, it says. But can the present Cabinet be credited with ability, determination and reputation to deal with such a crisis? Our contemporary does not actually bid the Ministry resign, but it calls upon the *Meiji* statesmen to come forward and unite once more at this serious moment of their country's history. They owe it to themselves and to the honours their Sovereign has bestowed on them to take the helm when the ship of State is in such troubled waters. So then, after all is said and done, it is on the Elder Statesmen and not on the party leaders that Japan relies in her hour of need.

Thursday, May 14.

Reports are now beginning to arrive which show that irresponsible and unveracious rumour has been the purveyor of the alarmist stories telegraphed of late from Newchwang. The United States Consul at that place is said to have wired to Mr. Conger in Peking to the effect that the

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much-talked-of Russian re-occupation of the forts was only a temporary measure. Apparently there has been further intelligence from the Japanese Consul also, who says that very wild tales have been circulated but that they do not seem to rest on any solid foundation. No one, however, can telegraph an assurance that evacuation has taken place.

A telegram from Tientsin to the *Asahi* says that a portion of the Russian troops in Harbin have moved southward, presumably for Port Arthur.

Another telegram from the same source alleges that Russian measures of supervision in Manchuria are extraordinarily strict, and that they have resulted in the expulsion of all travelling Chinese officials from the inns where they lodged. On reporting that singular fact to Peking, General Tso is said to have been instructed to fall back on the proverbial pillow of perfunctory diplomacy, a protest.

In the *Kokumin Shimbun* there is a telegram that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking is pressing for an answer to the second set of proposals submitted by him. If it be true that these alternative demands have really been presented, their import is successfully concealed. At any rate the public must have observed with some surprise that the management of Russian diplomacy in Peking is still in the hands of an official whose continuance in a responsible position after such an escapade as he is supposed to have perpetrated seems unaccountable. The Russian Government is understood to have publicly denied that the celebrated Seven Demands were formulated in Peking with its approval. Yet it is scarcely possible to doubt, in the face of the evidence forthcoming, that they were actually formulated. Thus the only apparent means of reconciling St. Petersburg's denial with Peking facts was to assume that the Chargé d'Affaires in the Chinese capital had exceeded his instructions with unprecedented temerity. Yet the same Chargé continues to treat with Prince Ching. Moreover, we were told some time ago, on seemingly good authority, that the Chargé had declared himself incompetent to conduct any further negotiations since their seat had been transferred to St. Petersburg. Yet the same Chargé is conducting negotiations.

The rumours of Prince Ching's illness appear to be well founded. But there is as yet no confirmation of the statement that succumbing to the grievous difficulties of the situation, he has decided to retire from office.

Another industriously circulated rumour is to the effect that Prince Tsai Chêng has been recalled from Japan in order to lend his assistance in the diplomatic crisis. That appears to be unfounded so far, though of course Prince Ching's illness might at any moment necessitate such a step.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes editorially in a strain of profound perplexity about Russia's procedure. It is apparent, says our contemporary, that the St. Petersburg statesmen are saying one thing in the Occident and doing another and wholly different thing in the Orient. While actually presenting in Peking demands which, if conceded, would amount to the alienation of Manchuria and its closure to foreign trade, Russia explicitly assured the British and American Governments that she entertained no such intention as that suggested by the demands, and that, indeed, she had never sanctioned any such proposals. While actually increasing her military force in Manchuria and moving troops towards the Korean frontier, she is assiduously announcing in Europe and America that her intention is to implement her promises by evacuating Manchuria immediately. It has been suggested in some quarters that the world is witnessing a replica of Russia's familiar methods; namely, her disavowal of the acts of the men at the front, who are to expected to be always enterprising and aggressive, and to accept the responsibility of their failures while ceding to the home Government the credit of their successes. But though such statecraft may be possible where countries beyond the range of public ken are concerned, it is not possible in Manchuria and Peking, where means of communication are tolerably perfect. Russia can not plead ignorance of the acts of her agents in China. She must know perfectly well what is going on, and it thus becomes exceedingly difficult to reconcile her doings with her sayings. China herself is not able, perhaps, to resist pressure brought to bear on her by a great Occidental Power. But the preservation of Manchuria has been made the subject of an agreement between England and Japan, and has material interest for America as well as for these two countries. Its fate can not be viewed with indifference. The negotiations conducted by Russia in Peking are not negotiations with China alone: they are negotiations with several other Powers also. Diplomacy can not apparently be purged of falsehood and deception, but the example now presented to the world is truly too strange a farce. The least misfortune that can befall Russia in the sequel of these doings would seem to be a loss of the world's confidence, and if she persists, the greater misfortune is that a disturbance of the peace of the East may be witnessed, for which the responsibility would be on her shoulders. It is difficult to see what she can hope to gain, and from the point of view of a friendly State like Japan such doings seem very regrettable.

The *Nippon*, after observing that the outcome of this crisis will be to show the Chinese and Koreans whether Russia is the more resolute or Japan, goes on to say that Japan's hostility to Russia is of long standing, and that the Government must endeavour to remove the material on which the sentiment is fed. To effect that, the only course at present is the opening of Manchuria to foreign trade. The Powers should be approached from Tokyo and invited to again insist on such a step.

Friday, May 15.

It is stated by the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent—with what accuracy we can not tell—that the Three Demands which Russia is alleged to have substituted for the Seven are, in fact, three of the seven, namely, the engagements against any alienation of Manchuria, against the opening of any part of it except Newchwang, and against any alteration of the existing administrative system in Mongolia. These are unquestionably the most objectionable and the most impossible of the Seven Demands, and the Chinese Government is said to have rejected the second schedule of three demands as firmly as it rejected the first, adding, at the same time, in reply to Russia's suggestion of subsequent negotiation about the remaining demands, that no margin for negotiation existed.

The same correspondent alleges that the so-called "temporary return" of Russian troops to Newchwang still continues, but that it is not regarded as a military occupation.

It is said that the Minister of Education in Peking has instructed Mr. Wang, Superintendent of Chinese students in Japan, to admonish the students that as their Government has irrevocably refused to sign any secret treaty with Russia about Manchuria, the best manner for the students to show their patriotism is to devote themselves uniquely to their studies.

The Chinese Government is stated to hold General Tso responsible for the Manchurian complication, and to have determined on replacing him. General Tso may be to blame more or less, but the efficiency of any Chinese officer in his position to stem the tide of Russian aggression must be about equal to that of Mrs. Partington's mop.

His Excellency Chang Chih-tung entered Peking on the 12th instant. He was met by Shêng Kung-pao at Shun-teh, and the two rode into the capital in the same carriage.

Mr. Kurachi, of the Tokyo Foreign Office, who has just returned from his duties in connexion with the commercial-treaty negotiations in Shanghai, and who travelled through Manchuria and Korea on his way home, says that when passing from Newchwang to Dalny he was followed everywhere by a spy who could speak Japanese fluently. This fact shows how carefully things are managed by the Russians. At the same time Mr. Kurachi reports that matters in Manchuria are not so bad as rumour alleges, though he does not deny that the attitude of Russia is very strong.

It is wired from London to the *Asahi* that in an official report from the United States Ambassador to Mr. Hay, the former says that in view of Russia's pledge to open Manchuria, he had brought the Manchurian question to the notice of the Russian authorities previously to its entering the present troublesome phase. The answer given to him had been that no occasion existed for American interference between Russia and China as the former was equally desirous of seeing Manchuria opened.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes what purports to be an accurate epitome of Prince Ching's reply to the Russian Representative's Seven Demands. The reply is said to have been communicated telegraphically to the Government in St. Petersburg, and how the sending of such a reply is to be reconciled with Russia's denial that any such demands were ever presented by her, it passes our wit to conceive. We are reminded of the celebrated Li-Fourmier dispute after the Langson episode 18 years ago. Be that as it may, however, Prince Ching is reported to have set out by reminding Russia that never had any of her treaties with China been violated by the latter—which is perfectly true—but that the demands now formulated by Russia were a distinct violation of her last year's treaty, and that China could not possibly assent to them. If nevertheless Russia insisted on pressing such demands, she would certainly be drawing upon herself serious consequences however unwilling China might be to witness that result. As to the demand with reference to sanitary measures at Newchwang, it seemed to the Chinese Government that such a proposal might be more fitly discussed after Russia had withdrawn her troops.

Our Tokyo contemporary supplements the above interesting information by saying that on the 11th instant the Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg telegraphed to Peking to the effect that after the receipt of China's reply, the Russian statesmen held several meetings and were evidently disposed to

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treat the matter very seriously. It was impossible to tell, however, what change of policy might take place, and indeed the impression prevailed that less aggressive courses would be adopted finally. At the same time persons in a position to speak accurately alleged that Russia had deliberately chosen the occasion to extend the field of her ambition simultaneously to Manchuria, Mongolia and Thibet, and that she was resolved to subject the Chinese empire to such pressure as should result in some substantial advantages for herself.

The same journal publishes a Peking telegram to the effect that, alike from officials in the Chinese capital and from influential Viceroys and Governors, memorials are reaching the Throne in favour of the appointment of His Excellency Chang Chih-tung to the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs, that is to say, the post now held by Prince Ching. Such a measure is dictated, the memorialists say, by the country's urgent needs.

It used to be frequently stated, before things assumed their present serious complexion, that the Russian Authorities at Newchwang were only awaiting the arrival of a duly authorized Chinese delegate in order to hand over to him the civil government of the city. And it used also to be stated that the Russians were taking good care to prevent the arrival of any such person. A telegram from Newchwang now says that Li Ping-san, Taotai of Inkow, did actually endeavour to enter Newchwang on the 8th instant with the idea of taking over the administration, but that Russian soldiers compelled him to countermarch to the place whence he had emerged.

Pending the return of M. Lessar to Peking no decisive steps on Russia's part are expected. That M. Lessar should be able to return is considered remarkable. When he left Peking he was supposed to be suffering from locomotor ataxia, a disease that defies modern medical science. His assumption of duty in such circumstances is a fine example of devotion, and the incident further illustrates the trust placed in his ability.

CHINESE NEWS.

M. Dubail is said to have stated in Peking that although, on more than one occasion, he had urged the Chinese Government to take speedy measures for suppressing the Kwangsi rebels lest the Indo-Chinese frontier should become involved, he had never alluded, either directly or indirectly, to the prospect of French military interference. Moreover, the Chinese Foreign Office had always assured him of the local authorities' complete competence to quell the revolt.

In spite of this disclaimer, which is of course accepted in all good faith, a conviction is said to prevail that the Governor of Kwangsi did actually seek French assistance in the shape of men and money, but that he abandoned the project in deference to the plain hostility of public opinion.

Another telegram says that the Governor's brother having wired to him a suggestion that steps should be speedily taken to dispel the suspicion generally entertained on this subject, the Governor replied that no application of any kind had been made by him to the French.

It is reported in Tokyo that the Russian Authorities at Port Arthur have chartered ten Norwegian ships and that these together with the vessels of the Volunteer Fleet, are engaged embarking troops at Port Arthur for the Yalu and the coast of Northern China. Moreover, rumour is again busying itself about Russian orders for biscuits. Hundreds of tons are said to have been manufactured; the *Empress of India* is alleged to have taken a large quantity to Nagasaki, and Messrs. Ginsburg and Company are reported to have despatched to Vladivostock on the 6th instant 2,949 boxes each containing 100 kilo. It is not improbable that this recrudescence of the biscuit sensation is due to the implementing of the orders which attracted public attention at the time they were placed.

We take the following from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

The expenses incurred by Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai for the Empress Dowager's trip to the Western mausolea, Paoting, and Southern Hunting Park last month exceeded three million and a half taels. Of this sum Tls. 650,000 (obtained from the Board of Revenue) was expended in constructing the twenty-five miles of temporary railway to the mausolea, and Tls. 2,000,000 (borrowed from a foreign Bank at interest) was used in upholstering, decorating and finishing the Imperial railway carriages and constructing, decorating, etc., the Imperial Rest-houses. The above noted Tls. 2,650,000 being expended before the Court had arrived at Paoting, Vicoroy Yuan was compelled to borrow at interest another million taels to be expended in entertaining the Court while outside of Peking. The question now is how is Viceroy Yuan to repay this loan of three millions?"

We were mistaken when we said that the Chinese studying in Tokyo had not communicated with their fellow-patriots in Shanghai. They did communicate and in a very emphatic manner. At the public meeting held in Chang Su-ho's gardens on the 30th of April, Mr. Tsai, who occupied the chair, read the following telegram which had been received from the students in Tokyo:—

"The crisis between ourselves and Russia becoming daily more acute we, the students now studying in Japan, have sent a joint telegram to the Peiyang (the Central Government at Peking and Viceroy Yuan Shih-k'ai), urging that war should be declared against Russia for the defence of the rights of China, offering our services to our country and declaring our willingness to form ourselves into a battalion of volunteers to march in the van of the army against the enemy. We ask for your assistance and help also in this matter."

The reading of this message seems to have created something like a furore. The applause is said to have been deafening and, according to the *N.-C. Herald's* report, when silence had been restored "a man named Lung rose up and addressed the audience" saying:—

"Are we not the same as the students at Tokio? Are not all here in this hall Chinese also, and ought we to remain idle and indifferent when those far away have given the example and showed themselves the patriots they are? I call upon all who agree with me to follow me out of this hall to the grass plot outside, where facing the North-East (the direction of Tokio) we may salute the patriots in Japan." Mr. Lung then walked down the platform and passing out of the hall was followed by nearly all the male portion of the audience to the open plot of ground on the East side of the hall, where, marsalling themselves in rows, Young China in Shanghai saluted in Chinese fashion Young China studying in Japan, as a token of respect and admiration of the patriotism shown by them.

Nevertheless the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, a very different class of authority, affirms that whatever be said to the contrary, Russia is undoubtedly making military preparations; that she is chartering at Chefoo every vessel she can obtain, with the exception of Japanese ships; and that her pacific attitude in the Balkan Peninsula may be regarded as intimating that she wants to use elsewhere the troops she has in that district.

St. Petersburg has denied the truth of Reuter's telegram that a Russian military occupation of Newchwang has taken place.

The *Glory* is reported to be at Hankow and it is said that the *Shikishima* could now reach that place. We imagine that the *Glory* is the first line-of-battle ship of the modern type ever seen so high up the Yangtse.

COUNT OKUMA.

At a convivial meeting of the Progressists held in Count Okuma's residence on the afternoon of the 10th instant, Count Okuma, though indisposed, made a brief speech. He failed to gather, he said, from Marquis Ito's published statements that any definite *entente* had been established between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Cabinet. Such issues must be openly decided in the sequel of parliamentary discussion. They could not be settled by individuals. As to the land-tax bill, it would not be pressed, apparently, but it was by no means clear that the deficiency thus caused was to be met by issuing loan bonds. Marquis Ito had suggested, indeed, that such a measure might be resorted to, and the language of the semi-official organs implied that the programme was settled. Probably it was, but there had not been any indisputable indication. At all events the Cabinet seemed to have surrendered to the *Seiyu-kai*. They would note, however, that Marquis Ito had carefully disavowed any pretension of controlling the action of his followers in the Diet, and it must be assumed that, being thus left free, the members of his Party would hold to the policy avowed by them in the last session. There was much talk now-a-days about responsibility, but there had been talk of it ever since the Diet opened 14 years ago, and Marquis Ito, himself one of the makers of Japan's modern history, had declared that one of his chief objects in organizing a political party was to attain the reality of constitutional responsibility. Responsibility was the very basis of morality, and it would be a bad day for the country when men fell into the habit now becoming prevalent of disregarding responsibility and obeying the dictates of opportunism only. What had been accomplished by the Diet toward the object of the nation's fondest hope, responsible Cabinets? Surely the people must feel bitter disappointment when they reviewed the story, and surely politicians must be even more chagrined. Nature ruled that everything is on the point of change when it reaches an extreme. That might be said of the present time. It was the duty of all alike to labour for the consummation of the constitutional system, the practical recognition of responsibility.

From this address and from other indications it is inferred, apparently with much reason, that there has not been, and will not be, any final break between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists. Neither will the question of the Cabinet's responsibility be seriously brought forward this session. The Ministry, in short, will remain undisturbed. Even the problems of administrative and financial reform will be allowed to lie on the shelf for the moment. Probably large excisions will be made in the Supplementary Budget of 16 million *yen* to which we alluded in a recent issue. The Seoul-Fusan Railway's guarantee will go to the wall in company with other appropriations, but some items will survive. Those that have eyes to see will detect the outlines of important political adjustments and combinations in these events now transpiring.

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THE "SEIYU-KAI."

Saturday, May 9.

The *Seiyukai* held a general meeting in Tokyo on the 7th instant. There were some 160 members of Parliament present, and the chair was taken by Baron Suyematsu. Mr. Matsuda Masahisa delivered the opening address. Its note was equivocal. The last dissolution of the House had doubtless been due, he said, to the Ministry's conviction that the will of the constituencies differed from the will of the House. But the general elections had proved that such was not the case. The Ministry had therefore been in the wrong. Yet the Ministry remained in office and were understood to have approached the Party's leader with proposals of compromise. Nothing could be less constitutional. Fifteen years had passed since the grant of a constitutional system to Japan, and in spite of all their efforts to carry the system into full practice, they were still far from achievement, and the story of the past showed many instances of flagrantly unconstitutional doings. For all this the conditions existing in the country and the defects of political parties were responsible. Nevertheless they must continue to work, not merely pushing recklessly forward but learning to exercise patience. He concluded by alluding to the recent reorganization of the Party, and it will thus be seen that whereas his speech set out by an almost violent denunciation of the Cabinet, it ended with an exhortation to long-suffering.

Marquis Ito spoke next. He commenced with the usual greeting and then said that as they were already familiar with his political views, he need not make any detailed recapitulation. He greatly regretted the last dissolution but he considered that circumstances had rendered it inevitable, and he did not propose to discuss that question now, but would rather address himself to matters subsequent to the dissolution. He had frequently reviewed the line adopted by himself prior to dissolution, but he had failed to discover any error. Nevertheless he held that nothing could be more unfortunate than a complete failure to reconcile the views of the Party and the Cabinet, and he had conseqently held various conferences with the Ministers of the Crown. He knew that many of his hearers were sufficiently stout-hearted to be indifferent to even two or three more dissolutions, but since they had made him their leader he felt it to be his duty to avert such incidents. On the other hand, no surrender of principles could be contemplated. He had therefore maintained his ground as to the questions of land tax and naval increment, and had finally seen the responsible Ministers incline to accept his views. That is to say, he had insisted that there should be no continuance of the high rate of land tax. In this context it was essential to consider the probability of a revival of business prosperity. That was a point about which many differences of opinion might exist, but the situation, viewed from the statesman's side, did not present any aspect of immediate improvement, and he had therefore considered it his duty to insist not only that there should be no continuance of the high land tax, but also that all imposition of new taxes should be avoided. Thus the conferences had taken the shape of a discussion as to carrying out naval expansion without recourse to taxation, and the Cabinet had gradually come to accept that programme. Nevertheless the Government would necessarily again introduce the land-tax bill next session, and would doubtless be greatly pleased if it obtained a majority of votes. But even though they all supported the bill, he himself must remain firm in his opposition to it. He need not enter into details of what had passed at the various conferences. It would suffice to say that he had always been prepared to adopt any reasonable route leading to the avoidance of fresh collisions. Public rumour alleged that he had agreed to an *entente* with the Ministry. He must ask them to consider this point carefully. On the one side stood the Cabinet with its responsibility to the nation. On the other stood the Diet with its constitutional functions of legislation to perform. How was it possible that he could effect any arrangement pledging these two bodies, or in any way curtailing the free exercise of their powers? He had never contemplated anything of the kind, but had merely undertaken, as a matter of friendship and in consideration of what seemed to be the best interests of the nation, to use his earnest endeavours in order to prevent further collisions and to secure the smooth working of the administration. It would be for the representatives of the Government and for the representatives of the Diet to determine, in due conference and in the full exercise of their constitutional functions, whether an *entente* was possible. His part had been entirely preliminary. Those that spoke of an *entente* as guaranteed by his intervention, either erred through ignorance or misrepresented of design. Earnest desire had been the limit of his potentiality. If the Party endorsed his action, he would esteem it most fortunate. In truth many persons might regard with disfavour the exertions of an old man like himself, who had no place in the Lower House; but he regarded constant changes of Cabinet as profoundly unfortunate. Since the China-Japan War there had been a change of Cabinet annually on the average, and the shortest-lived Ministries of all had been those of the *Kensei-to* and of the *Seiyu-kai*. Thus it appeared that Cabinets independent of parties had the longest lives. There were doubtless many reasons for that, but the fact remained that these frequent changes were greatly injurious to the country's interests. Some people imagined that Cabinets were easily formed, but in truth there could be no more difficult task. Thus while advocating the freest discussion of all public questions, he ventured to express a strong hope that the pending session of the Diet would end tranquilly.

The meeting then unanimously adopted a resolution that the Party would in the 18th session pursue the same policy as that adopted by it in the 17th.

It had been expected that the malcontents would introduce a motion for impeaching the Cabinet, but their leaders announced that they had agreed to defer it, which means, in effect, that they have abandoned it.

Monday, May 11.

The *Seiyu-kai* held a convivial meeting at the Maple Club on the 9th instant. Marquis Ito was present and delivered a speech, the main topic of which was satisfaction that the Party had worked harmoniously, as was most essential in the interests of the State, especially at this juncture. This speech was excellently received, of course, but the meeting did not separate without some incidents. The first of these was that one of the malcontent leaders, Mr. Hirata of the *Jimmin*, stood up and declared that the Cabinet must be held to account for dissolving the House of Representatives. He attacked the Ministry with great vehemence, mentioning its members individually, and he affirmed that if the country's affairs were left in such hands, not only would the continuance of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance be impossible, but even a sixth-rate Power would decline to have any relations of the kind with Japan.

The speech does not appear to have provoked any rejoinder or to have produced any effect. The *Seiyu-kai* leaders have probably concluded that the elements of dissatisfaction produced by the *entente* must be left to seethe in their own juice, and to develop their impotence by degrees. But Mr. Hirata was followed by Mr. Mochizuki, who is known as a prominent representative of the "High Collar Party." He attempted to be facetious at Marquis Ito's expense, his view being that the *entente* was belated, and that the "generalissimo," as he described Marquis Ito, should have come to terms at a much earlier date if a compromise was to be effected at all. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that this speech led to something like a scene. Marquis Ito summoned Mr. Mochizuki to his presence and berated him so severely that the unfortunate orator was glad to seek shelter in a plea of *vinous* wit.

Wednesday, May 13.

At the conference on the 11th instant between representatives of the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists, each party sending six delegates and Mr. Kato Takaaki also being present, many subjects seem to have been discussed, but of course, the chief topic was the attitude of the two parties towards the Cabinet. The Progressist delegates are said to have adopted the line that the Cabinet must be severely taken to task for its irresponsible behaviour. They were disposed to put their attack in the form of an address to the Throne, which is the strongest form of impeachment within reach of the House. But the *Seiyu-kai* delegates appear to have demurred to such a drastic course. They were not unwilling to pass a resolution condemning the Ministry's procedure, but they would not endorse, or cooperate in, the incomparably more cardinal step of an address to the Throne. In these circumstances there was nothing for it but to agree to differ, unless the Progressists could persuade themselves to modify their demeanour. That is what they seem to have done, or, at any rate, it is what they are inclined to do, and we do not doubt that the inclination will become effective. The probability, then, is that a resolution condemning the Cabinet's action will be introduced at an early stage of the session, and will be passed by a sweeping majority. The Progressists, we presume, will be the introducers. Such a resolution will not shake the Cabinet. For the Opposition, in proposing and passing a vote of censure, will be merely repeating its old mistake as to the true course of ministerial responsibility in Japan. The Cabinet Ministers are theoretically appointed by the Crown and their responsibility is to the Crown alone. When they dissolve a House of Representatives they do not ask the constituences to pronounce a fiat or a veto with regard to their own tenure of office. They merely adopt a constitutional means of inquiring whether the electorate endorses its representatives' views, and in the event of such endorsement, it is open to them, without quitting office, to accept, when thus approved by the country, the views they previously rejected. That they find their original programme to

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have been out of touch with the will of the electorate need not affect their tenure of power, since they owe the latter to the mandate of the Sovereign, not to that of the constituencies or the Diet.

THE PROGRESSISTS.

Saturday, May 9.

The Progressists held a general meeting on the 7th instant. Considerable interest was felt in the event inasmuch as the question of so-called coalition would be discussed, and the effect of recent new developments considered. An unexpected demeanour, however, was adopted by the Party leaders at the meeting. Questioned again and again by anxious members, they persisted in maintaining that nothing like a coalition or union existed between the Party and the *Seiyu-kai*. Their interpretation of the situation prevailing since the dissolution of the Lower House was that neither party had bound itself in any way to the other, and that their temporary cō-operation had been the result merely of an accidental consensus of political views. Finding themselves in the same route, the two parties had walked in step. That was all that the Progressist leaders could be induced to acknowledge. Evidently such a version involved the conclusion that since the roads trodden by the two had now again become divergent, no further cōoperation was possible. So the Tokyo journals think. In short, things have reverted to their old position, and the somewhat incongruous *entente* between the Progressists and the *Seiyu-kai* is a thing of the past.

Subsequently the meeting proceeded to elect candidates for the Presidency and Vice-presidency of the Lower House, a work of supererrogation, for the Progressists are not in a position to give practical effect to any such choice. The nomination fell on Mr. Kono Hironaka for President and Mr. Takata Sanaye for Vice-President.

Monday, May 11.

The Parliamentary members of the Progressists held a meeting on the 9th instant. The proceedings were of an interesting character. A resolution having been introduced by the leaders in the sense that the Party must pursue the route trodden by it in the preceding session, exception was taken to the phraseology of a clause declaring that absence of a sense of responsibility was a prominent defect in political circles at present. Several members contended that this was much too vague, and that instead of saying "political circles" (*seiji sekai*) the word "Government" should be introduced. In short they wanted to organise a direct attack on the Cabinet for dissolving the Lower House. Dr. Hatoyama suggested that Marquis Ito was included in the phrase "political circles," but Mr. Kono Hironaka declared that Marquis Ito was now acting in a private capacity and could not be included in such an indictment, and Mr. Inugai characterized Dr. Hatoyama's interpretation as forced. Finally a committee of five was appointed to consider the advisability of amending the resolution, and they evaded the difficulty by leaving untouched the words in real dispute and changing the term "at present" into "now." Nevertheless the meeting accepted this amendment and unanimously voted the resolution.

From this incident we conclude that the Progressists are divided in their counsels, and that while some are in favour of an unqualified attack upon the Ministry, the majority prefer to be guided by events, and to favour the *entente*.

There is to be a meeting on the 11th instant between the Standing Committees of the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists. It is stated that Mr. Kato Takaaki, although not a member of either Committee, will be present. The fact that such a meeting has been arranged suggests that the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists may still be found in the same camp, so far, at least, as the bulk of each party is concerned.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Monday, May 11.

The opponents of an *entente* with the Cabinet have addressed a vehement manifesto to the various local branches of the *Seiyu-kai*, entreating support for an assault upon the unconstitutional procedure of the Ministry. It is not at all likely that these malcontents will be able to effect anything substantial, but their persistent revolt from the authority of their leaders is difficult to reconcile with any prospect of their continued enrollment in the *Seiyu-kai's* ranks.

The supplementary budget to which the Diet will be asked to give its assent is said to involve outlays totalling 16 million *yen*; namely, 2,680,000 *yen* for naval increment; 1,000,000 *yen* for expansion of telephones; 1,800,000 *yen* for the Iron Foundry at Wakamatsu; 450,000 *yen* for moving the Tokyo Police Department; 500,000 *yen* for the St. Louis Exhibition; and 4,112,000 *yen* for extraordinary Formosan Expenditures.

Wednesday, May 13.

A meeting of Cabinet Ministers and of Marquis Ito and Yamagata, took place on the 11th instant in the official residence of the Premier. It is affirmed journalistically that foreign affairs constituted the chief topic of discussion, but the best informed persons say that amendments of certain laws was one of the principal matters debated.

We may observe in this context that the *Nippon*, which in great part reflects Viscount Tani's views, is exceedingly bitter against Marquis Ito. It clamorously ridicules his denial that any *pourparlers* between himself and the Ministers of the Crown are binding on his Party, and it laughs to scorn his assertion that the issue of such matters lies entirely in the hands of the Diet. The *Nippon*, on the contrary, regards the *Seiyu-kai* members of the Lower House as mere tools.

Marquis Ito can not entirely escape the dust of the arena into which he has descended. His reputation was comparatively untarnished when he lived in the serene atmosphere of non-party statesmanship. Yet, unless the signs of the time are misleading, he will have won, by his present course, a much higher title to the gratitude of future generations than any continuance of the "aloofness" of former times could have conferred.

Thursday, May 14.

It is not improbable that trouble between the Government and the Diet may present itself in an unlooked-for quarter. We have already stated that the Cabinet is expected to submit a supplementary budget involving total outlays of 16 million *yen*. In the 16th session (1901-2) of the Diet, the Home of Representatives, weary of being asked to pass supplementary budgets, the number and variety of which had undoubtedly become an abuse, made an addition to the Finance Law in the sense that the only items properly includible in a supplementary budget are expenses of unavoidable necessity or those arising from the operation of laws or public engagements. Now one of the *Seiyu-kai* politicians, Mr. Ishikuro Kanichiro, has suggested an interpretation of this rule which would so limit the range of includible items as virtually to veto all supplementary budgets in a year when the ordinary budget has failed to come into existence. The *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* both ridicule this rendering. They say that the rule was intended solely to check the abuse of multitudinous supplementary budgets, and that it does not for a moment admit of the interpretation put on it by Mr. Ishikuro. Nevertheless that interpretation has found many to endorse it, the apparent fact being that a number of the *Seiyu-kai* members, though ostensibly agreeing to the policy of an *entente* with the Cabinet, are not really reconciled to it, and would gladly welcome any pretext for pulling down the frail bridge now spanning the breach. Mr. Ishikuro's rendering would exclude all new undertakings, and as naval increment is included among the latter, endorsement of his proposition by the House would create a radical deadlock. It is pointed out that the above addition to the Finance Law was made in Marquis Ito's absence, but we fail to appreciate the validity of such an objection.

THE KING'S VISIT TO FRANCE.

One of the comments locally evoked with reference to the King's visit to France is that it does not possess the political importance attached to it by the journals of continental Europe because "the time has long gone by when the monarch conducted negotiations with foreign Powers or even exercised important influence on such negotiations." That appears to be a comment not inspired by very careful reflection. Certainly an English King does not personally conduct any negotiation, but most certainly also he does not take a step such as King Edward has just taken without the fullest previous consultation and agreement with the Ministers of the Crown. Not only the King's journey to France but also every incident of it, so far as human forethought could extend, and every sentence uttered by His Majesty in public, received careful prior consideration at the hands of the British Cabinet, and although we do not anticipate that anything like a formal *entente* will be established between the two countries, it must be taken for granted that there has been made to France an overture of friendship which represents, and was designed to represent, a deliberate expression of British official intention. It will be found, we believe, when the world's comments on the event reach us through the columns of the press, that European and American publicists regard King Edward's most exceptional action as cardinally important from a political point of view. Further, the French Ministry also were in concord and cōoperation with the British. There were no risks taken by the King. He did not trust to chance for the reception he would receive officially in Paris. Of course neither he nor the French Ministers could be sure about the quality of the popular demonstration that his presence would evoke in the streets of the city; but for the rest, if we except incidents lying entirely beyond the range of human prevision, we may safely say that the whole affair was the outcome of an understanding between the Cabinets in Paris and London, and that the

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details were arranged by them. In short, the King's personality was a factor utilized by the two Governments.

"WHAT IS AN 'INVITATION.'"

Under the above heading the following note appears in the *Japan Gazette* of the 13th instant:—

The *Japan Mail* announces this morning that a dinner of members of the Japan Society of London will be held on Monday, the 18th inst., at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, and that "invitations" had been sent to members. A correspondent sends us the "invitation," which consists of a card containing on one side the announcement of the proposed holding of the dinner, and, on the other, a pasted slip bearing a statement as to the need for an early reply. Then follows the curt notice:—

Terms—Seven *yen* each, payable in advance.

Our correspondent underlines the "payable in advance" and asks:—"What kind of members do the issuers of this unique kind of 'invitation' think the Society is composed of, to require such a notice as this?"

It has often been remarked that any one, no matter how ignorant and farcical may be the nature of his observations, can be sure of finding access to the columns of one or other of the Yokohama local journals. The above paragraph appears to us to be a case in point. Our contemporary's correspondent applies the epithet "unique" to the invitation issued by the promoters of the Japan Society's dinner in Tokyo, and asks "what kind of members do the issuers of this unique kind of 'invitation' think the Society is composed of, to require such a notice as this?" Perhaps the best reply is to transcribe the invitation issued by the Japan Society in London for the dinner which took place on the 9th of this month:—

THE JAPAN SOCIETY, LONDON.

The twelfth annual dinner will be held on Thursday, 7th May, 1903, at half-past seven o'clock, in the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, the President, His Excellency The Japanese Minister, The Viscount Tadasu Hayashi, LL.D., D.C.L., in the chair.

Tickets for Members, price One Guinea each, and for Guests (ladies or gentlemen) Twenty five Shillings each, are now ready. Applications for Tickets, on the Form attached to this Notice, should be addressed, *as soon as possible*, to the Honorary Secretaries, and *must be accompanied by Remittance* crossed "Barclays & Co., Account Japan Society."

C. HOLME } Honorary
G. UKITA } Secretarys.

20, Hanover Square, London, W.

The italics in this reproduction are not ours: they appear in the original invitation. It seems, therefore, that the Society in London follows precisely the same method as that adopted by the promoters of the dinner in Tokyo, which method a Yokohama (or Tokyo) member condemns as unique and regards, evidently, as a covert insult. We must be allowed to say that we hold his communication and the paragraph devoted to it by our local contemporary to be pure mischief-making. However ignorant the newspaper and its correspondent may be of the procedure usually adopted in the case of dinners where the diners pay their own expenses, a moment's reflexion, the most superficial reflexion, should have shown them that unless these subscriptions are collected in advance, the labour and trouble of subsequently collecting them are deterrent. The simple plan adopted in Tokyo is that members bring their subscriptions with them and hand the money to a secretary in the vestibule. Should any one come unprovided with money, he merely signs his name. Thus all, or nearly all, the work and expense of writing independently after the dinner to each person who attended, or sending messengers to collect the subscriptions, are avoided. It is to be regretted that people who have no intention of being present at the dinner and who take no interest in the welfare of the Society, should endeavour, through the columns of the press, to raise an ignorant prejudice against the Japanese members in Tokyo who give themselves the trouble to organize these convivial meetings. The correspondent of the *Japan Gazette* asks what kind of members the Society is composed of. We answer that for the Society's sake we trust it includes very few of his own type.

"TALKS ON THE STUDY OF ENGLISH."

This is a handy volume of 200 pages by the Rev. Frank Müller, published by the Methodist Publishing House, Tokio. It is intended for the use of Japanese students and teachers. A great advantage which Mr. Müller possesses is his intimate familiarity with the difficulties that beset Japanese learning aEuropean language, especially English. He thus writes with true sympathy and insight, and his work indicates great care and wide research. The method pursued has been to prepare a kind of cyclopedia, the words, phrases and idioms treated being placed in alphabetical order, and reference being farther assisted by an index. Nobody except an Englishman familiar with the Japanese language can form an adequate conception of the immense obstacles that lie in the path of a Japanese student seeking to master English. Things which to the Englishman seem the simplest of the simple bristle with embarrassments for the Japanese, so radically different is the idiom of the two languages. Mr. Müller, appreciating this thoroughly, has set himself to smooth the path by offering a series of explanations, all profusely illustrated, with examples, which deal with and dispose of precisely the perplexities that the every-day Japanese student encounters. To give our readers an idea of his method the best plan is to quote one of his expositions, taken at random:—

5. ABOUT, OF.

The meaning of these words are so similar that definition will not enable a foreigner to choose the proper word. For example, we say, "I am ignorant *of* English," and "I know nothing *about* English." The only way to acquire the correct use of these words is to memorize the common expressions in which they are used.

(*a*) *About* and *of* with verbs:—

Do you *know* anything *about* navigation? No, I *know* nothing *about* it.
Will you *answer* a question *about* the lesson?
Do you *remember* anything *about* him?
Please tell me *about* your journey? Did you *ask about* his health?

Argue, ask, laugh, cry, read, speak, write, etc., may by used as in the following examples:—

What are you *talking about*? What did you *talk about*?

Of has a more limited meaning than *about*. *Of* refers simply to a thing or an action, while *about* refers to some details about the thing or action:—

Did you hear *of* his accident? or, Did you hear that he had an accident?
Did you hear *about* his sickness? or Did you hear what is the matter with him?
He informed me *of* his departure, or, He told me he was going.
He told me *about* his reasons for leaving.
I know nothing *of* his coming, or, I do not know whether he will come or not.
I do not think much *of* that method, or, I have not a high opinion of that method.
I have not thought much *about* that method.

In asking the following common question we use either *of* or *about*, but the use of *about* asks for more detailed information:—

What do you think *of* (or *about*)—?
What do you think *of* the weather?

(*b*) *About* and *of* with adjectives:—

Angry, anxious, busy, certain, happy, sad, sorry, sure, troubled, etc., are used as in the following examples:—

What is he *angry about*? He is *happy about* his promotion.
He is *anxious about* the result of the examination.
I cannot be *certain about* it but I think....
It is not enough to be industrious: so are the ants. What are you *industrious about*?—*Thoreau.*

In such cases as the following *of* must be used on account of its restricted meaning:—

I am *ignorant of* any foreign language.
I was *glad of* the opportunity to hear English often.
He was *sure of* passing the entrance examination.

Notice also the following uses of *of*:—

He is *fond of* talking. and *of* foreign languages.
He seems *proud of* his knowledge.
I was *tired* (or *weary*) *of* doing nothing.
Be *careful of* yourself. He is *regardless of* his health.

(*c*) *About* and *of* with nouns:—

Argument, conversation, discussion, dispute, laugh, story, talk, war, etc., are used with *about* as in the following examples:—

What is the *question about*? We had a *dispute about* that.
The question is not *about* what is there but *about* what I see—*Clifford.*

Of is used in such cases as the following:—

I have no *knowledge of* German.
There is no official *report of* the meeting.
There was a long *description of* the ceremony in the newspaper.

If a Japanese be asked what he finds most difficult in the English language, he will generally answer, "the prepositions." Judging from his practice we should be disposed to endorse that answer, though the use of the relative pronoun and of the so-called "impersonal pronouns" appear to puzzle him scarcely less. Mr. Müller's theses on the various prepositions are so lucid and detailed that no perplexity should survive their perusal. That is saying a great deal, but not too much, we think. Indeed the whole volume is admirably conceived, and if it does not prove a signal assistance to all students of English in this country, we are much mistaken.

THE FAMINE IN KWANGSI.

The Governor of Hongkong, Sir Henry Blake, recently sent Mr. C. Clementi, the Assistant Registrar-General of the Colony, to make a personal inspection of the famine districts in Kwangsi, and the Colonial journals are now publishing his reports. He has a very terrible story to tell, beside which the famine in North-eastern Japan fades into comparative insignificance. The *Hongkong Daily Press* says that the statements that women and children have been sold like cattle in order to insure that they shall be provided with food, are verified by Mr. Clementi, who personally witnessed a public sale at Kweishen, and the paper adds the remark that the gentry estimate that some ten thousand children (boys and girls alike) have already been sold and that eight wives out of every ten in the district have also been sold. Says Mr. Clementi: "Boys, girls and women are sold daily at the river side. I attended such a sale this afternoon and saw babies and children handled and felt as though they were pigs come to market. Some are so thin and starved that no one will purchase them. The Magistrate informs me that at first he wished to prohibit the sale, but that when he saw that unless the children were sold both children and parents must starve, he changed his mind and allowed the sale to continue."

Acute distress also prevails at Wengsun, near Nanning, where 66,000 people are starving. It is roughly estimated that at least 10,000 piculs of rice or maize will be needed between now and the end of July, if the distress is to be alleviated. The Colony of Hongkong is raising a subscription and already three ship-loads of rice have been sent into the famine district from there.

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THE DIET.

The Progressists made an unexpectedly strong fight for the presidency of the Lower House on the 8th instant. The result of the first ballot was :—

Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi (*Seiyu-kai*).....	200
Mr. Kono Hironaka (Progressist)	165
Mr. Ebara Soroku (*Seiyu-kai*)	28
Mr. Matsuda Masahisa (*Seiyu-kai*)	25
Dr. Hatoyama Kazuo (Progressist)	13

It certainly was not anticipated that the Progressist candidate would receive so many votes. A second ballot was then taken, and it resulted in 214 votes for Mr. Ebara Soroku and 211 for Mr. Kono Hironaka. These three names were submitted for the Emperor's decision and His Majesty, following the usual course, nominated Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, who thus becomes President for the third time.

The election for the position of Vice-president resulted in 197 votes for Mr. Sugita Teiichi (*Seiyu-kai*), 195 for Mr. Takata Sanaye (Progressist), and 150 for Mr. Haseba Junko (Progressist). The Emperor nominated Mr. Sugita, so that the *Seiyu-kai* carried their candidates for the two posts.

Mr. Sugita's appointment has this element of interest, namely, that he is the head of the opponents of an *entente* with the Cabinet. It may be assumed, therefore, that in accepting the position of Vice-President at his Party's nomination, he abandons his agitation against the *Seiyu-kai's* programme of peace.

The various chambers in the House being now assigned to the different political associations some interest attaches to this question. The distribution on the present occasion has been :—

One chamber to 17 Imperialists (*Teikoku-to*).
One chamber to 25 *Seichu* Club (Independents believed to be pro-Government).
Two chambers to 85 Progressists.
Four chambers to 188 *Seiyu-kai*.
One chamber to 61 Unaffiliated.

The Emperor in person opened the Diet on the 12th inst. at 10.30 a.m. His Majesty said :—

We hereby open the Imperial Diet and inform the members of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives that the Budget of Income and Expenditure for the 36th year of *Meiji* has been compiled in accordance with the Budget of the previous year, but we have instructed our Ministers of State to present an Urgency Supplementary Budget and certain Projects of Law which are essential to the completion of the national defences and to the promotion of the country's prosperity. We trust that you will bring to the discharge of your important state duties of deliberation a spirit of care and accuracy, and will discharge your functions in agreement and harmony.

On Wednesday the only business done by the Houses of the Diet was to elect Chairmen of Committees of the whole House. In the Peers Prince Tokugawa Iyesato, representative of the former Shogun's family, was elected, and in the Representatives Mr. Haseba Junko.

On the 13th instant the House of Representatives was engaged in the business of electing its standing committees. The only one of these that has special interest for foreigners is the Budget Committee. Its composition resulted as follows :—

Seiyu-kai nominees.....	40
Progressists	9
Chiusei Club	6
Seiyu Club	2
Non-party	4
Imperialists	1
Doshi Club	1
Total.....	63

It will be seen that the *Seiyu-kai* are completely masters of the situation.

The House did not meet on the 14th. This delay in getting to work is understood to be due to the difference of opinion that has arisen about the interpretation of the Budget Regulations as amended by the Diet in the session of 1901-2. Until that difference is settled, the Cabinet doubtless hesitates to introduce its supplementary budgets, and the House is thus without immediate occupation.

THE BUDGETARY QUESTION.

The dispute still continues about the propriety of the Government's introducing supplementary budgets in a special session like the present. It is a question of interpretation solely, as we explained in our last. Briefly stated the point is this :—Does the law limit the items of supplementary budgets presented in a special session (after the Ordinary Budget has failed to come into existence)—does it limit such items to the headings of the old Budget, or does it permit provision for State necessities entirely independent of the old Budget. Every thoughtful person must see that the latter interpretation is absolutely essential. No administration could be properly conducted in the country's interests if the mere fact of a new Budget's failure to obtain the approval of the Diet condemned the State to neglect all extraordinary expenditures that might call for payment during the next twelve months. Last year, when the law was amended to the form now creating discussion, this very point of interpretation was raised by the Government Delegate in the Lower House, and he received from the introducer of the bill an explicit answer in the sense which we venture to think inevitable. That introducer was no other than the very Mr. Ishikuro who is now attempting to place a narrow and unstatesmanlike construction on the amended law. Textually he is probably right, but practically his view is obviously unacceptable. The present tendency, so far as we can judge, is in favour of allowing the supplementary budgets to pass. The *Kokumin*, in a leading article, says that this is a case of overthrowing the State by hair-splitting logic, and very pertinently reminds the narrow-minded politicians that their amended law related solely to budgets supplementing ordinary budgets, and that if it were applied to the financial measures of special sessions convened after the ordinary budget had failed to come into existence, there would be no occasion for a special session.

QUESTIONS ON FOREIGN POLICY.

Our readers know that Mr. Mochizuki Kotaro is a prominent advocate of an *entente* with Russia, and that he wrote a long essay on the subject in the last number of the *Taiyo*. He has now presented the following Questions in the House of Representatives, and as he must have obtained at least 30 signatories before the Questions could be accepted by the President, the incident is not without significance :—

In view of present conditions in the Far East, is it not essential that the Imperial Government, for the purpose of establishing much closer future relations with Russia, should, by peaceful means, get the Russian Government to recognise the validity of the clearly expressed stipulations of the Anglo-Japanese Agreement with regard to this Empire's political status in Korea ?

Will that purpose be properly promoted and will the future relations between the two Empires be rendered satisfactory by the procedure which the Imperial Government is now adopting in the matter of the withdrawal of the Imperial Russian troops from Manchuria ?

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

With reference to the attack on the British Legation in 1861, the fact has been recalled to our recollection that Her Majesty's Government at any rate was satisfied with the nature of the defence made by the Japanese guards, for it had a silver medal struck and sent out a number to be presented to the members of the guard. The medal had the Queen's head on one side, and on the other the inscription :—

Presented by the British Government
for gallantry in the defence of
the British Legation,
July 6th, 1861.

Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei and several of his electioneering agents or supporters have been duly remanded for public trial on a charge of bribery and corruption. The count relating to feasting of electors was withdrawn on account of insufficient evidence, but the giving of money seems to have been established sufficiently to justify remand. The accused persons have been released on bail.

A curiously cold snap was felt in Tokyo and Yokohama on the 9th instant. After thunder and rain, the wind suddenly went round to the north and blew with almost the chilliness of winter. It is not surprising therefore to learn that from many places in the interior hail and frost are reported, and that snow fell in Nagano prefecture. The places chiefly affected are Mayebashi, Nagano, Chiba, Utsunomiya, Kashiwazaki, Naoyetsu, Ohama, Tsuruga, Fukui, Kanazawa, Saitama, Nihonmatsu and Kumagaye. The crops are said to have been more or less injured. Nothing is reported about the silk worms or the mulberries, but the *Shogyo Shimpo* notes that Saitama prefecture being the centre of the sericultural industry, the consequences of this inclement weather can not fail to be serious.

Frequent references have been made by Tokyo journals from time to time to Miss M. McLean, whose benevolent assistance to Japanese seamen when visiting England seems to have been of an altogether exceptional nature, and to have won for her the greatest gratitude. The following letter, addressed to her by Admiral Akamatsu, has been published :—

(TRANSLATION.)

MISS M. MCLEAN, April, 1903.

DEAR MADAM,—It is in no small degree owing to your zeal in philanthrophic and benevolent works that nearly all the members of the Imperial Japanese Navy as well as the Mercantile Marine, visiting England, and more especially the marine under the protection of this Society, have been most kindly treated and through your beneficent and sympathetic guidance have been assisted to conduct themselves with propriety and to establish a good record.

I have now the honour to inform you that I am ordered by His Imperial Highness Prince Takehito, Patron of the Society, to present to you the Society's Medal (Yu-Ko-Sho) as a token of the appreciation in which your gracious assistance is held.

I remain, Yours truly,

Vice-Admiral Baron NORIYOSHI AKAMATSU,
President, Japan Seamen's Aid Society.

The *Anglo Japanese Gazette* has the following about a gentleman who is now in Tokyo :—

Mr. Francis Elgar, L.L.D., F.R.S., Vice-President of the Institution of Naval Architects, and Vice-Chairman of the Japan Society's Council, has sailed for the Far East in the P. and O. s.s. *China* which he joined at Gibraltar on February 24th, accompanied by Mrs. Elgar. Mr. Elgar, who was, as is well known, Director of H.M. dockyards at the Admiralty, 1886 to 1892, acted as adviser upon naval construction to the Japan Government, 1879 to 1881. He is now about to re-visit the scenes of his former activity, which was productive of such excellent results, as evidenced by the thoroughly efficient practical organisation of the dockyards. Mr. Elgar was

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chief professional assistant to Sir E. J. Reed, M.P., the former Director of Naval Construction at the Admiralty, and subsequently the designer of the first large warships built in this country for Japan.

From 1883 to 1886, Mr. Elgar was professor of naval architecture and marine engineering in the University of Glasgow, which honoured him with the degree of LL.D. He is, and has been for some years, managing-director of, and naval architect to, the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company of Govan, Glasgow.

The Society's learned and genial vice-chairman is sure to receive a most hearty welcome from the members of the Society resident in Japan, both natives and occidentals: and the officers of the Constructing Department of the I.J. Navy, as well as the directors of the various private shipbuilding yards, will no doubt be glad of the opportunity of personal intercourse with one of the most eminent naval architects of the day, the designer of the world-famous Cunarder ocean greyhounds, *Campania* and *Lucania*.

The specie reserve of the Bank of Japan has reached 110,200,000 *yen*, a figure never equalled in the past.

On the subject of the Japanese in Shanghai, the *N.-C. Daily News* gives the following piece of intelligence:—

The Japanese Government is spending something like thirty thousand taels on road-building in its concession. There are at present very few houses upon this concession and small chance of there being any new ones built. We understand that the Japanese Consul has requested that a new gate be opened in the city wall, this new gate to be opposite the Japanese concession. This is a good move and will not only tend to develop the Japanese concession but will form an easy means of entrance and exit to the many thousands who patronise the launches. We also hear that this request has been refused by the Governor, on the ground that he is unable to grant such a request. The matter is now in the hands of the Japanese Minister in Peking and we will wait with interest to see if he is put off by some such excuse. We only wish our enterprising neighbours success in this move, as we feel sure it will be the beginning of new roads in the city. There is plenty of room for several good horse roads inside the city. The only difficulty will be that there is no means to reach the outside.

Public Opinion says:—

Russian newspapers have just published M. Witte's report to the Czar on the tour of the Minister of Finance over the Siberian railway. So far as the railway itself is concerned, the report presents no new or interesting facts, but the minister's observations on the country traversed and its future development are of another character. The first requisite, the minister says, is a detailed exploration of the country in order to map the tillable land, mines, etc. After this is done, means of transport throughout the country must be provided. Thirdly, carefully devised colonization regulations must be put in force, the number of colonists being limited to 200,000 annually; and then the country must be made attractive not only to farmers, but also to artizans and merchants. The whole report makes it clear that the exploitation of Siberia is to be accomplished on carefully thought-out plans.

M. Witte also speaks enthusiastically of the rapid development of Dalny, which, according to the minister, is destined to become the principal port not only of Russian commerce in the Orient, but of the world's international commerce. It is noted that the development of Dalny at the expense of Vladivostock is the cause of considerable bitterness in some quarters, a feeling which M. Witte is inclined to think unreasonable in view of the superior advantages of the new port, open the year through, and nearer the commercial centre of China. The report concludes by stating that in the prolongation of the railroad as well as by the development of Port Arthur and Dalny, Russia has taken the final step in the fulfilment of its destiny to stretch its dominion from Europe to the Pacific.

The Emperor and Empress returned to Tokyo on the 11th instant, by the train reaching Shimbashi at 3.47 p.m. The road from the station to the Foreign Office was lined with troops on the inhabited side, and crowds of people as usual watched the Imperial cortege in solemn silence.

Mr. R. E. Bredon, Deputy Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs, arrived in Tokyo on the morning of the 9th instant, and is staying at the Imperial Hotel.

Prince Tsai Chêng arrived at Shimbashi at 3.58 p.m. on the 12th instant and was met by Baron Komura, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Viscount Tanaka, Minister of the Imperial Household, the Head of the Police, the Mayor of Tokyo and other high officials. His Highness proceeded at once to Uyeno, he and his suite driving in carriages supplied by the Imperial Household Department. At Uyeno a guard of honour was drawn up, and a military band played. Mr. Bredon, Deputy Inspector-General of Customs, who arrived in Tokyo a few days before the Prince, is assisting the latter, and is among the eight members of the Prince's suite who are guests of the Imperial Household.

The annual dinner of the members of the London Japan Society in this country is to take place in the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, on the 18th instant. Owing to shortness of the time at the disposal of the organizers, it has been thought best to limit the invitations to members residing in Tokyo and Yokohama, but we are asked to say that any member living elsewhere will be welcomed. It should further be suggested that if an invitation has failed to reach any Tokyo and Yokohama member, an application by him to the Committee will at once remedy the omission.

Some months ago the Tokyo newspapers were writing in a congratulatory strain about the easiness of money, and were illustrating their thesis by accounts of the growth of unemployed funds in the various banks. That did not appear to all observers—ourselves among the number—to be a matter for rejoicing. On the contrary, it seemed to indicate that enterprise had become languid and that the business world had lost its activity. The same conclusion is now general, so far as we can judge. As for figures, it is stated that the Bank of Japan's loans have fallen to 18 million of *yen* and that its reserve of note-issuing power now amounts to 35 millions; that the 35 banks of the Clearing-House Union have an aggregate sum of 47½ millions on hand, and that the following banks show deposits exceeding one million:—

	Yen.
First Bank	3,118,594
Mitsu Bishi Bank	1,751,213
Mitsui Bank	1,274,500
Fifteenth Bank	1,175,084
Third Bank	1,079,861
Hundredth Bank	1,051,688
Yasuda Bank	1,041,949
Nakai Bank	1,035,797

In view of these facts it would seem that foreign capital is not now wanted, but the same may be said of all capital. There is a marked and sharp reaction from the fever of speculation that followed the war of 1894-5, and it is accentuated by uneasiness about the present state of the country's foreign relations.

THE MINING SWINDLE.

The trial of S. Nakamura, younger brother of Mr. Okuda, representative in the Diet for Tottori, who is charged with fraud, was concluded in the Yokohama District Court on Thursday and sentence reserved till May 20th. He sold to Mr. J. Johnstone, of Yokohama, the rights in a mine covering 304,060 *tsubo* (1 *tsubo*=6 feet square) for *yen* 80,000. The mine was situate in Fukuoka prefecture, and was alleged to contain gold. On examining the mine a foreign expert found that it had been "salted."

THE FRENCH EDITION OF OUR LITERARY SUMMARIES.

In the March 15th number of *La Revue* (Ancienne *Revue des Revues*) published in Paris, whose motto is *Peu de mots, beaucoup d'idees*, under the heading *Revues Japonaises*, that magazine translates literally from our January Summary of Japanese Current Literature 3½ closely printed pages, constituting the whole of its review of Japanese literature. The notice of Japanese literature palmed off on the Parisians as original matter paid for by the editor of *La Revue* has *from beginning to end* been extracted from the *Japan Mail*. In order to show the calm manner in which this is done we print a few extracts in English and French.

"JAPAN MAIL."

"In the *Keisei*, under the title 'Three Great Educationists of the Meiji Era' Mr. Matsumura draws attention to the influence wielded by Fukuzuwa, Itagaki and Niijima. Mr. Fukuzawa's visit to America and Europe convinced him that Japan would imperil her very existence as an independent power unless she gave her earnest attention to commerce and industry and took steps for developing the resources of the country."

"LA REVUE" [*Keisei.*]

Les *trois grands éducateurs* du Japon sont Fukuzawa, Itagaki et Niijima. Ils appartiennent à l'ère Meiji. Leur influence a été grande, mais Matsumura ne la trouve pas exempte de reproches. Fukuzawa a visite l'Amerique et l'Europe. Il en est revenue avec la conviction que le Japon périra s'il ne développe pas ses ressources industrielles et commerciales.

The remark, "mais Matsumura ne la trouve pas exempte de reproches" is a paraphrase of the sentence "But the three men . . . . each had a conspicuous defect" occurring a little further on in the original article.

"THE JAPAN MAIL."

Count Itagaki's study of Western Civilisation convinced him that its success depended largely on the part taken by the people of each country in government.

An Austrian foreign minister, with no little insight, once remarked that in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries religion was the chief subject of contention; in the eighteenth century, political freedom and popular government were striven for among the leading nations of Europe; the nineteenth century was the age of race competition; the twentieth century will be the age of commercial and industrial competition. All the Powers are preparing for this. Germany when she entered on her new life as a nation only possessed 150 ships. She now has 1,390. The tonnage has increased from 82,000 tons, at the time of the federation of the States, to 1,347,000 tons.

"LA REVUE".

Le Comte Itagaki a étudié, lui aussi, la civilisation de l'Occident et il s'est persuadé que le progrès dépend pour la plus grande partie de l'accession du peuple au gouvernment.

Il rappelle les paroles d'un ministre d'Etat autrichien: "le xvi et le xvii siècle ont eu pour axe la religion, le xviii la liberté, le xix la lutte des races; le xx aura la lutte commerciale et industrielle." Toutes les puissances s'y préparent. L'Allemagne à la création de l'empire, n'avait que 150 navires; elle en a maintenant 1,390. Son tonnage s'est augmenté: de 82,000t. qu'il comptait à l'époque de la confédération à 1,347,000t. qu'il posside aujourd'hui.

La Revue has quoted from the *Kaiji Zasshi*, the *Keiōgijiku Gakuhō*, the *Keisei*, the *Kyōiku Kōhō*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Taiyō* and has thus, with its leaded type headings, made a big show, but its make-believe summary of Japanese literature is a reproduction from these columns. We have our suspicions that some enterprising Frenchman who reads the *Japan Mail* is making a nice little perquisite out of this business in a very expeditious and inexpensive manner. The Paris editor has been victimized by somebody. There are people who will say that the writer of our Literary Summaries should be pleased to know that the Parisians are reading his accounts of Japanese literature, and perhaps after all this is the most philosophical view to take of the matter. There is no cure for plagiarism as the world is now situated, specially where the countries are so separated from each other as France and Japan.

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JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

IN a leading article which discusses the question of war between Japan and Russia, the *N.-C. Daily News* writes thus :—

> The question of the ultimate issue of such a contest is one upon which there is great speculation. Imagine Japan vanquished at sea. Port Arthur is sufficiently close to enable Russia to pour large masses of troops into the Japanese islands without much difficulty. If, on the other hand, Japan is the victor in the inevitable naval fight the ultimate issue of the war is still more problematical. In all probability Corea would then become the battle-ground between the two Powers and a long and weary war would very likely be the result. Neither Power would be in the position to do the other much damage, and the struggle would probably be ended by a treaty of mutual concessions. It is not certain that Japan could ever land a sufficiently large army to carry the struggle into Manchuria. The question would be whether Russia could get her European squadron out here to do battle with the victorious Japanese fleet; but delays are dangerous in war and during the time which would elapse before the arrival of the second Russian squadron, Japan might have inflicted irreparable damage on Russia's interests in China. A war between a small country like Japan and a vast Empire like Russia seems almost a hopeless task for the former, for even two great Powers like France and Britain failed to inflict really serious damage on the Russian Empire in the Crimean war. Port Arthur will very likely be another Sebastopol. The fact of the matter is that Russia is practically unconquerable.
>
> A Power only becomes in the position to dictate advantageous terms to another by the threatened or actual occupation of its enemy's capital. We have seen the result of Napoleon's attempt to occupy the Czar's capital, and in Japan's case, of course, it is out of the question.

This statement of the case contains some remarks with which it is difficult to agree. On the hypothesis of Japan's defeat at sea, our contemporary says :—"Port Arthur is sufficiently close to enable Russia to pour large masses of troops into the Japanese islands without much difficulty." What is meant by "large masses of troops?" The expression must evidently be interpreted in a relative sense. "Large," if it has any practical significance in such a context, means large in comparison with the opposing force. That opposing force would be the whole army of Japan. At whatever point Russia effected a landing she would find herself confronted by at least a quarter of a million of thoroughly well drilled and well equipped troops; men with the fighting instinct highly developed. An assailing army, in order to have any chance of success against such a force, must be its double in number, on the lowest computation. The task confronting Russia, then, would be the transportation of an army of some five hundred thousand men from Port Arthur, Vladivostock and Dalny: the simultaneous transportation, for piece-meal work would obviously be out of the question. How could the thing be done? The mere machinery of transport is wholly unavailable. To carry the men, the horses, the guns and the equipment, from five to six hundred large steamers would be required. No such flotilla could be assembled by Russia in these waters without years of preparation, if even then. Further, assuming this part of the programme achieved, there would remain a campaign of invasion in circumstances of stupendous difficulty; a compaign in comparison with which even the Transvaal war would be insignificant. It is not worth while discussing eventualities so chimerical.

The Shanghai journal further observes, with reference to the contingency of an initial success by Japan at sea, "during the time which would elapse before the arrival of the second Russian squadron, Japan might have inflicted irreparable damage on Russia's interests in China." As to that it is worth while asking how Russia could get out a second squadron from Europe. War once declared, every coaling station from Hongkong to Port Said would be closed to her, and if her ships were despatched to the Far East they would have to come round the Cape of Good Hope, covering a great part of the distance under sail. That phase of the matter appears to be generally forgotten. China, for example, did not take sufficiently vivid count of it when Germany engaged in her Kiaochou enterprise. If Peking had declared war the Germans would have been in a most perplexing quandary, for they could not have obtained any re-inforcements whatever, naval or military, except by the long-sea route. Russia, if she undertook to fight Japan, would have to carry the thing through with the forces assembled and locally available at the moment of the commencement of hostilities.

Concerning Russia's ultimate invulnerability, the Shanghai journal is doubtless correct. The Great Northern Empire can not be seriously assailed from the direction of Far-Eastern Asia. On the other hand, a war between Russia and Japan would have definite objects—the expulsion of the former from Manchuria or her exclusion from Korea—, and these might be attained so thoroughly that the cost of recovering lost advantages would be deterrent. We do not write with the most remote purpose of encouraging belligerent ideas. On the contrary, it is our opinion that no greater misfortune could overtake Japan than to draw the sword against Russia. But the reasons on which we found that opinion are not of the kind advanced by our Shanghai contemporary, nor can we at all agree that Russia's capacity for inflicting injury on this country is as potential as the *N.-C. Daily News* seems to suppose.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH RAPPROCHEMENT FROM A JAPANESE STANDPOINT.

I.

IT has been very interesting to observe the impression produced in Japan, as reflected in newspaper columns, by the news of KING EDWARD'S visit to Paris. When the telegraph first informed us that the visit was projected and that harmonizing effects were anticipated from it, the *Jiji Shimpo* at once appreciated the importance of the event and commented on it in a leading article published on the 27th of April. Everything appearing in the editorial columns of the *Jiji* deserves careful consideration, and we have to confess that the tone of this article of April the 27th suggested some uneasiness coming from such a quarter. Instead of epitomizing it we shall perhaps be acting more wisely if we translate it literally :—"It is the national policy of Japan to protect the integrity of China and Korea, to preserve the peace of the Far East, and thus to guard the interests of commerce and industry. That is England's policy also. Hence though an alliance contracted with such objects is not to the disadvantage of any third party, yet since of necessity the special interests of the several Powers not only do not harmonize in their interactions but are even conflicting on occasion, there can not fail to be persons to whom the Anglo-Japanese alliance is displeasing and who would fain contrive to prevent its continuance. The alliance is not such a frail union as that; nevertheless if the course of events be intimately considered there is cause to be on our guard. In England some people oppose military expansion and preach the doctrine of an Anglo-Russian understanding. Again, there have been indications of late that the relations between England and France are growing rather intimate."—This was written, it should be observed, before the KING'S visit to Paris.—"To which side Russia, who stands between the two, would incline we can not know, but there are not a few Englishmen who, in the plenitude of their dislike for Germany, argue in favour of making friends with Russia. Further, if the views of our own nation be examined, although the continuance of the Anglo-Japanese alliance is the wish of the people at large and finds none that venture to controvert it, still a certain section of politicians is not entirely free from men who, anxious in their hearts about what lies ahead, and regarding it as conceivable that when the period of the alliance expires circumstances may render its continuance impossible, so that Japan will be confronted by the danger of having to oppose her sole strength to the Russo-French union, entertain the opinion that the best plan would be to avert future peril by coming to an agreement with Russia. An idea such as the effecting of an exchange between Manchuria and Korea betrays something of this sentiment, and should a time come by-and-bye when the English advocates of an *entente* with Russia gradually show their hand, that kind of doctrine in our country will inevitably develop intensity in its turn. This is a matter worthy the careful attention of Japanese and English. Diplomacy resorts to all sorts of devices. The false, the true, and sometimes an attitude of intimidation are employed to test the strength of a compact of alliance. So long as the compact proves strong and so long as its potentiality can not be disputed, no pledge nor any concession that it demands is refused. In short, the mien of a gentle girl is assumed towards it. But if the allies fall into a confident frame of mind, dissolve

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their union and stand each independent, then at once people show themselves in their true colours, hasten with the utmost celerity to break their pledges, and have no reluctance about trampling on the rights and interests of the sometime allies. That is the habitual method of diplomatists. No wisdom is needed to understand it. England and Japan must not forget that their best plan is to persist in maintaining their alliance, thus permanently and surely protecting the interests of both sides. The period of the alliance is five years, of which four have still to run. But in order to continue it, arrangements must be made one year before the termination of the period. Thus in fact only three years remain. This then is not a time to stand idly with folded hands. It is possible that schemes of various kinds may already be in secret operation. * * * History repeats itself. When a device is carefully tried upon a man over and over again, he insensibly gets involved and finally falls a victim. That is one of the weaknesses of human nature against which statesmen and diplomatists have to contend constantly. In the intercourse of nations to-day, all special treatment or consideration shown by one government to another is assuredly prompted by some motive and must not be lightly regarded. Our country's statesmen and diplomatists should single-heartedly, dispassionately, and carefully consider which is advantageous, which disadvantageous, the permanence of the alliance with England or a temporary understanding with Russia, and should shape their attitude towards other Powers by the conviction thus obtained as to the best interests of the Japanese State. Otherwise there may be danger of their committing an extraordinary blunder. It may be thought precipitate on our part to write in this strain of apparently uncalled-for anxiety, but when the course of events is intimately considered our uneasiness is seen to have reason. No loyal subject can feel assured. We venture therefore to address a word of caution to our politicians and diplomatists."

Our readers will agree in regarding the above as a very noteworthy utterance. It is addressed to the section of Japanese, headed by Mr. OZAKI YUKIO, who in Russia's immense Asiatic development see such a menace to the independence of China, of Korea, and even of Japan that they are inclined to adopt the Scriptural principle of agreeing with their enemy while they are in the way with him. The *Jiji* hints plainly that Russia is essaying all kinds of devices to foster that feeling in Japan. Obviously also our contemporary entertains some idea that the inevitable corollary of an Anglo-French *entente* would be an understanding between the Cabinets of St. Petersburg and London. Very possibly it would, but there need be no question that foremost among the terms of such an understanding would stand a pledge from Russia to respect the integrity of China and to abstain from all attempts to interpose in Manchuria any barriers to free commerce. Unhappily the world has learned by bitter experience that impulses of imperial expansion have much greater motive force with Russia than international pledges. That need not and can not be said of her alone, but it is a factor to be specially reckoned with in her case, and we have confidence that Anglo-Japanese diplomacy is not unequal to the situation. The *Jiji*, however, would seem to entertain some uneasiness about the firmness of its country's statesmen in the face of Russian cajolery or intimidation and in the face of the changing inter-relations of European Powers.

II.

In a previous article our readers had an opportunity of estimating the effect produced upon a section of Japanese public opinion—not the least intelligent section—by the news of a growing *rapprochement* between England and Russia. That expression of opinion was taken from the editorial columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*, and represented a view antecedent to the receipt of intelligence that the KING had visited Paris and had there used language of a very remarkable character. It will be interesting to contrast the article with the same journal's editorial utterances on May 7th after the telegraph had informed us of the journey to Paris and its incidents :—

"The two countries, England and France, have long harboured mutual ill-feeling and looked askance at one another; but of late their attitude has undergone a sudden change, and they show a disposition to gradually establish friendly relations. That is an extraordinary sight for Europe, and what calls for special notice is the fact that the King of England, habitually gentle, gracious and never prodigal of speech, endeavoured, by the use of most pointed language, in his reply to the welcome of the Paris Chamber of Commerce, to promote friendship between his country and France." (Here the *Jiji* enumerates various instances of the two countries' disputes). When one Power regards another for a long time as its enemy, and when collisions between the two are multiplied, freedom to interpose diplomatic activity is afforded to a third State, and there is a certain measure of danger that unlooked for incidents may eventuate. To take an actual instance, Germany having from times past harboured designs upon Holland, took the recent labour-strike as a pretext and sought to interfere in that country's domestic affairs. Again, calculating that if the Hague arbitration tribunal becomes an effective institution, the international neutralization of Holland will naturally follow the death of the present Queen, Germany usually seeks to put obstacles in the way of the Tribunal's operation. England and France then see proof of the danger that in their various disputes their cardinal interests may suffer at the hands of a third Power, and these facts must be said to have supplied the motive for the two countries' change of attitude. From the point of view of France's interests, again, if she continues to obey sentiment and carries her collision with England to an extreme, she can maintain her influence by means of her alliance with Russia, but she can not in that case avoid the danger of having her foreign policy wholly controlled by Russia. Since the Franco-Russian alliance came into existence, Germany has increased her navy; England has accomplished the federation of her colonies; Austria has declined in power; the influence of Russia on the Pacific has been consolidated, and owing to all these occurrences the limits of the alliance's operation have been extended until they actually reach the Far East. France's interests in this part of the world are usually said to be one with Russia's doings, but that is not necessarily the case. With regard to the China question, France already possesses an immense territory in the Annam region, and so long as the peace of that region is not impaired by China's domestic disturbances, she is under no necessity to make further territorial acquisitions by partitioning China. On the contrary she may think it a better plan to join with Japan, England and America in advocating the preservation of China so as to provide for the security of trade and commerce. Further, if we look at the problem of Austria's internal administration, which will hereafter become one of the issues occupying European diplomacy, France's interest in it is exceedingly slight, yet on account of her alliance with Russia she can not but be drawn into the vortex of the dispute. If France, while maintaining her alliance with Russia, wants to make its operation contribute to her own profit and to prevent it from being taken advantage elsewhere, it is evident that, apart from her ally, she has need of some friendly country, and thus what she is doing with England to-day may be said to be naturally dictated. Even granting that the fact of the Anglo-French relations becoming very close does not exercise any influence on the form of the Franco-Russian alliance, we can not but see more or less change in the latter operation, and that is a point demanding the attention of diplomatists.

It will be observed that the tone of this article differs from that of our contemporary's editorial utterances at the time when the Anglo-French *entente* was still in embryo only. In the second article we do not find any reference to the previously expressed apprehension that *pari passú* with the growth of the new *entente*, the pro-Russian party in England would raise its head, and that encouragement would thus be given to the section of Japanese opinion which favours an understanding with Russia, rather than an alliance with England, as most conducive to Japan's safety. We can not tell whether that possibility presents itself as vividly to the *Jiji Shimpo* now as it did a fortnight ago, but it is certainly one of the contingencies connected with the *rapprochement* of England and France.

Speaking chronologically, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* preceded the *Jiji* as a commentator on this interesting event in European politics. The latter journal wrote first on the 27th of April whereas the former had written on the 21st of that month. What the *Nichi Nichi* said was this :—

Since the time of the first Napoleon England and France have been mutually hostile, and in recent years the Fashoda incident led to an exhibition of their enmity. It certainly is not without reason that the signal phenomenon of their present *rapprochement* has attracted the attention of the peoples of the world. If the London *Times*, discussing the event, considers that it will cause a change in the focus of diplomatic history, that may be assumed to be because the contingencies suggesting themselves as results of the *rapprochement* are so very numerous.

Considered simply as a political question, the causes that keep England and France apart and the causes that keep England and Russia apart, are not different. But from the point of view of economical conditions, there are reasons why England and France should be friends, and no reason is apparent for their estrangement. It is not to be doubted that simultaneously with the outgoing of English capital to America and Asia, French capital flows largely into England. In the recent South-African war the fact that it was France that supplied England with military funds can not be disputed. Further, the greater part of the French capital invested in England is in public securities, railway shares and so forth. Englishmen like to stretch out their hand to new countries and to invest their capital in manufactures and mines, whereas the French have a preference for buying the safe bonds of England. Economical cooperation between the two countries has always been of a very profound character, and the causes that make for the present *rapprochement* are altogether the outcome of economical questions. The world considers that England can not stand side by side with France and Russia, and that England and Germany are situated so that they must fall out. There are a certain number of people who seek to explain all diplomatic incidents by these hypotheses, but at this epoch of the world's civilization it becomes more and more absolutely essential that the peoples should come together and assist one another. Circumstances will not allow men to be trammelled by petty sentiment and to cause unprofit-

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able complications. If political disputes once extend to economical affairs, some way of reaching an understanding is at once found.

Surely the *rapprochement* between the two countries will not, as *The Times* thinks, have the effect of changing the centre of European politics only. All the problems of the Far East also will feel its influence. We rejoice that the developments of a foreign policy founded on economical relations have generally the advantage of preserving peace and promoting civilization.

This is certainly a disappointing article. It suggests a very superficial estimate of the situation. In some respects, too, we can not agree with the writer's conclusions. He seems to greatly over-rate the importance and the quantity of French investments in England, and to ignore the much more cardinal influence of the commerce between the two countries. Neither has he apparently any conception of the specially interesting fact, for fact it is, that England's approach to France is largely the outcome of a conviction that German friendship can not be won. The *Jiji Shimpo*, also, pays little attention to that phase of the incident.

YACHTING IN YOKOHAMA.

There was no lack of interest on Saturday afternoon in the opening of the yachting season. Three events were put on the programme, a race for the big boats, another for the 17 raters, and a third for the new class of "Larks," or scows as they are less euphoniously named. The weather was not unpromising in the forenoon, but about tiffin time threatening and lowering signs appeared in the west and soon a very sharp rain squall came along. This forbidding condition of things lasted for about an hour, the wind moderating and the rain taking off about two o'clock. The 39 raters did not start and the 17 raters race was also postponed, but towards three o'clock the wind began to shift to the north and east and it was decided to let the little craft go over a course involving a run out of the harbour along the breakwater to a mark and back home. Ten "Larks" started and before they finished had certainly furnished their crews with sufficient excitement for one afternoon. In trying to beat outside the harbour two of them lost the upper parts of their masts, the craft being so stiff that something in the way of gear had to give way. These boats, Nos. 6 and 12, came home easily under reduced sail. Meanwhile the spectators were regaled by the efforts to tack of one craft which positively could not get round, and by the antics of another which, tillerless and out of control, boldly rammed one of the large vessels at her moorings. In the case of four others, Nos. 1, 3, 10 and 11, the peak halliards gave way. However four were able to hold on and to round the mark, but Carst's mast went here and he also was disabled. The other three staggered home having stuck closely to each other throughout. Their times were as follow :—

	h.m.s.
No. 4—W. B. Mason	4.09.10
No. 2—A. L. Manley and M. F. Stephens...	4.10.35
No. 9—A. Kingdon.....	4.11.40

There is no handicap or allowance in this class so that the two prizes which under the rules are awarded when over four start go in the order above indicated.

The weather was exceedingly trying for these little fellows but they proved themselves not less staunch than speedy and it is quite safe to predict that nearly all the interest, for this season at any rate, will centre in the class.

The Mosquito yachts raced for the "Stella" cup. *Pelee* led through the harbour entrance, *Vixen* next, *Yugao* last. *Chocho* found the breeze too stiff and gave up. At the lightship *Pelee* had trouble in staying and *Vixen* came up and got in front of her, and held the lead to the finish. *Vixen* thus wins the cup.

SCANDAL.

In connexion with the text book scandal an appeal by an educational official was rejected in the Tokyo Appeal Court on May 7th. The same day another suspect was released on bail of *yen* 100 in the Tokyo District Court.

Four educational officials were sentenced in the Tokyo District Court on May 8th to from one month to two months' imprisonment with hard labour and fines of *yen* 4 to *yen* 7, and the bribes they had received were ordered to be confiscated. The same day three others were committed for trial.

Three educational officials were, on May 11th, sentenced from one month to three months' imprisonment with hard labour and fines of *yen* 4 to *yen* 10. The bribes they received were ordered to be confiscated and one of them has also to pay the costs, *yen* 1.50.

N. Ogura, ex-Governor of Gumma Prefecture, two educational officials, and a lawyer were committed for trial in the Tokyo District Court on Tuesday, I. Sonoyama, ex-Governor of Miyasaki Prefecture, and a publisher were discharged. The same day N. Ogura and three educational officials were released on bail of *yen* 200 to *yen* 20. In the Tokyo Appeal Court, M. Yamamoto was sentenced to a month's imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 4.

One educational official was sentenced in the Tokyo Tokyo District Court on May 13 to one month's imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 4 and the bribe *yen* 100 he received was ordered to be confiscated. The same day, M. Kashiwada, ex-Governor of Niigata Prefecture, and an educational official were committed for trial.

PEST ON THE "KAGOSHIMA."

Governor Sufu, on May 8th, issued a notification with refereuce to the pest which was reported on the steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, stating that the cargo brought by her shall not be permitted to be removed from the place where it was landed, without police authority. Any one who contravenes the notification will be punished by a fine of *yen* 10.

It is stated that a dead rat was found on May 11th on board the steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, which is now being detained at the Nagahama quarantine station. The authorities are conducting an examination of the carcase. The *Asahi* states that the condition of the plague patient is better.

A rumour that two new cases of pest had appeared on board the steamer *Kagoshima Maru*, which is detained at the Nagahama Quarantine station, has been contradicted by the Yokohama Harbour Office. As a matter of fact two sailors on the steamer are suffering from fever, but they show no symptoms of plague. Both patients are detained at the Nagahama Disinfecting Hospital for further examination.

Over a million and a half people in India have died of plague since the disease first made its appearance in Bombay in 1895. In 1896 there were 1,700 deaths. The mortality increased to 56,000 in 1897, 118,000 in 1898, and to 135,000 in 1899. The following year there was a big drop, the number of deaths going down to 93,000, but the hope that the end was in sight was quickly dashed to the ground, the year 1901 seeing no less that 274,000 deaths, while the total rose in 1902 to the terrific figure of 577,000. Since then matters have grown even worse, the first three months of the current year adding roughly another three hundred thousand to the list of those who have perished from the disease.

THE LATE CAPT. J. S. THOMPSON.

The *Times of Ceylon* says :—Captain James S. Thompson is supposed to have jumped overboard from the *Kawachi Maru* on Easter Monday morning. He was last seen by Mr. James, a passenger on the vessel, about 11.30 o'clock at night on Easter Sunday. Captain Thompson was then going on the bridge. Next morning, between 7 o'clock and 7.30, the Captain was called in the usual way, when it was ascertained that he was missing. Absolutely nothing more is known. The bridge deck is, after the usual manner, protected with rails. It should be mentioned that the chief officer did notice a certain peculiarity in the Captain's manner soon after leaving Suez, but it made no more than a passing impression upon him, and he did not consider the matter of sufficient importance to speak of it to the doctor. His papers were all left behind in perfect order, and letters to his solicitors, &c. instructing them regarding the disposal of his property, and to the company telling them where his papers were to be sent in the event of his death. No mention, however, was made in any way of impending death.

SPRING MEETING OF THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

FIRST DAY.—MONDAY, 11TH MAY.

PATRONS :—H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, and H.I.H. Arisugawa-no-Miya.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE :—Sir Claude Maxwell MacDonald, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., President; Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President; R. D. Robison, Esq., Jas. Dodds, Esq., V. Blad, Esq., Governor Sufu, T. Thomas, Esq., B. C. Howard, Esq., G. Philip, Esq., S. Isaacs, Esq., A. J. Easton, Esq., L. Mottet, Esq., A. Bianchi, Esq., M. Pors, Esq., and T. Taniguchi, Esq.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :—A. G. Morey Weale, Esq., Chairman; A. Bianchi, Esq., K. Mori, Esq., P. de C. Morriss, Esq., B. Runge, Esq., and A. J. Easton, Esq.

CLERK OF THE COURSE :—B. Runge, Esq.

SECRETARY :—Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Fine weather and a good course favoured the opening day of the Spring meeting of the Nippon Race Club. The attendance of visitors, so far as foreigners were concerned, was about up to the average for the first day, while Japanese and Chinese came out in full force. To run nine races between noon and 5 p.m. was no mean effort but it was accomplished and most of the events produced excellent sport, as the qualities of many new ponies were tried for the first time. Unfortunately, however, the second race was attended with a most unfortunate circumstance. Two jockeys were thrown, one of these, Yasu, the rider of Adelaide, receiving rather severe internal injuries. The other events call for little remark but they generally produced good field and were well contested. The China Ponies had a better innings than might have been expected, with no new arrivals. The win of Sir Claude MacDonald's Ivy was very popular, and her owner was cheered when he led the horse in.

The duties of officers of the day were performed with satisfaction by Messrs. A. Bianchi, Judge; F. J. Hall, Assistant Judge; P. de C. Morriss Starter; C. de C. Hughes, Assistant Starter; Dr. Wheeler, Clerk of the Scales, and Mr. Bugbird, Time-keeper.

The events were as follow :—

1.—The COSMOPOLITAN PLATE, for all Subscription Horses; Australian Winners of more than ten races excluded; weight for age; winners of more than six races 10lb. extra; Entrance yen 5; winner yen 350. One Mile.

Mr. R. Field's Tenryu, 140lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 1
Mr. Hansa's Uhlenhorst, 140lb.....(Mayeda) 2
Mr. B. Runge's Desdemona, 140lb.....(Kato) 3
Mr. Decimus' The Beetle, 140lb.....(Kurosaka) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Fourree, 140lb. ...(Miyagawa) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Tasmanian, 140lb.....(Mr. Elliott) 0
Mr. K. Sasaky's The Coronet, 150lb....(Mr. Mottu) 0

The Coronet appeared to be first favourite among the seven starters. The field was got away without much difficulty, though one horse had considerably the worst of it. Tenryu soon took the lead with the rest in a clump, except The Beetle, who was left behind for a time but pulled up to his field

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at the Trees. In the Straight Tenryu still led but was challenged by Uhlenhorst, who made a fine race of it for second place, finishing only about half a length behind Tenryu. Time, 1.51⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—The Beetle 25, Tenryu 57, Faule Grete 7, Uhlenhorst 300, Tasmanian 10, Desdemona 45, The Coronet 191; total 635 tickets—Tenryu, yen 50.

2.—The NEW COMERS' PLATE, for Australian Subscription Horses of Spring, 1903; weight for age; Entrance, yen five. Winner yen 300, Second Horse yen 50. Three-Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. Yezoye's Izumo, 130lb. .....(Sugiura) 1
Mr. K.I.S.'s Hatsukaze, 130lb. .....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Yezoye's Yashiro, 130lb. .....(Higaki) 3
Mr. Iris' Marigold, 130lb. .....(Rikizo) 0
Mr. Alexander's Adelaide, 140lb. .....(Yasu) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's River, 140lb. .....(Miyagawa) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Suruga, 140lb.....(Goto) 0
Mr. May's May, 140lb.....(Mr. Catto) 0
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzette, 130lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Seabreeze, 130lb.....(Sugihara) 0
Mr. Wetwo's Bicycle, 140lb. .....(Takahashi) 0
Mr. Satsuma's Miss Swiveller, 140lb....(Horikoshi) ■

This event proved to be somewhat disastrous. After one or two false starts the horses were got away in some kind of order. One mare (Seabreeze) gave a lot of trouble to her rider, a Japanese boy, and eventually turned tail and ran back to the start. Between the Trees and the rise two accidents occurred. Miss Swiveller jumped the track, and threw her rider, Horikoshi, while Adelaide also fell and threw her rider, who received such serious injuries that he expired during the afternoon These mishaps considerably thinned the field. Izumo ran to the front in the distance and won by half a length from Hatsukaze, Yashiro third. Time, 1.30.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Marigold 22, Adelaide 278, Izumo 80, Yashiro 16, River 8, Suruga 5, May 24, Hatsukaze 111, Suzette 11, Seabreeze 17, Bicycle 2, Miss Swiveller 31; total 605 tickets—Izumo, yen 34.

3.—The CRITERION STAKES, for China Subscription Ponies of Spring, 1903; weight as per Scale. Entrance, yen five. Winner yen 250, Second Pony yen 50. Three-Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. Decimus' Moth, 147lb.....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Schramm's Bauernfaenger, 150lb...
(Mr. Jarmain) 2
Mr. Iris' Magnolia, 147lb. .....(Rikizo) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tramp, 153lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Stork, 147lb. .....(Ichi) 0
Mr. K.I.S.'s Nippon, 147lb. .....(Kobayashi) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Sailor Prince, 150lb....(Mr. Elliott) ■
Mr. Unverzagt's Reineke Fuchs, 153lb.(Mr. Mottu) 0

All but one of the entrants started and were got away on fairly level terms. Moth took up the lead about half way round, while the field was strung out lengths apart before the run home. Moth easily kept his lead, and beat Bauernfaenger by half a dozen lengths, with the same distance or more between second and third. Time, 1.37⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Moth 323, Tramp 65, Magnolia 45, Stork 107, Nippon 21, Sailor Prince 16, Bauernfaenger 75, Reineke Fuchs 61; total 713 tickets—Moth, yen 10.

4.—The BRISBANE CUP, for Australian Subscription Horses of Autumn, 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 3lb. extra for each race won; Entrance, yen Five. Winner yen 350. One Mile.

Mr. Alexander's Melbourne, 138lb.....(Goto) 1
Mr. Yezoye's Cameo, 138lb. .....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. R. Field's Trouble (late Sydney), 135lb.
(Mr. Catto) 3
Mr. B. Runge's Bambina, 135lb.....(Kato) 0

Melbourne made the running from the start, and though Cameo made a game effort in the Straight, won easily; Trouble being a fair third. Time, 1.49⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Trouble 78, Melbourne 533, Cameo 168, Bambina 36; total 815 tickets—Melbourne, yen 7.

5.—The TOKYO STAKES, for Country-bred Subscription Horses of Autumn, 1902; Handicap. Entrance, yen Five. Winner yen 200. Five Furlongs.

Mr. N. Kawakita's Kiyokawa, 134lb...(Miyagawa) 1
Mr. Hansa's Alster, 128lb. .....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. Unverzagt's Sperber (late Leek). 130lb.
(Mr. Jarmain) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's Tsukigase, 137lb. .....(Goto) 0

Kiyokawa started favourite and ran to the front in the first furlong, the rest close together, a length or two behind. In the distance Sperber came up and tried to reach the leader, but failed to collar her, Kiyokawa winning by a couple of lengths, with Sperber third. Time, 1.10⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Kiyokawa 264, Tsukigase 274, Alster 64, Sperber 79; total 881 tickets—Kiyokawa yen 15.

6.—The SYDNEY STAKES, for Australian Subscription Horses of 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 3lb. extra for each race won. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 350. One Mile.

Mr. May's May-mie, 135lb. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Hansa's Uhlenhorst, 149lb. .....(Kurosaka) 2
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzon, 143lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 3
Mr. R. Field's Try Again, 140lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 0
Mr. Iris' Mignonette (late Temper), 135lb..(Rikizo) 0
Mr. Yodo's Fujikawa, 143lb.....(Higaki) 0
Mr. Tytherleigh's Patsie, 143lb .....(Mr. Easton) 0

Several futile attempts were made before a start could be effected. When at last they got away Try Again was left some lengths behind. After passing the Trees May-mie came to the front, and this order they kept, May-mie winning by two lengths from Uhlenhorst with Suzon third. Time, 1.50⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Try Again 62, Mignonette 61, May-mie 239, Uhlenhorst 345, Suzon 44, Fujikawa 58, Patsie 45; total 854 tickets—May-mie 16.07 yen.

7.—The MONGOLIAN PLATE, for All China Ponies: to be ridden by full Members of the Club, or Visitors, whose names must be sent in to the Committee before the Meeting and approved by them; weight as per scale; winners at date of entry of three races 5lb. extra, of more than three races 9lb. extra. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 300, Second Pony yen 50. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Two Percies' The Leader, 144lb. ...(Mr. Cox) 1
Mr. Unverzagt's Max Willem, 155lb..(Mr. Easton) 2
Mr. N. Kawakita's Hayakawa, 159lb...(Mr. Catto) 3
Mr. Decimus' Standard Rose, 155lb. ...
(Mr. Marquetti) 0
Mr. Iris' McMorse, 159lb.....(Mr. Riddle) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Hawk, 150lb. ...(Mr. Hughes) 0
Mr. Cosmopolis' Dourak (late Mikazuki),
155lb....(Mr. Jarmain) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Sailor Prince, 150lb....(Mr. Elliott) 0
Mr. Scherz's Etourdi, 147lb. .....(Mr. Namazie) 0
Mr. Mottu's Sunrise, 150lb. .....(Owner) 0

This race brought out a good field of ponies, out of which it was hard to post the winner. After a fair star Sunrise and Dourak took up the running, but before covering three-quarters dropped into the rear. After passing the Trees, The Leader came to the front and increasing his lead, won easily by five lengths from Max Willem, who finished about the same distance before Hayakawa. Time, 2.51⅗.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Standard Rose 11, McMorse 33, Hayakawa 131, Hawk 9, Dourak 16, Sailor Prince 10, The Leader 343, Max Willem 17, Sunrise 417; total 988 tickets—The Leader yen 13.

8.—The MELBOURNE STAKES, for Australian Subscription Horses of Spring, 1903; weight for age; Winner of Race No. 2, 5lb. extra. Entrance yen 5, winner yen 300, Second Horse yen 50. One Mile and a Furlong.

Sir Claude MacDonald's Ivy, 130lb. ...(Mr. Catto) 1
Mr. Yezoye's Izumo, 130lb.....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. Alexander's Brisbane, 140lb. .....(Takahashi) 3
Mr. R. Field's Testatrix, 140lb. .....(Mr. Hughes) 0
Mr. Tatsuta's Sagami, 132lb.....(Goto) 0
Mr. K.I.S.'s Tomoye, 130lb. .....(Kobayashi) 0
Mr, Yodo's Nagato, 140lb. .....(Higaki) 0

On first passing the post Brisbane took a strong lead. At the Shakespeare Ivy came up to the leader and ran neck and neck with Brisbane, with Izumo close up. Coming down the straight Ivy passed Brisbane and won by about a length, Izumo having rushed into second place. Time, 2.14⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Testatrix 2, Brisbane 436, Izumo 121, Sagami 19, Tomoye 33, Nagato 13, Ivy 179; total 803 tickets—Ivy 20 yen.

9.—The COLONIAL PLATE, for Australian Subscription Horses of Autumn, 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 3lb. extra for each race won; winners at the meeting to carry an additional 5lb. Entrance yen 5. Winner yen 350. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Scherz's Margherita, 140lb.....(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. May's May-san, 140lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 2
Mr. Iris' Myosotis, 140lb. .....(Rikizo) 0

May-san was a warm favourite, the others found few supporters. Margherita ran into first place after passing the Stand for the first time, and maintained it to the end, winning easily from May-san who finished second, with Myosotis a fair third. Time, 2.25⅗.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Myosotis 83, May-san 400, Margherita 23; total 720 tickets—Margherita 13.50 yen.

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, 12TH MAY.

The second day of the Spring Meeting was again favoured with fine weather, though during the afternoon an unpleasantly strong westerly wind swept over the paddock and through the grand stand. In spite of this there was a large attendance of ladies in bright and tasteful spring toilettes, while the number of visitors of the sterner sex was fully up to the average. Amongst those present were Sir Claude MacDonald, H.B.M. Representative, and President of the Race Club, and a number of members of the foreign Legation in Tokyo, and Japanese officials. Amongst the latter was Baron Sannomiya, Imperial Chamberlain, who on behalf of His Majesty presented the Emperor's prize, the Negishi Cup, a fine piece of plate, to the winning owner of Margherita. The races during the day, with the exception of that for the Ladies' Purse, produced smaller fields than was the case on Monday, one resulting in a match while several others only brought out three or four starters. Among the gentleman riders Mr. Easton is to be congratulated on adding to his laurels another win of the blue ribbon of the meeting, the Ladies' Purse. In other races gentleman riders did not largely figure. The winning races were well distributed among the owners. The pari-mutuel and sweeps were largely supported, the visitors evidently being as speculatively inclined as ever. The officers of the day and committee are to be congratulated on the success of the programme. The events were as follows:—

1.—The CHAMPAGNE CHALLENGE CUP, (presented by Messrs. G. H. Mumm & Company); for Australian Subscription Horses of 1901 and thereafter, that have not run at more than two meetings; to be won three times in all by Horses the *bonâ fide* property of same Owner or Owners, with yen 300 added by the Club until the Cup is finally won, when the Second Horse will receive the added money; weight 145lb.; winners at the meeting 7lb. extra. Entrance, yen 10. One Mile.

Mr. Hansa's Uhlenhorst, 145lb. .....(Mayeda) 1
Mr. May's May-san, 145lb. .....(Ichi) 2
Mr. R. Field's Trouble 145lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 3

Only three started, of which Uhlenhorst was favourite. May-san got away with a slight lead but Uhlenhorst pulled up with her at the Trees. In the Straight ■ good race took place between Uhlenhorst and May-san, the former winning by a short length, Trouble being left lengths behind. Time 1.51⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Trouble 93, May-san 148, Uhlenhorst 372; total 613 tickets—Uhlenhorst, yen 7.50.

2.—The NEW SOUTH WALES PLATE, for Australian Subscription Horses of Autumn, 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 3lb. extra for each race won; winners at the meeting to carry an additional 5lb; winners of Races Nos. 4 and 9 First Day excluded. Entrance, Yen Five. Winner Yen 350. One Mile and a Furlong.

Mr. May's May-mie, 135lb. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Yezoye's Cameo, 138lb. .....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. Iris' Myosotis, 140lb. .....(Goto) 0

Again three faced the starter. Cameo and May-mie ran neck and neck all the way round and the finish was in the same order. May-mie, being about a neck ahead; Myosotis lengths behind. Time, 2.10⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Myosotis 64, Cameo 326, May-mie 300; total 690 tickets—May-mie yen 10.50.

3.—The BANZAI STAKES, for Australian Subscription Horses of Spring, 1903; weight for age; winners at the meeting 5lb. extra. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 300, Second Horse yen 50. One Mile.

Sir Claude MacDonald's Ivy, 130lb. ...(Mr. Catto) 1
Mr. K. I. S.'s Hatsukaze, 130lb. .....(Kobayashi) 2
Mr. Alexander's Adelaide, 140lb. .....(Kurosaka) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's Sagami, 133lb. (3lb. extra) ...(Goto) 0
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzette, 130lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 0

Ivy started favourite. After two or three tries—Suzette gave the most trouble—a fair start was effected. Going up from the Dip Ivy ran to the front and though Hatsukaze came up well in the Straight the favourite, Ivy, won by about a length, Adelaide a poor third. Time, 1.58⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Adelaide 263, Sagami 61, Hatsukaze 180, Suzette 39, Ivy 552; total 1,095 tickets—Ivy, yen 9.00.

4.—The LADIES' PURSE, presented, for China Ponies; to be ridden by full Members of the Club, or Visitors, whose names must be sent in to the Committee before the Meeting and approved by them; Handicap. Entrance Yen 5. One Mile.

Mr. Decimus' Moth, 150lb. .....(Mr. Easton) 1
Mr. Two Percies' The Leader, 156lb. ....(Mr. Cox) 2
Mr. Unverzagt's Max Willem, 150lb....(Mr. Mottu) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tramp, 147lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 0
Mr. Iris' McMorse, 156lb. .....(Mr. Riddle) 0
Mr. Iris' Magnolia, 142lb.....(Mr. Marquetti) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Hayakawa, 156lb.
(Mr. Pakenham) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Stork, 140lb.....(Mr. Hughes) 0

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Mr. Cosmopolis' Dourak, 148lb.....(Mr. Jarmain) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Sailor Prince, 140lb. ...(Mr. Elliott) 0
Mr. Unverzagt's Reineke Fuchs, 152lb.
(Mr. Werckmeister) 0

Eleven ponies faced the starter for this interesting event, the gentleman riders' race for the Ladies Purse. Several of the mounts were about equally in favour with the speculative public, though Moth and Max Willem appeared to be first in demand. The large field gave a good deal of trouble to start, one of the ponies breaking away and going round the course on his own account. At last they were got away with one pony left half-a-dozen lengths behind. For three parts of the course the ponies ran together in a cluster and it appeared to be anybody's race. On entering the Straight Moth came away and won easily by four or five lengths from The Leader, with Max Willem third. Time, 2.13⅗.

After the race the prize was presented to the winning rider, Mr. Easton, by Miss Baker who accompanied the presentation with a graceful little speech.

PARI MUTUEL, 3 yen—Moth 478, Tramp 41, McMorse 38, Magnolia 13, Hayakawa 55, Stork 5, Dourak 13, Sailor Prince 13, The Leader 475, Max Willem 274, Reineke Fuchs 10; total 1,415 tickets—Moth, yen 13.50.

5.—The NEGISHI CUP, for Australian Subscription Horses of 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 3lb. extra for each race won; winners at the meeting to carry an additional 5lb. extra. Entrance, yen five. Winner yen 400, Second Horse yen 100. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Scherz's Margherita, 140lb.....(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. Alexander's Melbourne, 138lb.....(Goto) 2

This resulted in a match between Margherita and Melbourne. After a level start the two galloped neck and neck past the Stand the first time, and kept close company till near the finish, when Margherita drew away from her opponent and won by a couple of lengths. Time, 2.23.

PARI MUTUTL, 5 yen—Melbourne 920, Margherita 366; total 1,286 tickets—Margherita, yen 16.00.

6.—The SHIMOSA PLATE, for Country-bred Subscription Horses of Autumn, 1902; Handicap. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 250. Three-quarters of a Mile.

Mr. N. Kawakita's Kiyokawa, 142lb...(Miyagawa) 1
Mr. Hansa's Alster, 130lb. .....(Sugiura) 2
Mr. Unverzagt's Sperber, 130lb.....(Mr. Jarmain) 3

Alster made the running at the start, but at the Shakespeare Kiyokawa took the lead and kept it to the finish, winning by about two lengths from Alster with Sperber third. Time, 1.31.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Kiyokawa 588, Alster 305, Sperber 160; total 1,053 tickets—Kiyokawa yen 8.00.

7.—The SUBSCRIPTION STAKES, for all Subscription Horses; Handicap; Australian winners of more than ten races at date of entry excluded. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 400, Second Horse yen 100. One Mile.

Mr. Yodo's Fujikawa, 140lb.....(Higaki) 1
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzon, 141lb, ...(Mr. Jarmain) 2
Mr. R. Field's Try Again, 136lb.....(Mr. Catto) 3
Mr. Decimus' The Beetle, 140lb.....(Kurosaki) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Tasmanian, 141lb.....(Mr. Elliott) 0

Beetle made the running to the Shakespeare with Suzon next. After passing the Trees however Fujikawa came up and gradually worked to the front, eventually winning by about half a length, from Suzon who made a good race. Try Again was a poor third. Time, 1.53.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—The Beetle 119, Try Again 100, Suzon 194, Tasmanian 20, Fujikawa 54; total 487 tickets—Fujikawa yen 40.50.

8.—The YOKOHAMA CUP, for Australian Subscription Horses of Spring, 1903; weight for age; winner of race No. 8 First Day excluded; winner of race No. 3 Second Day, 7lb. extra. Entrance Fee yen 5. Winner yen 300, Second Pony 50. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Yezoye's Izumo, 130lb.....(Sugiura) 1
Mr. Alexander's Brisbane, 140lb. .....(Takahashi) 2
Mr. K. I. S.'s Hatsukaze, 130lb.....(Kobayashi) 3
Mr. Yodo's Nagato, 140lb.....(Higaki) 0
Mr. R. Field's Testatrix, 140lb.....(Kiichi) 0

Brisbane led by a length or so till after negotiating the Dip, when Izumo, drew up and, after running on level terms with the former until turning the corner to enter the straight, won a good race by a length from Brisbane, Hatsukaze finishing third a few lengths behind. Time 2.30.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Testatrix 69, Brisbane 304, Hatsukaze 128, Nagato 44, Izumo 602; total 1,147 tickets—Izumo yen 8.50.

9.—The ADELAIDE CUP, for Australian Subscription Horses of Spring 1901-Spring 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 2lb. extra for each race won. Entrance yen 5. Winner yen 300, Second Horse yen 50. Three-quarters of a Mile.

Mr. R. Field's Tenryu, 150lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 1
Mr. B. Runge's Desdemona, 144lb. .....(Kato) 2
Mr. Satsuma's Ojosama, 146lb.....(Higaki) 3
Mr. Iris' Mignonette, 137lb. .....(Kanno) 0
Mr. Tytherleigh's Patsie, 142lb.....(Mr. Easton) 0

Five horses started for the race of whom Tenryu and Desdemona were the favourites. Ojosama made the running for the first quarter mile, when Tenryu drew to the front with Desdemona close up. Coming down the straight a fine race between the latter two resulted in a dead heat, with Ojosama third. The race was afterwards decided by Tenryu walking over for first prize while Desdemona took second.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tenryu 647, Mignonette 43, Desdenona 421, Patsie 91, Ojosama 181, total 1,383 tickets—Tenryu 5 yen and Desdemona 7.50 yen.

THIRD DAY.—WEDNESDAY, 13TH MAY.

The weather, which had been so auspicious on the first two days of the Spring meeting, broke down on the third. The skies looked threatening from shortly after noon, but it was not till a little after 2 p.m. that the rain came down; first in a moderate shower and shortly afterwards in a drenching downpour. Fortunately this did not last very long, but it was sufficient to make a quagmire of the course and to drench the riders in at least one race. The ladies and most of the visitors generally took refuge in the Grand Stand, which was full to overflowing. The racing during the last five events was conducted under changed conditions, and the mud larks had their innings in the place of the flyers. The times made can therefore offer no criterion as to the qualities of the horses. During the first half of the day the fields were very small but the last few races were well contested by a very fair show of starters.

The events of the day, which for the first time numbered ten, were as follows:—

1.—The PRIX DES HARAS, Handicap. For all Subscription Horses entered at the meeting Australian and Country Breds, (1902 Subscription Country Breds, excluded), a forced entry of yen 10—non-starters half forfeit. Winner yen 500, Second Horse yen 100, Third Horse yen 50. One Mile.

Mr. B. Runge's Desdemona, 140lb. .....(Kato) 1
Mr. Decimus' The Beetle, 138lb. .....(Takahashi) 2
Mr. Yezoye's Cameo, 145lb. .....(Sugiura) 3
Mr. R. Field's Trouble, 140lb. .....(Mr. Catto) ■

Only four out of forty-three entries started. After getting off well together Beetle took the lead going up the Dip and kept slightly ahead until entering the Straight, when Desdemona came up with him and after a good race down the home stretch won by a length and half, Cameo third—three lengths behind. Time, 1.52⅖.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—The Beetle 100, Trouble 20, Cameo 250, Desdemona 159; total 529 tickets—Desdemona yen 15.

2.—The NIPPON STAKES, for Australian Subscription Horses of 1902; weight for age; winners at date of entry 3lb. extra for each race won; winner of race No. 5 Second Day to carry an additional 5lb. Entrance, Yen 5. Winner Yen 400. One Mile and a Half.

Mr. Alexander's Melbourne, 138lb.....(Higaki) 1
Mr. Tytherleigh's Patsie, 143lb. .....(Kurosaka) 0

This was a match between Melbourne and Patsie, the former being the favourite. Patsie started the running but on passing the stand the first time the two were neck and neck. After reaching the Trees Melbourne came away and increasing his lead down the straight won easily by half a dozen lengths. Time 2.54⅘.

PARI MUTUUL, 5 yen—Melbourne 642, Patsie 219 total 861 tickets—Melbourne, yen 6.00.

3.—The PEKIN CUP, for China Subscription Ponies of Spring, 1903; Weight as per scale; winner of race No. 3 First Day 3lb. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 250, Second Pony yen 50. One Mile.

Mr. Decimus' Moth, 147lb. .....(Takahashi) 1
Mr. Unverzagt's Reineke Fuchs, 153lb.(Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. N. Kawakita's Stork, 147lb.....( ) 3

Moth started a warm favourite and justified the confidence of the public. Reineke Fuchs led for the first half mile, when Moth came up and passed him, From thence to the finish Moth increased his lead, winning in a canter by anything he liked from Reneike Fuchs, with Stork a poor third. Time, 2.16⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Moth 668, Stork 92, Reineke Fuchs 129; total 889 tickets—Moth, yen 6.00.

4.—The OSAKA STAKES, for All Subscription Horses; Australian winners of more than ten races at date of entry excluded; Handicap. Entrance yen 5. Winner yen 450, Second Horse 100. One Mile and a Half.

Mr. Yodo's Fujikawa, 138lb. .....(Higaki) 1
Mr. R. Field's Try Again, 132lb.....(Mr. Catto) 2
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzon, 133lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 3
Mr. St. Leger's Tasmanian, 137lb. .....(Ichi) 0

After getting away to a fair start they were all strung out in passing the grand stand, Tasmanian leading. After passing the half mile post the horses closed up a little, and at the trees Fujikawa, who had been running in third place, took the lead, with Try Again next. In this order they finished, Fujikawa winning by a head. Tasmanian was a good third. Time, 2.57¼.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Try Again 80, Suzon 250, Tasmanian 211, Fujikawa 547; total 1,088 tickets—Fujikawa yen 9.

5.—The JUNIOR CHAMPIONS, for Australian Subscription Horses of Autumn, 1902, Spring, 1903; weight for age; a forced entry for winners at the meeting, of One Race yen 10, of Two Races yen 20, of more than Two Races yen 40; optional to beaten horses at an Entrance Fee of yen 25. Winner yen 600. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Alexander's Melbourne, 135lb.....(Higaki) 1
Mr. Hansa's Uhlenhorst, 140lb.....(Mayeda) 2
Mr. May's May-mie (late Ma-mie), 135lb. ...(Ichi) 3
Sir Claude MacDonald's Ivy, 130lb. ...(Mr. Catto) 0
Mr. Scherz's Margherita, 140lb.....(Mr. Mottu) 0

Five horses started. Uhlenhorst led on passing the Stand the first time, but after that it was impossible to distinguish the horses in the torrent of rain. At the finish Melbourne won by half a length from Uhlenhorst, with May-mie third. Time, 2.24⅕.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Melbourne 164, Ivy 219, May-mie 164, Margherita 332, Uhlenhorst 239: total 1,118 tickets—Melbourne, yen 30.50.

6.—The CHAMPIONS, for all Subscription Horses, except those of Autumn, 1902, Spring, 1903; weight for age; Australian winners of more than ten races at date of entry excluded; a forced entry for winners at the meeting, of one race yen 10, of two races yen 20, of more than two races yen 40; optional to beaten horses at an Entrance Fee of yen 25. Winner yen 600. One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Sasaky's Coronet, 142lb. .....(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. St. Leger's Tasmanian, 140lb. .....(Sugihara) 2
Mr. R. Field's Tenryu, 140lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 3

Only three starters appeared to contest the Australian Champions. The Coronet and Tasmanian made the running, Tenryu laying back for the first half mile. At the Shakespeare the three closed up. In the home stretch, however, Coronet beat Tasmanian, winning by about three lengths, Tenryu being several lengths behind. Time, 2.33⅕.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tenryu 375, Coronet 391, Tasmanian 157; total 923 tickets—Coronet, yen 10.50.

7.—The NIL DESPERANDUM STAKE, for Australian Subscription Horses of 1902 that have started at the meeting and not won a race; weight for age. Entrance, yen 5. Winner yen 300, One Mile.

Mr. May's May-san, 140lb. .....(Ichi) 1
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzon, 140lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 2
Mr. Tytherleigh's Patsie, 140lb .....(Mr. Easton) 3
Mr. Decimus' The Beetle, 140lb. .....(Kurosaka) 0
Mr. B. Runge's Bambina, 135lb.....(Kato) 0
Mr. Iris' Mignonette, 135lb. .....(Kanno) 0

After three or four tries the field was got away on level terms. May-san got to the front going up from the Dip and led all the way round, winning by a length from Suzon, with Patsie a good third, the others strung out. Time, 1.59⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—The Beetle 93, Mignonette 35, May-san 476, Suzon 120, Bambina 100, Patsie 126; total 956 tickets—May-san yen 9.

8.—The GRIFFINS SOLACE, for Australian Subscription Horses of Spring, 1903, that have started during the meeting and not won a race; weight for age. Entrance, yen five. Winner yen 250. One Mile.

Mr. Yezoye's Yashiro, 130lb.....(Sugiura) 1
Mr. Alexander's Brisbane, 140lb. .....(Takahashi) 2
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzette, 130lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 3
Mr. Alexander's Adelaide, 140lb.....(Kurosaka) 0
Mr. N. Rawakita's River, 140lb.....(Miyagawa) 0
Mr. K. I. S.'s Hatsukaze, 130lb.....(Kobayashi) 0
Mr. K. I. S.'s Tomoye, 130lb. (3lb. extra) ...(Goto) ■
Mr. Wetwo's Bicycle, 140lb. (2lb. extra)
(Takahashi) 0

One horse was unfortunate in being left some lengths behind at the start. The others ran well together for the first half mile when Brisbane and Suzette drew away from Yashiro. After passing the Trees the latter ran into front place and increasing her lead won by half a length, Brisbane finishing second and Suzette third. Time, 2.06⅕.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Brisbane 300, Adelaide 23,

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Yashiro 128, River 11, Hatsukaze 292, Tomoye 8, Suzette 4, Bicycle 7; total 773 tickets—Yashiro, yen 27.

9.—The CHINA CONSOLATION, for China Ponies, non-winners in Japan at date of entry that have started at the meeting and not won a race; weight as per scale. Entrance, yen Five. Winner yen 200. One Mile.

Mr. C. Schramm's Bauernfaenger, 150lb. (Mr. Jarmain) 1
Mr. Iris' Magnolia, 147lb. .....(Rikizo) 2
Mr. N. Kawakita's Stork, 147lb. .....(Kanno) 3
Mr. R. Field's Tramp, 153lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Hawk, 150lb. .....(Ichi) 0
Mr. K. I. S.'s Nippon, 147lb. .....(Sugiura) 0
Mr. St. Leger's Sailor Prince, 150lb. ...(Mr. Elliot) 0
Mr. Sherz's Etourdi, 147lb. .....(Higaki) 0
Mr. Unverzagt's Reineke Fuchs 150lb. ...(Mayeda) 0

This event produced the largest field of the day, nine ponies starting. Mr. Kawakita declared best to win. The ponies were got away on fairly level terms. Tramp made the running to The Shakespeare but was then finished. In the straight Bauernfaenger came to the front and kept the lead to the finish, winning by about a length and a half from Magnolia, Stork a poor third. Time 2.26.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Tramp 50, Magnolia 752, Stork 14, Hawk 81, Nippon 11, Sailor Prince 16, Etourdi 58, Bauernfaenger 317, Reineke Fuchs 19; total 841 tickets—Bauernfaenger yen 12.

10.—The NANKIN STAKES, for all China Ponies, Subscription Ponies of 1903 excluded; Handicap; to be ridden by full members of the Club, or visitors, whose names must be sent in to the Committee before the meeting and approved by them. Entrance, yen 5. Winner, yen 250. One Mile.

Mr. Two Percies' The Leader, 150lb. ...(Mr. Cox) 1
Mr. Mottu's Sunrise, 152lb. .....(Owner) 2
Mr. Unverzagt's Max Willem, 142lb. (Mr. Nimmerfall) 3
Mr. Cosmopolis' Dourak, 135lb.....(Mr. Jarmain) 0
Mr. Iris' MacMorse, 140lb. .....(Mr. Riddle) 0
Mr. Decimus' Standard Rose, 142lb..(Mr. Hughes) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Hayakawa, 152lb...(Mr. Elliott) 0

Seven ponies started; up to The Shakespeare the field ran close together but between there and the rise of the hill they tailed off, Sunrise, and Max Willem leading. In the Straight The Leader ran into first place, and after a good race with Sunrise won by about a length, Max Willem finishing third about a length behind the latter. Time, 2.19⅘.

PARI MUTUEL 5 yen—Sunrise 352, Max Willem 44, The Leader 528, Dourak 33, MacMorse 52, Standard Rose 18, Hayakawa 24: total 1,051 tickets—The Leader, yen 9.

LAW CASES.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. K. YAMADA.

In the Yokohama District Court, on Monday, the hearing of this case was resumed before Judge Kato. Two tidewaiters, K. Emata and T. Awoyagi, of the Yokohama Customs, were examined as witnesses.

K. Emata deponed that he was on duty at the Midoricho bonded warehouse on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1902. He remembered that various kinds of sugar were landed at the godown and the shed from various steamers, but he did not remember what marks were placed on the bags or to whom they were consigned. Many consignees had been there to take samples of the sugar and he did not remember their names. The permit for taking samples from the pile of sugar was given by the authorities in the examiners' department and had to be presented to the officials at the goods department. Witness sometimes inspected the samples taken from the godown but not always.

T. Awoyagi gave similar replies. He did not remember whether the granulated sugar on which was marked "Crown's S.E.C." had been stored in the bonded warehouse, or what part of the cargo was consigned to Messrs. Simon, Evers and Co.

The Court rose at noon for tiffin.

On re-assembling, defendant's counsel applied to examine a sugar dealer in Tokyo who had purchased a part of the 3,000 bags of sugar in dispute. The Court declined to call the witness.

The case was again adjourned till May 13th at 9 a.m.

S. NAKASE v. F. RETZ.

The hearing of this case, which was adjourned on February 28th last year, came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on May 11th.

Mr. Matsuda, barrister, was present for plaintiff, and Mr. Hidaka, barrister, for defendant.

Plaintiff's Counsel claimed the sum of *yen* 136.41 and repeated the statements submitted at the previous hearing. It was to the effect that in July 1901, owing to the heavy rains, a landslip was caused at Lots No. 58 and 59, Bluff, which belong to defendant. As the result of the accident three houses underneath at No. 114, Motomachi, 2-chome, and which belong to plaintiff, were damaged. To repair the damage, *yen* 118.50 was paid to a carpenter and during the repairing work, plaintiff lost the rent of the three houses, which amounted to *yen* 17.91.

Defendant's Counsel contended the damage was the result of a natural calamity.

The case was then adjourned till May 20th.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. K. YAMADA.

The hearing of this case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on Wednesday.

Defendant's Counsel introduced a certificate by the Yokohama Customs to the effect that Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co. never applied to the Customs for leave to take out a certain quantity of sugar as samples from the Midoricho godown and no permit was given to the firm for such a purpose during the three days May 1st, 2nd and 3rd last year (on one of these days Mr. J. Dodds, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, took a certain quantity of sugar, as samples, from 3,000 bags marked "Crown's S.E.C.").

The Court decided to examine a sugar dealer named Yamada Genshichi, in Tokyo, as a witness, for whom defendant's counsel had applied at the previous hearing.

The case was then adjourned till May 20th.

FUKUDA MASAO v. CORNES & CO.

The hearing of the case instituted by Fukuda Masao against Messrs. Cornes and Co., claiming loss on a mercantile transaction, was to be begun in the Tokyo Appeal Court on May 13th.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

Attorney-General Webb of the State of California has rendered an official opinion declaring the use of the Bible in the public schools to be unconstitutional. Not only may teachers not use the Scriptures as a text book, but even reading from them is barred.

Major H. L. Bernstein, Chief of Artillery of the army of Bolivia, arrived in San Francisco the other day on his way to Japan, to which country, he said, he has been sent as a special envoy by the Government of the South American republic. He refused, however, to divulge the nature of the mission. He expected to be in San Francisco on his return trip during the month of July.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada during the month of March, reported by the *Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin*, show a total of $9,907,650. The following comparative table exhibits the losses for the first three months of 1901, 1902 and 1903:

	1901.	1902.	1903.
January	$16,574,950	$15,032,800	$13,166,350
February	13,992,000	21,010,500	16,090,800
March	15,036,250	12,056,600	9,907,650
Total	$45,603,200	$48,089,900	$39,164,100

The New York *Evening Post* remarks that two noteworthy facts in the present stock-market situation are, first, that, despite the seeming depression in Wall-street, sales of stocks from January 1 to March 31 exceed those of the same period in 1902, and, second, that exchange memberships now sell for the highest prices on record. For the first quarter of the year sales of stocks have been:—

	1903.	1902.		
January	15,666,036	14,839,819	Inc.	826,217
February	10,948,240	13,023,133	Dec.	2,074,893
March	14,144,836	11,890,781	Inc.	2,254,055
Totals, 3 months.	40,759,112	39,753,633	Inc.	1,005,379

An interesting and detailed summary appears in the Toronto *Globe* of the new capital issues floated in the Dominion during the past few years. Briefly, the figures show that after making reasonable allowances of different kinds, it appears that during, say, the last five years at least, $375,000,000 of Canadian money has gone into new enterprises. This amount includes the following new capital raised by:—

Banks, insurance, trusts.....	$22,560,000
International railways	3,000,000
Transportation	42,112,000
Industrials	77,000,000
Miscellaneous incorporations...	187,000,000
Supplementary capital	33,500,000
Mining	10,000,000
	375,172,000

Immigration agents in Chicago believe that fully 900,000 foreigners will take up residence in the West this year, exceeding last year's total by at least 300,000. The railway movement to the most attractive districts of the Dominion of Canada will be by far the greatest of any year in the history of railway operations. It is estimated the that fully 150,000 foreigners will take up homes in British Northwest this year. "The immigrants asa class," said the representative of one of the northern lines, "are more desirable in every way than those of former years. Many of them have money, and they are of the sort to work and build. This great movement to the West means that that part of the country will grow materially. 'Another feature of the situation is that a great many people, especially farmers, are migrating to the West from New England, where farm expansion has been limited. These people are just the kind needed for the development of the uncultivated sections of the West, and they will establish farms along the most modern lines."

At official estimate of the tea crop for 1903 published in New York, places the total at 154,000,000 pounds distributed as follows:

	pounds.
Russia	14,000,000
Europe	2,000,000
India	1,000,000
Australia	21,000,000
Africa	1,000,000
America.....	14,000,000
United Kingdom	96,000,000
Far East	5,000,000

In this computation 14,000,000 pounds of green tea are estimated, and with prices on their present basis it is generally believed that many planters will go back to black tea particularly on estates which are not under contract. In regard to India and Ceylon teas, it is the general opinion in planting circles that the exports from Ceylon this year will certainly not exceed those of 1902, the opinion being based upon the appearance of the bushes. During January and February the total number of pounds of this class of tea placed on offer was 9,233,699, compared with 9,022,238 for the corresponding months last year.

The defects developed in the Niclause boilers of the new battleship *Maine* have caused the greatest concern at the U.S. Navy Department in Washington, not only on account of their effect on the speed efficiency of that vessel alone, but because boilers of the same type are provided for in the plans for the battleships *Virginia* and *Georgia* and the armoured cruisers *Pennsylvania* and *Colorado*. It is asserted by some that the *Virginia* and *Georgia*, instead of being 19-knot ships, as designed, may go into the 16-knot class, and the speed of the *Pennsylvania* and *Colorado*, intended to be very fast, may be reduced from 22 to as low as 19 knots.

Captain Charles H. Stockton, who has been in command of the battle-ship *Kentucky*, flagship of the Asiatic squadron, for the last two years, was interviewed in San Francisco on his arrival there in the *Hongkong Maru* on April 13th. Speaking of the fleet in Eastern waters, Captain Stockton said that it is undermanned and under-officered. "There is particularly a lack of officers among the ships," he said. "Midshipmen

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are doing duty as Lieutenants, and Admirals do the duty of Vice-Admirals, and this will afford a good idea of the real situation. Still, in spite of this disadvantage, the fleet has been doing remarkably good work in drills and gun practice, with some very fine scores. I was about to remark that the squadron must certainly have the record for good marksmanship, but I have just learned of the very fine performance of the *Iowa* and some of the vessels on the Atlantic Coast, and perhaps, I should make no comparisons. I am sorry to hear about the *Iowa's* misfortune, following her good marksmanship."

Attorney-General James S. Harlan, of Porto Rico, gives a glowing account of the progress of that island under the American flag. Not only is the government out of debt, but it has a surplus of $500,000 in the Treasury. "Porto Rico," he predicts, "will be the garden spot of the country, supporting a well-to-do community of intelligent, peace-loving and patriotic people. The government of the island is unique and unlike that of any state or territory. It is neither territorial nor colonial. Some of the distinguishing features are that it does not contribute to the national Treasury in the way of taxation, although it is true that the so-called Dingley tariff act is in force in the island, and from that source officers appointed by the federal government collect large amounts of revenue. But every dollar so collected goes into the insular Treasury instead of into the national Treasury." The island has a system of internal revenue taxes of its own, and every dollar collected on the manufacture of cigars, rum, spirit and other local products goes into the insular Treasury. A system of good roads running to every part of the island is under construction, and large areas of land untilled by the Spaniards are being opened up. There are now 1,200 schools in the island.

Manufacturers' materials formed more than half of the imports into the United States in the month of February. This is the first time in the history of American importations that manufacturers' materials have constituted more than half of the total imports. In 1882 manufacturers' materials formed 33.9 per cent. of the total imports; in 1892, 34.2 per cent.: in 1902, 46.1 per cent.: in the eight months ending with February, 1903, 46.98 per cent., and in February, 1903, 51.3 per cent. of the total imports into the United States. Meantime importations as a whole have greatly increased, and seem likely in the fiscal year now closing to reach for the first time the $1,000,000,000 mark. Yet the growth in manufacturers' materials has been even more rapid than the general growth of imports, as is indicated by the above figures, which show that the percentage which manufacturers' materials form of this increased total has grown from 33.9 per cent. in 1882 to 51.3 per cent. in February, 1903. The total value of manufacturers' materials imported in the eight months ending with February, 1903, exceeded by $50,000,000 that of the corresponding period of the preceding year, and justifies the assertion that for the twelve months ending June 30th, 1903, the total value of manufacturers' materials imported will exceed $450,000,000, and will far surpass that of any preceding year in the history of the U.S. import trade.

The representation of the United States on the international monetary commission which is to consider the Mexican-Chinese proposals has been completed by the appointment of Mr. Hugh H. Hanna, of Indianapolis, as a member. The other delegates to serve on the commission will be Mr. Charles A. Conant and Prof. Jeremiah W. Jenks. Both of the latter gentlemen have become familiar with conditions in America's new possessions, and in the far East generally, and Mr. Hanna has held a prominent relation to movements for currency reform in the United States. The object of the commission, as has been explained, is to devise some plan for bringing about a more stable relation between gold and silver in exchanges between countries employing the different standards. No effort, says *Bradstreets*, is to be made to bring about international bimetallism, and it is not proposed that the United States shall make any change in its existing currency system. Indeed, it is suggested that if the plan proposed can be carried out it will be a long step toward the gold standard, and will have the great advantage of making secure the investment of European and American capital in the silver-using countries and affording a wider market for manufactured goods. So far the plans as to procedure are largely tentative, though the main outlines of the project have been pretty thoroughly canvassed. The first step will be a conference in London in May with representatives of the British Government. It so happens that a number of officials in the colonial service are at present engaged in considering monetary plans for the British possessions in the East, and it is naturally believed that an interchange of views with these gentlemen will be of much interest. After that the members of the commission will visit Paris, where a similar gathering is in session, and subsequently Berlin and St. Petersburg. What is sought at present is not so much a formal treaty to bind the various governments as the bringing about of a general understanding which will result in coöperation through legislation by the various countries acting along concerted lines, though independently.

FIRES.

Fire broke out on May 8th in a Japanese hotel, at Hiromae, in Awomori prefecture, with the result that fifty-five houses were burned down and eighteen partially damaged.

In Tokyo, early on the morning of May 9th, fire occurred at Kojimachi, destroying eight houses and partially injuring four.

Fire broke out early on the morning of May 12th in the warehouse of the agent of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, at Niigata, destroying one building. In the warehouse, sugar, cotton, flour and other goods were stored. The damage has not yet been ascertained.

On the morning of May 13th, two fires were reported in Tokyo. One was in Iidamachi and four houses were destroyed by it, four others being partially injured. The other was at Kanda and it was quelled before the flames could spread.

The same night another fire occurred at Atagomachi, Shiba, destroying three buildings.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Deferred transactions on the Kyoto Stock Exchange were commenced on May 11th.

It is stated that the Kaiser has sent Princess Komatsu the first class medal of the Red Cross.

Mr. P. Mackenzie Skinner, formerly Editor of the *Hiogo News*, now of Bangkok, has gone up to Chieng-mai, to look after the legal interests of his firm at that growing centre.

The sailing vessel *Kyuho Maru* encountered a gale off Kamo in Uzen province, on May 6th, and was in danger of being driven ashore, when she was rescued by a steamer sent from the port.

A detective of the Kobe police station recently arrested three men living in Osaka who were forging Russian paper notes which they intended to sell in Kobe.

A man named Nakamura Tsunetaro, who had murdered his mother-in-law, was sentenced to death in the Awomori District Court on May 13th. He immediately appealed.

The *China Mail* says that Mr. F. A. Augustus, a member of the Cochin Chief Court Bar (South India), and lately the editor of the *Cochin Argus*, has been appointed to the editorship of the *Perak Pioneer*.

The English Speaking Exhibition of the Tokyo High Commercial School, given in the lecture room of the Hitotsu-bashi Eigo Gakkai, on Saturday at 6 p.m. was highly successful. All the items on the long programme were appreciatively received and it was generally remarked that the students showed signs of great improvement. Baron Kikuchi, Minister for Education, was present among the 500 persons who attended. Many foreign residents were present.

We learn from the *Malay Mail* that there have been defalcations in the railway department in Selangor amounting to thousands of dollars. The defalcations have been made good by the department as a whole.

An accident occurred in a restaurant at Urawamachi, in Saitama prefecture on the morning of May 13th. The cooking stove in the kitchen exploded with the result that two servant girls were severely injured.

We have to acknowledge receipt from the Canadian Commissioner to the Fifth National Exhibition of Japan (Mr. W. A. Burns) of a copy of "The Dominion of Canada," which is a very lucid and informing exposition of Canada's resources.

The *Mainichi Shimbun*, which reached its ten thousandth number on May 12th, publishes a map of Japan, China and Korea which is very well printed but is defective in respect that it omits a great many place-names of considerable importance.

We are informed that Mrs. J. P. Mollison has received a cheque for *yen* 1,000 from a friend as a contribution to the Ladies' Hospital Fund. This is a very tangible demonstration of the donor's appreciation of the ladies' efforts for providing nursing facilities at the General Hospital.

It is announced that a Korean resident in Vladivostock has chartered the steamer, the *Keiki Maru* (gross tonnage of 420 tons), belonging to a Japanese named R. Hori residing in Chemulpo, and opened a service between Vladivostock and Yuensan.

The *Nichi Nichi* states than an old woman named Tsune (78) the wife of a farmer named K. Hayashi (81), living in the village of Shiroyama, Kawachigori, Gumma prefecture, gave birth to a boy on May 10th. Mother and son are doing well.

The *Official Gazette* publishes a telegram, under date of May 12th, from Mr. Yamada, Japanese Consul at Lyons stating that the weather in France and Italy is still unfavourable to sericulture and the price of cocoons has been raised. The condition of the silk market is active.

Mr. James Caldwell has strongly criticized in the House of Commons the mail contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Postmaster-General, said in reply that the Government had informed the company of the intention of the Government to revise the present contract.

The sailing vessel *Suian Maru* (gross tonnage 147 tons), belonging to Y. Mizuno, Owari province, collided with the cruiser *Iwaki* on May 6th, off the Mikonoshima Lighthouse, Izu province. The former at once sank. The cook, named K. Murakami, is missing but the rest of the crew were rescued by the warship.

Marquises Ito and Yamagata, Barons Yamamoto, Minister for the Navy, and Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Lieut.-General Terauchi, Minister for War, met at the official residence of the Premier and held a conference on May 11th. The *Asahi* states that the conference continued from 9 a.m. to noon.

A great fire occurred at Bangkok on the 17th April, when twenty acres of houses were destroyed. A number of men and women were gambling in a private house, and during a dispute a kerosene lamp on the gaming table was accidentally overturned, setting fire to the building. Water was poured upon the burning fluid which, of course, helped to spread it. His Majesty the King, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, several Royal Princes and a number of leading Siamese nobles

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came to the scene in their carriages and took a keen interest in the operations of the firemen. His Majesty was greatly concerned at the lamentable destruction and danger of the fire and personally exerted himself to the utmost in directing the efforts of those engaged in combatting the flames. A Siamese woman and an Indian lost their lives in the fire. The total loss in roughly estimated at one million ticals.

An "Old Timer" writing on board the P. & O. steamer *Malta* to the *Singaphore Free Press* says:—"To start with we are crowded with children, who have taken entire control of the only deck available for rest or exercise. One could easily imagine that it is a baby farm—this noted P. & O. *Malta*. If it is the intention of the P. & O. Co. to run two direct steamers yearly, to take home all the spare European children that are knocking about in Japan and China, why don't they advertise the fact?"

The death is announced at Colombo of Mr. Hercules J. Scott, of the firm of Messrs. Bosanquet & Co. Mr. Scott went to Colombo from Hongkong nearly ten years ago as Accountant of the Hongkong and Shanghai Corporation. He had been some years in Hongkong where, for a portion of the time he was in business as a stockbroker, but had re-joined the Bank staff shortly before going to Ceylon. He continued at the Colombo branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank until about two years ago, when he joined the firm of Messrs. Bosanquet & Co. as a partner. He took a very prominent part in the affairs of Colombo, and his death at the premature age of 40 is widely regretted in Ceylon as it will be by his many old friends in Hongkong. He was a prominent and accomplished Freemason, and while in Hongkong held the rank of Provincial Grand Warden. The death was of a painfully sudden nature—his illness being of scarcely a week's duration. Mrs. Scott and family—a girl 11 years of age and two younger boys—were at home at the time, having left Colombo at the end of February.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. DE FOREST'S OPTIMISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a letter which appeared in your issue of the 28th ult., Dr. De Forest takes exception to certain statements made in an article contributed by me to your columns some weeks ago. That Dr. De Forest should appear in print in defence of his friend Professor Hino is most natural. But there is such a thing as "damning a man with faint praise." My article said: "Professor Hino's interpretation was defective." Dr. De Forest says: "Professor Hino was not perfect in his interpretation nor in the use of the Japanese language." The one account of the interpretation says it was defective, the other, that it was imperfect. Dr. De Forest goes on with the "faint praise:" "He produced these difficult lectures so *nearly* (the emphasis is mine) true to the thought of the speaker, and so sympathetically, &c." To say that a man nearly says what is true or correct is, I take it, an extremely doubtful compliment to pay him. As for Professor Hino's sympathy with the speaker being singled out for praise, I must confess it surprises me, as Professor Hino is, I understand, a Christian belonging to one of the Kumiai Churches. That Dr. De Forest should have found a Japanese who was prepared to applaud the interpretation astonishes no one versed in the polite ways of Japanese gentlemen. Dr. De Forest quotes one Japanese. I could quote a dozen well qualified Japanese, some among them being Professors of the Japanese language, whose opinion corresponded with mine. The term "laboured *zokugo*" was not mine, but that of a Japanese. I consulted several Sendai missionaries on the subject immediately after the lecture and they were all of the same opinion as myself. I have since been told by one of the missionaries that in other towns of Japan where Professor Hino lectured there was unanimity among competent judges as to the deficiency of his interpretation, so that it is Dr. De Forest *versus* the world.

In reference to the question of the orthodoxy of the President of the United States, the Members of the Supreme Court, and the numerous Presidents of Universities whose heart belief Dr. De Forest professes to know so well, there is great difference of opinion among educated Americans. To discuss snch a subject here would be worse than useless. Shrewd American officials do not make known their inmost convictions to every passer-by, and attendance at church or chapel and outward conformity to existing religious customs and professions are by no means a proof that miracles, the Divinity of Christ, and similar dogmas are accepted by them. What I said was "The intellectual position occupied by modern Japanese scholars towards supernaturalism is precisely that of the great majority of highly educated men in Europe"; which is strictly true.

As regards the attitude of the Japanese to supernatural Christianity, I take it that the summaries of the Japanese press published monthly in these columns furnish abundant information on that point. Dr. DeForest practically gives away his case here when he writes: "There is not now that certainty that there is nothing of value in supernatural Christianity." That surely is far enough from saying that unbaptized Japanese scholars are prepared to accept orthodox Christianity, as Dr. Hall undoubtedly thought was possible. The significant fact is that not only does the whole of the learned Japanese world in a most unequivocal manner reject orthodox Christianity, but certain leading members of the Christian Church have openly confessed that they have given up orthodoxy as incredible. The names of Mr. Ebina Danjō and Mr. Yamaji Yakichi, Editor of the *Dokuritsu Hyōron*, will occur to everybody, but there are scores more that could be mentioned. Dr. De Forest in his optimistic fashion no doubt regards such men as good Christians. Dr. Martineau before he reached that enlightened stage of his career when he rejected supernaturalism, wrote:—"In no intelligible sense can any one who denies the supernatural origin of the religion of Christ be termed a Christian." This is the view of most of the subscribers to Missionary societies in England and America. But certain optimistic gentlemen and ladies in this country habitually refer to the fact that this official and that official, this member of the Diet and that, are Christians, as signs of the great progress of mission work here, omitting to call atention to the important circumstance that many of the persons alluded to can only be called Christians in a conplimentary sense.

Dr. De Forest informs us that the Christian faith gives optimism to all who hold it? Does it? In that case a vast number of men and women who are universally considered to be Christians have evidently no right to the title. Dr. De Forest's logic is far from convincing here. Are the Missionaries all optimistic? I for one doubt it. It would be much truer to say that optimism is largely a matter of temperament. But there are two kinds of optimism, that based on solid facts, and that based on ignorance of facts or upon misinterpretation of them. The optimism that ignores every unpleasant truth and circumstance, though extremely common, finds few admirers among enlightened men and women in this twentieth century.

I am, yours, &c.,

WALTER DENING.

Sendai, April 29th, 1903.

"OLD SCENES AND OLD DAYS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Mr. Mollison's highly interesting lecture before the Yokohama Literary Society has sent the memories of old residents back to the days of long ago with renewed zest. I wonder if the subjoined extract from Mr. Buckley's "Anecdotal History of Singapore"—dealing as it does with two old residents of Yokohama, one of whom is now passing a few weeks in the hill-country around Miyanoshita—will be of sufficient interest to find admittance to your columns?

Yours, etc.,

B.-B.

On the 25th December, 1841, the ship *Viscount Melbourne* had left Singapore for Macao, and on the 17th January a boat was seen coming into Singapore River to Mr. Johnston's landing steps at Tanjong Tangkap. Dr. Little and Mr. Read saw the boat coming up to the steps, and the former helped a lady on shore, with a little boy of two years old and a baby of only a few weeks. They had been thirty days in the open boat at sea. The elder of these children, Mr. George Dare, was not cured of a taste for the sea by the experience, and the baby was Mr. Julius Dare, who for many years was a very prominent player in amateur theatricals here, but was afterwards resident in Yokohama, where he died suddenly of cholera in 1879, and his mother died there five days after him. The vessel had been wrecked on the Luconia Shoal in the China Sea, and the passengers and crew left her in five boats. There were fourteen Europeans and thirty natives and servants in the boat in which the children came. One of the European sailors died in the boat, and water and biscuits, which were all the crew had, were very short. On Sunday morning, four days after they left the ship, the boats saw a *proa* bearing down on them, and the following account of the adventure was written by a very young officer, an apprentice, who was in one of the boats, as he explains:—"About six a.m., as we were all assembled in the launch, hearing the captain read prayers, we saw a *proa* bearing down towards us. The captain ordered us to take the serang (boatswain over the lascars), along with us and speak to them, to learn if they were friendly; for we much feared they were pirates. If there was danger, we were to hoist a signal, and they would come to our assistance. We accordingly started to meet them; we waved a white cloth in token of amity, and they did the same. When we got alongside of them we spoke, the serang acting as interpreter; they said that they came to conduct us safely in-shore, and that one boat was there already. So by this we suspected that they had taken them prisoners, and wished to entice the rest of us to the same fate. They now said that they wished to see the captain; so we pulled back, and they soon came up with the launch, where all were ready, cutlass in hand, to receive them, in case of treachery. They tried all they could to persuade us to go with them, and finally began to make fast to the launch with a rattan rope. When they found that we would not go with them, they assumed a very threatening aspect; so, there being so few of us who could fight, and our fire-arms being useless on account of the preceding rain, the captain gave orders to cut and run. The cook with one blow of his cutlass severed their rope, and we all made sail. When they saw this, they made sail in chase of us. We gained upon them at first, when to our surprise, they opened fire upon us, first from their rifles, and finally from a swivel, the last shot passing through a blanket that was rigged as a screen from the sun at the back of the captain and passengers. It passed betwixt the captain and Mrs. Dare, and then scraping a piece off the skull of one of the lascars, who sat in the bow of the boat, it buried itself in the water. Another shot cut away the leech of the second cutter's lug. They gained rapidly on our boat, we not being so well manned or skilful as the rest. When within a few fathoms they made signs for us to desist pulling, at the same time taking aim at us. Mr. Parkhouse, who was pulling the next oar, to me, when he saw the rifle pointed towards us, dropped his oar, exclaiming, 'Good God! there is one of us gone.' It was of no use persisting further, so they ran alongside. The *proa* was about the size of a sloop, neatly built of teak, but cleverly covered with matting and bark, to make her appearance as lubberly and clumsy as possible. She had two long straight poles for masts, and a large lug made of matting to each. Besides this, they pulled fifteen sweeps a side. When they first ran alongside the launch, there appeared to be only five or six half-naked fellows, who were fishing; but now her decks were crowded with Malays, armed and dressed in fancy costumes. Krisses, very dangerous, crooked, poisoned swords, clubs, spears and guns, altogether made them have a very ferocious appearance. They jumped into our boat; seized upon us; and would, I think, have despatched us at once, had it not been for the interference of one who seemed to be their chief, who, dashing away the swords of the most forward, ordered all but two to get into their own craft and to proceed in chase of our other boats, which by this time had got pretty far in advance. They accordingly set their sails, and stood for the other boats, whilst we were obliged to steer for the land. Our preserver, a gentlemanly thief, was still with us, and he now began to lay his hands upon all our things, tying them all up in a blanket. But when those in the *proa* saw this, they, thinking, I suppose, that they were sent after a shadow, whilst he was making sure of the substance, turned back, and running alongside, began to clear

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the boat of everything—clothes, provisions, and even our drop of water, about two gallons, for the sake of the keg. As they took our muskets, pistols, and other arms, they repeatedly, jumped for joy, exclaiming, 'bagus' (very good). When they came to our sextant, they seemed much puzzled to know what it was, and made signs to me to show them the use of it, which I did. We repeatedly made signs to the chief to let us go after the boats, which by this time were nearly out of sight; to which he nodded his head assentingly, and shook us by the hand. Mr. Parkhouse now very foolishly pulled a small bag from his pocket, containing a fifty rupee note and some silver, which he gave to the chief, at the same time pointing to our other boats. Directly he got this, the rest began to strip us for more. They took his watch, Mr. Dainty's watch and ring, but on me they only found a Dutch silver piece. There was a case of herring-paste, which they made me taste before they would take it. They also threw our bag of biscuit into the water. When having taken everything, they now, to our great delight, told us we might go. They gave us a small basket of sago, and about three pints of water. The chief politely shook hands with us all; then stepping on board the *proa* they made sail towards the shore. Luckily for us, one of our boats was just in sight, that containing Mr. Penfold, who had offered the captain if he would give him six Englishmen, he would rescue us, or share our fate, for they never thought we should return. Guess then our joy, when we saw him lying-to, though a great way off. We made sail, and stood towards him, pulling at the same time with all our might, uncertain for some time whether we gained upon them or not. Had it been night, we should have missed them, and must, unprovided as we were, have died a miserable death; worse indeed, than the one from which we had escaped. We soon came up with him fast, and in two hours after leaving the *proa*, ran alongside of them, and pleased enough they were to see us. Just as we reached them, away went our mast, and the cutter took us in tow. We soon came up with the launch, when the captain welcomed us heartily. Our boat not being worth repairing was condemned. Half of our crew went in the second cutter, Mr. Dainty and myself into the launch. The sails and oars being taken out of her, she was scuttled, and cast adrift. We arrived at Singapore at abont three p.m., after being twelve days in our boats. The second cutter had got in early in the morning. The first cutter did not get into Singapore until a fortnight after we left, having been to Sambas. The lascars, who deserted us, had been taken as slaves, and did not regain their liberty until twelve months after."

A PROTEST.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—To many of the readers of your paper the "Monthly Summary of the Religious Press" constitutes one of its most valuable features. I, for one, read it each month from beginning to end, and am grateful to you for furnishing us with information otherwise almost inaccessible to most missionaries. But I have frequently been pained to see how the writer of this Summary uses his opportunity most unfairly by adding his own opinions and by criticizing the work of missionaries. In the Summary printed in the *Weekly Mail* of May 9th, there are at least three such animadversions by the writer, wholly uncalled for by the substance of his report.

The note regarding the "form of Christianity" accepted by many Japanese, on p. 508, certainly is not called for by what the writer tells us of Mr. Yamaji's belief, except he wishes to intimate that missionaries, in order to boast of converts, withhold a part of the facts from their constituency at home.

The opinion of the writer that Mr. Kozaki's views are highly optimistic is certainly not found in the article in the *Fukuin Shimpo*; but anything looking at all favourably on the influence of the Church in this land, or on the work of missionaries connected with orthodox Churches, has to be discounted by the writer of the Summary.

Again, what calls is there for that note on p. 510 regarding the *Kumiai* Christians? I believe it does the *Kumiai* Christians a great injustice, and for sixteen years I have worked in close contact with those churches. But right or wrong, the Summary is not the place for the writer's criticisms upon the orthodoxy of any church. It is unfair for him thus to use his position as a reporter of the religious press for constantly giving expression to his hostility to the work of orthodox missionaries, or of orthodox churches, in Japan. For one I would rather see Mr. Ebina, or either one of the two Professors Inouye, or Prof. Motora prepare this Monthly Summary, than the present writer. I believe the work would be done more impartially.

I can not forbear at the same time to express my surprise and regret that Mr. Yamaji charges "nearly all our Japanese pastors" with cowardice and venality. "As long as they are partly supported with foreign money they have to trim their sails to please the missionaries," or as the Japanese text has it: "they can not be honest." I am amazed at such a slander. Are the men working side by side with the missionaries in some of our leading schools, or as pastors of churches, broad-hearted enough to receive their salaries, in whole or in part, from Christians abroad interested in the work in Japan, are they "nearly all" cowards? I do not hesitate to say that no falser accusation, no meaner slander has appeared in your columns for a long time, but, of course, the writer of the Summary adds a footnote evidently intended to corroborate the correctness of this charge.

Sir, I know I am not the only one who feels that the present writer of the Summary of the Religious Press is taking an unfair advantage of his opportunity. Even members of the so-called liberal missions have expressed this towards me. Nor is this protest of mine the first one to be sent to you on this very point. Is there not some way by which you can do us missionaries the service you are rendering to us now, and which we all highly appreciate, without furnishing to a certainly biased writer constant opportunity for uncalled for and often unfair criticising?

Respectfully yours, GEO. E. ALBRECHT.

Kyoto, May 9th, 1903.

BELLEVILLE BOILERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With reference to a quotation from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, published in your issue of this date which reads:—

According to the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the first-class protected cruisers *Spartiate* and *Europa* are the two most costly Belleville cripples in the Navy. Although the *Europa* has done but a year under the pennant, the large sum of £24,563 has had to be spent upon her boilers. The history of this unlucky cruiser's first commission is instructive. In July, 1899, she was commissioned, and shortly afterwards sent to Australia with relief crews for vessels on that station. She broke down badly, and proved herself what naval men call a "coal eater"—that is, her coal consumption was abnormally high. The *Europa*, however, managed to crawl back to Portsmouth at a low speed, and has since been laid up in the dockyard, where she long served as an object lesson for the Admiralty Committee on Boilers. The members of that body paid frequent visits to the ship, and the condition in which they found her Bellevilles had not a little to do with getting these boilers condemned. Extensive repairs have been effected in the *Europa's* boilers, but it is doubtful whether the cruiser will in practice accomplish what she was designed for. Her trip to China is an experimental one.

Will you kindly allow me to quote, in reply, the following extracts:—

[From the *Times and County Journal*, (Saturday, July 19, 1902.)]

Then the naval correspondent of the *Daily Graphic*, who also writes with a sense and knowledge not within the grasp of many naval critics, reminds us that the *Spartiate*, which was laid down as far back as May, 1897, has gone from breakdown to breakdown. But the first failure in the *Spartiate* was due to her running over a sand-bank and the sand found its way into the machinery. The second failure was due to the fusing of the bearing, owing to bad materials. The third failure was due to leaky condensers, again owing to bad materials. But from first to last, the boilers have given no trouble of any kind. The *Spartiate* is the last of her class to complete her trials, and it is a pleasure to congratulate the dockyard officials on the success with which they have overcome exceptional difficulties. Just when the machinery troubles were at their height the contractor went into liquidation, and the completion of the work was thrown upon the dockyard. If we take such a superficial view as Sir William Allan, M.P., is apt to take in order to produce poetic effect, are we justified in saying that until Portsmouth dockyard took the *Spartiate* in hand she went from failure to failure, but as soon as a new man was placed at the helm she went from failure to a remarkable success. As to whether in the time that the ship went from failure to failure she became obsolete we neither deny nor affirm; but it is patent to every observer that as soon as Portsmouth dockyard took the machinery in hand, the engines gave higher results than were ever contemplated. She left Spithead on Friday afternoon on a 30 hours' trial at four-fifths of her power, and maintained a mean speed of 19.8 knots with a coal consumption of 1.66lb. per horse-power per hour, she anchored at Spithead at nine o'clock on Saturday night, and at eleven o'clock on Sunday night she got under way for eight hours' full power trial, when her speed was 21 knots, her coal consumption 1.66lb.

[From the *Globe*, (July 25, 1902).]

The Admiralty are to be congratulated on the successful steam trials of the three large cruisers, *Powerful*, *Spartiate*, and *Europa*, which have been completed within the past few weeks. In all cases the authorities at the Naval dockyard at Portsmouth have had these vessels under completion or repair. The *Powerful*, the first of the Belleville boiler ships, had served a three years' commission in China and South Africa, and after her repair trial attained results nearly as good as those which she got at her original contractors' trials about six years ago. The *Spartiate* is a new vessel, but has been delayed on account of the contractors for her machinery and boilers going into liquidation, and a few troubles with her engines in her earlier steam trials. The *Europa* has undergone a thorough refit since her return from her troublesome trip to Australia, a couple of years ago. I have already given the results of the trials of the *Powerful* and *Spartiate* in previous Notes. The *Europa* returned into Portsmouth Harbour on Wednesday morning, having passed, without any trouble, through a 30 hours trial at fourth-fifths her maximum power on Friday and Saturday last, and an eight hours' full power trial, which was completed at midnight on Tuesday. The maximum speed originally obtained by the vessel when new was 20.04 knots per hour. At her fourth-fifths power trial she developed a mean of nearly 14,000 horse-power, and a speed of 19¾ knots, her coal consumption being 2·07lbs. of coal per horse-power per hour. At her full power trial the average horse-power developed was over 300 in excess of her maximum designed power of 16,500, her speed was 20.5 knots per hour, and her coal consumption 2·15lbs. per horse-power per hour. The uniformly successful results just obtained in these three large cruisers should go far to counteract any uneasy impression which the adverse report on Belleville boilers, of the Admiralty Water-Tube Boiler Committee, may have created.

[From the *Outlook*, (July 19, 1902).]

The trials of the *Powerful* and the *Spartiate*, following close upon the publication of the Boiler Committee's report, have done much to discount what little value was to be attached to that document. In effect the Committee say: The water-tube is a military necessity; the Belleville type is bad; we know nothing about any other types; therefore build some ships, and try the Dur, the Niclausse, the Babcock & Wilcox, the Yarrow, the Thornycroft, and as many more as you like! but abandon the Belleville. If three tailors of Tooley Street had been appointed a committee to condemn the Belleville they would have made the same recommendations, but they would not have loaded their report with such a mass of technical and irrelevant detail. Now, the Belleville boilers have been in the *Powerful* for seven years, and it is five years since they had their contract trial, and yet at the end of this period they are at their best. At the trial a few days since, after repair, less steam was required in the boilers to produce the same horse-power at the engines, and fewer revolutions of the engines were required to produce the same speed. The *Spartiate*, one of the most unfortunate ships of her class, has just completed her trials, but from first to last her boilers have given no trouble; the fault has always been with the engines. The ideal boiler burns 1lb. of coal per horse-power per hour. Nobody has ever seen such a boiler. There are two or three ships in the Service where the consumption has not exceeded 1.5lb.; the *Spartiate* with Belleville boilers, at her four-fifths and full-power trials did not exceed 1.66lb. The Committee, which took two years to discover a mare's nest, has now been dissolved.

To sum up:

H.M.S. first-class cruiser *Spartiate*, the coal-eater, when running at a speed of 21 knots, "eats" or consumes at most, 1.66 lb. of coal per H.P. per hour.

H.M.S. first-class cruiser *Europa*, the crawler, when "crawling" at a speed of 20.5 knots, consumes 2.15 lbs. of coal per H.P. per hour.

And the most strange thing about these two ships of war, is, that they are both fitted with *condemned Belleville Boilers*!

Apologizing for trespassing on your valuable space and thanking you for the insertion of this reply.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

DENYS LARRIEU
Representing in Japan Messrs.
Delaunay, Belleville & Co.

Tokyo, May 12, 1903.

This "statistical and historical annual of the world for the year 1903" is to hand from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd. We note that a great deal of additional information has been incorporated in this most valuable work, both old and new matter being brought fully up to date. The maps and charts are clear and intelligible and help to make the book an indispensable companion to all interested in public affairs.

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THE FUTURE OF JAPAN.

By J. Kiuchi in "The Independent."

[Mr. Kiuchi, who is the Director of the Bureau of Commerce and Industry of the Imperial Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce, is now in the United States supervising the Japanese exhibits at the St. Louis Exposition, to which he is the Japanese Special Commissioner. This article was obtained as an interview. – Editor.]

The Japanese people are glad to be at peace and in the midst of unprecedented prosperity. Although patriotism is the ruling passion of my countrymen, and although the Japanese soldiers count no honour greater than to die for the Emperor, our desire is for peace. We do not fear any nation, but we do not love war. We made war against China, but that was not our intention until Li Hung-chang forced the situation so that we could not avoid war.

We are proud of the alliance with England. We are very happy over it. We are glad, too, to see the entrance of foreign corporations into Japan. The Standard Oil Company has invested $5,000,000 in Japan, and about the same capital stock has been established by the American Tobacco Company. Taking insurance business as an example, there are over eighty branch offices of foreign insurance companies of life, fire, marine and other insurance business actively engaged in business in Japan. We welcomed the telephone, the street car, the electric light, the wireless telegraph, and similar inventions, just as soon as they came into use in Europe and America.

The English language is taught in Japan among all the high and the middle class people, who, although not fluent English speakers, understand the language and can read difficult books in English. I myself at the age of sixteen read the works of Shakespeare and Milton, and Emerson's "Essays." The Chinese language, English, German, French, and almost all the modern languages are taught in the universities, colleges and high schools. Chinese, not Latin or Greek, is our classic language. We compose Chinese essays, using the Chinese characters, although the Japanese style of composition is so different from that of the Chinese that this practice becomes tedious work to the young student.

Japan's system of compulsory education is working well. Ninety-five per cent. of the boys receive a common school education, and eighty-five per cent. of the girls. The law requires school attendance between the ages of six and fourteen. Some of the poor people are obliged to withdraw their children and put them to work after four years in the common school, but most of the children enjoy the full eight years' course. Above the common school is the middle school, with five years' study; then the higher middle, with three years; and after that the four years' course of the university. For the 45,000,000 inhabitants we have, in each of the 46 provinces, several middle schools and each village has several common schools. There is a proportionate number of higher middle schools and academies.

We have also a large number of colleges under private control, the standard of which is approximately the same as that of the average American colleges. Our Imperial universities are only two, at Tokio and at Kyoto, with two more in preparation. In the United States the number is much greater, but while some of the universities in the United States are very good, others are very poor. The universities of Japan are Imperial institutions, devoted strictly to higher learning. Our methods of education are like those of the Germans. The university professors are both native and foreign, and there are more than 3,000 university students.

The universities are divided into several colleges—a college of law, in which jurisprudence, political economy, political science and allied studies are taught; a college of medicine, for the training of physicians; a college of science, with classes in physics, chemistry, astronomy, botany, etc.; a college of engineering, with classes in civil as well as mechanical engineering, mining, shipbuilding, etc.; a college of literature and philosophy, and a college of agriculture.

The standard of instruction in the schools gives a basis for the civil service examinations. Public offices in Japan are divided into four classes, and for all except officers of the highest class an examination is required. This highest class includes only the cabinet members—that is, ministers of state and privy councillors. There are a Department of Foreign Affairs, a Department of Home Affairs, a Department of Finance, a Department of the Army, a Department of the Navy, a Department of Agriculture and Commerce, a Department of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, a Department of Education and a Department of Justice. These have been in operation since Marquis Ito's plan of Government was adopted, in 1885.

In each department there is a Vice-Minister, who assists the Minister and controls the under officers. Every department is divided into several bureaux, over each of which there is a Director, and every bureau embraces several sections, each having its own chief. Each section is made up of a number of clerks and officers. The first class of officers has been defined; to the second class belong the Vice-Ministers, Directors of Bureaux and Local Governors; in the third class are the Chiefs of Sections, the Private Secretaries to the Ministers and Councillors, and a few others; clerks constitute the fourth class. Now to obtain a clerkship or any other office the "lower" civil service examination must be passed. This test requires that the candidate must be a graduate, or must be of the same capacity as a graduate of the middle school (corresponding to the United States high school). To step into the second class, he must pass the "higher" examination, which he cannot do unless he is a university graduate, or can show the same proficiency as a university graduate. High officials of the second class are promoted from those of the third class. Knowledge is made a very essential qualification for office in Japan.

Officers of the first class are appointed absolutely by the Emperor; those of the second class almost the same; those of third class are appointed in the name of the Emperor, at the suggestion of the Minister; the clerks are appointed by the Ministers or Provincial Governor.

Ever since the promulgation of the Imperial Constitution and the opening of the Imperial Diet in 1890 there has been a constant fight between the Government and the Lower House, so that no Cabinet can reckon on holding its power, it seems, for more than three years. There is a continual change of Cabinets. Yet the policy of the Empire does not change with the Ministers. Our relations to foreign Powers and our general methods of Government remain the same.

To us, the American tariff, with its average of forty-nine per cent., seems far to high. We have protection in Japan, but the average rate is ten per cent.

Our Department of Communications could perhaps give some hints to Americans. With main railroad lines running the whole length of Japan, from north to south, and branch lines intersecting at frequent points, communication becomes very easy. Our telegraph system is perfect, and our mails so rapidly handled that in the cities we have from thirteen to fifteen deliveries daily, including Sunday.

There is much to be done in promoting manufacturing industries. In agriculture our method is similar to the method of Northern Italy. Our farming system is that of intensive cultivation. The principal food stuff of the Japanese is rice, but at the same time we have an abundant variety of grains and cereals.

It has been said that the Japanese are an imitative, not an originating people. That may have been true. We must walk with assistance before we can walk well, but in time we shall be able to run—to bring forward new ideas and produce new inventions. The invention of gun cotton, similar to that used in France and Germany, and the invention of various army rifles has been accomplished in Japan. In chemistry the Japanese are making valuable discoveries, notably Dr. Kitazato's remedy for diphtheria and Dr. Takamine's production of adrenalin, an indispensable agency in surgical operations. In the science of seismology Japanese authorities rank first of all the world.

In art we need not fear rivals, for no artist anywhere can find greater inspiration than in Japan. I have twice travelled around the world, and Switzerland alone seems to me to compete in picturesqueness with the "Flowery Kingdom."

The Japanese enjoy life. They are optimistic, and the happiest people, I think, in the world. The population is increasing at the rate of half a million annually. We are enterprising, like the Americans, and we are not too conservative to take up new ideas. Many of the Japanese have embraced Christianity. There are plenty of missionaries, American, English and French, some of whom are very enthusiastic. But our moral standard—the moral tone of the refined classes in Japan—is, I think, just the same as it was before the missionaries came, although the refined classes are not combative to Christianity.

Fifteen years ago I visited England, and was introduced to good families there and saw much English society. It was my impression then—an impression which observation since then has strengthened—that the best English families are exactly on a par with the best Japanese families. They view in the same light the various social relations, such as those of husband and wife and of parents and children, and in every way the best families of the two nations may be said to have the same standards of moral conduct.

The very useful chart of courses for the "Lark" class which has been prepared by Mr. E. M. Barnby, ought to be in the hands not merely of "scow" sailing masters, but of all interested in the races of these wonderful little craft. Each course is plainly set down—so plainly that the most dunder-headed skipper must be at a loss to go wrong, and the little book can be carried in a waistcoat pocket.

TRADE OF JAPAN.

Summary of the foreign trade of Japan for April, and for four months from January to April, with comparison to corresponding months of the previous year.

EXPORTS.

1903.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

	Quantities.	Values. Yen.
Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	150,652	2,050,767
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	211,868	71,031
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	86,437	296,951
Cotton tissues.....	—	486,047
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	85,973	44,553
Matches .....Gross	2,405,615	701,602
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	176,649
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	255,754
Lacquered ware.....	—	61,315
Umbrellas, European.....No.	481,948	274,715
Others.....	—	1,758,183
Total		6,177,567

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES HALF WROUGHT.

Silk, raw.....Kin	453,585	4,599,050
Silk, noshi and waste ... „	94,117	401,593
Cotton yarns ..... „	8,744,513	2,964,642
Straw-plaits .....Bun.	646,674	208,822
Tea .....Kin	163,264	83,795
Camphor..... „	440,834	391,582
Kanten or colle vegetale. „	123,818	75,821
Others.....	—	1,318,637
Total		6,043,942

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	340,060	1,996,684
Rice .....Picul	68,056	438,544
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	459,734	87,040
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds „	872,059	18,893
Mushroom, shiitake ..... „	53,008	40,066
Copper, coarse & refined. „	3,719,624	1,195,492
Fish oil ..... „	337,913	32,122
Vegetable wax ..... „	312,944	94,330
Others.....	—	1,318,637
Total		5,221,808
Grand total		21,443,317

1902.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	130,568	1,880,037
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	384,953	136,721
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	106,384	307,887
Cotton tissues.....	—	684,594
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	90,944	56,011
Matches .....Gross	2,240,520	702,343
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	634,904
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	164,179
Lacquered ware.....	—	94,889
Umbrellas, European.....No.	320,056	169,062
Others.....	—	1,590,953
Total		6,429,580

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, HALF WROUGHT.

Silk, raw.....Kin	551,928	5,075,840
Silk, noshi and waste..... „	236,558	244,343
Cotton yarns ..... „	4,084,724	1,384,981
Straw-plaits .....Bun.	666,915	210,293
Tea .....Kin	707,944	121,026
Camphor..... „	277,502	227,697
Kanten or colle vegetale. „	228,550	153,483
Others.....	—	913,244
Total		8,330,907

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	249,418	1,509,344
Rice .....Picul	124,982	652,656
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	370,862	67,844
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds „	794,102	25,280
Mushroom, shiitake ..... „	101,072	54,655
Copper, coarse & refined.. „	2,597,379	743,012
Fish oil..... „	1,101,792	71,871
Vegetable wax ..... „	169,929	26,952
Others.....	—	897,375
Total		4,048,989
Grand total		18,809,476

IMPORTS.

1903.

GROUP I.

	Quantities.	Values. Yen.
Cotton, raw .....Picul	296,174	6,516,959
Cotton yarns .....Kin	235,740	158,414
Wool ..... „	445,622	373,658
Iron nails ..... „	1,052,976	55,506
Rail ..... „	7,046,793	238,436

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Iron, bar and rod ..... „	5,643,214		241,268
Other iron and steel ..... „	17,176,598		761,493
Indigo, dry ..... „	289,970		628,392
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—		297,390
Leather, sole and other ...Kin	224,043		152,499
Machinery and engines... „	—		753,240
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers and railway freight..... „	—		314,484
Steam vessels .....No.		3	460,767
Others.....	—		3,261,667
Total			14,214,173

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine ...S.yard	1,466,936		454,529
Woollen & worsted cloths „	64,145		83,418
Italian cloths ..... „	30,051		11,413
Flannels ..... „	9,156		6,531
Shirtings & cotton prints „	3,641,431		395,059
Cotton satins & cotton velvets..... „	385,370		115,608
Sugar, brown & white...Picul	318,460		1,711,631
Watches .....No.	11,492		35,001
Others.....	—		1,435,133
Total			4,248,323

GROUP III.

Rice .....Picul	1,773,797		7,950,932
Beans, peas & pulse..... „	268,473		768,610
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	6,042,109		922,002
Oil-cake.....Picul	903,813		2,069,557
Others	—		1,826,534
Total			13,537,635
Grand total			32,000,131
Total of exports & imports ...			53,443,448
Excess of exports ...			—
Excess of imports ...			10,556,814

1902.

GROUP I.

Cotton, raw .....Picul	379,273		8,702,079
Cotton yarns .....Kin	187,485		112,849
Wool ..... „	314,388		331,672
Iron nails..... „	3,217,908		167,053
Rail ..... „	52,030		1,833
Iron, bar and rod ..... „	8,392,780		362,500
Other iron and steel ..... „	11,184,696		472,805
Indigo, dry ..... „	186,409		411,236
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—		357,173
Leather, sole and other ...Kin	182,986		138,439
Machinery and engines... „	—		579,349
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers and railway freight..... „	—		421,039
Steam vessels .....No.		1	2,140
Others.....	—		2,770,508
Total			14,845,075

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine ...S.yard	1,237,156		365,339
Woollen & worsted cloths „	44,722		61,871
Italian cloths ..... „	69,430		27,711
Flannels ..... „	17,440		12,827
Shirtings & cotton prints „	4,169,032		419,776
Cotton satins & cotton velvets ..... „	393,964		134,150
Sugar, brown & white...Picul	62,726		321,638
Watches .....No.	5,490		16,141
Others.....	—		1,205,465
Total			2,564,918

GROUP III.

Rice .....Picul	161,635		560,176
Beans, peas & pulse ... „	74,298		202,897
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	11,604,276		2,204,147
Oil-cake.....Picul	490,681		1,024,171
Others	—		1,455,995
Total			5,447,386
Grand total			22,857,379
Total of exports & imports ...			41,666,855
Excess of exports ...			—
Excess of imports ...			4,047,903

Summary of total value of specie and bullion exported from and imported into Japan for the same period.

EXPORTS.

	1903. Yen.	1902. Yen.
Gold coin and gold bullion	18,608	3,309
Silver coin and silver bullion ...	95,027	120,716
Total	113,635	124,025

IMPORTS.

Gold coin and gold bullion	7,236,654	2,329,563
Silver coin and silver bullion ...	12,579	40,624
Total	7,249,233	2,370,187
Excess of exports	—	—
Excess of inports	7,135,598	2,246,162

Summary of the foreign trade of Taiwan (Formosa) for the same period.

	1903. Yen.	1902. Yen.
Exports	292,820	701,120
Imports	914,513	1,070,881
Total.....	1,207,333	1,772,001
Excess of exports	—	—
Excess of imports	621,693	369,761
Exports, specie and bullion	27,082	18,001
Imports, specie and bullion	148,002	653,914
Excess of exports	—	—
Excess of imports	120,920	635,913

THE TRADE OF KOREA.

The Chief Commissioner of Korean Customs has issued his report for the year 1902. He says:—

1. GENERAL.—The record of the trade of 1902 will probably be found to have at least fulfilled the very moderate expectations that were entertained regarding it. If the failure of the crops in a large section of the country in 1901 had the anticipated and inevitable effect of depressing trade, if to this inheritance from the past new troubles were added in the shape of cholera, currency difficulties, and, in portions of the eastern provinces, floods, there were on the other hand no occurrences sufficiently disastrous to prevent the return of an ordinary degree of prosperity, the harvests, taking one district with another, were fairly good, and at the close of the year the promise for the future was much brighter than at its beginning. In the districts which had suffered most from the drought of 1901—the provinces of Kyengki and Chungchyeng—food remained scare and dear until the autumn harvest brought some measure of relief, and there were not wanting cases of death from starvation. It is significant of the effect of the drought on the western seaboard that 64 per cent. of the whole year's export duties collected at the four western ports were received during the last quarter of the year, that is, after a good harvest had once more set the wheels of trade in motion. On the eastern seaboard, which had not been visited by the drought of the preceding year and was only indirectly touched by it, but from which come unfavourable reports of the Rice and Bean harvests of 1902, the exports duties were equally distributed over the four quarters.

Currency questions occupied an unusual share of public attention during the year. To supply the place of the 1 *yen* notes of the Nippon Ginko, withdrawn from circulation, the Dai Ichi Ginko issued, in May, a number of notes of the same denomination, promising to pay bearer on demand in Japanese currency at any of the Bank's branches in Korea. These were soon followed by similar notes for 5 *yen* and 10 *yen*, and on the 30 November, according to the Bank's published statement, the value of the new notes in circulation was *yen* 427,372, while the gold reserves held for their redemption amounted to *yen* 389,485. By the end of December, owing to the sudden revival of trade, the value of the new notes in circulation rose temporarily to *yen* 703,358 and the gold reserve was increased to *yen* 490,000. These new notes, together with the 5, 10, and 100 *yen* notes of the Nippon Ginko still remaining in Korea, estimated at a value of about *yen* 3,000,000, form the basis of exchange at every treaty port and are current inland at varying distances from the ports. The internal trade of the country is, however, still mainly carried on by means of (1) the recent coinage of 5 cent nickel pieces and subsidiary 1 cent copper pieces, and (2) the old cash. Roughly speaking, the currency of the new nickel and copper coins is confined to the provinces of Chungchyeng, Kyengki, Hwanghai, and Pyengan. In the last three provinces they have almost entirely superseded the old copper cash, which are only to be met with in places remote from the highways of trade. Even in the frontier town of Euiju the currency is nickel, and natives say that to that town were sent many of the counterfeits whose inferior workmanship rendered them difficult to unload on the better informed markets of the south. To the south of Seoul, in the Chungchyeng province, there is an intermediate area in which nickels and cash are found together, but this area is sharply defined by the Kin Kai river, no which the port of Kunsan is situated. The natives of Chullado, on the south bank of that river, will only accept copper cash in exchange for the produce they sell in the Kunsan market, and from Kunsan onwards, round the south and up the west coasts, through the provinces of Chulla, Kyengsang, Kangwon, and Hamkyeng, the old currency of the country holds undivided possession of the field.

The average value of old copper cash was relatively higher during the year than that of nickels. That is to say, copper cash have fallen less from their original rate of 500=1 *yen* than nickels from their initial par value. The rate of exchange for copper cash in Korea generally was on an average about 700 to 1 *yen*, or 40 per cent discount, while nickels have been exchanged for gold at the average rate of about $1.80=1 *yen*, or 80 per cent. discount. The instability of both these currencies, constituting the only money the ordinary Korean possesses, had perhaps even a more depressing effect on trade in 1902 than in previous years. Counterfeits of the Korean nickel pieces were introduced from Japan on a scale compared with which the previous efforts of native coiners sank into insignificance, and this flooding of the market with false money, combined with the unceasing output of nickels from the Mint, brought about in the summer a situation paralysing to trade and cruelly burdensome to the poorer classes, for whom the necessaries of life were already too dear. The subject of the nickel currency was then taken into serious official consideration. The result, so far as the regular Government coinage was concerned, was doubtful. It does not appear that the coins turned out by the Mint were reduced in number, though there may have been temporary restriction of the quantity put upon the market. The Japanese Government, however, took a step which was at once a measure of justice and a commercial necessity, and issued in November an ordinance making it a penal offence to forge or alter Korean coins in Japan, or to import coins so forged or altered into Korea. This ordinance appears to have placed an immediate and effectual check on the operations of false coiners in Japan, already harassed by the seizures, amounting to nearly 4,000,000 nickel pieces, of the Chemulpo Customs, and it is believed that the danger from that quarter has been warded off.

Cholera entered Korea across the northern frontier in the early summer and gradually worked its way southward to Seoul and Chemulpo. In August it was brought to Fusan from Japan, probably by fishermen, and late in the season it reached Wonsan, either from Vladivostok or, as seems equally probable, overland from China. Although the disease was thus widely diffused, and carried mortality and alarm from one end of the country to the other, it raged nowhere with extreme violence. It was late in arriving and was soon arrested by cold weather.

The Imports for the year 1902 are almost balanced by the Exports, including Gold. The difference against Korea was only *yen* 160,000 and it may be noted that if the value of Railway Material [*yen* 450,000], paid for by Foreign capital, were excluded from the list of Imports this debit balance would be converted into a credit one. Exports exceeded Imports at seven out of the eight open ports, the one exception being Chemulpo, whose returns show the large sum of *yen* 2,798,000 on the other side of the account. From this, however, is to be deducted *yen* 1,160,000 representing the value of Foreign goods distributed by Chemulpo to other treaty and non-treaty ports, and the further deduction of the value of Railway Material will leave a balance of *yen* 1,118,000 against C hemulpo. It is reasonable to suppose that this sum approximately represents the tribute levied on the rest of the country by the city of Seoul, where consumption so much outruns production.

2. REVENUE.—The total collection of Duties and Tonnage Dues was *yen* 1,204,776.38 and was therefore less than that of 1901 by *yen* 120,637.73. Import and Export Duties each contributed a proportionate share to this decrease, but Tonnages Dues made a noteworthy advance from *yen* 25,955.75 in 1901 to *yen* 36,185.75 in 1902.

3. FOREIGN TRADE.—(*a*) *Imports.*—Considering the large stocks and the generally gloomy outlook at the opening of the year's trade, a decrease of *yen* 1,155,000 in the sum total of the value of Foreign Imports, as compared with 1901, is of no great significance. It may even be regarded as an evidence of the vigorous condition of Foreign trade in Korea that the decrease was no greater and that the imports of the year 1902 are still far ahead of those of any year prior to 1901. The falling off in Cotton goods is *yen* 950,000, in Woollens *yen* 85,926, and in Metals *yen* 145,862; while Sundries have slightly increased. English and Japanese Cottons, of which the respective total importations are approximately equal in value, share also about equally the decrease in Cotton goods. In English descriptions the chief decline is seen in Sheetings, and smaller decreases in Lastings, Reps, Lenos, and Drills. Grey Shirtings have declined to a very trifling extent, while White Shirtings have even added a little to their record figures of 1901. Among Japanese varieties almost the whole decrease was in unclassed Cotton Piece Goods

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(imitation Korean cloth) and Cotton Yarn and Thread. The importations of the latter article, which, up to 1900, made great advances annually, have in the last two years been reduced by piculs 22,213, valued at *yen* 622,177.

Among Metals, which have almost all declined, it will be noticed that nickel has fallen from the value of *yen* 101,553 in 1901 to that of *yen* 52,129 in 1902, a fact perhaps not altogether to be regretted under existing circumstances.

Annamese Rice was again imported in considerable quantity, to Government order, to supplement the scanty food supply. The value of Chinese Silk Piece Goods decreased by *yen* 381,000, and it seems probable that a further decline of this flourishing branch of trade will take place in 1903, in consequence of a sumptuary decree issued in January last—a decree unwritten, but enforced by the example of the Sovereign and well understood by the people—forbidding the use of Foreign Silks in male apparel. American Kerosene Oil, as if independent of the vicissitudes affecting other commodities, is imported in steadily increasing quantity, the increase in 1902, as compared with the preceding year, having been no less than 1,000,000 gallons.

(*b*) *Exports.*—The returns show a falling off in the value of Exports, as compared with 1901, of only *yen* 145,000. This is somewhat misleading, and is due to the fact that, while in 1901 only part of the 1900 crop of Red Ginseng was exported, the whole crop of 1901 left the country in 1902. By excluding Ginseng from the figures of the last two years a juster comparison is obtained, and it is seen that the decrease in general Exports is *yen* 827,000. The principal articles showing diminished exportations are Rice—less by *yen* 662,000, Beans and Peas—less by *yen* 90,000, and Whale Flesh and Blubber—less by *yen* 178,000. In regard to the last named product the Wonsan Report explains that the low value returned is partly due to the failure of one of the companies engaged in the whale fishing to report the value of their catch. In spite of the cattle disease, which is reported to have been prevalent in some eastern districts, the exportation of live cattle appreciably increased, as also, perhaps partly in consequence of the disease, did the shipments of Cowhides. Raw Cotton, from Mokpo, suddenly took an important position as an Export, the Cotton crop of 1901 having been exceptionally good, and Wheat, from Chinnampo, Chemulpo, and Fusan, increased from *yen* 36,000 in 1901 to *yen* 176,500.

(*c*) *Re-Exports.*—The re-exportations of Foreign goods were considerably larger than those of 1901—*yen* 151,400 against *yen* 80,700. The principal articles on the list are Japanese Yarn (*yen* 36,846) and Coal re-shipped for the use of steamers (*yen* 30,214). The Coal however, in being re-shipped, fulfilled the purpose for which it was originally imported and was not, strictly speaking, a re-export.

4. Coast Trade.—Again there is a large increase in the value of goods carried coastwise. In the trade between treaty ports it was noted in the report for 1901 that the Foreign goods carried amounted to about *yen* 2,000,000, and this total was barely reached in 1902. The value of net Native Imports, however, rose from *yen* 3,044,000 in 1901 to *yen* 3,753,000. The value of the goods carried between treaty ports and non-treaty ports shows a yet greater increase, having risen from about *yen* 3,100,000 to about *yen* 4,091,000. Table No. XV., printed this year for the first time, shows that almost the whole of this important trade is carried on with the non-treaty ports of the two northern provinces, Pyengan on the west and Hamkyeng on the east, leaving only about *yen* 100,000 to represent the non-treaty port trade of the rest of Korea. By far the most important "non-treaty port" in Pyengyando is, of course, Pyengyang. This city is really open to trade by treaty, but inasmuch as the river for some ten miles below the city is impracticable even for small seagoing steamers it can never be a port in the ordinary sense. It is therefore, for the present, and as a matter of convenience, classed as a non-treaty port in the Customs returns of Chinnampo, for whose existence as a port the Pyengyang trade is the main justification. Euiju and Anju are the only other non-treaty ports of much value in the province. These send grain to the southern markets, but do not absorb much in the way of general Foreign Imports, although Anju, as the landing stage adopted by the American Mining Company, received Mining Materials and Explosives in 1902 to the value of *yen* 289,000.

On the opposite coast of the peninsula, in Hamkyengdo, where there are no large rivers navigable by native craft to facilitate inland transport, as in the western and southern provinces, the non-treaty ports fulfil a most important function. Of these landing stages two deserve special mention, namely:

Kyengsong (鏡城), which sends to Wonsan Hemp Cloth, Beans, Seaweed, etc., and receives from Wonson Native Cotton Cloth and Paper and Foreign Piece Goods. The total value of the trade with Kyengsong in 1902 was *yen* 657,782.

Sinch'ang (新昌), whose principal exports, to Wonsan and Fusan, are *Myengtai* fish, Beans, Crude Copper, and Cowhides, and which receives from the same ports Native Cottons and Paper and Foreign Piece Goods. The value of the trade in 1902 was *yen* 581,379.

Eleven other landing stages bring up the total value of the non-treaty port trade in Hamkyengdo to *yen* 2,343,428.

5. Shipping.—The tonnage of steamers entered was augmented at every port during 1902, the total increase having been no less than 257,959 tons. The largest relative increase is observable in the Russian steam shipping, which from 68 entries and 34,962 tons in 1901 has risen to 113 entries and 101,222 tons. Korean steamers, chiefly small vessels engaged in the coast trade, have also notably increased, and show 845 entries with 165,782 tons, as against 529 entries and 107,733 tons in the previous year. Under the Japanese flag, too, the advance is sufficiently remarkable, although Japanese steamers, being more than three-fourths of the whole steam tonnage at the service of Korea, cannot be expected to increase in the same ratio as those of flags less amply represented. In the numbers and tonnage of sailing craft there was no material change.

6. Treasure.—The exportations of Gold in 1902 (*yen* 5,064,106) show a slight increase (*yen* 70,755) as compared with the preceding year, the larger shipments from Chinnampo counterbalancing the smaller ones from Wonsan. The diminution of the Wonsan figures is attributed to the diversion to Vladivostock of most of the Siberian Gold dust formerly brought into Korea across the frontier, and, adopting the figures of the Wonsan Report, which estimates that only *yen* 50,000 of Siberian Gold was sent out through Wonsan in 1902, as against *yen* 500,000 in 1901, it will be found that there has been substantial increase of some *yen* 520,000 in the total shipments of Korean Gold. The net importations of Paper *yen*, owing to the introduction of the new notes, are by far the largest on record.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Special Service.)

THE BALKANS.

London, May 8.

In consequence of the outrages at Salonica, the Powers have sent to the Porte a joint note protesting against the ineffectual measures pursued on the Servian frontier.

THE KAISER.

The Kaiser has left Rome.

THE TRANSVAAL LOAN.

Later.

Thirty millions out of the £35,000,000 asked for as a Transvaal loan has been authorised at 3 per cent., and it is to be redeemed at par in 1954. 1 per cent. is to form a sinking fund.

There was an unprecedented scene in connection with the Transvaal Loan. A crowd of many thousand persons gathered outside the gates of the Bank of England early in the morning, though the prospectus was only issued in the afternoon.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

London, May 9.

The Irish Land Bill has been read a isecond time by a majority of 443 against 26.

THE TROUBLES IN THE BALKANS.

The Bulgarian Government has requested the Porte to withhold its note, which has not been formally presented, pointing out that its terms are so strong as to be almost offensive.

The French naval division at Toulon has been ordered to Salonica.

Conflicts between the insurgents and the Turkish military actively continue.

THE "GUADALQUIVER."

Later.

All on board the M.M. steamer *Guadalquiver*, when the vessel was blown in two at Salonica, were saved.

RAILWAY STRIKE IN AUSTRALIA.

A serious railway strike is reported from Australia. Troops are patrolling the streets.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The Brussels correspondent of the London *Standard* says that, owing to the British attitude and to the unfavourable situation in the Turkish empire, the Bagdad railway scheme has been provisionally abandoned.

PROPOSED JOINT ACTION OF POWERS.

London, May 10.

It is stated in Washington that Mr. Hay, Secretary of State, has requested President Roosevelt to authorise joint action on the part of the United States, Great Britain and Japan against Russian aggressions in Manchuria.

THE TRANSVAAL LOAN.

London, May 11.

The list for the Transvaal Loan has closed with subscriptions of between twelve hundred and fifteen hundred millions.

THE BALKAN CRISIS.

The Porte, being desirous of averting any conflict with Bulgaria, has modified the terms of its Note.

Mahomedans attacked Christians at Monastir and killed a number of them.

THE U. S. AND MANCHURIA.

Mr. Hay, U. S. Secretary of State, has announced that joint action against Russia is unnecessary. The United States will maintain an attitude of observation.

THE WARSHIPS AT SALONIKA.

The Porte has requested the withdrawal of the warships from Salonika on the ground that the populace might misinterpret their presence.

THE BALKANS.

London, May 12.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria has made a statement at Paris disclaiming responsibility for the Macedonian agitation and the outrages at Salonika. He declares that the Bulgarians will not risk sharing the fate of the Greeks of Thessaly in connection with the Turco-Greek war.

INFERNAL MACHINE ON THE "UMBRIA."

Just before the Cunard liner *Umbria* left New York the police seized a box containing one hundred pounds of dynamite, with complicated machinery which was working when the seizure was made. The box was delivered by an Italian, and is supposed to be the outcome of a Mafia plot to destroy the liner.

BULGARIA AND TURKEY.

There is a growing concensus of opinion that the chief danger in the Balkans has arisen out of the exasperation that Bulgaria and Turkey feel against each other.

RUSSIA'S REPLY.

Lord Cranborne has stated that Russia, replying to friendly communications from the United States and British Governments within the last few days, intimates that she adheres to her engagements regarding the evacuation of Manchuria, though withdrawal has been temporarily delayed. She does not intend to take any measures for the exclusion of foreign consuls or for the obstruction of commerce or of the use of the ports. There is therefore no reason for concerted action on the part of Britain, America and Japan.

ROYALTY IN SCOTLAND.

London, May 13.

Their Majesties the King and Queen made a state entry into Edinburgh. Troops and immense crowds of people lined the route for nine miles from Dalkeith to Holyrood, where a Court was held.

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THE BALKANS.

The Embassies have called the attention of the Porte to the situation in Monastir, where intense bitterness exists against Bulgaria. They have urged that measures be taken to prevent massacres.

AUSTRALIA AND COLOURED LABOUR.

London, May 14.

Mr. Chamberlain has informed the Commonwealth of Australia that Great Britain cannot prohibit the employment of coloured British labour on mail steamers. (This was referred to in a telegram of April 27th, which said that the Commonwealth had informed the British Post Office that it would not become a party to any future mail contracts involving steamers employing coloured labour).

THE FRENCH RELIGIOUS ORDERS.

The French Government has introduced a bill disestablishing 400 female religious orders possessing 2,000 public girls' schools. The suppression will involve a State expenditure of two million pounds sterling.

THE TROUBLE AT TETUAN.

A serious revolt has taken place in the vicinity of Tetuan, which town is closely besieged.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

Saigon, May 9.

Admiral Bonnet has left Toulon for Salonica with the war-ships *Pothuau* and *Latouche Treville*. He will be followed by *Le Galilée*. The news from Macedonia is worse.

THE AUSTRALIAN STRIKE.

Saigon, May 12.

There is a general strike on the railways in Melbourne. The whole service of trains in Victoria is interrupted.

TROUBLE IN AFRICA.

Saigon, May 13.

News from Africa says that ten thousand rebels threaten Tetuan. The situation is considered critical.

STRIKE TROUBLES AT VALPARAISO.

Saigon, May 14.

The dock hands at Valparaiso have gone on strike. Riots have occurred and several persons have been killed and others wounded. A state of siege has been proclaimed.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

THE TROUBLES IN KWANGTUNG.

In consequence of the receipt of intelligence that a disturbance had arisen at Gentan in Kwangtung, and on the Canton-Hankow Railway, now in course of construction, there being five Japanese engineers on its staff, the Foreign Office in Tokyo addressed an inquiry to the Consul in Hongkong as to the fate of these Japanese subjects and received answer that they are safe. Instructions have been sent to the Consul to apply to the Viceroy for protection for these Japanese.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

THE BALKAN CRISIS.

London, May 7.

Turkey continues to despatch reinforcements. The Government regrets that it cannot subdue the Bulgarians, who continue to foment the insurrection.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria is now in Paris.

THE AMERICAN PRESS ON RUSSIA.

The papers of the United States severely comment upon the shameless and immoral action of Russia as to Manchuria.

JAPANESE LOAN BONDS.

Japanese 5 per cent. Loan Bonds are quoted at £100.5.6.

THE BALKAN CRISIS.

London, May 8.

The insurgents designed to blow up the magazine at Mitrovitza, but the attempt to do so failed after some fighting in the town. In the vicinity of Duema (?) severe fighting has occurred.

THE TRANSVAAL LOAN.

The Transvaal Loan of £30,000,000 has been subscribed 25 times over. It was in such demand that the Bank of England was surrounded by crowds of applicants.

THE BRIGADE OF THE COSSACKS.

According to a declaration in St. Petersburg, the Cossack Regiments now in Ussuri, have been despatched to Manchuria where they will be organized as an independent Brigade.

AMERICA AND THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

London, May 9.

The U.S. Government has viewed with astonishment the increase of Russian troops in Manchuria. Mr. Hay, Secretary of State, has requested President Roosevelt, who is now touring in California, to enter into joint action with Japan and Great Britain in order to insist on the withdrawal of the Russian troops.

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

More explosives have been discovered in Salonica.

The Porte has expelled 20 ringleaders in the Albanian disturbances.

A French squadron has left Toulon for Salonica.

THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.

In connexion with an Anti-Semitic disturbance which occurred in Kishnetsff (?), eight hundred persons were arrested. The Jews in Kieff are in a state of much anxiety and have closed their shops.

GREAT FIRE IN OTTAWA.

London, May 11.

Fire has occurred in Ottawa causing damage to the extent of $500,000. The flames were started by an incendiary who has been arrested. The ruins are still burning.

THE U.S. AND MANCHURIA.

The *Times* correspondent at Washington reports that public opinion in the United States will support President Roosevelt should be take a decisive step (with reference to Manchuria ?)

THE "UMBRIA" PLOT.

In New York a horrible plot has been laid to blow up the Cunard steamer *Umbria*. The explosive machinery was discovered before it could take effect.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE TRANSVAAL LOAN.

London, May 12.

The subscriptions to the Transvaal loan reached £1,174,000,000.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST.")

VENEZUELA.

Berlin, May 9.

The Venezuelan protocol designed to be transferred to the Hague Arbitration Court has been signed.

THE BALKANS.

The conflict which has arisen between Turkey and Bulgaria on account of the attempted dynamite-outrages at Salonica is expressed only by diplomatic notes. There is no danger of war.

THE KAISER.

The Kaiser will go to Karlsruhe, Strassburg and Urville, where the Hereditary Prince of Sachsen-Meiningen, his brother-in-law, is staying with his family.

GRAF HASELER.

Generalfeldmarschall Graf Häseler, the general in command of the Lothringian army-corps, will leave the service on account of his old age. (The Graf is 67 years of age.—Ed.)

RESIGNATION OF A MINISTER.

The Prussian Minister of War, von Gossler, will send in his resignation in August.

GERMAN FINANCIAL MEASURES.

For the next budget the Government will propose the renewal of the establishment of the army's effective force for 5 years and bring forward a small army bill.

NEWCHWANG.

Berlin, May 9.

It is officially declared in St. Petersburg that the report of Reuter's agency according to which Newchwang was occupied by Russian troops is wholly unfounded.

MACEDONIA.

The Turks have occupied several towns of Macedonia.

THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

Berlin, May 12.

The campaign of the British and the American papers on account of Manchuria does in no way influence the English and the U.S. Governments. No anti-Russian action is expected.

BISHOP VON ANZER.

The report of the Paris *Temps*, according to which the German Bishop von Anzer has been called home from China, is false.

THE BALKANS.

The Turkish troops are successful against the rebels. They have been ordered to spare the Christians as much as possible. The public peace in Salonica and Constantinople is undisturbed.

VENEZUELA.

The *Reichsanzeiger* (Imperial Gazette) has published the agreement between Germany and Venezuela concerning the establishment of the German claims. The establishment will be made by a mixed special committee to be convoked. The reclamations are to be sent in till the 1st of July. The Hague Arbitration Court will decide on the privileged German claims. The Tsar will appoint three arbitrators for the Hague Tribunal.

BISHOP VON ANZER.

Berlin, May 14.

The report of the Paris *Temps* that the Vatican has called home from China the German Bishop von Anzer is absurd.

SALONICA.

Yielding to the wish of Russia the French squadron will not go to Salonica, but will anchor off Syra (Cyclades).

THE BALKANS.

According to a report of the *Times* correspondent at Sofia the situation in the Orient is continually improving.

THE POPE AND GERMANY.

The Pope will send to Metz the Prince-Bishop Kopp of Breslau as his representative at the inauguration of the new gate of the cathedral. He has declared to Emperor Wilhelm, that, in opposition to France and the objecting Catholic clergy of the Reichsland, he acknowledges the dependence on Germany of Alsace-Lorraine.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."

WHERE ARBITRATION IS UNDESIRABLE.

London, May 2.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour stated that that Government did not consider the outstanding questions between Great Britain and Russia with regared to Manchuria, Persia, Afghanistan, Asia Minor, and the Dardanelles, to be suitable for reference to the Hague.

THE RAGGING IN THE GUARDS.

London, May 5.

In the House of Lords the Duke of Bedford sought to revive the case of Colonel Kinloch, attacking Mr. Brodrick, Secretary for War, and Lord Roberts, Commander-in-Chief, in strong terms.

Lord Roberts solemnly declared on his honour as an officer and a member of the House of Peers, that his judgment in the matter of Colonel Kinloch was absolutely unbiassed. He was determined, he said, to suppress disgusting and degrading practices in the army.

CLAIM AGAINST THE "ZAFIRO" FOR LOSS OF TREASURE.

Hongkong, May 6.

In the case in which a Chinese firm in Hongkong claimed against the China and Manila Steamship Co. for the loss of a box containing $50,000 gold, shipped by the steamer *Zafiro* for Manila, judgment has been given in the Supreme Court in favour of the Steamship Company.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

London, May 6.

Lord Lansdowne, replying to Lord Lamington, said that there had been no negotiations with the promoters of the Bagdad railway or with any foreign Government; there had only been confidential communications with certain great British financial houses with the view of ascertaining whether the conditions of the enterprise permitted the Government offering them encouragement. The negotiations were now at an end.

THE WICKET QUESTION.

London, May 7.

The Marylebone Cricket Club has rejected the proposal to widen the wicket.

THE BALKANS.

London, May 18.

There is an optimistic feeling in official circles in Vienna with regard to the relations between Turkey and Bulgaria, which are declared to have improved in the last twenty-four hours.

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A WOODEN-CASED RIFLE.

The American Army Board has selected a new rifle the barrel of which is entirely cased with wood. It is four inches shorter and a pound lighter than the present one.

UNEXPECTED OPPOSITION TO THE BUDGET.

The opposition on the part of the Unionists to the repeal of the Corn Duty is growing formidable. The *Times* advises the Government to reconsider its proposal.

CANADA'S UNEXAMPLED PROSPERITY.

An Ottawa telegram of April 16th said :—The Hon. Mr. Fielding's budget speech was one of the most important deliverances since the preferential tariff in favour of Great Britain was announced. The surplus for the present year is placed at $13,350,000, and Liberals vigorously applauded the announcement of the great revenue and expenditure. No reference was made to bleeding the people, which was the rallying cry of the Liberals when in opposition.

Hon. W. S. Fielding started out by saying that Canada was enjoying unexampled prosperity. For the year ending June 30 last, he had predicted a surplus of $5,000,000, but it really reached $7,291,398. The expenditure had been about the same as estimated, but the revenue was very much larger, which accounted for the surplus. There was really a surplus in the post office department, but if the service of Atlin and the Yukon were included there would be a deficit of $10,000. Up to April 10 of this year the revenue was $48,384,118, and last year for the same period the revenue was $43,169,658, an increase of $5,178,467. The expenditure up to April 10 was $32,870,204, and for the same time last year it was $31,946,186, an increase of $94,000. While the revenue increased over $5,000,000, the expenditure increased by less than $1,000,000. At the close of the fiscal year the expediture would reach $51,650,000, against an expediture last year of $50,759,391. The revenue, at the close of the current fiscal year would be $65,000,000, and expenditure, $51,000,000, which would leave a surplus of $13,350,000. Germany is no longer to have a free hand in discriminating against Canada. That country from April 17 must face an adverse tariff of 33⅓ per cent. increase on the present duties, as retaliation for her hostile attitude against the products of Canada. Discussing the British preference, the minister explained the efforts made to secure concessions in favour of Canada, and intimated that unless the Mother Country failed to appreciate the value of the concessions offered her six years ago, she could not complain if Canada were to abrogate them, especia'ly as Mr. Chamberlain had declared the preference of little value to the Motherland. Regarding relations with the United States, the Minister declared there would be no meeting of the joint commission unless an informal conference first gave an assurance of tangible results likely to follow. The duty on foreign vessels is removed, but the license on them is maintained. Machinery for alluvial gold mining is placed on the free list. The binding twine industry is to be compensated for the export tax on manila fibre.

A PHANTOM ARMY CORPS.

As the large clock in the courtyard of the group of mansions known as St. James's-court, Buckingham-gate, S.W., indicated the dawn of April 1, the fourth of Mr. Brodrick's Army Corps came officially into existence. It is appropriately to be known in the service as Mr. Brodrick's Own. A few hours later, says the *Daily Mail*, Lieut.-General Lord Grenfell, the commander of this non-existent corps, drove to Buckingham-gate and inquired for his men. Of course there were no 4th Army Corps troops anywhere in the neighbourhood. It is one of the striking features of Mr. Brodrick's paper army corps scheme that the Guards (who live round the corner in Birdcage-walk, and whom Lord Grenfell might call out for manœuvres in St. James's Park when he was not otherwise engaged) do not belong to the St. James's-court command, but are included in the 2nd Army Corps—at Salisbury Plain! So Lord Grenfell, casting a longing eye at Wellington Barracks as he passed, drove up to the handsome block of residential flats, the ground floor of which is allotted to his command, and was ushered by the porter into the 4th Army Corps suite. He at once ordered the troops to parade, and found that they numbered one sergeant-major and eight military clerks. The general, aided by his staff of five officers, held an inspection in the lobby, and then retired to his room to promulgate the First of April orders.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Hyades 1	F.	May 15
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China 2	M.	May 18
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru 3	M.	May 18
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 4	Tu	May 19
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Lyra	W.	May 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of Japan 5	Th.	May 21
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	F.	May 22
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa.	May 23
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 6	W.	May 27
Europe	M. M. Co	Oceanien	W.	May 27
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Sa.	May 30
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Th.	June 4
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M.	June 8

1 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
2 Left Vancouver on the 5th inst.
3 Left Seattle on the 2nd inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 30th ul.
5 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst
6 Left San Francisco on the 8th inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Hyades	Sa.	May 16
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Zieten	Sa	May 16
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kanagawa Maru	Sa.	May 16
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar	Sa.	May 16
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	M.	May 18
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru	Tu.	May 19
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W.	May 20
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Th.	May 21
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Lyra	Th.	May 21
Europe	M. M. Co.	Salazie	F.	May 22
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	F.	May 22
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	Sa.	May 23
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th.	May 28
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu.	June 2
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa.	June 6
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa.	June 6
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W.	June 10

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 8th May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,323, E. G. Dickens, 8th May,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, W. Hunter, 8th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,568, T. Sakai, 8th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 9th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, S. Robinson, 9th May,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 10th May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Telena, British steamer, 3,124, O. M. Falck, 11th May,—Novorossisk, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Borck, 12th May,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 5th May, General. C. Illies & Co.

Eclipse, British cruiser, 5,600, Capt. R. H. S. Stokes, 12th May.—Nagasaki.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, M. Aubert, 12th May,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Ikkona, British steamer, 3,383, H. T. Willsher, 13th May,—Manila, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rajah, British steamer, 3,684, J. Clingan, 13th May, —Rangoon, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 13th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Shimizu, 13th May,—Takao; General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 13th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benarty, British steamer, 2,510, J. D. Sarchet, 13th May,—New York via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Supply, U.S. cruiser, 3,000, Capt. Schofield, 13th May,—Uraga.

Zieten, German steamer, 4,988, B. Wilhelmi, 14th May,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

DEPARTURES.

Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, H. Porter, 8th May,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,093, Marcantetti, 8th May.—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 8th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, Parsons, 9th May,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,214, W. S. Hunter, 9th May,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nubia, German steamer, 2,234, von Hoff, 10th May, —New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, W. Hunter, 10th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, S. Robinson, 10th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, J. W. Ekstrand, 10th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanees steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 11th May,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 11th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,568, Sakai, 11th May,—Otaru, Gneeral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer, 2,615, A. F. Street, 12th May,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 12th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 12th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 12th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 12th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Heathdene, British steamer, 2,277, W. J. Melburn, 12th May,—Moji, General.—J. Puig.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,323, E. G. Dickens, 12th May,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 13th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Segovia, German steamer, 3,796, Th. Foerck, 14th May,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, S. Tsuji, 14th May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. A. Marks, Mr. R. A. Hart, Miss N. Saywell, Mr. Osborn, Mr. Thomas Saywell, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Edward and child, Mrs. W. S. Scott and daughter, Mrs. Flemings, Mrs. J. Johnstone, Mr. Silver Hall, Mr. S. Kawamuro, Mr. and Mrs. C. Shimojo, Miss B. Hooper, Mr. Yoshida, and Mr. T. Komatsu, in cabin ; Mr. and Mrs. K. Fukui, Mr. and Mrs. Kato and child, Mr. M. Okuda, and Mr. K. Ikeda, in second class.

The Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from San Francisco via ports :—Mr. A. S. Anderson, Mr. J. Asaoka and servant, Mr. J. C. Bentz, Mrs. J. C. Bentz, Miss H. D. Christian, Miss Fayette Dodge Mr. M. Fujishima, Mr. Wm. Filmer, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, Mr. W. F. Frieberg, Mr. B. Goldenberg, Miss L. W. James, Mr. Thos James and valet, Mrs. M. A. Kern, Mr. Goodman King, Mrs. King, Mr. A. de La Fenerere, Com. W. A. Marshall, Mr. L. Maskanzan, Miss Mary Meux, Mr. S. Minigishi, Mr. Y. Sekine, Mr. M. C. G. Pereira and valet, Mr. K.

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Seko, Mr. T. Shimizu; Miss Edith Simpson, Mrs. J. Strauss, infant and maid, Mr. O. Gallagher, Mr. Harvey Dameal, Mr. N. Bentz, Mrs. A. Hobbs, Mrs. S. La Grave, Mrs. M. L. Doyle, Mrs. Bentz and maid, Mr. J. R. Alford Mr. W. J. Carr, Mr. D. W. R. Moulden, Mr. L. D. Shuman, Mr. J. M. Browne, Mr. A. R. Decker, Mr. C. A Newbaker, Mr. H. B. Sullivan, Mr. Paul Clements, Mr. R. F. Floyd, Mrs. O. P. Robinson, Mr. M. C. Terry, Mrs. Clements, Mr. G. D. Fairbanks, Mr. O. M. Shuman, Mrs. Terry, Mr. J. E. Connery, and Mrs. F. Johnson in cabin; Mr. Arthur Baber, Mr. N. Saito, Mr. P. Shibata, Mr. M. Toyoizumi, Mrs. T. Bragnia and infant, Miss Bragnia, Mr. Alex Powers, Mrs. Powers and infant, Rev. Y. Iwamura. Miss K. Kahele and Mrs. Ono and 2 children in steerage.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. G. Beffert, Mr. Constant Mertens and servant, Mrs. Oshima, Mr. Pangridge, Mr. and Mrs. Liblair, Mr. Robert, Mrs. and Miss Kronhelm, Miss Stoker, Mr. Bickart, and Mr. Cheong Chon Kin and servant, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. P. G. W. Eckford, Mr. Rankine, Mr. Mulhall, Dr. E. Kilayko, Mr. Corbin, Mrs. Corbin, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Geo. S. Hedge, Mr. Schopflocher, Dr. W. F. Arnold, Mr. Lipman, Mr. C. F. Lanman, Mr. C. L. Graff, Miss G. Wetmore, Miss L. Wetmore, Mr. H. Neale, Mrs. H. Neale, Rev. A. W. Cooke, and Mrs. A. W. Cooke, child and amah, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. A. White, Mr. E. E. Corlett, Mr. F. P. Wagg, Mr. Tso Shong and servant, Mr. Ma Po Lan and servant, Mr. Chun Wai Yuan and servant, Mr. H. A. Burke, Mrs. H. A. Burke and 2 children, Miss Hamilton, Mr. C. I. McCaskey, Mr. H. D. McCaskey, Miss M. Graff, and Mrs. C. A. Clevie, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Zieten*, from Hamburg via ports:—Miss Nath Boyes, Mrs. Healing, child and servant, Mrs. T. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. Collbran and servant, Mr. L. J. Healing, Mrs. Steward, Capt. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Demuth, Mr. A. S. Newbery, Mr. E. Krämer, Mr. H. Fokkes, Mr. R. Boyes, Capt. C. Olsen, Miss G. Dorning, Mrs. Schellenberg, Mr. Paul Zell, Mr. C. von Platen, Mr. and Mrs. Harbeck, Mr. J. Tappin, Mr. W. H. O. Smith, Mr. Frdr. Schuler, Mr. Tanaka, Mr. M. Schellenberg, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Caledonien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Courant, Mr. Bonnechaux, Mr. Jourdan, Mr. A. Notton and native servant, Mr. H. A. Schallig, Mrs. Notton, Mrs. W. E. Passmore, Mr. W. W. Paddock, Paymaster J. A. B. Smith, U.S.N., Mr. B. Saunders, Mr. A. Dentici, Miss Clemox, Graf. Warteusleben, Mr. Bickart, Mr. H. Fokkes, Mr. Coblitz, and Mr. P. Lessner, in cabin; 9, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kasuga Maru*, for Australia via ports:—Mrs. A. F. Moore, Capt. C. Olsen, Mr. R. Boyes, Mr. M. Ozaki, Mr. M. Yoshida, Mr. K. Maki, Mr. K. Kotsuna, Mr. M. Norikawa, Miss Evans, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. T. B. Glover, Mr. A. B. Glover, Mrs. E. B. Bryan and 3 children, Mrs. Dutton, Miss E. F. Blandin, Miss H. F. Gillette, Capt. Tatchell, Capt Brabazan, Mr., Mrs. and Miss R. Edward, Mr. M. Edward, Miss McKenzie, Mr. G. Stevens, Mr. A. Parker, Mrs. and Miss Morgan, Mrs. C. P. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. F. Robertson, Miss Robertson, and Mr. W. B. Mason, in cabin; Mrs. H. Sumiya, Mr. Y. Sahashi, Mr. S. Yato, Mr. Y. Kitamura, Mr. H. Nimura, Mr. M. Ozaki, Mr. A. Sugata, Mr. K. Komatsu, Mr. S. Wakayama, Mr. M. Nakajima. Mrs. Glover's servant, Mr. G. E. Osborne, Mr. L. McDernsotto, and Mr. M. Ito, in second class; 20, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. G. A. Walters, Miss L. A. Clendenin, Mr. N. C. Abbott, Mrs. N. C. Abbott, Miss Brenizen, Miss M. P. Williams, Miss F. Read, Mrs. G. W. Gilbert, Mrs. E. P. Boomer, Mr. F. Robertson, Mr. C. H. Bliss, and Mr. C. E. Andrews, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. R. Alford, Mr. Nathan Bentz, Mrs. Nathan Bentz and amah, Mrs. C. B. Brown, Mr. J. M. Browne, Mr. W. J. Carr, Mr. Paul Clements, Mrs. Paul Clements, Mr. J. E. Connery, Mrs. M. Cross, Mr. H. Darnell, Mr. A. R. Decker, Mr. C. Derbyshire, Miss Fayelle Dodge, Mrs. M. E. Doyle, Mr. G. D. Fairbanks, Mr. R. F. Floyd, Miss Freeman, Mr. O. Gallagher, Mrs. S. La Grave, Miss Grayum, Mr. G. Groesbeck, Mrs. Alice Hobbs, Mrs. F. Johnson, Mrs. M. A. Kern, Mr. R. F. Lloyd, Mr. F. T. Lurcock, Com. Marshall, U.S.N., Mr. W. B. Moulden, Mr. C. A. Newbaker, Mr. A. L. Pitcher, Mrs. A. L. Pitcher, Mr. O. P. Robinson, Mr. L. D. Sherman, Mr. O. M. Sherman, Mrs. C. Standard, Mr. H. B. Sullivan, Mr. M. C. Terry, and Mrs. M. C. Terry, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Malacca*, for London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Woolley, Mr. Lai Ying Chang and native servant, Mr. W. Foster, in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw and Waste silk shipped per steamer *Caledonien*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles	Italy.	Lyons.	St. Chamond.	France.	Marseilles.	Austria.	Milan.
Bavier & Co.	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer Mazet Guillée Co.	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille'	—	—	44	—	—	—	—	—
Findlay, Richardson & Co.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	37	—	—	—	—	16	—	2
Jewett and Bent	—	—	20	39	—	—	—	—
Ulysse Pila & Co.	—	—	151	—	—	2	—	—
Poliak Bros.	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co.	—	—	57	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	172	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	—
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	—	—	—	67	—	—
	304	—	330	39	—	85	—	2

Per British steamer *Malacca*, for London via ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 53 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 116 bales.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Indravelli*, for Portland, Or.:—Tea, from Kobe to New York and East, 318 packages; from Kobe to San Francisco, 486 packages.

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED.	
Ajax	Liverpool	Passed Canal	April 16
Albenga	New York	Left	Mar. 12
Alcinous	Liverpool	Passed Canal	April 16
Annam	Marseilles	Passed Canal	April 27
Antenor	Liverpool	Passed Canal	April 23
Aragonia	Hamburg	Left S'pore	May 10
Badenia	Hamburg	Left	April 22
Banca	London	Passed Canal	April 7
Bencleuch	London	Passed Canal	April 19
Benlomond	London	Passed Canal	April 20
Bingo Maru	London	Left Colombo	May 6
Bombay	London	Left H'kong	May 7
Bombay Maru	Bombay	At H'kong	May 11
Briezhuel	New York	Leaves	April 21
Caine	Trieste	Left H'kong	April 17
Calchas	Liverpool	Left N'saki	May 10
Canton	London	Passed Canal	April 21
Chas. Tiberghien	New York	At Kobe	May 13
C. Tottenham	New York	Passed Canal	April 14
City of Peking	San F'cisco	Left	April 30
Denbighshire	London	Left S'pore	April 20
Doric	San F'cisco	Left	May 8
Em. of China	Vancouver	Left	May 5
Em. of Japan	Hongkong	Left	May 13
Glenartney	London	Left H'kong	May 1
Glengyle	London	Passed Canal	April 9
Glenesk	London	Passed Canal	Mar. 21
Glenevian	New York	Left	Mar. 17
Glengarry	London	At S'hai	April 15
Heathford	New York	Left S'hai	April 25
Hyades	Hongkong	Left	May 6
Hyson	London	Left S'pore	May 3
Indradeo	New York	Passed Canal	April 14
Indrasamha	Portland	Left	May 3
Indrawadi	New York	Passed Canal	April 25
Idzumi Maru	Bombay	Left	May 7
Kawachi Maru	London	Left H'kong	May 8
Kennebec	New York	At Port Said	April 8
Kish	New York	Leaves	April 13
Kumano Maru	Melbourne	Left Th'sday Is.	May 7
Lowther Castle	New York	Leaves	May 5
Manila	London	Passed Canal	April 30
Nurnberg	Hamburg	Left	April 16
Oceanien	Marseilles	Left Saigon	May 13
Oopack	Liverpool	Left	April 25
Peleus	Liverpool	Left	April 17
Radnorshire	London	Passed Canal	April 14
Riojun Maru	Hongkong	At Moji	May 12
Sanuki Maru	London	Left	May 8
Satsuma	New York	Left	April 5
Shanghai	London	At S'hai	April 27
Shinano Maru	Seattle	Left	May 2
Silvia	Hamburg	Left Colombo	April 8
St. Bede	New York	Left	April 1
Strassburg	Hamburg	At S'hai	May 13
Stuttgart	Hamburg	Passed Canal	April 25
Tamba Maru	London	Left Suez	May 7
Tantalus	Liverpool	Left S'pore	April 9
Tartar	Hongkong	Left	May 5
Trieste	Trieste	Passed Canal	May 1
Yangtze	Liverpool	Left	April 6

UNDER SAIL.

Aristomene	Port Tampa	Loading	Y'hama
Atlas	New York	April 1	Y'hama
Bangalore	Phila	April 7	Japan
Bougainville	New York	Dec. 14	H'date
Buffon	Phila.	Dec. 27	Kobe
C. H. Watjen	New York	Oct. 29	Y'hama
Drummuir	San F'cisco	Mar. 8	H'date
Dunstaffnage	Phila.	Dec. 11	Kobe
Francoise d'Amboise	Phila.	Feb. 9	Kobe
Genelvan	New York	Loading	Japan
Hesper	Vancouver	Loading	N'saki
La Blanche	Phila.	Loading	Japan
Marechal de Castries	Phila.	April 4	N'saki
Nomia	New York	Loading	Y'hama
Radiant	Phila.	Mar. 27	Kobe
Rene	Phila.	Loading	Japan
Samaritan	Port Tampa	Jan. 19	Y'hama
Shenandoah	New York	Dec. 17	Kobe
Strathdon	Phila.	Feb. 22	N'saki
Vauban	New York	Nov. 15	Y'kaichi

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is a small business passing but nothing special to note.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece.
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	28.0 to 4.00
Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches	2.50 to 3.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	3.00 to 5.00
	per yard.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens, Black, 32 inches	0.20 to 0.30

WOOLLENS.

	per yard.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	per piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.50

COTTON YARN.

	per bale.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 135.00 to 145.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	145.00 to 155.00
Nos. 38/42, Singles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 32, Doubles	150.00 to 160.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	165.00 to 170.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	228.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	278.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	400.00 to 420.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	29.00 to 30.00
Indian Broach	24.00 to 25.00
Chinese	24.50

METALS.

Nothing new in Metals.

	per picul.
Round and square ⅜ inch and upward	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.25 to 11.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	7.80 to 8.30
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1¼ inch)	5.90 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The market is unchanged.

American	$2.84
Russian	2.70
Langkat	2.60

SUGAR.

The market continues steady.

	per picul.
Brown Takao	Y. 5.70 to 6.20
Brown Manila	5.70 to 6.80
Brown Daitong	5.70 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.50
White Java and Penang	7.20 to 8.00
White Refined	8.80 to 11.20

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Nothing doing for New York but small purchases continue for Lyons at advancing prices. Rumours come to hand that the European crop will be short this next season, but it is yet too early for a reliable decision upon that point. Meantime stocks here are reduced and the market is very firm.

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QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y.	1,080 to 1,100
Filatures—Extra, Fine		—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse		1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine		—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse		1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine		1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse		1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine		1,020 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse		—
Common—Coarse		—
Re-reels—Extra		—
Re-reels—No. 1		—
Re-reels—No. 1½		980 to 985
Re-reels—No. 2		950 to 960
Re-reels—No. 3		—
Kakedas—Extra		—
Kakedas—No. 1		—
Kakedas—No. 1½		—
Kakedas—No. 2		—
Kakedas—No. 2½		—

WASTE SILK.

In Waste Silk there has been some enquiry for good Kibiso but supplies are small and in consequence but little business has been done.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	55 to 60

TEA.

Arrivals have increased and buying has kept pace with them. Stocks do not accumulate and prices remain very firm.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	...55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine	—
Good Medium	—
Medium	—
Good Common	—
Common	—

INDIGO.

No change.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best	290.00 to 345.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	130.00 to 300.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best ...	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best ..	105.00 to 145.00

TOKUMIYA.

SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: FORWARD DELIVERY TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 14.

Yesterday's total transactions were 6,400 shares.

MORNING.			SHARES.	AFTERNOON.		
30 days.	60 days.	90 days		30 days.	60 days.	90 days.
—	—	—	Nippon Railway	—	—	74 80
—	—	—	Nippon R. 3rd new	—	—	—
—	—	..	Sanyo Railway ...	—	—	18.20
—	—	42.40	Kansai Railway ...	—	—	42.70
—	—	56.40	Kiushiu Railway..	—	—	55.10
—	—	75 00	Tanko Railway ...	—	—	75.50
33.80	—	34 50	Tanko R'way new	—	—	35 00
—	—	26.40	Tobu Railway.....	—	—	—
—	—	—	Sobu Railway	—	—	—
—	—	—	Boso Railway.....	—	—	—
—	—	—	Narita Railway ...	—	—	—
—	—	—	Narita R'way new	—	—	—
—	—	—	Kioto Railway ...	—	—	—
—	—	—	Hokuyetsu R'way.	—	—	—
—	—	5.00	Seoul-Fusan Rail..	—	—	—
—	—	101.40	Tokio Electric Car	—	—	—
—	—	82.60	Tokio Elec. C. new	—	—	83.00
—	—	—	Tokio Electric Ra.	—	—	—
—	—	51 95	Tokio Street Rail.	—	—	52.50
—	—	43 80	Kei-hin Elec. Car.	—	—	43.30
—	—	79.40	Nippon Yusen ...	—	—	79 00
—	—	31 70	Toyo Kisen	—	—	31.80
—	—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—	—
—	—	—	Teikoku Shogyo. .	—	—	—
—	—	—	Tokio Gas Co.	—	—	—
—	—	—	Tokio Gas Co. new	—	—	—
—	—	—	Tokio Elec. Light.	—	—	71 05
—	—	—	Tokio Elec L. new	—	—	—
—	—	39.45	Kanegafuchi Sp'ng	—	—	40 05
—	—	—	Tokio Rice	—	—	—
—	—	167.60	Tokio Stock Ex. ..	—	—	169.10

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Yokohama, May 14.

London silver ¼ higher, Shanghai sterling quotations ¼ higher, Hongkong unchanged and local rates mostly steady without alteration.

London—Bank T.T.	2/03⅝
— — Bills on demand.....	2/03⅝
— — 4 months' sight	2/03⅝
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/03⅝
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	255½ @ 9
— Private 4 months' sight.....	260½
— — 6 months' sight.....	262
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100.	83*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	81*
Shanghai—Bank sight	85*
— Private 10 days' sight	87*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight.....	49⅜ @ ⅜
— Private 30 days' sigh	50¾
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ⅜
Germany—Bank sight	208
— Private 4 months' sight	213½
Bar Silver (London)	24⅞

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, May 14.

Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. C. Nickels, sales at *yen* 26½. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works 108	Sellers.
Grand Hotel 250	Buyers.
Club Hotel..... 75	Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe 70	Nominal.
Langfeldt & Co..... 28	Buyers.
Japan Brewery Co. 105	Sellers.
C. Nickel & Co..... 26½	Sales.
Helm Bros. 42½	Sellers.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 23RD, 1903.

DEATHS.

At Hongkong, on April 23rd, 1903, JEHANJEE PESTONJEE KRASS, late of Yokohama.

On the 19th inst., at 249-B Bluff, KATHLEEN MARY LOUISE, eldest and dearly loved daughter of P. E. Fred and Georgina Stone, in her sixteenth year.

On the 21st May, at No. 37 Bluff, Yokohama, SIMON STRAUSS.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. MATSUDA, mayor of Tokyo, tendered his resignation on May 16th.

THE steamer *Omi Maru* arrived at Ujina on May 20th from Korea bringing 533 returning troops.

THREE men were arrested on May 20th in Sendai on suspicion of having counterfeited *sen* 50 coins.

A LOCOMOTIVE on the Sobu Railway overturned on May 20th near the Kinshibori station, Tokyo. No one was hurt.

A YOUNG man about 19 years old was killed at 3 p.m. on May 13th on the railway near the village of Kugenuma.

A MAN named M. Abe (26) living in the enclosure of the dwelling of Baron Abe, committed suicide on May 18th by cutting himself with a dagger. Insanity is reported to be the cause.

A TELEGRAM from Sendai states that an incendiary named M. Obara was executed on May 18th.

IT is stated that the Crown Prince and Princess will leave Tokyo on May 26th or 27th to pay a visit to the Osaka Exhibition.

A CASE of cholera was discovered on May 15th at Takamatsu in Kagawa prefecture. The victim was a man who died the same day.

THE strikers at the Mitsubishi Dockyard have all returned to their work, but their claim for an increase of wages has been rejected.

IT is officially reported that the training ships *Matsushima*, *Hashidate*, and *Itsukushima* left Adelaide on May 13th for Melbourne.

THE construction of the electric tramway between Shinanocho and Hirowo in Tokyo will be commenced about the beginning of July.

THE Empress-Dowager of China, it is said, has invited the foreign ladies to bring their cameras to her next reception and use them freely.

ON the morning of May 17th a gale prevailed in the locality of Kamitsuga, Tochigi prefecture, causing damage to telephone lines and farms.

OWING to the high seas a junk sank at Moji on May 19th and seven coolies who were going on board the steamer *Bombay Maru* were drowned.

IT is stated that the Yokohama City Office will shortly issue orders for the killing of ownerless dogs. It is about time such a step was taken.

THE steamer *11th Kannon Maru* went ashore on May 19th near Shimonoseki but floated the same night. She left for Kobe on the morning of the 20th.

THE importation of Japanese skilled workmen for the manufacture of vitrified ornamental bricks and porcelain has been permitted by the collector of Customs at Manila.

THE mother of Commander Kawashima, living in Shiba, Tokyo, committed suicide on May 20th by drowning herself in a well. The cause is given as insanity.

THE standing committee of the Osaka Sugar Guild held a conference on May 15th and decided to oppose the intention of Government to increase the tax on sugar.

A TELEGRAM under date of May 15th from Shanghai states that owing to the rumours of war, the cotton yarn market is very dull, and no transactions are taking place.

IWA (39), wife of a coolie living at Negishi, Yokohama, committed suicide on May 13th by throwing herself into a well near by. Poverty is said to be the cause.

THE Yokohama Stock and Rice Exchange held an extraordinary general meeting on May 18th when it was decided to appropriate *yen* 15,000 from capital for the purpose of liquidating losses.

IN the Hokoku Coal Mine in Fukushima Prefecture, gas exploded on May 18th and four persons were injured The same day, the Sugamuda Mine was flooded and seven persons are missing.

MR. G. F. NASCH, who is alleged to have embezzled a cheque of *yen* 1,000 while in the employ of the New York Life Insurance Company, Yokohama, was arrested on May 14th or 15th by the Mumegatani police in Nagasaki. The *Boyeki* states that he will probably arrive in Yokohama from Nagasaki on the 21st.

A SEVERE storm prevailed at Nagasaki on May 18th and some junks were sunk. The steamer *Kobe Maru* which arrived from Shanghai early on the morning of that day was unable to enter the port.

OWING to the unfavourable weather, the wheat crop is expected to be scanty throughout the Empire. Especially in parts of Kyushu the crop is anticipated to be very poor compared with last year.

THE London correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* telegraphs that it is announced that Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales will visit India next cold season, unless anything unforeseen occurs.

THE death is announced in London of Mr. Montague Levy, managing director of the firm of Singleton, Benda & Co., Ltd. Mr. Levy spent some years in Yokohama and his death will cause regret to many friends still resident here.

THE Emperor on May 19th presented the decoration of the Grand Cordon of the Chrysanthemum to Princes Rupprecht and George and the Order of the Crown of the first class to Princess Rupprecht.

IN connection with the pest, Mr. Sufu, Governor of this prefecture, has issued a notification that old cotton, old rags, old leather and fur and such articles shall not be moved from Tobe-machi, Nishi-Tobe-machi, and Ise-cho without permission of the police authorities.

A TELEGRAM dated May 16th from Nagasaki to the *Jiji* states that the British steamer *Pembrokeshire* has run ashore on the Saddles, near Woosung. The paper does not give details. The *Pembrokeshire* left Yokohama on April 26th for New York via ports.

THE *Nichi Nichi* reports that a wealthy farmer named T. Kikuchi, 97 years old, living in the village of Miyakawa, Kuji-gori in Ibaraki Prefecture, has married a woman 73 years of age. It is added that the family of the farmer includes many sons and grandsons.

ACCORDING to the *Neue Freie Presse*, there is a project on foot for the formation of an Austro-Chinese Bank, either at Tientsin or Pekin, with a capital of twenty-four million kronen (one million pounds), to which the Austrian Government will contribute either directly or by a guarantee of interest for a number of years.

THREE fishermen of Honmoku who on May 17th, under the influence of drink, behaved rudely and insolently to Mr. and Mrs. Surth while the latter passed along the Honmoku road in their carriage and also interfered with Mr. C. Hahn of the Makado Hotel, who was riding on a bicycle, were dealt with at the Bluff Police Station on May 20th, two being sentenced to a fine of one *yen* each and one to six days' detention.

MESSRS. JOHN I. THORNYCROFT and Co. (Limited), of Chiswick, have received an order from the Japanese Government for the construction of a shallow-draught river gunboat, of the same type as the *Woodcock* and *Woodlark*, and the *Argus* and *Vigilante*, built by this company for the British and French Governments. The vessel, which is intended for use in China, is to be fitted with Thornycroft screw-turbine propellers, and Thornycroft-Schulz boilers, and will have a speed of 15 miles an hour when fully loaded at a draught of 2ft.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, May 16.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondence says that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in that city has circulated among his colleagues a copy of Admiral Alexieff's notification about the withdrawal of Russia's forces. This is a perplexing bit of news. The notification in question is, we presume, the one issued by Admiral Alexieff at Port Arthur on the 26th of April; a notification which has since been shown to be not worth the paper it was transcribed on. With what conceivable object can such a document have been now officially circulated in Peking? Even as a part of the dust-throwing manœuvres attributed to Russia the feat would be too clumsy to be credible.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes a remarkably pacific article about the Manchurian question. Its main line of argument is that Russian officials at the front have exceeded their instructions, and that they have not the warrant of the home Government for their actions. Such an interpretation of the situation must be inferred from the emphatic assurances given by St. Petersburg to the Cabinets of London and Washington, in the sense that Russia is resolved to faithfully implement her treaty engagements, and that the apparent failure to withdraw her troops is merely a question of delay not an indication of permanent purpose. It is inconceivable that such declarations would have been officially made by Russia if she harboured any sinister designs. As to her purchases of food-stuffs and coal, as well as her collection of warlike material, the *Nichi Nichi* sees nothing therein that is not perfectly normal, nor anything suggesting belligerent intention. The truth is that, so far from contemplating war, Russia is embarrassed by the paucity of her forces, and finds herself obliged to recruit her ranks with Manchurian free-booters. A great deal of excitement has been caused by the apparent activity of her troops within the past month, but the Tokyo journal attributes that solely to imminence of the periodical grand muster for purposes of inspection and roll-calling. If Russia attempts to close Manchuria or to encroach upon Korea, Japan must take steps to defend her interests, but she should be careful not to allow herself to be betrayed into a mood of dangerous excitement by events that have no really serious significance.

A very different tone pervades an article simultaneously published by the *Asahi Shimbun*. After noting the unexpectedly resolute attitude assumed by the United States and conjecturing that Russia must have been considerably surprised thereby, the *Asahi* briefly reviews recent diplomatic procedure, and notes that the St. Petersburg Government has now given renewed assurances of good faith to England and America. But these assurances can not be credited. Nothing whatever is being done to give practical effect to them. Not a soldier is being removed from Manchuria, and in the same breath with which she professes her ingenuous purposes, Russia prefers new demands in Peking. Her conduct admits of only two interpretations. Either she is seeking by diplomatic manœuvres to substitute another treaty for the convention she pretends to be bent on carrying out, or she is completing her arrangements to obtain military possession of Manchuria. Evidently she is bent upon establishing a great empire in the Far East, upon overthrowing China's sovereignty in Manchuria, and of gradually encroaching upon Korea's sovereignty. (*Zanshoku* is the expression used by the *Asahi*. It conveys the idea of a silk-worm eating into a mulberry leaf).

Monday, May 18.

A few days ago it was announced that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking had adroitly professed to read the Chinese reply to the Seven Demands as a consent, and that the Chinese, much perturbed by such a rendering, had hastened to formulate their dissent from each condition seriatim. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent now relates that this curious game of cross-purposes is still going on. The Chinese replied verbally, first, that they have no intention of alienating Manchuria; secondly, that they do not propose to reconstruct the administrative system of Mongolia; thirdly, that there is at present no idea of opening any part of Manchuria outside Newchwang; fourthly, that no objection is entertained to Russia's control of the telegraph from Port Arthur to Mukden; and, fifthly, that the customs dues may be paid through the Russo-Chinese Bank. The Russian demands having been couched in such a form that negative answers sufficed for the most important of them, these replies are now professedly regarded as satisfactory, but it is obvious that if occasion arose, Russia would construe them as positive pledges. Our contemporary's correspondent adds that according to the view of foreigners in Peking, there remains no way of getting Russia out of Manchuria except by an appeal to the *ultima ratio*.

The *Asahi's* Tientsin correspondent confirms the recent rumour that the Taotai of Ying-kow was stopped by Russian soldiers when he attempted to enter Newchwang, and that there is now no immediate prospect of the restoration of the civil government to China. The Taotai is reported to have set out for Kinchow (near Shan-hai-kwan) on the 11th inst., and it is believed to be his intention to proceed to Peking. The correspondent adds that although the Russian garrison in Newchwang does not exceed a hundred men, troops from Tien-chwang-tai and Newkia-tong constantly parade the streets, apparently by way of demonstration.

The Military Attaché of the United States Legation in Peking is made responsible by the *Niroku Shimpo* for the following numerical statement of the Russian forces in Shingking and Kirin:—

SHINGKING.

Mukden	500	Fenghwang-ching.	7,000
Tehling	6,010	Kiulien-ching	10,000
Liaoyang	1,000	Yingkow	200
		Kaiping	200

KIRIN.

Kirin.....	12,000	Petona (?)	5,000
Mangchun	6,000	Harbin	3,500
Ningtau	23,000	Elsewhere	10,000

This makes a total of 116,000 of all arms.

The same newspaper alleges that the resignation of Prince Ching, being very earnestly presented, will probably be accepted, and that the Court has privately decided to appoint the ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung as special commissioner to negotiate with Russia. Should Chang decline to accept the responsibility alone, it is probable that Prince Ching will be associated with him, there being thus two heads of the Foreign Department.

A telegram (*Asahi*) from Peking, dated the 16th instant, confirms the view always taken in these columns about General Tung Fuh-hsiang and his supposed fellow-conspirator, Prince Tang. A missionary, whose transliterated name we can not identify, has just sent to Peking a letter from Mongolia dated April 13th. He reports that Tung is living in a small fortress erected by himself; that he is without military supplies; that he has under him only a scanty number of soldiers, and that his whole attention seems to be devoted to guarding his own person against seizure and punishment. It is amusing to contrast these statements with the alarmist rumours circulated a few months ago; rumours indicating that Tung had a large army under his orders, and that he and Prince Tang were placing themselves at the head of an insurrection which would shake the Chinese throne. These stories were busily circulated in America, where many journals produced and re-produced them with apparent credence.

Tuesday, May 19.

The *Asahi's* Tientsin correspondent telegraphs that the Russian authorities strictly interdict all ingress of foreigners at each of the two islands near the entrance to Talien Bay. Rumour of course assumes that fort building is the cause, but some say that the segregation of the islands is due to their having been chosen as sites for contagious diseases' hospitals.

It continues to be stated that the Russians at Mukden are employing Manchurian free-booters as soldiers. The men are duly examined, and if found physically qualified, are furnished with horses and arms. It may be that Russia intends to employ these troops as railway and telegraph guards. That would be a very intelligible policy, and it suggests the further hypothesis that she is deferring the withdrawal of her own troops until a sufficient number of local levies are available to take their place. But if that be her purpose, she should have set about its consummation at an earlier date.

A Russian officer in Tientsin, reported by the same authority, is represented as saying what must have struck every one already, namely, that the provisions and coal purchased recently in large quantities by the Russian Authorities in the Far East, are required on account of the increase of the naval squadron which lately took place, and should not excite any surprise or suspicion.

The *Niroku Shimbun* continues its publication of secret archives. Its latest revelation is the contents of a secret telegram from the Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg to Peking, representing that the Russian Government is pressing him to conclude some arrangement about Manchuria irrespective of the views of other Powers, and that although he has pleaded his non-possession of plenipotentiary authority, the pressure still continues.

His Excellency Chang Chih-tung was to be received in audience by the Emperor and Empress on the 18th instant, and the expectation in Peking seems to have been that he would then declare his view about current questions, especially the Manchurian problem, after which the Court's decision would be formed as to his appointment in the capacity of chief Minister of Foreign Affairs.

It is reported that the Russian authorities have enrolled 800 Chinese in the Liaotung district, have caused them to cut off their queues, and have sent 300 in the direction of the Yalu while 500 are to be stationed as guards along the railway. The Wei-hai-wei regiment of Chinese proved such a fine corps that we can not be at all surprised at the employment of Chinese by the Russians in a military capacity.

There arrived at Moji on the 14th instant a Mr. Sung, who is represented as the Governor of Mukden and the Vice-chief of

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the Foreign Affairs Bureau in that city. He is accompanied by a suite of six persons and the goal of his visit is said to be the Osaka Exhibition. Interviewed by a representative of the *Chiuo Shimbun*, Mr. Sung said much about Manchuria, the gist of it being that Russia evidently aims at getting permanent possession of Manchuria and the mouth of the Yalu. On the one hand her subjects are coming in numbers to settle in the vacant lands along the railway route; and on the other she is making all kinds of military preparations and demonstrations. It is interesting that Mr. Sung attributes the direction of the latter part of the programme to three Russian officers whose local activity is conspicuous. He gives their names, but they are transmitted by means of Chinese ideographs, and as these have passed through Japanese hands, the pronunciation they should receive in Tokyo is an inscrutable conundrum. However, the main point of the matter is plain enough, namely, that Mr. Sung ascribes much of the menacing state of affairs to the man at the front, which is just what many observers have been disposed to suspect. He also speaks in a despairing tone of China's ability to stem the wave of aggression. Not, of course, that he declares her impotence in direct language. His method is to say that unless the Powers intervene, the situation must be considered hopeless. Sung's visit to Japan is said to have been strongly opposed by the Russian authorities in Mukden, and several attempts were made to stop him, but he persisted. It is hinted that he received active assistance from Mr. Segawa, the Japanese Consul in Newchwang. The *Chiuo* adds that in Newchwang Mr. Sung, who is sometimes described by our contemporary as a *Taotai* and sometimes as a governor, was arrested and roughly treated by Russian soldiers. Ultimately he obtained his release and embarked in the *Tategami Maru*.

Rumours are received about incursions of French troops across the Kwang-si border. The *Asahi's* Peking correspondent says that Wang Wi-chang, who appears to be superintendent of education in Kwang-si, has telegraphed to Peking in the sense that, having no certain proof about the requisition for the aid of French forces, recently attributed to the Governor of Kwang-si, Wang Chih-chung, he refrained from making any report to Peking, but that he can no longer keep silence in the presence of definite news that French troops have actually crossed the border. It is farther alleged by the same correspondent that the Viceroy of the two Kwang has wired to Peking intelligence of the inroad of two thousand French soldiers. The persistence of these rumours is remarkable. It is not absolutely impossible that France may be lending some indirect assistance of that kind to Russia's procedure in Manchuria. No other way of giving practical value to the alliance seems available just at present. But very unequivocal evidence will be required to convince the public of anything of the kind.

Financial affairs in Tientsin seem to be assuming a brighter complexion. The Governor has been appointed chairman of a committee consisting of the prominent citizens, and by these the foreign banks have been induced to resume transactions. It is further stated that Viceroy Yuan applied for a loan of 4 million taels from the Treasury in Peking, but that Lu Tien-ling opposed the application. There is a likelihood, however, that a million may be lent.

This mine appears likely to be unsuccessful, for the present at all events. It is in Anhui, and a Japanese capitalist, Mr. Dogura, undertook last year to prosecute trial diggings and make surveys, in conjunction with Sheng Kung-pao, who owns a large area of land in the district. The experiments are reported to have shown that there is abundance of coal and that its quality is good. But the seams are so uneven and so extremely irregular in their depth that the extraction of the coal becomes expensive and difficult. If railway communication were available, the enterprise could certainly be made profitable, but unless the mineral were obtainable at cheaper rates its transport from a region so lacking in means of transport must be prohibitively expensive. Mr. Dogura is believed to have sunk a large sum upon the work, and he has now, it is said, definitely announced to Sheng Kung-pao that operations must be temporarily suspended.

Wednesday, May 20.

It is stated by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent that although all the high Chinese officials are virtually unanimous in advocating the appointment of ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to be chief Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, in conjunction with or independently of Prince Ching, the British Chargé d'Affaires has presented a note to the effect that, it being of the greatest importance to the security of British life and property that peace should be preserved in the Yangtse Valley, and Chang being eminently fitted to accomplish that end, it would be very desirable in foreign and in Chinese interests alike that he should return to his former viceroyalty. Chang himself is understood to desire that result, and from the tone of the telegram it may be inferred that such will be the ultimate issue of his visit to Peking. In the *Kokumin's* correspondence it is stated that the responsible officials in the Chinese capital are urging Chang to remain there until the Manchurian problem is finally solved. But if the ex-Viceroy agrees to that, his sojourn in Peking may be protracted for a very long time.

General Tso, commander-in-chief in Manchuria, is reported by the *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent to have wired to Peking the receipt of a message from the Russian authorities, presumably at Port Arthur, in the sense that unless the Chinese Government conceded Russia's two demands, namely, that with regard to a line of telegraph from Port Arthur to Mukden and that with regard to the payment of the Newchwang customs dues into the Russo-Chinese Bank, Russia had resolved to take final measures as dictated by the situation.

The Chinese Government, according to the *Asahi's* correspondent, has been greatly perturbed by receipt of news that French troops have crossed into Kwang-si. There is a disposition to suspect that this may be a movement intended to act as a kind of diversion in Russian interests. But the same correspondent also wires that the French Consul in Kwang-si—a somewhat wide designation—, having addressed to his country's Legation in Peking a request that French troops be sent to act as guards, the requisition was rejected by M. Dubail. We find the greatest difficulty in placing any credit in these rumours of French military activity. So long as M. Delcassé is Minister of Foreign Affairs and so long as M. Dubail represents France in Peking, a policy of self-contained sobriety may be expected to be dictated from the French capital and pursued with the utmost intelligence and good judgment in the Chinese. It is incredible that the France of present times should engage in any military adventure of the kind now rumoured, especially since, if Russia's public declarations be accepted, a French demonstration in the south of China would be not only unnecessary but also incongruous.

Thursday, May 21.

It is stated from Peking (*Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent) that the increase of Russian soldiers at forts near the mouth of the Liao River is owing to the necessity of effecting repairs of the dwellings attached to the forts.

The same authority says that a convention relating to mail matter and parcels post has just been concluded between Sir Robert Hart and Mr. Uchida, Japanese Representative in Peking.

There is no other news from China or Manchuria this morning, a welcome respite which perhaps preludes a calmer state of public opinion.

Friday, May 22.

It is affirmed by the *Asahi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent that owing to Russia's opposition no further opening of Manchuria to foreign trade can be made the subject of treaty negotiations. In connexion with this we find a telegram from the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent to the effect that Mr. Conger has asked the Government in Washington to formulate some protest in St. Petersburg against the determined opposition that the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking is offering to the opening of Manchuria. If these reports be accurate they indicate two things, namely, that Russia is adhering to her obstructive policy and that China is either yielding, in one important respect, or is adroitly seeking to transfer the responsibilities of the situation to other shoulders. Evidently if official recognition be extended to any Russian claim of this nature, it will be folly to talk of China retaining sovereign power in Manchuria. She can not submit, on the one hand; to be dictated to by the Russian Government as to whether any part of Manchuria may or may not be opened, and she can not pretend, on the other, to be still the ruler of Manchuria. It is further very improbable that the United States, having explicitly included the opening of Takushan and Mukden in its proposals for treaty revision, will consent to abandon the idea because Russia refuses to allow China to be liberal. Russia has no exclusive right whatever in such a matter. We are bound to assume that, unless these correspondents be altogether wrongly informed, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in Peking is again exceeding his instructions, for according to explicit declarations recently made by the St. Petersburg Government to the Cabinets in London and Washington, Russia has no intention of taking any measures for the continued closure of Manchuria. The Chargé d'Affaires appears to be a pronounced type of "the man at the front" and it certainly is very unfortunate for the cause of peace that his country should be obliged to maintain such a representative in Peking, or that he has not sufficient tact to prevent the circulation of such false rumours about his action, supposing them to be false.

It is now stated (*Asahi Shimbun*) that modifications must be made in the recently circulated story as to the favourable construction put by the Russian Chargé d'Affaires on China's verbal replies to Russia's demands. The Chinese Foreign Office did not reply verbally. Its answer was in writing, and took, or

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was intended to take, the form of an explicit refusal. But such care was exercised by the drafters to avoid giving any offense to Russia that the refusal lost all appearance of directness, and left some ground for a clever interpreter to twist it to purposes not contemplated by the scribes. There was, in fact, an excess of politeness.

The manager of the American South Manchurian Trading Company is represented as saying that commercial transactions hitherto conducted by United States' citizens have been largely diverted to Russian hands since Manchuria fell under the sway of the great Northern Power. He instances the import of cotton as a case in point, and alleges that 8 millions (?) of bales which would have been imported by his country's merchants, have been imported entirely by Russians. He adds that if Russian sway continues as at present, American traders will soon have to abandon their business in Manchuria altogether, which would be a great misfortune as the outlook was formerly very promising.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent reports a conversation that he professes to have held with the British Chargé d'Affaires in that city. He makes the latter deny all validity to China's refusal of Russia's demands. The refusal was worth nothing, and it is not to be credited that Russia has withdrawn her demands. She will persist in pressing them to fulfillment. Nothing short of most resolute assistance lent by Japan to the Chinese Government at this juncture, can maintain the former's political influence in Peking.

It is stated (*Kokumin Shimbun's* Peking correspondence) that Chang Chih-tung has commented to the Throne in the severest terms on the arbitrary and over-bearing conduct of Russia, and has further communicated his views by telegraph to the Chinese Representatives in the various capitals of the Treaty Powers.

M. Lessar's return to Peking is anticipated at the close of this month, and a new phase of the Manchurian question is expected to be opened on his arrival.

The French Legation in Peking is reported to have vigorously denied the rumour of French troops having crossed the border into Kwangsi, but the *Asahi's* correspondent says that the denial does not carry complete conviction to the minds of foreign diplomatists in Peking. Moreover, the story is repeated in the form of a telegram alleged to have been addressed by the Viceroy of the Two Kwang to the Foreign Office in Peking. The telegram affirms that two thousand men have crossed the border, and asks that diplomatic representations be made to France on the subject. We can only repeat our incredulity about these statements.

The Chinese residents of Hongkong are reported to have sent a telegraphic memorial to the Foreign Office in Peking impeaching the Governor of Kwangsi for soliciting French military assistance, and urging that he be deprived of office and subjected to searching inquiry.

We learn from the *Asahi* that the new postal convention just concluded in Peking between Japan and China provides for the conveyance of Japanese mail matter to every part of the Chinese dominions, and *vice versâ*, without any additional charge. On the other hand, parcels sent by post which have hitherto passed into and out of China without paying duty, will hereafter be saddled with that obligation. What is involved exactly in the latter condition will not be known until the details are published. The Convention is to become operative two months from the date of its signature.

THE KWANGSI FAMINE.

Mr. C. Clementi, who, as we noted a few days ago, was sent by Sir Henry Blake to report on the famine in Kwangsi, sends the following concise note at the end of his detailed account of the distress which he witnessed :—

The number of starving people in the Famine District of Kweiping is as follows :—

People who want relief within the city and in the suburbs number 2,644.

The number of starving people who daily go to the Protestant Church for food is about 3,500.

The following is the approximate number of people in various districts at present requiring relief :—

1.—In Wingwoli, on the West and South banks, about 14,000.

2.—In Upper and Lower Shungkeungli, about 13,600.

3.—In Kwanlingli, about 14,500.

4.—In Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Haulukli, about 2,400.

5.—In Sheungtoli, near the river banks, about 18,000.

6.—In Sheungshauli, about 10,700.

7.—In Sunyatli, near the river banks, about 9,000.

8.—In Kutyeeli, near the river banks, about 12,000.

9.—In Chungshanli, about 14,000.

10.—In Chiuli, near the river banks, about 8,000.

11.—In Poli, about 5,000.

This gives a total of 150,000 people in a state of starvation in the various districts around Kweiping. In other places where the famine is not of so serious a nature ri is procurable at low rates.

THE LEASE CASE IN KOBE.

We observe that both the Kobe journals comment on the case recently decided with regard to a lease. One newspaper, as quoted in the columns of a Yokohama contemporary, writes in a tone of extreme rancour, which, *more suo*, it attempts to conceal under a cloak of public duty; the other discusses the matter without any sign of partiality, but nevertheless the conclusions reached by both are the same. It is difficult, indeed, to conceive how any other judgment could be formed, for the case was an attempt on the part of a tenant to prove his landlord's title invalid, in other words, to prove that he himself had no right to be a lessee; for assuredly if the title under which a lease is granted be worthless tenure under the lease must be illegal. That is so obvious that we doubt whether any reputable barrister in Europe and America could be found to take up such a case, or any duly constituted court be induced to hear it. There is, however, one curious feature of our contemporaries' comments. They agree in declaring themselves unable to discover any reasonable explanation of the lessee's action. Yet is it not possible, nay even probable, that he regarded himself as the victim of unfair discrimination; that he considered himself as good a tenant as any one else, and that he saw no reason for his eviction? Apparently the thing in ultimate dispute was merely money, and if the tenant, though willing to satisfy the landlord's desires in that respect, could not obtain an extension of his tenure, he may have resorted deliberately to the device of putting every available obstacle in the path of his landlord. He was wrong in his methods, but as to his procedure being inexplicable, we can not agree.

KOREA.

Saturday, May 16.

Mr. Waeber, the Russian Representative in Seoul, is to leave on the 16th instant. He had been received in farewell audience by the Emperor of Korea on the 13th instant.

Monday, May 18.

A telegram from the local authorities at Wiju to the Foreign Office in Seoul is said to have reported that although the felling of timber at Peng-ma seemed to have ceased, the Russians who were endeavouring to acquire land and houses in Yong-chhyong had not left that place and still shewed signs of seeking to settle there. To this the Foreign Office is supposed to have replied that the presence of Russian subjects at Yong-chhyong was in itself contrary to the treaty, and that their acquisition of land or houses would be altogether illegal. They were therefore to be admonished against remaining.

It is alleged on the authority of the *Niroku's* Seoul correspondent that M. Pablov has again approached the Korean Government with a request that the concession for a Seoul-Wiju Railway be granted. His conditions are said to be that only Russian and Korean subjects shall be shareholders; that the concession shall be for 50 years; and that the construction period shall be 7 years, with liberty of extension It will be observed that the source of this rumour is questionable. The cost is calculated at 120 or 130 million *yen*.

Thursday, May 21.

Rumour continues to find material in the story of Yong Am-pho. It appears from several of the Tokyo papers that on the 18th inst. there arrived in Seoul a trustworthy person who, having been despatched to Wiju to conduct investigations, completed his mission and left that place on the 8th instant. His report is that there are 60 Russians, 40 Chinese and 80 Koreans in Yong Am-pho. The Russians are said to be soldiers. When they left Antung they wore uniform, but they exchanged it for plain clothes at an island midway in the Yalu. The Chinese are ex-freebooters now in Russian employ and having the Russian flag embroidered on their surcoats. It would seem that the party have with them two Korean subjects, by name Kim and Pak, acting in the capacity of interpreters, and that these men's names have been used to purchase land and houses. Yong Am-pho is a squalid hamlet consisting of only 15 dwellings, 10 of which, together with 15 *cho* (37½ acres) of land the Russians have acquired through the assistance of their Korean employees. No works of construction have actually been commenced as yet, but a certain quantity of timber and bricks has been collected. At first the appearance of the Russians created alarm, their presence being regarded as the forerunner of warlike preparations, but it is now supposed that they merely aim at establishing a station which shall be useful in connexion with their lumber operations. In spite of the originally received news which suggested that the timber-felling privileges acquired by a Russian syndicate had not yet been practically utilized, it is now alleged, in confirmation of the most recent rumours, that as many as ten thousand rafts of timber are floated down the Yalu daily, a figure which can scarcely be swallowed whole. At all events, whatever be the dimensions of the lumber business—and all accounts agree that the forests along the Yalu are of great value

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—the immediate object of the Russians is apparently to establish at Yong Am-pho a station where the timber can be floated in and collected for shipment. But as has been already pointed out in these columns the possession of such a station, as well as of Taku-shan and Kiu-lien-ching, would confer on Russia complete command of the mouth of the Yalu, and if she commands the mouth she might be said to command the whole river. There are indeed suggestions that she aims at establishing for herself a sphere of influence along the Yalu as effective as that possessed by England in the Valley of the Yangtse. We do not suppose—assuming the truth of this story's main outlines—that Yong Am-pho figures at all in the calculations of St. Petersburg statesmen. They probably know as little about it as the general public did a few days ago. What is happening there may be presumed to be the work of the man at the front, and a very clever man he is. Were he an Englishman we should applaud his courageous enterprise, and although he is a Russian we can not be so partial as to deny him some mead of praise. The only thing to be said is that the time is perhaps a little too much advanced for the complete success of such essays. This Yong Am-pho manœuvre, conducted with the cō-operation of Korean subjects and therefore in some respects difficult for the Seoul Government to handle, has one fatally weak spot, namely, that the Russians and the Chinese locally engaged in it are deliberately trespassing on Korean territory. They have no right to be at Yong Am-pho, and it will be strange if Korea is suffered to allow them to remain. The incident itself may not, and probably will not, lead to any immediate trouble of a serious nature, but it illustrates the disquieting contingencies of the situation in Manchuria. This irrepressible Russian growth must involve trespasses.

NAVAL INCREMENT.

All the statements hitherto made about the appropriations for the Third Scheme of Naval Increment have been perplexing in one respect, namely, that while they showed appropriations aggregating 115 million *yen*, the projected outlays did not exceed 100 millions. The same feature marks the epitomes now published of the bill actually submitted to the House. The appropriations are said to be as follows:—

In the fiscal year 1904-5	10,250,000
Yearly from 1905 to 1914	11,500,000
In the fiscal year 1914-15	1,250,000

These sums make a total of 115 million *yen*. But the outlays on account of material, building, armaments, &c., are as follow:

Ship-building	60,352,660	
Machinery	1,048,760	62,348,269
Superintendence	946,849	
Armaments	27,746,375	
Machines	538,760	29,001,313
Superintendence	716,177	
Constructions at Yokosuka Dock	758,903	
Constructions at Kure Dock	1,596,971	
Constructions at Saseho Dock	4,197,867	8,510,722
Constructions at Maizuru Dock	1,702,051	
Initial Outlays	100,000	
Workshops	154,930	
Grand Total		99,860,304

This leaves a sum of 15,139,696 *yen*, which we understand to be the outlay on account of increased personnel and running expenses.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Thursday, May 21.

Among the 63 members of the Budget Committee, 40 belong to the *Seiyu-kai*. Of these 40 the eight most prominent representatives, having been entrusted with the duty of drawing up a general basis for the guidance of the Committee, or rather of its *Seiyu-kai* section, came to the following resolutions after the House of Representatives had risen on the 16th instant:—

First, that with the exception of outlays which, being matters of urgency, can not be postponed until next year, all financial measures for the current year must be in accord with last year's Budget.

Secondly, that all Supplementary Budgets shall be compared with those for last year, and any excess shown by the former must be cut down.

Thirdly, that the proposal for abolishing the system of exact annual allotments in the case of continuing expenditures, shall be negatived.

Fourthly, that all the continuing expenditures for the current year shall be in accord with the figures already determined.

Fifthly, that all the outlays for the current year shall be out of ordinary revenue.

From these resolutions we infer that the Budget Committee will amend the Supplementary Budgets in a drastic manner, and that, in effect, the only new expenditures sanctioned by it will be those on account of naval increment—or, to adopt the new official phrase, naval maintenance.

The Progressists held a convivial meeting after the rising of the House on the 16th instant. It was announced that every one present should be free to express his individual views about questions of current politics. This led to the delivery of many speeches, but as the meeting was held with closed doors no detailed report is available. It would seem, however, that the decision finally adopted was that the Party, while not unwilling to walk hand in hand with the *Seiyu-kai* so long as the two routes coincided, would not make any sacrifice of policy for the sake of such association, but would, on the contrary, hold the Government strictly responsible for everything in the past, and would seize any opportunity to present an address of impeachment.

Monday, May 18.

An impression seems to prevail in Tokyo journalistic circles that the Government's relations with the Diet have been unexpectedly unfortunate up to the present. The chief blame appears to be laid on the shoulders of Baron Sone, who certainly has the infelicity of getting on the Diet's nerves whenever he is required to answer questions about important topics. It may truly be pleaded that the heckling a Minister of State has to undergo at the hands of hostile members when he appears before the House to explain a bill at its first reading, or before a committee to expound the details of any measure, is sufficient to exhaust the patience of an ordinary individual. In the present session the aim of the Progressists is to destroy the somewhat frail *entente* understood to exist between the Ministry and the *Seiyu-kai*, and in pursuance of that object some of the most implacable of the Party's members have succeeded in making things very hot, and in producing an atmosphere of sentiment where calm reason alone should prevail. But that was precisely what might have been expected. Such of the Government's members as would be required to answer questions in the early stages, should have foreseen beyond all doubt that the weak spot in the Cabinet's armour was the reintroduction of the Land Tax Bill in the face of their generally credited resolve not to press it. To outsiders no other course suggests itself as feasible. It was the Cabinet's duty to take the sense of the country as expressed by the House. During that process, however, the members of the Cabinet and the Government Delegates should have studiously avoided giving an opportunity to the Opposition to re-kindle feelings which had been with difficulty cooled. They have not been altogether successful in manipulating the situation, and the want of success is attributed chiefly to Baron Sone, who, instead of frankly declaring that the Cabinet, deeming the Land Tax Bill to be the best available measure, were unwilling to take the responsibility of not submitting it, but, in the event of its rejection, would feel it their duty to devise other means of meeting the State's necessities, curtly insisted on the essential character of the Bill and maintained his insistent attitude up to the moment of the Special Committee's decision. Possibly the Bill may still be withdrawn before the House comes to vote on it, but the idea is that the most graceful and conciliatory course would have been to withdraw it before it reached its last stage in committee. Unless it be withdrawn prior to the House's assembly, there will have to be another prorogation, which, it is thought, might have been avoided as being a step sure to provoke resentment in some quarters. It is certainly a crisis demanding very delicate steering, but as neither the Ministry nor the *Seiyu-kai* entertain any resolve to precipitate a fatal collision, we may assume that some pacific exit will be found. Evidently the Supplementary Budgets are doomed to suffer more or less.

The Industrial and Commercial Economical Society, which is headed by men like Baron Kaneko and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, is to hold a general meeting to-day (21st) for the purpose of passing a memorial to the Government. The members of the Society assert that they welcomed as sound finance the policy adopted some years ago by the Government, namely, the policy of paying for unproductive enterprises with the proceeds of general taxation instead of having recourse to loans. The loan system, they say, diverts the floating capital of the country from the wealth-making channels of trade and manufacture, and they strongly denounce the idea of returning to such a system just as a period of security and vigour seems to be commencing in economic circles. The Osaka Chamber of Commerce has decided to present a memorial in the same sense to the Ministry and the Diet. The Cabinet may consequently find itself embarrassed in substituting the loan system for the land tax.

Friday, May 22.

Up to the 19th instant the general public believed that no doubt need be entertained as to an ultimate agreement between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai*. But on that day a new situation was suddenly created by the action of the 35 members of the House of Representatives who had been nominated as a Special Committee to consider the Land Tax Bill. The Ministry evidently expected that the Committee would devote some time to the discussion of the measure, and would not only treat it with some degree of respect, but would also afford an opportunity for its plausible withdrawal. But in spite of Baron Sone's request that even half a day's delay should be made, the Committee proceeded forthwith to reject the Bill, not making the slightest attempt to cloak their attitude of masterful contempt. Whether they were betrayed into that course

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by some offensive element in Baron Sone's demeanour, or whether, while outwardly professing placable intentions, they really sought to create an *impasse*, there can be no doubt that they adopted a course calculated to greatly impede a peaceful exit. That evening the Prime Minister and Baron Sone waited on Marquis Ito, who is said to have expressed sympathy with their embarrassment, and to have promised that the standing Committee of the *Seiyu-kai*, Messrs. Matsuda, Hara and Ozaki, should wait on the Premier the following day. Accordingly on the 20th at 2½ p.m., these three politicians proceeded to Count Katsura's official residence, where they were received by the Premier and the Minister of State for Finance. What character the conference assumed we do not yet know, but at half past four the other members of the Cabinet were summoned by telephone. They remained in the upper storey of the official residence until half past five, when the conference down stairs came to an end—what end remains to be seen—and Count Katsura made a report to his colleagues. That night the three members of the Standing Committee visited Marquis Ito and submitted the facts to him. In the forenoon of the same day the Prime Minister and Baron Sone had waited on the Emperor, and it is supposed that they obtained His Majesty's authority to order a prorogation of the Diet.

Some Tokyo newspapers are inclined to doubt the sincerity of Marquis Ito's desire for an *entente*. They compare him to Iyeyasu at the time of the assault on Osaka castle. Iyeyasu ordered that the lives of Hideyori and his mother should be spared, but Ii Honda took care that both should commit suicide, thus effecting the Tokugawa chief's real desire while violating his command. Those that attribute this duplicity to Marquis Ito refer to his statement that his own arrangements for an *entente* were not binding in any sense on his Party in the House. But we need scarcely say that such talk is unworthy of a moment's credence. Marquis Ito is perfectly sincere. His whole career shows him to be incapable of such double dealing. If an *entente* proves impossible—which we do not anticipate, in spite of evident apprehensions in many quarters—the inevitable inference will be that a large number of the *Seiyu-kai* have broken away from the control of their leader. Should that happen, and should the seceders go over to the Progressists,—which again can not be predicted as yet—the political situation will have assumed a new and very interesting complexion.

DEATH OF MR. YOSHITAKE.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Yoshitake, Chief Secretary of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which took place on the afternoon of the 19th instant. Mr. Yoshitake had been in bad health for some time, and during about six months prior to the end he has rested completely from work by the advice of his physicians. Some improvement was reported to have taken place, but after luncheon on Tuesday a suffusion of blood on the brain caused almost instantaneous death. The deceased, a very able and zealous official, had been in the service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha from the time of its establishment, having joined it from the Mitsu Bishi S.S. Company. He was only in his forty-sixth year and his demise is widely regretted. The funeral took place on the 21st instant, the interment being in Aoyama Cemetery.

DEATH OF MR. SIMON STRAUSS.

It is with feelings of deep emotion that we chronicle this morning the sudden death on Thursday of Mr. Simon Strauss, head of the firm of Messrs. Strauss & Co. Mr. Strauss had a slight stroke some four months ago, but he seemed to recover from this, though his health was not firmly re-established, and those nearest and dearest to him had no thought that the end was so near. On Wednesday a notable change for the worse took place and early on Thursday another stroke supervened from the effects of which the patient gradually sank, notwithstanding the unremitting care of Dr. Matthiolus.

Simon Strauss was one of Nature's noblemen, and his sudden cutting down by the Grim Reaper in the very prime of man-hood, will come as a deep and painful shock to scores of friends. For to know him was to love him; courteous to one and all; easy of address; a kind and considerate employer; a loyal friend, with a heart ever open and willing to respond generously to every call of charity; a clear-headed man of business, upright and honourable in all the transactions and amenities of life—he leaves behind him a record which will long remain fragrant in the memories of all with whom he came in contact. The world is much the poorer when such a man as Simon Strauss passes away, for few there are who have more unobtrusively borne "the white flower of a blameless life." To his sorrowing relatives here we extend our deepest sympathy in this hour of their affliction.

HIGH WAGES OF AMERICAN WORKMEN.

It is a fact generally known that the American workman receives the highest wages paid in any country in the world. Some statistics recently compiled by the Labour Bureau at Washington give a fair idea of the relative welfare of the British, French, Belgian and American workman from 1870 to 1902. The rate given is the average per day:—

Year.	Britain.	Paris.	Liege.	U.S.
1870.....	$1.30	$1.06	$0.69½	$2.20
1876.....	1.40½	1.12	0.63	2.18
1886.....	1.36	1.25¼	0.63	2.47¼
1896.....	1.49	1.33	0.66¼	2.45¼
1902.....	1.45	1.34	0.65	2.50

These figures were obtained from large centres of population. They show that the American workman receives much higher wages than the workman in either Great Britain, France or Belgium. While the American workman may not able to buy shoes and clothes as cheaply as his British cousin, or live within $20 a month, as can the French workman, his income is so much greater than theirs that he can afford to pay higher living expenses and still save a larger amount of money each month. Official data gathered by the Massachusetts Bureau of Labour show that in Great Britain 90 per cent. of the occupations in which men are engaged pay less than $10 a week, while in the United States this percentage is but 35 per cent. The Labour Bureau's statistics further show that the department-store girls of Chicago average $329 a year, which is more than is earned in a year, even on the basis of three hundred working days a year, by Belgian bricklayers, carpenters, blacksmiths, house painters, teamsters or labourers. The sum is also larger than the amount annually earned by common labourers in Great Britain or France.

"REQUIESCAT IN PACE."

On Tuesday evening there passed from among us one who will long be remembered. Though of tender years, she has left behind her memories of things achieved which made us wonder what the future might have held in store for one so talented. Many of us will look back to the entertainment of which she was the heart and soul, besides being the originator, which she gave in aid of the Church Fund a little more than a year ago, the cleverness and originality of which was a surprise to all. Very pathetic is it, too, to remember that even then as she was winning applause from her audience, across her, all unseen and unknown, fell the shadow of the fatal disease which has taken her from us.

But not for her cleverness alone shall we remember little Kathleen. Her thoughtfulness for others and her kindness of heart were constantly in evidence. One of the last things she did was to send a basket of toys and treasures to a friend asking her to give them to the poor Japanese children in the Mission. And never was she so happy as when she could by any means whatever shew sympathy to the sailors in the Hospitals, by being present, when allowed, at their Service on Sunday afternoon or by gifts of flowers, and once by an entertainment which cost no little time and trouble to prepare.

But she has left us! We cannot but grieve, for the world is not so rich in beautiful lives that we can let one go without a tear. But those who have witnessed the long, weary suffering of the last twelve months would be selfish did they not feel that their loss was her gain and from their hearts pray "Eternal rest grant her, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine on her."

For the sorrowing parents, brothers and sisters our sympathy is indeed heartfelt. Their flower has fallen but only to bloom "in the fields of light above," and this will be their comfort and their strength.

A. B.

THE "REINA CRISTINA."

The ill-fated *Reina Cristina*, which sank in Manila Bay under the fire of Admiral Dewey's squadron on the 1st of May five years ago, is furnishing materials for a romance. Her emergence from the depths of the sea with over eighty corpses on board was a sufficiently striking incident, but it has now to be associated with a disgraceful act of vandalism, namely, the surreptitious removal of about fifteen bones by persons who had been permitted to visit the ship. The *Manila American* writes in terms of great indignation about this outrage. Its strictures are well deserved.

There is also another striking feature about the ship. She is now said to have contained two hundred thousand dollars in gold when she sank. This money had been brought out for the purpose of paying the men of the Spanish navy and army, but the arrival of Dewey's ships interrupted everything, and before the treasure could be removed from the *Reina Cristina*, she was under the American guns. The money had not actually been found at the date of latest advices, but if it is found it will go, our Manila contemporary says, to Mr. C. F. Garry, who had the contract for raising the some-time flagship.

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THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE JAPAN SOCIETY IN TOKYO.

It has now become an established custom for the Tokyo members of the London Japan Society to hold an annual dinner. The original organizer of the movement was Mr. Ogawa, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and during two years he undertook, and discharged with signal success, the onerous and little recognised functions connected with the preliminary preparations. This year, however, absence from Tokyo and pressure of other work prevented Mr. Ogawa from devoting attention to the task, and he relegated the duty to Mr. Zumoto, editor of the *Japan Times*, to whom the thanks of the Tokyo members are due for his zeal and efficiency. In 1901 and 1902 the Tokyo celebration was arranged so as to fall on the same night as the London banquet, but on the present occasion, owing to various circumstances, the date for the former had to be changed to the 18th instant. Of course the Tokyo celebration does not support comparison for a moment with that in London, which has now come to be quite one of the events of the season, attended by hundreds of persons and regarded as a highly fashionable fixture. Nevertheless the Tokyo banquet, which is held in the Imperial Hotel, attracts always from 60 to 70 members and promises to be a permanent institution. This year covers were laid for 65. Mr. Kato Takaaki took the chair, the vice-chair being occupied by Baron d'Anethan, and the guest of the evening was Dr. Elgar, the eminent naval constructor, who served the Japanese Admiralty for 3 years in the early eighties and rendered in connexion with the organizing of the fleet services which are gratefully remembered in Japan.

During the repast the following selections were given by the band :—

1. .....Banda Kommt March.....Schild.
2. ....Ouverture Martha.....Flotow.
3. .....Fantasie das Leben für den Czar...Glinka.
4. .....Am Himmelblanner Walzer...Millocker.
5. .....Ave Maria.....Schubert.
6. .....Fest-Ouverture.....Lortzing.
7. .....Maritana Walzer.....Dellinger.

After the Chairman had proposed, in brief but well conceived speeches, the healths of the Emperor of Japan and the King, which toasts were drunk with much enthusiasm, the band playing the national anthems of the two countries,

Admiral Saito, Vice-Minister of the Naval Department, rose and said :—

EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I deem it a great honour to be permitted to propose the health of the Japan Society of London. It is scarcely necessary for me to remind you how much the Society has done, both collectively and through the personal exertions of its members, to interest the British public in things Japanese, and how it has thus rendered valuable service and assistance in furthering the very cordial feeling that now happily exists between England and Japan. It therefore gives me the greatest pleasure to ask you to join me in drinking everlasting health and prosperity to the Japan Society.—(Cheers).

Capt. Brinkley, replying on behalf of the Society said :—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES and GENTLEMEN,—I am deputed to return thanks in behalf of the Society and certainly they ought to be very sincere thanks in consideration of the highly laudatory terms used by Admiral Saito in proposing the toast and of the hearty reception you have given to it. Admiral Saito spoke of the Society and of its work in such a flattering manner, that I suppose if the dictates of etiquette were followed, our thanks should be diluted with some deprecation. But truly I think that it would be false modesty to disavow the Society's title to any eulogies it receives. For it is now a great society. Its career during the 12 years of its existence has been full of achievement, and undoubtedly, as Admiral Saito said, it has contributed largely to educate Japanese and British to a better knowledge and a juster appreciation of each other and to increase the strength of their mutual friendship. Probably you have noted that our dinner to-night lacks one picturesque feature which was presented by our meeting last year. It does not synchronise with the parent Society's banquet, which takes place, as you know, regularly on the 7th of May, and we are thus condemned to dispense with the simultaneous telepathy of sentiment and the exchange of *banzai* telegrams that enhanced the pleasure of last season's gathering. I hope you will accept my assurance that the defect is due to circumstances which the Committee could not altogether control. You may also have noted that the attendance is less numerous than it was on the last occasion. But I hope you will not infer any diminution of zeal or interest. Two causes are responsible, I think. One is that the interval, already short, between the issue of the cards of invitation and the date of the dinner, had to be still further shortened to suit the convenience of some of our guests. As an illustration of the consequences, allow me to read you some parts of a letter just received from a distinguished member whose absence this evening we particularly regret, I mean Sir Claude MacDonald :—"I shall be much obliged if you would mention how very sorry I am not to be present at the dinner, but I am giving one myself for which the invitations were issued three weeks ago. Otherwise I should have made a point of being present at a *réunion* which last year was so pleasant. I have the cause, as you know, very much at heart, and am therefore greatly disappointed. I hope next year longer notice will be given." Probably the same reason has kept away several of our members. Then there is the other reason, namely that the section of the Tokyo residents directly interested in these celebrations is a very fluctuating element. Men who are with us one year have left us before the next, and the only consolation we have for the loss of their society and their support is the hope that each, in his new and perhaps distant sphere, is helping to extend the wholesome influences of which this Society is the origin. It is, on the other hand, a source of sincere congratulation to us that for three consecutive years the chair has been occupied by Mr. Kato, and that side by side with his name on our roll of members are the names of several distinguished men, who like him, will always be historically associated with an alliance which imparts vivid practical interest to every assembly of Japanese and British subjects; and just as this Society seems to possess all the elements making for longevity, and promises to live to a hoary old age, and not to die till its great object is finally accomplished, so we may be permitted to hope that the union to which some of our illustrious members contributed so signally will not only survive our own generation, but will also go down intact to many generations of our successors. I observe that among our number there are some distinguished representatives of other nations, and I should perhaps ask their pardon for the somewhat Anglo-Japanese tone of my remarks. But I take it that their presence here to-night is an evidence of whole-hearted sympathy with the aim which this Society has before it, an aim that can not be achieved by any two or three nationalities but requires the cöoperation of all, since it is nothing move or less than the building of a permanent bridge between the East and the West.—(Applause).

Baron Kaneko then spoke as follows :—

I thank the Committee for conferring upon me the privilege of proposing the toast of Dr. Elgar, Vice-chairman of the Japan Society in London. I need not remind the members now present of what must be well known to most of them, what excellent work Dr. Elgar did for our country when he served the Imperial Naval Department 22 years ago, or how much the development of our naval power owes to him. It is not necessary for me to express these facts in words, because you see now what our Navy is, with its 250,000 tons of ships and its flag floating in all the waters of the globe. When Dr. Elgar entered the service of Japan the few ships she possessed were nearly all wooden, but now we have first-class line-of-battle ships and armoured cruisers, equal to any afloat, and serving as a powerful bulwark of peace. For the growth of this navy we are greatly indebted to Dr. Elgar. After his return to London, when a few of his friends conceived the idea of organizing the Japan Society, he again rendered valuable services as Vice-chairman of Council, and largely aided in bringing the Society to its present flourishing condition. A new shoot of the Society has recently been planted in Tokyo soil, and has grown so fast that we are now holding our third dinner, which I hope and believe will be followed by many others, each more largely attended than the other. Now I beg to ask Mr. Elgar to let us hear something of the impressions produced upon his mind by Japan as he sees her now compared with the Japan he left 22 years ago, and something of the changes he observes in our navy which has reached such considerable dimensions. In the name of the Society I beg to bid Dr. Elgar a hearty welcome back to Japan and to drink to his very good health.—(Applause).

Dr. Elgar acknowledged the toast in the following words :—

It is difficult for me to feel like a guest, amongst so many well-known members of the Japan Society, and with Mr. Kato in the chair—in the position he occupied at several of the annual dinners of the Society in London. But I am none the less sensible of the honour you have done to the Japan Society in drinking the health of the Vice-Chairman of its Council as one of your guests this evening, and I can assure you that the Society in London will be much gratified to learn the complimentary things said of it by Admiral Saito and Captain Brinkley, and the appreciation in which it is held in Japan. Baron Kaneko has spoken of the small services I had the honour of rendering to the Admiralty many years ago in far too complimentary and flattering terms. There only existed at that time the mere beginning of a Navy—a number of old vessels of small size, chiefly built of wood, with a few modern additions: and they were only just commencing at Yokosuka Dockyard to build the first iron ship. The Baron invited me to describe the changes I have observed since I was last in this country. These changes have been so great, so rapid, apparently so permanent, and so far-reaching in their effects—exceeding in these respects anything hitherto known—that I find it impossible to bring my ideas to a focus, and state clearly at short notice the impression they have made upon me. The first sight that greeted my eyes when approaching the port of Kobe on my arrival in this country was the magnificent fleet of ships that were assembled for the Naval Review. What a contrast that was to the Navy as I formerly knew it. Instead of an insignificant fleet of small ships I saw the most powerful navy in this part of the world, containing many of the finest ships that have yet been built. This great change in the navy is paralleled by changes in other matters. The extension of railways has revolutionised travelling and transport throughout the whole country. Then on approaching Tokyo I was struck by the number of tall smoky chimneys, a feature that never in my mind belonged to Tokyo. But these chimneys are indicative of progress in the manufacturing and mechanical arts and show what is going on in Japan in the improvement of old industries, and the creation of new ones. The number of large stone and brick buildings that now exist marks another great change, and gives a very different impression of Tokyo from that I took away with me. The same remark applies to the many wide and straight roads that now run in all directions through Tokyo. But it would be impossible for me to do justice now to this great and interesting subject of the changes in Japan during the last quarter of a century. I would rather recommend them to the members of the Japan Society in Tokyo as a subject which they would do well to take up and to deal with in detail as it affects each department of life and work in Japan. The Society would gladly welcome contributions of this nature to its transactions and it would be most useful and interesting, and form a valuable and instructive record for all time if done by competent observers in this country who really know all the facts, and how the various changes have affected the life and the well-being of the people. I cordially invite such contributions, on behalf of the Japan Society and I hope the Society will receive help in that way, and have its Transactions enriched by papers from some of its members in Tokyo. I also desire to mention another matter in which we might require to ask for help from Tokyo. When I left England the question of holding a Japanese Exhibition in London in 1905 was just being mooted. I do not know what the result is likely to be but it is quite certain that no such Exhibition would be creditable to us or in any degree worthy of Japan unless arrangements were made here for sending exhibits and organising entertainments of a high class that would be representative of what is best in this country, and would not appear trivial or unworthy in the eyes of foreigners. If the matter be followed up in London you will doubtless soon hear of it, and the Japan Society hopes that, in the interests of both countries, they would then receive active help from our friends on this side. These are matters I venture to strongly recommend to the consideration of the Tokyo members of the Japan Society. I would only add that I am most grateful to them for the kind reception they have given me here this evening, as one of the officials of the Society, and to Baron Kaneko for his very kind words in proposing the toast.—(Applause).

Surgeon General Takagi, Imperial Japanese Navy, proposed the health of the Chairman, Mr. Kato. He said :—

EXCELLENCIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I request that you will kindly allow me to have the honour of proposing the toast of our honourable chairman. I am not fit for the task but I feel bound to undertake it on an occasion which I regard as very important. May I be allowed to say here a word about Dr. Anderson, who served at the Naval Hospital and

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Naval Medical College for nearly 6 years, in the early period of *Meiji*. Dr. Anderson taught many students, some of whom served for a time in the Navy and are still serving, while all undoubtedly did good work. The personnel of our Navy now numbers 30,000 and the good health they enjoy and their fitness to serve their country may be regarded as greatly the result of Dr. Anderson's work. Before he came to Japan, our men were greatly troubled with *kakke*, which, as you know, is a kind of *beri beri*. When we first sent a fleet of 3 men-of-war to Korea, the disease was so prevalent that the officers considered it would have been scarcely possible to fight the ships, and we escaped a calamity on that occasion only because there was no enemy to meet. But had our fleet been in a similar condition in the last war with China, we should have been beaten, and in that case would this Society be now in existence? I think not. We have to thank Dr. Anderson, who contributed so much to the sanitation of our Navy, and who by showing us how to combat *kakke*, indirectly contributed to our subsequent success. Many students here benefitted by his kind teaching and after his return to England also he taught several of our naval medical men, and also founded this Society, which we hope will live for ever, though Dr. Anderson, alas,! is dead. Sir Claude MacDonald, at our last year's meeting, so well described the character of our honourable chairman, and so ably pointed out what Mr. Kato has accomplished, not only politically but also as a contributor to the growth and success of this Society, that I need not go over the same ground again. But I may say that we all desire he may continue to occupy the chair at our meetings for many years to come. I ask you to drink to the health of our Chairman.—(Applause).

Mr. Kato, responding, said:—

EXCELLENCIES and GENTLEMEN,—I have to thank Dr. Takagi sincerely for his very kind remarks and to thank you all for your very hearty manner of receiving them. I feel it a great honour to preside at your meeting again this year, but I regret very much that the duty has not fallen to abler hands. Last year I tried to persuade Viscount Aoki to preside, but for some reason he was unwilling. This year, again, I urged Mr. Zumoto to approach him, but the Viscount was travelling in China and Korea, and so far as I know, may be still there. Next year, if we gather again, as I hope we shall, I trust that you will be more successful in your chairman, but in the meanwhile let me assure you how sensible I am of the honour. I do not by any means deserve the kind things Dr. Takagi has said of me. I am too old to be carried away by compliments, or perhaps I should say too young. At any rate it is very pleasing to be so highly placed by such an authority as Dr. Takagi on medical, physical and intellectual subjects. I thank you again, Gentlemen. Before we adjourn let me tell you that on the 7th instant we telegraphed *Banzai* to the London Society, and that they reciprocated our good wishes similarly by wire. —(Cheers).

The company broke up at half-past ten after a very pleasant evening.

AN INDICTMENT OF THE CHURCHES.

The Macmillans have just issued from their press the last volume of the series which has appeared under the title of "Life and Labour of the People of London," a very elaborate work prepared by Mr. Charles Booth and a band of competent workers. The latest, like the preceding volumes, deserves the attention of all thoughtful observers of the trend of current events, for it deals with the religious life of the great city, and, needless to say, the store of material placed at the reader's disposal is of the richest and most elaborate description. Mr. Booth and his collaborators, "have taken the opinion of the clergy, they have examined the charitable and parochial work of the Churches and have tried to discover the effect produced by different kinds of services, preachings and dogmas." They attempt to measure the value, not only of the work of the various churches, but also of other social and philanthropic influences, including those of local government and police; and he has obtained masses of information on housing and health, amusements and habits, prostitution and crime, marriage and thrift. Many novel and interesting suggestions are made, and no doubt some comments on denominational and philanthropic work will arouse controversy. Special information has been obtained from about 1,450 clergymen, ministers, and missionaries, and some 350 schoolmasters and charitable workers. One of the first questions, we imagine, that the average reader will expect a work of this kind to answer is, "are the people of London growing more or less religious in the definite sense attached to this word by Churchmen and Nonconformists?" After reading the volume and carefully weighing all the pros. and cons. advanced by the various writers, one is forced to the conclusion that the answer to this question must be, Not in this sense more religious, but less definitely irreligious. "Among the working-classes there is less hostility to, and perhaps even less criticism of, the Churches than in the past. The secularist propaganda, though not suspended, is not a very powerful influence. Pronounced Atheism is rare." Looking back over the last twenty years there can be little doubt that the wave of active Atheism which passed over the London working-class—and in a lesser degree the working classes of the Provinces—a generation ago, has died down to a very notable extent. Yet this change of opinion has not brought about any increased acceptance of the definite teaching of the Churches by the masses. Rather, as the *Westminster Gazette* puts it, "the mental life of the working-class is undoubtedly very much more active than it was a generation ago, but religious interests have not gained in proportion, and pleasure, amusement, hospitality, and sport have perhaps even encroached upon the sphere of religion. In Southern countries the working-class have the habit of indulging in every kind of sport and amusement without forgoing their attendance at Mass on Sunday, but in England the one interest seems to extrude the other."

Wherein the Churches have lost their opportunity to lead in the van of the improvement in the moral tone of the day, Mr. Booth next proceeds to point out, and he distributes his blame most impartially. He writes: "None of the parties in the Church of England, whether High, Low, or Broad, have solved the problem of adjusting their doctrines to the actual life of the people, and while they continue to debate their dogmas, the stream of opinion runs by and leaves them lifeless and stranded. The re-statement of religious truth, of which we hear so much, is perpetually delayed while one school reacts to the Middle Ages, and another lingers in the eighteenth century, and a third loses the religious atmosphere in a vain attempt to intellectualise its teaching." With regard to the Nonconformists the investigators finds that "some of them are too exclusively middle-class, too self-complacent, and too self-confident;" while it must not be lost sight of that "the competition between the various churches, or denominations, does much to mar the best kind of organised effort and leads spiritual persons to practise all kinds of mundane devices, including reckless charity and perpetual self-advertisement, for the supposed glorification of their respective churches or communions." Commenting on the general tenour of the enquiry which Mr. Booth has so skilfully conducted and set forth in his deeply interesting pages, the *Westminster* concludes that on the whole there is comfort in the general outlook. "There is a stir of life, thought, and aspiration which in the broadest sense makes for religion. There is increasingly the admirable influence of the individual worker who gives himself to the cause with a zeal and self-sacrifice which are wholly Christian. But the Churches in their corporate capacity have clearly to bring themselves abreast of the times—in the popular phrase of the moment, to wake up."

NEW BRITISH FIELD MARSHALS.

The King announced the promotion of Sir George White to the distinguished rank of Field Marshal at a banquet given during his visit to Gibraltar, of which the hero of Ladysmith is now Governor. Sir George White is thus the ninth Field Marshal in the British Army. No one will ever forget how he kept the flag flying at Ladysmith, where not merely the circumstances of the siege, but even the heliograms of his superior, might well have been held to excuse if not to justify a surrender. The defence of Ladysmith was a great feat of arms of which the country is proud, and the King, in conferring this signal honour upon the soldier who organised it, has happily expressed the feeling of the nation. The other vacancy in the small and select list of British Field-Marshals has been filled by the equally well-deserved promotion of Sir Evelyn Wood. He also is a soldier with a distinguished record. When the Crimean War broke out young Wood was in the Royal Navy and as one of the Naval Brigade, he fought at Inkerman and took part in the bombardments of Sebastopol. He was severely wounded while carrying a scaling ladder to the Redan, and for his services he was mentioned in dispatches, was given a medal with two clasps, and was made by our ally a Knight of the Legion of Honour, receiving, in addition the fifth class of the Medjidie and the Turkish medal. Then he left the senior service and joined the 13th Light Dragoons. This was in 1855, and he was with the 17th Lancers during the Indian Mutiny. In India he commanded the 1st Regiment of Beaton's Horse and raised and commanded the 2nd Regiment of Mayne's Horse, and he was present at the actions at Rajghur, Sindwaho, Kurai, Barode, and Sindhora. Twice he was mentioned in dispatches and he won the coveted Victoria Cross. Sir Evelyn's next war service was in Ashanti in the campaign of 1873-4, in which he was slightly wounded. For his work in West Africa he was raised to the rank of Brevet Colonel and made a Companion of the Bath. With the outbreak of the Kaffir troubles in 1878 he was ordered to South Africa, and then when the Zulu Campaign was undertaken Sir Evelyn found himself engaged in the sharp conflict which finally brought peace into these troubled regions. A "K.C.B." was the reward of his services at that time. Two years afterwards came the Boer War, in which he also took a prominent part, and it was Sir Evelyn who conducted negotiations, having assumed the chief command on the death of General Colley, and concluded peace with the men who are now under the British flag. On coming home this busy soldier assumed command of the Chatham district, which he held until again called forth for warlike duties in Egypt in 1882. Then in 1884-5 he was in the Soudan expedition as Major-General on the lines of communication. That was the last occasion on which he saw active service. Since that time Sir Evelyn has filled most of the important military positions at home, and at present commands the 2nd Army Corps at Salisbury Plain.

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PRINCE TSAI CHENG.

Prince Tsai Chêng and Mr. Natung are very busily engaged in visiting and inspecting all the institutions of Tokyo. They have portioned the duties of investigation among their staff, and it is evidently their intention to utilize their stay in Tokyo in the most practical manner. We observe that the business of conducting economical inquiries has been entrusted to Mr. Bredon.

The Imperial Educational Society has entertained Prince Tsai Chêng and presented its medal to him. About 120 members of the Society were present. The Prince was conducted round the Female Industrial School. Mr. Tsuji Shinji made an eloquent speech welcoming him in the name of the Society, and the Prince replied in brief terms, expressing his admiration for the evidences of progress he found in Japan.

On the 18th Prince Arisugawa entertained at luncheon Prince Tsai Chêng, Mr. Na Tung, Mr. Bredon and some other members of the Chinese Prince's suite. The Chinese Minister, Marquis Tokudaiji, Prince Konoye, Prince Iwakura and Baron Utsumi were also for among the invités.

Prince Tsai Chêng is having a hearty welcome in Tokyo. On the 19th instant he was entertained at the Maple Club by the *To-A Dobunkai* and the *To-A Dojin-kai* (fellow-benevolence society), the former under the presidency of Prince Konoye, the latter under that of Viscount Nagaoka. The following day he dined with the Bankers' Club. On the latter occasion Baron Shibusawa made the speech of welcome, the key note of which was the advisability of more intimate commercial relations between the two nations. Prince Tsai, replying, said that the banking system of Japan, as investigated by Mr. Na Tung, had produced a profound impression on the latter as well as on the Prince himself, and that they intended to strongly recommend its adoption by China.

"JAPANESE LAW IN RELATION TO THE STATUS OF FOREIGNERS."

This is the title of a paper presented at the twenty-sixth annual meeting of the New York State Bar Association held in the city of Albany on the 20th and 21st of last January. Dr. R. Masujima is the author. He has succeeded in making incomparably the best digest ever published of the laws of Japan from the point of view of their bearing on foreigners. To review such a work is difficult. We can only say that it appears to be exhaustive and that its diction is clear and concise. Many points about which newspaper discussions have taken place and which are probably still obscure to some foreigners, are here fully explained. We observe that in speaking of the fiscal burdens imposable on foreigners Mr. Masujima carefully avoids committing himself to any statement about the house tax. He merely says:—"They have to pay certain prefectural and municipal rates assessed in certain proportion to national taxes." Assuredly he did well to avoid a subject which has caused more soreness among the foreign residents than even the incomparably greater question of treaty revision did. Mr. Masujima mentions a fact which is little known to the general public, namely, that in Japan every one staying at a hotel or lodging house is bound, at the request of the proprietor or manager, to give full particulars of himself either verbally or in writing. It is well that this should be definitely understood, for to have such a request preferred to him is not unlikely to offend the average foreign tourist very seriously. Another unfamiliar point mentioned by Mr. Masujima is this:—"A foreign householder who intends to stay for more than nine days at one place in Japan, must, within ten days of his arrival, report to the police regarding himself and persons in his company, stating full particulars, ages, profession or other occupation, the place from which they last came, their home domicile, and the relationship of those persons with him; as well as the full address of the house in which he lives, countersigned by the landlord, any changes in such information to be treated in like manner from time to time." These references convey some idea of the value of the information embodied in the paper, and to make the idea clearer we reproduce another extract relating to matters of special interest:—

The cases in which foreigners are restricted in the enjoyment of private rights, are the ownership of land or Japanese ships, the right to work mines, to own shares in the Bank of Japan, or the Yokohama Specie Bank, to be members or brokers of exchanges, to engage in emigration business, or to receive bounties for navigation or ship building. Any company must, in order to own Japanese ships, have its principal office in Japan and all members in case of a Gomei Kaisha, all unlimited liability members in case of either a Goshi Kaisha or Kabushiki Goshi Kaisha, and all directors in case of a limited company, must be Japanese subjects. Otherwise foreigners are as free as the Japanese to own shares in any Japanese commercial companies organized by themselves alone, or in combination with the Japanese or to engage in any manufacture or other commercial operations.

Foreigners may hold a long lease of land to plant trees or erect permanent structures, which may be arranged for an indefinite term almost perpetual, such as one thousand years, or as long as may be agreed upon. Such a holding is called superficies, and it is very much like a long English lease, the only difference being, that trees or buildings do not, at the end of the term, revert, to the landlord, his right being only that of pre-emption at current valuation. The most advisable way for the enjoyment of the actual and permanent holding of land, is for a foreigner to buy land himself through a Japanese, as bare trustee, and to secure its superficies for the period of as long a term as may be desirable for his purposes.

Although no foreigners may work mines individually, they may be taken on mortgage, and a company registered as a Japanese organization is entitled to engage in mining; the theory is that foreigners as members merge themselves in the entity of a Japanese corporation, although it may be composed of foreigners exclusively.

No railway or tramway business is allowed to be carried on unless by a limited company and a concession for such purpose has to be secured from the proper authorities. No such railway can be pledged, but it may be hypothecated. Japanese pledge corresponds to English mortgage, differing therefrom in that immediate transfer of possession and holding the pledged property absolutely is essential. Hypothecation does not carry possession nor the right of entry. This condition of Japanese railway law has not satisfied capitalists as not affording sufficient security to induce investment by them. There has been some attempt to have this law altered, but it has not yet been accomplished.

Banking, insurance, shipping, and all other kinds of commercial business may be carried on in Japan by foreign companies by observing the treaties and certain regulations, such as the registration of their branch offices, their representatives or other matters prescribed by law.

There are two kinds of civil corporations, the one consisting of persons associated together and the other an estate of aggregate property somewhat like a trust in English law, formed or established for the purpose of religious worship, teaching, art, charity, education, or any other object of public benefit, not aiming at the making of a profit. Such a corporation can come in existence only with the permission of the competent authorities, while Japanese commercial corporations may be formed without it. Two foreign corporations, whether bodies politic or commercial companies, only are recognized by the Japanese law.

No foreign association of persons or trust property is accorded the same rights and privileges as are enjoyed by similar Japanese corporations; such a foreign corporation has no standing whatsoever in the Japanese courts, and the only way in which it could obtain protection would be to appear in the individual names of its members, just as used once to be the case in partnership actions. Purely technical evidence must be procured and filed before any legal proceeding can be initiated and the best interests of the corporation might easily be jeopardized. Some foreign religious societies have sought to get themselves incorporated as Japanese corporations, but failed. Japan has no State religion, and she is absolutely impartial in religious matters. Any religious body so applying must be and show itself to be a purely Japanese institution, free from all control of any sort from its corresponding religious bodies in foreign countries. Any legal connection whatever between the home body and Japanese organization is a bar to such purpose. A Japanese corporation has almost as large a privileges as a Japanese subject. It can own land and exercise other rights not accorded to individual foreigners. A foreign corporation so organized may contain in its ranks foreign members, but it must be of such a nature as not to be under any danger of control of any kind from outside. Even after incorporation, the charter will be forfeited should the policy of the Japanese Government be at any time prejudiced by the conduct of a corporation so sanctioned.

If foreigners wish to do business in combination with the Japanese, the best way would be to form a "Goshi Kaisha" or limited partnership, they themselves carrying unlimited liability. To control a "Kabushiki Kaisha" or limited company, they should own more than half the amount of capital either by holding themselves or through their own nominees, and shares should be tied up so as not to allow their transfer without the consent of the board of directors. The advantage of any business being organized as a Japanese corporation consists as the law now stands in owning land and having the full rights of Japanese subjects.

BILLS SUBMITTED TO THE DIET.

Several bills have been submitted by the Government to the Lower House of the Diet. Among them is the much talked-of measure for continuing the increased rate of land tax. Not exactly at the old figures, however. The proposal is to retain the present rate for house lots, namely, 5 per cent., and to reduce the rate for agricultural lots from 3.3 to 3 per cent., which would still be ½ per cent. higher than the rate collected 5 years ago. There is not the slightest chance of this bill passing, we imagine, but doubtless the Ministry feel that to refrain from presenting it would be equivocal.

The recently discussed proposal for augmenting the Industrial Bank's power of issuing debentures has also been embodied in a bill. At present the Bank may not issue debentures in excess of five times its paid-up capital. The bill proposes to double that figure. It also contains clauses providing that the limit (50 *yen*) of the denomination of debentures shall be removed, and that the Bank shall be free to redeem its debentures by purchase in the open market. The main object of this measure is to enable the Bank to assist the Seoul-Fusan Railway Company in obtaining 10 million *yen* of foreign money through the medium of the Bank's debentures, which would have the Treasury's endorsement. The Bill will probably encounter much opposition.

With regard to supplementary estimates, the Government asks the House to consent to a good deal. We shall publish a detailed statement by and by but we may here indicate the principal items:—

	Yen.	Spread over
Telephone Expansion	14,850,000	12 years
The Wakamatsu Foundry	4,855,459	5 "
Improvements of Existing State Railways	14,488,740	6 "
Railway Construction (additional fund required on account of increased cost of materials)	41,415,725	11 "
Louisiana Exhibition	800,000	3 "
Encouragement of navigation and shipbuilding; subsidies to Seoul-Fusan and Hokkaido Railways, and to the Hunan S.S. Company	1,341,478	This year

The fate of several of these items also is questionable.

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THE AFFAIR OF THE STENOGRAPHIC RECORD.

The incident which took place at the meeting of the Budget Committee on the 19th instant came up again for discussion on the 20th. It will be remembered that the Chairman of Committee had promised to make inquiries with regard to the alleged defacement of the stenographic record. The contention of Mr. Kudo Kokan and other Progressist members was that Baron Sone had distinctly disavowed any intention on the Government's part to revert to the system of domestic loans in lieu of the land tax, and that the disavowal had been erased from the record. After due inquiry the Chairman of Committee reported on the 20th that there had not been any erasure whatever. The record stood exactly as it had been transcribed by the stenographist. Mr. Kudo and his supporters then moved that if this was merely a mistake on the part of the reporter, no further investigations were required. All that need be done was for the Committee to adopt a resolution, that in view of the accident to the records, and in view of Baron Sone's declaration having been distinctly heard, the fact of his having made it was recognised by the Committee. This, of course, would have been an exceedingly embarrassing resolution to the Government. But although it appeared for a moment not unlikely to be adopted, one of the members, Mr. Uyeda Minoru, made a timely interposition by affirming that he had not heard the Finance Minister say anything of the kind. Mr. Yokota then observed that if the reality of the alleged utterance were denied by even one member, it would be rash for the Committee to pledge itself to the fact. He therefore moved that the attendance of the Premier and the Minister of State for Finance should be invited for the purpose of obtaining some confirmation or denial. The Committee adopted that proposal, rejecting Mr. Kudo's. It is obvious, therefore, that the majority of the Committee have no desire to bring about any collision with the Ministry.

SUSPENSION OF THE DIET.

On Thursday, as had been anticipated, the Diet was suspended for three days. The mandate of suspension was issued before the House of Representatives went into session. First on the Order of the Day had been placed the Special Committee's report on the Land Tax Bill, and the Government seems to have deemed it wiser to interpose suspension before any discussion of the measure could take place. Perhaps it will also be fair to assume that this step had been considered and judged advisable at the meeting between the Premier and the *Seiyu-kai*'s Standing Committee on the 20th.

"THE WORLD'S WORK."

Mr. Henry Norman's new magazine, *The World's Work*, which has now reached its fifth number, is, we think, one of the most beautiful publications of its kind in the world so far as typography, illustrations and general "get up" are concerned, and one of the ablest, most interesting and most comprehensive with regard to reading matter. We do not share its politics but we do sincerely admire the talent and enterprise it shows. We are looking at the April number as we write, and in it we find, among a mass of valuable matter, an essay showing that Mr. Norman has lost nothing of the invincible enthusiasm he used to throw into all his undertakings in the old days, and that his crisp, nervous style is more perfectly at his command than ever. His subject is motor-cars; "Can I afford a Motor-car?" being the title of the article. This is the sequel of an essay called "The Coming Motor." The latter we have not seen, but we have encountered many allusions to it in leading British journals, and we are entirely prepared to accept the statement made in the second article, namely, that "very few newspapers in the United Kingdom failed to quote from it or comment on it." Mr. Norman is nothing if not courageous in his convictions. Writing in March, he predicted that "in ten years time there would not, generally speaking, be a horse left in the streets of London." He believes, in short, that the Motor is the vehicle of the future, and it appears that the *Westminster Gazette*, on reading his essay, sent men to count the horse-drawn vehicles and the motors passing six typical London street-corners, with the result that the former were found to be 270 and the latter 36, the time being 5 minutes at each corner—which figures incidentally convey an idea of London's wheel traffic, 10 vehicles passing a given point in a minute, or one every 6 seconds. We do not propose to follow Mr. Norman in detail. His essay must be read in its entirety and no one need be afraid to find it dry, for little intrinsic attraction as calculations of cost possess, Mr. Norman manages to make them highly interesting. The final conclusions are that a first-class motor involves an outlay of £176 a year, in which estimate a saving of £40 on account of cab and railway fares is included; and that a second-class car may be kept for £60 annually, supposing that it saves its owner £15 in cab and railway hire. But in the second-class car the owner must be his own driver, whereas in the first class vehicle he is supposed to pay £104 a year as driver's wages. All this sounds very serious in Japan. How many folks are there in Tokyo who could afford £60 a year for such a luxury, though Mr. Norman says that nothing else in the material world so greatly "increases one's interests, one's opportunities and one's happiness"?

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The awful fate of the inhabitants of Tori-shima in the Bonin group of islands is still fresh in the memory of us all. There is also another Tori-shima in the Riukiu archipelago, and, curiously enough, it is rented for purposes of sugar cultivation by the same capitalists who used to rent its Bonin namesake. A report has been received that this second Tori-shima also burst into volcanic activity on the 12th instant, and officials have been despatched thither by the Departments of Education and Home Affairs.

On the morning of the 14th instant nine hundred and fifty hands struck work at the Mitsu Bishi Dockyard in Nagasaki. The police tried to get them to resume but were unsuccessful. It is scarcely possible to believe that any employees of such generous masters as the Mitsu Bishi Company can have cause for complaint, but these strikers think themselves entitled to larger wages.

It has long been accepted as a fact, though not yet proved by unequivocal demonstration, that the disease called *kakke* (a species of *beri-beri*), so common in Japan, is produced by a diet of rice. The question has of late been earnestly investigated by Japanese experts—Professors Sakaki and Yamawaki and Dr. Yamaguchi—, a series of extensive experiments being tried on barn-door fowl. The result is said to prove clearly that rice is the source of the poison. Upland grain is not so deleterious as low-land, and it would seem that the longer the rice has been kept before being cooked, the less injurious are its effects. An account of the experiments and of the inferences suggested by them is contained in the columns of some Tokyo journals, but we apprehend that the writer or the printer is at fault, for the ideas conveyed are somewhat obscure. The main facts, however, are as here stated.

Mr. Chamberlain's tramp abroad has evidently induced him to look at the question of Free Trade from the Colonial point of view, to judge by his recent utterance at Birmingham. Canada led the way in giving the Mother Country preferential treatment in drawing up her new tariff, and South Africa is evidently going to follow suit, for we read in *Public Opinion* that "Germany is sorely exercised by the report that the South African Colonies propose to give Great Britain a preference of not less than 25 per cent. in their markets." "What right," continues this journal, "Germany has to protest we have not the least idea. Do the German newspapers imagine that the war in South Africa was fought for the benefit of Great Britain's competitors? No doubt it is a shock to them to find that the British Empire is beginning to wake up to the necessity of putting trade within the Empire on a different footing from that with the foreigner." At the recent Conference of the British Iron Trade Association, Mr. Ebenezer Parkes, M.P., complained that England was opening doors everywhere to markets which her rivals exploited. Mr. H. J. Skelton, in the course of the debate said that "England is waking up with a vengeance. The Colonies, one by one, are showing us the way, and some day, possibly, an Imperial Government may be in power which will not hesitate to recognise the change that has overtaken the economic conditions in the last half-century." These are straws showing the set of the tide. With the Colonies making such overtures to the Home Land, there can be little doubt that in due time reciprocity will come whatever results it may involve.

Communication by wireless telegraphy will be established from July next between Japan and Formosa. The terminal points are to be Miye-zaki near Nagasaki and Keelung, a distance of 700 leagues. On the side of Japan the work is nearly finished, but that at the Formosan end was not begun until March and some time must therefore elapse before it is completed. It is stated that the total cost of the installation is only 20,000 *yen*, which fact gives an idea of the cheapness of the system.

Admiral Sir General Noel is spoken of as likely to get the command-in-chief of the British squadrons on the China Station. He is now fifty-eight, and as long ago as 1873 commanded the Naval Guard to Lord Wolseley during the Ashantee campaign of that year, having previously obtained a first-class certificate as gunnery-lieutenant. Later he got a gold medal from the United Service Institution for an essay on "The Gun, Ram, and Torpedo," and he is the author of "Essays on Naval Tactics," among other professional works. After serving as commander for some years he was appointed to

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the Royal yacht, and posted from her in January, 1881. Since then he has been constantly employed. He became a Naval Lord just ten years since, and following on his service in the Mediteranean (when he handled the Cretan difficulty so tactfully) succeeded Sir Compton Domvile as Admiral-Superintendent of Naval Reserves in 1900. Sir Gerard, who is related to the Earl of Gainsborough, and is personally very popular with all ranks, is beyond doubt one of Britain's ablest naval chiefs.

Some impressive figures, showing how widespread cancer has become, are contained in a special report just issued by the Registrar-General of Marriages, Births, and Deaths in Ireland. Throughout the world the devastation of human life from this cause is increasing. Ireland alone lost 2,893 of its citizens through cancer in 1901, being at the rate of 6·5 per 10,000 of the population. In county Armagh the death-rate is as high as 10·2. The steady increase in the recorded mortality from cancer in all three portions of the United Kingdom is very remarkable. In Ireland, in 1864, the first year in which the registration system was in force, the rate of mortality from cancer was 2·7 per 10,000 living. In 1871 it had risen to 3.2; in 1881 to 3·7; in 1891 to 4·6; and in 1901 it reached 6·5. In England (including Wales), in 1864, the rate was 3·9. In 1871 it was 4·2; in 1881, 5·2; in 1891, 6·9; and in 1900 it had risen to 8·3. In Scotland, in 1864, the rate was 4·3; in 1871 it was 4·4; in 1881, 5·2; in 1891, 6·8; and in 1900, 8·0. In Europe also the mortality is growing year by year, in spite of all medical science can do.

There has been a somewhat serious inundation in Yamaguchi Prefecture. The number of houses invaded by the flood was 1368. In Kuga-gori a land-slip overwhelmed a school building, and the teacher, his wife and child were killed. In addition to this catastrophe 5 lives were lost and 2 persons were injured in the Sawa and Asa districts. From Shimonoseki also the inundation of 816 houses is reported, and in Saga Prefecture torrents of rain fell on the 17th and 18th, causing much damage. Izumo too was visited by the same storm, and from Otsu comes a report that 8 school-boys who went out on Lake Biwa on the morning of the 18th, have not been heard of since.

There are two exhibitions of pictures now going on at the Gago-kan in Uyeno Park: the *Taihei Sa-gakkai* (foreign-style pictures), and the *Tansei-kai*. The former commenced on the 13th instant and lasts until the 6th proximo; the latter began on the 7th and continues until the 4th.

Some enquiries have been addressed us as to why the Yokohama Tax Office is levying 1½ per cent on brokers, commission agents, etc., this year instead of 1 per cent. as formerly. We find on enquiry that in the *Official Gazette* of March 11, 1902, appeared a notification amending Law No. 18, which deals with the Business Tax, and Article 12 was made to read:—

yen 1 per *yen* 100, tax on brokers, commission agents, etc., shall be amended to read 15/1,000 per cent. This alteration to take effect from Jan. 1st, 1903.

FIRES.

A telegram from Ashio-machi says that a fire broke out in Zaimoku-cho at Akakura on the 16th instant at 10 p.m., and was not extinguished until the following morning, by which time some 500 houses had been destroyed, the two suburbs of Akakura and Fukasawa being almost entirely reduced to ashes. A cook-house and some 50 residences of workmen within the compound of Furukawa Company were burned, but there does not appear to have been any injury to life or limb.

Fire occurred early on the morning of May 14 at Ryusenji-machi, Shitaya. Tokyo. It was put out before the flames had extended to adjoining buildings. Incendiarism is stated to be the cause.

Fire broke out on the evening of the same day, destroying a building in the compound of the Sobu Railway Company, Kinshicho, Honjo.

A telegram from Yamagata prefecture states that fire appeared in the village of Nishigo, Murayama-gori, on the night of May 13th. Ten houses were burned down.

Fire broke out early on the morning of May 15th in a school, at Urawa, Saitama Prefecture, destroying one building.

On the night of May 17th fire broke out at Atago-cho, Shiba, Tokyo, destroying one building.

The same day, fire occurred in the Hakura Railway Station in Saitama Prefecture burning down eight houses and two telegraph poles.

On the night of May 18th, fire broke out in the shop of a baker in Niigata, destroying twenty-one houses.

The same night fire occured at Kusukawa-cho, Koishikawa, in Tokyo, burning down one house and injuring two others.

Early in the morning of May 20th, fire broke out at Minami-Ota, Yokohama, burning down one house

PEST IN YOKOHAMA.

Two suspected cases of pest have appeared in Yokohama. The first was reported from Tobe on May 13th and the man, a paper-maker, died on the 14th at noon. The other victim is a boy (7) living in the same place. The authorities are making a *post-mortem* examination. The police have segregated the locality, including 50 surrounding houses. It is stated that the other day some diseased rats were found near the place.

The two suspected cases of pest which appeared at Tobe were found to be real plague by examination concluded on May, 15th at 5 p.m. The residents, numbering 274, of the locality were to be removed on May 18th to the Maji Hospital, Kanagawa, for 10 days after having been disinfected at the Ogimachi disinfection station. The authorities have hired many coolies and are endeavonring to disinfect the locality segregated. It is stated that a live rat was found on the 16th at a house within the limit of the enclosure and was foand to have pest. The committee of the Yokohama City Assembly decided on the 16th to ask the assembly for *yen* 10,000 as expenses to carry out the necessary works.

A rumour which had obtained circulation to the effect that a case of pest occurred in a Chinese house at No. 133 was contradicted by the Kagacho Police Station on May 18th. The patient is suffering only from fever. On the morning of the same day, two dead rats were found in a godown of Messrs. Siber, Wolff & Co., No. 90, and were at once removed to the Kagacho Police Station where they were to be examined. The result is not yet known.

The case which was reported at Kanagawa on the night of May 16th has been proved not to be plague.

One of the two men of the steamer *Kagoshima Maru* who were reported by the authorities of the Yokohama Harbour Office to be suffering from fever was found on May 14th to have pest. The victim is a sailor named G. Harakawa (27). The steamer was to leave the Nagahama Quarantine Station on May 18th or 19th after completing disinfection.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

There was a very large audience at the Public Hall on Saturday afternoon when the juvenile members of the Physical Culture Class, assisted by Mrs. McWilliams and other friends, gave a very enjoyable entertainment. Owing to the late arrival of the band of H.M.S. *Cressy*, the programme opened without an Overture, the second item coming off first. This consisted of a Wand Drill, Dumb-bells, and Indian Club swinging most capitally gone through by the Misses Ralphia Martin, Sybil Howard, Helen McIvor, Henrietta McIvor, Leslie McWilliams, Doris Dunlop, Marguerite Blüm, Hope Payne, Lois Dunlop, Marjorie Edwards, Margery Abel, and Master Robert Payne. Excellent in time, graceful in movement, the class bore eloquent testimony to the tact, patience, and ability of their instructress. The Band having by now arrived, played a tuneful selection, "Festivalia," by *Williams*, and some amusement was caused by the players' conscientious endeavour to carry out their engagement to the bitter end, despite the vigorous signals of the stage-manager who, keeping his eye on the clock, wanted to cut them short and get the next item under way. Mr. Charles Thorn was the artist kept impatiently waiting and when the Band finally subsided he came before the curtain and sang a comic song, "Can't think of everything can you," in a manner that speedily moved his audience to exercise their risible faculties to the fullest extent. Next followed some Delsartian poses by the children. There can be no gainsaying that the effect of such a series of poses must tend to a more graceful carriage and the development of artistic movements generally, but we must freely confess that we failed to grasp in every case the connection between the pose and its label. But some were very good and atoned for the lack of differentiation in others, while the four figure movements which followed—Catching the Butterfly, Sowing the Seed, Drinking at the Fountain, Snowballing—were the very embodiment of the ideals of ancient Greece. Mr. Hugh Horne, a new arrival in the Far East, brought the first half of the programme to a close. His rendering of "When father laid the carpet on the stairs" will linger long in the memory as one of the most mirth-provoking songs ever given in the Public Hall. Mr. Horne is a follower of the school of Mr. Corney Grain and Mr. Geo. Grossmith, subordinating his personality entirely to the words he sings, as opposed to the noisy, robustious vulgarity of the comedians of "The Halls," and his audience showed their delight and appreciation of these methods by loudly demanding an *encore*. He kindly complied with a very clever song that "took" even better than his first. There can be little doubt of the warmth of his reception when next he appears in Yokohama.

To fill in the interval, the Band gave a spirited *pot-pourri* from the "Belle of New York," and then the curtain was rung up and disclosed the apartment of *Mrs. Prettipet* (Mrs. McWilliams) in a New York flat. She is soon joined, through the window, by *Mortimer Briefbag* (Dr. Leigh Norris, R.N.) and the whimsical little farce of "The Mousetrap," which has been given here before, sent ripples of laughter through the Hall from start to finish. Mrs. McWilliams we have seen to better advantage; Dr. Norris ably realised the character of the amorous but mouse-timid attorney. After the farce Mr. Hugh Horne walked on again to sing "Me and Mrs. Brown," but he had to sing three songs ere his audience would let him go. They were all most cleverly rendered. A selection by the band, "Down South," was a fitting prelude to a Darky Sketch in which Mr. L. McChesney appeared as *Ole Mammy* and Misses H. McIvor and L. McWilliams as *Pickannies*; and then Mr. Brady brought the proceedings to a close with "I handed it over to Riley." Mrs. McWilliams is to be congratulated on the huge success of her labours.

Mr. H. L Chope, P. and O. Agent at Singapore for the last three years, left for England, on holiday, on the the 1st inst. He is succeeded by Mr. L. S. Lewis.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Saturday, May 16.

ON the 14th instant a general meeting of parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* was held for the purpose of discussing the legal difficulty now interrupting the Government's programme and the Diet's procedure. Our readers have been made familiar with the point in dispute. It amounts to this:—"Does the Law of Finance, as amended by the Diet in the 1901-2 session, permit the introduction of supplementary budgets to meet outlays not referred to in the Ordinary Budget?" If such supplementary budgets can not be introduced, then the Cabinet's naval-expansion programme must be abandoned for the present. The *Seiyu-kai* leaders are not desirous of creating any *impasse* in that direction, whatever may be the sentiment among some of their recalcitrant followers. Accordingly, at the meeting on the 14th instant, Mr. MATSUDA MASAHISA introduced a proposal that the following clause should be added to the Law of Finance:—

> Expenditures of an inevitably urgent nature which have their origin in domestic or foreign conditions or in natural calamities, are not affected by the limitation imposed in the second Clause of the fifth Article of the Law of Finance.

This is evidently a compromise between the narrow rendering of the malcontents and the broad reading necessarily dictated by a statesmanlike view of the country's interests. But the meeting did not accept the amendment quietly. Some prominent members of the Party, as Barons SUYEMATSU and KANEKO, contended that the problem of interpretation should be left for solution in the actual presence of occasion—which would have the effect of giving a wider interpretation to the law—whereas Messrs HARA KEI and MOTODA HAJIME supported the proposed amendment vigorously, and Mr. ISHIKURO and his followers clung to their contention that no supplementary budgets providing for new expenditures could be lawfully introduced. After two hours' vehement discussion the meeting was temporarily adjourned at 3 p.m., but when the time for re-assembling came, a quorum did not present itself. Thus the matter remained undecided, but an impression seems to prevail that the amendment proposed by Mr. MATSUDA and approved by the *Seiyu-kai's* standing committee will ultimately be adopted.

It is a pity that Japanese politicians can not borrow for a moment the spectacles of foreign onlookers at this juncture. Every careful reader of Japan's history is oppressed by the conviction that the besetting tendency of the nation is formalism, and that no people ever succumbed so completely to the tyranny of rule and regulation as the Japanese were wont to succumb. In every branch of their social and artistic observances the multiplication and elaboration of minute formulæ for the guidance of conduct and speech, bewilder the student of their annals. By way of set-off to the disquieting inferences suggested by this record, there is one important fact, namely, that in the realm of laws proper no such labyrinthine enactments existed, and that in some respects the people showed themselves capable of interpreting the spirit of a moral precept more faithfully than they obeyed its letter. But it must be confessed that such a spectacle as that now displayed by the *Seiyu-kai* politicians confirms the unfavourable lessons of history. At a moment when all parties are agreed as to the expediency of naval increment, we see a grand deadlock and a vehement dispute because the members of the Diet imagine that their hands are tied by an unpractical and unstatesmanlike regulation of their own enactment.

THE TIMBER-FELLING QUESTION.

THE stories now reaching Tokyo from the Yalu frontier of Korea connect the activity of the Russians in that quarter with timber-felling enterprises alone. It is stated that the despatch of troops to the banks of the Yalu and the employment of Bazoku as guards, are due entirely to a desire to prevent any interference with the valuable privileges now enjoyed. Those privileges, translated into figures, mean that thirty thousand Chinese subjects are engaged in the lumber trade; that the profit annually accruing from their labours is seven million taels, and that the local taxes paid by them amount to seventy thousand taels. The Russians, naturally anxious to avert any interruption of this fine business, are employing Cossacks and Bazoku to protect the lumber men.

If any one among our readers takes the trouble to think, he will find himself involved in a maze of perplexity about this Yalu question. Some time ago the account given was that a Russian subject, or syndicate, had obtained timber-felling privileges in 1898, on condition that the work must be commenced within five years. It was not so commenced, and the whole matter came again upon the *tapis* this year owing to an application from the Russian Representative to have the concession renewed. Obviously, then, no timber-felling had yet taken place. But immediately on the heels of that story came a report that the Russians were cutting trees in the forests on the slopes of Peng-ma, a sacred mountain lying a few miles eastward of Wiju, and the Korean Government, much exercised by this violation of holy woods and by Russian trespass into regions where the concession did not run, was said to be vigorously protesting. The next chapter of the history disclosed Russian soldiers and Manchurian freebooters in Russian pay gradualyl concentrating along the Yalu line, where their presence, at first supposed to prelude a raid across the Korean frontier, was afterwards interpreted as a diversion planned by Russia to facilitate the prosecution of her aggressive schemes in Manchuria. That theory held water for some time, though the Peng-ma question continued to be occasionally spoken about? But now comes the grand climacteric—thirty thousand Chinese lumber-men employed by the Russian concessionaires who are reaping a profit of seven million taels annually, and in the back-ground the Russian Authorities busily engaged in active military measures to protect this big army of timber-cutters. To protect them against what? If the lumber work was going on so grandly and so profitably, why should the Russian Authorities have needlessly called public attention to it by displays of military activity at a moment when the eyes of the whole world are fixed upon Manchuria? Two years ago that question and the extreme improbabilities it suggests would have induced us to dismiss the whole story as mythical in its main details. But Russian diplomacy with regard to Manchuria has been so singular, and above all so pragmatical, that even this series of inconsequential narratives from the Yalu region can not be wholly discredited. One impression which suggests itself very forcibly is profound wonder that such uncertainty should exist about the course of cardinal events in districts so easily accessible. Unless the Japanese have deliberately abstained during the past twelve-month from any exercise of their habitual activity in collecting information, they can not be in the nebulous condition suggested by all these reports.

TREATIES AND DISCUSSIONS.

THERE have been some interesting arguments of late among Japanese publicists. They deal with the thesis of Japan's policy towards the Chinese question, and they have been suggested mainly by the contention of Mr. OZAKI YUKIO, Mr. MOCHIZUKI KOTARO and their followers; in other words, the politicians that advocate an *entente* with Russia on the basis of surrendering Manchuria to her will provided that she agrees to keep her hands off Korea. Among the editorial articles evoked by this matter, one of considerable interest appears in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, a journal which usually discusses Japan's relations with Russia in terms so moderate as to be almost Russo-phil. The *Nichi Nichi* treats Mr. OZAKI's suggestions as altogether unpractical and superficial. It points out that in approaching St. Petersburg with such a proposition Japan would be merely making confession of her own impotence, and would also be departing from the wholesome example set by England and Russia, which countries never for a moment abate their vigilant custody of national interests, however remote may be the sphere of its exercise. Russia in actual possession of Manchuria to-day would mean Russia in prospective possession of Korea to-morrow. Japan can not allow Russia to hold Korea, and if she concedes to Russia a military basis on the very frontier of the peninsular empire, she would have to fight

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at a terrible disadvantage; for fight she must and Korea would be the battle-ground. Besides, there is not the least reason to suppose that Russia would agree to such a proposition. She has too many material and political interests in Korea to consent to efface herself there. Japanese public opinion would never agree to the abandonment of Manchuria to Russia, and Russian public opinion would never agree to the abandment of Korea to Japan.

That is the general line of argument. We desire to supplement it by one word of astonishment. In all the journalistic essays and platform pronouncements evoked by this question, we find no allusion to the cardinally important fact that, so long as the Anglo-Japanese alliance exists, Japan can not think of abandoning her rights in Manchuria, without her ally's consent at all events. It is possible that Mr. OZAKI YUKIO, a political leader of wide repute and a man of brilliant abilities, has never detected what a gross vioation of international good faith is involved in his doctrine of exchange. Japan has entered into a compact with England that both shall unite their strength to preserve the integrity of China and Korea. Yet here we have a prominent Japanese politician speaking in favour of an undertaking between his country and Russia which would deprive the Chinese empire of three big provinces and reduce Korea virtually to the position of an appanage of the Japanese Crown.

INTERNATIONAL TRUST.

WE have often observed that if the friendly intercourse of nations is to continue at all, they must make at least a pretence of trusting one another. When the celebrated incident with regard to the opening of Port Arthur took place a few years ago in St. Petersburg, Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR suffered for his credulity and the British Government was roundly abused by the press for its fatuous conduct in putting any reliance in Russian assurances. The obvious comment was that so soon as one State openly declines to attach any faith to another's declarations, all semblance of amicable intercourse between the two must cease. It would be so in the relations of individuals, and it must be so in the relations of governments also. Therefore statesmen are often obliged to sacrifice their judgment on the altar of peace, and therefore unscrupulous diplomatists find opportunities for continued abuse. These general propositions are illustrated by recent events. Lord CRANBORNE, probably questioned in the House of Commons, is reported by Reuter to have said on the 12th instant that in view of the assurances given by the Russian Government to the Cabinets of Washington and London, there did not appear to be any reason for concerted action on the part of America, England and Japan. Now it is exceedingly difficult for publicists living within easy hearing distance of Manchuria to reconcile Russia's actual procedure with any sincere intention of carrying out her treaty pledges: exceedingly difficult for every body and absolutely impossible for some. Among the latter number is the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. It writes editorially about Lord CRANBORNE'S utterance, and it queries whether the American and British Cabinets are not taking too liberal and magnanimous a view of the situation. If Russia intended to implement her promises, she must have made ere now some practical move in the direction of doing so, and she would not have attempted to exact new privileges and promises as the price of doing what she is solemnly bound by treaty to do. The *Jiji Shimpo* undertakes to answer this objection, not directly but with obvious intention. It notes, in effect, the principle of conduct enunciated above as necessarily directing the attitude of non-belligerent nations towards each other. But it repudiates the idea that Great Britain's inactivity impeaches in any way the potency of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. England and Japan have common interests in the Far East, and have promised each other to unite for the protection of those interests. If Japanese statesmen believed that their country's vital interests were seriously threatened in Manchuria or anywhere else, their conviction could not remain unknown to the British Government, and would receive due attention from the latter. In that event the potentialities of the alliance would become apparent, but such a conjuncture has not yet arisen. We must assume that responsible politicians are not convinced of the necessity for any decisive step in unison. That, in effect, is what the *Jiji* says. We can not but endorse it. If the people that declaim in boisterous terms against Russian perfidy and British fatuousness were entrusted with the direction of affairs, the world would be perpetually plunged in a maelstrom of conflicts. If any one Power deliberately chooses to utilize fraudulently to its own advantage opportunities necessarily created by the pacific courtesy and civilized confidence of other Powers, that is a misfortune for which no remedy can be found in the present rules of international intercourse.

KOREA.

THE attempts of Russian subjects to acquire houses and lands for purposes of settling at Yong-chhyong and Ip Am-pho, or Yong Am-pho—of the former name we now hear for the first time—in the north of Korea near Wiju, are apparently causing considerable uneasiness. It will be remembered that the Governor of Wiju was instructed a few days ago to put a stop to this illegal purchase of fixed property. He is said to have replied that his efforts to do so had totally failed, and that he found himself powerless to accomplish anything in the face of Russian resolution. Thereupon fresh instructions were sent from Seoul, requiring him to exercise his authority in a drastic manner over the Korean subjects who were selling their lands and houses, and further to collect accurate statistics of the number of Russians attempting to settle in the region. At the same time the Seoul Government is reported to have addressed to the Russian Representative in that city an exceptionally strong remonstrance against these proceedings. At the date of latest advices the remonstrance remained unanswered.

With regard to this newly mentioned place, the proper name of which we take to be Yong Am-pho, it lies a few miles southwest of Yong-chhong, the latter being the first post-town on the main road running southward from Wiju to Pyong-yang and Seoul. Yong Am-pho, though now an insignificant place, has great prospective importance, for by recourse to some not costly works of breakwater building and dredging it could be converted into an excellent harbour commanding the mouth of the Yalu. Its tenure by Russia, together with that of Yong-chhyong, would effectually deprive Korea of all access to the mouth of the Yalu except by sea or with Russian permission. Wiju, too, would be practically alienated. Yong Am-pho is said to have been used by the Japanese troops as a place of shipment, on the occasion of their northern march through Korea towards Manchuria, but as soon as Ku-lien-ching and Taku-shan fell into their possession, they ceased to avail themselves of the minor port. Ku-lien-ching and Taku-shan being in Manchuria, are now held by Russia, and if she added Yong Am-pho, she would be complete mistress of the Yalu estuary and indeed, of the line of the Yalu itself. As for the would-be settlers at Yong-chhyong and Yong Am-pho, they are alleged to be soldiers who have laid aside their uniforms, and the pretext given for their presence in regions wholly outside treaty limits is that Yong Am-pho is to be the place for shipping timber from the forests of Peng-ma. It will be observed that this incident, which now assumes interesting proportions, has been gradually built up out of events apparently disconnected. Possibly its present aspect may be due, in some degree, to nervousness on the part of newsmongers. But there is significance in the fact that sensation certainly did not preside at the inception of the story, and that its details have unfolded themselves in a manner altogether too fortuitous to warrant a suspicion of deliberate manufacture. First we heard of the disputed timber-felling privileges, and the illegal—from a Korean point of view—lumber operations at Peng-ma. Then came intelligence of the buying of land and houses by Russian subjects at Yong-chhyong, an affair which neither the reporters nor the public connected immediately with Peng-ma. And now, finally, we are told about Yong Am-pho, and the part it is to act as a place for shipping the unlawfully acquired lumber of Peng-ma. Such a series of events might well be the steps of a deliberately contrived

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policy, but could scarcely have been invented and pieced together so adroitly by mere rumour. Should the story receive confirmation, it will have to be regarded as suggesting important contingencies. But it has to be remembered that the atmosphere is electric at present, and that things may look altogether different when the clouds roll by.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH RAPPROCHEMENT FROM A JAPANESE STANDPOINT.

III.

WE have submitted to our readers the comments of two leading journals on the altered relations of England and France, and we now translate, by way of conclusion, the editorial article of a third, the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which, though not in the very first rank of Tokyo newspapers, generally writes incisively and with conviction about foreign affairs :—

From an outside point of view the relations between England and France for many years have resembled those between a dog and a monkey. The Fashoda incident increased the degree of their mutual aversion still more, and the comments of French journals on the occasion of the South-African war as well as the behaviour of England, further deepened the hostile sentiments of the two nations, so that the world came to regard their reconciliation as quite impossible. Human affairs, however can not escape vicissitudes. The feeling of the two countries has now undergone a complete change, and they show a disposition to become as intimate as fishes are with water. Repeated telegrams from London have reported the fact, and it would seem that a change has occurred which must be counted an exceptional event in the history of the last 50 years.

The situation suggests reflections to certain persons. France, they say, approaches England because she is tired of her alliance with Russia; England approaches France because she finds Germany's proceedings objectionable. Russia's attitude towards the Fashoda incident and Germany's doings in the Venezuelan affair, constitute examples explanatory of these assertions. There are also appearances of Russia making friends with France's habitual enemy, Germany, while the estrangement between England and Germany is not merely political but is further promoted by journalistic interchange of abuse, which things tend to draw France and England together.

It is a fact that these conjectures embody a measure of truth. But as for persons who take the view that the Russo-French alliance is virtually disrupted by the Anglo-French *rapprochement*, they betray excessive precipitancy. The Russo-French alliance, it need scarcely be said, has its origin in no ephemeral cause. That it will not be destroyed in the near future is a matter of course, and there is nothing to suggest that even a disturbance of its basis impends closely. Thus to conclude that the Anglo-Japanese *entente* has produced a great effect on the Russo-French alliance, would be very hasty. Nevertheless it might not be far from the truth to say that an anodyne has been administered to the alliance. What metamorphoses will this anodyne become the motive of among the Powers? How will it affect the interests of our own country? These are questions that can not yet be answered, but regarding the matter from a point of view that does not take account of direct interests, we believe that, sooner or later, it will come to an alliance between England and France and between Russia and Germany. Further, we can not but hope that such will be the case. It would be superfluous now to insist that France is England's natural ally and that Russia is not a country for either of them to cultivate. Look, for example, at the politics of France and England; observe the development of personal rights; consider the degree of refinement and the interval between the upper and lower classes. Both have common ideas of democracy. Does not one offer to the world a pattern of the perfection of constitutional government; and did not the other's revolution set the whole of Europe on fire? Their form of governments, indeed, are not without difference, but are they not both the same in the universal prevalence of the principles of liberty and equality? If England's refinement is lofty, France's is not inferior. If England's wealth is great, France's is almost the same. "Like to like" the proverb says, and if it says truly, these two countries should be friends. Turning now to the connexion between Germany and Russia, their condition is very similar. Is it not the case that, in all Europe with the exception of Turkey, Russia and Germany smack most of comparative barbarism. (*Turkey wo nozokuteru Europe ni oite hikaku-teki bampū wo oburu mono wa Ro to Doku to ni arazu ya*). The working of the administration is controlled by fundamental laws that differ in the two countries, but if we look for the fullest exercise of despotic government and militarism in Europe, Germany stands next to Russia. In the management of their foreign affairs, the two countries do not co-ordinate their procedure, but in the calm use of falsehoods and deceitful schemes, in absolute unconsciousness of shame, in having almost completely forfeited the confidence of the Powers, Russia and Germany show common characteristics. "The ox with the ox," as the proverb says. Russia and Germany are natural allies. . . . . The sum of the matter is that though we do not know on what occasion England and France will stand side by side and Russia and Germany, we not only believe that nature will sooner or later over-ride human obstacles and bring about that result, but we also look with hope for a future when the natural struggle for the survival of the fittest will be decided between these two unions, each with its special characteristics.

We have given detailed translations of the various articles treating this subject, because the importance of the incident seems to call for an analysis of Japan's journalistic attitude towards it, and also because it appears to be a good occasion for conveying to our readers a clear idea of the matter and the manner of present day Japanese journalism. Among the three papers from which we have quoted, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is eminent for its habitually pacific tone in discussing all questions of foreign policy, especially questions where Russia is concerned. To the *Yomiuri Shimbun* must be assigned a diametrically opposite character. It is distinctly Russophobe, anti-German and Anglo-phil. Of the *Jiji Shimpo* there is no occasion to speak. The lucid, liberal and broadminded character of all its utterances is too well known to need any applause from us. Our readers will see, however, that in the above articles they have before them the two extremes and the mean of Japanese thought in matters of foreign policy. We wish it to be understood that in translating and reproducing these articles we do not endorse any one of them in its entirety, and that because we refrain from detailed criticism of the *Yomiuri's* appreciations, we are not by any means at one with them. Our immediate object is merely to present certain phases of Japanese thought.

TELEGRAMS.

IT must be admitted by everyone taking a calm review of the events of the past seven weeks, that the Japanese public has been fed with sensational telegrams on a very liberal scale. Certainly Japan is pre-eminently interested in the fate of Manchuria. For no other Power has that question anything like the same importance. It would be unfair, therefore, if the activity shown by Japanese correspondents and the avidity for news displayed by the Japanese people were placed in unqualified comparison with the demeanour of folks in Europe and America at this juncture. We purposely avoid saying anything about the demeanour of foreigners in Japan, because truth demands the admission that a warlike issue of the present complications has been predicted more confidently by one section of the Tokyo foreign public, at all events, than by any section of the Japanese citizens with whom we are acquainted. When, however, all due allowance is made on account of Japan's greater concern, there remains a considerable residuum of purely sensational emotion, in part real in part simulated. The leading newspapers, above all the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, have not only been conspicuously moderate in all their editorial comments, but their correspondents also have shown an evident desire to sift the true from the false and to avoid everything calculated to mislead or needlessly alarm. The *Asahi Shimbun* seems to us to have been almost, though not altogether, equally circumspect so far as its Tokyo direction is concerned; but its Peking correspondent has shown himself rather more enterprising than the situation strictly demanded. Nevertheless, if journalism in Tokyo were confined to these four papers, there would be very little to criticise. It is when we come to a lower rank of publication that cause for complaint is found. One journal appears to have organized a manufactory for inventing news, and to have carried deception so far as to attribute to imaginary correspondents in foreign capitals items of intelligence which really emanated from the workshop in Tokyo. Probably a parallelism of disgraceful falsification could be found if the ways of the yellow journal in other lands were laid bare. Indeed there have been cognate instances on an even more audacious and wholesale scale. What happens elsewhere, however, being of small moment to us compared with what happens here, we are inclined to fully endorse the strong strictures published by the *Kokumin Shimbun* in its issue of the 18th instant. The "extra" has become a genuine abuse in Tokyo. Men run around at intervals from 5 to 10 p.m. shouting "*gogai, gogai*," and distributing printed slips that emanate from this or that journal's office and often contain items of news totally false or, at best, grossly exaggerated. The *Kokumin* thinks that it is done chiefly in the interests of speculators on 'Change. It mentions a fact which had never previously come to our knowledge, namely, that whereas the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, signed on the 30th of January, was not published by the press of Tokyo until the 13th or 14th of February, it had become known and utilized on the stock and rice exchanges by the 2nd or 3rd of the latter month. If the most secret affairs of State can be thus unveiled by speculators, says our contemporary, one is able to form some conception of the power they wield, and to understand that although they may not control as many journals as the political parties do, their influence, when they choose to exercise it, is irresistible. The *Kokumin* appeals to the spirit of patriotism to check this abuse. It reminds journalists that from the moment

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when they come to be recognised as purveyors of false intelligence or as careless in the discharge of their responsibility of discrimination, not only do they lose all credit, but they also expose themselves to be denounced as sacrificing the public interests to private gains. Will this excellent homily have any wholesome effect? We hope, but doubt.

IMPERIAL DIET.

Monday, May 18.

The House of Representatives opened its session for business purposes on the 16th instant at 1 p.m. The galleries were crowded and among the visitors was Prince Tsai Chêng. The Prime Minister, ascending the rostrum, said that it gave him great satisfaction to meet the members who had been returned at the new elections. In the last session of the House, the Government, considering the state of affairs abroad, had presented a scheme for completing the national defences, its dimensions being duly adapted to the financial condition of the country and to the development of the nation's strength. Unfortunately the House had been dissolved before passing the Budget, and it had become necessary to work with the Budget of the preceding year. The Government had done everything in its power to economise the expenditure under the Budget, without impairing the progress of the country, but it had been found inevitable to ask for fresh appropriations to meet outlays on account of plans already fixed, responsibilities arising from the operation of laws, or undertakings essential to national progress. Therefore the Government, in order to deal duly with the situation, had now submitted to the House certain Supplementary Budgets and projects of law. The principal of these measures concerned the national defences, the development of means of communication and the prosecution of special works in Formosa. The House, having had these matters before it in the preceding session, was doubtless familiar with the reasons that dictated them. They were all in accordance with the policy of the State and the conditions of the situation, and the Minister was confident that the members would appreciate their urgent nature. The whole nation was now united and the time had come to consolidate the country's advance. He earnestly hoped that the House would exercise its function of consent with deliberation and impartiality adapted to the important purpose of securing the Empire's interests.

Baron Sone, Minister of Finance, then made a brief speech. He desired to say a word in connexion with the Supplementary Budgets and projects of law that had been submitted to the House. Owing to the failure of the General Budget to come into existence, it had been necessary to work with the Budget of the preceding year, and consequently the Government was obliged to ask for special grants, the chief objects being the country's defences, the Iron Foundry, Formosan undertakings, the Louisiana Exposition and others. He trusted that these bills would receive the House's assent.

Immediately after the delivery of these speeches several members of the Progressist Party set themselves to ply the Ministers with questions. Mr. Otake wanted to know why the Government did not adhere to its policy of last session, and how it proposed to meet the deficiency of income resulting from its voluntary amendment of the Land Tax rate, the rate now asked for being 3 per cent. whereas it had been 3.3 per cent. last session.

Baron Sone replied that the deficiency would be met by adjustments of public works, especially railways, and by administrative economies.

Mr. Otake had heard that an *entente* existed between the Ministry and the *Seiyu-kai* and that the Land Tax Bill would not be pressed, the income accruing from it being compensated by public loans. Was the Minister prepared to deny that positively?

Baron Sone desired to postpone answering untill the Bill came up for discussion. He was about to leave the rostrum when,

Mr. Otake urged that the Finance Minister had spoken of the Bndget in general and ought therefore to answer such a question.

Baron Sone said that such questions had better be submitted in writing and then perhaps they might be answered in detail.

Mr. Kudo Kokan had heard that the Prime Minister, in an interview with representatives of the Six Sections of the Upper House, had indicated public loans as a substitute for the increased rate of land tax. He presumed, therefore, that the Land Tax Bill would not be pressed. Was that so?

The Prime Minister presumed that Mr. Kudo had obtained his information from the newspapers. At any rate that was not the place to discuss what had passed or had not passed between a Minister and Members of the House of Peers.

Mr. Kudo Kokan denounced the Premier's treatment of his question.

Several members of the Progressists put other questions. Among them Mr. Moriya Konosuke distinguished himself by a fierce attack upon the Ministers of the Crown. He did not derive his material, he said, from newspapers. He spoke of actual facts. Was there or was there not an *entente*? The Minister of Finance, in telling them to put their questions in writing, had not only paraded his own incompetence, but had also insulted the House, and indeed the whole nation. After this exordium the member indulged in strong vituperation.

Several members called to the President for permission to speak and there was much commotion in the House, but finally the President—Mr. Sugita was sitting in the absence of Mr. Kataoka, who is sick—declared that the Order of the Day should be taken.

The first measure was the Land Tax Bill. It proposed that the rate on urban lands should remain at 5 per cent, and that the rate on rural lands should be 3 per cent. After a few inquiries the Bill was handed to a special committee of 36.

This was followed by a Bill setting a limit to the maximum amount of local taxes levied as a per-centage of the Land Tax. This too was handed to the same committee.

The Naval Increment Bill was then taken. Its form was that the Naval Maintenance Capital Fund should be supplemented so as to permit the building of new ships of war and torpedo craft. The figures were as already given in our columns, the total outlay being 115 million *yen*. A few questions having been asked, the Bill was handed to a special committee of 18.

Several other Bills were similarly treated, the principal among them having reference to public loans in Formosa; to an amendment of the Regulations of the Industries Bank in the sense explained in these columns some days ago, namely, to enable the Bank to increase its issues of debentures in order to assist the Seoul-Fusan Railway Company; to a postponement of the payment of taxes in Awomori prefecture; and to the remission of taxes in devastated regions, this last measure being a private Bill intended as an amendment of the Government's Bill which contemplated only an extension of the time for paying taxes.

The House rose at 3.20 p.m.

A Question has been presented by Mr. Itakura, with reference to the Government's policy towards Russia. The questioner alludes to current rumours that Russia is not discharging her duty of evacuating Manchuria but, on the contrary, is increasing her military forces there; and further that she is sending soldiers towards the Korean frontier, is engaged in large operations of timberfelling, and is treating the inhabitants arbitrarily. If these reports were correct what policy did the Government intend to adopt. In a statement of reasons attached to the Question it is remarked that the Far East is in a disturbed condition; that the news published by the press is conflicting; that men do not know what to think; that this uncertainty is seriously affecting commerce and industry; that, in such circumstances, there devolves upon the Government the duty of enlightening the public so far as the exigencies of foreign politics will permit, and that as that duty had not been performed, the present Question was presented.

Wednesday, May 20.

It will be observed that the Diet is not assembling these days. But its business is going on all the same. The Committees are meeting regularly. Until some one of them is prepared to present its report there is no business for the House of Representatives in full session. Interest chiefly centres of course, on the Budget Committee. People are watching to see what attitude it will adopt towards the supplementary estimates, and towards the question recently raised as to the restrictive effect of the 5th Article of the Finance Law. Mr. Ishikuro, who first brought that question into the foreground of politics, addressed it direct to the Premier at the Committee's meeting on the 19th instant. He asked whether Count Katsura considered that the introduction of these supplementary estimates did not conflict with the Law, and whether the items were all of "indispensable necessity? The Prime Minister replied emphatically in the negative to the former query and in the affirmative to the latter, whereupon Mr. Ishikuro moved that a special committee be appointed to inquire into the matter. But it would seem that these questions and the proposal consequent upon their answers were not very serious, for the matter was allowed to drop quietly when another committeeman, Mr. Noda, suggested that they had better consider the actual requisitions of the Government rather than discuss points of law.

Mr. Kudo Kokan inquired how it happened that whereas the limit for any year's issue of Treasury Bills was nominally 35 million *yen*, the Government had issued 43 milllons worth last year. To this Mr. Sakatani, Vice-Minister of Finance, replied that owing to the increased number of Japanese bonds held abroad on which interest had to be paid, and owing to the operation of the new Exchange Law on time transactions in connexion with the Tobacco Monopoly, this money had been required.

In answer to a question from Mr. Shigeoka, Baron Sone said that the Government might possibly introduce another supplementary budget about the Seoul-Fusan Railway, but that would close the list.

Questions were put about the appropriation for the Wakamatsu Foundry. Mr. Nakamura, chief of the Foundry, explained that quantities of ore imported from China were waiting to be smelted; that without coke the work could not be carried on, and that six months were required to prepare the latter. Hence it was impossible, without inflicting heavy loss on the country, either to abstain from further expenditures for the purpose of completing the Foundry, or to postpone this appropriation until the Diet's regular session next winter.

In answer to further questions on the same subject, Baron Hirata said that although an examining committee had recommended the transfer of the Foundry to private hands, there was not at present any private company prepared to take it over. Again, as to that committee's opinion that 8 millions would be required to complete the works whereas the Government now asked for something over 4 millions only, it should be understood that the latter sum was only to meet pressing necessities. Concerning the burning of the Urao Mine, the matter was under investigation.

Further pressed as to the Government's policy about the Foundry, the Minister said that although it might be ultimately transferred to a private company, the present intention was to continue its official control.

General Terauchi, Minister of War, explained that the sum of half a million *yen* in connexion with military increment was for provisions for men and horses added to the Seventh Division.

Baron Yamamoto made a brief statement about the scheme of Naval Increment but his remarks are not reported in detail.

Mr. Kudo Kokan (Progressist) made several attempts to elicit some confession that the Government had decided to abandon its land-tax policy and have recourse to loans. Baron Sone, how-

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ever, persisted in saying that the Cabinet's present programme was to obtain 2¾ millions by adjustments of the Railway Construction Fund, half a million by adjustments of the Telephone Fund and one million by administrative reforms, making 4½ millions(?) in all. The remaining 7 millions required for the navy would be procured from the land tax. The Baron used the words *konnichi ni oite wa* (for to-day), which convey the impression that the Cabinet is not unprepared to change its programme.

Thursday, May 21.

On the afternoon of the 19th instant the Budget Committee resumed its sittings. The first thing to be considered was a basis of discussion, to the preparation of which the forenoon had been devoted. Two bases were proposed, one compiled by the *Seiyu-kai* and one by the Progressists. The *Seiyu-kai* basis provided that, first, with the exception of unavoidably necessary outlays, all supplementary appropriations should be postponed until the regular session of the Diet next fall; and secondly that no change should be sanctioned in the amounts of the continuing annual expenditures on account of public works. This latter consideration would evidently defeat the Governmen's plan of diverting railway and telephone grants to the purposes of naval increment. The Progressists' basis was that in dealing with the supplementary budget the policy adopted by the Diet in its last session should be adhered to, and that in strict accord with the 71st Article of the Constitution, every item should be examined on its merits, and no sanction extended except in cases of unavoidable necessity. In effect these two bases were the same, but after some discussion that of the *Seiyu-kai* was adopted. The discussion of the supplementary budget's details then proceeded.

Mr. Sakurai asked what work the Naval Department contemplated this year, to which Admiral Saito replied that the first thing would be the construction of three line-of-battle ships with their armaments, and the preparation of a scheme for armoured cruisers. Mr. Sakurai asked if it was proposed to include these increment expenditures in the accounts of the Naval Maintenance Fund, to which the Government Delegate, Mr. Arai, answered that as the yearly outlays varied greatly, it seemed more convenient to have them in a special account than in the regular estimates.

Mr. Kudo Kokan asked whether in procuring ships from Europe the Department obtained a commission; if not, whether it procured a reduction of price, and if it did receive a commission, whether the amount was included in the miscellaneous income of the Treasury. After this question had been pressed two or three times, Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of Marine, replied with some heat, that he was astounded at such an inquiry. If anything of the kind occurred, it must be known by the settled accounts. The Government's method of purchase did not offer any margin for commissions. The Admiral concluded his reply with the words, *kore de o wakari desho* (I suppose you know now), which seemed to offend Mr. Kudo, who then said that his question did not refer to naval matters alone and that he wanted to hear about all the Government's purchases. Admiral Yamamoto said that the Government bought according to its own judgment of what was suitable, and there was nothing more to be said.

Mr. Moriya renewed his attempts to embarrass the Government with reference to the source of income that would be substituted if the land tax were abandoned and with reference to the proposed reduction of administrative expenses. He and Mr. Kudo had a contest as to which should be the first to put questions of this nature. Mr. Sakatani replied that it was not possible to give a detailed account of the contemplated administrative economies, and that the Government had not yet formed any definite plan in the event of the Land Tax Bill being rejected.

A curious incident now occurred. Mr. Kudo Kokan alleged that at the meeting of the Committee on the 18th inst., he had inquired whether, in the event of the Land Tax Bill being rejected, the Government intended to have recourse to public loans, to which question Baron Sone had replied distinctly that no such intention existed. On examining the stenographic record, however, Baron Sone's statements were found to have been erased. Mr. Kudo wished to have it settled whether he himself had heard aright or whether Baron Sone had adopted the extraordinary course of having the record altered on his own responsibility. Mr. Otake Kanichi, who had distinguished himself by his vehement attitude in opposition on the Diet's opening day, declared that he was prepared to bear witness to the correctness of Mr. Kudo's memory. The Chairman of the Budget Committee said that the matter should be inquired into.

On the same afternoon the Special Committee on the Land Tax Bill also held its session. Baron Sone appeared before it and repeated his previous declarations that the Government regarded the continuance of the increased rate of land tax as the best means of obtaining revenue. Mr. Watanabe Osamu remarked that according to report the Government's candidates in the general election had intimated that the Land Tax Bill would not be pushed, and some of the Imperialists were understood to have said as much. Did this mean that the Ministry were indifferent about the fate of the Bill? Baron Sone replied that the Government were anxious to avoid extra taxation and had therefore cut down the rate of the land tax from 3.3 to 3 per cent. Mr. Sakeguchi and another member observed that according to what was known of the agreement between the Cabinet and Marquis Ito the land tax measure would be abandoned and public loans resorted to. Was that the case, and if so would it not be better to withdraw the Bill at once? Had the Government any alternative plan. Baron Sone answered briefly in the negative. Mr. Mochizuki observed that the fate of the Bill being settled, there was no use thrashing a dead horse. They had better formulate their decision at once. Nevertheless some of the members continued to ply the Minister with questions of the above nature. Baron Sone said that the Government desired to hear the arguments of the Committee. He endeavoured to induce the Committee to delay its decision but the majority voted against such a course, and finally resolved, by 31 votes to 4, to report unfavourably to the Bill.

CRICKET.

Mr. Garde's XI v. Y.C. & A.C.

The Cricket season has usually opened in Yokohama on the 24th May, but with the passing of Queen Victoria her anniversary day has been wiped off the calendar as a fixture, and the Club takes the first opportunity that presents for making a start. Cricket therefore begins earlier here than it used to do, and so it comes about that this year saw the first game played on May 16th. On Friday a match was arranged between two local elevens, but as soon as it became known that Mr. Garde could get together a nearly complete naval team from H.M.S. *Cressy* and *Eclipse*, an alteration was effected and a capital afternoon's amusement resulted. The day was fine but very blustery, and occasionally clouds of dust were wafted over the ground; but this was the only serious drawback. The naval men went to bat first-and knocked up 119, towards which total Garde alone contributed 91, not out. He was in fine form and treated the local bowling with great freedom, but it must be remembered that this was the first match of the season, and, with the exception of H. W. Kilby, perhaps, no one is yet "on his game." Garde's and Duff's batting and Kilby's bowling were the outstanding features of the match. Beginning with a couple off Clarke in the first-over, Garde next sent Kilby to the fence for 3; but he had to wait till the sixth over before he knocked his first 4, and it was only towards the close that he punished Clarke for 5. His score included seven 4's; one 5; four 3's; and twelve 2's. Kilby took six wickets for a total cost of 37 runs, or a little over 6 runs per wicket, not a bad start for the season.

The Club in the time left at their disposal made 102 for seven wickets, the top scores being made by C. M. Duff, not out, 46, and P. B. Clarke, 26. Duff showed a return to his old free form, making two 4's, two 3's, and eleven 2's. He deserved the cheers he received on his return to the Pavilion. Scores:—

Mr. Garde's XI.

R. B. Garde, not out	91
Mr. Thomas, b. H. W. Kilby	7
Dr. Moon, b. H. W. Kilby	0
E. L. Raymond, b. H. W. Kilby	8
V. G. Gurney, c. Fairhurst, b. H. W. Kilby	0
Mr. Remington, b. H.W. Kilby	1
B. G. Thesiger, b. H.W. Kilby	0
O. Strome, absent	—
W. Graham, run out	4
Mr. Dawes, c. & b. F. E. White	0
C. E. Libeaud, b F. E. White	0
Extras	4
	119

Bowling Analysis.

	b.	n.	m.	is	wides.
P. B. Clarke	54	42	1	0	1
H. W. Kilby	84	37	3	6	—
F. E. White	28	15	0	2	—
F. O. Stuart	24	15	1	0	—
G. G. Brady	18	6	0	0	—

Y. C. and A. C.

F. E. Wilkinson, b. Gurney	9
P. B. Clarke, b. Libeaud	26
C. M. Duff, not out	46
K. W. Kilby, l.b.w., b. Libeaud	0
G. Fairhurst, c. Garde, b. Moon	2
F. W. R. Ward, b. Moon	4
F. E. White, c. and b. Remington	7
S. Wheeler, b. Remington	5
J. R. Thomson, not out	0
W. S. Moss, F. O. Stuart, G. G. Brady } to bat	
Extras	3
	102

SCANDALS.

Mr. Yusukuro and two other directors of the Mimasaka Bank, Okayama Prefecture, were arrested on May 14th on a charge of fraud.

S. Hiruma, 1st clerk in the Bureau of the Quarter-master of the Imperial Body Guards, was arrested on May 14th on a charge of receiving bribes.

A. Uchida, manager of the Matsumoto branch of the Shinano Bank, was arrested on the night of May 14th on a charge of embezzlement and his dwelling was searched by judicial officials.

In the Tokyo District Court, three educational officials who are connected with the text book affair were sentenced on May 15th to from one month to two months and a half's imprisonment and a fine of *yen* 4 to *yen* 10, the bribes they had received being ordered to be confiscated. Mr. Tsunematsu Ryukei, M.P., elected for Shimane prefecture and one other were sentenced on the 16th in the Tokyo Local Court to a fine of 20 *yen* each.

K. Baba, Superintendent of the Tondabayashi Tax Office, Osaka, was arrested on May 16th on a charge of having counterfeited stamps.

A barrister named R. Vuiki, living at Kanda in Tokyo, and two others were arrested on May 18th at Urawa, in Saitama Prefecture, on a charge of fraud.

In the Tokyo District Court, four educational officials charged in connection with the text book scandal were sentenced on May 18th to from two months' to five months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 7 to *yen* 15, and the bribes they had received were ordered to be confiscated. The same day, two educational officials were committed for trial.

Lieut. Abe (a son of Viscount Abe Seikan) was arrested on May 19th in Tokyo on a charge of fraud.

S. Hirai, assistant engineer of the Osaka Municipal office,, was arrested on May 19th on a charge of receiving a bribe from a contractor.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

We find in the *Kyōiku Kōhō* (No. 269) the report of a long speech made by Mr. Tsuji Shinji, for many years Vice-Minister of Education, on December 7th last, which gives a minute historical account of the development of high-class education in Japan. As anything like a reproduction of the speech even in a condensed form in this Summary would be impossible, we content ourselves with making a few extracts. On the history of the institutions which gave birth to the present Tōkyō Imperial University Mr. Tsuji says:—At the beginning of the Meiji era there existed a school in Edo known as the 昌平黌 Shōheikō. In December, 1868, the 開成所 Kaiseijo and a Medical School, known as the Igakkan, were started. Shortly after that the Shōheikō was declared to be the Daigaku Honkō (本校), the Kaiseijo assumed the name of the Daigaku Nankō (Southern School), and the Medical School being situated to the East of the Shōheikō was called the Daigaku Tōkō. The Main School was divided into the Japanese and Chinese Sections at first, with the idea of united action by the different professors, but the friction between the Chinese scholars (Kangakusha) and the professors of pure Japanese (Wagakusha) was so strong that they had to be separated from each other. The Southern School at once adopted foreign methods of teaching, employed foreign teachers and began translating foreign books for use in the school. The Medical School followed a similar course. In those days the numerous foreigners employed always lectured in foreign languages and maintained that the Japanese must learn to understand such lectures. It was they that originated the terms normal method (*seisoku*) and abnormal method (*hensoku*) of learning a language. In July, 1871, the Mombushō was organized. It at once abolished the Daigaku Main School and proceeded to reform the mode of teaching in the Nankō, in favour of the normal method advocated by the foreigners. In August, 1872, the Department of Education issued a notification, containing the outlines of a new scheme of education to be applied to the whole country. The Nankō was then converted into the Tōkyō Kaisei Gakkō and the Tōkō became the Tōkyō Igakkō. In 1877, the two establishments were combined under the title of the Tōkyō Daigaku, which in March, 1886, was changed to the Teikoku Daigaku. According to the original scheme of the Mombushō decided on in 1872, there were to have been 8 Universities, each having 32 Middle Schools as feeders, making the total number of Middle Schools to be 256; and these Middle Schools were each to have 210 Primary Schools as feeders, making the total number of Primary Schools to be 53,760. The following figures show the progress of education during the past 25 years. In 1873, the percentage of attendance at school of eligible children was 28·13; that for boys being 39·9 and for girls being 15·13. In 1900, the average attendance was 81·48; that for boys being 90·35 and that for girls, 71·73. The number of Primary Schools in 1873 was 12,558; in 1900 they had increased to 26,856. In 1873 there were 20 Middle Schools only, whereas in 1900 there were 218.

The meeting held on Dec. 7th, when Mr. Tsuji's speech was delivered, was convened in order to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the issue of the Mombushō notifications bearing on education referred to above. On that occasion Baron Kikuchi supplemented Mr. Tsuji's history of education in recent years by the following remarks. It may be instructive to compare the original educational scheme with what in the course of thirty years it has been found possible to accomplish. Instead of 8 Universities, we have 2 only. Instead of 53,760 Primary Schools we have 27,076 only, according to the report of March 1902. In the matter of Middle Schools, there are 222 ordinary Middle Schools; reckoning, Middle Business Schools and High Girls Schools, the number is not far short of the 256 hoped for. In reference to other existing high-class schools there are 5 Medical Schools, 2 Schools of Agriculture and Forestry, 5 Industrial Schools, and 3 Commercial Schools.

Dr. Katō at the same meeting gave an interesting account of the learned activity of teachers and students alike at the University in the early days of the Meiji era. The students of that time were full of spirit and by no means ready to accept any doctrines that teachers brought forward. Lengthy, excited discussions over disputed points were constantly taking place and rival schools of thought fought with each other in a most earnest fashion.

Mr. Izawa Shūji reminded the audience of the fact that Kyūshū has furnished more Ministers of Education than any other part of Japan and discussed the merits of the Kyūshū Ministers, Ōki Takato, Mori Arinori, Inoue Ki and Count Kabayama. He said that the late Viscount Mori's views were not as pro-foreign as had been represented in some quarters, and quoted proofs of this.

* * *

Having been accused by Mr. Uchimura Kanzō and others of having given up his Christianity and of having become an ardent Imperialist, Mr. Yamaji Yakichi publishes in his organ the *Dokuritsu Hyōron* a long defence of the line he has taken, which is characterised by manliness, honesty and philosophic and political insight. We epitomize his remarks as follows:—I am accused of being a turn-coat, of having rejected the creed in which I once believed and so on, because I have confessed myself to be an earnest Imperialist. This is an entire misapprehension on the part of my assailants. I am as fond of liberty as ever I was, I am, too, an advocate of continual progress and increased enlightenment. I have, moreover, my own articles of faith. But to me it is quite plain that individual liberty and independence must in the last resort rest on national independence, and that in the present state of the world and in view of the exigencies of the political situation in the Far East, the maintenance of national independence largely depends on the adoption of a right policy in politics. What a nation has to do is to study the course of events and the tendency of the age and take such measures as prudence dictates to guard itself against unpleasant surprises of any kind. The policy a country adopts is necessarily largely determined by the course of events and by the line followed by rival countries. What has hitherto been known as a national policy has in several countries had to give place to the new Imperial policy of which so much is heard in Europe and America. Imperialism is explained in different ways by different writers. (1) I now proceed to define the characteristics of present day Imperialism. What it is important to observe is *The comparatively new conception of the function of a State.* The modern State is no other than a gigantic joint-stock company with certain interests that must be defended at all costs. The old conception of the State regarded it as designed to act very much as an individual acts who has only to please himself. The State being the guardian of great money interests and money figuring largely in all its schemes and undertakings, the capitalist in these modern days wields immense power, and the only way to prevent capitalists from buying off a State is for that State to be in a pecuniary position that makes it independent of capitalists. I am not saying that the system of plutocracy is a bad system, but only pointing out that it exists throughout the West to a very large extent. Money rules all things. Rich countries can afford to keep great armies and navies and hold their own against the strongest of their rivals. Poor countries have sooner or later to succumb and take a very secondary place in the settlement of the world's affairs. (2) *A new thirst for empire has set in among the great Powers.* In view of the overthrow of so many ancient empires, European nations used to be of opinion that a country endangered its independent existence by undertaking to govern a number of alien races scattered over wide extents of territory, but during the last century, if not before, the leading Powers of Europe abandoned the notion that extensiveness of empire is necessarily fraught with danger. Modern means of communication have altered the situation entirely, and so great empires have been growing the different parts of which are thousands of miles apart, and disruption has become quite rare. By extending its dominion far and wide and by setting up tariffs against competing Powers a nation may now enrich itself and among its own nationals may establish a universal brotherhood (一視同仁, *isshi, dōjin*) that constitutes a national bulwark of enormous potency. In this way nations may become largely independent of hostile Powers, trade among fellow-subjects of the same ruler supplying all they need. Thus does each great Power set up a little world of its own, revolving around its own sun uninterrupted by the motion of other worlds, which revolve in different spheres. This state of affairs has been brought about by keen competition, by the rapid increase of population and by increasing facilities for communication. So strong is the thirst for empire among energetic nations that even America has gone back on her Monroe doctrine* and is gradually adopting an Imperial policy. The adoption of this policy naturally implies a large increase of armaments, but does not necessarily lead to war. On the contrary, as things are now situated, the safest kind of peace to be obtained is "armed peace" (*busōteki heiwa*). Sages and eminent Christians like Tolstoi will no doubt tell us that war is barbaric, that the tendency of the times is an evil tendency, that all good people should denounce it and so on, and so on. But how futile are these protests against the course of events! What nation is there that will disarm at the command of a thousand Tolstois? There is only one course open to us that is free from peril, and that is to do as others do, to bow to an exigency that is too strong to be resisted. It is because this is so, that I try to stir up national ambition and enterprise among my follow-countrymen, that I try to imbue them with the empire-building spirit. (3) *The development of ideas as to race.*—Prevailing ideas as to race have undergone three radical changes. At first when people knew next to nothing of each other's character, the races despised each other. This period may be termed the age of ignorant contempt.† Increased intercommunication resulted in the creation of a feeling of universal brotherhood. But this did not last; keen competition revived the old race feelings and made it to appear that race union furnishes the best of all safeguards against defeat in the struggle for life and preeminence. Race antipathy was at first founded on mere ignorance, it is now based on self-interest and self-protection against the ofttimes unscrupulous methods and overwhelming forces of competitors. So in these modern days we hear much of Pan-Slavism, Pan-Germanism, the Anglo-Saxon alliance, the alliance of the Latin races, and so on. In this kind of contest victory must in the end depend on numbers. Japan should enter the arena with the determination not to be left behind in the race. The population, the wealth and the armaments that are necessary for success are all procurable. All that we need to cultivate is the spirit that aspires to excel. We should endeavour to realize that there is something very grand about a world policy; that Imperialism may be made a means of training a nation and qualifying her to fill posts involving enormous responsibility and conferring untold benefits on the human race at large.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* celebrated the publication of its four thousandth number by the issue of a 96 page paper, containing an immense amount of valuable matter. Among the numerous articles we find one that gives a history of the Ōsaka newspapers. Having in a former Summary

* Mr. Yamaji follows the interpretation of this doctrine adopted by many, making it imply non-interference in European politics on America's part as a return for the non-interference of European Powers in questions seriously affecting the independence of American States other than the United States situated in any part of the Continent.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

† We fear there is a good deal of this still even among people who profess to be highly civilised.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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furnished a *resumé* of a history of the Tōkyō journals, we are glad to be able to do the same in the case of the no less important Ōsaka press. Here is the gist of what the *Kokumin* has to tell us on this topic. The first journal published in Ōsaka was the *Ōsaka Shimbun*, the first number of which was issued in 1872. The *Ōsaka Shimbun* only covered 14 or 15 pages of the paper know as *hanshi*, was printed with wooden blocks, and sold at 3½ *sen* per copy. It was a very poor production and soon perished. In 1875 a paper called the *Naniwa Shimbun* was started, but it merited no better support than its predecessor. The news it supplied was of a very low or insignificant type and the editor failed to command respect. The following year a political organ, the *Ōsaka Nippō*, made its appearance. It was an anti-Government journal edited by Mr. Seki Shingo (subsequently made Prefect of Fukui), whose writings brought about its temporary suspension by the authorities. The two papers that had preceded this one were called *Koshimbun*; the *Ōsaka Nippō* had the honour of being the first *Ōshimbun* published in Ōsaka. A few years later several other papers were started, but their lives were too short to make them worthy of mention here. In the year 1879 a political party was formed in Ōsaka known as the Rikken Seitō, and the *Ōsaka Nippō*, after changing its name to the *Rikken Seitō Shimbun*, became its organ, with Mr. Furuzawa Uro (the present Prefect of Yamaguchi) as its editor. In 1883 this paper underwent another change of name, becoming the *Ōsaka Mainichi Shimbun*, the title it still bears. This same year appeared what was then considered to be a very insignificant sheet the *Ōsaka Asahi*. After running along a very low level for a short time, it was purchased by Mr. Murayama Ryōhei and converted into a first-class newspaper, subsequently commanding a larger circulation, it is said, than any paper in Japan. These two newspapers, the *Ōsaka Mainichi* and the *Ōsaka Asahi* were on a level with the leading journals of Tōkyō as regards get-up and influence. The latter made a point of enlightening the masses on a variety of common topics. It disbursed large sums on telegrams and reports of various kinds. In 1893, however, the late Mr. Takahashi Kenzō (at one time head of the *Official Gazette* Office) became its editor, and elevated the paper into an important vehicle of high class discussion and criticism. Though from the very first the *Ōsaka Mainichi* succeeded in keeping up a high standard of writing, yet as a newspaper its contents were meagre compared to the *Asahi*, whose copious notes on all sorts of subjects attracted a great variety of readers. In 1896 the *Ōsaka Mainichi* engaged the services of Mr. Hara Kei as editor. Up to the time of the China-Japan war these two papers had the whole field to themselves, but in 1899 a new journal made its appearance called the *Ōsaka Shimpō*. It was started by a set of speculators, but was soon sold to a steady-going-business man who made Mr. Yokoi Tokio (of Dōshisha fame) its editor, who continued to edit the paper till last year, when his place was taken by Mr. Hara Kei. In Ōsaka to-day there are only three newspapers of any imfluence, which are the three above memtioned journals, the *Ōsaka Mainichi*, the *Ōsaka Asahi* and the *Ōsaka Shimpō*. Since thə death of Mr. Takahashi Kenzō, Mr. Ueno Riichirō has had charge of the *Ōsaka Asahi*, and the paper has lost no ground under its new management. The *Ōsaka Mainichi* is under the charge of Mr. Komatsubara Yeitarō (formerly Vice-Minister of the Home Office)*, a man of great energy and resourcefulness. Comparing these two papers, the *Asahi* having in past years scored a great success, it now aims simply at maintaining its standard of excellence. The *Mainichi* in its efforts to outdo its rival sometimes gives way to exaggeration and sensationalism. Some people say that the *Asahi* is like an English newspaper and the *Mainichi* like a German one. The items of news published by the latter need more careful editing. Comparing the papers with Tōkyō journals, the *Asahi* resembles the *Nippon*. This is accounted for by the leanings of the late Mr. Takahashi, who was also at one time a frequent contributor to the *Nippon*. The *Mainichi* is written after the style of the *Jiji Shumpō*, the writers for it being mostly composed of old Keiōgijuku students.

* The long connection of prominent officials with the Ōsaka newspapers is worthy of note. As a rule the case has been quite different with the Tōkyō journals.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* * *

Last month the *Teikoku Bungaku* published its 100th number and to celebrate the event issued a 350 page edition containing many useful articles and other material. We have only space here for the reproduction of one essay and we have chosen that of Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō on the Japanese stage entitled *Engeki ni tsuite no Kōsatsu*. Here is the substance of Dr. Inoue's interesting article. In this age of keen competition and bustle there is a danger of everything being sacrificed to material interests. But there remains among all civilised people one taste which champions the cause of the ideal and that is their love of beauty, and it is because the drama in the West is so closely connected with the many forms of beauty that it has such charms for the public generally. But can it be said that our Japanese stage fulfils this condition in any adequate measure? We think not. In order to represent the beautiful on the stage, it is not sufficient to place before the spectators certain objects of beauty nor to recite to them beautiful compositions. In order to have due effect on the mind the beautiful must not be allowed to lie scattered about here and there with the chance of its being picked up piece by piece, as it were, by an appreciative audience, it must be centralized, embodied in a definite, intelligible and impressive form by the actors and actresses. The actor's art consists of two distinct parts, namely, (1) close attention to outward forms; (2) close attention to the ideas which are being represented. Now let us compare the Japanese stage with that in the West.

I. In regard to *operas*, *operettes* and *ballets*, we have nothing in this country worthy of comparison with the productions of Wagner and other composers. Our *Kapporé**, though possessing a few points of resemblance to Western ballets, is lacking in dignity and refinement. The *Miyako-odori* and the *Sansha-shigure* approach nearer to the foreign ballet, but they are wanting in spirit and go. Japanese dancing consists too exclusively of mere posturing, bending to the right or to the left, extending the limbs in this fashion and that, the hands playing the principal part, and the feet only being used to keep time, which is done in a grotesquely noisy fashion. In foreign ballet-dancing the adroit use of the feet is the main feature, and it is far more exciting to an audience than our attitude-striking stage performances. We have only one ballet-dance that may be said to be permeated with energy and that is the *Sambasō*, but this is quite an exceptional performance.

II. *Plays*. Our plays are of three kinds (a) Those whose object it is to delight the audience; (b) those which aim at awakening sympathy for suffering or indifference to it; (c) those which endeavour to play on the opposite feelings of men's minds alternately. In examining foreign plays it has struck us that those of the great dramatists are mostly mournful, if not tragical. Such were the compositions of Shakespeare, Goethe, Schiller, Corneille and Racine. The plays of Molière and Camoens were exceptions to this rule. In Japan tragedy is altogether overdone. Our actors are not content with mere killing, they must add every horror attached to a slow and painful death that ingenuity can invent. After being covered with blood by wounds received, a man deliberately begins to disembowel himself and does not die till he has made the audience sick with the sights witnessed. The everlasting appeal to our pensive feelings on the Japanese stage is unwholesome and wearisome, and as for the tragical scenes to be seen on our boards, their tendency is to encourage cruelty by accustoming people to witness revolting sights. In reference to those plays whose chief design is to give pleasure to the audience, it seems to be thought in this country that it is impossible to attain the object in view otherwise than by the introduction of scenes between men and women that are quite indecent. This is an entire mistake. If a Molière or a Camoens were to appear among us and give us merriment unattended by any of the disfigurements which characterise the plays now in use, audiences would be found to fully appreciate such merriment. In reference to our practice of assigning women's parts to men, though it is somewhat amusing, and though the rôles played by the men who represent women are well executed, there are many objections to this plan. There is little doubt that the practice has a demoralising effect on the audience. Were men to attempt to imitate women in the streets as they do on the stage, the police would interfere on the ground that such action would tend to corrupt morals. Since actors use the stage as a means of making a living, it is perhaps too much to expect them to reach a high standard of character. Even in the West it cannot be said that actors and actresses are highly respected. But the class of women that are cleverly imitated by our actors are mostly women of loose morals and the effect of such acting is to elicit admiration from young girls for heroines whose characters are unworthy of imitation. We should like to see the practice of men's taking women's parts entirely abolished. Japanese actors may be divided into those of the old school, represented by Danjurō and Kikugorō (deceased) and those of the new, represented by Kawakami, and known as *sōshi* actors. Danjurō and his school are hardly likely to change their ways. The *sōshi* actors, though lacking in some important histrionic qualifications, are certainly on the right track and to them we must look for the development of an entirely new type of Japanese stage-acting.

* It is said to have a foreign origin.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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The Kōten-kōkyū-jo in Iida-machi, Tōkyō, has announced that a gigantic Encyclopedia of Japanese knowledge called the 類聚名物考, *Ruijū-meibutsu-kō* is now going through the press. The work consists of 342 volumes in the Japanese edition, covering 30,000 pages. The information given embraces almost every conceivable subject connected with Japan. The matter is arranged under 32 different headings, each heading having a large number of subdivisions under it. Whilst fulfilling the function of an ordinary lexicon, it explains customs and supplies information on politics, literature, architecture and a variety of other subjects. The compilation occupied the whole of the late Mr. Yamaoka Toshiaki's life. From the Kōten-kōkyu-jo have already issued two very important works on things Japanese, the 和訓栞 *Wakun Shiori*, and the 諺言集覽, *Rigen Shūran* (noticed in former Summaries). These two and the one for which subscriptions are now asked, it is claimed, will furnish all the information that even the most exacting and the most curious may require on Japan and the Japanese. The subscription price for the *Ruijū-meibutsukō* is only 10 *yen*. It is stated that the work will be out of the press in May next year.

From the Dainihon Zushokaisha two works have lately been issued, one on Sociology (Shakai-Gaku) by Mr. Kishimoto Nobuta, M.A., price 85 *sen*, and another on Socialism by Mr. Takahashi Gorō, the title of which is *Shakaishugi Kwatsuben* (活辨), for sale at 25 *sen* per copy. As Mr. Takahashi observes in this book, no subject is attracting so much attention throughout Japan to-day as Socialism. By some it is preached as a new gospel, which has power to give relief from numerous existing evils. By others it is denounced as a mischievous theory which could never be put into practice without producing greater evils than it is designed to remedy. Mr. Takahashi discusses all sides of the question, and in an appendix gives the views of many writers on both socialism and sociology. He criticizes Mr. Yano Fumio's *Shin Shakai*, which has had a very wide circulation in this country.

Dr. Tsubouchi Yūzō, than whom there is no

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more popular and well-informed Japanese writer on certain literary subjects, has for the past few years been delivering lectures on Morality, which have been designed to make the subject thoroughly interesting as well as instructive to young men. These lectures have now been published by the Fuzambō publishing house under the title of *Tsūzoku Rinridan* (通俗倫理談), the price of which is 1 *yen* 25 *sen* per copy. The subjects treated are most comprehensive, and the comparison of Japanese ethical conceptions with those current in the West is most valuable. There is a chapter on the essence of the *Yamato-damashii*, one on Socrates and Confucius, one on definitions of the ideal, one on common mistaken ideas in Japan, one on the sources of Virtue and Vice, one on the Standard of the Absolute, and one on the teaching of Nietzsche. The book would well repay the perusal of any one interested in serious Japanese modern thought. Dr. Tsubouchi's scholarly methods of treating subjects, the fulness of his information on every topic discussed, and the lucidity of his style render his books pleasant reading compared to many others that we could mention.

A new and carefully prepared work on Korea, published under the auspices of the Foreign Office has just been issued by the Tōkyōdō, Omote-jimbō-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō. The title of the work is *Kan Hantō* (The Peninsula of Korea) and its price is 2 *yen* 50 *sen*. It was compiled by five officials connected with the Foreign Office, several of when are heads of bureaux. It is said to be far and away the best work on Korea published in Japanese and to make most entertaining reading on account of the many curious customs which it describes. No pains have been spared in collecting and classifying the information now given to the public of Japan for the first time.

Professor Tomizu Hiroto, as it will be remembered, an earnest advocate of Japan's taking up arms against Russia over the Manchurian affair, has recently published a book called *Tō-a-Ryokōdan* (An Account of Travels in Eastern Asia). We find the following notice of the work in the *Kokumin Shimbun*. There are many who when some little time ago Professor Tomizu advocated war with Russia regarded him as a mere idle dreamer or an ill-informed enthusiast, but by his travels in Manchuria and Mongolia and by the information he collected there and has since published he has demonstrated beyond all dispute that his main contention, namely that Japan cannot with safety to herself consent to Russia's seizure of Manchuria, is supported by indisputable facts. With her rapidly increasing population, Japan must find an outlet somewhere, and Manchuria offers special advantages. Is she going to consent to Russia's settling herself down at her very doors ready for any emergency that may occur? The material furnished in Professor Tomizu's book confirms in a very effectual manner the views to which he gave utterance before setting out on his travels. The result of his observations he states to be thorough agreement with the views expressed by the Peking correspondent of the *Times*, Dr. Morrison, as to the designs of Russia in Manchuria. It is true that Professor Tomizu set out on his travels in search of facts that should confirm his views of the situation, but the book reveals no signs of the distortion of facts in order to make them agree with a pre-conceived theory. Those readers of the book who may dissent from the author's final conclusion in favour of war with Russia can still derive much benefit from the perusal of a work that is scholarly and instructive from cover to cover.

* * *

We have only space to notice in a very brief manner an article contributed to the *Taiyō* (No. 5) by Mr. Mochizuki Kotarō, a well known member of the Diet, entitled *Naichi Gwaikō no ni dai Tōsō Jidai* (A Period of Struggle at Home and Abroad). On home politics Mr. Mochizuki's opinions is that so long as the notion of Party Government encounters the opposition it now recieves, the object of the granting of the Constitution cannot be said to have been attained. A Government that ignores the will of the people ought to be overthrown. No Government unsupported by the mass of its subjects can adopt a strong foreign policy. So the internal struggle between Political Parties and the Supra-Party Cabinet is closely connected with the success of our foreign policy, says Mr. Mochizuki. The struggle in foreign countries between various races is largely one of numbers. The rate at which the Russians have been increasing durnig the past 50 years should set us thinking. In 1796 they had a population of 36 millions, in 1851 they had increased to 68 millions, but in 1900 the figures had advanced to 129,000,000. An outlet for this ever growing population must be found and the East offering many more advantages than the West, Russia has decided to throw her surplus population into Siberia and Manchuria. She has already practically taken possession of Manchuria. To retreat at an enormous loss is not a course she is likely to take. To attempt to drive her out would under present circumstances in China, with the vacillating Chinese Government to deal with, be a very difficult undertaking on Japan's part. There is only one course open, which is to treat with her, taking Korea in exchange for Manchuria. This is the gist of Mr. Mochizuki's article. It will be seen that not only would China be ignored in such an arrangement, but all the European Powers who have interests in Manchuria and Korea as well. There is little chance of Japan's adopting such a course.

* * *

We observe that a keen controversy is going on in the columns of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* between the editor and Dr. Takahashi Sakae as to the policy that Japan should adopt in the Manchurian question. Dr. Takahashi advocates diplomatic interference and even the use of force if necessary with the object of keeping Manchuria under Chinese control and open for trade to all nations. Nothing further than this can be wisely attempted by her says Dr. Takahashi.

FESTIVITIES AT THE SECOND HIGH SCHOOL.

In whatever respects Japanese tastes may have undergone radical changes, the nation still retains its love of festivals, ceremonies, and thorough abandonment to holiday-making. It has often been observed by London newspapers that the mass of Englishmen never seem more bored than when the daily round of duties is for a while suspended and they are called upon to devise some means of pleasantly passing the time. The Japanese know no such embarrassment. They can keep up festivities day after day, and even week after week, without showing signs of weariness. Connected with most of the large schools in Japan there exists a Society which is controlled and managed by the school authorities and the students acting in concert, which has the physical development and the mental culture of the students as its chief objects. It usually publishes a magazine, which contains a full record of all its doings, together with such literary productions as are forthcoming from students or teachers. It is quite evident that such an organization, if properly worked, may give a very high tone to a school and exercise an influence over the formation of character such as is not wielded by any individual teacher. The Second High School founded its Society on May 6th, 1893, and in order to commemorate this event the students were given a week's holiday and a series of entertainments began on the 6th instant and continued till the evening of the 10th. Here is the programme, without the extras. May 6th from 9 a.m. Opening Ceremony.—From 1 p.m. Wrestling. —From 7 p.m. a Lantern Procession. May 7th. —From 8 a.m. Tennis Matches.—From 1 p.m. Baseball Matches.—From 6 p.m. A Grand Meeting held by the Combined Sections of the Society. May 8th —From 8 a.m. Archery.—From 1 p.m. Judō (A species of wrestling). May 9th.—From 1 p.m. Fencing. May 10th.—From 8 a.m, lasting the whole day, Athletic Sports.

The decoration of the school for the occasion was left entirely to the students. Every class had to be responsible for the preparation of the class-room in some original fashion, and awards of merit for the designs and the neatest execution are, it is reported, to be issued. This arrangement, with some 17 or 18 rooms to decorate, gave great scope to the students' ingenuity, wit and diligence, and the result was that the class rooms afforded several days of amusement to the citizens of Sendai of an entirely novel kind. The scenes, occupations, characters and objects exhibited we cannot describe in detail here. From the Garden of Eden to the nether regions, with Emma glaring at one amid skeletons, the epitaphs of the dead and other dread reminders of man's mortality, there was little that was not represented in the occupations and pastimes of mankind or in imaginary states of existence. Each class followed its own bent, some abandoning themselves whole-heartedly to the grotesque and others showing grave seriousness. Two rooms were converted into Japanese gardens with little paths and rockeries, displaying a richness of evergreens tastefully arranged that delighted the eyes. With certain students there is no greater pleasure than to be able to play a trick on the teachers. So in one room in a darkened corner a small tub of water was seen full of ferns, and each unwary teacher that came along was requested to take a look at the gold fish swimming about at the bottom of the tub. As he bent over the water searching for the non-existent fish, a water-spout was opened on to him, by means of a simple process devised by one of the students, to the great glee of the whole class.

The opening ceremony was a very imposing affair. Among those present were the Governor of Miyagi, the Mayor of Sendai (Mr. Hayakawa), Baron Nishi, the Commander of the Second Division, the Head of the Police, the President of the Sendai District Court, the Director of the Sendai Technical School (Semmon-Gakkō), and the Directors of all the Middle Schools of the town. In the absence of the Director of the Second High School on official business, Mr. Miyoshi, the Vice-President of the Society, which is called the 尚志會, Shōshikai (The High Purpose Society), gave a history of its inauguration ten years ago and its subsequent progress. The Society consists of the following 10 sections: The Science, Literary, Publishing, Land Athletics, Marine Athletics, Judō, Fencing, Archery, Tennis and Base Ball, Sections. All the students of the school and all the teachers are expected to join the Association and to subscribe towards its support, each teacher in proportion to his salary and each student at a fixed rate per term. The Director of the school is always President of the Society *ex officio*, and the Vice-Presidency is filled by the officer next in authority to the Director in the School, an officer that we should call the Dean. The heads of sections are always teachers, who have students working under them. The Society, as Mr. Miyoshi stated, has done a great deal of useful work in the past ten years. Into this we cannot go here. Congratulatory addresses were read or speeches made by the following:—The Director of the Semmon Gakkō, the Governor of Miyagi, the Mayor of Sendai, Mr. Yasuda, Head of the Science Section, Mr. Ujiiye, Director of the Miyagi First Middle School, and Mr. Wakabayashi, representing the Sendai Literary Institute (Gakushi-kai) and a few others. The ceremony lasted nearly three hours.

The wrestling was not quite a success. Wrestling proper has not been practised in the school, what is known as Judō being quite a different art. The tennis matches held on the morning of the 7th were very spirited affairs. The Second High School has never before had so many good tennis-players as happen to be in the school at present. Since tennis has become fashionable throughout the Middle Schools of the country, it has been found that many lads enter the High Schools who can hold their own against all comers at tennis. The finals were won by two students belonging to the School of Medicine. One interesting feature of the tennis matches, as well as of the base-ball and other contests, was the presence by invitation, as players, of champions from the six Ō province.

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Two players represented Awomori-ken and two were from Aizu. The lantern procession was a great success, the weather being fine and the arrangements very complete.

During the celebrations a newspaper was issued by the School every day supplying information on what was going on and containing literary contributions suited to the occasion. The Japanese are fond of placing all services rendered to public bodies on record in a formal manner; so three testimonials were drawn up to be sent to the former Presidents of the Society, Mr. Yoshimura, the founder of the Association, Mr. Sawayanagi, and Mr. Kikuchi—large handsome portraits of these three gentlemen hung on the wall of the School Hall during the festivities. The evening entertainment, given on the 7th by the Combined Literary and Art Sections of the Society, consisting of recitations in English and German, musical performances of various kinds, Japanese chanting, scientific experiments and lectures, and amateur acting in Japanese and German, was pronounced to be a great success from beginning to end; the attempt to mesmerize a man only proving to be a partial failure owing to lack of sympathy between the mesmerizer and the simple country bumpkin who at considerable difficulty had been hired for the occasion. He was put to sleep all right, but when asked to declare what had been written on the blackboard behind him, he was unable to do so. The *Kana* for *ni* and *ha* were inscribed, and when asked what the right hand sign was he said *ro*, instead of *ni*. His mind seemed running over the alphabet, but had not hit on the right sign. The Japanese play that was acted was written in mediæval style for the occasion. It displays a good deal of wit and ingenuity and having been printed and placed in the hands of the students during the day, the performance caused endless amusement. One of the characters impersonated Peter Schlemil, in Chamisso's novel, was a foreigner dressed in the latest style. The Japanese that he was made to utter and his whole manner was an excellent take-off of the self-assurance, mispronunciation, and general ignorance so often displayed by foreign frequenters of Yokohama or Kobe. The foreign residents, who were present in large numbers, were convulsed with laughter over this part of the play. The lofty gravity and utter nonchalance of the other four personages as they rolled out in true mediæval style sentence after sentence of the new play was quite impressive, and showed evidences of much careful study. It was after 11 when the huge audience, consisting of more than 1,000 persons, broke up. The preparation for the entertainment occupied several weeks. One of the teachers of the school informs us that when out walking on the neighbouring hills he perceived a solitary figure on the summit of one of them whose gesticulations attracted his attention. On approaching nearer he discovered that a student was training his voice by addressing words of impassioned eloquence to distant trees and surrounding valleys.

The weather favoured the festivities throughout the week, raining only when indoor amusements were going on. The Sunday Athletic Sports went off in good style. The 1,000 metre race was won by a second year Science student called Kubō in very superior fashion. He had to go 5 times around the course. He took the lead after going twice around and came in over 20 paces ahead of the other competitors and showed no signs of exhaustion whatever. This is a great improvement on former races, when frequently even in the case of an 800 metre race the winning student has arrived at the goal in a painfully exhausted condition. The physical training given in the Government schools throughout the country is beginning to show excellent results. The Teachers' zigzag flag race afforded immense amusement to the spectators. Over 20 teachers took part in the race. The flags used are of two colours, say white and yellow. Each teacher stands by the side of a stationary flag and waits till the competing hand-flag is handed to him by one of his own side. He then rushes across an open space extending over 12 or 15 yards and hands the flag to one of his team. Backwards and forwards the flags go as quickly as they can be carried right down the long line of the competitors. When the last man is reached the flag has to be carried up a good distance to the first man. Collisions take place, the flag is sometimes dropped and sometimes in the confusion taken to the wrong man. The flag that is first brought back to the starting point after the rounds are completed wins.

One pleasing feature of the festivities which we have been describing was the entirely changed attitude of the students to manual labour of all kinds. It is not so very long ago since students all over Japan were above putting their hands to any job that English or American boys would delight in doing. But thanks to the efforts of men of the type of the present Minister of Education, students are now beginning to realise that there is nothing degrading about work. Taking advantage of this new sentiment and perhaps with a view of deepening it, the school authorities decided that all preparations for the Sendai festivities, even down to building with brick and mortar, should be done by the students themselves without the help of a single outsider. Consequently the students hired carts and fetched their own sand, lime, bricks and other material or carried loads of straw bags on their backs though the town with great delight. No coolie was hired to help them. Covered with mud, many of them were to be seen erecting their monument, and their work was done with the greatest care. The moral effect of the whole was excellent, and when one sees such things one is reminded of the subtle manner in which radical changes in the ideas of a nation are brought about. When once a new fashion is set, it is followed rapidly by the pliable Japanese youth. Japan needs a good supply of practical men and an object lesson such as the second High School has given to the inhabitants of Sendai and to the 3,000 young men now studying in Sendai should prove a valuable aid to the production of an entirely new class of educated Japanese citizens.

YACHTING IN YOKOHAMA.

Four races were sailed on Saturday as per programme and they resulted in a lot of excitement, if not actually in what might be called good sport. A fresh to strong southerly breeze prevailed during the afternoon and the yachts that went round the Honmoku Spit Buoy had to deal with a considerable jobble of a sea. The 21-raters had a fairly comfortable course to go over but even in their case only two boats were able to round all the marks and cross the finishing line. The "Larks" with single reefs tied in went off bravely enough but it was a scattered flock that came back. Only one was able to fly the distance; the others for reasons which puzzle most of their sailing-masters, refused even to look at the first mark (a big red conical buoy near the north breakwater) though a hard following breeze filled their wings and crews of three men in some instances sat on their tails by way of steadying their heads. That under such circumstances every "Lark" but one should positively refuse to go tolerably straight is really, it must be admitted, exasperating. But it must be remembered that they kept a pretty good course so long as they were in calm water The southerly wind had kicked up the usual short and nasty seas in the northern section of the harbour, however, and as soon as they poked their very un-lark-like bills into this area of disturbance there was trouble. When they took a sea they did so generously, and shoved themselves under some more for luck and the fun of the thing. It may be suggested to boat-sailers, with some deference of course, that such short craft should be humoured and treated very tenderly with the helm instead of being "hard-overed" every time they shake their heads. The boats furnish a plain and visible object lesson as to this when they are being brought to their moorings. It had been supposed that they are uncapsizable but this idea was dispelled on Saturday just before the race, when Mr. L. Thompsen's No. 1 was upset in a gust by a scratch crew which, however, had little difficulty in saving itself and sitting on the centre board till taken off. The boat was righted easily, none the worse.

Three of the 39-raters had their mainsails up in readiness to start but almost at the last moment *Maid Marion* decided not to go, so that *Mary* and *Haidee* went off alone. *Mary*, under mainsail and jib, crossing the line to leeward very soon after gunfire, seemed to have obtained a considerable advantage over *Haidee*, under similar rig with jigger, which was caught unawares at the start and lost much time in getting away. But when they reached the harbour entrance they were very close together so that the yawl must have drawn up on her rival. At the Tsurumi mark *Mary* had established a good lead, however. On the leg to the Lightship something happened to *Mary*, she was eased up while work was being done on board; meantime *Haidee* passed and halt way to the Lightship was two minutes ahead of *Mary* which had then been set going again. But the latter cut down this lead before *Haidee* got to the mark being apparently only a minute out there, though, of course, as the yachts were then on starboard tack it is not easy to estimate their real positions. When both stayed they easily weathered the Lightship. On this tack *Mary* again had trouble but after some luffing and bearing away kept on her course again. They lay pretty close to each other on the way to the Widow Buoy but at length *Mary* took the lead and rounded the mark 4m. 20s. ahead of the yawl. She led all the way back and, carrying away her jib as she approached the line, finished nearly six minutes before *Haidee*, the corrected times being:

	h.m.s.		h.m.s.
Mary	4.01.35	*Haidee*.....	4.07.10

It appears, however, that *Mary* rounded the Spit Buoy the wrong way; she is therefore disqualified and the prize and two record points go to *Haidee*.

The cruisers got away well together, *Wanderer* failing to cast off in time from her moorings, though she sailed over the course, her skipper, being doubtless unaware of his disqualification. Of the four boats *Nina* (late *Svanhild*) took the lead at once and went out of the harbour entrance first, *Asagao* second, *Wanderer* and *Surprise* pretty close together. This order was maintained by the leaders at the Lightship but working down to the Widow Buoy *Asagao* overhauled and passed the other, getting round two minutes ahead. Running back *Nina* held her rival tenaciously but could not get up to her, moreover a handicap of five minutes had to be wiped off and that was hopeless. The times were:—

	Finish. h.m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Wanderer	4.55.40	disqualified.
Nina.....	4.18.10	4.18.10
Surprise	5.03.58	4.48.58
Asagao	4.17.10	4.12.10

Asagao takes first prize and two record points, *Nina*, second, taking one point.

Five 21-raters started and made a very pretty sight as they passed over the line, a group of three, (*Winsome* to windward, *Yugao* in the middle, and *Pelee* to leeward) leading, *Vixen*, later, and *Edna* last. *Vixen* was first round the Tsurumi Mark, *Yugao* next, but the latter was displaced by *Pelee* and *Winsome* in the course of the tack to the Lightship, both *Edna* and *Yugao*, in fact, giving up on this leg of the course. *Vixen* got round at 3h. 05m., *Pelee* at 3h. 07m. 30s. *Winsome* fetched the mark but gave up and came home, being then far astern. The two survivors maintained the same order to the end, *Vixen* increasing her lead all the time. They finished as follows:

	Finish. h.m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Vixen	4.10.40	4.06.12
Pelee.....	4.17.30	4.17.30

The first prize and two points go to *Vixen* and *Pelee* is second with one point.

Seven "Larks" skated joyously about the harbour under shelter of the land while waiting for 3 p.m. and the start of their race, but one ingeniously turned turtle, becoming thus a mudlark. The other six, none daunted by this warning, skimmed off at the appointed time all in a bunch, but as they got out from the land and into the broken water they began to run in various directions like so many startled chickens. Two were able to steer a comparatively direct course, but one of these, Mr. Carst's No. 5, when within

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twenty yards of the mark suddenly took positive fright at the object and fled away on port tack to the westward in spite of her crew's earnest efforts to pacify her. This left one "Lark," in the "running," and Mr. W. B. Mason was able to get his No. 4 safely round the buoy. He beat back easily and achieved the distinction of getting two guns, one when he crossed the usual finishing line for the larger boats and again when, having rounded the necessary number of buoys, he crossed in the proper manner.

NEW YACHT.

The new 21-rater built at the dockyard for Mr. F. J. Hall was launched on Saturday afternoon and came round to the anchorage under sail. She is a very powerful craft, with tremendous overhang and promises to be a "scorcher" in her class.

EVENING CONCERT.

Mademoiselle Olga Khroostcheff, a travelling pianiste, gave a Recital, combined with a miscellaneous Concert, at the Public Hall on Monday, the 18th instant. There was a small audience; but those present showed great fervour and zeal in their applause, while recalls, encores, and "bouquets" were much in evidence.

The chief interest centered, as a matter of course, in the fair artiste who gave the Recital. She is a brilliant exponent of the Art of Pianoforte-playing, according to the modern romantic school; and the pieces assigned to her in the programme were well adapted to show great execution in various styles. A detailed criticism of her performance would demand the use of all the nouns, both substantive and adjective, suitable to the occasion: *technique, mélodique, harmonique, sympathique, pathétique, frénetique, tragique, comique, dramatique, romantique, energique, plastique, melancolique, symphonique, electrique, gymnastique, pyrotechnique, eclectique, polytechnique*, and *magnifique*. We hope the lady will be favoured with a much larger audience, should she give a second Concert in Japan.

As to the remainder of the entertainment all went well. Mrs. Mollison sang brilliantly (like a veritable Queen of Night), in a dim religious light. She was assisted in the Duo by Mr. Fitz-Henry, who possesses a baritone voice of some quality and considerable power—but which needs further cultivation. Mr. Brady displayed his fine elocution in a pathetic recitation:—"Coming home"; and the band of the U.S. battleship *Oregon* were most persistent in their grand outbursts of energy and sonority.

PROGRAMME.

I.

1. Overture....."Poet and Peasant"..... Suppe.
U.S.S. "Oregon" Band.
2. *a.* Auf Flügeln des Gesanges.....Mendelssohn.
b. Rigoletto, Paraphrase de Concert .....Liszt.
Mdlle. Khroostcheff.
3. Solo Violin .....——
Mr. H. Poole.
3. *a.* Romance.....Tchaikovsky.
b. Menuet .....Paderewsky.
Mdlle. Khroostcheff.
5. Duo "Crucifix" .....Faure.
Mrs. J. P. Mollison and Mr. Fitz-Henry,
accompanied by Mr. A Mason.
6. *a.* Nocturne .....Chopin.
b. Les Guirlandes .....Godard.
Mdlle. Khroostcheff.

II.

7. Overture .....Massaniello.....Auber.
U.S.S. "Oregon" Band.
8. Recitation .....Mr. G. G. Brady.
9. Solo "Soupir" .....Bemberg.
Mr. M. Fitz-Henry,
accompanied by Mdlle Khroostcheff.
10. Polonaise .....Moszkowsky.
Mdlle. Khroostcheff.
11. Solo .....Lucia di Lammermoor.
Mrs. J. P. Mollison,
accompanied by Mr. Mason.
12. Grand Valse de Concert .....Strauss.
Mdlle. Khroostcheff.

MEMORIAL DAY.

A meeting of American ladies of Yokohama was held on Wednesday in the Vestibule of the Public Hall for the purpose of arranging for the observance of Memorial Day. Mrs. E. C. Bellows presided, and there were also present Mesdames McChesney, Garton, Hubbard, Martin, Thorn, Dearing, Howard, Gibbens, and Manley and Miss Abenheim. Two Committees were appointed, one under the presidency of Mrs. McIvor to confer with the Committee of the American Asiatic Association, and the other presided over by Mrs. Manley to arrange for flowers, etc., wherewith to decorate the graves of American sailors and soldiers. It appeared that a balance remained over of the money collected last year, and consequently the meeting decided that it would not be necessary to ask for more funds. The money now in hand will be spent on the purchase of pot plants, with which it is proposed to furnish such graves as do not already have them, and of such floral decoration as may be decided upon. But the public will be asked to send cut flowers, which should it not be possible to arrange for a set ceremony will be received at the Naval Hospital and thence taken to the graves. Meantime, we understand, a communication on behalf of the American Asiatic Association has been sent by Mr. G. H. Scidmore to the Admiral, upon whose reply the nature of the celebration will largely depend. No reply has yet been received. It is intended in any case to send a committee of ladies to Omori for the purpose of placing flowers on the *Oneida* monument erected there. It appears that there are 108 graves of American soldiers and sailors in the Yokohama Cemetery and the desire is that cut flowers should be contributed to sufficiently decorate all.

SPRING MEETING OF THE NIPPON RACE CLUB.

OFF DAY.—SATURDAY, 16TH MAY.

PATRONS:—H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, and H.I.H. Arisugawa-no-Miya.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE:—Sir Claude Maxwell MacDonald, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., President; Dr. Wheeler, Vice-President; R. D. Robison, Esq., Jas. Dodds, Esq., V. Blad, Esq., Governor Sufu, T. Thomas, Esq., B. C. Howard, Esq., G. Philip, Esq., S. Isaacs, Esq., A. J. Easton, Esq., L. Mottet, Esq., A. Bianchi, Esq., M. Pors, Esq., and T. Taniguchi, Esq.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:—A. G. Morey Weale, Esq., Chairman; A. Bianchi, Esq., K. Mori, Esq., P. de C. Morriss, Esq., B. Runge, Esq., and A. J. Easton, Esq.

CLERK OF THE COURSE:—B. Runge, Esq.

SECRETARY:—Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Three days did not appear to be enough for local racing enthusiasts, and the desire for an off day was proved by the programme put up. From a sporting point of view the off day probably afforded as great interest as any of the previous days. The attendance, however, was not large, most of those present being either personally interested in the horses or in the chances offered by the pari-mutuel and sweeps. The strong westerly wind which prevailed caused some discomfort to visitors on the Stand and Lawn. But after noon the weather was fine and the course had recovered from recent drenching.

1. New Subscription China Griffins ... ¾ Mile.
To be ridden by full members of the Club, or visitors, whose names must be sent in to the Committee before the Meeting and approved by them.

Mr. St. Leger's Sailor Prince, 150lb. ...(Mr. Elliott) 1
Mr. R. Field's Tramp, 153lb. .....(Mr. Catto) 2
Mr. Kawakita's Stork, 147lb. .....(Mr. Hughes) 3
Mr. Iris' Magnolia, 147lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 0
Mr. Unverzagt's Reineke Fuchs, 153lb.(Mr. Mottu) 0

After two false starts the field got away on level terms and ran well together till half away round, when Tramp came to the front, and kept the lead till opposite the Stand when Sailor Prince succeeded in passing him, while Magnolia jumped into second place. The latter however was disqualified on a protest lodged by the rider of Reineke Fuchs, and second place awarded to Tramp. Time, 1.42.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Mongolia 212, Reineke Fuchs 156, Tramp 38, Sailor Prince 42, Stork 50; total 499 tickets—Sailor Prince, yen 52.

2. Australian Subscription Horses, of Spring, 1903, ... ¾ Mile.

Mr. K. I. S.'s Hatsukaze, 130lb.....(Kobayashi) 1
Mr. Alexander's Adelaide, 140lb. .....(Kurosaki) 2
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzette, 130lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 3
Mr. Wetwo's Bicycle, 140lb. .....(Higaki) 0

After two or three false starts, Hatsukaze made the running, with Adelaide next in order. The same position was maintained to the finish, Hatsukaze winning by several lengths. Time, 1.38⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Hatsukaze 386, Adelaide 142, Bicycle 60, Suzette 78; total 666 tickets—Hatsukaze yen 8.

3. Old China Ponies Handicap ..... 1 Mile.
To be ridden by full members of the Club, or visitors, whose names must be sent in to the Committee before the Meeting and approved by them.

Mr. N. Kawakita's Hayakawa, 156lb.
(Mr. Hughes) 1
Mr. Mottu's Sunrise, 160lb. .....(Owner) 2
Mr. Unverzagt's Max Willem, 150lb.
(Mr. Nimmerfall) 3
Mr. Iris' McMorse, 150lb. .....(Mr. Cox) 0
Mr. Cosmopolis' Dourak, 148lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 0

Sunrise and McMorse got away to the front at first, with Hayakawa next in order. At the Trees Hayakawa came up and passed the two leaders. In the Straight Max Willem passed McMorse and took third place, Hayakawa winning by a length or so. Time, 2.16⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Hayakawa 43, Sunrise 335, McMorse 178, Dourak 21, Max Willem 75; total 652 tickets—Hayakawa, yen 68.

4. Australian Subscription Horses, of Spring, 1903 .... 1 Mile.
(Winner of Race 2 excluded).

Mr. Alexander's Brisbane, 140lb.....(Kurosaka) 1
Mr. K. I. S.'s Tomoye, 130lb. .....(Kobayashi) 0

After a level start Brisbane managed to obtain a slight lead and kept it to the finish. Time, 2.03.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Brisbane 472, Tomoye 188; total 660 tickets—Brisbane, yen 6.

5. 1902 Australian Subscription Handicap ..... 1 Mile.

Mr. R. Field's Try Again, 135lb.....(Mr. Catto) 1
Mr. Tytherleigh's Patsie, 142lb .....(Mr. Easton) 2
Mr. Cosmopolis' Suzon, 140lb. .....(Mr. Jarmain) 0

Try Again made the running and led, hard pressed by Patsie. In the finish Try Again increased her lead and won by two lengths from Patsie, Suzon a poor third. Time 1.56⅘.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Patsie 139, Suzon 330, Try Again 194; total 663 tickets—Try Again, 15.50 yen.

6. All Subscription Horses Handicap 1 Mile.

Mr. Satsuma's Ojosama, 137lb.....(Higaki) 1
Mr. St. Leger's Tasmanian, 138lb.....(Mr. Elliott) 2
Mr. Decimus' The Beetle, 138lb.....(Kurosaki) 0

The Beetle led for the first half mile, when Ojosama came to the front, with Tasmanian close up. Ojosama increased his lead coming down the Straight, winning easily from Tasmanian who finished some lengths ahead of The Beetle for third place. Time 2.06.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Ojosama 226, Tasmanian 147, Beetle 250; total 623 ticket—Ojosama, yen 12.50.

7. Match, half mile, even weights.

Mr. Decimus' Standard Rose, 150lb. ...(Mr. Catto) 1
Mr. C. Schramm's Bauernfaenger, 150lb.
(Mr. Mottu) 0

After a very close race in which the pair ran neck and neck half the time, Standard Rose won cleverly by half a length. No official time was taken.

PARI MUTUEL, 5 yen—Bauernfaenger 377, Standard Rose 191; total 568 tickets—Standard Rose yen 13.50.

THE CLUB HOTEL, LD.

The 16th annual general meeting of shareholders in the Club Hotel, Ld., was held at the hotel on Thursday, Mr. Litchfield presiding. The attendance was not large.

In submitting the directors' report and statement of accounts, the Chairman said he did not know whether the small attendance of shareholders should be interpreted as a satisfactory sign or otherwise; whether it denoted confidence in the management or that the shareholders had ceased to take an interest in

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the affairs of the company. However, a quorum being present, the meeting would proceed to deal with the report and accounts.

On the motion of Mr. W. R. Bennett, seconded by Mr. J. W. Hall, the report and accounts were taken as read, having been in shareholders' hands for seven days; and on another motion by the same gentlemen they were adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said they had next to consider what to do with the credit balance on the working account. There was a sum of *yen* 4,022 over, and the directors did not think it well to declare a dividend out of this, though the shareholders might perhaps think otherwise. The profits of the hotel were mainly in summer, and there was a slack time in the winter, though expenses did not contract to a corresponding extent. The directors thought it would be best to let shareholders have the benefit of the prosperous times of the summer months, by a dividend declared at the autumn meeting, commensurate with the profits of that time, carrying forward such sum as would take them through the slack time. If shareholders did not agree with this view of the directors, the matter was for the meeting to decide. He would be glad to hear any remarks or give further information.

Mr. BENNETT asked if the Company was entirely at the end of its litigation.

Mr. RUSSELL said the case had been decided but the written judgment of the court had not yet been received, and after that there would be ninety days' time for either party to file an appeal, so it was not certain yet whether it was all finished.

After some discussion the meeting agreed that the balance be carried forward and no dividend be paid.

The retiring directors, Mr. Litchfield and Mr. Moss, were re-elected, as was the auditor, Mr. Cox-Edwards.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors was proposed by Mr. Bennett, "in lieu of remuneration, which was a scarce commodity." (Laughter.)

This closed the proceedings.

LAW CASES.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

In the Yokohama District Court, on Friday, the hearing of this case was resumed before Judge Kato.

Plaintiff introduced new evidence to explain and implement previous evidence but defendant's counsel refused to recognize it.

The parties then entered on a lengthy discussion, after which the case was again adjourned.

HOFMANN v. "YORODZU CHOHO."

In the Tokyo District Court, the hearing of this case instituted by Mr. A. Hofmann, Kobe, against the *Yorodzu Choho* claiming *yen* 10,000 on the ground that the paper had published a libellous statement with reference to him was resumed on May 16th.

Defendant's Counsel contended that the statement was a reproduction from other papers and that defendant was not liable for the claim.

After discussion the case was adjourned till May 19.

A Chinaman who smuggled a quantity of opium on Dec. 10th last year by the aid of a Chinese cook on the steamer *Kobe Maru*, and of a tide waiter named Kondo, of the Yokohama Customs, who was sentenced in the Yokohama District Court to 9 years' major confinement; but who absconded, was arrested on May 14th by the Kagacho police in a house at No. 147. The smuggler was at once removed to Negishi jail. It is stated that he left for home after the discovery of the smuggling and returned by the steamer *Kosai Maru* on the day of his arrest.

J. ORTIZ v. F. G. BONILLA.

In the Yokohama Local Court, the hearing of a case instituted by Mr. Ortiz, keeper of the Shamrock Hotel, No. 137, against Sr. don Fernando Gomez do Bonilla, Consul of Spain, at Yokohama, claiming *yen* 39, was begun on May 18th.

Plaintiff was present but defendant was absent.

Plaintiff stated that defendant asked him on April 14th this year to lodge a Spanish sailor named D. L. Lopes in his inn and to find work for the sailor, who was out of a situation. The sailor stayed for nine days at a cost of *yen* 18. Besides plaintiff paid for the man various expenses which amounted to *yen* 21. On May 6th the sailor left by the steamer *Keemun* without paying the bill, of which the plaintiff believed that payment ought to be made by defendant.

This case came up again in the Yokohama Local Court on May 20th when the claim of plaintiff was dismissed.

CARL ROHDE & CO. v. K. KURITA.

In the Yokohama District Court, the hearing of this case was resumed before Judge Kano on May 19th when an employee of S. Kurita named S. Shimamura was present to give evidence.

Plaintiffs' Counsel objected to the examination of the witness on the ground that he was a servant of the family of defendant. The Court upheld the objection.

Defendant's Counsel asked the Court to examine the managers of the Shoyei Bank and the Tokai Bank and a Tokyo transport agent, but the Court rejected the application.

Counsel were heard in argument, after which the Court reserved judgement till May 23rd at 10 a.m.

THE GOLD MINE FRAUD.

The trial of S. Nakamura, T. Yoshida and M. Kondo, who were charged with fraud in that they obtained *yen* 12,541 from Mr. J. Johnstone on the pretence of selling a gold mine in Fukuoka Prefecture, was concluded in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Yasuda on May 20th. The two first-named were sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour and the latter to ten months' imprisonment with hard labour.

P. SARDA v. HISHITANI.

In the Yokohama District Court, the hearing of this case, instituted by P. Sarda against K. Hishitani, claiming *yen* 175, was begun before Judge Kano on May 21st.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Fujiwa; defendant was absent.

Counsel for plaintiff stated that defendant leased a house on lot No. 76, Yokohama, belonging to plaintiff, under a contract, from June 1st, 1902, to February 31st this year at the rent of *yen* 125 per month. At the beginning of the lease he deposited *yen* 75 as guarantee. The rent for the last two months, which amounts to *yen* 250, is unpaid. When the guarantee money, *yen* 75, is deducted there is a balance of *yen* 175 which plaintiff claims.

Judgement was given in favour of plaintiff with costs, temporary seizure to be allowed on a deposit, *yen* 50.

THE ROBERTS DIVORCE CASE.

The hearing of this divorce case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 21st when Mr. H. C. Litchfield appeared as an expert to give his opinion with reference to the divorce law of Scotland.

Shown a volume of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica" by the court, in which were statements regarding marriage and divorce, the witness deponed that the law there described is now in force in Scotland. The law referring to divorce differs from that of England. After this short statement the court adjourned the case till May 23rd when judgment will be given.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A severe gale raged on May 18th in parts of Fukushima Prefecture inflicting much damage on sericulture.

The strikers of the Mitsubishi Dock Yard are not all pacified. On May 18th, 270 workmen of the iron works department were still standing out.

The saké brewers of Nada, near Osaka, which is famous for its brew, have decided (according to tax returns) to produce 381,294 *koku* (1 *koku*= 39.7033 gallons) this year. This shows an increase of 16,230 *koku* on last year.

The Bluff property at Hachioji-yama, Honmoku, was put up at public auction on Wednesday afternoon by Mr. Jno. W. Hall. One lot of 1,328 *tsubo* of land with buildings thereon was sold for *yen* 4,000, and another lot of 380 *tsubo*, with stabling and outhouses, for *yen* 700.

A Honolulu telegram of April 28th said:—The British warship *Amphion*, and the torpedo-boat-destroyers *Sparrowhawk* and *Virago*, have arrived from Victoria. The destroyers will be convoyed to Hongkong by the *Amphitrite*, which is also in this harbour.

A London telegram of April 28th said:—The rumour published in the United States to-day to the effect that the British battle-ships *Formidable* and *Venerable*, had collided in the Mediterranean, has been in circulation for some weeks past. The Admiralty declines either to confirm or deny the report.

G. Nakamura (25) was arrested on May 14th. He bought a piece of dried fish, costing *sen* 50, at the shop of a grocer in Shitaya, Tokyo, giving a counterfeit *yen* 10 note in payment, and was about to run away with the change when detained. On being examined by the police, seven other false notes were found in his pocket.

The issue of *The Graphic* for April 11th has among the usual attractive letterpress and illustrations which comprise the contents of this well-known journal two subjects that may interest Yokohama people. One of these is a Sketch by Mr. F. W. Airey, R.N., of "A Sheet and Pillow-case Dance at Yokohama," which will recall an enjoyable evening to many; and the other is a series of views on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

Dr. P. Ritter, Consul-General of Switzerland, Mr. W. Hagen, Vice-Consul of Germany, and Mr. Max Kutschera, Consul of Austria-Hungary, have presented to Governor Sufu of this prefecture, a protest which is to the effect that a washerman named F. Nakayama is now constructing in the middle part of the valley commonly called Daikan-zaka, at No. 112, Motomachi, 2-chome a factory to be operated by engine power. Their statement of protest is that the smoke from the chimney of the engine boiler will be inimical to health and will injure the natural scenery. They ask the Governor to order the removal of the factory to another site.

With his excellent record as a teacher, and his knowledge of the navies of other countries, Professor James Ewing takes up the post of Director of Naval Education, with special qualifications for his task, remarks the *Globe*. He is a native of Dundee, and after graduating at Edinburgh University, practised as an engineer until he went to Japan as Professor of Engineering at the Imperial University, Tokyo. Then he returned to Dundee as Professor of Engineering at University College, and in 1900 was appointed to the Chair of Mechanism and Applied Mechanics at Cambridge University, a position in which he was called upon to lay down the lines for the Mechanical Sciences Tripos, which have been so successful.

M. Paul Belloni Du Chaillu, the well-known African explorer and author, is dead. The end occurred suddenly, although the old adventurer had been ailing for some time with complaints incident to age. The death of Du Chaillu removes one of the most picturesque figures in the literature of the past century. The son of an African, Du Chaillu devoted most of his life to explorations in Africa, although he made exploring voyages to the far north and wrote interesting books on his travels there. Paul Du Chaillu visited almost every part of Africa, and it may be safely said that he more than any other man has thrown light upon the "dark continent." He was the first white man to find and describe the gorrilla, and his stories of adventure abound with discoveries in natural history.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE EDICT OF 1682.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your notice of "On the Coasts of Cathay and Cipango," at the close, referring to the wooden boards—*kinsatsu*,—which were posted about the country forbidding Christianity, you wrote:—

"We believe that the only one of these boards now in existence is to be found in the British Museum, having been taken home to England by the Rev. W. Weston in 1895."

These boards are not so scarce as you think they are. Only ten minutes before reading the above statement, I was talking with a friend about two of them that are now in a *furui dogu ya* in an adjacent ken. During the past few years I have bought three of them and have refused to purchase as many more. One of the three which I purchased was for Jno. R. Mott, the Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement. It is now in New York city. The other two are in a southern city in the United States; one in a University Museum and the other in a museum of a Missionary Society.

I have a friend living near here who has, or did have, two or three of them, and another friend, in America, who has two of them. The Kwansei Gakuin, a school of the Southern Methodist Mission, has one in its Museum. I understand that there is one, perhaps two, in the Imperial Museum in Tokyo.

The following is the translation of the *kinsatsu* which I secured for Mr. Mott, when he was first here some six or seven years ago:

"Edict of 1682.

The Christian religion has been prohibited for many years. If anyone is suspected a report must be made at once.

Rewards.

To the informer of a bateren (father)	500	pieces of silver.
To the informer of a iruman (brother)	300	" "
To the informer of a Christian who had once recanted ...	300	" "
To the informer of a Christian or a Catechist.....	300	" "
To the informer of a family who shelters any of the above...	300	" "

The above rewards will be given. If anyone will inform concerning his own family, he will be rewarded with five hundred pieces of silver, or according to the information he furnishes. If anyone conceals an offender and the fact is detected, then the head man of the village, in which the concealer lives and the 'five men company' to which he belongs, and his family and relatives, will all be punished together."

Yours, &c., INAKA NO MONO.

Kobe, May 13th, 1903.

CRUELTY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I sympathize deeply with your correspondent "X" in what he says about cruelty to horses. I am glad that that kind of letter comes out every once in a while generally extending the sympathy to abused dumb animals in general. I am glad, too, of the invariable tone of your comments on the matter, and that a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Dumb Animals really does exist in Japan, even though it be dormant.

Though I do it with diffidence, I would like to suggest to "X" that he attempt to stir up this society to a little action. I will venture that he has sympathy to the extent of twenty or twenty-five *yen* at least. Let him buy a couple of hundreds of return postal cards, have printed on the one a request to the recipient to note the extent and the character of the abuse of animals that come under his constant view, and return the card. Let these two hundred postals be sent principally to people living out among the people, say three or four to each ken, to missionaries, Government School teachers or any other resident.

I am pretty sure that if the replies received were nicely bound together, sent to the secretary of this society with the endorsement of a half dozen prominent men among us, something tangible would result. Something certainly ought to be done, something more effective than protesting through the newspaper, and it seems to me that it is the privilege of "X" and others who write the letters to take the next step. It would be very strange if the society were not aroused and encouraged by the interest in the matter that would surely be evinced in those postal-card replies. There is no doubt that the society could influence public opinion on the subject very extensively if it really took the matter in hand.

Very respectfully yours, SOJOURNER.

Kagoshima, May 12th, 1903.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It is a pleasure to see in your columns so many expressions of sympathy for the poor overworked horses. "Sojourner" suggests that "X" send out return postals to several hundred people to get an expression of their knowledge and sentiments on this question. I am sure that is unnecessary. If "X" will only give his address and say that he thought he could make use of them, postal cards would come of their own accord, from every section that sees the *Japan Mail*.

Another thing; if some one who knows will kindly tell us what weight an ordinary horse ought to pull up the steep hills of this country, such information can be used to advantage.

C.

THE REV. GEO. ALBRECHT'S PROTEST.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Did the writer of the Monthly Summaries of the Religious Press published in the *Japan Mail* for a moment suppose that the hostile comments of the Rev. Geo. Albrecht which appeared in your correspondence column on the 12th instant represent in any adequate measure the general opinion of readers of these Summaries, he would at once lay aside his pen and devote the many toilsome hours spent over the collection, arrangement, and translation of matter for these Summaries to other less arduous literary work. But it happens to be a fact that during the past seven years the author of the Summaries has had the satisfaction of hearing and reading testimony from men of most opposite opinions as to the value and impartiality of his writing. Several prominent foreign newspapers have commented on the Summaries most favourably, and one paper went as far as to say that the general opinion of readers in Japan was that they were eminently fair. The writer of the Summaries has never expected to please everybody, and that now and again exception should be taken to remarks made by him or to matter which for reasons quite satisfactory to his own mind he has inserted is perhaps unavoidable. Often at considerable inconvenience he has taken pains to reply to such objectors as have appeared in print and to letters which have reached him. And he now proceeds to deal with Mr. Albrecht's somewhat bitter attack. The best and most effectual reply to the letter would be to quote from your correspondence columns the favourable notices that the summaries have received and to add a few extracts from newspapers published in other countries, but this would involve more time than I have at my disposal just at present, so leaving Mr. Albrecht's insinuations unnoticed, I will take up his definite charges one by one.

(1) What Mr. Albrecht means by saying that I criticize the work of missionaries is not clear. Such an assertion should have been supported by actual quotations from the Summaries.

(2) Mr. Albrecht makes out that it is no business of the writer of the Summary to draw attention to the special form of belief adopted by prominent Japanese Christians. Why, forsooth? One of the objects of publishing the Summaries is to bring out in an unmistakably clear manner exactly what the Japanese think on religion. That is why the Summaries range over so much ground, describe so many conflicting opinions, confront one school of thought with another, allow the orthodox and the heteredox both to have the floor in turn. Mr. Albrecht rails in angry tones against reproducing Mr. Yamaji's opinions in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, hinting that your journal, Sir, has been somewhat disgraced by the reproduction of the words of a highly respected, well educated Japanese Christian writer. Surely Mr. Albrecht is growing somewhat hysterical. The note to which Mr. Albrecht takes exception states a fact, and is not to be represented as merely the writer's opinion. I give only one recent instance among many. In a speech delivered by Bishop Fyson reported in the *Times* a short time ago, special mention was made of the conversion to Christianity of certain Japanese, who are known to hold unorthodox opinions, that is to be practically Unitarians. This may appear quite allowable to Mr. Albrecht, but to the writer of the Summaries, who can quote from Japanese sources of information, it appears to be unwarranted. To Mr. Albrecht it may seem that the methods adopted by certain missionaries to make out a good case, methods involving exaggeration and misrepresentation, are excusable. The object of the writer of the Summaries being to get at the truth and to state it, he cannot possibly sympathize with any one-sided accounts of the state of Christian work in this country. And most missionaries entirely agree with him in this matter.

(3) Supposing that the writer of the Summaries represents Mr. Kozaki's views as highly optimistic, this hurts nobody. To say that views are optimistic or pessimistic is not to decide on their reliableness or unreliableness. The Summaries are crowded with both optimistic and pessimistic views, the reason being that the views of Japanese writers are usually one or the other. The sentence, "but anything looking at all favourably on the influence of the Church in this land, or on the work of missionaries connected with orthodox Churches has to be discounted by the writer of the Summary" will be recognized by all fair-minded readers of the Summaries to be one of those unsupported slanders which may be left unanswered. That a gentleman who wishes to figure before the public as an advocate of impartiality and philosophic calm should allow his pen to run away with him in this fashion is certainly very surprising. Perhaps there are few persons who have done more to make the work of the Christian Church known to the outside world than the writer of the Religious Summaries. And he may add that he has been asked again and again to publish the Summaries of the past 7 years in book form. He says this in no boastful spirit, however, for he is not so foolish as to think that the Summaries could not be made much fuller than they are were more time devoted to them than he can possibly give.

(4) The writer of the Summaries is not concerned with Mr. Albrecht's diatribe against Mr. Yamaji. Mr. Yamaji is well able to defend himself against Mr. Albrecht's attacks. Let the latter call on this erring Christian, as he conceives him to be, and have it out with him. Mr. Albrecht on a former occasion allowed himself to become excited over some matter bearing on Mr. Miyagawa's views published in our Summary. It turned out that our translation was quite correct and that Mr. Miyagawa's views had actually been called in question by leading Japanese Christians as stated in a Christian journal. Mr. Albrecht after having charged Mr. Yamaji with falsehood in the words, "I do not hesitate to say that no falser accusation, no meaner slander has appeared in your columns for a long time," at once proceeds to slander the writer of the Summary by the misinterpretation of a footnote, which shows either intense intellectual density or mere personal spite. The point referred to in the note has no necessary connection with Japan, Japanese Christians, or foreign missionaries. It is an incontrovertible fact that salaries are paid all over the world to different persons *only on the condition* that they teach certain doctrines, and the point that Mr. Yamaji made and Huxley made was this, as long as human nature is constituted as it is there will always be a strong temptation to profess a creed every article of which is by no means steadfastly believed for the sake of obtaining the emoluments attached to that profession. Whether the Japanese Christians are doing this to any extent I do not pretend to know. Mr. Yamaji seems to think that some are doing so. Some missionaries, a little more calm-minded than Mr. Albrecht, have told me that they have found this to be the case in some instances. It occurs in America and England, why should it not occur here? Mr. Albrecht has spectacles for seeing base slanders where only very ordinary everyday facts are referred to.

I take it that Mr. Albrecht is not in the habit of reading Japanese newspapers regularly or he would not excite himself in the way he does. All the writer of the Summaries aims at is to give a faithful account of what appears in religious magazines, books, and newspapers; as to his own opinions, the Monthly Religious Summaries would be the very last medium he would choose for expressing them. His notes in these summaries are all designed to throw light on the matter published. To defend every one of these to the satisfaction of people like Mr. Albrecht would occupy more space than their defence would be worth. The author of the Summaries confesses that he attaches no importance whatever to his own opinions on any disputed points that may come up in the Summaries. The business of the Summaries is to give Japanese opinion on all subjects, and I can imagine no logical mind ever inferring that the matter of which the Summaries are chiefly made up represent in any conceivable way the opinions of a translator who makes a point of sticking to the original on all occasions. If Mr. Albrecht were to show that the opinions principally given in the Summaries are not actually the opinions of the writers quoted but those of the translator he would have robbed the Summaries of all the value they possess, but this neither he, despite his great antipathy to the present compiler of the Summaries, nor any other Japanese scholar among the very few who may think with him, has ever done. People who preach impartiality would do well to practise what they preach to a greater extent than Mr. Albrecht deems necessary. In reference to the present state of the Kumiai Churches, I refer Mr. Albrecht to the quotations from Japanese papers contained in past Summaries. If anyone who may be interested in the matter will take the trouble to glance through the last 12 Summaries that have been published, he will perceive that Mr. Albrecht's allegations are entirely without foundation.

I am yours, &c.,

THE WRITER OF THE SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

May 13th, 1903.

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ROWING NOTES.

A heat in the Junior Pairs was rowed on Wednesday—Figureido and Luther against Caro and Gillon. It resulted in a win for the former by from four to five lengths. The course was inside the breakwater.

Training has been going on steadily and there should be some good finishes on Saturday. The Senior Fours have been putting in work, and Nicolle's crew having got afloat there are three Junior Fours. This last will no doubt be a hard race. There will be Senior Pairs after all. No one seemed anxious to go against Hayward and Irwine so those two split, Hayward taking J. E. Moss and Irwine L. Thompsen. This should furnish some sport.

As between the Junior Pairs it is not easy to speak, but in the Club v. Committee contest the odds seem in favour of the latter. On the whole the regatta promises to be an interesting meeting.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

SALONIKA.

London, May 15.

The Austrian squadron has left Salonika, one vessel remaining in the port.

THE AUSTRALIAN STRIKE.

A bill has been introduced with reference to the Australian strike which is a drastic measure. It makes the collection or distribution of strike funds, attendance at strike meetings and the printing of documents encouraging strikes punishable offences.

NAVAL DISARMAMENT.

Later.

In the debate in the House of Commons on the Navy Estimates, Sir Charles Dilke urged that the Anglo-French friendship should be utilized to obtain an agreement between France, Russia, and Great Britain with a view to the reduction of naval armaments. Mr. H. O. Arnold-Forster replied that the Admiralty must deal with facts as they were, not as they might be. All the Powers were increasingly active, notably the Power from which the suggestion as to reduction had come originally. The Admiralty was only fulfilling its plain duty in preparing against any emergency.

THE ENGLISH TEA DUTY.

London, May 16.

An influential deputation waited on Mr. A. J. Balfour and Mr. Ritchie on May 16 to urge the remission of a portion of the tea duty instead of the abolition of the duty on corn. Mr. Balfour declined to modify the tea duty.

THE AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY STRIKE.

The strike in Melbourne has ended.

THE BALKANS.

The Bulgarian Government has sent a Note to its representatives abroad requesting them to call the attention of the Powers to the excesses of the Turks in Macedonia, excesses which are rendering useless Bulgaria's efforts to restrain the Macedonians.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN RUSSIA.

There is a marked recrudescence of anti-Semitism in Russia. The old expulsion ordinances are being enforced at Kieff and 37,000 Jews have been forced to quit that city. A reign of terror exists.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN ON FREE TRADE.

London, May 17.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary, speaking at Birmingham, strongly condemned the interpretation of free trade which prevented England favouring her colonies or retaliating against countries penalizing colonies favouring England. The country ought not to be bound by any technical definition of free trade so far as fellow subjects were concerned, and it should not hesitate to retaliate wherever the interests between the colonists and ourselves were threatened by others.

LONDON EDUCATION BILL.

A compromise has been effected with regard to the Education (London) Bill. The Government has agreed to an arrangement reducing the number of borough councillors and giving the county council an absolute majority.

BRITAIN'S FISCAL POLICY.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain's speech is regarded as marking an epoch in the fiscal relations between the mother country and the colonies, and as raising the issue whether world-wide free trade accords with the country's best interests.

MOROCCO.

The Moorish troops sent to Tetuan have entered the town unopposed. The rebels are demoralised and have suffered heavy losses. The garrison are now acting on the offensive.

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

London, May 18.

The Turkish troops advancing to the relief of the Sultan's commissioners in Ipek, the Albanian stronghold, were attacked by Albanians. Many were killed and wounded on both sides. The inhabitants of Ipek have submitted but many Albanians still hold the mountains.

BRITAIN'S FISCAL POLICY.

London, May 19.

The *Morning Post*, the *Daily Telegraph*, and *The Times* heartily support the modification in fiscal policy enunciated by Mr. Chamberlain at Birmingham. The *Daily Chronicle* and the *Daily News* vigorously condemn any idea of change. The *Standard* is silent.

The German papers betray grave anxiety.

The Canadian press welcomes the speech as laying the basis of a great Imperial policy, sounding a true note of Imperial unity.

THE BALKANS.

Later.

The Bulgarian Cabinet has resigned. This does not affect the situation in the Balkans beyond adding to its uncertainties.

SOMALILAND.

Mr. Brodrick states that owing to transport difficulties the Government has directed General Manning to concentrate at Bohotle, which is moreover a favourable base for co-operating with the Abyssinians, who are advancing from the south. There is no question of withdrawal or change of plans in Somaliland. The question of sending reinforcements has not been raised by General Manning.

THE TRANSVAAL.

London, May 20.

The draft of a Municipal Ordinance for submission to the Transvaal Legislative Council grants the municipal franchise to all educated and socially qualified coloured persons. This affects about 250 Indians in Johannesburg alone.

TROUBLES IN RUSSIA.

On the afternoon of the 18th inst., Mr. Bogdanovitch, Governor of Ufu, was assassinated.

There are symptoms of seething unrest in Russia. The Czar has dismissed the Governor of Kieff for failing to check the anti-Semitic outbreak wherein 100 Jews were killed.

CHINA & ANGLO-SAXON POWERS.

London, May 21.

The Washington State Department learns that Great Britain has notified China that she is willing to accord the same terms as regards the indemnity as the United States.

It is semi-officially stated that the United States are prepared to insist to the end on American goods receiving the same treatment in Manchuria as Russian.

THE CURRENCY COMMISSION.

The United States International Exchange Commission has started to visit the capitals of Europe to seek a monetary arrangement for terminating the fluctuations in exchange between gold and silver countries.

[NOTE—This Commission consists of Mr. Charles A. Conant, Prof. Jeremiah W. Jenks, and Mr. Hugh H. Hanna, of Indianapolis. They first visit London, then proceed to Paris, Berlin and St. Petersburg, at all of which places monetary commissions are being privately convened.—ED. *J.M.*]

BULGARIA.

The new Bulgarian Cabinet is more friendly to Turkey and less subservient to Russia than its predecessor.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

VALPARAISO STRIKE.

Saigon, May 17.

The strike of dock-hands at Valparaiso is over. The houses of commerce and the banks have re-opened.

THE AUSTRALIAN STRIKE.

Saigon, May 18.

The strike on the railways in Melbourne is over. Work has been resumed without conditions.

SALONICA.

Most of the foreign cruisers sent to Salonica have left. Admiral Boutet is awaiting new instructions from Lyra with the *Pothuau* and the *Latouche Treville*.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN TOKYO.)

THE MANCHURIAN SITUATION.

London, May 11.

The Times, in a leading article, says, with regard to the Manchurian problem, that although no detailed information has yet been received, there can be no doubt that a grave situation has arisen. Probably the United States Government take that view. According to intelligence from Washington, Count Lamsdorf's reply has not given full satisfaction to either the Government or the people of the United States. They too, like us, are probably waiting for full particulars. Pending a clear knowledge of the facts, it can not bedefinitely known what course will be adopted by the two nations, American and English; but the newspapers of the United States are unanimous in advocating a strong policy. Hence should a crisis become imminent, the President and the Secretary of State will evidently have the support of the whole nation.

SILK PROSPECTS.

The Japanese Consul in Lyons telegraphs that in France and Italy there will a diminution of from 25 to 5 in the production of silk-worms. The earliest worms in France are now in their second sleep. The silk market is not active, factories buying only what they require for immediate use.

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(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES.

London, May 13.

The *Times* correspondent at New York states that public opinion in the United States with reference to Manchuria is very quiet and it is believed that the tension has been relieved.

STRIKE IN CHILI.

Workingmen have caused trouble in Valparaiso. Ten have been killed and two hundred wounded. The Government is endeavouring to put the riot down.

PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA.

President J. M. Marroguin of the Republic of Colombia (whose term did not expire till Aug. 7th, 1904), has resigned. The resignation is said to have probably been brought about by the Canal Treaty recently concluded with the United States, to which he was opposed.

THE BALKAN CRISIS.

London, May 15.

The Turkish troops are attacking Ibek in Albania where the Turkish Commissioners sent to pacify the insurrection are still detained.

Rashdi Pacha has been ordered to await reinforcement by four battalions.

The despatch of numerous Turkish troops has caused uneasiness in Bulgaria. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria has returned to his capital.

The Russian Black Sea squadron (including a fleet of transports) is prepared for active operations.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

A discussion with reference to the increase of the Navy took place last night in the House of Commons in the course of which Mr. Arnold Foster, Under-Secretary of the Navy, strongly urged the necessity of providing a Naval force sufficient to deal with any combination that may occur.

BULGARIAN CABINET RESIGNS.

London, May 16.

The Cabinet of Bulgaria has resigned. Prince Ferdinand has ordered Petokeff (?) the leader of the Stambuloff party, to organize a ministry.

Bulgaria has complained to the Powers against the operations of Turkey.

RUSSIA WAITS.

The Russian papers state that Russia is awaiting peace-guarantees from the Chinese government as to Manchuria, before she evacuates the country.

THE BALKANS.

London, May 18.

In the neighbourhood of Ipek, severe fighting has taken place between Albanians and Turkish troops. Many hundreds were killed.

The Turkish Government has detained some Bulgarians at Macedonia, and in consequence an indignation meeting has been held in Sophia.

The Bulgarian Cabinet has not yet been reorganized. Mr. Daneff retired from office after opposing the Prince.

THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION AND THE U.S.

The association of weavers in the United States has held an annual general meeting in which appreciation was expressed of the protest of Mr. Hay, Secretary of State, as to the Manchurian affair and approval of his policy in Asia.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

AFFAIRS IN CENTRAL AFRICA.

London, May 14.

Great Britain has again occupied Lado in Central Africa. King Leopold of Belgium has abandoned his claim to territory on the bank of the Nile, but has concluded an arrangement by which he takes a part of Bahr-el-Ghazal instead. It is stated in Brussells that the effect of this is to secure the whole Nile basin to Great Britain and Egypt.

RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS.

St. Petersburg, May 18.

For the purpose of co-operating with Austria-Hungary, the Russian Government issued orders the day before yesterday to the 15th Division (at Odessa) to prepare for an expedition. (The *Asahi* remarks that the action of Russia is supposed to be connected with the Macedonian affair).

THE CORN LAW.

London, May 18.

The *Morning Post* comments strongly against the the corn law and say that the Government is so ignorant that it actually seems in joke with reference to the corn law. It has certainly been deserted by its most faithful friends. The *Standard* says that the Government has failed to satisfy the Opposition, and many of its own supporters are deserting.

THE BULGARIAN CABINET.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria has instructed General Petroff (?) to organize a new Cabinet.

ANTI-RELIGIOUS MOVEMENT.

An anti-religious demonstration has taken place in Paris and many other parts of France. Fighting occurred.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST".)

THE KAISER AT METZ.

Berlin, May 16.

The Kaiser and his family were received by the population of the Reichslande in the heartiest way. The inauguration of the cathedral gate in Metz was most splendid. The Emperor and his family then departed for Berlin.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The demand of the French financiers to be put on a footing of equality with the Germans in the Bagdad railway cannot be fullfilled as the Germans are in possession of formerly gained privileges.

ARCHBISHOP FISCHER.

The Archbishop of Köln, Dr. Fischer, will be promoted cardinal.

NEW FIELD-MARSHAL.

Berlin, May 17.

The successor of Generalfeldmarshall Graf Häseler is General Stötzer.

ILLNESS OF COUNT VON HASELER.

On the occasion of the great review which the Kaiser held at Longeville near Metz the chief of the Military Chancery, General Graf von Hülsen-Häseler was stricken by an apoplectic fit.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

Berlin, May 19.

Notwithstanding the speech of Mr. Chamberlain in Birmingham a tariff war between Germany and England is improbable. The scheme of the regulation concerning the means of defence to be brought into use against the higher duties imposed by Canada on German imports is quite moderate. The attention of the Bundesrath is devoted to Mr. Chamberlain's speech.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

President Loubet will pay a visit to London in July.

THE BALKANS.

Turkey will send a diplomatic mission to St. Petersburg on account of the assassination of the Russian consul in Mitrovitza.

GERMAN MILITARY APPOINTMENT.

Berlin, May 19.

(Belated on account of complete mutilation of the telegram.)

Lieut.-general von Einem alias von Rothmaler, Director of the Prussian War Office's General Army-Department and Prussian acting military member of the Federal Council of Germany, has been appointed Prussian acting Minister of War on behalf of the furloughed General von Gossler. Mr. von Einem is an Hanoverian by birth.

COUNT VON HASELER.

Berlin, May 21.

General Graf Hülsen-Häseler has recovered from his apoplectic attack.

CASUALTIES TO GOVERNORS.

The Governor of the South Russia Government of Ufa was shot to death in the park belonging to Ufa, the capital city of the Government. The Governor of Kischinew, the capital city of the Government of Bessarabia, was discharged on account of the massacres there committed against the Jews.

THE KING.

It is not certain whether a second journey abroad will bring King Edward to Berlin or St. Petersburg.

GERMANY AND THE CANADIAN TARIFF.

The Imperial Government has sent the proposals concerning the defensive measures to be taken by Germany against the Canadian higher duty-rates to the Governments of the Federal States that they may inform the federal plenipotentiaries of their decisions. The instigations of the agrarian papers to begin a tariff war against England in no way influence the Imperial Government.

KING OF ITALY TO GO TO LONDON.

King Victor Emmanuel will pay a visit to London in July.

(FROM THE "JAPAN GAZETTE.")

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER IMPRISONED.

Tokyo, May 19.

The suit brought by Mr. Hofmann of Kobe, against the *Hochi Shimbun* was decided in the Tokyo Ku Saibansho to-day. In the criminal section, the editor (nominal) was sentenced to a fine of *yen* 7 and major imprisonment for twenty days; also to publish an apology in five Tokyo newspapers. In the civil section he was ordered to pay *yen* 50 damages to Mr. Hofmann, and costs of court.

The case against the proprietor of the *Hochi* was dismissed.

Judgment in Mr. Hofmann's suits against the *Yorodzu* and *Niroku* is reserved to the 23rd.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	Su. May 24
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric 1	W. May 27
Europe	M. M. Co.	Oceanien 2	W. May 27
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Tremont 3	Th. May 28
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart 4	Th. May 28
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Su. May 31
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru 5	M. June 1
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 6	Th. June 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	F. June 5
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 8
Hongkong	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	M. June 8
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. June 11
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Su. June 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 15
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	W. June 24

1 Left San Francisco on the 8th inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 20th inst.
3 Left Tacoma on the 11th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 20th inst.
5 Left Seattle on the 16th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 16th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	Sa. May 23
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	Sa. May 23
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Pleiades	M. May 25
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. May 28
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. May 28
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Tremont	Th. May 28
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	Sa May 30
Europe	N. Y. K.	Sado Maru	Sa. May 30
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 2
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru	Tu. June 2
Europe	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	F. June 5
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. June 6
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. June 6
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa. June 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 8
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. June 10
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. June 12
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. June 25

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 15th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,278, Thos. Bartlett, 15th May,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, F. E. Cope, 15th May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyades, American steamer, 2,932, G. Wright, 16th May,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, Y. Yamanouchi, 16th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 16th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Spol, Norwegian steamer, 865, H. Jespessen, 17th May,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 15th May, General.—Grosser & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 17th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 17th May,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 17th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaiser Karl VI., Austrian cruiser, ——, Captain Dreger, 17th May,—Kobe.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 18th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 18th May,—Vancouver, B.C., 5th May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 19th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, C. A. Lee, 19th May,—London via ports, General.—Nippon Yuseu Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, Parsons, 19th May,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ascot, British steamer, 2,785, R. B. Gwatkins, 20th May,—London, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Albion (16 guns), British battleship, 12,950, Capt. T. H. M. Jerram, 20th May,—Wei-hai-wei, 16th May.

Strassburg, German steamer, 3,232, L. Madsen, 21st May,—Hamburg via ports, and Shanghai, 17th May, General,—C. Illies & Co.

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Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 21st May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Kentucky, U.S. flagship, 11,500, Capt. C. H. Stockton, 15th May,—Yokosuka.

Supply, U.S. cruiser, 3,000, Capt. Schofield, 15th May,—Guam.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,256, P. H. Going, 15th May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Telena, British steamer, 3,124, O. M. Falck, 15th May,—Balekpappan, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Borck, 15th May,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 15th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 15th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, A. Wallace, 16th May,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 867, I. Noma, 16th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 16th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,813, J. McKenzie, 16th May,—London via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 16th May,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hyades, American steamer, 2,932, G. Wright, 16th May,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ikhona, British steamer, 3,383, H. T. Willsher, 16th May,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Zieten, German steamer, 4,988, B. Wilhelmi, 17th May,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Cressy (14), British cruiser, 12,000, Capt. Henry M. T. Tuder, 17th May,—Nagasaki.

Santo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,700, Kishi, 17th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Shimizu, 17th May,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Spol, Norwegian steamer, 865, H. Jespessen, 18th May,—Vladivostock, General.—Grosser & Co.

Owari Maru, Japanese steamer, 656, Y. Tojio, 18th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 18th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 19th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 19th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 19th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,972, N. Ohno, 20th May,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,835, W. Thompsen, 20th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kagoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,710, K. Kobori, 20th May,—Bombay via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, F. E. Cope, 21st May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—NipponYusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 871, S. Kawamuro, 21st May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 21st May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. R. W. White, Mr. E. Jones Hughes, Mrs. H. Scott, Mr. E. C. Waite, Mr. A. Macarthey, Mr. J. S. Clunies Ross, Mr. D. M. Kirby, Miss S. G. Glodwin, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Cole, Baron von Seldeneok, M. and Madam Frarris de Peecher, Mr. J. Griffiths, Mr. J. C. Ward, Rev. and Mrs. Partch and child, and Mrs. Butler, in cabin; 135, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. Sivain, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. C. B. Hampshire, Miss Ramsey, Miss Macdougull, and Mr. E. Coppon, in cabin; Mr. Furuya, Mr. Yoshitani, Mr. Yoshida, Mr. Indo, Mr. E. Carler, Mrs. Doi and 2 children, and Mr. Mitsuyama and family, in second class; 50 Japanese, and 28 Chinese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinano Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Dr. R. Masujima, and Mr. W. Crook, in cabin; Mr. H. Kaji, in second class; 5 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. A. Bloc, Mr. L. Goetch, Mr. J. Stenhouse, Rev. and Mrs. W. W. Lawton and children, Miss L. W. Price, Mr. T. Perkins, and Mr. T. M. Walter, in cabin; Mrs. D. P. Davidson and 2 children, and Mr. P. Dedreich, in second class; 14 Japanese, and 9 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Riojun Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. F. Reynolds, Mrs. F. Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. H. Schoenfelder and 3 children, and five Japanese, in cabin; 13 Japanese, in steerage. For Seattle:—Mr. W. Thornton, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. J. Poscall, Mr. J. Schmidt, Mr. J. H. Gubbin, Mr. J. Olivier, Mr. T. Giovanni, and Mr. S. Yoshio, in cabin; 61 Japanese, and 103 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. John T. Baker, Miss L. R. Baldwin, Mr. J. D. R. Baldwin, Mr. Louis Burkhardt, Mr. E. I. Baugher, Mr. J. T. Bibb, Mr. E. H. Bernhard, Mr. R. Brocke, Mr. Burton, Miss Burton, Mr. L. Camera, Mr. Paul Crompton, Mrs Paul Crompton and two children, Mr. A. W. Cross, Mrs. Dr. E. Eleonard, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Mr. G. P. Handy, Mrs. Handy, Mr. G. J. Hawkins, Mr. H. Janni, Miss A. Mouritti, Mr. S. Mogi, Mr. H. H. Noves, Mrs. L. Del Planque, Miss A. Paulsen, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. H. R. Skinner, Mrs. H. R. Skinner, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Mr. F. J. Wagner, Mrs. F. J. Wagner, and Mr. S. Yamanaka, in cabin; 20, in intermediate, 97, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Geo. Ackermann, Rev. W. O. Ballantine, Mr. H. J. Baring and valet, Mrs. H. J. Baring and maid, Mr. A. Baum, Mr. J. W. Bixby, Mr. D. H. Blake, Mr. M. V. Brandt, Mr. H. A. Burke, Mrs. H. A. Burke and 2 children, Mr. Fred. C. Childs, Mrs. Fred. C. Childs, Mrs. C. A. Clevio, Mr. E. E. Corlett, Mr. John T. Davis, Mrs. John Davis, Mr. S. Deacon, Mrs. S. Deacon, Mr. H. Hope Doeg, Capt. P. C. W. Eckford, Mr. A. Frowein, Jr., Mrs. A. Frowein, Jr., Baron Gemmingen, Baroness Gemmingen, Mr. Max Gorbach, Miss M. Graff, Miss Hamilton, Mrs. W. T. Helmuth, Mr. C. von Herder, Councillor M. A. Heucke, Mr. J. W. Hosmer, Mrs. J. W. Hosmer, Mr. R. Jahn, Mr. G. Kato, Mr. J. G. Kniesche, Mr. Ma Pa Lan and servant, Mr. E. T. Lechner, Mrs. E. T. Lechner, Mr. H. E. Levis, Miss Kate A. Lockman, Mrs. Logan, Mr. E. W. Longfellow, Mrs. E. W. Longfellow, Mr. C. I. McCaskey, Mr. H. D. McCaskey, Mrs. R. J. McGinnis, Mr. R. C. Milward, Mr. A. H. Morgan and valet, Mrs. A. H. Morgan and maid, Mr. G. M. Palmer, Mrs. G. M. Palmer, Mr. C. G. Palmer, Miss Olive Palmer, Mr. E. Parker, Mr. F. Prinz, Mr. H. S. Potter, Mrs. H. S. Potter, Dr. R. Rossle, Mr. John Suchs, Mr. K. Sakuma, Mrs. M. Sulzer, Mrs. L. Senes, Dr. E. Seyferth, Mr. Tsu Shong and servant, Mr. O. Shioda, Mr. A. L. Small, Mrs. B. Stanhope, Mr. W. von Stockar, Mrs. W. von Stockar, Dr. J. A. Strasky, Minister K. Sugimura, Mrs. K. Sugimura, Miss Margaret C. Thomas, Mr. L. Vogeler, Mr. F. P. Wagg, Mrs. A. White, Mr. A. G. White, Mrs. A. G. White, Mr. Robert E. Whitney, and Mr. Chun Wai Yuan and servant, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Morita, Mr. Y. Ohya, Mr. W. Dallas, Mr. Morgan Campbell, Mr. A. S. Jelf, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. C. Trimnill, Mr. C. G. May, Mr. E. C. Edward, Mr. T. Matsudaira, Major S. Kikuchi, Surg. H. Yamaguchi, Major S. Yoshi, Capt. G. Konishi, Capt. A. Tsunoda, Prof. J. Shimoyama, Mr. B. Iwata, and Mr. S. Soga, in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. K. Kadowaki, Mrs. Y. Aritoshi, Mr. Y. Okada, Mr. W. J. Calbert, Mr. Monion, Mr. H. Balch, Mr. B. Ingersoll, Mr. Jo Kei Kow, Mr. Nai Chan, Mr. Gunufredo Hizon, Mr. T. Motono, and Mr. D. Takeno, in second class; 34 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. D. A. Andrews, Mr. G. V. Borwick, Mrs. Butler, Rev. R. C. Fillingham, Mr. Smidt von Gelder, Mr. J. Griffiths, Mr. E. Jones Hughes, Mr. M. Iwasaki, Mr. A. Macartney, Mr. Percy Marks, Mr. J. R. McClean, Lieut. L. O. Mott, Mr. W. H. Omerod, Rev. J. E. Partch, Mrs. J. E. Partch and child, Mr. G. Paulding, Mrs. G. Paulding, Mr. Barris du Penher, Mrs. Barris du Penher, Mr. M. Ponsonby, Mr. J. S. Clunies Ross, Mr. M. Sakamoto, Mrs. H. Scott, Mr. E. L. Waite, Mr. A. A. White, and Capt. R. W. White, R.N., in cabin.

Per German steamer *Zieten*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. K. Takata, Mr. and Mrs. Haynemann, Mr. Noltenius, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Wilson, Mr. Ulrich, Mr. E. Schaeffer, Mr. E. Hasche, Mr. Schmidt Scharff, Mr. H. Klingen, Mr. Vehling, Mr. Bluiner, Mr. C. H. V. Wilson, Mr. H. Goldman, Miss Olga Lichtenberger, Mr. Coblitz, Mr. W. de Mornay, Mr. T. H. Bottewalla, Mr. H. W. Commissariat, Capt. Hay, Mr. Y. Little, Mr. Kawai, Mr. and Mrs. Ph. Weevers, Mr. Steinkoff, Mr. M. Yok Kee, and Mr. and Mrs. Y. H. Falker, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss J. L. Durham, Miss E. Donaldson, Miss J. Martin, Mr. H. E. Bard, Mrs. H. E. Bard, Mr. P. F. King, Mr. A. W. Miller, Mr. J. R. Mitchell, Miss K. P. W. Williamson, Mr. W. W. Spencer, Mr. J. R. Hopkins, Mrs. J. R. Hopkins, Dr. Vanderpool, Mr. P. H. Henshaw, Miss E. Winklerfelt, Miss Dickinson, Miss Baucus, Mr. A. E. Griffin, Mr. C. J. Wilkinson, Mr. F. F. Coulson, Mr. J. C. McBee, and Mr. T. H. Kenworthy, in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *America Maru*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	San Francisco.	New York.	Chicago.	Cleveland.		Other Cities.	Total
Kobe	—	1,029	552	—	—	—	1,581
Yokohama	3,087	493	710	—	—	—	4,290
Total ...	3,087	1,522	1,262	—	—	—	5,871

SILK.

	San Francisco.	New York.	Eastern.	Total
Shanghai	—	46	—	46
Hongkong	—	—	—	—
Yokohama	—	106	—	106
Total	—	152	—	152

Per British steamer *Tartar*, for Vancouver:—

TEA.

From.	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong .	—	—	—	396	—	396
Kobe	20	720	826	2	—	1,568
Yokohama..	98	2,109	898	—	—	2,105
Total...	118	2,829	1,724	398	—	5,069

SILK.

From.	New York.	San F'cisco	Boston.	South Mas'ter.	Total. Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	281	—	—	—	281
Shanghai	300	13	—	—	313
Yokohama	549	—	174	10	733
Total	1,130	13	174	10	1,327

Per British steamer *Hyades*, for Tacoma:—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	77	—	77
Yokohama...	—	746	1,039	—	—	1,785
Total ...	—	746	1,039	77	—	1,862

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Zieten*:—

	RAW. Genoa, Upriion.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen and Other Cities	WASTE. Genoa.	Marseilles	London.	Trieste.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	224	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	236	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co...	273	—	—	—	27	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.....	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Herbert Dent & Co.	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.....	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
H. Bernardin & Co.	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.....	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer, Mayet, Guillee	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	32	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worch & Co.	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Total.....	959	—	—	—	79	—	—	—

Indigo Shirtings—24 yards, 14 inches... 2.50 to 3.35

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Yarn market is lifeless with small clearances. While Egyptian Cotton maintains its present high level of price, there is little chance of business in gassed yarns. Grey shirtings are quiet, and there is little doing in White shirtings. There is no change in fancy cottons and woollens.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirting—{40 yds. 36 in. / 50 yds. 36 in.}	PER YARD 0.09 to 0.15
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	PER PIECE. Y.2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.25
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton Italians and Satteens...	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.40

WOOLLENS.

Flannels	PER YARD. ...Y.0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.50

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Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.65

COTTON YARN. PER BALE.

Nos. 16/24, Singles ... Y.	140.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles...	145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	155.00 to 160.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain ...	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain ...	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	245.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	295.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	425.00 to 435.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	31
Indian Broach...	Nominal. 26
Chinese ...	23

METALS.

A steady business continues.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward... Y.	4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron...	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.10 to 11.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box...	6.90 to 7.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	5.00 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

This market is firm with an upward tendency.

American ...	$2.87
Russian	2.67
Langkat	2.50

SUGAR.

The market for Hongkong Refined is dull and there is little doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao ... Y.	6.50 to 6.60
Brown Manila...	6.00 to 7.10
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.56
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.80
White Java and Penang...	7.30 to 8.10
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.40

INDIGO.

The market is dull and prices are weak.

	PICUL
Java, Medium to best...	280.00 to 330.00
Calcutta, Medium to best ...	200.00 to 285.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best ...	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best ..	100.00 to 140.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Quotation are entirely nominal. The demand continues for France, but there is no good silk with which to supply it and everything is more or less in a state of suspense until the actual truth is known about the European crops. News from North China and Canton is for a full crop. Everything goes well in Japan so far.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ... Y.	1,080 to 1,100
Filatures—Extra, Fine...	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	1,060 to 1,070
Filatures—No. 1, Fine...	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	1,070 to 1,080
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse ...	1,040 to 1,050
Filatures—No. 2, Fine...	1,020 to 1,030
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse ...	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½ ...	980 to 985
Re-reels—No. 2	950 to 960
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½...	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½...	—

WASTE SILK.

Very little doing, season practically closed.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best ...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good ...	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	150 to 155
Kibiso—Filatures, Second ...	140 to 145
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good ...	60 to 70
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair ...	55 to 60

TEA.

Arrivals and settlements have kept about equal. Market steady to firm on upper grades. A slight decline in price on lower qualities, as these have come in more freely.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest ...	...55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine...	40 to 42
Good Medium	39
Medium ...	—
Good Common	—
Common...	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 21.

London silver ⅛ lower, China sterling quotations unchanged and local rates all unaltered but firm all round for the outgoing mails per steamers *Empress of Japan* and *Korea*.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0⅞
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅝
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¹¹⁄₁₆
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0¹¹⁄₁₆
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight	262
— — 6 months' sight	263½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	84½*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	82*
Shanghai—Bank sight	84½*
— Private 10 days' sight	86¼*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sigh	50½
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛ @ ¼
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	214
Bar Silver (London)	25 7/16 @ ⅛

* Nominal.

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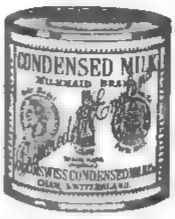

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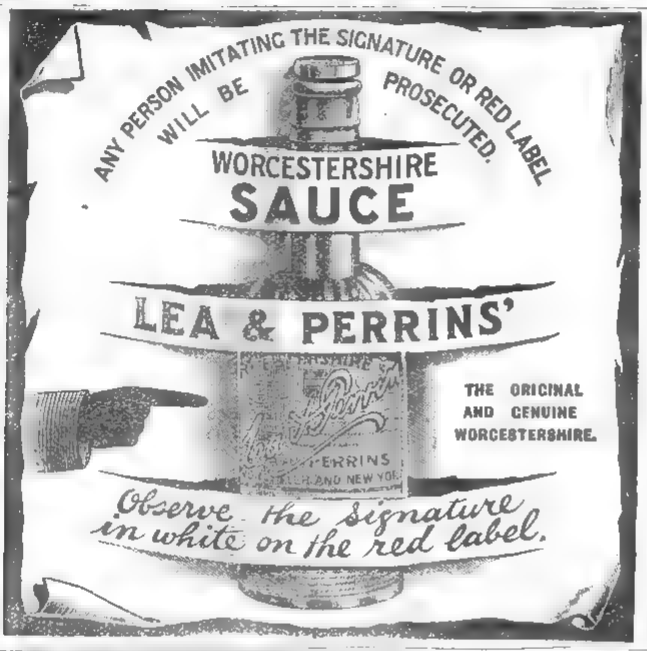

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, MAY 30TH, 1903.

DEATH.

At London on the 21st April, MONTAGUE LEVY, formerly of Yokohama.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

YOKOHAMA has been declared pest-infected by the Russian authorities.

THE *Mainichi* says that Viscount Aoki aspires to fill the vacant office of Mayor of Tokyo.

INSECT pests have appeared in the rice fields in Aichi prefecture. Damage by them is anticipated.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princesses Tsune and Kane will leave Tokyo on June 3rd for Osaka.

A SEVERE hail-storm raged on May 20th in parts of Yamanashi prefecture, inflicting damage on farms.

IT is stated that the Emperor has presented the Grand Cordon of the Chrysanthemum to the King of Saxony.

SOLDIERS numbering 334 left Ujina by the steamer *Omi Maru*, on May 24th, for Formosa as garrison reliefs.

THE tobacco dealers of Gifu held a meeting on the 26th, and decided to agitate against the Government monopoly.

MR. H. P. WILKINSON, the former Crown Advocate at Shanghai, has been appointed Judge of H.B.M.'s Court in Siam.

A CASE of cholera is reported to have appeared at Niihama, in Ehime Prefecture, on May 22nd, the victim being a man.

THE Minister of Home Affairs granted on May 22nd *yen* 2,000 to the relict of the late Marquis C. de Nembrini Gonzaga.

THE Takasaki City Assembly contemplate the construction of water-works. It is stated that the estimated expense is over *yen* 570,000.

A LIGHTER sank on May 21st alongside the steamer *Nanyo Maru* in the port of Muroran, Hokkaido. Seven men were drowned.

A SNOWSTORM prevailed in Hokkaido on May 23rd. In Nemuro snow lay over a foot deep and in Tokachi and Kushiro it was several inches deep.

THE Saga High Female School, which is now under construction, was blown down in a gale on May 21st. Many persons are reported to have been injured.

ON the night of May 23rd, gas exploded in the Horonai Coal Mine, Hokkaido. Three miners were killed by the accident. The cause is not yet ascertained.

A LITHOGRAPHIC printer named M. Nishimura was arrested by the Yamaguchi police on May 21st on a charge of having printed and sold indecent pictures.

THE Crown Princess paid a visit on May 24th to the residence of Count Kawamura, to see her babies, Princes Michi-no-miya and Atsu-no-miya, before leaving for Osaka.

A TELEGRAM from Shizuoka states that three police officers were arrested on May 22nd on a charge of having tortured a woman named Tori (66) and caused her death.

THREE men named Y. Ishii (38), S. Inouye (40) and C. Ishii (42), who had been convicted of robbery and murder, were executed on May 26th in the Ichigaya Jail, Tokyo.

A MAN named S. Yamada, detained on a charge of incendiarism in the Morioka jail, attempted on May 23rd to murder a gaoler, inflicting severe injury on his face with a hatchet.

THE Tottori police are shadowing a recently arrived Korean who is suspected of a desire to assassinate Pak Yong-ho, the well-known Korean refugee, now resident in that city.

THE Government of British Columbia having decided that all immigrants must be able to write out their application for admission in English, a certain knowledge of that language will now (according to a decision of the Governor of Kanagawa) be required of all Japanese intending to proceed thither.

A WORKMAN named G. Akasaka (48) on the Kobu Railway was run over by an engine and killed on May 25th near Kokubunji station, while attempting to get on the locomotive in motion.

GOVERNOR SUFU has issued a notification prohibiting the sale of a book which has been reprinted in Japan from an English edition published in Chicago, on the ground that it is injurious to public morals.

A WOMAN named Man (33), living at Asakusa, Tokyo, attempted to commit suicide on May 23rd by jumping into a well with her baby. Both were rescued by neighbours. Poverty is reported to be the cause.

MR. YAMATO MANWA, a leading exponent of the art of *Koto*-playing, died of consumption on May 23rd. His last composition, a hymn entitled "Eternal Dissatisfaction," was given at the Charity Concert at Uyeno on May 16th.

A BLACKSMITH named T. Arai (31) of the Yokohama Dockyard attempted to commit suicide on May 23rd by cutting his throat with a razor. He was at once removed to the Rokkaku Hospital. Poverty and debt seem to have been the impelling causes.

A CHINESE student, passenger on the steamer *Kobe Maru* from Shanghai, committed suicide by jumping into the sea on May 22nd when the steamer was passing Akashi strait, near Kobe. A boat was at once lowered but the man could not be found.

ON the morning of May 22nd the boiler of a sawmill at Mito City burst and an assistant engineer was killed and four persons more or less injured. The cause is reported to be that the boiler had not been used for a long time and was over-pressed on the day of the accident.

EIGHT goods wagons of a train on the Nippon Railway were derailed on May 24th about noon, near Matsukawa-machi, in Fukushima prefecture. One person was killed and another injured. The *Asahi's* report is that the accident occurred between Fukushima and Nagaoka stations.

THERE was a large gathering of Freemasons at Kobe on Saturday to take part in the ceremony of opening the fine new building which is to furnish accommodation both for lodge meetings and the purposes of a club. The site is one of the best that could have been got, on the hill near the International Hospital, and doubtless the event marks a quickening of interest in the craft locally.

THE *Novoe Vremya* announces that "a Russian engineer has discovered on the steppes near the border of Asia a deposit of a natural radium." If the discovery proves to be well founded the importance will be apparent when it is remembered that radium is the newly discovered metal of incalculable value, possessing the supposed property of continuously emitting heat without apparently diminishing its own bulk or temperature.

ABOUT 2,000 villagers in Tochigi and Gumma Prefectures whose fields were damaged by refuse from the Ashio Copper Mine, intended to proceed to Tokyo to present a complaint to the Premier but were interrupted by police at the village of Kawamata. They then elected 24 delegates to effect their purpose. On the morning of May 25th the delegates called on the Premier at his official residence but were refused an audience.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Friday, May 22.

Thursday the 21st was a day of vehement discussion among the politicians in Tokyo. At 10 a.m. the Council and the Standing Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* met to consider the programme which had been elaborated at the interview between the Standing Committee and the Premier on the previous day. The programme did not present any new feature as to the sources from whence money is to be obtained for naval increment. They are, as already stated in these columns, administrative reform (1 million annually), re-adjustments of railway and telegraph estimates (5 millions), and public loans (5¼ millions). It had been arranged, however, that these public loans should be made for purposes of public works, not for purposes of naval increment, the process being to increase from 135 millions to 180 millions the total sum fixed by the Public Undertakings Loan Law, and from 95 to 102 millions the total sum fixed by the Railway Loan Law. This method of financing was deemed sounder than that of borrowing for unproductive outlays, though it must be confessed that the difference is chiefly in appearance. The Government further pledged itself not to limit its administrative retrenchments to one million annually, but to endeavour to effect larger savings, and also pledged itself to gradually adopt, if possible, the *Seiyu-kai's* policy of paying for railway extensions with profits obtained from railways. Mr. Hara Kei, presenting this programme to the Council, intimated that although it was not entirely satisfactory, its adoption was to be desired. The Council then proceeded to discuss the matter, but no decision had been reached at noon, although Marquis Ito, who was present in an adjoining chamber, is said to have made every endeavour to bring the Council to a placable mood. After the suspension of the Diet, a general meeting of parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* to the number of over 150, was held at 3 p.m., and another warm debate ensued. It then transpired that the members whose disaffected attitude attracted so much attention on the occasion of the threatened Osaka and Tokyo secession last month, continued to be imbued with a desire to precipitate a collision. Messrs. Mochizuki, Sugawara, Sakurai, Sugita, Yamashita, Nishiyama, Shigeoka and Kuribara, all opposed the idea of an *entente* on such terms, and it is alleged that Mr. Ozaki Yukio, who loves a troubled atmosphere, also joined the ranks of the malcontents, though he did not conspicuously condemn the projected arrangement. It should be stated that the proceedings alike of the Council in the forenoon and of the Parliamentary members in the afternoon were held with closed doors, so that no detailed report can be given. The result, however, was the adoption of a resolution that the various sections of the Party should meet on the 22nd and formulate their decisions independently, after which another general meeting should be held. There are seven sections, and as there can not be much probability of a complete consensus of opinion among them, the ultimate issue is thought doubtful. As we have before remarked, however, Marquis Ito and his immediate lieutenants are in favour of the *entente*, and unless the Party follows its leader's advice in this important matter, it must be said to have broken away from him, which means its own shattering.

The great point of difficulty is said to be the paucity of the proposed administrative retrenchments. Last session the *Seiyu-kai's* financial committee reported, through Mr. Hara Kei, that a saving of 10 millions annually could be effected, whereas now they are asked to be content with one million. They think the difference too marked. Apparently they forget that, in all human probability, whatever measures of retrenchment they now dictate to the Ministry will have to be carried out by their own leaders, for nothing suggests that the Katsura Cabinet will live over 1903. We may note here that all the leading papers, the *Jimmin* excepted, advocate the advisability of an *entente*. The *Jimmin* is in the hands of the leaders of the malcontents, and it necessarily reflects their sentiments.

Out of the Seven Sections of the *Seiyu-kai*, which met yesterday in Tokyo to discuss the proposed terms of an agreement with the Government, five voted in favour of *an entente*, one voted against it, and one reserved its decision until to-day. From these results it would seem that a peaceful issue is tolerably certain.

Saturday, May 23.

It might have been supposed that by Saturday morning the views of the various sections of the *Seiyu-kai* on the subject of the *entente* would have been distinctly known, but even that simple result was confused by political bias, so that outsiders were puzzled to tell whether two or three of the Seven Sections had shown a recalcitrant spirit. However, the broad fact was that only one of the Sections could be said to have assumed a wholly implacable attitude, and thus a peaceful outcome seemed pretty certain. The main point of contention appeared to be the amount of loan bonds contemplated by the new programme. Many thought that by exercising greater economy in administrative outlays, a larger sum could be obtained from that source for purposes of naval increment, the issue of loan bonds being proportionately reduced. That view was clearly enunciated by the business-men's section of the *Seiyu-kai*, who formulated an opinion that not more than three million *yen* worth of bonds should be placed on the market annually, the difference being made up by administrative economies. But it was tolerably evident that if the Cabinet resolutely declined to make any further concession, an *entente* would be established on the basis described in our last issue, namely, 1 million annually from administrative economies, 5 millions from railways and telephones, and 5¼ millions from loans.

The *Jiji Shimpo* justly berates the business men for their perfunctory and belated manner of dealing with political questions. Now, at this eleventh hour, they are raising their voices against a reversion to the public-loan policy. Yet they must have known perfectly well, long before the general elections, that were the land-tax measure condemned, no resource would offer except public loans. Why, then, did they not exert themselves to influence and educate the electorates, instead of waiting until the die was practically cast?

On Saturday morning it was currently rumoured that Mr. Ozaki Yukio had seceded from the *Seiyu-kai* and that he had been followed by 20 or 30 members. Some attributed this to genuine distaste for the proposed *entente*, but if that were so, it is hard to see why Mr. Ozaki did not send in his resignation so soon as the Party's leader had declared himself in favour of an amicable compromise. In other quarters it is alleged that Mr. Ozaki, having been really the leader of the malcontents, finds himself now in a very equivocal position since the bulk of the Party have voted for an *entente*. But it remains to be seen whether Mr. Ozaki has resigned at all. The rumour of his resignation is obviously based in part on an outsider's estimate of the embarrassments that the situation offers to him. At all events, should he return to the ranks of the Progressists, leading with him a substantial contingent from the *Seiyu-kai*, we can easily foresee what will be said of him by students of the ancient military art of the Far East.

Sunday, May 24.

The afternoon of the 23rd instant proved a very troubled time in political circles in Tokyo. At 2 p.m. a general meeting of the parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* was held, about 180 attending. The chair was taken by Baron Suyematsu. Mr. Ozaki Yukio, of the Standing Committee, was conspicuous by his absence. Proceedings opened by a speech from Mr. Matsuda Masahisa who, with Mr. Hara Kei, represented the Standing Committee. He described the proposed terms of compromise with the Cabinet, and while admitting that they might not be deemed wholly satisfactory, pointed out that they appeared to embody the maximum concessions possible to the Ministry, and that they were the result of careful conference between the Government on one side and the Party's leader and its Standing Committee on the other. Nevertheless if the majority of the members demanded that further negotiations should be essayed, the Committee were prepared to make the attempt.

This brought to his feet Mr. Hirata, the leader of the malcontents. He moved that priority should be given to a proposal introduced by him at a previous general meeting, namely, that the Cabinet be held to its responsibility for dissolving the House of Representatives. That point, he considered, should be settled before any question of an *entente* was debated.

Mr. Matsuda said that the questions of Cabinet responsibility and of a conference were independent. It was proposed to consider the latter only at the present meeting.

Mr. Mochizuki, another leader of the malcontents, moved that an entente be rejected, and that the Cabinet be impeached for dissolving the House. He demanded precedence for the motion, but on a show of hands being taken, he was found to have only 20 supporters.

Mr. Yokota Torahiko, while not wholly approving of the terms of compromise, urged their acceptance as embodying the best results obtainable by their leader and the Standing Committee.

Mr. Oda Kwanichi, while generally approving, thought that a reduction of the proposed issue of loan bonds should be effected, and that if the Cabinet were again approached, it might be induced to carry its administrative economies far enough to believe to some extent the threatened pressure on the money market.

Mr. Ogawa Heikichi, one of the malcontents, spoke strongly against an *entente*, but Mr. Yamaguchi Kumano pointed out that the question now was the acceptance of the proposed terms or an attempt to improve them. He advocated the latter.

Various speeches of an unimportant character having been delivered, the chairman called upon those who entirely opposed com-

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promise to rise. This brought only six members to their feet.

The meeting was then invited to vote on the question of accepting the terms as they stood or re-opening negotiations with a view to obtaining some modification. A large majority pronounced in favour of re-opening negotiations.

Marquis Ito then spoke.

He said that he did not consider many words necessary at a time when the special session of the Diet was drawing to its close, but that he must ask them to consider what course a great political party ought to pursue at this juncture in the interests of the State. He fully understood and sympathised with the sentiments of the Party as expressed recently through various channels, but he begged them to reconsider the matter, in view of the great national importance of the problem and in view of the fact that it might even affect the stability of the Party. They should approach the question in the calmest and coolest manner, for any intrusion of temper or sentiment could only obscure the true issues. He himself had devoted profound thought to the matter, and had endeavoured with all care and reflection, to determine what route the Party should take. They were already acquainted with the outlines of his views, as expressed at the general meeting on the 7th instant. Since the dissolution of the House last year the country had declared itself unequivocally opposed to any continuance of the increased rate of land tax, and it was necessary to take account of that verdict. For himself, he was indifferent altogether as to the hands by which administrative authority was held. He had only one aim, and that was to see the policy carried out which appeared to be best suited to the conditions of the time. Hence he had not hesitated to enter into consultation with the present Ministry. After many conferences and much consultation, the Government had in effect accepted the views of the *Seiyu-kai*, with, of course, some slight modifications. There had been since last year virtual unanimity of opinion about naval increment. It was and is recognised as a necessity of the time. Discarding then the land tax, the Cabinet has agreed to fall back, as one source of funds, upon the revenue accruing from the twenty-one-million taxation scheme of the year before last, and to refrain altogether from any increase of the people's burdens. Thus the Party could fairly claim that its policy had obtained recognition. On the other hand, it became obvious that if recourse was not to be had to the land tax, an issue of loan bonds would be inevitable. That matter had received his most careful consideration, and he had come to the conclusion that nothing could be accomplished beyond keeping the dimensions of the loan as small as possible, to which the Cabinet had consented. The Ministry had been unwilling to refrain from re-introducing the Land Tax Bill, but had promised not to press for its adoption. Then had followed the rejection of the Bill by the Special Committee. The Government, of course, had prepared alternative measures prior to that event, and with those measures he himself had been acquainted. But it had not seemed consistent with official etiquette to make them known to the Party. At the time of the Naval manœuvres he had been invited to remain for a short time in Osaka. This had given rise to various rumours and commotions which he greatly regretted. He felt that there might be danger of a disruption of the Party owing to the anxiety of the Government to secure a tranquil conclusion for the next session of the Diet, and the Government sharing that apprehension had approached him in all sincerity of spirit. (This passage is somewhat obscure, as reported). The result had been a consensus of views, and deeming it wise to make this known as soon as possible, he had communicated the facts to the Standing Committee immediately on his return to Oiso. He felt, in the first place, that the continuance of parliamentary commotions must cause anxiety to the Sovereign, and, in the second, that constant changes of Cabinet were opposed to the best interests of the country, especially having regard to the present state of domestic and foreign affairs. Therefore, as leader of a political party, he recognised that his duty lay in endeavouring to avert these mischiefs, and it was under the influence of that conviction that he had addressed them on the 7th instant. (The Marquis then referred at some length to the changes effected in the organization of the Party and passed to the conference between the newly appointed Standing Committee and the Ministry.) The results of that conference had the approval of the Committee and of himself as the best that could be done under the circumstances. It was not true, however, that the proposal to revert to public loans had emanated from him. It was the Government's suggestion, and though he could not entirely endorse it, nothing else offered. It appeared to him that the various sections of the Party having fully discussed the problem, and the period of suspension drawing to its close, the best plan would be to let things rest. Arguments might be continued without limit, but their needless prolongation could not redound to the credit of the Party. Their policy had been adopted in effect. The one new point was that of public loans. But public loans were very different from taxes. It depended upon the volition of the people to purchase or to reject these loan-bonds. If capitalists did not want them, they could not be forced to take them, neither might the Government attempt to float them at a heavy loss. He had already pointed out these things at the meeting on the 7th instant. It really mattered very little from that point of view whether a loan programme were large or small. The *Seiyu-kai* was the greatest political party that had existed since the promulgation of the Constitution and the Government naturally took account of its wishes. On the other hand, they must remember that the Diet did not consist of one House only. These conferences might be continued, but if they failed to procure further concession, the result might only be to weaken the Party. It seemed best to accept the situation as it stood. The state of the weather in the Far East was not good, but as this was a matter of foreign politics he might not dwell on it, nor was there any necessity since they could see for themselves. He had no desire to make foreign politics a pretext for an *entente* with the Cabinet, but in times like the present the nation's reliance would naturally be placed on the great political party representing it, and therefore it should be their aim to preserve their solidarity so as to utilize their united strength for national achievements. Men's views were as various as their faces. Absolute unaminity could not be hoped for on such an occasion. Some views must be sacrificed to the general cause. That had been the motive inspiring the conferences between the Government and the Party's representatives. As he had said before, discussion and consideration could not be too minute. But there were limits of time. They were on the eve of the conclusion of the suspension period. He did not attempt to force his views upon them. His own aim had been solely to contribute to the successful working of the Constitution, but the majority of his numerous hearers might not agree with him. If not, he would make no complaint. If the Ministry could be moved to make further concessions, it would be well. If not, was it not better to accept things as they stood than to enter upon further fruitless conferences? Until the Budget of next year came to be presented, they could not tell what was involved in the promised administrative reforms. Meanwhile, nothing could be lost by agreeing to the programme in the form it had now taken.

Mr. Shigeoka disputed the Marquis' contention that the Party's policy had been adopted by the Cabinet. That policy had been that naval increment should be effected with the proceeds of administrative reform and financial reform. But it appeared that administrative reform was to produce a paltry saving of a million *yen*. Could that be called adopting the Party's policy?

Marquis Ito replied that such might be Mr. Shigeoka's opinion. If there was to be renewal of discussion, materials would not be wanting. It appeared to him, however, that such a course would only impede a settlement of the important issue now awaiting decision and he suggested that argument be postponed to a future occasion.

The Marquis then withdrew. Thereafter the meeting fell into considerable confusion. The Chairman announced that a recess would be taken, but this announcement provoked loud protests that as the majority had already decided in favour of renewed conference with the Ministry, no occasion existed for adjournment. Meanwhile, a number of non-parliamentary members of the Party held a meeting outside, when harangues were delivered against an *entente*. During the course of the proceedings a *soshi* made his appearance and attacked Mr. Sekine, but this *soshi* was himself attacked by another of his tribe. Even the *jinrikisha* men waiting outside were infected by the fury of the moment and had a fight on their own account, so that the commotion inside the place of assembly found its reflection outside. Under these circumstances the meeting temporarily adjourned under the impulse, apparently, of the confusion rather than of any set purpose, and subsequently the Council met, there being also present two delegates from each of the Seven Sections. Marquis Ito too attended. At this meeting it was proposed that, in deference to the views of the majority, the Ministry should be again approached, but Marquis Ito emphatically declared the uselessness of such a step, and asked that in deference to himself the programme should be accepted as it stood. The Council and the Section Delegates thereupon agreed that if such was their leader's attitude they must bow to it, and the meeting broke up at 8.30 p.m., having resolved to summon on the following day another general meeting of the Sections, as preliminary to another general meeting of the Parliamentary members, when a final decision should be taken.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that, as a matter of fact, every detail of this compromise had been arranged between Marquis Ito and Count Katsura, even the arithmetical figures being settled. Hence when the Standing Committee waited on the Premier on the 20th instant, in consequence of the rejection of the Land Tax Bill by the Special Committee of the House, they found that not the smallest margin remained for Ministerial concessions, and that Count Katsura stood in the position of having shifted the whole responsibility to Marquis Ito's shoulders.

At this moment of writing (11 a.m. on the 24th) the general opinion in well-informed circles seems to be that in view of the strong position taken by Marquis Ito, the *entente* may be regarded as practically assured, but what effect the shock will have on the solidarity of the *Seiyu-kai* remains to be proved. When the intelligence of a probable *entente* was first announced some time ago, we ventured to predict that it would not be consummated without cost to the great Party's cohesion. Mr. Ozaki Yukio's secession is now counted inevitable, and if he be not followed by more than 15 fellow-thinkers, the *Seiyu-kai* will be fortunate. At the same time, the Party can do better without implacables of the unreasoning type.

The extra-Diet members of the Party held a meeting on the 23rd instant, and passed a resolution declaring that without the assent of a general meeting there ought not to be any change in the policy adopted by the Party last session.

Several newspapers of Tokyo contain what professes to be a statement of Mr. Ozaki's reasons for leaving the *Seiyu-kai*. Principally he objects that whereas he imagined that the Government would be induced to accept the policy of the Party, he found to his surprise that nothing of the kind could be accomplished. The Party's policy, as he understood it, was that, assuming the necessity for naval increment, funds should be obtained by administrative and financial reforms. At the worst, some tax less objectionable than the land tax should be imposed. The least endorsable plan of all, the plan never contemplated by the Party, was a reversion to the system of public loans. Yet that plan had been adopted. In such circumstances he felt that he could not remain in the Party. Mr. Ozaki further forestalls criticisms of which he will surely be the object. He knows that he will be said to have joined the *Seiyu-kai* solely for the purpose of producing a solution of its unity. His answer is that he leaves it precisely to prevent anything of the kind.

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His previous party associations were with politicians whom he himself had aided to organize and whose views he shared. If any difference of opinion arose, it was thrashed out, and if it proved incapable of adjustment, a split inevitably occurred. But in joining the *Seiyu-kai* he had joined a party organized by others and having a policy of its own. There thus devolved on him a moral responsibility not to disturb by pressing and ventilating his own views the unity of such a party, and he consequently withdrew quietly from it when he found himself in disagreement with its procedure.

(3 p.m.)

The *Seiyu-kai* parliamentary members held a general meeting at 11 a.m. and sat until noon. The attendance numbered 208. It was announced formally that Mr. Ozaki Yukio had retired from the party. After the usual formalities, Mr. Matsuda Masahisa reported the result of the previous days' meetings and urged that the terms of the compromise should be accepted, the Cabinet having adopted the Party's policy and having further promised to exert its abilities in the cause of financial and administrative reform

Mr. Yamaguchi Kumano declared that the more he considered the terms the less disposed was he to endorse them. He was followed by Mr. Ogawa Heikichi in the same sense. They had been urged to consider the matter dispassionately, but it seemed to him that the passion and hot-headedness were all on the side of those that advised the acceptance of such terms. Mr. Mochizuki spoke in a similar strain with even more vehemence.

Mr. Tsunematsu moved the closure and on the question being put whether the meeting approved the terms of the *entente* and would support the Bills and Projects of Law required to give effect to it, the majority voted in the affirmative.

Mr. Hara Kei proposed that a Representation should be introduced in the House of Representatives on the 26th instant, urging that administrative economies should be carried further than a million *yen* annually, that the sum raised by loans should be proportionately reduced, and that the policy of paying for railway extensions with railway earnings should be adopted. A majority voted in favour of the Representation, and the meeting dispersed at noon.

Tuesday, May 26.

There is much commotion in the ranks and among the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai*. Reduced to its smallest dimensions the cause of friction is that Marquis Ito is thought to have pledged himself too far in his negotiations with the Cabinet, without consulting either the Standing Committee or the Party at large. We can not discover that Mr. Ozaki Yukio's retirement is due to any other reason. The fact is that when the Standing Committee visited the Premier immediately after the rejection of the Land Tax Bill by the special committee of the House, they expected to open a conference with respect to the terms of an agreement, but they found to their consternation that everything was already settled, and when they would have questioned the Prime Minister closely, he recommended them to question their own leader. The members of the Committee and of the Party seem inclined to think that they did not receive full consideration, and the journals of the Opposition are now endeavouring by every possible weapon of taunt and ridicule to foment the sentiment of discontent and thus effect a serious rupture in the *Seiyu-kai's* ranks. There will be some rupture: that is very evident. Mr. Ozaki Yukio has already been followed into retirement by Mr. Yamaguchi Kumano, and the lowest estimate puts the total of probable secessions at ten. Meanwhile thirty-two members of the House, in other words the whole body of malcontents, have appended their names to a Representation calling the Government to account for dissolving the last House of Representatives because it refused to pass the Land Tax Bill, and then withdrawing the same Bill after re-introducing it in the present session. Evidently such a Representation can not be adopted until the Bill is actually withdrawn. Consequently the Standing Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* have advised postponement until the occasion arises, and it is alleged that the most determined among the signatories of the Representation will refrain from leaving the Party until the fate of the Representation is decided. There is every probability, also, that they will be obliged to make a difficult choice between their desire to maintain an independent attitude and their mood of resentment, for the Progressists are expected to introduce an Address to the Throne impeaching the Cabinet, and any *Seiyu-kai* members supporting it will be playing into the hands of their political enemies. We do not suppose that any onlooker, however sanguine, expected coherent and united action from a Party composed of such heterogeneous and disorderly elements as those composing the tail of the *Seiyu-kai*. From the moment that the big Party drifted into troubled waters, its solidarity was pretty sure to undergo a disastrous strain. Whatever portion of it emerges intact from the ordeal will be the nucleus of a political association possessing some title to be regarded as disciplined and discriminating. Marquis Ito appears to have neglected some of the suavities that would have eased the situation, but since it is precisely in the exercise of such tact that he has always shown conspicuous ability, we are strongly disposed to think that he deliberately chose a route along which only the most faithful of his associates would follow him. We have remarked more than once that his descent into the arena of party politics meant the inevitable attachment of some dust to his escutcheon. He will certainly be found to have suffered in width of influence by these events, and very probably the Progressists will receive a substantial addition to their ranks. This, indeed, is the great opportunity of the Progressists' career, and their manner of utilizing it will be an interesting study. For the moment victory may be said to rest with the Ministers of the Crown. They have divided their adversaries, which is the best prelude to controlling them. Unwillingly, perhaps, but none the less assuredly, the *Seiyu-kai* will see themselves forced into the attitude of governmental supporters, but, on the other hand, when, in a future perhaps not very distant, they are themselves required to assume the duties of administration, hostile influences which would now render their tenure of power very difficult, will be found to have been placated.

Wednesday, May 27.

It had been supposed that the Government would not withdraw the Land Tax Bill until the Special Committee made its report upon it after the re-opening of the session, but that expectation was not fulfilled, for the Government withdrew the Bill on Monday, and withdrew, at the same time, all the projects constituting the now discarded programme, substituting for them bills authorizing increases of the amounts indicated in the Railway Loan Law and the Public Undertakings Law, together with a Bill sanctioning the borrowing of a sum of 2,688,000 *yen* from the Naval Maintenance Capital Fund for two years at 7 per cent. interest, this money to be applied to the purposes of naval increment during the present year.

Of course it is contended in many quarters that this change of programme is a change in appearance only, and that whether the funds for naval increment are taken from taxes or from domestic loans the effect upon the people's burdens is the same. Undoubtedly it can not be denied that there is a palpable element of make-believe in the new arrangement. Instead of floating bonds frankly for the purpose of increasing the Navy, they are floated nominally for railways and other public works, and their proceeds are then applied to buying warships. But that is only a very partial view of the matter.

Meanwhile the commotion in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai* continues. Messrs. Ozaki and Yamaguchi have been followed into retirement by Mr. Shimada Tadasu, and it is expected that Mr. Kataoka and Mr. Takenouchi will soon take the same route. Further the *Jiji Shimpo* prints the names of 13 members who are expected to sever their connexion with the Party, and says that the whole of the Kochi members also are likely to go out, as are a majority of the Niigata men. There are three principal causes of discontent; first, that the Cabinet should be impeached not supported; secondly that the Party should be re-organied, and thirdly that recouse to the floating of new domestic leans is an economical error. Strenuous efforts are being made to throw oil upon these troubled waters, and it is hoped that disruption may be averted temporarily, but there is no doubt that the *Seiyu-kai* has received a rude shock. The *Jiji* has a cartoon in which Marquis Ito is depicted hammering the *Seiyu-kai's* hive with a heavy beam, and from out of the hive swarm a cloud of excited wasps, one of them, Mr. Ozaki, winging its way into the blue distance.

Mr. Kataoka has been in hospital for some time, the President's chair in the Lower House being occupied by Mr. Sugita Teiichi. In the columns of the *Jiji* we find a report of an interview with Mr. Kataoka. He appears to be profoundly grieved about this entente with the Government. It has been his lot, he says, since he entered the political field in 1876, to lend his support to three Cabinets, but in every case the policy of the party to which he belonged was adopted by the Ministry of the day, whereas in this instance the *Seiyu-kai* can not claim any such explanation of its changed attitude. Mr. Kataoka speaks with much feeling but we can not find that his *exposé* of motives for severing his connexion with the *Seiyu-kai* has any basis more solid than this alleged surrender of principle. He would have obtained funds for naval increment from administrative reforms and they are to be obtained from other sources. Certainly that is sufficient ground for dissatisfaction, assuming that such sweeping administrative economies are possible.

Thursday, May 28.

Mr. Moriya's speech and those of Messrs. Mochizuki and Oishi in the House of Representatives on the 26th instant were vivid examples of the abuses to which the

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present system of parliamentary institutions in Japan is liable. It has been often observed in these columns that no warrant can be found for the practice of allowing a member to make a speech when he presents a written question to the Government. Doubtless the forecast of the framers of the system was that such speeches would be confined to a statement of the reasons for putting the question or to an explanation of its terms. But it might easily have been anticipated that so unique an opportunity for irresponsible attacks would inevitably be abused. If a member passionately excited against the Ministry knows that by getting 30 fellow-members to sign a question he can acquire the right of ascending the rostrum and occupying the House's attention for any length of time with vehement denunciations of the statesmen he abhors, and if he knows that no machinery exists for answering him adequately, it would be expecting too much of human nature to count on his forbearance and reticence. The speeches of Messrs. Mochizuki and Oishi illustrated this evil feature of the system, though we do not doubt that both members were perfectly sincere. Mr. Moriya's case was different. He rose under pretext of addressing a verbal question to the Minister of State for Finance in connexion with the Bills that had been substituted for the Land Tax measure, and instead of formulating his queries he made a long oration filled with the most violent and unbridled abuse of the Government. Baron Sone, who was waiting in his place to answer legitimate inquiries, suggested to the Vice-President through the Chief Secretary that Mr. Moriya be invited to state his questions instead of prefacing them with an apparently irrelevant speech. This interposition elicited cries that the President should not take instructions either from the Chief Secretary or a Minister of State, and though the President made one or two feeble attempts to call Mr. Moriya to order, that vehement member continued his harangue on his own lines. One trouble is that in the presence of a system where liberties are so apt to be perverted into licences, strong controlling authority should be exercised from the chair. But there never has been a strong man in the chair of the Japanese House of Representatives, Mr. Hoshi Toru excepted. No one expected any display of stalwartness on the part of Mr. Sugita Teiichi, who occupied the presidential seat on the 26th, so that his helplessness in the face of a man like Mr. Moriya was not wonderful. The whole incident, however, was a flagrant example of the complete want of respect that some numbers show for the parliamentary institutions they profess to venerate so much. No phrase is commoner in their mouths than the consumnation of the fair object of the constitutional system (*kensei yushu no bi wo nasu*), but it will be admitted that their own behaviour is the most successful impediment to the aim they simulate.

Friday, May 29.

Up to the evening of the 26th instant nine members of the House had seceded from the *Seiyu-kai*. These were followed on the 27th by Mr. Mochizuki and Mr. Kamada, with eleven others, making twenty-two in all. The great majority of the seceders are leaders of the movement of rebellion that made itself apparent in Osaka on the 13th of April. The most prominent among them are Messrs. Ozaki Yukio, Shimada Tadasu, Hirata Taketaru, Mochizuki Kotaro, Ogawa Heikichi, Yokota Gennosuke, Shioya Tsunetaro and Nagashima Shuntaro. The strength of the *Seiyu-kai* in the Lower House is thus reduced to about 160.

Mr. Kataoka and his Tosa colleague have deferred their resignations in deference to the advice of Count Itagaki. But it appears that they are not reconciled. On the contrary their old chief's counsel is that as the responsibility of having formed the *Seiyu-kai* rests upon them, they should not leave it without making a vehement effort to reconstruct it. They, as the leaders of the Liberal Party, gave to the *Seiyu-kai* its nucleus and its vertebræ, and it is not for them to disrupt it, unless it can not by any means be restored to an efficient entity. What is involved in reconstruction? That question is answered unanimously by the Progressist organs. They say that it means the severing of connexion with Marquis Ito. One of the followers of Mr. Kataoka, speaking through the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*, adopts the same line. He claims, further, that Mr. Kataoka can secure a hundred followers. Evidently the great source of offense is that Marquis Ito took a line independent of his Party when he concluded an agreement with the Cabinet. Is not that a fine and sufficient reason for breaking up a great party? Japanese politicians do well to prattle about the Cabinet's sense of responsibility. They have not themselves begun to show any rudiments of that sense if they shatter big organizations for such reasons.

It is now stated that the House of Peers is showing much disposition to oppose the arrangement effected between the Cabinet and the Representatives. The Peers do not approve of reverting to the loan system. Perhaps also they disapprove of an *entente* concluded without their concurrence. Several Tokyo journals say that a serious difficulty will have to be negotiated in the Upper Chamber. Their calculation is that out of 45 members composing the Budget Committee of the Peers, only 17 are declared supporters of the Cabinet's new policy; or rather of the policy unavoidably adopted by the Cabinet at the suggestion of the Representatives. We greatly doubt, however, whether the House of Peers will adopt any course calculated to seriously embarrass the Katsura Cabinet.

The Progressists are not satisfied with their defeat in the matter of the Address to the Throne. They have introduced two Resolutions. One of them relates to the Text Book Scandal. Mr. Takata Sanaye introduces it. The document endeavours to fix upon the present Cabinet some responsibility for the abuses that have been exposed during the past year, but truly it must seem to outsiders that the Cabinet should rather be applauded for exposing and prosecuting those abuses. However, any stick does to beat a dog. The argument of Mr. Takata and his supporters is that some modification of the examining system should have been effected long ago. That really carries back the indictment to the time of a previous Cabinet.

Mr. Fujisawa, another Progressist, has presented a resolution about the Exchange Question. There a weak spot certainly does seem to exist in the Government's armour.

An accountant named Uyedo (33), of the Meiji Transport Company, Tokyo, was arrested on May 27th on a charge of having embezzled *yen* 6,500 belonging to the office.

KOREA.

Saturday, May 23.

All the Tokyo journals published, on Saturday morning, a statement that 200 Russian soldiers had reached Yong Am-pho. The *Yorozu Choho* had issued on the forenoon of the same day an extra announcing the crossing of the frontier by 3,000 Russian troops, but it is supposed that this was an exaggeration suggested by the perturbation into which the local officials were thrown by the spectre of Russian uniforms. At all events when the *Yorozu Choho's* extra was being cried about the streets of Tokyo, no official news of any such event had been received in the latter city. On the other hand we have now several telegrams sent from Seoul at or about 10 a.m. on the 22nd, and all them agree in reporting, as apparently true, that some 200 Russian soldiers have entered Yong Am-pho. It is a very confused state of intelligence, and to enter into a detailed account of the various rumours emanating from Seoul would be a fruitless task. We must assume, however, that some unusual steps have been taken by Russia in the vicinity of Wiju, though all tales about military movements should be received with much reserve. These matters will be more or less cleared up, no doubt, on the arrival of the Russian Minister of War in the Far East, but for our own part we regard the timber-felling concession on the Yalu and the consequences growing out of it, as likely to prove an affair of no small importance.

Sunday, May 24.

There is substantial agreement that two hundred Russian soldiers have arrived at Yong Am-pho. As to Antung, some allege that the Russian force there has been increased; others deny anything of the sort. Meanwhile more detailed intelligence goes to show that the Russian Representative in Seoul, when replying to the Korean Government's protests, pretexted that if land and houses were purchased at Yong Am-pho it was simply for the purpose of building residences for the workmen and employees of the timber concessionaries, and further insisted that as similar privileges were granted to other foreign companies who were in the enjoyment of mining and railway concessions, there ought not to be any difficulty in the case of Russian subjects. That is a clever rejoinder. It places the Korean Government in a difficult position, and its validity can not be estimated without reference to the text of the timber-felling agreement, which is not accessible to the public. It has long been foreseen that this question of the Yalu forests would prove very troublesome, and as things are now gravitating, it appears to us that Russia will presently be found to have posted herself very firmly on the Korean frontier. If it be true, however, that she is sending soldiers, not ordinary workmen, to Yong Am-pho, her case will be weakened. But who can undertake to establish that distinction?

The *Niroku Shumbun*, which we quote seldom now, so greatly have its telegrams been discredited, publishes a wire from Seoul saying that M. Pablov has taken advantage of the perturbed state of the Korean official mind to present new demands for the Seoul-Wiju railway concession, and for a special Russian settlement at some place which we can not identify, and which is perhaps not intended to be identified. Probably the whole story is an invention.

Tuesday, May 26.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from

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Seoul, dated the 24th instant, says that the Korean Government has instructed its officials in Wiju to arrest any Korean subject who is found to have sold either land or buildings to Chinese or Russian subjects. If the officials are incompetent to obey the order, they are required to send in their resignations. According to the *Asahi's* correspondent this instruction has been supplemented by an order to the local officials in Yong-Chhyong to carefully inquire into all transactions of sale to Russians or Chinese and to report the facts to the Central Government. This latter statement is confirmed by the *Nichi Nichi*, which adds that the order extends to furnishing a report of the implements possessed by Russian subjects or Russian employees who are engaged in the timber-felling enterprise. From all this intelligence we may presume that the Korean Government is at last beginning at the right end by controlling its own subjects. It has no strength to lay hands upon Russian subjects or their employees who may act in defiance of laws or treaties, but it certainly should be able to prevent and punish illegal sales of real property by Koreans.

It need scarcely be said that at this juncture the *Niroku Shimpo* goes one better than any other source of intelligence. It undertakes to reproduce verbatim a strong warning said to have been conveyed on the 23rd instant by the Japanese Minister in Seoul to the Foreign Minister. There is nothing improbable in the language attributed to Mr. Hayashi. He is reported to have said that the rumours of Russian troops having made their way into Korean territory could not be any longer declared completely baseless in view of repeated news from Yong Am-pho, and that, since it was impossible to deduce from the circumstances of the lumber industry any necessity for the presence of several hundreds of Russian military men on Korean soil, the Korean Government was bound to investigate this matter thoroughly, and to take whatever steps were dictated in the interests of its own sovereignty and to prevent disputes between neighbouring States.

Wednesday, May 27.

An urgent message from Wiju to Seoul, reproduced by the *Kokumin Shimbun* and dated the 25th instant, states that an additional contingent of 200 Russian soldiers and Chinese have reached Yong Am-pho; that they are in possession of a hundred rifles, and that they have two small steamers for preserving communications with Antung. But the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, reproducing evidently the same telegram, which is said to have emanated from the Korean officer commanding in Wiju, represents this figure of 200 as the total of the Russians and Chinese now assembled at Yong Am-pho, and adds that there is one Chinese woman among them and that they are engaged felling willow-trees near the sea-shore. We should think that the *Nichi Nichi's* version is the more correct. The *Kokumin* further states that the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, in obedience to a command from his Sovereign, has visited the Russian Representative and urged the speedy withdrawal of these folk from Yong Am-pho.

It is alleged by the Seoul correspondents of the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Kokumin* that the advisability of opening Wiju to foreign trade as the most effective exit from the complications now pending has been seriously discussed in Korean official circles. But there is a difference between the statements of the two correspondents. One (*Nichi Nichi*) attributes an attitude of opposition to the Russian Representative; the other says that adverse influence has been secretly brought to bear by the Court, acting probably under some special pressure.

Thursday, May 28.

The Korean incident attracts growing attention in Japan. Telegrams from Seoul to the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Asahi Shimbun* say that the officer commanding at Yong-chhyong, replying to the instructions received by him from his Government, puts the number of Russian and Chinese subjects in Yong Am-pho at 200; and adds that they have two steamers plying between that place and Antung; that they are felling timber in the neighbourhood, and that they pay not the slightest attention to the remonstrances of Korean officials.

It will be remembered that the Russian Representative in Seoul, when approached by the Korean Government with respect to the purchase of houses and lands by Russian subjects at Yong Am-pho, is said to have retorted that the Russians were merely exercising the timber-felling privileges granted to them by agreement; that they had a right to expect Korea's protection, not her opposition, and that since the subjects and citizens of other States were allowed to acquire houses and lands for residential purposes in connexion with mining and railway concessions, there was no valid reason why Russian subjects should not be equally favoured. To this the Korean Government is now said to have answered that all transactions in real estate between foreigners and Koreans outside treaty limits had hitherto been preceded by consultation and agreement with the proper authorities; that Korea had never allowed the indiscriminate purchase of fixed property by aliens, and that if the Russians needed residences and land for the purposes of the lumber concession, application should be made in due form and the requisite preliminaries should be satisfied.

This whole affair is a vivid illustration of the hopeless incompetence of the Korean Authorities. Their control should begin with their own people who, in selling land and houses to aliens, are acting in defiance of the law. In the face of Russian trespass they may reasonably hesitate to take strong measures, but the question remains to be decided whether there has been any real trespass. As to that, nothing can be positively affirmed until the terms of the timber-felling convention are accurately known. The Korean Government is understood to claim that there has been trespass, in the matter of the Pengma forests at all events, but apparently the Russians pay not the smallest attention to Korean remonstrances, and apparently the Koreans have no machinery with even rudimentary competence to enforce their rights. The end of it all will be that Russians will be found comfortably seated on the Yalu, without encountering any special inconvenience in the process of seating themselves. Their methods show such a happy mixture of audacity and address that the resources of Korean diplomacy and administration assume quite a farcical appearance by contrast.

Friday, May 29.

The *Asahi* has a telegram from Chemulpo saying that on the 26th instant Mr. Consul Hagiwara and Captain Matsura, accompanied by an escort, left that port for Chinampo by the *Keijo Maru*. This incident will probably have assumed the dimensions of the despatch of a Japanese army by the time the news reaches Europe and America. In our latest files of journals from the United States we find repeated references to a squadron of three men-of-war supposed to have been despatched by Japan to Newchwang in April, but it need scarcely he said that the squadron was an imaginary flotilla. Mr. Hagiwara's escort, however, is tangible.

In Mr. J. L. Chalmers' report of the direct foreign trade of Korea for 1902, the following comparative figures are given:—

With.	1893.	1898.	1902.
China	2,039,783	6,059,453	6,368,422
Japan	3,492,157	11,300,134	15,238,866
Manchuria	46,331	167,464	251,191
Total	5,578,271	17,527,051	21,858,479

JAPAN IN "THE TIMES."

The *Japan Times* of the 27th instant contains the following:—

Under date of April 14, the Tokyo correspondent of the London *Times* sent to his paper the following message:—

"A split has occurred in the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. Some 80 members of the Diet have seceded, declaring themselves unable to go on rendering blind obedience to leaders who pursue a policy of endless waiting upon events. They demand that all the party officials shall henceforth be elected by general vote and that all grave questions shall be similarly decided. This is plainly a revolt against the authority of the Marquis Ito and the Moderates, and may involve an important recasting of parties."

It is hardly necessary to point out that the information conveyed in the above message is absolutely without foundation. In fact the telegram is so extraordinary that it is almost impossible for us to conceive how it could have emanated from the usually well-informed local correspondent of the London paper in question.

We are obliged to say that what we find "extraordinary" is, not the telegram to the London *Times*, but the Tokyo journal's comments on it. "Absolutely without foundation" says the *Japan Times*. Has, then, the editor of that journal forgotten the meeting held by the malcontent members in Osaka immediately after the naval review? Has he forgotten the long and violent manifesto adopted by the meeting, or said to have been adopted? Has he forgotten that, although Marquis Ito was not mentioned by name in the Manifesto, the document contained a declaration that the spirit of constitutional institutions was violated by an organization which required the bulk of a party to give unreasoning allegiance to a small clique of leaders whom they had no voice in choosing? Has he forgotten that this agitation found a reflection in Tokyo on the following day? Has he forgotten that a loud cry went up for the appointment of the Party's prominent officers by election, and has he forgotten that the trouble was with difficulty allayed by expulsion of some of the members and by re-organization of the Party? "Absolutely without foundation" is surely a marvellous comment on *The Times'* telegram under such circumstances. Moreover, had the Tokyo journal consulted *The Times* of the 21st of April, it would have found the following telegram:—

The threatened split in the *Seiyu-kai* has apparently been averted. The names of four members have been removed from the Party's roll. The agitation was evidently not directed against Marquis Ito, but was due rather to impatience against the leaders' tolerant attitude towards the Cabinet.

It is plain, therefore, that *The Times* was kept accurately informed of what was going on, and that the charge of its news being "absolutely without foundation" is quite without warrant.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Friday, May 22.

It is stated that Chang Chih-tung was nominated Minister of Foreign Affairs when received in audience by the Emperor and Empress, but whether he has accepted the post is not stated. His own wish was understood to point to the resumption of his former position as Viceroy, and our readers will remember that the British Chargé d'Affaires was reported to have urged the advisability of sending him back to the Yangtse Valley in that capacity. Possibly, therefore, he may decline to serve at the Foreign Office unless the appointment is for some specific purpose.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Peking correspondent states positively that a body of French troops, marching from Lung-shan (Langson) has crossed the border of Kwangsi and penetrated as far as Liu-chou in the Chinnan district. In consequence of this, the Chinese Government has removed from office Wang Chih-chun, Governor of Kwangsi, and is about to make strong representations to the French Government. This report of military activity is becoming so persistent that, contrary to all probabilities, we are compelled to attach some credence to it.

Apparently the Manchurian question is temporarily laid at rest in Peking. M. Plancon, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, is awaiting the arrival of M. Lessar, who in spite of his fatal sickness is hastening to undertake the very onerous duty of negotiations. Some allege that nothing definite will be done pending the arrival of the Russian Minister of War, who is expected to reach Peking on the 11th or 12th of June. Meanwhile the fact remains that, whatever extenuations may be offered, Russia has allowed the period for implementing her promise to expire without attempting to implement it. We are bound to assume that during the interval between the signing of the convention for the evacuation of Manchuria and the date of the document's maturity, some unexpected contingencies occurred to necessitate further arrangements preliminary to evacuation. But it is surely time that the world received information as to the nature of these contingencies.

According to a London telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo*, Dr. Morrison reports to *The Times* from Peking that there can be no doubt about Russia having posted soldiers on both banks of the Yalu. Commenting editorially on this news, *The Times* strongly condemns Russia's want of good faith, regrets the confidence placed in her assurances by Great Britain, and declares that the time has come to intervene. It would seem, however, that this Peking intelligence is a little exaggerated.

Saturday, May 23.

Rumours continue to arrive from Manchuria. The *Asahi's* correspondent says that seven thousand Russian troops have been assembled at Liao-yang, where they are about to hold manœuvres, and that similar steps are being taken at Harbin. These operations are described by our contemporary as "demonstrations," but they may be merely spring manœuvres.

From the same source we learn that in consideration of the presence of Russian labourers in northern Manchuria, Russia is establishing a police station in Mukden, and is placing it under the command of a colonel.

The official—Taotai Li,—whose abortive attempt to enter Newchwang for the purpose of taking it over has already been reported, is now said to have reached Tientsin, presumably to make a personal report of the state of affairs in Manchuria. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent at Peking attributes to this official a statement that unless the control of sanitary measures be left in their hands, the Russians declare themselves resolved not to hand over the administration of Newchwang, and he is further reported as alleging that their object in making this stipulation is to abuse the power thus vested in them so as to destroy all trade that does not pass through Russian hands. We have it already on the authority of an American firm that the commerce of Newchwang is being gradually diverted to Russian merchants, and since nothing of that kind occurs at Far-Eastern places where complete freedom of trade exists, it is not unreasonable to assume some measure of official interference.

It is stated that the insurrectionary movement in Kwangsi and Kwangtung is spreading, that the insurgents have established connexion with the rebels in Yunnan—an element hitherto little heard of—, by whom the town of Lin-an has been assaulted and captured. The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent alleges that there have been repeated rumours of the march of French troops across the Kwangsi border, but that precise information is still wanting.

A telegram to the *Jiji* from Shanghai says that the Shanghai-Hankow railway, for the concession of which an English syndicate has been seeking, is likely to fall into Belgian hands.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Newchwang correspondent telegraphs under date of the 22nd instant, that the people in that place regard the approaching advent of the Russian Minister of War as a harbinger of some peaceful arrangement between Russia and Japan, and that there are no signs of military activity in Newchwang, the only movements taking place being those of squads of police.

The War Minister, Prince Kurapotkin, is expected to reach Shimonoseki on the 30th instant. Then he will proceed direct by train to Tokyo, it is said, arriving there about the 2nd of June. After a week's stay in the Japanese capital, he will visit Osaka and Kyoto, finally embarking at Kobe for Port Arthur.

Sunday, May 24.

The fact of trouble in Yunnan is confirmed by later news. Lin-an is mentioned as the rendezvous of the insurgents and they have cut the telegraph wires, so that communications to the Inspector-General of Customs and to the French Legation have been interrupted. It is stated that five hundred French troops—put at 2,000 by some rumours—have reached Manzu to protect the lives and properties of French citizens engaged on railway work at that place. Tales are again circulated about the entry of French troops into Kwangsi, but no confirmation of the statement seems to have been officially received.

A telegram to the *Nichi Nichi* from Yingkow says that a grand review of Russian troops, to the number of thirty thousand, has taken place at Harbin, in the presence of Prince Kurapotkin.

Chang Chih-tung's position seems to be still undetermined. It is stated that his answers to various question about Manchuria and other matters having greatly pleased the Empress Dowager, and, further, Prince Ching having urged his appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Court has signified its endorsement of that idea. But the ex-Viceroy, pleading age and debility, is inclined to refrain from accepting any highly responsible post.

Tuesday, May 26.

The *Asahi's* Peking correspondent telegraphs under date of the 24th instant that at a second audience with the Empress Dowager and the Emperor, Chang Chih-tung urged Their Majesties to formulate some definite decision about Manchuria and instruct the officials to carry it out. To this the Court replied that if the ex-Viceroy had any ideas on the subject he had better communicate them to Prince Ching. It is added that Chang nevertheless refrained from speaking out.

From the same authority we learn that a delay has occurred in the signature of the Shanghai-Nanking Railway concession. The cause is said to be that the Chinese Authorities require to be entrusted with the power of superintending the materials imported for the line, whereas the English projectors object to such supervision. In connexion with this the *Jiji Shimpo's* Shanghai correspondent telegraphs that a meeting has been held of the Anglo-Chinese Association, and that a strong telegram has been sent to London, urging that if, in consequence of disagreement between the Chinese and the British negotiators, the concession for the Shanghai-Nanking Railway fall into the hands of some other nationals, the result will be very injurious to the interests of both countries.

Wednesday, May 27.

A curious and unexpected complexion is now assumed by the affair of Chang Chih-tung. According to a telegram (*Asahi Shimbun*) of the 25th instant, Ku Fung-ki, who is supposed to have acquired much influence of late, suggested, or had an opportunity of suggesting—the telegram is somewhat obscure—that the ex-Viceroy should be appointed to the Foreign Office, but the Empress Dowager would not hear of it, and even went so far in her opposition as to desire Ku Fung-ki to resign, though he had the support of Prince Ching and Wang Wen-shao. There is thus no probability—if this telegram be correct—of Chang Chih-tung becoming a member of the Central Government, and the Emperor is reported to be much chagrined by that result. Of course the opposition of the Empress Dowager will be variously interpreted. Some will see in it a confirmation of the rumours now circulating that Her Majesty's policy is to entrust the high offices of State to Manchus, as far as possible, and that she has discarded the time-honoured Tsing principle of preserving an administrative balance between the two great sections of her subjects. But whatever the motive may be, it is not to be forgotten that Chang himself does not wish to become a Peking official and that Great Britain has signified her hope of seeing him restored to his sphere of eminent usefulness in the Yangtse Valley. What remains to be seen, however, is whether this attitude of the Empress Dowager does not indicate Chang's exclusion from official life altogether.

The insurrection in the south of China continues unquelled. In the district of Kweichou the rebels are said to be powerful, and a contingent of troops has been despatched against them from Yuan-chou and Tsing-chou in Hunan. Meanwhile the Foreign Office in Peking is said to have assured M.

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Dubail, the French Representative in Peking, and Sir Robert Hart that due and sufficient measures have been taken for the protection of all foreign life and property at Mantsu in Yunnan.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from the Chinese capital attributes to a prominent Russian resident of that city a declaration that although Russia might consent to a partition of Korea involving the alienation of one portion to Japan, she can never consent to lessen her grasp of Manchuria.

It will be observed that the talk about the Manchurian problem is becoming faint. That result was doubtless discounted from the first. But we may look for a keen revival of interest at any moment, especially when Mr. Lessar and Prince Kuropatkin appear upon the scene.

Thursday, May 28.

The Viceroy of the Yun-kwei regions is reported by the *Kokumin Shimbun's* Peking correspondent to have informed the Foreign Office in Peking that a message had reached him from the French Consul to the effect that unless the insurgents who had captured Liu-an were quelled within ten days, France would take the matter into her own hands, and the Viceroy was invited to convey that intelligence to the Throne. The same correspondent adds that this information from Yunnan was followed by a communication from the Russian Government to the Chinese Foreign Office, saying that unless the insurrection were quelled within 15 days, Russia would send troops to deal with it. There is much difficulty in crediting these stories. They show the mark of the newsmonger too plainly. Russia in Yunnan would be a theatrical development. Nevertheless the *Kokumin's* correspondent is very positive and the *Kokumin* very rarely errs in its news. The correspondent adds that after the receipt of the Russian and French messages a consultation took place among the Chinese high officials on the 26th instant. It lasted until 6 p.m., and its results were the despatch of orders to the Yun-kwei Viceroy that the advance of French troops must be prevented, and the drafting of a strong protest for conveyance to the Russian and French Representatives.

Friday, May 29.

Such American journals as are quoted by the *Literary Digest* are frankly of opinion that Manchuria is lost to China. The *Washington Star* says:—"Russia's new demands on China relative to Manchuria amount to a declaration of sovereignty. She declines to fulfil her previous promise to evacuate the province until certain new conditions are granted to her. These conditions, if granted, will give her virtual dominion over the entire territory as against not only all other Powers, but China herself."

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* says:—"There is no doubt that from this time forth the map of Russia's Asiatic possessions will show a new and valuable province on the south bank of the great Amur River."

And the New York *Evening Post* says:—"Nothing but divine power or an internal revolution of her own can prevent Russia from absorbing Manchuria eventually."

The *Evening Post*, indeed, is a little hazy about Far Eastern history. "In Korea," it writes, "Russia avoided trouble with Japan by allowing France and Germany to intervene in an advisory capacity." That is an incident of which we have no recollection. If the reference is to the extrusion of Japan from Manchuria in 1895, the mode of expression is certainly peculiar.

The *Commercial Advertiser* also makes a strange comment:—"Russia has the means of appeasing Japanese resentment. A concession of authority in Korea, which is vitally important to Japan, would surely keep the Mikado's Government from any act which might threaten war." How can Russia make a concession of authority to Japan in Korea? Russia has no authority to concede in Korea. She possesses no rights there that are not equally possessed by Japan and all the Treaty States. Truly it seems to be assumed now-a-days as a postulate of international ethics that a country is entitled to sell its own aggressive aspirations. If *A* has designs upon the territory of *B*, those designs may be sold to *C* for *A's* benefit.

Dr. Morrison, visiting Newchwang as *The Times* correspondent, sent to that journal on April 14th the following telegram:—

No change has taken place here since my last visit six months ago, except that in the meantime Russia has tightened her hold on Manchuria. It was on April 8 that according to the Manchuria Convention Russia should have restored Niu-chwang to China. But the Russians are still in full occupation, the Russian flag is still flying over the Customs, the Russians are still levying the house-tax, administering the native city, and patrolling the city and district, and the temple in the centre of the foreign concession is still occupied by Russian soldiers. At Tashihchiach, the railway junction 14 miles distant, the erection of barracks is proceeding apace, every train into Manchuria bringing Russian officers and soldiers to reinforce the railway military guards. The Russian explanation that the Tao-tai was not ready to take over the city is misleading. The Tao-tai was ready but the Russians ordered him to return to Mukden to await the conclusion of the negotiations now proceeding at Mukden with the Governor-General, who is completely in their hands. The authorities here state that the restoration will be effected after the Russian Easter.

The commercial aspect of the question certainly demands serious attention. Since August 1900, the entire revenues of the maritime Customs, native Customs, and native housetax, amounting to more than £420,000, have been paid into the Russo-Chinese Bank. The question is, will Russia restore any portion of this sum, or will she, as in the case of the Shang-hai-kwan-Niu-chwang railway, exact a large additional amount to reimburse her for alleged expenses incurred in protecting and administering the native city, which never sought her protection and was never subjected to or hampered by a more irksome administration? The mercantile community here view with alarm the trend of Russian policy. The trade of the port is almost entirely American, British, and Japanese. There is no Russian trade, no Russian shipping. Yet Li-ping-shan, the Customs Tao-tai, is a Russian nominee; the Russians control the native Customs; the Russians hold the telegraphs, which are such a constant source of complaint that they formed the subject of a diplomatic protest. Delays are constant, and there is never any guarantee that messages will be sent. Russia's policy conflicts with the trading interests of the port. Hence the surprise of the community that Sir Robert Hart, by appointing a Russian as Commissioner, should hand over the chief direction of a port where British, American and Japanese trade represents a capitalized value of millions sterling to a Power whose policy is avowedly inimical, who already imposes differential treatment on the Manchurian railway, and whose declared intention it is to kill Niu-chwang in order to benefit Dalny. Though I know that Russia had demanded an assurance that the Commissioner at Niu-chwang should always be a Russian, none believed that Sir Robert Hart would consent to subordinate the functions of his international service to the political needs of Russia. The Commissioner appointed is juvenile and of no experience. He knows nothing of the Customs work of a treaty port, and in every difficulty will have recourse to the Russian Consul, who at present is also the civil administrator and Judge of the native Court, an official so curiously intolerant that when from courtesy to the Japanese community the Customs flag was flown at halfmast on the death of Prince Komatsu he peremptorily ordered it to be rehoisted. This Consul will now have access to all the Customs archives. A continuance of this policy will remove other safeguards to the trading interest. The Russians further demand that the health and quarantine officer, a British doctor named Daly, who has been holding the position for ten years, shall be replaced by a Russian naval doctor, who, under the Russian Consul, may find many pretexts for impeding the free movement of foreign shipping.

MR. KATAOKA KENKICHI.

It appears that the statement as to Mr. Kataoka's having seceded from the *Seiyu-kai* and resigned the presidency of the Lower House was premature. Such a design is confidently attributed to him, but he has not yet taken the step, and it is said that Mr. Ebara Soroku is earnestly endeavouring to dissuade him. Of course it will be understood that the journals opposed to the *Seiyu-kai* are seeking in every possible way to magnify the tendency to disruption produced by recent events, and to foment discontent in the big Party's ranks. Reports have therefore to be discounted. Up to the evening of the 26th the number of secessions actually announced was nine, but it is said that other resignations, though sent in, are not yet published as they may be ultimately withdrawn. These secessions will have to be very numerous before they destroy the Party's majority. For the *Seiyu-kai* had originally at least 183 votes in the Lower House against 98—some say 100—commanded by the Progressists. Forty secessions from the *Seiyu-kai* would therefore swell the Opposition to 138 against 143, a close condition. But no one looks for anything like 40 secessions. Twenty will probably be the limit, and, on the other hand, it has to be remembered that the Imperialists and a large number of the Independents will vote for the Ministry. The total number of members in the Lower House is nominally 376, but the actual number, we believe, is 375. Hence 188 means a majority of the whole, and the *Seiyu-hai*, even though reduced, can certainly command that number when supported by their fellow-thinkers.

The *Jiji* says that there is much discontent among the local branches of the *Seiyu-kai*. It cites Ishikawa, Kochi, Nagano, Saitama and Niigata prefectures as the seats of greatest disaffection. It is alleged that many threatened secessions may be averted if the leaders of the Party agree to introduce a Representation arraigning the Government. Marquis Ito, however, is said to be opposed to any such step.

NAVAL CASUALTY.

Monday, May 25.

The gunboat *Soko*, which belongs to the Chishima (Kuriles) Squadron, ran on a rock in Chishima Bay on the 22nd instant, during a violent storm of rain and snow. Three of the crew are reported missing. The *Jiji Shimpo* gives Shakotan Bay as the place of the accident and says that the casualties are numerous; that 6 bodies have been cast ashore and that 9 men are still missing. The *Soko* was the first vessel captured from China during the war of 1894-5.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that Hokkaido has been visited by a severe snowstorm. Something of the kind might have been inferred from the unseasonable cold of the past few days.

Tuesday, May 26.

An official report states that the *Soko* was not greatly injured by running on a rock, but that the state of the weather renders her position very perilous. The total number of lives lost by drowning and freezing was thirteen. The *Katsuragi* has gone to the *Soko's* assistance.

Thursday, May 28.

The latest intelligence indicates that the injury to the *Soko* is not very serious, and that good hopes of saving her are entertained.

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THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

This company held its half-yearly general meeting on the 25th instant, when the following accounts were presented and passed :—

GENERAL STATEMENT.	Yen.
Capital paid-up	22,000,000
Debentures	1,200,000
Reserve Fund, Insurance and Structural Repair Funds	8,593,114
Reserve for Equalization of Dividends	3,300,000

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST MARCH, 1903.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Share Capital	22,000,000
Debentures	1,200,000
Insurance Fund	2,208,224
Ships Structural Repair Fund	1,900,310
Reserve Fund	1,672,924
Fund for Equalizing Dividends	3,300,000
Fund for Extending Services and Improving Fleet	2,000,000
Sundry Creditors	4,277,986
Brought forward from Last Account	703,185
Net Profit for Half-year	2,233,120
Total	41,455,749
ASSETS.	
Reduced Book Value of Fleet	23,436,107
Reduced Book Value of Launches, Barges, etc.	199,998
Payment on account of new ships	682,696
Buildings and Land	3,620,422
Yokohama Stores Dept., etc.	934,553
Public Loans and other Securities	2,997,147
Cash at Bankers and in hand	6,568,329
Coal in Stock	35,174
Sundry Debtors	2,981,327
Total	41,455,749

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
Depreciation of Fleet and Property	674,740
Insurance Fund	148,883
Ships Structural Repair Fund	404,672
Reserve Fund	111,656
Fund for Extending Services and Improving fleet	700,358
Fees to Directors and Auditors	71,358
Dividend (10 per cent.)	1,100,000
Special Dividend (2 per cent.)	220,000
Balance carried forward	733,291
Total	4,164,600
Balance brought forward 30th September, 1902	703,185
Gross Profits for Half-year ended 31st March, 1903	3,461,415
Total	4,164,600

By the above appropriations, the Ordinary Reserve Fund of the Company becomes 1,784,580 *yen*; the Fund for the Extension of Services and the Improvement of the Fleet becomes 2,700,000 *yen*; and the various Reserves and Funds show an aggregate of 13,258,683 *yen*.

REPORT.

The following is a translation of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's semi-annual report for the period ended March 31st.

During the 18th semi-annual period, namely, from October 1st, 1902, to March 31st, 1903, the general facts as to the carrying trade in domestic waters were that although the money market became somewhat easier, business remained inactive and transport consequently was not brisk. Last autumn, however, owing to an exceptionally bad harvest in the northern districts, a change was produced in the rice-carriage normal to the second half of the year, and very large quantities of Kiushu and foreign grain had to be carried to Kwanto and Tohoku so that shipping was in great demand. The spring of the present year saw a reversion to ordinary conditions. It resulted that an increase of about 140,000 tons took place in the cargoes carried, though owing to keen competition among shipowners freights did not show any corresponding rise.

As to services in adjacent Far-Eastern Seas, cargoes were not large.

On the Yokohama-Shanghai Line goods from Shanghai bulked fairly, but owing to depreciation of silver freights fell. Moreover the export of goods from Japan declined steadily.

In Tientsin, the closure of many exchanges injured trade, so that on the Kobe-North-China Line Newchwang was the only place that showed a tolerable export of commodities.

With regard to the Kobe-Korea-North-China Service, a plentiful crop in the western and southern districts of Korea produced a considerable export of grain. Since February of the present year the subsidized vessels on the line have been made to call at Dalny.

In the case of the Kobe-Vladivostock Service business continued dull. On this line the steamers have been made to call at Songching in Korea during the half-year under review, for the first time.

The Shanghai-Tientsin Line not showing any prospect of development, the service was temporarily abandoned during the period under review after the freezing up of Tientsin.

On the European Service, in the case of goods outward from Japan, the export of rice usually seen every year during this period was absolutely wanting because of last autumn's bad crop, so that this kind of cargo showed a great falling off compared with the record for the same period in the previous year. Such was not the case, however, with ordinary goods. From Shanghai there was a large export to the Hankow district; the movement of merchandise from Hongkong to Kwangtung also increased and, besides, more or less development took place from Singapore to Westward ports, so that, on the whole, there was no difference between the period under review and the corresponding period last year. With regard to the return voyage, owing to continued tradal depression in Japan and the Far East generally, orders for common goods from Europe were sluggish and because of this as well as of a large supply of shipping a scarcity of cargoes exceptional in recent years was seen. Thus the favourable conditions of the outward voyages on this line did not suffice to compensate for the unfavourable condition of the homeward, and the general result fell far below that of the corresponding period last year.

On the American Line, in conformity with the general growth of maritime enterprise on the Pacific in recent times, earnest efforts were made to improve the vessels. During the period, among the total of six steamers four were replaced by new ones, marking a stage of progress in tonnage and speed, the result being that although the competition of companies engaged in the same business was very keen, fair cargoes were obtained on both outward and homeward voyages, and moreover it was found possible to keep the rates of freight on goods going from Japan to America at a proper point on the whole.

As for the Australian Line, owing to the very great injury done by drought in Australia, and to the fact that the conference of shippers was broken up last July, which resulted in always increasingly severe competition, trade suffered on the one hand and rates of freight were disturbed on the other, so that goods and the income from them alike underwent conspicuous reduction. The regular service on this line has hitherto been once a month, or twelve voyages a year, which from January of this year has been changed to once every four weeks, or thirteen voyages a year.

With regard to the Bombay Line, a large quantity of cotton having been imported into Japan during the previous half year, and the cotton crop of last season having been late in maturing, the movement of the staple from the beginning of this period was small. Further, owing to unprosperous economic conditions in China, cotton goods shipped via Hongkong for China were not up to expectation; and in addition, last year in compliance with a request from the cotton-spinners of Japan, the rate of freight on goods requiring to be shipped over and above the contract quantity was exceptionally lowered. Further, when it came to continuing the agreement for the carriage of Bombay cotton, the condition of affairs at home and abroad necessitated a further reduction of the rate of freight this year, which things effected the Company's income not a little, and caused a marked falling off as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The outward goods from Japan, however, show no great difference.

In the matter of passengers, there were a fair number in domestic waters and neighbouring Far Eastern seas, in spite of the fact that it was winter, a season of little travel.

On the American Line the passengers increased in accord with the employment of new ships. On the European Line, although third-class passengers diminished, the first and second classes continued to show a good result. On the Australian Line there was more or less reduction in all classes. Taking the home and foreign services all together the earnings increased by a little less than one-tenth as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Summing up the above facts, it appears that during the half year trade was dull at home and in the various parts of the Far East, while abroad the industrial world in general was inactive, so that the ill effects expected to be felt in the Company's business were actually realized. The altered conditions of rice transport, however, assisted the movement of goods and vigorous efforts were made to obtain passengers. Besides, the earnings of the temporarily chartered ships used for loading Bombay cotton during the preceding half-year, which had not yet been entered in the joint accounts of the Conference Companies, were included in this term's accounts; and, on the other hand, strict economy was exercised in all the expenditures. Thus altogether a fair result was attained.

The gross earnings of the period were 11,537,615 *yen*, and the gross outlays 8,076,200 *yen*, the net profits thus aggregating 3,461,415 *yen*, which it is proposed to appropriate as shown in the accompanying statement. With regard to the Fund for extending the Services and Improving the Fleet, the surplus happily available this term also has been added to it, in conformity with the policy set forth in the Half-yearly Report for the sixteenth period, issued on the 27th of November, 1901, and in compliance with the Resolution for the Distribution of Profits, so that the basis of the Company will be still further consolidated.

THE CODE OF KHAMMURABI.

The interest of the civilized world has been keenly aroused in connexion with the Code of King Khammurabi, a Babylonian monarch who flourished about 2,200 B.C. In a leading article *The Times* comments on it as follows :—

A stone pillar recently discovered at Susa by a French exploring expedition contains a carefully-drawn series of laws, a thousand years older than the Mosaic age, and even more than that in advance of the Mosaic code as we find it in the Old Testament, older in fact than any other system of ancient legislation, but anticipating many of the principles and the enactments of later jurisprudence. It is, we are told, based on personal responsibility and the *jus talionis* that is so conspicuous a feature of the Law of the Covenant and the Deuteronomy Laws of the Hebrews. It insists, as does the Hebrew code, upon the sanctity of an oath before God and the necessity of written evidence in all legal matters. Its domestic legislation, particularly in respect of marriage and divorce, is remarkable for the high position and careful legal protection extended to women. Its property laws are based on a just and equitable system; and in respect, for example, to the remarriage of a widow with young children enacts provisions which contain the essential features of the modern ward in Chancery. Much of this law probably still survives in the land-laws of the Palestinian Fellaheen. Few things, as we know in England, are so tenacious through political and historical changes as ideas and customs connected with the tenure or the cultivation of the land. And though Khammurabi's laws were no doubt partially obliterated, after seven centuries of Babylonian influence in Palestine and Syria, by the Israelite invasion and the Rameside conquests, such a code would never entirely die out. It evidently influenced the Hebrew Law of the Covenant. Nor is it surprising to hear that in the immemorial and unchanging East traces of its influence may still be found. "Law and justice I established in the land," wrote King Khammurabi 4,000 years ago; and the evidence of his letters now in the British Museum shows that his profession of care for the poor and the oppressed, who still in Eastern lands find justice hard to obtain, was no idle boast. At last the spade of the archæologist has unearthed his name to stand among the great law-givers of antiquity. * * *

Archæological research is not, perhaps, always welcomed by those whose accepted conclusions it reverses. If it confirms some old traditions, it discredits others; and, when such traditions are consecrated by religious associations or enshrined in venerated religious literature, doubts thrown upon them are apt for a time, but only for a time, to be regarded as a slur upon religion itself. The code of Khammurabi adds one more to a series of discoveries which have proved to every open mind that the ideas, religious and secular, of the early Hebrews enshrined for us in the Old Testament were not all original, but were largely influenced by an older Babylonian civilization disclosed by the witness of the monuments. The Biblical accounts of the Creation or of the Deluge are shown to be variants of traditions common to the Hebrews with, or perhaps borrowed by them from, other nations of antiquity. The chronology of Archbishop Ussher, still preserved in our Authorized Version of the Bible, has been utterly discredited by modern discoveries. The "days" of the Mosaic account of Creation need no longer be understood literally under pain of excommunication or its equivalent; nor is the explanation of the Fall of Man as an early attempt to explain the perennially insoluble problem of the origin of evil now received with the pious horror of even half-a-century ago. We have, it may be hoped, left behind for good the *non possumus* attitude of earlier theology towards new light. We can welcome the light which archæology has thrown upon sacred no less

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than on profane history. If the code of the wise and just King Khammurabi anticipates the traditional fame of Moses or of Justinian, or reverses some previously accepted views about early jurisprudence, we need be no more disturbed than if the spade of the explorer antedates Grecian civilization or upsets our hitherto accepted knowledge of "the letters Cadmus gave." Archæology, Biblical or other, still finds new worlds to conquer. It confirms the traditional fame of Minos; it rescues Khammurabi from undeserved oblivion.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The United States has one of the smallest national debts in the world. It is equal to only $12 per capita. The per capita debt of England is $74, of France $150 and of Australia $263. Australia has the largest per capita debt in the world. The United States debt was largest in 1865, when the civil war had piled up $2,381,000,000, or $79 per capita. The civil war debt was rapidly paid, and in 1892 it had fallen to $580,000,000. It was increased to $1,046,000,000 by the Spanish war, but has fallen again to about $930,000,000. In 1865 the average interest paid by the U.S. Government was 7.3 per cent. Now half the debt bears only 2 per cent interest, and the United States is the only nation in the world that has been able to sell a 2 per cent. bond at par. In 1865 the interest on its national debt was $150,000,000 a year, or about $4.29 per capita; and now the interest per capita is only thirty-five cents a year.

Mr. Tsukahara Shuzo, President of the Uraga Dock Company, has tendered his resignation in consequence of the affair of the Philippine gunboats. Many attempts were made to induce him to remain but his resolve is said to be unchangeable.

It has been decided that the ceremony of opening the new Hibiya Park shall be held on July 1st.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that Mr. Masao Tokichi, legal adviser to the Siamese Government, has arrived in Japan accompanied by eight Siamese, of whom four are ladies. These latter are to become students of art in Japan, and their male companions will study law. Our contemporary adds that the idea of sending these emanated from the King of Siam himself.

At last we are vividly advertized that the Trans-Asian Railway is a practical reality to the travelling public. A time table reaches us showing that three trains leave Moscow weekly for Dalny, namely, on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, and that two leave Dalny weekly for Moscow, namely, on Tuesday and Saturday. The distance to be traversed is 8,110 miles, and the time taken from Moscow to Dalny is 13 days 1½ hours, while the time from Dalny to Moscow is 12 days 20½ hours, 88 stations being called at *en route*. This is the summer service for the current year. If it be carried out, as we presume it will be, Tokyo and Yokohama are brought within three weeks of London, and we may expect that a marked difference will by-and-bye be perceptible in our postal service.

It is now stated that the defect of the gunboats constructed by the Uraga Dock Company for the United States Government is not faulty workmanship but a departure from the agreement in the matter of draught. The two boats already sent to the Philippines draw a foot more than the contract figure, and they are consequently useless for the purposes to which they were to have been devoted. The United States Authorities demand their rebuilding, and have further countermanded, or suspended the construction of the three vessels now on the stocks. Hence the resignation of the Company's President, Mr. Tsukahara. It is most unfortunate that this failure should mark Japan's debut in the field of naval construction to foreign order.

We take the following from *Commercial Intelligence*:—

India, having no fisheries of her own, has necessarily been dependent for this article on imports from abroad. In the past, she has been supplied by Great Britain with whale, seal, and other oils, some of which, although supposed to have originated with the finny tribes, would probably fail to pass muster if subjected to analysis. This state of affairs has not escaped the Japanese, who, seeing that India makes no effort to utilise the fisheries around her coasts, have begun to forward herring and sardine oil in convenient tins, packed in wooden cases like kerosene oil. It is to be expected that the oil trade in this country will be affected by this arrangement, especially as the Japanese oil is reported to be much cheaper than oil imported from home, and, according to the Indian Press, good results have been given where it has been tried in jute batching.

On the whole we are sometimes disposed to think that the French know less about Japan than almost any of the great peoples of Europe know. They are prëeminent in their acquaintance with her art, but the blunders frequently perpetrated by their journalists and book-writers when Japan's modern story has to be told are very striking. For example, the *Echo des Mines*, in a *resumé* of the coal discoveries made in 1902, says:—

Asia.—The discovery of coal in Siberia has been referred to already under the head Russia, but finds of some note have also been reported from Japan (near Shaovn in the Province of Fokein); and in China coal was found near Shanghai.

"Shaovn" is a place quite unfamiliar to us, but that Fukien should be regarded as a part of Japan is indeed a novelty.

Under date of April 11th an English exchange contains the following:—

Dr. Solf, Governor of Samoa, has informed a representative of the *Sam Zeitung* that the Chinese authorities of the provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi have granted him permission to recruit coolies for labour in Samoa. The German Consul at Swatow will make arrangements with the local authorities for the passage of the Chinese to the German colony. The conditions under which this importation has been granted to the Governor are that the coolies shall not trade, acquire no land, and return to China after the expiration of the labour contract. The conditions laid down by the Viceroy of Canton are free medical attendance, measures for the guarantee of just treatment, fixing of a wage enabling the coolies to live, and a guarantee for cost of shipping the coolies home. It is the intention of Dr. Solf to create a "Protector of Chinese," whose duty it will be to look after the interests of the imported labourers. Dr. Solf is of the opinion that abuses which might arise in hygienic or moral respects through the importation of Chinese could be avoided by means of a system of control. Herr R. Deeken, Director of the Semoa Campany (which is to have the sole right of importing Chinese to Samoa) states that some 300 coolies will arrive at Apia at the end of March. Javanese are also to be imported. The monthly pay per head, all costs included, will not exceed 50s.

The *Minnesota*, which is the first of Mr. J. J. Hill's big steamers for the Far-Eastern trade, was launched on the 16th of April. She will be the largest freight-carrier afloat, her dead-weight carrying capacity being 28,000 tons as against 19,000 tons of the *Cedric*, the leviathan of the Atlantic trade. The *Minnesota's* cargo space is 31,652 tons of 40 cubic feet; her displacement is 38,000 tons; her length is 630 feet; her beam 73½ feet; her moulded depth, 56 feet; her maximum speed, 14 knots; her passenger accommodation, 172 in the first class, 119 in the second, 68 in the third, and 2,424 in the steerage, with place for a crew of 250. Hongkong is to be the terminus of these monster boats in the Far East. Its choice is a matter of necessity, more or less, for no other accessible port would admit such vessels. It therefore follows that arrangements must be made for collecting at that place cargo to fill the ships. How that is to be accomplished there has not yet been any indication. It is possible that some local shippers may be induced to hold over their goods in consideration of the favourable terms offered by the new line, but the best judges appear to think that the quantity of cargo thus accumulated would not at all suffice, and that unless other lines act as feeders, nothing like an adequately supplied depot can be organized at Hongkong. We gather that Mr. Hill's agents expect to include Japan in their field of operations, but there has not yet been any talk of establishing machinery here for collecting cargo, nor can we see that such machinery would be easy to establish or to keep in effective working order considering the circumstances that exist at present. Mr. Hill, however, is an eminently shrewd man and has very able agents. His experience in the field of marine transport, it is true, has hitherto been very limited, but we must assume that his enterprise represents the advice of competent men confirmed by his own general knowledge of business possibilities. Of course he has the great advantage of railway connection which he absolutely controls on the far side. Altogether, considering the magnitude of the venture and the peculiar conditions under which it is undertaken, it must be regarded as one of the most interesting of modern times, so far as this part of the world is concerned.

A curious action will shortly be heard in one of the London law courts, in which the Treasury seeks permission to dispossess the British Museum of certain Celtic ornaments in order to hand them over to the Irish Academy. The disputed articles consist of half-a-dozen beautiful examples of Celtic work in gold, including a massive bowl, a model of a war galleon fitted with seats, rowlocks and oars, and a wonderful collar of twisted gold wire, such as was worn by the kings and leaders of men nearly 2000 years ago. They had been buried for centuries in the northwest of Ireland, where a farm labourer turned them up while ploughing in 1896. The strangely recovered treasures passed from hand to hand, until the British Museum bought them for £300. On these relics the Irish Academy in Dublin asserts that it has first claim, but whatever the means of possession, the British Museum cannot dispose of any acquisition, unless it be a duplicate, except by act of Parliament. The British Museum declares the articles are treasure trove. The Irish Academy declares they are not. Even if they are not treasure trove, rejoins the Museum, they are not necessarily Irish. It is quite possible that they were carried back to Ireland by a prehistoric freebooter after one of the periodical pillagings of Saxon castles. And so a pretty quarrel arose and finally a Parliamentary committee advised a Treasury action. In the meantime the Irish Academy, which is a pauper compared with the British Museum, complains that the latter competes unfairly with it. Whatever the outcome of the pending trial, a policy of sympathetic co-operation between the museum authorities of England, Ireland and Scotland is likely to be hereafter enforced by the Government.

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KOREA.

TOKYO papers agree in stating that on the 19th instant the Russian Representative in Seoul replied to the representations of the Korean Government. His reply had been long awaited. The points at issue were whether the Peng-ma forests are included in the timber-felling concession granted to a Russo-Korean syndicate in 1896, and under what pretext Russian subjects were acquiring lands and houses at Yong Am-pho. On the Korean side it was strenuously contended that Peng-ma being a sacred mountain, its defacement by lumber-cutters had never been contemplated when the concession was granted, and that the presence of Russian subjects as residents at Yong Am-pho was altogether contrary to treaty. The Russian Representative is said not to have discussed these points at all. He replied in the curtest manner that since this timber-felling enterprise had been sanctioned by convention in 1896, the plain duty of the Korean Authorities was to extend protection to Russian subjects engaged in the work, and that the protests now made were entirely opposed to Russia's expectation. Of course we can not be certain that the Representative's reply is accurately reported. But there is nothing at all incredible in the story. This timber-felling business is much more than a mere money-earning enterprise. Cleverly manipulated, as it seems likely to be, it will give Russia the command of the Yalu, and thus place Korea virtually at her mercy. As a feat of progressive aggression it commands some admiration, nor can we endorse the language of the *Kokumin Shimbun* which calls it *kogata-saiku* (a petty device). To us the incident suggests issues of really far-reaching importance. On the other hand, we doubt whether, if these events be even partially true, Russia is not overtaxing Japanese patience. This country must already be intensely chagrined by the spectacle of Russia's wholesale absorption of Manchuria. The experience of 1895 is an experience of the present generation. Its rugged outlines have not been softened by time. If there was any truth in the plea then advanced by Russia for insisting on Japan's surrender of the fruits of her conquests; if Japanese tenure of a part of the Manchurian littoral would have really constituted a menace to the independence and integrity of China, what shall be said about Russia's tenure of the whole three provinces? Whatever attitude of opposition Russia assumed towards Japan nine years ago, that attitude, at least, Japan is now justified in assuming towards Russia when the very same issue on a larger scale is in question. Manchuria, however, possesses only secondary interest compared with Korea. Japan can not allow Korea to fall under Russian sway. No country situated as she is could suffer that. Russia must be perfectly sensible of the fact, and further, she is well aware that her conventions with the Japanese Government bind her not to send a soldier into Korean territory without previously consulting this country. It is a dangerous game to touch Japan from the Korean side. An editorial in the columns of the habitually moderate and self-contained *Kokumin Shimbun* gives a significant insight into the mood of the Japanese in view of what is happening along the banks of the Yalu. The Government in St. Petersburg may not be directly responsible. We do not believe that it is, for the Russian statesmen now in power are understood to be sincerely desirous of peace. But the man at the front is enjoying far too much licence, and unless his doings be checked he may create a situation from which the exit would be one of two alternatives, each equally repugnant to Russia's sound sense. Some Japanese journals continue to think that this Yalu complication is intended to be a mere diversion. Perhaps so. By and by, however, when the clouds have rolled by, will nothing substantial remain of all these doings on the Korean frontier? Russia ought not to assume too much callousness or too great patience on Japan's part. She ought to take order with her very progressive pioneers.

POLITICAL CONSISTENCY.

PUBLIC opinion in Japan seems perplexed to determine whether Marquis ITO acted wisely or unwisely when he rejected the Cabinet's proposals for a peaceful arrangement last session if he ultimately had the intention of agreeing that the system of domestic loans should be reverted to. Marquis ITO's position certainly presents some peculiarities. It is he that is responsible for the *post-bellum* programme of State Enterprises. The sources of revenue indicated in that scheme were three; namely, the Chinese Indemnity, surpluses of ordinary revenue, and domestic loans. Being an asset already in plain sight, the Chinese Indemnity did not fail. But there soon came a time when domestic loans did fail, and it so happened that Marquis ITO himself had to deal with that juncture. There were three ways of dealing with it. The first, which would have been suicidally uneconomical, was to abandon or reduce the dimensions of the State's enterprises so as to adjust them to the diminished amount of available funds. That idea, though mooted in some quarters, naturally did not commend itself to the country's financiers. The second plan would have been a foreign loan, and the London market was actually placed under requisition to the extent of 14 million pounds, in round numbers. There were sound reasons, however, for narrowly limiting that line of finance, and thus the only resource ultimately presenting itself was additional taxation. Marquis ITO lent the weight of his great authority to this last device, and either directly under his instructions or indirectly with his approval, 90 million *yen*, in round figures, was gradually added to the ordinary revenue. Among the additions an increased rate of land tax stood prominent. It may be said, indeed, to have been the only new burden placed upon the shoulders of the people at large, the other imposts being levied from special industries. Against this burden the Liberal Party—it had not yet become the *Seiyu-kai*—revolted, and whereas Marquis ITO would have made the altered rate of land tax a permanent institution, party politicians refused at first to sanction the impost altogether, and were finally induced, with much difficulty, to endorse a compromise by which the period of the tax was limited to five years. Now whether the Liberals were right or whether they were wrong in demanding that limitation, the fact remains that they obtained it, and that Marquis ITO himself was the other contracting party. Hence when the *Seiyu-kai* was organized, having the Liberals for its backbone and Marquis ITO for its leader, the covenant between the latter and the former in the matter of the land tax must be supposed to have retained its validity. Could Marquis ITO have reverted to his own original attitude as the projector of the tax in perpetuity, he would no doubt have subsequently supported the KATSURA Ministry's attempt to sweep away the time limit which had formed the basis of the compromise. Further, could he have taken that line, his attitude as a party leader would have been strictly consistent with his attitude as a Cabinet Minister. But he might not throw over his political associates or ignore the covenant he had made with them before they chose him for leader. To do so would have been to sacrifice his pledge on the altar of his financial convictions. It appears, therefore, that there is no justice in the charge of inconsistency brought against the Marquis. He kept his engagements. That is the true verdict. Good faith compelled him to oppose the continuance of a tax which he himself had originally sought to make permanent.

Being ourselves firmly convinced that all this agitation against the land tax is pragmatical and sentimental, we have no inclination to find excuses for the alternative programme of domestic loans. But the commonest sense forbids us to join in the now frequently-heard complaint that to substitute loans for taxation is a difference merely in name not in reality. It is nothing of the kind. In the one case the people at large have to pay out an annual sum of 5¾ million *yen*. In the other, they have to pay only the interest on that sum, or, say 330,000 *yen* (at 6 per cent.), together with the annual appropriations on account of sinking fund. In short, the tax system imposes on the mass of the people a burden some fourteen times as heavy as the loan system. Of course in the end the loan system is the more expensive, but then its cost is spread over several generations instead of being concentrated on one. As for the purchasers of the loan bonds, they need not be taken into account at all. They stand in the position

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of voluntary investors. And there, indeed, is the weak point in the programme. It places on an unstable basis the finding of funds for naval increment. If the Government was formerly compelled to abandon its system of domestic loans in favour of direct taxes, what reason is there to anticipate a different issue now? Is it not much more probable that we shall again see a series of temporary makeshifts in which the Bank of Japan and the Deposit Bureau of the Finance Department will be the principal actors? That, however, is a question apart. What we set out to discuss was whether the attacks directed against Marquis ITO in some quarters are warranted. It seems impossible to agree that they are. At the psychological moment Marquis ITO may have invested himself with plenipotentiary authority somewhat galling to the self-esteem of a section of his followers, but if there was to be a peaceful pact at all, the lines he followed could scarcely have been different. Probably the basic truth of the situation is that the veteran statesman shares the view of many impartial onlookers, namely, that the day of genuine party government has not yet dawned in Japan, and that a great deal of preparation must still precede it. In the meanwhile the only machine available for administrative purposes is of a somewhat hybrid nature.

THE ADDRESS TO THE THRONE.

IT must be evident to any one reading the Address to the Throne introduced by the Progressists in the House of Representatives that the framers and supporters of the document were not really attacking the Government, but were endeavouring to seek the EMPEROR'S judgment about a great constitutional question. The "bed-rock" contention they advanced was that the Cabinet having declared a certain measure to be the best available, and having dissolved one House of Representatives because it refused to endorse that measure, presented the same measure to the newly-elected Representatives and then withdrew it, substituting another, and yet themselves remaining in office. Had the Cabinet resigned instead of changing its policy, the Progressists would have accorded to it the full credit of recognising its constitutional responsibility. That line of argument is obviously consistent with the theory that the Ministry holds its mandate from the House. But if we consider the matter from the other point of view, namely, that the Ministers of the Crown have no responsibility to the Diet except to secure its assent to essential legislative measures, then the matter assumes a very different aspect. In this instance the Government had a certain fundamental policy which it regarded as absolutely indispensible in the best interests of the country. That policy was naval expansion. It had also a programme as to the easiest and safest method of obtaining funds to carry out the policy. The House of Representatives endorsed the fundamental policy but differed partially as to the most accessible source of funds. What was then to be done? Ought the Ministery to have resigned? Yes, if it recognised the principle that its tenure of office depended absolutely on the House's approval of all Ministerial measures. But if, on the contrary, it found that by modifying the means, in accordance with the House's wishes, the great end, naval expansion, could be secured, then to resign would have been not merely to postpone that end, but also to admit the full responsibility of the Ministry to the Diet. In choosing, therefore, to accept the House's suggestions as to the source of funds, the Ministry merely discharged its duty of working, as far as possible, in concert with the Diet for legislative purposes and, at the same time, preserving its own ultimate responsibility to the Throne alone. Of course it is easy to conceive a situation irreconcilable with such procedure. If, for example, the House's suggested modifications of policy involved a sacrifice of cardinal principle, then a Cabinet might choose resignation in preference to a legislative deadlock, and it is because a majority in the House has competence to create such an *impasse* that all parliamentary systems ultimately tend to party cabinets. But in this case there is no sacrifice of cardinal principle. What has happened is that the people's representatives have indicated the easiest way, in their opinion, of obtaining the people's pecuniary assistance for carrying out a certain end, and the Ministry, though believing that a different way would be better, has accepted a suggestion to which it entertains no ineradicable objection. It has, in short, acknowledged its responsibility to the House by adopting the latter's advice, but it has declined to disavow its responsibility to the Throne by going out of office at the House's bidding. In such circumstances the members of the *Sciyu-kai* that supported the Government found themselves in an obvious difficulty, for had they denied the Progressists' charge of irresponsibility, they would have constructively admitted the unconstitutionality of the object for which they have long struggled, namely, party cabinets. It is well to recognise the true nature of the issue which has just created such a stir in political circles.

PRINCE TSAI CHENG.

PRINCE TSAI CHENG, Mr. Na Tung, Mr. Bredon and other members of the Prince's suite, were received in audience by the Emperor at noon on the 21st instant, and subsequently had the honour of lunching with His Majesty. The Prince was escorted to the Palace by a half company of the Imperial Guards. A long conversation took place between him and the Emperor, and the Prince was presented with an embroidered screen and a pair of silver vases as souvenirs. The Emperor conferred various Orders, from the second class downward, on the Prince's suite.

THE DIET.

Wednesday, May 27.

The House of Representatives met on the 26th instant at 1 p.m. Mr. Mochizuki opened the proceedings by a two hours' speech with reference to the questions already submitted by him on the subject of the Far Eastern problem, and translated at the time into these columns. His speech fell altogether flat, being enlivened solely by one "episode" when one of the members loudly recommended him to cease his silly harangue. He was followed by Mr. Oishi Masumi, who spoke to questions presented by him on foreign and domestic policy. He wanted to know something about the Government's doings with regard to the Peng-ma and Yong Ampho affairs, and with regard to Russia's failure to withdraw her forces from Manchuria. These matters, he considered, constituted ample ground for giving active effect to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. Concerning domestic affairs, his questions amounted to a covert attack upon the policy of reverting to the loan system, which, by disturbing the money market, must impede the development of trade and industry.

The Order of the Day was then taken, and the Government Bill for increasing the Railway Construction Fund from 95 millions to 102 millions was read for the first time.

Baron Sone, Minister of Finance, in a short speech explained that the Government interpreted public opinion to be in favour of naval expansion, but as to the source of funds, there was a great divergence of views. The Land Tax Bill, not meeting with approval, had been withdrawn, and in consideration of the essential nature of the naval problem the Government proposed to obtain money from administrative economies, from the Railway and Telephone Funds, and, if absolutely necessary, from public loans.

Mr. Kado Kokan considered that whereas the Cabinet had last session declared the land tax to be the only available source of revenue, and whereas it had now withdrawn the Land Tax Bill, it must be held to have openly confessed its own error of policy. Was that so?

Baron Sone replied that truly the thing was inevitable, which answer evoked much laughter.

Mr. Sakaguchi wanted to know how the Government intended to atone for its responsibility in having commited such an error of policy.

Mr. Morita asked whether the Government thought that domestic loans could be obtained without disturbing the money market.

Baron Sone said that the Government deemed the Land Tax the best resource, but that it had no choice except to fall back on loans. Doubtless the market would be affected, but not, he thought, to any serious extent.

Mr. Hara Kei asked whether the Government intended to carry its administrative economies as far as possible and to reduce the amount of the loans as much as might be. This question brought Count Katsura into the rostrum. He declared that the Government intended to make every possible effort to reduce expenditures and keep the loans at a minimum. (Some of the members greeted this statement with cries of "can not believe!")

Mr. Moriya then attacked the Minister of Finance's policy and Mr. Oishi spoke again about foreign affairs, but no special notice was taken of these speeches, and all the Government Bills were handed to Special Committees without any incident.

Thursday, May 28.

The House met at the usual hour, its galleries crowded in expectation of the debate on an address to the Throne impeaching the Government, introduced by the Progressists.

Three Questions were presented and were accompanied by speeches from their introducers; they related to education, to poisonous emanations from mines, and to contagious diseases.

The Order of the Day was then taken.

Mr. Inugai Ki introduced the Address to the Throne. We take the following translation of it from the *Japan Times*;—

"May it please your Imperial Majesty.

"Your Majesty's humble servant, Kenkichi Kata-

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oka, President of the House of Representatives, begs respectfully to submit the present Address. At no time, in his humble opinion, has the principle of Ministerial responsibility been more ignored than under the present Cabinet, and in no instance has this been more conspicuous than in connexion with the last dissolution of the House of Representatives. In the 17th session of the Diet, the Cabinet introduced the Land Tax Regulations Amendment Bill by way of providing the fund required for the increase of the Navy. It clung to this measure with the greatest tenacity, declaring that there was no other available source of revenue, and went to the length of advising your Imperial Majesty to dissolve the House of Representatives over this measure. After introducing the same measure in the present session, the Cabinet has readily withdrawn it, apparently without the least compunction, in favour of another financial scheme. This shows how changeable and unreliable are its schemes and how careless and irresponsible are its views. Now the increase of the Land Tax is unanimously opposed by the whole people. The tendency of public opinion on this matter has, indeed, been so unmistakable that the Ministers of State must have been perfectly aware of the hopelessness of getting the Land Tax measure passed. Their object in re-introducing it must have, therefore, been simply to keep up appearances and preserve forms. Their conduct in this respect lays them open to the serious charge of having deceived Your Imperial Majesty and of having insulted the people. Your humble servant is afraid that if acts like this are suffered to be repeated and made precedents for future times, the result will be the complete annihilation of the principle of Ministerial responsibility. Your humble servant is most reluctant to approach your Imperial Majesty with regard to this question of Ministerial responsibility at a moment like the present when the grave condition of things at home and abroad renders it imperatively necessary for the members of the House of Representatives to be united for the good of the country. The question, however, is so important and fraught with such far-reaching consequences, that your humble servants of the House of Representatives have thought it their duty to submit to your Imperial Majesty's wise consideration a general outline of the points involved. The above is submitted with profound respect and humility."

Mr. Inugai disavowed any wish to create trouble between the Ministry and the Diet at a time when domestic and foreign affairs presented so many important phases. But he claimed that the question dealt with in the Address was something of a higher nature than a mere collision between the House and the Cabinet. The remainder of his speech was simply an elaboration of the arguments set forth in the Address. It concluded with a vehement appeal to the House to impeach such a Cabinet.

Mr. Motoda Hajime spoke in opposition. He did not dispute that the Ministry had showed an imperfect sense of responsibility, but he contended that the Government had sacrificed itself to its sense of duty to the country in the matter of naval increment, and that the House should sympathise with it instead of still further troubling the Imperial mind.

Mr. Oishi Masami supported the Address in a vigorous speech.

The Prime Minister reminded the House that had the proposals for an understanding matured between the Diet and the House, there need not have been any dissolution; that an agreement having been made on this occasion, the Land Tax Bill and its correlated measures had been withdrawn; that the Ministry deemed it a duty to work harmoniously with the House if possible, and that the Cabinet had been guided solely by a sense of the country's interests.

Mr. Harada opposed the Address.

The closure was moved and carried and the House having decided by 224 to 130 to vote by open ballot, the Address was rejected by 228 to 123.

Various Bills were then handed to special committees, and the House rose at 5 p.m.

Friday, May 29.

The House met at the usual hour, and was required to listen to speeches on questions presented by Mr. Itakura, on foreign affairs, Mr. Shimada Saburo, on poisonous emanations from mines, and Mr. Kato Masanosuke on illegal payments by the various Departments of State in the year 1900.

The Order of the Day was then taken and the following measures, all introduced by members, were dealt with:—

(1) A Bill relating to the mortgaging of arable lands, the object being to fix the joint responsibility of the mortgagers. This was handed to a Special Committee.

(2) A Bill introduced by Mr. Isobe for extending the period during which an extended statement of arguments may be submitted in a case before the Court of Cassation. This Bill was carried through all its readings and passed at once.

(3) A Bill relating to local government. Second Reading voted.

(4) Two Bills relating to remission of taxes in the case of lands devastated by natural calamities. Both Bills were passed.

(5) A Bill relating to Pensions of Shizoku. Rejected.

(6) A Representation for discriminating between Japanese and foreign sugars in the matter of taxation, on the ground that Japanese sugar being greatly inferior, ought to be more lightly taxed. The Representation proposes to fix the tax at 50 *sen* per picul for the home-produced article. This measure was handed to a special committee.

Mr. Iwaya Matsuhei ascended the rostrum to introduce a Representation for organizing a Board of Trade (*Shomu-in*), but the House was counted out at 4.45 p.m.

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE.

The Budget Committee devoted the 27th instant to considering the new financial proposals advanced by the Cabinet. They adopted the principle that every enterprise not absolutely unavoidable should be postponed until next session. The result was that the Government's programme underwent a cutting down to the extent of 2,870,000 *yen*, and that the special funds for Formosa, amounting to 3,000,000 *yen*, were altogether elided. The reductions stand thus:—

AMOUNTS OF REDUCTIONS PROPOSED BY COMMITTEE.

	Yen.
Telephone Expansion Fund	950,000
New Buildings (Police stations, etc.)	280,000
Iron Foundry	1,360,000
Fund for Compiling Readers	23,000
Buildings in Formosa	2,500,000
Harbour Works in Formosa	600,000

Further, an amount of 43 million *yen* under the heading of Treasury Bills is reduced to 35 millions.

As to the Iron Foundry it should be explained that the Government had asked for 1,760,000 *yen*. Out of that amount the Committee proposes to allow only 400,000 *yen*, namely, the money required for making coke.

It is to be suspected that these changes reflect a mood of resentment more or less independent of economical considerations. We can well understand that people in general are perplexed to understand what kind of affair the Iron Foundry is, which, having been introduced at the modest outlay of 6½ million *yen*, has already cost over 20 millions, and is still calling for more. Nevertheless the Foundry is an established fact, and the country's most competent engineers declare that a certain amount is now needed to render the works productive. To withhold that amount is not common sense, nor yet is it wise finance. The *Kokumin Shimbun* shrewdly observes that they can only be seeking to impair the *Seiyu-kai's* reputation who represent it as seeking to compensate its enforced complaisance in Tokyo by a display of anger in Kiushu. Yet it looks very like that.

The items of the Naval Increment Scheme are not touched. They have been respected by the Committee.

YOKOHAMA AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

SPRING REGATTA.

COMMITTEE:—Mr. H. C. Litchfield, President; Mr. F. J. Hall, Captain; Mr. W. Goddard, Mr. F. Lammert, Mr. H. E. Hayward, Mr. M. Schellenberg, Mr. C. Thwaites, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. J. Cartwright, Hon. Treasurer.

OFFICERS OF THE DAY:—Mr. H. C. Litchfield, Judge; Mr. F. J. Hall, Starter, and Mr. P. B. Clarke, Time Keeper.

PONTOON OFFICIALS:—Dr. Ed. Wheeler and Rev. W. Weston.

The Spring Regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Saturday afternoon. The races began with fair punctuality, though the first event would have been more in the neighbourhood of the appointed hour (2 p.m.) if some time had not been lost in deciding whether to row it over the usual course along the Bluff foreshore, or over the one adopted in rough weather, that is from the harbour entrance home along the breakwater. It was thought advisable to adopt the former and on the whole there seems no reason to quarrel with the decision though in all the races the boats brought back a considerable quantity of water. The wind was about east, a moderate breeze, and an awkward sea was running from the starting point all the way in to the breakwater; there the crews had to struggle through the usual ugly wash of broken water that prevails at this place under certain conditions of weather, and it was not till they had emerged from this into the smooth water inside that the men could row comfortably. Yet there is no doubt a great deal of discomfort on this course is preferable to adopting the other, which has never been satisfactory.

The racing was moderately good. There were no really close finishes, except that of the Junior Fours, which threatened to be somewhat of an upset, Nicolle's boat not being specially favoured by the knowing ones. This was a well-contested match almost from the start, the crews sticking to each other till they reached the smooth water, when both put it on in fine style and an exciting finish ensued, Kenderdine winning by less than his canvas. The Senior Fours were not quite so near a thing for Manley, but Hayward spurted at him in the most determined fashion though he could not get nearer than three lengths. The usual match between the Club and the Committee was a comparatively easy win for the former and caused only mild excitement. The race for the Ladies' Purse was interesting, as this event always must be, for it is the blue ribbon of the Regatta. The contest for it, however, was not all thrilling, for Hayward and Irwine won easily eight lengths ahead of their rivals, who were greatly bothered in the broken water. Some of the other events awakened interest though hardly as racing contests, but on the whole with the exceptions given the sport was somewhat tame.

The Ladies' Purse was presented to the winner immediately after the race, by Miss Kenderdine, with a graceful little speech. She said:—I have great pleasure in presenting you with this prize on behalf of the ladies of Yokohama. We are all admirers of manly sports, and I hope you will be as successful in the other races for which you have entered as you have been in this.—(Cheers.)

The Stroke thanked Miss Kenderdine and presented her with a handsome bouquet, saying how much the members of the Rowing Club appreciated the interest shown by the ladies; and in conclusion he called for three cheers and a "tiger" for the Ladies of Yokohama.

The Scratch Fours closed the programme and were brought off in good time so that the arrangements of the Committee which worked without a hitch were brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

After the races, the prizes were gracefully distributed to the winners by Mrs. W. Weston, who addressed a few appropriate remarks to each. There was a fair attendance of spectators but evidently rowing as at present carried on possesses little interest for the residents who used once to crowd the open spaces. The verandah was bright with spring dresses, for there was a good attendance

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of ladies, and exhilarating if not classical music was supplied by the Town Band in suitable and much appreciated quantities.

Following were the events: (the Roman figures before the boats indicating their positions at the start of each race, "I." being the inside place).

SENIOR PAIRS.—1 Mile.

I.—"Widgeon."

		lbs.	
Bow.	L. Thompson	145	1
Str.	H. Irwine	156	
Cox.	G. G. Irwine	115	

II.—"Mallard."

		lbs.	
Bow.	J. E. Moss	134	0
Str.	H. E. Hayward	140	
Cox.	W. Goddard	137	

Time, 9 min. 54 sec.

This, the opening, event was rowed in water which evoked much language. Irwine got off with a lead and kept increasing it all the way in. Hayward spurted hard as soon as he reached the shelter of the Breakwater but could not get up, Irwine getting his gun four lengths ahead.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—¼ Mile.

I.—"Mallard."

		lbs.	
Bow.	J. Figueiredo	121	1
Str.	F. Luther	130	
Cox.	E. J. Moss	137	

II.—"Widgeon."

		lbs.	
Bow.	D. L. Abbey	112	0
Str.	C. H. Abbey	117	
Cox.	H. Gorman	140	

Time, 8 min. 37 sec.

This was a disappointing affair. Abbey had left the pontoon and was rowing down to the starting point when it was discovered that Luther's boat had two stroke oars. It was at once surmised that the other crew were also misfitted so a third oar was sent off to the launch to be given to them if necessary. It does not appear to have been understood what was to be done, anyhow the oar was not handed over to Abbey (stroke) and his failure to receive it crippled him. He got off badly at the start being hampered by one or two very nasty seas; meantime Luther took the lead and kept it easily. Abbey who was digging and doing all kinds of things with his oar was in terrible difficulties but he gallantly finished, though a minute and twenty-five seconds astern of his rival. Luther and Figuiredo rowed excellently but it is a pity the race was not more closely contested.

SENIOR FOURS.—1 Mile.

II.—"Sea-mew."

		lbs.	
Bow.	J. E. Moss	134	1
2.	P. V. Mitchell	151	
3.	J. Cartwright	165	
Str.	A. L. Manley	105	
Cox.			

III.—"Darter."

		lbs.	
Bow.	J. C. Goodban	147	2
2.	F. Pollard	165	
3.	O. Strome	200	
Str.	H. E. Hayward	140	
Cox.	W. Goddard	137	

I.—"Pelican."

		lbs.	
Bow.	C. H. Moss	147	0
2.	E. J. Moss	137	
2.	H. Stienmann	173	
Str.	B. J. Jackson	182	
Cox.	D. L. Abbey	117	

Time, 9 min. 5 sec.

Manley in the middle position had a capital start, and Jackson's crew splashed a bit inside before they were set agoing. Hayward, who was in the outside berth, was moving comfortably though he certainly had the worst of the water. Manley rowing 26 was a good length ahead at the three-quarter-mile mark, Hayward setting a quicker stroke. Jackson was now going very well and at the P. M. Wharf he was only half a length astern of Hayward, Manley three lengths in the lead. In the smooth water they all put on steam and made a fairly good finish, Hayward still three lengths off, and a couple of lengths ahead of Jackson.

JUNIOR FOURS—¼ MILE.

I.—"Sea-mew."

		lbs.	
Bow.	B. Jenny	133	1
2.	J. Kaufner	136	
3.	R. Schwabacher	140	
Str.	G. Kenderdine	132	
Cox.	C. Thwaites	143	

II.—"Pelican."

Bow.	F. Figueiredo	121	2
2.	E. Dentici	142	
3.	L. Serkis	130	
Str.	P. E. Nicolle	155	
Cox.	E. J. Moss	137	

III.—"Darter."

Bow.	D. L. Abbey	112	0
2.	A. E. Caro	117	
3.	C. H. Abbey	117	
Str.	O. T. Gillon	145	
Cox.	F. H. Abbey	140	

Time, 6 min. 18¾ sec.

This was a very level start, Kenderdine getting off more comfortably than the others, Nicolle got slightly in front but was soon collared by Kenderdine and the two rowed oar for oar to the Breakwater (Gillon's No. 2 broke his stretcher straps and of course was little better than a passenger in consequence, the boat being quite out of it.) Once through the troubled water the rivals spurted at each other in fine style and came home almost level, Kenderdine just winning by a few feet amid the plaudits of the onlookers.

SENIOR DOUBLE SCULLS. "LADIES PURSE."—1 Mile.

I.—Boat No. 2.

		lbs.	
Bow.	H. E. Hayward	140	1
Str.	H. Irwine	156	

II.—Boat No. 1.

		lbs.	
Bow.	L. Thompsen	145	0
Str.	H. Stienmann	173	

Time, 8 min. 59 sec.

Steinmann caught the water first but Irwine was more quickly in motion and he thus got a lead which he kept on adding to all the way, winning without effort eight lengths to the good.

JUNIOR DOUBLE SCULLS.—¼ Mile.

I.—"Pearl."

		lbs.	
Bow.	A. E. Caro	117	1
Str.	L. Serkis	130	

II.—"Tern."

		lbs.	
Bow.	G. Kenderdine	132	0
Str.	P. E. Nicolle	155	

Time, 7 min. 30 sec.

This was a procession for Nicolle's boat steered very badly and was in trouble all the way. They were never in the race and did not trouble to finish.

CLUB V. COMMITTEE, FOURS.—1 Mile.

II.—"Club."

		lbs.	
Bow.	H. Irwine	156	1
2.	F. Pollard	165	
3.	H. Stienmann	173	
Str.	B. J. Jackson	182	
Cox.	F. H. Abbey	117	

I.—"Committee."

		lbs.	
Bow.	C. Thwaites	143	2
2.	J. Cartwright	165	
3.	M. Schellenberg		
Str.	H. E. Hayward	140	
Cox.	W. Goddard	137	

This was a fine start, the Committee rowing the quicker, soon drawing in front. A crab in the Club boat made the Committee's lead a full length and they went thus for a brief space. But Jackson keeping his men going steadily gradually drew up and half way in he was level with the other boat. Thence he began to move away in the lead and nearing the P.M. wharf he was a full length in front. He entered the smooth water two lengths to the good and going very nicely got his gun three lengths ahead of the Committee.

SCRATCH FOURS.

	"Flamingo."		"Swan."
Bow.	A. E. Caro.	Bow.	P. Moss.
2.	J. C. Goodban.	2.	J. Kaufner.
3.	F. Pollard.	3.	O. Strome.
Str.	J. Cartwright.	Str.	G. Kenderdine.
Cox.	J. Carst.	Cox.	F. Lammert.
	"Darter."		"Seamew."
Bow.	E. Dentici.	Bow.	B. Spain.
2.	A. L. Gillon.	2.	J. Figueiredo.
3.	R. Schwabacher.	3.	F. Luther.
Str.	H. Y. Irwine.	Str.	B. J. Jackson.
Cox.	H. Steinmann.	Cox.	W. Drummond.

Time, 2 min. 7½ sec.

The starter had some trouble in ranging the boats, *Flamingo* and *Seamew* industriously seeking to nefariously get the best of the start. As it was *Flamingo* got a substantial lead at the outset and *Darter* was, to borrow the language of the turf, left on the post. *Swan*, though bothered by a poor wretch of a boatman who tried to cross in front of the race, made matters warm for *Flamingo* with the result that something not unlike a dead heat occurred. The decision, however, was given in favour of the *Flamingoes*.

A dinghy race, two men in each boat, four oars, was added to the programme and was quite exciting. It was won by a crew composed of a *Spray* and a *Jeanette* sendo.

The boats of the Mosquito Yacht Club raced on Saturday, the yachts competing being the *Edna*, *Pelee*, *Vixen*, *Sunbeam*, *Yugao* and *Chocho*. The result was that *Pelee* came in first with *Edna* second and *Sunbeam* third.

YOKOHAMA STEAM LAUNDRY CO., LIMITED.

The fourth annual ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Yokohama Steam Laundry Co., Ltd., was held on Tuesday afternoon at No. 73 Main Street. Mr. E. V. Thorn was in the chair and there were present about half-a-dozen shareholders. The proceedings were conducted in private.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the year ending October 31st, 1902, accompany this Report.

As anticipated in the last report the working of the last year shows a profit according to the Profit and Loss Account accompanying this Report.

This profit of net *yen* 1,153.70 for the year the Directors have deemed prudent to write off as depreciation on the property and plant, it being the first time that the company, since it started, has occasion to write off anything.

Although the lessees of the plant do not properly keep up their regular payments as per agreement, the Directors trust they will be able to do so ere long, as they are gradually forging their way ahead, by securing contracts, especially with the steamship companies.

Mr. E. Kildoyle and Mr. T. Herlihy retire by rotation from the Board of Directors, and their successors are to be elected.

E. V. THORN, JULIUS HELM } Directors.

Yokohama, May 16th, 1903.

THE YOKOHAMA STEAM LAUNDRY CO., LTD.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON OCTOBER 31ST, 1902.

ASSETS:	Yen.
Property, Plant and Furniture	32,061,66
Nippon Yusen Kaisha Deposit	200.00
Cash in hand	85,69
Sundry Debtors	1,388.44
Fire Insurance.—Unexpired Policies	50.00
Old Balance brought Forward	20,602.22
	54.388.01
LIABILITIES:	
Capital, 700 Shares of yen 50.00 each	35,000.00
Debentures bearing 7 per cent. Interest	10,000.00
Lease Security Money	900.00
Sundry Creditors	8,488.01
	54.388.01

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31ST OCTOBER, 1902.

DR.	Yen.
To Balance	20,602.22
„ Insurance (fire)	11.50
„ Wages	90.00
„ Expenses	316.51
„ Rent	2,400.00
„ Old debts written off	201.80
„ Interest on Debentures	784.00
„ Property and Plant written off	1,153.70
	25.559.73
To Balance	20,602.22
CR.	
By Gross Earnings	4.950.00
„ Interest from Russo-Chinese Bank	7.51
„ Balance	20,602.22
	25.559.73

E. V. THORN, JULIUS HELM, } Directors.

I have examined the Company's books and the foregoing accounts and certify them to be correct.

CHAS. F. RHINE, Auditor,

Yokohama, 31st December, 1902.

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OLD JAPAN AS SHE IS PLAYED.

(Written for the "Japan Mail.")

Among "Americans of To-morrow," whose portraits are to be met with in *Harpers' Weekly*, are two whose names are associated with the wonderful drama of Old Japanese life—both real and reputed—now delighting theatre-goers in New York. Mr. David Belasco, dramatic author, born in San Francisco, has written such immensely popular plays as "Zaza," "The Heart of Maryland," "The Charity Ball," etc. He is also the manager of the Belasco Theatre on 30th street, just west of Broadway, which seems to combine all the comforts, resources and possibilities of the modern theatre, stage, and the mechanical arts as applied to the production of human delights. One generally looks in the direction of Belasco's theatre for the latest and future possibilities in the histrionic line.

Mr. John Luther Long, who lives in Philadelphia, and has had a sister or some near female relative, as I understand, long resident in Japan, is the author of "Miss Cherry Blossom of Tokyo;" and also of "Madame Butterfly," which has had a successful run on the stage. He has joined forces with Mr. Belasco to produce "The Darling of the Gods," which has been the theatrical sensation of New York for over five months. The announcement is made also that in the early autumn this piece will have a further, though briefer, run.

Being in New York this week and while waiting in the Hotel Marlborough for the falling of the evening shadows, I was addressed by name by an old friend from Yokohama, Mr. Harlan P. Lillibridge, whom I had not seen since 1874. On leaving Japan in 1880, Mr. Lillibridge was engaged in Cleveland in the financial part of mining operations until several years ago, when he came to New York, where he now lives, making his head-quarters at the Union League Club. With him was his brother, whom I knew as a student in Hamilton College in the days when, with Rev. Henry Loomis, now of Yokohama, we were comrades in the same Greek-letter Fraternity of Delta Upsilon. My old friend of Japan soon began to rave over the play, "The Darling of the Gods." Having himself seen and enjoyed it no fewer than six times, he praised its wonderful accuracy, fidelity to old ideals and reality, even expressing a wonder as to whether in faithfulness to representation, in triumph of histrionic art, or in mechanical effects, it could be improved.

It is not my purpose to answer either or all of these questions, but simply to give your readers my own impressions of this wonderful production. Habitual theatre-goers may well be able to criticize the play and its representation on the boards, with vastly more critical acumen and justice to the player, than the writer, to whom the theatre is only a means of occasional diversion. Let description, such as it is, precede criticism.

The drama is in five acts, and the cast of characters includes Blanche Bates, as "Yo-Sun, daughter of the Prince of To-san," and forty-four other characters of more or less importance, ten of them being two-sworded samurai, eight of them spies of "Zakkuri, the Minister of War," and four of them, "guests of the Feast of a Thousand Welcomes." There are also about a dozen "Geisha of the Red Maple Gardens," beside various functionaries and picturesque personages, such as may be inventoried in the stock of human bric-a-brac in the old feudalism of Japan.

Worthily and most justly the programme sets forth five acts, the scenes of which are called "pictures." "The action of the play takes place in Japan during the period of the "sword edict," when the Emperor took away the swords of the Samurai—the two-sword men. The play deals with a little band of ten who refuse to obey the edict and become "outlaws." In a word, we see that chronology is knocked into a cocked hat. The swords were removed in the 70's, long after the daimios had yielded up their fiefs, and feudalism was gone for ever. Nevertheless, the whole atmosphere of the play is that of a century or two ago. With glittering patches of illegitimate embellishment from the author's reading of books of Japan, but made wonderfully accurate in both intrinsic detail and stage setting by the Japanese artist Gengiro Yeto, a verisimilitude that entrances the average spectator is produced.

The grand curtain, superbly embroidered in Yedo style, with the crests of the great feudatories, Satsuma, Hizen, Owari, etc., together with the Tokugawa trefoil, rises. We have a vast and superb scene, in nature's sheen and colours, of Fuji's crest in the sky and its mirror in the shining sea, the crimson *tori-i* rising out of the waves, and "the mountain god's shrine." This picture is the first part of Act I. In the second picture, we have "a look into the garden within the Yashiki of the Prince of To-san, from sunset to dark," in which fair women and girls, flowers, "a butterfly catching a butterfly" make loveliness. The third picture is "the great state hall during the Feast of a Thousand Welcomes," when the ceremony of sword delivery and the etiquette of the banquet are faithfully followed. In general it may be said that the scenes of feasting and the functions of ordinary business are given in brilliant light, while those of mystery and tragic action are more or less in darkness, shadow, or artificially tempered and coloured light, in which the glitter of arms and armour, or the glint of eye, face, dress of men in action are intensely suggestive.

Act II. gives as its first picture "Kanzashi Forts at the Hour of the Ox," (2 o'clock)—"within the shadows or the gates", representing the accessories of exit and entrance belonging to a castle. Yo-san, the prince's daughter, is in love with Kara, the prince and leader of the two-sword men. In the swift passing hours of love's dalliance, and the hiding from him of the letter of expostulation, shot to him on an arrow, he heeds not, till the hour of waking and alarm, the near presence of his waiting followers. The second picture represents the "shoji of Yo-san, among the moon flowers," or, in action, the love-making, in foreign style, though in Japanese postures of chairlessness on the mats. Other characters in this act are Yo-san's maid, Inu, "a Corean giant," who is Yo-san's slave and watcher, and "Saigon, Prince of To-san." The latter, the girl's father, suprises the lovers, charges his indignant and repelling daughter with wantonness, and has a sword fight with Kara, using the longer weapon, while the latter defends himself with the short sword. The outlaw lover refuses to do harm to the girl's father and repels the charge of wrong-doing in his relations to the girl.

Act III. "forty days later," shows the scene of the fate-hour "behind the shoji of Yo-san's sanctuary," in which Kara kills a spy who has been in and out of Yosan's chamber. In Act IV. (later in the same day) we have a scene conjured up out of pure imagination. It is of "the old sword room," the cabinet of the Minister of War, where beneath an image of Marishiten, the god of war, on a *shishi*, but holding Ojin, we have also stacks of armour and the swords presumably delivered up to the government. Everything is of ancient style and atmosphere, except the remarkable Occidental way of using in prayer the name of Shaka, Ojin-Tenno, etc. There are some very dramatic tieings of *obi* before or behind, and the upstreaming of lurid red fire from a subterranean torture room, into which both "the fisherman from the Inland Sea," who is put to death, and Kara who escapes, descend with their torturers. All through the play, with consummate art, and only an occasional tearing of passion to tatters, but with a frequent and unnecessary elevation of voice, wholly foreign to old Japanese indoor life, the play proceeds with frequent and admirable "flashes of silence"—in a sense admirable, but different from Sidney Smith's.

In Act V. the first picture is, at the "dusk hour of the day", of the meeting-place at the ruined shrine of the goddess Kwannon, in the Hakone mountains, The priestly chaplain of the outlaw band prays for success. The leader, confessing his sins in dalliance and delay, is first rejected, and then, at the intercession of the priest, accorded the tokens and promises of loyalty by the outlaws in armour and with drawn swords—all with superb adherence to old feudal etiquette. The little son of one of the outlaws is shot by the government soldiery. Then after a pathetic exhibition of a father's grief—wholly un-Japanese, and tremendously Occidental—the samurai rush up the heights with their good swords, and disappear in the sound of battle to death.

From beginning to end the excellent orchestra dispenses music of a Japanese sort, and not a few of the strains, melodies and compositions I recognized with delight.

The second picture of Act V., is a triumph of stage art. Far back from the thickly clustering bamboo solitudes rises the great moon swathed in vapours turned crimson, and in this "red bamboo forest" is "the tryst of death." After sorrowful pleading and farewell to the loving maiden Yo-san, the hero's armour is stripped off, for honour has been satisfied by loyalty and valour, and the swift stroke, according to the strictest code of *seppuku*, ends the life of Kara.

Another jar to the conceited critic comes when the manner of emptying veins and slow coming death is in purely Western style, the body lying immovable and tranquil, without a suggestion of the death-agonies of actual *hara-kiri*, when done in loneliness, with no "best man" at hand, to give swift decapitation.

After an "intermezzo," the great embroidered curtain rises again. A thousand years have passed. We behold "between the heavens and the hells," "the mountain of Sheide." Then, by some consummate illusion-producing mechanism, a great river flows before us and in the weird dim light that plays on its surface tremble the moving human shadows traversing the space along the brink. We hear from afar the cry of the complaining soul of the sad woman, that a thousand years are long to wait. When the curtain has risen again, "over the clouds" in "the first celestial (sic) heaven," there appears in a small white glory of light, in the midst of a darkness that seems centuries thick, but only for a moment fully resplendent, the image of the two lovers united again.

It must be understood that one or both of the playwrights have never been in Japan,—a fact that may account for the great popularity of the play, both with those who have never visited Nippon, and those who knew only the Japan of the open seaports and their vicinity, in the pre-commercial days of Bushi-do. It may also explain why, at so many points, the play is distasteful to one who knows the real Japanese life of an interior castle town, in the days of feudalism, and far from direct foreign influences. Possibly there is no field of achievement in which the proverbs "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise" (Shirann ga Hotoke), and "Hearing is paradise, seeing is hell," are more in point than in the fictional or theatrical representations of old Japan by those who see it only in transfiguration. There is so much that appeals to the æsthetic sense and to the delight-giving imagination and so much also that is horrible, that, to be passively ignorant of, or to actively ignore, elements not appealing to or directly repulsive to Western taste, is a positive advantage to the Occidental playwright. Furthermore, the introduction and emphasis, if not exaggeration, of imported elements, distinctly non-Japanese, but known to port-dwellers and pleasing to a New York audience, are tremendous advantages to any whose eye is to the box-office receipts as well as to the canons of pure art.

Now in the books of the chief playwright of the "Darling of the Gods"—it is not clear what the title, apart from its charm to ear and mind, has to do with the play—these elements, exotic to Japan, rather pronounced in the illicit or amorous relations between the white gentlemen and the brown ladies at the ports, but utterly unknown to true Japan of old days, are set in the forefront and made conspicuous all the way through. In a word, the elements of success, in such stage plays, or comic operas, as "The Mikado," "The Geisha," "Madame Butterfly," and in the books and writings which describe the points of contact of two civilizations at their lower edges, are especially emphasized and given with much repetition in this play "The Darling of the Gods." It would be interesting to know what kind of

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success a similar play, even when magnificently acted and superbly staged, would meet, if all kissing and embraces after the Western fashion, and talk of "love" both in prattle and with philosophy, were eliminated, and the merely picturesque, the wholly unrelated or untimely episodes and inharmonious garnishments and chronological solecisms left out. If the sufficiently abundant resources of Japanese life were drawn upon by a scholar, a man of genius and a practical playwright, and set in their true relations, and a drama subtly rich in the harmonies of space and time in old Japan, were produced on the New York boards, would success crown the worthy effort? Perhaps it is psychologically impossible that a transfer bodily of Danjuro and his whole troupe, with stage scenery and green rooms to New York could win a houseful of delighted spectators during a half year.

Yet even after loftiest praise to the New York playwrights and actors, chemists and electricians, scene painters and carpenters, of 1903, one who knew the old Japan, in its glories and horrors, its dazzling lights and cavernous depths of darkness, goes away hungry for a play which can teach the American people what is well worth teaching, what true Bushi-do and artistic Japan before the days of commercialism were. Perhaps only one year's witness and experience of feudal life in Echizen, and three years of daily association in Tokyo and the castle towns with young men of the samurai class, born and reared in feudal ideals, may not fit one to be a fair critic. Perhaps, too, feudalism, like all else in human history, "wins a glory from its being far."

W. E. G.

Ithaca, N.Y., April 25th, 1903.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS.

The Russian Press—even the Russian papers published in Vladivostock and Port Arthur—seems to be very little excited about the Manchurian question; and gives practically no information on the subject save what it gets from Japanese exchanges. For instance, the *Vladivostock* newspaper of April 20th (old style) contains only a few telegrams from other parts of Russia and from Pekin, Aden and Constantinople. Then comes a letter from the Governor of Primorsky Province informing the editor of the *Vladivostock* that "Lieutenant-General Subosheech considers it advisable to summon, in the beginning of August of the present year, a council of well-informed men to meet in Khabapovsk in order to deliberate on the needs and requirements of the Amoor region in general and in particular of the Amoorsky and Primovsky Provinces," &c., &c. Then comes the *chroneeka*, an imitation of course of the French *chronique*, and conducted on much the same lines. The *Vladivostock's* collection of miscellaneous items contains nothing more exciting than that "the people of Khabarovsk say that the new Governor-General informed a certain merchant that the question of the construction of the Amoor Railway is not a question of the distant future. Khabarovsk may therefore continue to hope; and, even if a bridge were built over Amoor river, that town would derive considerable benefit from it. Such a bridge would cost about eight million roubles."

Then comes an account of Japan by Dr. Kiriloff who travelled through this country some five or six weeks ago at the request of Mr. Filippovich, President of the Vladivostock Branch of the Touring Club.

Next we have two short letters from correspondents followed by a long account of a recent meeting of the Vladivostock Municipal Council.

The remaining space is taken up by two serials, one entitled "Chinese Legends about the Origin of the Sea" and the other a Siberian story written largely in a Siberian dialect.

* * * *

The *Dalnivi Vostok*, a Vladivostock daily, is naturally livelier than the *Vladivostock* which does not appear every day; but even the former says little about the burning question of the day in the Far East. Most of its issue for April 22 (old style) is taken up with a leader on the new criminal law and a report on the Khabarovsk Technical Railway School.

Under the heading "latest information" is an item of which the following is a translation:—

"Mr. Tsun Syun, the councillor (*sovyetneek*) of the Chinese Embassy at St. Petersburg, is at present on his way from Vladivostock to St. Peterburg.

"Mr. Tsun Syun is accompanied by four Chinese students, sent by their Government at its own expense in order to study the Russian tongue and Russian customs. The despatch of these students appears to be the result of a report presented by the Viceroy of Hupeh to the Chinese Court, in which he insisted on the necessity of China making of some of her young men into officials fitted to carry on intercourse with Russia.

"We (the *Dalnivi Vostok*) may note that this is the first step on the part of China towards the realization of her desire to become better acquainted with her neighbour."

* * * *

The *Vladivostock* of April 26th contains the following curious and somewhat ambiguous item of information:—

"It is said that orders have been received not to pursue the brigands in Manchuria as they have proved to be more devoted to the Russian authorities than the Chinese authorities have been (*tak kak okazales bolyeye predannime Russkem vlastyam chyem ketaoiskiya vlaste*). The latter intrigued against the brigands and laid the blame of many misunderstandings and troubles at their door; and it is said that the intrigues of the Chinese are fully proven by documentary evidence. No repressive measures will be taken against these highwaymen unless they attack the persons or property of Russians."

* * * *

According to the *Novoi Krai* of Port Arthur a Russo-Chinese school has just been opened at Inkeon. The official ceremony was conducted by Lieutenant-General Volkof, in the presence of several local notables, Chinese as well as Russian. The object of the school is to give its pupils a thorough acquaintance with the two languages, Russian and Chinese, and to turn out good translators. The people of the locality seem very favourably impressed by this innovation and the number of applications for entry surpassed all expectations.

* * * *

Owing to the success of the Minonsinsk Sugar Refinery, another refinery will shortly be established in the Oussouri region, probably at Nikolsk Oussouriski.

* * * *

The *Dalnivi Vostok* of April 24th, says that there are 500 Japanese in Port Arthur and that they are generally following some humble occupation such as that of shoemaker, barber, washerman, or photographer. It adds that some of them are employed as coolies at the new fort.

* * * *

From this year the East Chinese Railway Company will run a regular service of steamers to Okhotsk and the Behring Sea, for which it will receive a subsidy from the Government.

* * * *

It is said that instead of six battalions of (additional) railway guards for the East Chinese Railway, one battalion will be raised.

* * * *

The remains of old Count Mouravieff, who died and was buried in Paris, will be shortly transferred to Vladivostock. The Government will convey the remains free of charge on the Siberian Railway.

* * * *

In the *Novoe Vremya* for April 15 there is a long account of a speech delivered in St. Petersburg at a meeting of the Russian East Asiatic Society by a Japanese, a Mr. T. Oda, on family life in Japan. In introducing Mr. Oda to the audience, the President of the Society remarked that he, the lecturer, had only been three years and eight months in Russia, but that he had studied the Russian language to such good effect that he was now able to come forward in the role of lecturer.

Mr. Oda went back in his lecture to the reign of the Emperor Jimmu Tenno who was, he asserted, more like the father of a large family than the ruler of a state. "His dynasty and his principles" (with regard to family life) "have been preserved to this day. The father of the family in Japan possesses the greatest power. This is the foundation of life in Japan—the national as well as the family life—and without taking it into consideration family life in Japan cannot be imagined or understood."

Mr. Oda then went on to tell of the influence the introduction of Buddhism and Confucianism had on the position of Japanese womankind, after which he deals with the marriage customs and family life. The lecture is chiefly remarkable, however, as having been delivered in good Russian by a Japanese who had been only such a short time in the country.

* * * *

Other items of information from the Siberian papers are that many Chinese are leaving Blagovestchensk for some unknown reason, and that a number of Chinese merchants have decided to open a bazaar for Chinese goods in St. Petersburg. They intend to afterwards open branches in all the great provincial centres of the Russian empire.

FIRES.

Fire occurred on the night of May 20th, in the new building of the Bankers' Club in Osaka, burning down the whole structure. The building was insured for *yen* 30,000 by the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company and four other companies.

Early on the morning of May 22nd, fire appeared in an unoccupied house at Isecho, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, destroying three houses and injuring seven.

Fire broke out on May 22nd in the hospital of the Fukuoka barrack, destroying two buildings.

Early on the morning of May 25th fire broke out in Sapporo, destroying 28 houses.

A hundred and seventy bags of lime which were stored in the compound of the Honjo-machi station, Urawa, started a fire on the night of May 23rd. It was put out before the flames extended to the surrounding buildings The cause was stated to be heavy rain which wetted the lime.

On the morning of May 25th fire broke out at the Yu-no-mine hot-spring resort in the village of Yomura, Wakayama Prefecture, destroying over 200 houses.

Fire occurred on May 25th in the wireless telegraph room of the Yokosuka Arsenal, but it was put out before the flames could extend.

The Fukuoka Female Normal School was destroyed by a fire which occurred on the morning of May 27th.

Early on the morning of May 25th fire appeared in a godown at the landing place of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, but was immediately put out. A few bales of cotton were damaged.

SHOOTING AT TSURUMI.

The first meet of the season was held by the Yokohama Shooting Club at Tsurumi on Sunday. There was a good attendance and fair scoring. Following are the results:—

FIRST MATCH.

1.—Mr. J. Gibbs, 50, Gold medal.
2.—Mr. Okamoto, 49, Gold medal.
3.—Mr. Hibiya, 48, Committee prize.
4.—Mr. L. Eyton, 48, Tsurumi prize.
5.—Mr. Nakashima, 46.
6.—Mr. S. Watanabe, 45.
7.—Mr. Matsumura, 45.
8.—Mr. Mita, 45.
9.—Mr. Jarmain, 45.
10.—Mr. Negichi, 44.

SPECIAL MATCHES.

1st:—1 Mr. Nakanishi, Gold medal. 2 Mr. Gibbs, Silver medal. 3 Mr. Hibiya, Silver Medal.
2nd:—1 Mr. Nakashima, Gold medal. 2 Mr. Gibbs, Silver medal. 3 Mr. Okita, Silver medal.
3rd:—1 Mr. Ohata, Gold medal. 2 Mr. Ohara, Silver medal. 3 Mr. Miura, Silver medal.

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RUSSIA'S PLEDGES.

A Washington telegram of May 7th said:—In the Russian series of diplomatic exchanges from the current volume of Foreign Relations, now in the press, is given the text of a communication addressed by Ambassador Tower to the Russian Foreign Office relative to the announcement that China was about to sign an agreement with the Russo-Chinese Bank by which valuable exclusive privileges were to be secured by that institution. The note brought forth the important declaration from Count Lamsdorff, Minister of Foreign Affairs, that Russia purposed to restore Manchuria to China, and would recall her troops from that province and that there was no intention to interfere with the "open door" arrangement. Mr. Tower's note to the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs read in part:—

In obedience to instructions which I have received from the Government of the United States I have the honor to inform your Excellency that the American Minister to China has reported in a telegram recently received at Washington that Prince Ching has agreed to sign the Manchuria convention and also a separate convention with the Russo-Chinese Bank under which exclusive privileges of industrial development in Manchuria are to be granted to that bank.

I am instructed to say that the Government of the United States could look only with concern upon any arrangement by which China should extend to a corporate company the exclusive right within its territory to open mines, construct railways and to exert other industrial privileges.

It is the belief of the Government of the United States that by permitting or creating a monopoly of this character China would contravene the treaties which it has already entered into with foreign powers and would injure the rights of American citizens by restricting legitimate trade; also that such action would lead to the impairment of Chinese sovereignty and tend to diminish the ability of China to meet its obligations.

I am further instructed to convey to your Excellency the sentiment of the United States Government that the acquiring by any one power of exclusive privileges in China for its subjects or its own commerce would be contrary to the assurances repeatedly given by the Imperial Russian Ministry for Foreign Affairs to the United States of the intention of the Russian Government to maintain the policy of the "open door" in China, as that policy has been advocated by the United States and accepted by all the powers who have commercial interests within the Chinese empire.

In his reply Count Lamsdorff said in part: The Imperial Government, always desirous of cultivating and developing the best relations with the United States, is fully disposed to remove that anxiety which the proposed arrangements between Russia and China appear to have caused the Cabinet in Washington, but it feels itself bound at the same time to declare that negotiations carried on between two entirely independent states are not subjects to be submitted to the approval of other powers.

There is no thought of attacking the principle of the "open door" as that principle is understood by the Imperial Government of Russia, and Russia has no intention whatever to change the policy followed by her in that respect up to the present time.

If the Russo-Chinese Bank should obtain concessions in China the agreements of a private character relating to them would not differ from those heretofore conceded by so many other foreign corporations. But would it not be very strange if the "door" open to certain nations should be closed to Russia, whose frontier adjoins that of Manchuria and who has been forced by recent events to send her troops into that province to re-establish order in the plain and common interest of all nations? It is true that Russia has conquered Manchuria, but she still maintains her firm determination to restore it to China and recall her troops as soon as the conditions of evacuation have been agreed upon and the necessary steps taken to prevent a fresh outbreak of trouble in the neighbouring territory.

Because of the announcement of the Anglo-Japanese agreement at about the same time that Mr. Hay addressed the Russian Government relative to the Russo-Chinese Bank, Mr. Hay directed Ambassador Tower to advise the Russian Government that the U.S. Government did not know that negotiations for such an arrangement were pending and that neither Great Britain nor Japan was consulted regarding the note.

American papers republish the following dispatches to show, as they say, the nature of some of the Russian pledges:

"Department of State, Washington, March 1, 1901.—The following memorandum, which was handed to the Chinese Minister on February 19th, is transmitted to you for your information and communication to the Government to which you are accredited: 'The preservation of the territorial integrity of China having been recognized by all the powers now engaged in joint negotiations concerning the injuries recently inflicted upon their Ministers and nations by certain officials and subjects of the Chinese empire, it is evidently advantageous to China to continue the present international understanding on the subject. It would be, therefore, unwise and dangerous in the extreme for China to make arrangements or to consider any proposition of a private nature involving the surrender of territory or financial obligations by convention with any particular power, and the Government of the United States, aiming solely at the preservation of China from the danger indicated and the conservation of the largest and most beneficial relations between the empire and other countries, in accordance with the principles set forth in its circular note of July 3, 1900, and in a purely friendly spirit toward the Chinese empire and all the powers now interested in the negotiations, desires to express its sense of the impropriety, inexpediency and even extreme danger to the interests of China of considering any private territorial or financial arragements at least without the full knowledge and approval of all the powers now engaged in negotiation. HAY.'"

These instructions were cabled to the U.S. representatives at St. Petersburg, London, Berlin, Paris, Vienna, Rome and Tokyo.

The U.S. representative at St. Petersburg, on August 30, 1901, wired the State Department:

"Count Lamsdorf volunteered the statement in the most positive terms that while Russia is at present, for certain necessary military purposes, occupying certain points within the Chinese dominions, this is a temporary measure, and Russia has no intention whatever of seeking to acquire or of restraining a single inch of territory in either China or Manchuria."

REVIEW.

The Ideals of the East, by KAKUZO OKAKURA; London, John Murray.

THE scope of this book is wide, its expression concentrated, and it deals mainly with causes, those creative, spiritual forces which are the Soul of the Great Mother—Asia—and which find in Art their highest and noblest expression. In his introductory chapter Dr. Okakura shows us that—"It is in Japan alone that the historic wealth of Asiatic culture can be consecutively studied through its treasured specimens. The Imperial collection, the Shinto temples, and the opened dolmens, reveal the subtle curves of Hâng workmanship. The temples of Nara are rich in representations of Tâng culture, and of that Indian Art, then in its splendour, which so much influenced the creations of the classic period . . . . . the singular genius of the Japanese race leads it to dwell on all phases of the ideals of the past, in that spirit of living Atavism which welcomes the new without losing the old. . . . . The history of Japanese Art becomes thus the history of Asiatic ideals."

In the chapters following, which the author requests us to regard in the light of an indication, rather than as exhaustive, he leads us in a logically developed sequence, from the primitive Art of Japan through the successive intermediary periods of national thought and culture up to the *Meiji* period and the present day.

We copy a few passages from different parts of the book: "A painting, which is a universe in itself, must conform to the laws that govern all existence."

"Composition is like the creation of the world, holding in itself the constructive laws that give it life. Thus, a great work by Sesshiu or Sesson is not a depictment of nature, but an essay on nature; to them there is neither high nor low, neither noble nor refined. A picture of the goddess Kwannon, or of Sakya will be no more important a subject than a painting of a single flower or a spray of bamboo."

"Each stroke has its moment of life and death; all together assist to interpret an idea, which is life within life."

* * * *

"The short epic drama that composes the No dance is full of semi-articulate sounds. . . . All those manifold voices of night and nature, where pause is more significant than pitch, are there. Such dim utterances, echoed from the eternal melody of silence, may seem to the ignorant curious or barbaric. But there can be little doubt that they constitute the insignia of a great art."

"They never allow us to forget for a moment that the No dance is a direct appeal from mind to mind, a mode by which unspoken thought is borne from behind the actor to that unhearing and unheard intelligence that broods within the heart of him who listens."

* * * *

"Not to use the sword, but to be the sword—pure, serene, immovable, pointing ever to the polar star—was the ideal of the Ashikaga knight."

* * * *

"The glory of Asia . . . lies in that vibration of peace that beats in every heart; that harmony that brings together emperor and peasant; that sublime intuition of oneness which commands all sympathy, all courtesy, to be its fruits."

* * * *

Thus the book reveals to us with nobility and authority many things hitherto unknown or obscure to us, it leaves an impression of "Force in reserve," and inspires the reader with a desire for further study, and individual research.

SCANDALS.

In the Tokyo District Court, two educational officials connected with the text-book affair were sentenced on May 25th to from 1 month to 2½ months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 4 to *yen* 5, and the bribes which one of them had received were ordered to be confiscated.

An accountant named S. Koshiro (22), of the Tokyo Administrative Bureau, absconded after having received *yen* 1,999 from the Department of Finance on May 21st, which money was to be paid as salaries to officials of the Bureau.

In the Tokyo District Court two educational officials who were connected with the text-book affair were sentenced on May 22nd, the one to three months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 10, and the other to three and a half months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 15, and the bribes they had received were ordered to be confiscated. The same day two other educational officials were discharged. On the 23rd three officials were committed for trial.

In the Tokyo Appeal Court, two educational officials connected with the text-book affair were sentenced on May 26th to from 2¾ months to 5 months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 10 to *yen* 15, and the bribes they had received were ordered to be confiscated. The appeal of another was dismissed. The same day, in the Tokyo District Court, a lawyer and an official were committed for trial.

MORE NEW STEAMERS.

Mr. E. H. Harriman, President of the Southern Pacific Railway Company, was interviewed in San Francisco on April 27th. In the course of conversation he was asked "if he cared to say anything about his plans for protecting the Oriental traffic of the port of San Francisco, and he volunteered the information that he had bought two big ships that would soon be placed on the run between San Francisco and the Orient. He hesitated slightly, however, when asked if the new ships were intended for service on the Pacific Mail or the Occidental and Oriental line. 'Now, see here,' he said. 'What do you care whether these ships are for the Occidental and Oriental or for the Pacific Mail? We've bought two big ships for the Oriental trade. Isn't that enough? They are much bigger than the two new ships recently put on the Pacific Mail line and are now reaching completion at the shipyards at Camden, N. J. Guess that's about all, isn't it?'"

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FUNERAL OF MISS KATHLEEN STONE.

(COMMUNICATED.)

On Thursday afternoon the remains of Miss Kathleen Stone were laid to rest in a quiet corner of the Yokohama Cemetery. The coffin, which was lying in the drawing-room at 249 Bluff, surrounded by a wealth of floral wreaths and crosses, was carried to Christ Church and on again to the grave by friends, the bearers being Messrs. G. G. Brady, E. W. Kilby, H. W. Kilby, G. Blundell, C. Griffin and A. F. Cahusac. It was met at the Church by the Rev. W. Field, who read the opening sentences of the Burial Service on the way to the door; inside the Church the choir boys were waiting, who joined the procession in front of the coffin, and they, with the girls of the children's choir in the chancel, chanted the Psalm as the procession wended its way up the Church, which was well filled with sympathizing friends.

After the Lesson the hymn "Through the night of doubt and sorrow," one of Kathleen's favourites, was sung; and then the procession to the grave was formed, a gleam of sunshine from out the dull afternoon sky shining through the west window as the body of our little friend left the Church she had loved so well for its last resting-place. Preceded by clergyman and choristers, and followed by the mourning relatives, the choir of little girls, and sympathetic friends,-the body was carried by its bearers to the flower-lined grave, and there lowered by the same friendly hands while the sentences of committal were read. At the end of the Burial Service with its message of hope, the hymn "On the Resurrection Morn" was sung, the children's voices rising sweetly on the evening air,-a fitting conclusion to the rites of the Church, bringing out the message of the day, the Feast of the Ascension, "In My Father's House are many mansions; I go to prepare a place for you."

FUNERAL OF MR. S. STRAUSS.

On Friday afternoon the mortal remains of Mr. S. Strauss were conveyed from the residence No. 37 Bluff to the General Cemetery and there in the Jewish section consigned to their last abode. A service was held at the house about 5 p.m., where the Hebrew portion of the impressive ritual was read by Mr. J. Brown and the English by Mr. G. Arone. Afterwards the wreaths, of which a very large number were sent by friends of the deceased gentleman, were carried out and with the many Japanese floral tributes contributed preceded the hearse to the cemetery. The coffin, of plain white wood, was placed in the hearse and followed by a very large procession both of foreigners and Japanese, and taken along the Bluff road, down Camphill, and thence to the lower part of the cemetery. At the graveside Mr. Brown read a further portion of the service, Mr. L. Abenheim reading the English passages. The coffin was lowered into the grave amid many marks of emotion on the part of those who knew the sterling worth and genuine qualities of the man whose untimely cutting down in the prime of manhood has caused such deep regret in our small community.

Mr. Julius Strauss, deceased's brother, was chief mourner, supported by Mr. M. Kaufmann. The pall bearers were:—Messrs. B. Munster, M. Surth, O. Meyer, H. Abegg, O. Bergmann, J. S. Scott, A. Scott, and A. Meier.

DEATH OF MAX O'RELL.

A very large circle of readers will learn with deep regret that M. Paul Blouet (better known as "Max O'Rell"), the bright and witty French author, has passed away. M. Blouet was born in Brittany in 1848, was educated in Paris and took his degrees of B.A. and B.Sc. in 1864 and 1865. Of his subsequent career we take the following account from *Men and Women of the Time*:—

He received his commission in the French army in 1869; fought in the Franco-Prussian war; was made a prisoner at Sedan on Sept. 3, 1870; fought against the Commune; was severely wounded, and pensioned. He came to England as newspaper correspondent in 1873; was appointed Head French Master of St. Paul's School in 1876, and resigned his Mastership in 1884. In 1883 he published "John Bull and his Island," which took Paris and London by storm, and was soon translated into English, and also into most European languages and several Asiatic tongues. In 1884 he published "John Bull's Daughter"; in 1885, "The Dear Neighbours"; in 1886, "Drat the Boys!"; in 1887, "Friend MacDonald"; in 1889, "Jonathan and his Continent"; "Jacques Bonhomme," in 1890; in 1891, "A Frenchman in America"; and "John Bull and Co."—a sketch of our Colonies, 1894. He has also written several educational works, amongst which is "French Oratory" (Oxford, 1883). All the works of "Max O'Rell" have been translated into English by his wife. Several orders, French and others, have been conferred on him. During the years 1887, 1888, 1889, and 1890 he gave lectures in the United Kingdom and in America. In 1891 he started on a two years' tour round the world, during which he gave 446 lectures in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. He had lately been occupied in lecturing throughout the English provinces. One of his favourite lectures was "The Gospel of Cheerfulness," as exemplified by the habits and disposition of the French people, in which he contended that the real Frenchman is not known to the English. The Englishman gets his ideas of the French from what passes on the boulevards and from literature; because the French do not understand hospitality, and only admit their intimate friends to their homes; whereas French literature deals with exceptions, and not the real representative Frenchman, the small landowner deeply attached to his country and his cottage.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Mr. Kipling has a new volume of poems in preparation, but it will probably not be published before the end of the year.

Miss Susan B. Anthony has presented to the United States Congressional library her collection of books, which is probably the largest collection of the history and literature of woman suffrage in existence. It will be preserved intact in a special alcove.

"Cornet Strong of Ireton's Horse" certainly comes under the select category of novels worth reading. It is not only a story powerfully impressive and told with the skill of an artist, but it is a study of a period of English history which serves as a valuable aid to history itself. The author, Dora Greenwell M'Chesney, has already distinguished herself as a writer of historical novels whose special province is the times of the Commonwealth. She can make the men and women of those days live before the reader's eyes, and while she is at home in the presentation of great national movements, she is equally successful when she touches the secret spring of human passion and deals with the intricacies of individual character. "Cornet Strong" should be placed high among the novels of the season.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly and Walsh for review a copy of the second edition of Mr. Arthur Lovell's "Concentration," the fourth of his "Ars Vivendi" series. The author describes his system as the practical exposition of the science and art of human development. The more man understands and obeys the laws of the universe the more happy and peaceful and powerful he becomes, till by slow and gradual development he reaches the stage of self-consciousness and freedom from the bonds of pain and disease and unhappiness. To enable him to attain that goal is the object of the system, and it does so in the first book, "Ars Vivendi," by instructing him as to health generally and the acquirement of mental and bodily vigour; in the second, "Volo," showing him how to use and strengthen the will; in the third dealing with the imagination; and in the fourth teaching him "Concentration." In the present volume the author writes about worldly wisdom, commonsense, prudence, and discipline, which he describes as "Objective Concentration," and he deals also with "Subjective Concentration," discussing under that head the development of man as a spiritual being. The book is powerfully written and forms a fitting conclusion to the series.

The publishers of the Temple Bible, Messrs. Dent & Co., seem to have been so satisfied with the success that met the issue of their exquisite edition of the Scriptures that they have decided upon adding the Apocryphal books. A beginning has now been made with "The Wisdom of Jesus, the Son of Sirach," or "Ecclesiasticus," which has been sent out in the same beautiful form as the books of The Old and New Testaments. It is edited by Dr. N. Schmidt, who contributes a full and carefully written description and criticism of the writing, dealing with it in such aspects as its authorship and date, literary character, theology, and ethics. On the last point he observes that "Ecclesiasticus" is the most complete text-book on morals preserved from Hebrew antiquity. It gives more detailed directions than any other book in the Bible as to proper conduct in different circumstances. Ben Sira's philosophy is in this sense utilitarian, that it emphasises no other motive and end of man's morality than his well-being and good name. When a reason is given for a certain line of conduct it is always the happiness it will bring. Ben Sira was not a profound thinker, but his work is a noble attempt to teach men true principles of conduct in such a manner as to commend the wisdom of a righteous life.

The Memoir of Prince Christian Victor, which Mr. Warren, President of Magdalen College, Oxford, has compiled with such sympathy and skill, was worth writing, remarks the *Spectator*, if only to show how far Monarchical institutions can be reconciled with the essentially democratic character of our social system. Prince Christian was a keen and capable soldier who had seen active service in Egypt, India, West and South Africa, he was the grandson of the Queen, and yet he only held the rank of Brevet-Major at the time of his death, when he was thirty-three years of age. Such a record is an excellent answer to those who hold that promotion in the Army is largely a matter of social influence and aristocratic connections. Indeed, it might be fairly contended that his rank, if it exerted any influence at all on his career, was quite as much an obstacle as an advantage. His successes were won fairly on his merits. Perhaps the greatest disappointment of his life was his failure to secure a place in the Oxford eleven, a distinction which his fine school record seemed to make a certainty, and to which his subsequent achievements showed that he was fairly entitled. But he failed to do himself justice in the trial matches, and was excluded just like any ordinary undergraduate. He had—to quote a classic phrase—"rank bad luck"; but there is no indication that he ever said so, or complained of the decision of the authorities. Indeed, there is every reason to believe that he was far better pleased to be rejected on his merits than accepted for rank. He had learned to "play the game," in the best sense of the phrase, and continued to do so to the end of the chapter.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

The gross postal receipts for the month of March at fifty of the largest post offices of the United States aggregated $5,720,200, a net increase of $449,479, or 8½ per cent. over the receipts for March, 1902. The New York receipts were $1,103,738, an increase of 9 per cent., and Chicago, $939,064, an increase of 5½ per cent.

The new Chinese Minister, Sir Chen-tung Liang Cheng, K.C.M.G., was to be the chief gnest at the American Asiatic Association's dinner in New York on April 23rd. The newly appointed Minister to Japan from the United States, Mr. Lloyd C. Griscom, as well as the Japanese Minister at Washington, were expected to be among the other guests.

Count Cassini, says a contemporary, objects to the new Chinese Minister in Washington calling himself "Sir" in virtue of the decoration of St. Michael and St. George. British subjects alone take titles from such distinctions. Count Cassini

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never calls himself a Mandarin, either in or out of China, although he has the decoration of the Double Dragon. The entry made in the State Department List is "Sir Chentung Liang-cheng," evidently by personal direction of the Minister.

A woman reformer the other day wrote President Roosevelt a hot letter protesting against the ungodly manner in which the Sabbath is observed in Washington, and sharply reproving the President for indulging in worldly pastimes on that day. In reply the President has written to her: "Madame: Sunday mornings I go to church. In the afternoon I go riding or driving with my family. The evenings I spend at home with my family. To which of these pastimes do you object?"

Much interest is evinced in the announcement that Mr. Conried, the successor of Maurice Grau, intends to produce Wagner's "Parsifal" at the Metropolitan Opera-House, New York, next winter. In his will Wagner stipulated that "Parsifal" should be produced in Baireuth only, and since his death his widow has enjoyed what amounts to a monopoly in this famous musical work. It is said that Mr. Conried has offered Mme. Wagner $25,000 for the privilege of producing the opera; but that he will give it with or without her consent.

At the Palm Sunday service in the Cathedral at Havana an Encyclical from the Pope was read bearing on religious conditions in Cuba. According to the provisions of the Encyclical, Cuba is to be divided into four instead of two dioceses, the new ones to be known as the dioceses of Pinar del Rio and Cienfuegos. Santiago will remain the principal see, to which will be subject the dioceses of Havana, Pinar del Rio, and Cienfuegos. Porto Rico is severed from the see of Santiago and becomes immediately subject to Rome for the present. The Encyclical concludes: "Let everybody in sacred orders wholly abstain from interference in political matters. No man being a soldier of God entangleth himself in secular business."

Within a month the telegraph system of Alaska will be complete, and by fall the cable connecting Seattle with Juneau and the far north will be in operation. It is thought that the cable ship *Burnside* will reach Sitka about June 15, and after running cable from Skagway to Haines Mission will lay the cable southward 1,300 miles in two sections to Seattle. The cable, it is believed will be in working order by November 15. A gap of only fifty miles exists between the eastern and western branches of the Alaska system. The line extends up the Yukon river from St. Michaels to the mouth of the Tanana and 200 miles above on that river. The other line is from Valdes across to Eagle City, near Dawson, a branch of which extends down the Tanana to meet the other.

The task of securing a successor to John Willis Baer as General Secretary of the United Society of Christian Endeavour has been accomplished after nearly six months deliberation. The choice has fallen upon Mr. Von Ogden Vogt, of Beloit, Wis. Says the Boston *Congregationalist*:—"Of Swiss antecedents, a Western born and bred man, a Presbyterian but trained in a college identified with Congregationalism, he has already, though not yet twenty-five years old, evinced unusual capacity as a public speaker and a skilful leader and worker along practical lines. Since his graduation from Beloit in 1901, he has assisted President Eaton as financial agent of the college. His Christianity is of that modest, earnest, virile type which is in evidence to-day at so many of our American colleges."

It is too early yet for the result of the legislation of the last Congress to be apparent in the increase of acreage under irrigation, but owing to the law appropriating the proceeds of the sales of public lands to the construction of irrigation works, there will soon be a very large and rapid increase in the area of lands made available for agriculture. The U.S. Government is now acquiring property and rights of way preliminary to the construction of five great systems of irrigation. These are the Sweetwater dam, in Wyoming; the Milk river project, in Montana; the Gunnison tunnel, in Colorado; the Truckee project, in Nevada, and the Salt River reservoir, in Arizona. These projects are estimated to cost $7,000,000, and will provide for the irrigation of about 600,000 acres. In addition to these the Bull river project in Wyoming is to be taken up immediately, and an expenditure of $450,000 is to be made this year upon surveys, borings for foundations and other examinations in all the states and territories in the arid and semi-arid regions.

It is a fact of no little significance, remarks *Bradstreets*, that the National Association of Manufacturers, which has been in session at New Orleans, deemed it proper to adopt resolutions defining its attitude toward organized labour. The association declared that it was not opposed to organizations of labour as such, but that it was unalterably opposed to boycotts, blacklists and other illegal acts of interference with the personal liberty of employer and employee. No person should, in its judgment, be refused employment or discriminated against on account of membership or non-membership in any labour organization, and, on the other hand, there should be no interference with or discrimination against any employee not a member of a labour organization by members of such a body. Having due regard to contracts, the association declares that it is the right of an employee to leave his employment whenever he sees fit, and it is the right of the employer to discharge any employee when he sees fit, and employers must be free to employ their workpeople at wages mutually satisfactory without reference to or dictation by individual organizations not directly parties to such contracts. These would seem to be self-evident propositions; that it should be thought necessary to state them in this way is significant of some of the conditions of the times.

The demand of the average American for silk manufactures is rapidly increasing. Measured by the barometer of the imports of raw silk, the present activity of American manufacturers must be far in excess of any preceding year, while the importations of manufactured silks are also greater than for many years. The importations of raw silk, as shown by the figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, amounted to $37,000,000 in value for the eight months ending with February of this year as against $29,000,000 in the same period of last year. Meantime the imports of manufactured silks have also increased, the figures for the eight months ending with February, 1903, being valued at over $23,000,000 in the immediately preceding period and $16,000,000 in 1901. The growth in the production of silk manufactures in the United States—a production which is wholly from imported material, much of which is brought from the other side of the globe—is rapid and interesting. In 1870 importations of raw silk were 500,000 pounds; in 1880, 2,500,000 pounds; 1890, 7,500,000 pounds; in 1900, 13,000,000 pounds, and in 1903 seem likely to be 16,000,000 pounds. The value of the product of the silk manufacturing establishments of the country grew from $12,000,000 in 1870 to $14,000,000 in 1880, $87,000,000 in 1890 and $107,000,000 in 1900, and for the present year the total product will probably materially exceed that of 1900.

For the first time imports into the United States exceeded $1,000,000,000 in the twelve months ending with March, 1903. Prior to 1870 they had never reached as much as $500,000,000 in a single year, and it was not until 1890 that they amounted to $750,000,000. Meantime the exports have grown with like rapidity. In the twelve months ending with March, 1903, total exports were $1,414,786,954, against $1,001,596,683 of imports, giving an excess of exports during the twelve months of $413,190,271. Exports never reached $500,000,000 in value in a single year until after 1870. In 1880 they passed, for the first time, the $750,000,000 line; in 1892 they, for the first time, exceeded $1,000,000,000. Should the exports of April, May and June average as high as those for March, they would bring the total exports for the fiscal year past the $1,500,000,000 line. The following table shows the total imports and exports in the twelve months ending March 31, from 1895 to 1903:—

	Imports.	Exports.
1895.....	$ 704,215,585	$ 805,720,397
1896.....	804,091,352	862,731,707
1897.....	670,941,016	1,026,646,341
1898.....	721,166,036	1,154,618,452
1899.....	660,818,871	1,253,569,929
1900.....	838,761,870	1,332,863,022
1901.....	807,591,823	1,480,521,013
1902.....	902,440,030	1,429,083,878
1903.....	1,001,596,683	1,414,786,954

This increase in imports is chiefly in manufacturers' materials. While the details of the March imports are not yet completed by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, the figures for February and for the eight months ending with February show a marked increase in the proportion which manufacturers' materials form of the total importations.

LAW CASES.

DR. ROKKAKU v. F. H. ZIEGFELD.

The hearing of this case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on May 22nd, when the Court decided not to examine an expert whom plaintiff's Counsel applied for at the previous hearing. At the same time, the judge was about to give judgement, but Counsel for plaintiff asked leave to introduce evidence in the form of a letter from Mr. Zeigfeld to plaintiff and asked that the case be continued.

Defendant's Counsel contended that the letter could not be admitted as evidence as it was not written by Mr. Zeigfeld in his capacity as executor.

Judgement was delivered in this case on Monday morning in which Dr. Rokkaku claimed *yen* 500, cost of embalming the body of the late Mrs. Brower. Judge Kato dismissed the claim of plaintiff with costs.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL, SAMUEL & CO.

In the Yokohama District Court, the hearing of this case was resumed before Judge Kato on May 22nd.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was represented by Mr. R. Masujima, who asked permission to intervene.

Plaintiff objected to the intervention of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on the ground that the statements of defendants and of the bank were contradictory on some points. The court however permitted the bank to intervene.

The parties entered upon a discussion after which the case was adjourned till May 29th at 1 p.m. when judgement will be given.

THE ROBERTS DIVORCE CASE.

In the Yokohama District Court, judgement was given before Judge Kano on May 23rd in the divorce case brought by Mr. John Roberts against his wife Amada Rui in favour of plaintiff.

CARL ROHDE & CO. v. K. KURITA.

This case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 23rd when the decision given on a previous occasion was quashed and judgement was given as follows:—

1.—The claim of plaintiff was dismissed with costs.

2.—Defendant was ordered to bear the costs caused by his absence on the previous occasion.

AMERICAN TRADING CO. v. C. ILLIES AND CO.

The hearing of this case, instituted by the American Trading Co. against Messrs. C. Illies and Co., agents of Messrs. Robert M. Sloman and Co., Hamburg, owners of the steamer *Verona*, began in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on May 26th.

Mr. Akiyama was present for plaintiffs, and Mr. Nagashima, barrister of Tokyo, for defendants.

At the outset of the case, plaintiffs' counsel claimed *yen* 485.36, with interest at the rate of 6

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per cent. per annum from March 5th this year up to date of execution. He stated that the steamer *Verona* left New York on November, 1902, carrying 100 cases of various goods shipped and consigned to the plaintiffs. She arrived in Yokohama on February 24th this year. On taking delivery of the cases at the Hatoba on the 28th, plaintiffs found that one case marked (407 in triangle A C on top), which contained 18 dozens of woollen terai hats was badly broken and of its contents portions were missing and others damaged. On March 4th plaintiffs notified defendants of these facts and sent in a claim, after having inspected the damaged case in company with defendants' representative. Defendants, however, refused to accept the claim, and plaintiffs then took delivery of the damaged case under protest dated the 18th March, when 73 hats of a certain sort valued at *yen* 48.60 per dozen, were found missing—*yen* 295.65; 20 others valued at *yen* 135, were also not to be found; and 27 valued at *yen* 48.60 per dozen were damaged.

Defendants' counsel contended that Messrs. Robert M. Sloman and Co., were not registered in Japan, and Messrs. C. Illies and Co. were not authorized to appear in suit, though Mr. A. Büschel instructed counsel to be present in court. Counsel further contended that defendants were not responsible by virtue of the wording of Art. 1st of the Bills of Lading, which said that "the owners of the steamer will not be accountable for the goods beyond the amount of one hundred dollars for any one package, unless the Bills of Lading are signed for such goods and the value declared therein;" and further on the ground of Art. 9th that "merchandise on wharf awaiting shipment or delivery shall be at shipper's risks of loss or damage by fire and or flood not happening through the fault or negligence of the owner, master, agent or manager of the vessel." Counsel applied to the court for an adjournment of two months by which time he would have received a power-of-attorney from Messrs. Robert M. Slomann and Co., in Hamburg.

The Court decided to adjourn the case till June 27th.

THE PEST.

A case of suspected plague is reported to have appeared in Nagasaki on May 25th. The *Asahi* however states that it is a suspected case of cholera.

On May 20th seven dead rats were found at Tobe-machi, Yokohama, and one of them was found to have pest.

On May 21st, the Yokohama City Assembly decided to set aside *yen* 12,220 as expenses towards preventing the spread of contagious diseases, and *yen* 10,287 for the purchase of rats.

A fresh case of pest has appeared at Miyoshi-cho, Yokohama, and the victim, who is a boy 10 years old, died on the morning of May 24th. The boy had been of ill of a fever since the 20th, Dr. I. Oka attending him. Finding some suspicious symptoms after death the doctor immediately reported the matter to the Kotobuki-cho Police. A *post mortem* examination by Dr. Kitagawa, a health official, showed signs of the pest. The place was at once segregated with about 130 other houses. A suspicious case was also found at Motohama-cho, 2-chome, the patient in this instance being a woman named Koma (62). She showed symptoms of pest and her house was at once enclosed with 13 others.

An old woman who was showing symptoms that led to her being suspected of having plague and who was removed from her residence in Motohama-cho Nichome, Yokohama, to the Manji Hospital, died there on the night of May 24th.

The City authorities have decided to purchase a block of six houses isolated at Tobemachi and to burn them, and also to burn some houses in Nishitobemachi which, being thatched with straw or rushes, could not well be disinfected.

Dr. W. J. Simpson, who was sent out to Hongkong last year by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to investigate and report on the subject of plague, has presented a voluminous report, which the *Hongkong Daily Press* affirms can hardly be said to add to local knowledge of the disease and its prevention. Dr. Simpson affirms that "under the present condition of Hongkong and with Southern China infected extensively with plague, it is almost hopeless to expect Hongkong to remain long entirely free of plague, but it is not impossible, with a trained and special organisation to keep the disease in check and under control, so as to prevent it reaching those dimensions which alarm the population, prove disastrous to the Colony, and render Hongkong a source of anxiety to those who have trade relations with it."

A case of alleged plague has appeared among the crew of the steamer *Aragonia*, of the Hamburg-America Line, whose Yokohama agents are Messrs. C. Illies & Co. This steamer arrived in harbour on May 26th. The victim was a Chinese cook named Ah Liong (33) whose native place is Canton. On the day of the steamer's arrival the Chinaman paid a visit to a Chinese friend named Kwong-ku, living in an upstairs room of the dwelling of a Japanese named T. Sato, No. 189, Yamashita-cho. He complained of fever through the night and on the following day, viz. the 27th, went to the office of Dr. Onishi, Tokiwa-cho, for treatment. The doctor found some suspicious symptoms and immediately informed the police. Dr. Fukuda, of the police station, appeared and after examination pronounced the man to be suffering from plague. The Chinaman was removed at 3 p.m. the same day to the General Hospital, where he died at 5 o'clock on the morning of May 28th. He was to be cremated at Kuboyama the same morning.

The Bluff Police with officials from the Yokohama City Office disinfected on Thursday the room at the General Hospital occupied by the plague patient. The four foreign patients who were in near-by rooms were removed to others and a Japanese nurse who attended the Chinese will be secluded for a certain number of days.

The Kagacho Police segregated the house where the Chinaman lodged and one other after having disinfected them.

The steamer *Aragonia* will be removed to Nagahama Quarantine Station. Some part of her cargo has already been landed. At 8 o'clock on the 27th, communication with the steamer was suspended.

An official telegram from Mr. Kurino, Minister at St. Petersburg, was received on May 25th stating that the Russian Government has declared Yokohama to be a plague infected place.

According to a telegram from the Formosan Government, three cases of plague, occurred in Taipeh and a case each in Tech-cham and Keelung on May 25th. From the first appearance in January to May 25th 640 cases have been reported of which 508 were fatal.

FOREIGN POPULATION OF YOKOHAMA.

According to latest investigations, says the *Yokohama Shimpo*, the following is the number of foreign residents in this city:

Name of Country.	Houses.	Males	Females.
Great Britain	502	708	414
United States	266	336	198
Germany	169	208	70
France	79	109	47
Russia	14	16	26
China	1,420	2,721	1,035
Portugal	28	55	37
Holland	22	27	23
Belgium	7	8	1
Denmark	13	20	5
Switzerland	43	53	26
Turkey	5	7	3
Italy	13	18	5
Peru	2	2	—
Chili	1	1	—
Austria-Hungary	33	28	9
Norway-Sweden	15	16	4
Spain	13	27	4
Greece	2	2	—
Afghanistan	1	1	0
Korea	1	1	0
No-Nationality	1	1	0
Total	2,640	4,365	1,908

CRICKET.

Y.C. AND A.C. v. THE FLEET.

The beautiful weather on Thursday made the match between the Y.C. and A.C. and the Navy a very enjoyable encounter, though as it turned out it would have been nicer could the engagement have been an all-day affair. The Club won the toss and started to bat at 10 minutes past 2 o'clock—commendable punctuality for Yokohama,—and at half past four when the innings were declared closed had knocked up 200 runs, for 7 wickets. P. B. Clarke and Wilkinson opened the account for Yokohama and for the first half hour run-getting was not particularly fast, the bowlers—Raymond and Barron—being keen on their game and the fielding smart. On J. M. Mollison joining Clarke matters quickened somewhat, the new comer—who made his *debut* on the local field in this match—playing a good free game. He made 45 before being caught and bowled by Barron. The best stand of the day was undoubtedly that made by C. M. Duff and Dr. Meaden, both bats scoring freely. The bowling by this time had lost much of its sting, though there were several changes, and neither man lost a chance. Duff who had one or two lives allowed him at the end was finally caught behind the wicket by Barron, off Raymond, after contributing an interesting 46. Dr. Meaden carried out his bat for 76, the top score in the match. F. H. Bugbird and G. G. Brady were the unlucky ones who got no chance at batting. Score:—

Y. C. AND A. C.

P. B. Clarke, b. Raymond	16
F. E. Wilkinson, c. Phillips, b. Raymond	5
J. M. Mollison, c. and b. Barron	45
Dr. Moon, b. Barron	2
F. E. White, c. Smith, b. Barron	2
Dr. Meaden, not out	76
E. B. S. Edwards, b Perry	0
C. M. Duff, c Barron, b Raymond	46
S. Wheeler, not out	6
F. H. Bugbird, G. G. Brady } to bat	—
Extras	2
	200

The Navy with two hours' play before them and a total of 200 to beat, started in with a display of free hitting, and Phillip was bowled by White when 3 had been made. Irwin and Smith made a stand and 83 was telegraphed ere a separation was effected, Irwin being sent back to the Pavilion. Several changes in the bowlers was made, but at 10 minutes to 6 the century was reached, Smith being well set. The fielding of the home eleven was rather slack, no less than a dozen runs being made off over-throws. The fourth wicket fell for 127 and the fifth for 151, the light gradually failing all the time. At half past six stumps were drawn, leaving the game in a most interesting stage, the Navy having made 165 for 5 wickets.

THE FLEET.

Mr. Irwin, l.b.w., b. Clarke	38
Mr. Phillip, b. White	2
Mr. Smith, not out	71
Mr. Goldsmith, b. Mollison	4
Mr. Barron, st. Duff, b. Meaden	24
Mr. Raymond, not out	7
Mr. de Paris, b. Edwards	12
Mr. Beamist, Mr. Howard, Mr. Carne, Mr. Hargreaves } to bat	—
b. 5, l.b. 1, w. 1	7
	165

BASEBALL.

Baseball was formally started in Yokohama on Saturday afternoon with a match between the Y. C. and A. C. and the U.S.S. *New Orleans*. The Club team has not had time to get into shape and it was therefore not wonderful that the naval visitors proved victorious, making 11 runs to 5 for the home side.

NOBLES SCHOOL v. "NEW ORLEANS."

Quite an interesting game of baseball was played on Wednesday afternoon between the

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Nobles' School and a team from the U.S.S. *New Orleans*, resulting in a victory for the Nobles by one run, with an innings to spare. The *New Orleans'* men did not have any trouble in hitting Tanaka, while on the contrary the Tokyo team were decidedly weak at the bat and as a rule hit only to the infield. The game from start to finish was close and exciting, and it looked as if the Navy men would win. The eighth innings however, proved disastrous for them, when Ellis, instead of putting the side out by a throw to first, tried to catch Kamei at home, who scored the winning run, 7-6. Mr. C. H. Thorn umpired, and Mr. Shinjo scored.

There was some discussion at the beginning of the game about the mitts used by the Japanese team. The Navy men claimed that the Nobles' mitts were far too large and heavy according to the regulations. The rule in regard to this important question is as follows! "Sec. 2.—The catcher and first baseman are permitted to wear a glove or mitt of any size, shape or weight. All other players are restricted to the use of a glove or mitt weighing not over ten ounces and measuring, around the palm of the hand, not over fourteen inches."

The mitts were not weighed nor measured, the Navy men finally deciding to waive the objection. The Japanese team certainly should discard their present mitts if they do not conform to the regulations.

AUCTION OF HORSES.

The following prices were realised at the sale of race ponies and others held by Mr. Jno. W. Hall on Tuesday afternoon:—

	Yen.
Gin, White Arab Stallion	75
Schwarzer Peter, Black Australian Gelding	300
Hawk, Grey, China	35
Stork, Grey, China	40
Hayakawa, Black, China	145
Hawfinch, Bay, Australian Gelding	60
River, Bay, Australian Mare	330
Fouree, Bay, Australian Mare	300
Kiyokawa, Grey, Country-bred	150
Adelaide, Bay, Australian ..... Bought in	290
Tomoye, Brown, Australian	280
Nippon, Bay, China	45
Madge, Bay, Australian Mare	350
Ojosama, Brown, Australian Mare	200
Bicycle, Brown, Australian Mare	270
The Beetle, Chestnut, Australian Mare	560
Moth, Grey, China	310
Standard Rose, Skewbald, China	105
Peking, Chestnut, Australian Mare	440
Jungfernstieg, Bay, Australian Mare	360
Alster, Brown, Country-bred Mare	240
Mignonette, Chestnut, Australian Mare ..... Bought in	550
Myosotis, Bay, Australian Mare	400
Yamato, Brown, Australian Mare	—
McMorse, Grey, China	50
Magnolia, Grey, China	95
Mokuren, Grey, Country-bred Gelding	45
Tenryu, Bay, Australian ..... Bought in	550
Try Again, Chestnut, Australian Mare do	350
Trouble, Brown, Australian	230
Tastatrix, Bay, Australian Mare	200
Tramp, White, China	65
Fire Fly, Chestnut, Australian Mare	230
Patsie, Brown, Australian Mare	300
Bambina, Dark Bay, Australian Mare	240
Tasmanian, Bay, Australian	140
Sailor Prince, Dun Skewbald, China	175
Mantis, Bay, Australian Mare	170
Faule Grete, Brown, Australian Mare	500
Margherita, Brown, Australian Mare	800
Suzon, Bay, Australian Mare	600
Suzette, Bay, Australian Mare	310
Dourak, Chestnut, China	75
May-san, Bay, Australian Mare	420
May, Bay, Australian Mare	480
Bauenfaenger, Cream, China ..... Bought in	240
The Orb, Brown, Australian Gelding	350
The Coronet, Chestnut, Australian Mare ..... Bought in	490
Etourdi, Chestnut, China	30
Ping Pong, Grey, Country-bred Mare	140
Iltis, Brown, Austrian Gelding ..... Bought in	100
Komatsu, Chestnut, Country-bred Mare	140
An American Gelding, Broken to Harness	250
Subscription Griffin, No. 16, Spring, 1903, Dark grey Australian Mare	160

THE LATE ARTHUR SHREWSBURY.

Among cricketers the world over the death by suicide of Arthur Shrewsbury, the veteran Notts player, will be sincerely deplored, remarks the *N.-C. Daily News*. For some few years past Shrewsbury enjoyed but indifferent health and this with the creeping on of years had its effects on his play. Yet every cricketer will remember the astonishing rally he made last year when the famous stone-waller not only eclipsed all his recent performances but actually headed the batsmen of the year with an average for 32 innings of exactly 50. His wonderful staying power was evidenced by the fact that he was seven times not out. Born in 1856 Shrewsbury was two years older than his celebrated colleague, W. Gunn, with whom he was for years accustomed to open the batting for his county. Thry were two of the most patient batsmen who ever faced bowlers together, and time and again have they worn down and demoralised an attack by their dogged persistence. It was largely due to them that on the great run-getting ground at Hove, Notts in 1893 piled up 674 against Sussex, Shrewsbury making 164 and his partner 156, as a lead off. More recently in 1899 in conjunction with Mr. A. O. Jones, Shrewsbury helped to put on 391 for the first wicket against Gloucester at Bristol. In 1896 the same players on their own ground at Trent Bridge opened accounts with Kent with 223; and playing for England against the M.C.C. at Lords in 1887, Shrewsbury and Mr. Stoddart made a first wicket total of 266 before they were separated. A greater achievement, however, than any of these was Shrewsbury and Gunn's second-wicket partnership at Trent Bridge in 1890, when they scored 398, the fourth most productive partnership on record. The following year from the same professionals the Sussex bowlers suffered punishment to the extent of 312 runs. Against the Australians Shrewsbury had two centuries to his credit, making 164 at Lords in July 1886; and 106 also at Lords in July 1893. He captained an eleven which visited Australia in 1887-8 and which made the notable total of 624 against Victoria at Melbourne. It was during this tour that a match was played at East London between Non-smokers and Smokers, and Shrewsbury and Gunn, neither of them users of tobacco, scored 310 in partnership.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On May 27th a severe storm prevailed in Yamanashi prefecture, inflicting damage on the fields.

The Takasaki City Assembly decided on May 27th to spend *yen* 577,755 on constructing water works.

The Chinese steamer *An-P'ing* arrived on May 27th at Shimonoseki to take Prince Tsai and his suite to China.

It has been decided that General Kuropatkin shall stay at the Imperial detached palace at Shiba when he arrives in Tokyo.

The proposed amalgamation of the 53rd Bank and the Hamada Bank was resolved upon on May 27th by the shareholders of both banks.

The steamer *Muko Maru* collided with two junks off the port of Takamatsu on May 26th. The junks were sunk but no one was injured.

On the morning of May 25th a goods wagon on the Kobu railway was derailed and overturned. No one was injured.

A telegram from Hiroshima states that a junk loaded with coal has collided with a torpedo boat and sunk off Kabuto-shima. One of the crew was drowned.

Marchioness Ito on May 26th presented a bouquet to the Crown Prince and Princess at Oiso station, where the train was stopped for ten minutes at her request.

On the morning of May 23rd a coolie, I. Ishikawa (28), living at Miyoshi-cho attempted to murder a roof-shingler, T. Isogai (36), inflicting severe injuries with a knife.

A *soshi* named K. Maeda (26) who created a disturbance on May 23rd at the office of the *Seiyu-kai*, has been sentenced to 30 days' detention in the Tokyo Local Court.

Manchester expects to realise £50,000 net profit from its trams this year! Last year, £30,000 was handed over to the relief of the rates, and since then the tramways system has been extended.

A farmer named S. Ishikawa (32) murdered, on the night of May 26th, his parents, his wife, his younger brother and a female servant. He was at once arrested. A dispute as to property is reported to be the cause.

A case of cholera appeared on May 26th in Osaka, the victim being a coolie. It is stated that he had been ailing some time. He was removed to the Momoyama Hospital where he was found to be cholera-stricken.

Bishop Piazzoli has decided to complete the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Glenealy, Hongkong. It was at first intended to finish the tower, but a campanille will be built instead. The Bishop has received a peal of bells from Milan for the new building.

Two educational officials who were accused in connexion with the text book affair, were sentenced on May 27th, in the Tokyo District Court, to one and a half months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 5 each, and the bribes they received were ordered to be confiscated. Two others were sentenced to a fine of *yen* 5 each.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram from Oiso stating that late on the night of May 26th Baron Kodama, Governor of Formosa, arrived there and paid a visit to Marquis Ito at the latter's villa, where they held a consultation until 3 o'clock the following morning. The Baron left for Tokyo by the 5.49 train the same morning.

A collision took place on the Tokaido line near Gifu station on Monday smashing six goods cars. The damage is estimated at about *yen* 50,000. No one was injured. According to the *Asahi* the accident consisted in a goods train being derailed.

The *Asahi* publishes a telegram from Moji saying that a suspicious-looking Korean accompanied by a servant arrived there on May 25th from Nagasaki. They left the same day by the steamer *Genkai Maru* for Kobe. It was rumoured that they are spies in the pay of Russia—a very unlikely matter.

A student named Fujimura Misao (18), a nephew of Professor Naka Michiyo, committed suicide on May 21st by throwing himself into the Kegon water-fall at Nikko. He left a statement, written on a piece of wood, that he had decided to meet death by himself and felt no uneasiness.

No wine will be allowed at banquets of Knights Templar of California hereafter. This decision was reached by the annual conclave of the Grand Commandery held in San Francisco, action being taken to carry out the recommendation made by retiring Grand Commander, W. Frank Pierce. There was not a dissenting vote.

Lord Kitchener's first tour in India is not being conducted on the familiar lines which make the peregrinations of high officials in India an orderly procession from place to place in accordance with a prearranged and well-advertised itinerary. On the contrary, apparently no one knows positively at any given time where and when His Excellency will make his next halt.

The protest filed by Messrs. Berrick Bros., No. 75, against a decision given by the Yokohama Local Court on their application for registry of their firm, was dismissed in the Yokohama District

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Court on May 25th. The firm applied to the former Court on May 17th for registration of two names, "Berrick Bros." and "Berrick Shokai," the application bring written in foreign characters, but the application was rejected on the ground that a firm was not permitted to use two firm names and that any application to be lodged in a Japanese Government office must be written in Japanese characters, though there is no provision to that effect in the Commercial Code or any other laws. On appeal to the Yokohama District Court, the protest was dismissed.

As the North German Lloyd SS. *Kiautschou* was on her way down to Singapore from Hongkong, the *Straits Times* says, one of the second-class passengers, who had apparently suddenly gone insane, jumped overboard. On the alarm being given, the engines were reversed and a boat lowered and within twenty minutes she had picked up the man and got back alongside the ship again. The other passengers are loud in their praise of the smartness with which the rescue was accomplished, and a naval officer amongst them says that it could hardly have been excelled even on board a man-of-war.

The following are the British officers on whom the French President conferred decorations recently:—Rear-Admiral Curzon-Howe, Commander of the Legion of Honour; Captain Sackville Carden (of H.M.S. *Magnificent*), Captain Neville (of H.M.S. *Mars*), Captain Sir Richard Poore (of H.M.S. *Jupiter*), and Captain Clarke (of H.M.S. *Prince George*), Officers of the Legion of Honour; Commander William Hall and Flag-Lieutenant Walter Allen (of H.M.S. *Magnificent*), and Commanders Fowler (of H.M.S. *Mars*), Cecil Prowse (of H.M.S. *Jupiter*), and Sydney Fremantle (of H.M.S. *Prince George*), Chevaliers of the Legion of Honour.

If *Harper's Weekly* may be trusted, the girl-less telephone will soon be as familiar as the horseless carriage or the boneless sardine. The invention is said to be satisfactorily at work in a dozen cities of 25,000 people and over, and it is now being tried on a large scale in Chicago. By means of an automatic switch-board the telephone girls at the central stations are absolutely done away with. When a number is wanted you simply turn a small dial to the numerals which make up the required number in their consecutive order. Then you press a button, which rings the call-bell on the other telephone, and the connection is complete. The whole operation is automatic and almost instantaneous; no one can break in and interrupt or overhear a conversation; and a person speaking cannot be cut off before he has finished.

An extremely plucky act was done at Hankow the other day by a midshipman of H. M. S. *Glory*, Cecil P. Talbot. He was, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, in charge of the picket-boat and was coming alongside, when a liberty man who was coming off in a sampan fell into the river. Though the river was running 3¾ knots, and he was in his thick uniform with his dirk, Mr. Talbot immediately jumped into the river, caught the man, and held him up by one arm, at the imminent risk of being swept under, while with the other hand he caught a rope that was thrown to him; and he held the man up until two Chinamen got him into their sampan. The man was nearly dead when brought on board the *Glory*, but Mr. Talbot fortunately was none the worse for his very gallant exploit.

A coolie named K. Matsuzawa (27), living at Miyoshi-cho, Yokohama, who was alleged to have entered a godown at No. 243 Yamashita-cho, and stolen certain pieces of cloth, flannel and worsted cloth, was arrested on May 25th. It was understood that these goods had been transferred from the godown at No. 136, belonging Messrs Boyes and Co., where a fire occurred the other day, to No. 243, pending their disposal at auction. On the 20th a part of the foundation of this godown was badly injured and it was thought that a person had entered the building through the hole. Messrs. Eyton and Pratt, in whose custody the goods had been placed after the fire, informed the Kagacho police and an arrest soon followed. It is believed that the man had two accomplices who are still at large. The stolen goods are estimated at about *yen* 350, and a part of them have been recovered.

London papers report that several mysterious acts of vandalism have been committed in Windsor Castle by some unknown person. About the beginning of April two portraits of Royal personages of the Georgian period, in the private portion of the palace, were found in a mutilated condition, having apparently been slashed across with a knife. Since then another painting has also been deliberately injured in an almost similar manner. The mischief, adds a correspondent, is totally unconnected with the admission of the public to the State apartments, which are away from the scene of the principal outrage. It is only recently that damage of a similar character was inflicted on some of the treasures at Hampton Court, and the news that acts of a like nature have been perpetrated at Windsor will occasion no small public alarm. There have, it is stated, been many dismissals from the Royal service during the past few months, while those who have been retained have found several privileges hitherto enjoyed either withdrawn or curtailed. It is probable, therefore, that the damage is the outcome of spite.

AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY UNION.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The Mission of the Americal Baptist Missionary Union held its Annual Conference at Arima this year. The meetings began on the 7th May and concluded on the 11th. If we looked all Japan over no more charming place could be found for such a purpose. The beautiful hills covered with their wealth of wild flowers and crowned with the grand old pine trees certainly gave a charm and inspiration to all who had the privilege of attending the meetings. This was the largest Conference the mission has held in many years, every male missionary on the field being present and only four ladies absent.

As the years go by the work of the Mission is becoming more and more systematized and much of the routine work is put into the hands of Committees to report on, so that the time of the Conference is left free to discuss questions of general interest to the work as a whole. This is especially true of the new Reference Committee of the Mission, to whom all the estimates for the work are submitted, as also all questions affecting the work, for approval previous to being laid before the Mission. This is without doubt a very great saving of time, as details can be gone into before a Committee that would be a waste of time for the whole Conference to discuss. In this way the work of the Mission is becoming much more united.

Three very fine papers were read before the Conference. One by Rev. J. L. Dearing on "How to secure more workers." This was a timely subject and well handled. We need and can use many more evangelists and pastors, but they have to be God-called and not man-called. They have to be led by the Spirit to the work in such a way that they cannot resist the call, and it is only such men—called in this way—that God uses for His work in winning souls to Christ.

Rev. E. H. Jones read a paper on "Needed a better plan for holding and nurturing our Church Members." Rev. S. W. Hamblen also read a paper on "Are we fulfilling our Trust as Baptists?" Both of these were important subjects, and we need to be reminded occasionally of our duties and privileges not only as Christians but as workers together with God for the accomplishment of His wise purposes in the world.

The annual reports of the Seminary, the Boys' School, the Girls' Schools were all before the Conference and it can truly be said that the Mission has no cause for dissatisfaction. The prosperity in every branch is well marked. The Theological Seminary at Yokohama is certainly doing well. Last year saw the largest entering class in its history and the grade of the students was high in every way. We had fifteen young men studying for the Ministry this year. We certainly have every reason to be proud of our equipment in the Seminary for the training of workers in this country. We rejoice in the ability, the scholarship, and last, but certainly not least, the sound theology of the Faculty. This is something to be grateful for, when we see the drift of other theological schools in this country. Duncan Academy regrets the loss of its popular and much esteemed Principal, Prof. Clement, who is enjoying a well-earned furlough in the home land. Certain changes in the personnel of the Japanese faculty of the school seem for the time being to have affected its growth, but Prof. Topping is encouraged in many ways and hopes the school will soon regain its wonted prosperity.

The work of the Girls' School is particularly successful and gratifying in every way. Each of the four schools reports full dormitories and in two cases much needed additions are soon to be made to the buildings. The growth of the work on educational lines is a source of encouragement. The intellectual life of Japan is growing more and more intense and the growth is slowly killing the old superstitions and their attendant train of prejudices. What is needed in this country is more teaching along the lines of Righteousness and Truth.

The report on Evangelistic work was specially encouraging. Places that were once closed to efforts of this kind are being opened and not only a willingness to hear, but an earnest spirit of enquiry is being manifested among the people that makes the work exceedingly hopeful. The people are seeking in a way they have not done for years for new light and truth and many are receiving it with gladness.

A great deal is said about leaving the native religions alone. It is well to remember that these old religions teach almost nothing of sin and as one writer has put it, "Harlotry, drunkenness, dishonesty are no bar to a profession of these creeds." "Righteousness exalteth a nation" and the sooner Japan realizes this great truth the better it will be for her. The awakening is coming fast. The growing agitation against the social evil, the dissatisfaction with the lives of multitudes of the priests, the opening up of corruption in educational circles, are all showing the trend of things and the nation is truly waking out of its indifference to wrong-doing. Christianity is slowly but surely leavening the lump and the time is fast approaching when Christian influence and teaching will be felt in every circle. Missionary work in this country may seem to some to be slow, but it is accomplishing results that are going to tell throughout eternity in the bringing of a nation to Christ.

GOLD PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD.

According to a paper issued from the Government Statistician's Office, Perth, Western Australia, the amount of the world's gold production for the decade ended 1901 was 108,124,128 ounces, valued at $2,296,410,510. In 1901 a total of 12,948,243 ounces was produced, with a value of $275,003,205, an increase over the previous year of 422,865 ounces in weight and $8,981,085 in value. The greatest amount of gold produced in any one of the ten years was in 1899, when the output of 15,020,437 ounces was valued at $319,013,805. The sudden drop the next year was accounted for by the war in the Transvaal. The United States still leads the world as a gold producer; but it is closely followed by Australia, and in the near future the Transvaal should equal, if not exceed it. The figures for 1900 and 1901, in ounces, are as follows:—

	1901.	1900.
United States.....	3,880,578	3,829,897
Australia	3,762,998	3,563,128
Russia.....	1,253,592	1,072,434
Canada	1,183,465	1,350,176
Mexico	499,725	445,204
British India	452,743	444,585
Transvaal	258,033	348,761
Rhodesia	143,698	72,568

The average value of an ounce of fine gold works out at $21.25

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CORRESPONDENCE.

TALKS ON THE STUDY OF ENGLISH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My attention has just been called to an error—important to but few—in the appreciatory review of the above-named book, which appeared in the weekly edition of the *Japan Mail* of May 16th. The writer of the book would, indeed, far rather have the honour implied by the title "Reverend," than have written any book which a well qualified critic is pleased to praise. But, to every man his gift, and, as it is, the writer is not a minister, nor even a member of the Methodist Church, though he is glad to avail himself of the services of the enterprising manager of the Methodist Publishing House.

Thanking you for the review and for this opportunity of making a slight correction.

I am, Sir, Yours, etc.,

FRANK MÜLLER.

Tokyo, May 22nd.

THE FORTNIGHTLY SUMMARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The "Writer of the Summary of the Religious Press" in your paper has certainly a marvellous skill in twisting the statements of any one who ventures upon expressing disapproval of the course pursued by him in your paper. My protest was against the "Writer's" adding his own individual opinion regarding points touched on in the substance of the summary. I instanced as the first case in his last Summary his footnote evidently intended to charge missionaries with "exaggeration and misrepresentation." His reply is: "Mr. Albrecht makes out that it is no business of the writer of the Summary to draw attention to the special form of belief adopted by prominent Japanese Christians."

Again I protested against the "Writer's" expressing it as his opinion that Mr. Kozaki's favourable estimate of the influence of Christianity in this country is too optimistic. The "Writer" replies: "The Summaries are crowded with both optimistic and pessimistic views, the reason being that the views of Japanese writers are usually one or the other." Yes, they are and we are glad to know them, but we do not care for the views of the Writer of the Summary.

I protested against the wholly uncalled for footnote regarding the Kumiai-Churches, wholly out of place in that connection. The "Writer" now tells me to read "the quotations from Japanese papers contained in past Summaries."

I protested against Mr. Yamaji's base slander of his countrymen working in connection with missionaries, asserting that "nearly all our Japanese pastors, even partly supported with foreign money, are dishonest and cowardly and to the "Writer" again adding a corroboratory footnote. Now the gentleman tells me that if I were a little more "calm-minded" and would take off my peculiar "spectacles for seeing base slanders," I would see that *in some instances* (italics mine) men preach certain doctrines for pay, not from conviction. Is there not a vast difference between "in some instances" and "nearly all?" That there are some "rice-Christians" in Japan as well as in India and China I have never denied for a moment, though I am convinced that their number is far less, owing to the keener sense of honour in the Japanese. That "nearly all our pastors" as long as they are partly supported by foreign money are "rice-Christians" I characterize again as a base slander. And if the "Writer" really did not in any way intend quoting Huxley with the purpose of strengthening Mr. Yamaji's statement, if that foot note had "no necessary connection with Japan, Japanese Christians or foreign missionaries" what was its purport? A footnote is usually added for the sake of giving additional information or explanation regarding the statement to which it is attached. Because I hold this very common opinion the "Writer" assures me that I am either troubled with "intense intellectual density," or have a "personal spite "against him." Again I am unable to "see the connection."

Probably it will not affect the "Writer of the Summary" in the least, but I will venture to assure him that no personal feeling of any sort has prompted me in what I have written against him at any time. He knows that our paths have never met, nor crossed. There certainly is no occasion whatever for "personal spite." On the contrary, when several years ago I had the pleasure of meeting some members of his family, I gladly took the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the services rendered by the "Writer of the Summary" to us missionaries. That was before he had begun to add his hostile remarks. I should be glad to express the same appreciation to-day, for it is far more pleasant to approve than to condemn. I also venture upon the expression of my hope that he will see his way clear to publish the Summaries of the past year in book-form. Such a book would certainly be of very great value. I should be most happy to have it in my library. But the value of the book will be greatly diminished if all the footnotes and comments in which the "Writer" makes war against orthodox Christianity and missions in Japan are inserted. As the gentleman himself says: "The business of the Summaries is to give Japanese opinion on all subjects." In this I am heartily at one with him, and if he will confine himself to that work he will earn the gratitude of many missionaries.

There are several points in the "Writer's" reply, about which I should be glad to say a word, but lack of time forbids, nor ought I to transgress any further upon your valuable space.

Respectfully yours, GEO. E. ALBRECHT.

Kyoto, May 25th, 1903.

PLAGUE AND ITS CURE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In view of the recent cases of plague in Yokohama, I hope the following extract from the *Diario de Noticias* of Lisbon, may be of interest to some of your readers,—as throwing some fresh light on the perplexing question of plague cure—and lead to investigations on the part of the Japanese Government:—

The well-known scientific journal *La semaine Medicale*, of 31st December, published in Paris by Dr. Maurans, has an article dealing with the plague cure by the application of common salt—a new departure in the treatment of the dreadful scourge—enacted by Dr. Jose Joaqium Fragoso, a doctor of the Portuguese garrison in India.

The French paper says that in Podamo, a village belonging to the district of Diu, thanks to the newly-discovered cure, the rate of mortality decreased from 50 to 34 per cent., and out of 47 patients treated all of whom had passed the first stages of the disease—only two perished.

In Brancavara, another part of the Diu district, the same course of treatment resulted in a diminution of 13 per cent. in the death-rate.

Dr. Fragoso affirms that, generally, when the hypodermic injections prescribed by him are effected in time, the temperature of the patient at once grows less, buboes quickly disappear and the sufferer enters into a state of convalescence in a few days.

Apologising for the intrusion on your valuable space.

I remain, Yours faithfully,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Yokohama, 27th May, 1903.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRANSVAAL.

London, May 22.

At the opening meeting of the enlarged legislative council of the Transvaal, Sir A. Lawley said that beside the output of the diamond mines promising to eclipse anything yet discovered, copper and iron were likely to be developed on a large scale.

The absence of prominent Boers was a noteworthy feature of the occasion.

FRENCH POLITICS.

The French Chamber of Deputies has approved of the Government's policy with regard to ecclesiastical matters.

ASIATIC LABOUR AND THE RAND.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Chamberlain said the revival of the old Transvaal anti-Asiatic law was necessary, pending legislation, owing to public feeling, but the law would be enforced leniently with due regard to educated Asiatics and the vested interests of traders.

SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS.

Mr. St. John Brodrick said that there were 33,500 troops at present in South Africa, of whom 4,000 being excessive, would be gradually withdrawn.

PREFERENTIAL DUTIES AND THE LIBERALS.

London, May 23.

Speaking at the National Liberal Club, Earl Spencer said that the Liberals must unitedly oppose preferential duties.

Speaking at Doncaster, Mr. Asquith said that Mr. Chamberlain's proposals were the first shot in a campaign which would meet with the undivided hostility of the Liberal Party.

MACEDONIA.

Later.

Over 200 Bulgarian officers lately crossed the Macedonian frontier, commanding bands aggregating 2,600 men, destined to operate in various districts.

IMPORTING TYPHOID.

London, May 24th.

A sensation has been caused by serious outbreaks of typhoid fever at Purfleet and Manchester, which are traceable to army blankets impregnated with the disease, sold by the authorities in South Africa, and thence shipped to England and resold throughout the country.

THE SULTAN'S PEACE MISSION.

The Sultan's Peace Mission are still prisoners. On (Turkish) troops approaching Ipek the Albanians removed them to the Russo-Servian monastery at Dechani which they threaten to destroy if the troops continue to advance. Russia has demanded that the Porte shall protect the monastery.

SOMALILAND.

London, May 25.

The Somali levies showing a mutinous spirit, the camel corps will probably be disbanded.

DERBY BETTING.

The Derby betting is 4 to 5 against Rocksand, 4 to 1 against Vinicius, 15 to 2 against Flotsam, 10 to 1 against Mead, 20 to 1 against Rabelais, 30 to 1 against Kroonstad, 40 to 1 against William Rufus, 25 to 5 against Paris.

MOTOR RACE AT MADRID.

The Paris-Madrid motor race started yesterday. There was a record number of competitors. Three hundred thousand persons witnessed the start which occupied three hours.

LORD MILNER.

Lord Milner denies that he is about to leave South Africa to take up a position elsewhere.

THE MOTOR'S DEADLY WORK.

London, May 26.

Between Paris and Bordeaux, on the first day's run of the motor race, five competitors were killed and four severely injured. Eight persons were run over, of whom four were killed. The Government has stopped the continuation of the race in French territory. The Frenchman Gabriel covered the course (between Paris and Bordeaux) outside municipal limits at an average speed of 69 miles an hour. The car of an Englishman named Porter was overturned and he was burned to death. Another was crushed in a collision and is dying.

Later.

The Spanish Government has forbidden motor racing in its territory.

THE LONDON EDUCATION BILL.

Mr. Balfour has announced the withdrawal of clause 2 of the London Education Bill, thus leaving executive control entirely to the county council and local management to the borough councils. This is regarded as weakening the ministerial position.

THE SULTAN'S PEACE MISSION.

London, May 27.

The Albanians have released the Sultan' Peace Mission.

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CHAMBERLAIN'S FISCAL DECLARATION.

The Opposition intend to call attention to Mr. Chamberlain's declaration with regard to fiscal policy, and are pressing Mr. Balfour to say whether he and his colleagues share Mr. Chamberlain's views. If it should appear that Mr. Chamberlain spoke for the Government, Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman will probably ask for an opportunity to discuss the whole question.

Later.

Mr. Chamberlain, replying to Col. C. W. Long, said he had made no preferential trade proposals to the Colonies and there had been no recent negotiations on the subject.

THE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Replying to questions urging the Government to assist in relieving the exploring ship *Discovery*, now icebound in Antarctic regions, Mr. Balfour said the Government was prepared to contribute. But he strongly censured the Royal Geographical and Royal Societies for not counting the cost when they were equipping such expeditions.

CHINESE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, May 28.

The Chinese in Johannesburg have held a mass meeting and decided to warn their compatriots against emigrating to South Africa, and to take comprehensive steps for the purpose of disseminating this warning throughout China.

THE DERBY.

The Derby resulted as follows :—

Rocksand	1
Vicinius	2
Flotsam	3

THE PRINCE OF WALES TO VISIT INDIA.

Later.

The cruiser *King Alfred* convoys the Prince and Princess of Wales to India about September.

TO REGULATE MOTOR RACING.

In view of the recent disastrous Paris-Madrid motor race Mr. W. H. Long has promised to introduce in the House of Commons a bill with reference to the forthcoming motor race in Ireland in July for the Gordon Bennett Cup, so that the utmost precaution may be observed in guarding the route.

THE KING OF ITALY.

The King of Italy arrives in London on July 8th.

THE LONDON EDUCATION BILL.

The London Education Bill has passed through the committee stage.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

THE YUNNAN RISING.

Saigon, May 23.

It is telegraphed from Peking that the Yunnan insurgents have obtained possession of the town of Lin-ngan-fu.

ALGERIA.

Saigon, May 27.

A battery of artillery has started from Oran for the South. Other troops will follow.

(Received at the Foreign Office in Tokyo.)

THE CHINESE INDEMNITY.

In Tokyo also intelligence has been officially received in the same sense as Reuter's telegram, namely that the British Government has intimated to Washington its willingness to treat the Chinese Indemnity question in the same way as the United States Government treats it. Further, England has informed China that for nine years she agrees to receive payment in silver.

A BASELESS RUMOUR.

With regard to the intelligence published in an extra of the *Yorozu Choho* on the 22nd instant, namely, that according to news dated the 21st at Seoul, 3000 Russian soldiers had crossed the Korean frontier, nothing of the kind has been officially received. The statement is baseless. It is also untrue that Russia has sent troops to the neighbourhood of the Yalu River.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

"THE TIMES" ON RUSSIA.

London, May 20.

Dr. Morrison, the *Times'* correspondent at Peking, reports by telegram that China has given her acceptance to the demands of M. Plancon, though she had denied any such action, and that Russian soldiers are concentrating on both banks of the Yalu river.

The *Times* in publishing this correspondence comments strongly in a leading article upon the faithless action of Russia, and concludes by saying that it is to be regretted that Great Britain reposed confidence in the reply given by Russia, and that the time has now arrived for interference in the affair.

THE BULGARIAN CABINET.

The Bulgarian Cabinet is about to be organized. It is expected that General Petohoff will be Premier, Mr. Populla will be Minister of War, and Mr. Petioff will be Minister of Home Affairs. They are all pro-Turkish.

THE REBELS IN MOROCCO.

London, May 22.

The rebels in Morocco being unable to capture Tetuan have retired to the mountains.

INSURRECTION IN HUNGARY.

A serious insurrection has occurred in a frontier city of Croatia, Austro-Hungary. It is feared that the disturbance will extend to Dalmatia. The Slavonic people are in an uneasy condition.

MACEDONIA.

Mr. Michaelowsky, Chairman of the Macedonian Committee, has recognized as a fact that Russia has decided to abolish Turkish administration in Macedonia.

KOREA.

The *Novoe Vladimir* publishes a telegram from Söul saying that the Korean people display antagonistic feelings against the Japanese residents in Quelpart.

VENEZUELA.

London, May 23.

The rebels in Venezuela have been victorious in a fight which took place at Caracas.

THE BALKAN CRISIS.

The Bulgarian Cabinet is adopting a conciliatory attitude towards Turkey. The Albanians were defeated in a fight at Javaca (?)

NEW OPEN PORT.

In the United States it is expected that Tai-ton-kon will be opened.

THE BALKAN CRISIS.

London, May 25.

The rebels in Macedonia attacked a Turkish fortified position near Lake Presba (which is situated some 30 miles from Monastir) and occupied it after thirty minutes fighting. A hundred and fifty were killed.

Bulgarian regular troops under the leadership of Switkoff (?) have been defeated at (or in the province of) Monastir.

M. PAUL BLOUET DEAD.

The well known French writer "Max O'Rell (Paul Blouët) is dead.

RUSSIAN TIMBER COMPANY.

London, May 26.

According to the *Novoe Vremya*, a Russian timber company, with a capital of three million roubles, has been established in Korea, the Government of which granted it a ninety-six years' concession on the banks of the Yalu river. Many thousand workmen have already been sent to Korea to carry on the work and many thousand more workmen will follow. It is stated that the head-quarters of the company will be established at Port Arthur and that steamers will be provided to transport the lumber.

THIEVES IN MANCHURIA.

The same paper says that thieves are increasing in Manchuria and insists that life and property are in danger.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

AGAINST THE EDUCATION BILL.

The opponents of the Education (London) Bill have held a noisy demonstration in Hyde Park.

THE TYPHOID BLANKETS.

London, May 27.

In reply to a question, the Hon. St. John Brodrick has stated in the House that the selling of the blankets used by sick soldiers in South Africa was a contravention of the special orders in existence. The Government has ordered investigation of the affair.

ASIATICS AND THE TRANSVAAL.

Mr. Chamberlain said in the House that the Government would not allow Asiatics to work in the gold mines in the Transvaal.

(From the "Deutsche Japan-Post.")

SOUTHERN CHINA.

Berlin, May 24.

The Chinese governor of Liang-Kwang, in Canton, has protested in Peking against the stepping across the frontier between China and Indo-China of 2000 French soldiers, at the request of the French missionaries. He declares that the border district is quite safe.

CHINA AND THE INDEMNITY.

The notice of the *Temps* according to which the negotiations between China and the Powers concerning the silver question had been broken off, is false. On the contrary it is expected that in the course of time the Powers will come to an agreement about this matter. The *Temps* complains about the supremacy of the Russian Colossus in northern China.

MACEDONIA.

The situation in Macedonia is favourably influenced by the change in the Bulgarian ministry. The new cabinet of Petrovo is obedient to Russia. It is possible that Prince Ferdinand will pay a visit to the Padishah in Constantinople.

PRINCE HENRY TO VISIT MADRID.

Berlin, May 26.

Vice-Admiral Prinz Heinrich of Prussia will go to Madrid on the occasion of the manœuvres of the ocean squadron.

THE PARIS-MADRID MOTOR RACE STOPPED.

In France the continuation of the motor-car race from Paris to Madrid has been prohibited by the authorities, 17 people having been killed and 30 hurt on the first stage The motor-car driver Gabriel has covered the distance from Paris to Bordeaux in 5.¾ hours. (In a bee-line Paris is distant from Bordeaux about 500 km. The Orleans railway connecting both cities has a length of 578 km. So the motor-car of Gabriel must have done about 100 km. an hour. Ed.). Spain has also interdicted the continuation of the race. Prince Albert of Monaco was hurt on a motor-car trip from Monte Carlo to Paris.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

The Padishah has agreed to the conditions on which the Powers jointly will tender for the loan to be raised by Turkey for the Bagdad railway.

GERMANY AND CANADA.

Berlin, May 27.

The Bundesrath has decided on the means of defence to be brought into use against Canada on account of the higher duties imposed upon German imports and their promulgation is impending. The British Government has been informed of this decision.

GERMAN AMBASSADOR SICK.

The German Ambassador in Constantinople, Frhr. Marschall von Bieberstein, will be absent on sick-leave for a longer time. His return to his post is sure.

VISITING MINISTER.

The Bavarian Minister von Podewils has arrived at Berlin to pay a visit to the Emperor and Chancellor. They are on terms of the greatest intimacy with each other.

A SOUTH AMERICAN TROUBLE.

The U. S. has put in protests against the Republic of Salvador. The Government of the Union threatens to use force.

BAVARIA AND THE EMPIRE.

Berlin, May 28.

In an interview with the Chancellor Freiherr von Podewils, the President of the Bavarian Ministry, very peremptorily denied the reports of several papers according to which strained relations exist between the Governments of the Empire and Bavaria. The impression Count Bülow and Freiherr von Podewils made on each other is very sympathetic.

DEATH OF AN ECCLESIASTIC.

The Prussian army bishop Assmann is dead.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S ELECTION CRY.

London, May 16.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking at Birmingham, said that he did not think that a general election was

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near, but its issue would depend on whether the people were prepared to do all that is necessary, even if occasionally against their prejudices, to consolidate the Empire.

ABOLITION OF THE CORN TAX.

London, May 18.

Referring to the tax on corn, the *Morning Post* blames the Government for throwing over its loyal friends, and sowing disgust and derision by its ridiculous fickleness. The *Standard* says that the Government has done little to satisfy its enemies and has estranged many of its friends.

THE CABINET CRISIS IN BULGARIA.

Prince Ferdinand has entrusted General Petroffzo with the formation of a Cabinet.

OPPOSITION TO CLERICALISM IN FRANCE.

There were anti-clerical demonstrations in Paris and the provinces yesterday in and around the Churches, which led in many cases to free fights.

SOMALILAND.

London, May 19.

Having regard to the advance of the Abyssinians, General Manning has discretion to maintain his post some time longer at Galadi, provided he runs no risk of want of food or transport.

It is rumoured that the Abyssinians have engaged the Mullah's outposts.

LORD MILNER AND THE COLOUR LINE.

Lord Milner, the High Commissioner, addressing a Congress of Transvaal Municipal delegates at Pretoria, appealed for a more liberal treatment for educated coloured persons.

SAILING OF THE "SHAMROCKS."

Shamrock I. and *Shamrock III.* (the challenger for the *America Cup*), will both sail for America on the 30th inst.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S UP-TO-DATE FREE TRADE.

London, May 20.

Lord Rosebery, speaking at Burnley, said that he questioned the possibility of framing any practical scheme of perferential tariffs, but pending the publication of the details of Mr. Chamberlain's policy, he would preserve an open mind. He did not regard Free Trade as a divine dispensation.

The Australian Press is disinclined to endorse Mr. Chamberlain's preferential policy.

MR. HANBURY'S SUCCESSOR.

The Earl of Onslow, Under-Secretary for the Colonies, has been appointed President of the Board of Agriculture in succession to the late Mr. R. W. Hanbury.

SOMALILAND.

Eleven hundred of the Mullah's dervishes fiercely attacked the Abyssinians, and were repulsed with the loss of three hundred killed. The Abyssinians lost thirty killed and wounded.

SUICIDE OF A WELL-KNOWN CRICKETER.

London via Bombay, May 21.

Arthur Shrewsbury, the well-known cricketer, has committed suicide with a revolver in a fit of despondency caused by ill-health.

CONGO FREE STATE SCANDAL.

Mr. H. L. Samuel (Liberal, Cleveland) brought forward a resolution in the House of Commons to the effect that "the Congo Free State having guaranteed that the natives should be governed humanely, and no trading monopoly be permitted, the House requests the Government to confer with the signatories of the General Act of the International Congo Conference of Berlin, 1885, with the view of measures being taken to abate the evils prevalent in the Congo Free State."

After some debate, the Government accepted Mr. Samuel's motion.

LORD ROSEBERY'S OPINION.

London, May 22.

The *Westminster Gazette* makes the authoritative statement that Lord Rosebery is astonished that his speech should be interpreted as supporting Mr. Chamberlain's Zollverein.

Lord Rosebery adheres to his former statements that the Liberals are absolutely committed to Free Trade.

Anything in the nature of an Imperial Commercial League would weaken our Empire, and excite the permanent hostility of the world.

THE AMERICA CUP.

In her first trial, *Reliance*, the new Cup defender, beat *Columbia* by fourteen minutes.

(FROM THE "OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD.")

MURDERER SENTENCED TO DEATH.

Hongkong, May 21.

The Chinaman, who was arrested here for the murder of Yang Kui-wan, one of the leaders of the reform party, in January 1901, has now been convicted and sentenced to death. The evidence revealed that the Chinese Government had sent emissaries to Hongkong with the order, either to kill or to kidnap the reformers. Yang Kui-wan was at that time deliberately killed while teaching in a school near the Central Police Station. The murderers were afterwards created mandarins, received monetary rewards and were given official positions in Canton.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart 1	Sa. May 30
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic 2	Su. May 31
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tosa Maru 3	M. June 1
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Olympia 4	Tu. June 2
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria 5	W. June 3
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 6	Th. June 4
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	F. June 5
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 8
Hongkong	T. K. K	H'kong Maru	M. June 8
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam	W. June 10
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	Th. June 11
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia 7	Su. June 14
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 15
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. June 22
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar	W. June 24

1 Left Kobe on the 29th inst.
2 Left Nagasaki on the 28th inst.
3 Left Seattle on the 16th inst.
4 Left Tacoma on the 16th inst
5 Left Moji on the 28th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 16th inst.
7 Left San Francisco on the 26th inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. Y. K.	Sado Maru	Sa. May 30
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Stuttgart	M. June 1
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Tu. June 2
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru	Tu. June 2
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	W. June 3
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakusan Maru	Th. June 4
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Th. June 4
Europe	M. M. Co.	Oceanien	F. June 5
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. June 6
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. June 6
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa. June 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 8
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. June 10
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. June 12
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. June 15
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. June 17
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. June 23
Hon kong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. June 25

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ajax, British steamer, 2,477, H. Batt, 22nd May,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 21st May, General. Butterfield & Swire.

Firth of Dornock, British steamer, 1,893, G. Jones, 22nd May,—Christmas Island, 4th May, Phosphate. Cornes & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 22nd May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 30th April,—Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 22nd May,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 21st May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, G. Lapraik, 22nd May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 22nd May,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 21st Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 22nd May,—Yokkaichi, 21st May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 22nd May,—Yokkaichi, 21st May General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 22nd May,—Kobe, 20th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Charles Tiberghien, French steamer, 2,750, P. Le Roy, 22nd May,—New York via ports, and Kobe 21st May, General.—American Trading Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 23rd May,—Shanghai via ports, 16th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi, 22nd May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 23rd May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 23rd May,—Portland, Oregon, 3rd May, General. Samuel Samuel & Co,

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, Gingues, 24th May,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 23rd May, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Amphitrite (16 guns), British cruiser, 11,000, Captain Windham, 24th May,—Honolulu, H.I., 7th May.

Sparrowhawk (6 guns), British torpedo-boat destroyer, 360, Lieut. Jones, 24th May,—Honolulu, H.I., 7th May.

Virago (6 guns), British torpedo-boat destroyer, 360, Lieut. A. B. Barker, 24th May,—Honolulu, H.I., 7th May.

Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, F. G. Purrington, 25th May,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 23rd May, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hyson, British steamer, 4,232, J. A. Davies, 25th May,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 24th May, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 25th May,—Yokkaichi, 24th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 25th May,—Kobe, 23rd May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kentucky, (41 guns), U. S. Flagship, 11,500, Capt. Berry, 25th May.—Yokosuka.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,531, Forst, 26th May,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 19th May, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 26th May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 8th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 26th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, A. Yamashita, 26th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bombay Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,830, T. Murai, 26th May,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 25th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 26th May,—Yokkaichi, 25th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moravia, Austrian steamer, 2,267, L. Soich, 27th May,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 19th May, Mails and General.—Pollak Bros.

Tremont, American steamer, 6,195, T. W. Garlich, 28th May,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 11th May, Mails & General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, G. Lapraik, 28th May,—Kobe, 26th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rainbow (12 guns), U.S. flagship, 6,000, Com. Dyer, 28th May,—Manila, P.I., 20th May.

Don Juan de Austria (8 guns), U.S. gunboat, 1,159, Com. Ward, 28th May,—Uraga.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, Y. Yamanouchi, 28th May,—Kobe, 26th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,881, E. W. Haswell, 28th May,—Melbourne via ports, and Kobe, 27th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,593, S. Nagata, 28th May.—Takao via ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Salazie, French steamer, 2,089, Aubert, 22nd May,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,278, Hannah, 22nd May,—London via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benarty, British steamer, 2,510, J. D. Sarchet, 22nd May.—Kuchinotsu, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, G. Lapraik, 22nd May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 22nd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 23rd May,—Homgkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 23rd May,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, W. B. Seabury, 23rd May,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 23rd May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ascot, British steamer, 2,785, G. Watkins, 23rd May,—Muroran, Ballast.—Dodwell & Co, Ltd.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 24th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ajax, British steamer, 4,477, H. Batt, 24th May,—Victoria, Seattle and Tacoma via Muroran, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 24th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

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Kaiser Karl VI. (20 guns), Austrian cruiser, 6,250, Captain Dredger, 25th May.—Hakodate.
Indrasamha, British steamer, 3,367, R. J. Craven, 25th May,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Rajah, British steamer, 3,684, J. Clingan, 25th May, —Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 25th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,396, H. Sakimoto, 25th May,—Otaru via Kobe and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 26th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 27th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 27th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 27th May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pleiades, American steamer, 2,932, F. G. Purrington, 27th May,—Victoria, B.C., and Tacoma, Wash., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Strassburg, German steamer, 3,232, L. Madsen, 28th May,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 28th May,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 28th May,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. W. H. L. Barnes, Mr. W. C. Bates, Mrs. H. P. Priest, Mr. E. A. Janneret, Mr. E. Ploton and wife, Mr. W. M. Brison, Mr. D. W. Radger, and Mr. F. B. Morse, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. W. E. Dunn and child, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. C. Frankel, Mr. A. J. Israel, Mr. C. L. L. Williams, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. L. Bash, Mrs. W. O. Fox, Mr. G. I. Frank, Mr. W. Troensengaard, Mr. A. Graipol, Mr. J. T. Richter, and Mr. J. D. Fauntleroy and wife, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. M. Brown, Lieut. E. West, Lieut. Dalgety, Dr. and Mrs. Maseo and child, Miss Ruam, Miss Pitt, Miss Cune, Miss Lee, Mr. Serum, Mr. Pong Pai, Mr. Day, Mr. J. R. Geary, Rev. and Mrs. E. G. Hardy, Lieut. Kirkland, Miss D. Clephem, Prof. E. H. Sharp, Lieut.-Com. B. O. Dunn, Mr. H. A. Ramsay, Mr. A. Cox, Mrs. Weston, Miss T. E. Hand, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Wilson, Mr. O. M. Poole, Mr. Hick, and Miss E. Crocker, in cabin; Mr. R. G. Woods, in second class. In Transit:—Mr. G. S. Butler, Miss N. M. Hyde, Mr. R. T. Tebbit, Mrs. F. A. Dean, Mr. M. M. Michall, Mr. S. H. Michall, Mrs. T. Putnam, Rev. C. R. Bartram, Mons. C. Maserali, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Wheelock, Miss Hibbard, Mr. D. Gilmaur, Rev. and Mrs. Ashmore, Miss M. Gilmaur, Miss L. Gilmaur, Miss M. J. Gilmaur, Miss A. K. Gilmaur, Mr. and Mrs. D. Gilmaur, Miss Craucher, Miss Evans, Mr. Carlill, Miss Wernock, Miss A. P. Sells, Mrs. M. Coquard, Col. F. Krien, and Lieut. C. G. Bird, in cabin; Mr. E. Gale, Mr. T. T. Dean, Mr. M. A. Hibbert, Mr. T. T. Tortune, Mr. C. King, Mons. Maufflet, Mr. Chow Chung Yuen, Mrs. A. W. Hunter, Mr. G. E. Evans, Mr. T. P. Gilmon, Mr. W. McGhee, Mr. Lam Lee, Mrs. Fung Chund and daughter, Mr. Chun Wei, Mr. R. L. Brook, Dr. T. W. Weston, Mr. T. Griffin, and Mr. T. Grierson, in intermediate; 49 Japanese, 423 Chinese, and 3 native servants, in steerage.

Per American steamer *Korea*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. S. R. Price, Miss Freeman, Mr. W. Y. Showler, Mrs. R. E. Gill, Mr. F. A. West, Mr. C. F. Scott, Mr. Albert Rosling, Mr. Geo. G. Wilcox, Mrs. Geo. G. Wilcox, and Mrs. Geo. H. Fott, in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mrs. L. Cross, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Drummond Hay, Mrs. J. Cameron, Mr. F. A. Blake, Jr., Mrs. F. A. Blake, Jr., Miss G. Blake, Mrs. D. L. Anderson, Miss Harding, Mr. Jas. Wilson, Mrs. Enos Smith, Mr. F. A. Cumming, Mrs. F. A. Cumming, Mr. A. W. Massey, Capt. A. G. Winterhaller, U.S.N., Mr. W. B. Mance, Mrs. W. B. Mance and infant, Master Mance, Mr. Bruce Robertson, Mrs. Bruce Robertson, Mr. A. L. Young, Mr. Harry Maitland, Mrs. Melrose, Mr. F. H. Smith, Mrs. F. H. Smith, Mr. R. A. George, Mrs. R. A. George, Mrs. T. L. Hartigan, Mrs. Geo. Swindell, Mrs. J. F. Smith, Dr. A. L. Longfeld, Mrs. A. L. Longfeld, Master L. Longfeld, Mrs. Calm, Miss Nickelsberg, Mr. W. D. Ballantine, Mr. H. T. Gibbs, Mrs. Lieut. Roosefelt, Dr. Whilan, Mr. J. H. Burwell, Mr. R. L. Heindel, Mr. H. Ashton, Mr. C. Sothern, Miss Kasten, Miss Lilly Kasten, Rev. G. W. Marshall, Mrs. G. W. Marshall, Mr. R. H. Sawyer, Mrs. R. H. Sawyer, Mr. A. W. Bean, Mrs. A. W. Bean, Mrs. G. M. Lack, Mr. L. L. Bailey, Mrs. L. L. Bailey, Mr. W. A. Dempsey, Mrs. McKee, Mrs. J. R. Keys, Judge J. A. Ambler, Miss Mary McNab, Hon. B. S. Ambler, Mrs. B. S. Ambler, Miss Ambler, Mr. J. O. Reis, Mrs. J. O. Reis, Colonel Roys, Mrs. Colonel Roys, Gen. Geo. Blackmar, Mrs. Gen. Blackmar, Miss Brewer, Mrs. Wolcoff, Mrs. Kolt, Mr. L. L. Colord, Mr. E. T. Boxter, Mr. G. Hines, Judge W. H. Hope, Mr. Makins, Mrs. Makins and 2 children and Mrs. A. C. Perkins in cabin.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Willett Foster, Mr. G. M. Freed, Mrs. G. M. Freed, Mr. G. H. Gowan, Miss Gladys Howard, Mr. Hans Hirschler, Mr. Sigmund Hirschler, Dr. H. R. Macauley, Mr. H. M. Scott, Mrs. H. M. Scott, Mr. G. L. Thompson, Mr. J. W. Thompson, and Hon. A. H. Stewart, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. W. H. Organ, and Dr. T. C. Thornicraft and servant, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Otto Kleemann, and Mrs. Otto Kleemann, in cabin. For Manila:—Mr. F. [redacted] Baliman, Captain H. C. Cabell, U.S.A., Mr. F. Cadwallader, Mr. A. Cameron, Mr. J. Cameron, Mr. B. C. Keck, Mr. H. Krusi, Mr. G. A. Lederle, Miss H. Lowrey, Mrs. A. Macondray, 3 children and maid, Mr. J. C. McMullen, Mrs. J. C. McMullen, Mr. L. C. Martin, Mr. F. C. Stewart, Mr. Vincente Quiogue, and Mr. J. L. Webb, in cabin. Hongkong:—Mr. Wu Chopei, Mr. L. Y. Chow, Mrs. Wm. Finch, Dr. Li Kwong Heng, Mr. L. Sing Kwai, Mr. Tseng Choa Kwong, Mr. Wu Hsenh Lin, Mr. Chester North, Mrs. A. Ostreski, Mr. Shen Tung and servant, Mrs. Shen Tung and infant, and Mr. R. H. Schneelock, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumano Maru*, from Australia via ports:—Mr. Jas. Boyd, Mr. G. H. Gordon, Mr. R. MacKay, Mr. P. J. Thompson, Miss Thompson, Miss Macaush, Mr. J. J. Leaby, Mrs. Leaby, Mr. W. Fletcher, Mrs. Fletcher, Mr. W. F. Cadell, Mrs. Cadell, Miss Cadell, Miss M caush, Mr. Thomas P. Palmer, Miss M. White, Mr. T. H. Hill, Mrs. Hill, Mr. Sugimura, Mr. Beadsley, Mrs. Beadsley and child, Mrs. Preston, Miss Wallace, Mr. Dodds, Miss Dodds, Mr. Whealler, Mr. Fujii, Mrs. Takahata, Mr. Nishio, and Mr. R. J. Kirby, in cabin; Mr. C. S. Curtis, Mrs. Curtis, Mr. Yoshimura, Mr. Manuel Gunzon, Mr. Chin Yuen Mrs. Chin Yuen, Mrs. Lo Fung Shi, Mr. Chan Tin Woon, Mr. Abones, Mr. Uyeno, and Mrs. Makino, second class; 14 Japanese, 16 Chinese, and 1 Indian, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. C. Libbain, Mr. A. Nagai, Lieut.-Col. F. B. Deane, Mr. Cheong Choon Kim and native servant, Mr. F. W. Franks, Mr. Chong Soo Loong, Mr. and Mrs. C. Pemberton, Mr. R. F. G. Freeman and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. MacBain and five native servants, Mr. C. MacBain, Miss R. MacBain, Master L. G. McBain, Miss L. MacBain, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dazian, Mr. J. W. Weaver, Mr. G. Booth, Mr. G. F. Hewett, Mr. C. Benney, Mr. F. W. Thomas, Mr. Cheong, Mr. H. Legeber, Mr. H. Foin, Mr. G. Reiffinger, Mr. C. King, Mr. Ed. Blum, and Mr. Chausee, in cabin; 9, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. Airey, Mr. W. André, Miss André, Dr. W. Ashmore, Mrs. W. Ashmore, Capt. Polycarpe de Azevedo, Rev. C. S. Bartrum, Mr. Hermon K. Bicknell, Mrs. J. M. Bolton and maid, Mr. H. Brookman, Miss Butler, Mr. G. A. Butler, Mr. A. J. H. Carlill, Miss Carruthers, Major Carte, R.A., Mr. E. P. Carter, Mr. E. H. Codling, Mrs. K. P. Collins, Miss Colls, Mrs. Coquard, Miss J. B. Cowan, Miss Cox, Mr. E. E. Craig, Mr. G. Craig, Mr. A. M. Croak, Mrs. A. M. Croak, Miss Croucher, Mr. W. A. W Dawn, Mrs. F. A. Dean, Miss Derby, Capt. H. F. R. Despard, Miss M. Despard, Com. P. Downes, R.I.M., Mr. J. Dugas, Miss Duncan, Lieut.-Com. Dunn, U.S.N., Mr. J. R. van Eeten, Mr. F. Elgar, Mrs. F. Elgar, Dr. H. Elliott, Miss Evans, Mr. J. S. Ewart, Mrs. J. S. Ewart, Miss M. F. Farrer, Mr. A. S. Fleming, Mrs. A. S. Fleming, Miss J. E. Gairdner, Mr. J. Gelderman, Mr. D. Gilmour, Mrs. D. Gilmour, Miss M. T. Gilmour, Miss A. K. Gilmour, Miss J. M. Gilmour, Miss L. Gilmour, Mr. Douglas Gilmour, Miss M. Glenke, Mr. J. Gordon, Mrs. J. Gordon and maid, Miss N. Gordon, Miss L. Gordon, Mr. J. Gordon, Jr., Miss Gordon, Mr. G. Hall, Major F. E. Hanbury, Mrs. E. E. Hanbury, Mr. Henry Hayward, Mr. J. N. Heathcote, Mr. Jos. Hellemans, Miss L. V. Hopkins, Miss Hubbard, Miss A. M. Hyde, Capt. Royal R. Ingersoll, U.S.N., Miss Jost, Mr. Kilpatrick, Mr F. Krien, Mrs. von Kromhelm, Miss von Kronheim, Rev. Lionel Lambert, Mr. F. Lassetter, Mr. G. H. Malcolm, Mr. J. Marks, Mrs. J. Marks, Miss Marks, Mr. J. C. Marshall, Mr. J. Martin, Mr. H. Marriott, Mr. C. Massaroli, Miss McLaren, Mr. Michael, Mr. S. Michael, Mr. J. L. Mitchell, Mrs. J. L. Mitchell, Rev. W. H. Mockridge, Mr. J. Neubourg, Mr. A. S. Newberry, Baroness de Pallandt, Mrs. Peacocke, Mr. J. C. Port, Mrs. J. C. Port, Miss L. E. Port, Mrs. J. Putnam, Capt. S. H. Rickman, R.N., Mrs. S. H. Rickman, Mr. J. Rothwell, Lieut. V. Santos, Mr. S. Schmuck, Mrs. S. Schmuck, Dr. W. W. Seely, Mrs. W. W. Seely, Miss Seely, Miss G. Seely, Miss H. Seely, Miss Sells, Mr. F. Shand, Mrs. F. Shand, Mr. J. Squires, Mr. R. T. Tebbitt, Mr. F. L. Teschemaker, Mrs. Lewis Turner, Mr. E. M. Turrell, Mrs. E. M. Turrell, Mr. E. E. Umney, Mr. A. Waddington, Mrs. R. A. Waller, Mr. Robert Waller, Mr. J. H. Watson, Mr. G. Watson, Miss Warnock, Capt. F. F. Weedon, R.E., Mr. T. R. Wheelock, Mrs. T. R. Wheelock, Mr. Chas. Whittell, Mr. J. Wilson, Mr. Gilbert Wintle, and Mr. D. Cory Wright, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Hon. B. S. Ambler, Mrs. B. S. Ambler, Miss Ambler, Mr. J. Ambler, Mrs. D. L. Anderson, Mr. H. Ashton, Mr. M. W. Barrett, Mrs. M. W. Barrett, Mr. E. Bates, Mr. E. F. Baxter, Mr. A. W. Bear, Mrs. A. W. Bean, Miss E. R. Bender, Mr. Geo. F. Black, Mrs. H. C. Black, Miss Black, Mr. F. A. Blake, Jr., Mrs. F. A. Blake, Jr., Miss Blake, Gen. Geo. Blackmar, Mrs. Geo. Blackmar, Mrs. Brewer, Miss M. A. Brewer, Mrs. J. Cameron, Mr. P. Chaperon, Mrs. P. Chaperon, Mr. Max Charlier, Mrs. Max Charlier, Mr. W. R. Chew, Dr. W. R. Cluness, Mr. L. L. Colver, Mrs. E. R. Cox and maid, Miss Cox, Mr. R. W. Cox and servant, Mr. Gardner Crane, Mrs. Gardner Crane, Mrs. L. Cross, Mr. F. A. Cumming, Mrs. F. A. Cumming, Mr. W. O. Delano, Mrs. W. O. Delano, Miss Dellenbough, Mr. W. A. Dempsey, Miss Deshler, Mr. Jas. Denman, Miss Floing, Mr. E. M. Fowler, Mr. R. A. George, Mrs. R. A. George, Mr. H. T. Gibbs, Mrs. S. Graham, Miss S. Graham, Major Louis M. Greer, Miss M. Grout, Miss M. Harding, Mrs. F. L. Hartigan, Mrs. B. Hanchett, Mr. Drummond Hay, Mr. Al. Hayman, Mrs. Al. Haymad, Mr. Roy L Heindel, Mr. A. Hill, Mrs. A. Hill, Mrs. Holt, Mr. E. J. Horniman, Mrs. E. J. Hornimann, Mr. E. C. Horst, Mrs. E. C. Horst, 2 children and governess, Mr. J. P. Howell, Mrs. J. P. Howell, Miss E. J. Hudd, Miss Mary Hunter, Mr. S. B. Jenks, Mrs. S. B. Jenks, Miss Kasten, Miss Lily Kasten, Mr. W. G. Kennedy, Mr. W. T. Kennedy, Mrs. W. T. Kennedy, Mrs. J. R. Keyes, Mr. A. L. Kinsey, Mrs. A. L. Kinsey and maid, Mr. Theo. de Laugna, Mrs. J. M. Lock, Mr. J. M. Lassell, Mrs. J. M. Lassell, Master J. Lassell, Mrs. M. E. Leverich, Miss H. W. Leverich, Mr. J. B. Lewis, Miss B. Ludwig, Mr. A. Lucas, Mrs. A. Lucas, Mr. R. Lucas, Miss Mabel Lucas, Mr. John Makins, Mrs. John Makins, Miss Makins, Master Makins, Mr. H. Maitland, Rev. G. W. Marshall, Mrs. G. W. Marshall, Dr. Mayr, Mr. Geo. E. McCague, Mrs. Geo. McCague, Miss Alice McCague, Miss Ama D. McCague, Master Robert H. McCague, Mrs. McKee, Miss Mary McNab, Mrs. Melrose, Mr. C. O. Miller, Mrs. C. O. Miller, Mr. C. O. Miller, Jr., Miss Sara Miller, Canon J. R. C. Miller, Mrs. J. R. A. R. Miller, Lieut. A. R. Moen, Dr. G. A. Moore, Mrs. G. A. Moore, Mr. Jas. Mulhall, Miss H. Musgrave, Mr. W. B. Nance, Mrs. W. B. Nance and 2 children, Mr. H. Neale, Mrs. H. Neale, Mr. M. Okura, Mrs. M. Okura, Mr. J. S. Patterson and servant, Mrs. S. J. Patterson, Miss Patterson, Miss A. Patterson, Mrs. A. Patterson, Mrs. A. C. Perkins, Judge W. H. Pope, Mr. S. R. Price, Mr. Quarrier, Mrs. Quarrier, Miss Quarrier, Mr. W. H. Rice and valet, Mr. Bruce Robertson, Mrs. Bruce Robertson, Mr. R. W. Robins, Mrs. Roosevelt, Mr. F. J. Root, Mrs. F. J. Root, Dr. A. L. Roques, Col. C. D. Roys, Mrs. C. D. Roys, Mr. R. H. Sawyer, Mrs. R. H. Sawyer, Mr. W. E. Shaw, Mrs. W. E. Shaw, Mr. W. E. Shaw, Jr., Mrs. Enos Smith, Mr. F. H. Smith, Mrs. F. H. Smith, Mrs. J. Smith, Mr. Findlay Smith, Mr. Findlay Smith, Jr., Mr. Chauncey Southern, Rev. J. Storrs, Rev. Prebendary Storrs Mrs. Geo. Swindell, Mr. Samuel Tevis, Mrs. Samuel Tevis, Mr. F. A. Titus, Mrs. F. A. Titus, Mr. W. H. Topham, Mrs. W. H. Topham, Miss Topham, Mr. J. E. Umbstaetter, Mr. J. E. Umbstaetter, Mr. Ralph W. Walker, Mr. Ralph W. Walker, Mr. F. A. West, Dr. Alfred Whelan, Count Wartenberg, Mr. Jas. Wilson, Capt. A. G. Winterhalter, Mrs. Wolcott, and Mr. A. L. Young.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very little business passing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
White Shirting—{40 yds. 36 in. / 50 yds. 36 in.}	0.09 to 0.1
	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	¥2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.25
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton Italians and Satteens...	0.20 to 0.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	¥0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.50

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Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66

	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 140.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles	145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	155.00 to 160.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	245.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	295.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	425.00 to 435.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	Nominal. 31
Indian Broach	Nominal. 26
Chinese	Nominal. 23

METALS.

There is a fair business in Metals.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅜ inch and upward	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.10 to 11.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	6.90 to 7.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅛ inch)	5.00 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The Kerosene market continues firm.

American	$2.87
Russian	2.67
Langkat	2.50

SUGAR.

The Sugar market is quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y. 6.50 to 6.60
Brown Manila	6.00 to 7.10
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.80
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.10
White Refined	8.80 to 11.40

INDIGO.

Nothing special to report.

	PICUL
Java, Medium to best	280.00 to 330.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	200.00 to 285.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best	135.00 to 170.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best	100.00 to 140.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

We withdraw all quotations; prices quite nominal There is a retail trade in fine sizes at high prices but coarse sizes are neglected and weak. Stocks are reduced to very small proportions and old silk is practically finished. Reports from all districts as to new crop are good, and everything points to a large supply from Japan in the coming season.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. —
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Season closed. No stock of merchantable quality. All prices withdrawn.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

WILD WITH ECZEMA

And Other Itching, Burning, Scaly Eruptions with Loss of Hair.

Speedy Cure Treatment.

Bathe the affected parts with Hot Water and Cuticura Soap, to cleanse the surface of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura Ointment freely, to allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, and lastly take Cuticura Resolvent Pills, to cool and cleanse the blood. A single set is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, scaly, pimply humours, eczemas, rashes, irritations. and chafings, with loss of hair, when all else fails.

The agonizing itching and burning of the skin, as in eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair and crusting of the scalp, as in scalled head; the facial disfigurement, as in pimples and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants and the anxiety of worn-out parents, as in milk crust, tetter, and salt rheum,—all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them. Such are the CUTICURA remedies, the purest, sweetest, most speedy and economical curatives for the skin, scalp, and blood ever compounded. Mothers are their warmest friends.

Millions of Women Use Cuticura Soap

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations of women, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves, as well as for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated) are a new, tasteless, odourless, economical substitute for the celebrated liquid CUTICURA RESOLVENT, as well as for all other blood purifiers and humour cures. Put up in screw-cap pocket vials, containing 60 doses.

CUTICURA REMEDIES are sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: H. TOWNS & Co., Sydney. British Depot: 27-28, Charterhouse Sq., London. French Depot: 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

TEA.

Choicest grades are scarce, supply for the season being about finished. Prices for upper grades have advanced. Medium and lower qualities are in full supply and prices show some weakness.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	...55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine	38 to 41
Good Medium	35 to 37
Medium	33
Good Common	—
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, May 28.

London silver ⅛ lower, Shanghai sterling quotations ¼ lower and Hongkong ⅛ lower have caused a further rise in local rates on China, but no alteration in other rates.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 1/16 @ ⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅛ @ 3/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 1/4 @ ⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256½
— Private 4 months' sight	262½
— — 6 months' sight	264
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	82*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	80*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	89½*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	155⅝
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	214½
Bar Silver (London)	24⅜

* Nominal.

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Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M. 1y.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 6TH, 1903.

BIRTHS.

At 42-B Bluff, Yokohama, on the 27th May, the wife of JAMES THOM, of a Son.

On the evening of May 29th, at No. 142-B Yamate-cho, Yokohama, Mrs. M. KAUFMANN, of a Son.

DEATHS.

At his residence (Messageries Maritimes Office) on the morning of May 31st, ANDRÉ CONIL, Principal Agent, aged 70 years.

At the General Hospital, on the 3rd instant, LEON LEHERICEY, aged 50, a native of France.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. JUN ITO, M.P., member of the *Seiyu-kai* died on May 28th.

DURING May, 231,106 tons of coal were exported from Shimonoseki.

IN Tokyo, three cases of diphtheria and three of typhus were reported on June 1st.

THE new U.S. Minister is expected to arrive here on June 10th by the steamer *Siberia*.

PRINCE RUPPRECHT paid a visit to the two prisons of Sugamo and Ichigaya, Tokyo, on June 2nd.

A MAN was killed on the night of June 1st near Shimbashi station by a train running over him.

A BOAT sank on June 1st in the Tenryo river near Shidzuoka. Three persons were drowned.

THE Kwansei Railway Co. have decided to allow emigrants to the Hokkaido half-fares from June 1st.

THE Crown Prince and Princess proceeded on June 2nd to Maiko, accompanied by Prince Arisugawa.

A TELEGRAM from Taipeh in Formosa states that the Japanese one *yen* silver was quoted at *sen* 82 on June 1st.

THE Sumitomo camphor mill at Kobe has been transferred to Mr. S. Fujita, a prominent merchant in Osaka.

THE railway between Funagata and Shinsho, Yamagata prefecture, will be opened on June 11th for traffic.

VICE-ADMIRAL MARECHAL, Commander-in-Chief of the French Asiatic squadron, arrived at Nagasaki on May 31st.

K. OSHISAKA, head man of Kurashiki-machi in Okayama prefecture, was arrested on May 29th on a charge of fraud.

TWENTY-ONE female stowaways who attempted to leave by a Norwegian steamer at Shimonoseki were arrested on May 29th.

A WORKMAN named Sonoda (24) was run over on May 29th by a locomotive in the compound of Shimbashi Station and killed.

A TELEGRAM from Sapporo states that the dead body of one of the crew of the gunboat *Soko* was found on May 28th off Nemuro.

A MAN named M. Imai who was suffering from the plague died on May 27th in the Takenokubo disinfecting hospital at Nagasaki.

THE Bantan railway, which has been purchased by the Sanyo Railway Company will, from June 1st, be conducted under the name of the latter.

GEN. D. W. CONGDON, who arrived in Yokohama on Wednesday by the *Nippon Maru*, is President of the Silk Association of America.

H. SHIMOYAMA, assistant station-master of the Omiya station, Saitama prefecture, was run over on May 31st by a locomotive and instantly killed.

THE *Aikoku Maru*, a steamer running between Fushiki, Korea and Vladivostock, says the *Niroku*, went ashore on the morning of June 1st off Nanao gulf.

THE dead body of a man who appears to have committed suicide, was found hanging by a cord, on June 1st, in the pavilion of a tea house at Negishi.

FOUR American warships (doubtless those that left Yokohama on Friday) passed Shimonoseki straits on the morning of June 2nd, going westward.

A WORKMAN in the Naval Arsenal, Akabane, Tokyo, committed suicide on June 2nd by drinking a quantity of sulphuric acid. Details are not yet reported.

THE Shimonoseki Chamber of Commerce decided on May 31st to protest against the Government's proposal to raise funds for navy expansion by means of loans.

T. NAKAMURA, a clerk, and two others of the Nara Agricultural and Dendrological School, were arrested on June 1st on a charge of having forged several private letters.

KINGSELL, the Chinese printers, have brought an action against a Chinese employee who has squandered some money which he collected from several customers in April.

A CONGRATULATORY telegram from the King and Queen of Italy on the birthday of the Empress of Japan (May 28th) was received in the palace at 10 p.m. The Empress returned her thanks on the following morning.

THE construction of an electric railway between Katase and Koshigoitsu, which is a part of the Enoshima line, has been completed. The trial trip will shortly be made.

THE directors of the Okayama Silk Spinning Company decided on May 30th to wind up the concern. To carry into effect the decision, a general meeting was held on the same day.

IT was officially announced on May 25th by the Department of Foreign Affairs, that Mr. Maurice Cuvelier, Belgian Vice-Consul, has been appointed an *attaché* at the Legation in Tokyo.

MR. SONE SHIZUO, president of the Colonization Bank (Takushoku Ginko), died on May 30th. Previous to his death he was promoted in rank and decorated with the third class order of merit.

THE Mitsui family has presented to the Tokyo Orphan Asylum an estate of over 2,000 *tsubo* (1 *tsubo*=6ft. sq.) at Daimachi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, where a hospital for the orphanage will be erected.

A HORRIBLE accident is reported by the *Niroku*. Owing to a landslip at the Yanakawa mine, Mimasaku province, many workmen have been buried. The work of rescue will take about a month.

AN old woman, Kura Iwata (66) living at Shinsakurada-machi, Shiba, Tokyo, committed suicide on May 30th by hanging herself with a cord. The cause is said to have been temporary insanity.

TELEGRAM states that communication between Fukukawa and Tomiumi and between Yanaisawa and Shimomatsu on the Sanyo Railway has been suspended, these sections having been damaged by the recent severe rains.

SINCE May 29th heavy rains have prevailed in Yamaguchi prefecture. The Tenjin river overflowed its banks, and several houses and many bridges were carried away. Part of the Sanyo Railway near Somino station was damaged.

THE purser of the steamer *Sumidagawa Maru*, which arrived on June 2nd at Shimonoseki from Korea, states that a famine has begun at Yuensan and in the surrounding districts. Last year, the crops were insufficient and the fishing also failed.

Two Japanese quarrelled over money matters at Singapore on May 14th, and another Japanese who attempted to separate them was stabbed to death. S. Matsataro, who described himself as a curio dealer belonging to Hongkong, is now under arrest charged with murder and attempted murder.

AFTER mature consideration the United States Navy Department has informed the State Department that it has no objection to the landing of the projected Dutch German cable at Guam, in the Ladrone Archipelago. Instructions have accordingly been issued by the State Department sanctioning the landing of the cable.

IT has been notified by the Yokohama Customs Authorities that money deposited with the customs as security for payment of duty on imported goods which are taken delivery of from the customs compound before the import permit is granted, can be refunded at any other port if the applicant lodges a request at the time of depositing the money.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Saturday, May 30.

Fresh difficulties have occurred in connexion with the *entente* between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai*. The gist of the matter is that the Budget Committee, or to speak more accurately, the *Seiyu-kai* section of it, has treated the Supplementary Budgets in a manner which the Ministry regards as a direct violation of the terms of the compromise. Guided by its originally formulated principle that nothing capable of being deferred until next session should be settled immediately, the *Seiyu-kai* section of the Committee has rejected items which form an integral part of the Government's general financial scheme. It would seem, in fact, that an endeavour is being made by the members of the Committee to contrive that the Supplementary Budgets shall emerge from the hands of the House purged from any practical approval of the loan policy which the Ministry has agreed with Marquis Ito to substitute for the increased rate of land tax. If that attempt on the part of the *Seiyu-kai* members of the Budget Committee could be carried out, the *Seiyu-kai* would stand in the position of having withheld its consent to the terms of the compromise by deferring to next sessinn the ultimate consideration of ways and means. Naturally such a course is regarded by the Cabinet as a breach of good faith. It appears from what our Tokyo contemporaries have to say on the subject, that when the Sub-Committee (*shusa-kai*) of the Budget Committee formulated its decision as to eliding or reducing the appropriations sought by the Government, immediate appeal was made to Marquis Ito, who addressed a telephonic message of remonstrance to the two remaining members of the Standing Committee. But, apparently in anticipation of some intervention on the part of their leader, the Sub-Committee had hastened to submit its decision to the *Seiyu-kai* members of the Budget Committee, and the latter having endorsed it, equal haste was made to convene a general meeting of *Seiyu-kai* Parliamentary members on the 28th instant, when the programme of the members of the Budget Committee was approved. This brought Marquis Ito to Tokyo and in deference to his remonstrances in the morning the members of the Standing Committee had another interview with the Premier and some Cabinet Ministers. The result of that interview was conveyed to a meeting of the *Seyui-kai* members of the Budget Committee held on the evening of the 28th after the House had risen. There is some contradiction in the reports of what occurred at the meeting. Some accounts say that three members of the Budget Committee decided to entrust the whole matter to the Standing Committee; others allege that the Standing Committee received authority to propose a compromise, the terms being that if the Cabinet definitely pledged itself to adopt the *Seiyu-kai's* policy of paying for railway expansion with the funds accruing from railway earnings, the Party would agree to restore the reductions made in the Supplementary Budget so far as they effected the Ministerial programme for providing naval-expansion funds. Whatever may have been the exact nature of the mandate given to the Standing Committee, the general opinion seems to be that this incident will be manœuvred so as to leave the *entente* undisturbed. On the other hand, there does not appear to be the least disposition on the side of the *Seiyu-kai* to re-consider its decision about Formosan expenditures. The sum of 2½ millions asked for on account of railway expansion in the new dominion, and the sum of 600,000 on account of Keelung harbour works, have both been eliminated, and since there is no prospect of their being restored, Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, is reported to have tendered his resignation.

There have been three more secessions from the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*, so that up, to the evening of the 28th instant the Party had suffered a loss of 25 parliamentary members. It is further stated that a section, numbering about thirty, of the Tosa branch of the Party, have resigned *en bloc*. As to Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi and his followers, the idea now seems to be that they will remain quiet until the close of the session, after which they will begin to agitate for reconstruction of the Party.

Monday, June 1.

It is reported that the whole of the Higashi-mura local section of the *Seiyu-kai* in Wakayama prefecture, has seceded from the *Seiyu-kai's* ranks. This is the constituency which returned Mr. Yamaguchi Kumano, one of the most prominent of the malcontents. No fresh secessions of members of the Diet are reported, but there are various rumours of commotion in the camp of the Party. The *Asahi* quotes Baron Ito as alleging that Marquis Ito himself is thoroughly disgusted and contemplates abandoning his position as leader. Others affirm that reconstruction of the Party is probable. It has certainly passed through a stormy experience.

Wednesday, June 3.

According to all accounts the so-called "reform section" of the *Seiyu-kai* continues its labours vigorously, though pending the conclusion of the Diet's session there is some indisposition to take the public into the Party's confidence. These "reformers" seem determined to remodel the *Seiyu-kai's* organization so as to secure greater independence for the members. Their pivotal figure is Mr. Kataoka Kenkichi, who has great influence, and who may be supposed to command the allegiance of the whole Tosa section; in other words, the allegiance of the nucleus of the original Liberal Party. Some Tokyo journals declare frankly that this must be regarded as a revolt against Marquis Ito's undivided authority. Even the *Kokumin Shimbun* takes that view. Our contemporary does not hesitate to say that Marquis Ito has lost control of the bulk of the Party, and that, in point of fact, he has no longer any desire to exercise control in existing circumstances. He will therefore either abandon his position as a party leader, or remodel the Party on lines such that further revolt will be out of the question. Many of our readers, we imagine, will remember distinctly that the very foundation stone of the *Seiyu-kai's* organization in 1900 was what the Japanese called *sosai sensei*, or the exercise of absolute authority by the Party's leader. The fact elicited many comments at the time, and we ourselves were among those that expressed doubts whether the spirit of insubordination hitherto shown by all politicial organizations in Japan could be permanently exorcised even by Marquis Ito. At all events it is now beyond all question that an insurrection against the system of *sosai sensei* would be an insurrection against the basic theory of the Party's existence, and that if such an insurrection succeeds, the *Seiyu-kai's* career will be closed. Then will occur the question, must it be assumed that no Japanese political association is capable of obedience to a leader, since if Marquis Ito can not secure obedience, assuredly no other Japanese can? Or shall we see a new party organized under that disinguished statesman and purged of all the old elements of insubordination, if such a term can be justly applied to men like Messrs. Ozaki Yukio and Kataoka Kenkichi?

THE BUDGETS.

Monday, June 1.

On the 30th ultimo the House of Representatives passed all the Government's Budgetary proposals so far as they related to Naval Expansion; that is to say, the annual appropriations for purposes of increment. The measures for providing funds, namely, by additions to the railway bonds, by administrative economies and by recourse to domestic loans, did not come up for discussion until the 31st (Sunday), when, contrary to its custom, the House sat, evidently with the object of concluding its business speedily and thus dispensing with the necessity of any prolongation of the session. But while showing this placable mood towards naval expansion, the House adopted a different line in the case of other appropriations. It declined to pass two out of the three demands made on account of Formosa. Those demands were:—

	Yen.
Railway Construction	2,500,000
Harbour Works	600,000
Surveying Expenses	900,000
Total	4,000,000

Out of this total, the only item endorsed by the House was the last, and that concession was made in consideration of the Government's explanation that the cadastral survey now in progress could not be suspended without loss, and that if carried to completion, its effect would be to increase the public revenue of the island to the extent of 2 million *yen*.

Other demands preferred by the Cabinet were also rejected or largely reduced. One that attracted much attention was a comparatively small item of 23,000 *yen* to be used for compiling text books. This, as our readers know, is connected with the important question whether such work should be undertaken by the State or left to private enterprise. Apparently a majority in the present House are opposed to State compilation, but inasmuch as a former House adopted a Representation advising that method, there is some reason to think that the attitude of the present House is due to sentiment not to reason. When the item came up for discussion, and when its elision was advised by the Budget Committee, the Minister of State for Education warned the House that if the appropriation were rejected there would be no text books for the schools after April of next year. It may be doubted whether such a warning would have been neglected by any other parliamentary assembly in the world. But it was neglected by the Japanese House of Representatives, a fact which vividly illustrates the implacable mood of many of the members towards the Government. Mr. Shimada Saburo and Dr. Taguchi supported the Ministry, but Dr. Hatoyama took it upon himself to declare, in effect, that the apprehension expressed by the Minister of Education was groundless, and that private enterprise might be trusted to step into the breach before next year. So

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the item was rejected, and it becomes necessary to infer that the present House is opposed to State compilation, though many of the members now sitting there must have voted for the Representation advocating that course, passed in a previous session.

Another important item related to Telephone extension. The Government put forward a scheme involving a total outlay of 14,850,000 *yen*, spread over 12 years. This was called the "Second Period of Telephone Extension," and a sum of 950,000 *yen* was shown as the outlay for the current year. The House rejected the item. But it should be noted with respect alike to this and the Formosan public works appropriations, that the House did not undertake to judge the schemes on their merits. The majority merely obeyed the principle laid down by the Budget Committee as a basis of procedure, namely, that no new expenditures which could be deferred until next session should be sanctioned now.

With regard to the Iron Foundry, for which the Government had set down an outlay of 1,827,314 *yen* during the present year, being part of a total new appropriation of 4,855,419 *yen* spread over 5 years, the majority of the Budget Committee recommended that only the outlay on account of the manufacture of coke, namely 659,087 *yen*, should be sanctioned. A minority report was, however, presented at the same time urging the increase of the appropriation to 956,000 *yen*, and the House adopted the latter. In this case also the principle followed was not to vote in this extraordinary session any monies on account of works which could be postponed for fuller consideration in the ordinary session at the close of the year.

Much interest attached to the debate on the 31st ultimo when the measure that might be called the backbone of the Naval Increment scheme came up for discussion. The political parties had considered this matter on the preceding day, and the Progressists had resolved to reject the Government's proposals, whereas the *Seiyu-kai* had pledged themselves to support them. Speaking in round numbers, the House was asked to increase the total sum for railway construction from 130 millions to 180 millions. The details of this appropriation are given elsewhere in our columns. Had the House rejected it, the whole of the Government's programme of naval increment would have been upset, and the *entente* with the *Seiyu-kai* would have come to naught. This, then, was the last opportunity of the malcontents.

They attempted to utilize it. The Progressist members of the Budget Committee presented a minority report opposing the Bills, mainly on the ground that they were a mere make-believe, the real destination of the funds asked for being naval increment. But the House had evidently made up it mind. It showed little disposition to attend to the speeches of the Bills' opponents, and the closure having been applied, both measures were carried through all their readings, in spite of a vigorous and ably reasoned protest by Mr. Taguchi, who contended that this renewed recourse to domestic loans would inevitably disturb the money market. It should be added that the total sum of 180 million *yen* was reduced by 5 millions, in consequence of the Iron-Foundry items being elided.

The other measures discussed were all private bills, representations, petitions or resolutions of no special importance.

It has hitherto been understood that the Government desired to change the present system of continuing expenditures on account of public works. That system provides that a fixed sum must be laid out each year. But experience having proved that much inconvenience attends the observance of such a hard and fast rule, the Ministry was understood to be determined upon pressing the Diet to sanction a change in the sense of removing the annual limitation. It would seem, however, that the projected alteration has been abandoned, probably in deference to the views of the party politicians. At all events the Cabinet has recast some of its Supplementary Budgets. The totals are not changed but the system of fixed yearly amounts is strictly adhered to, with the result that the figures stand thus :—

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS IMPROVEMENT FUND.

	Yen.
Fiscal year 1904- 5	2,560,000
" 1905- 6	3,200,000
" 1906- 7	3,500,000
" 1907- 8	3,500,000
" 1908- 9	1,528,740
" 1909-10	200,000
Total	14,488,740

STATE RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION FUND.

	Yen.
Fiscal year 1904- 5	4,298,714
" 1905- 6	9,600,000
" 1906- 7	8,965,793
" 1907- 8	7,181,921
" 1908- 9	7,516,167
" 1909-10	5,900,000
" 1910-11	4,658,669
" 1911-12	2,300,000
" 1912-13	1,430,108
Total	51,851,372

With reference to this it has to be explained that the sum devoted to purposes of railway construction under the present law is 99,185,280 *yen*, out of which the amount already expended is 88,749,633 *yen*, leaving 10,435,647 *yen* to be still expended. To this last figure the Supplementary Budgets now presented provide for an addition of 41,415,725 *yen*, so that the total to be devoted to railway building up to the year 1912 would be 51,851,372 *yen*, as shown in the above table.

As to outlays on account of Naval Expansion, the yearly expenditures are set down thus :—

Fiscal year.	Yen.
1903-4	2,687,682
1904-5	6,701,077
1905-6	8,547,229
1906-7	8,754,042
1907-8	10,401,094
1908-9	10,887,132
1909-10	11,105,187
1910-11	11,163,660
1911-12	12,232,643
1912-13	11,356,367
1913-14	5,024,187
Total	99,860,303

The appropriation for the St. Louis Exhibition is set down thus :—

	Yen.
1903-4	500,000
1904-5	286,631
1905-6	13,368

The *Seiyu-kai* has agreed to these figures, the Ministry, on its side, promising to introduce a bill next session in the sense that hereafter railway extensions shall be effected with railway earnings. Thus the second menace of a conflict between the Government and the Party has been averted. On the other hand, the Formosan appropriations appear to have been sacrificed completely, and it was at one time expected that Baron Kodama would persist in resigning. Considering that he was chiefly instrumental in effecting the *entente*, it is certainly hard that all his projects of Formosan development should be defeated. But latest intelligence indicates that he will retain office.

Tuesday, June 2.

The Budget Committee of the Upper House met on the 31st ultimo, and received from the Government Delegates a statement that the Ministry was content to leave unquestioned the amendments made by the Lower House. It was then proposed that the Committee, as a whole, should proceed at once to consider the Budgets, without following the usual procedure of dividing into sections and examining the various items in detail. This proposal was negatived, however, and the usual course was adopted. When the sections had gone into session, the Delegate of the Education Department pointed out that the Department would be greatly inconvenienced by the excision of the text-book-compilation appropriation, and General Baron Kodama protested against the treatment that the Formosan items had received. But it was understood that these remonstrances were chiefly for form's sake, and accordingly the sections voted unanimously that while dissenting in several respects from the views of the Lower House, no changes whatever should be made in the latter's amendments, it being in the public interest that further delays should be avoided. This decision was endorsed by the Committee at its general meeting on the forenoon of the 1st instant.

There was at one time a disposition on the part of the section of the Upper House led by Prince Konoye, to introduce an Address to the Throne urging that in view of the rapid growth of administrative expenses in recent years, the financial ability of the country might soon be overtaxed, and radical steps of administrative reform ought therefore to be undertaken. It proved impossible, however, to obtain the approval of anything like a majority for so drastic a measure as an Address to the Throne, and at this moment of writing (Monday morning) the idea is that the Peers will not go beyond a Representation suggesting the importance of keeping the issue of domestic loans at the lowest possible figure. That much the Upper House apparently thinks due to itself, in consideration of the fact that it had previously given its unqualified adherence to the policy of substituting taxes for public loans.

Wednesday, June 3.

At the meeting of the Budget Committee of the House of Peers on the afternoon of the 1st instant, Viscount Soga exhibited his usually implacable mood by inquiring how it happened that after the House of Representatives had passed resolutions emphatically censuring the Ministers of State for Agriculture and Commerce and for Education, these two officials continued to hold office without any appearance of recognising their responsibility. The Premier himself replied. His answer was that the Ministers of the Crown do not hold any mandate from the House of Representatives; that they are commissioned by the Sovereign; that without His Majesty's direction they can neither take nor quit office, and that a mere vote of the Lower Chamber is constitutionally insufficient to displace them. This answer is reported to have aroused much indignation in Viscount Soga's bosom. He called it the reply of a pettifogging attorney and he vehemently declared that when over a hundred officials, directly or indirectly connected with the Education Department, are in prison, the Minister's own conscience should suggest the propriety of

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resigning, while as for the Agriculture and Commerce Department, if the Ministry imagined that the removal of the chief of a bureau sufficed to atone for such a blunder as that of the Exchanges, they were much mistaken. It will be observed that Viscount Soga's appeal was of a somewhat mixed character. He pleaded now at the bar of the Constitution and now at the bar of the Ministerial conscience. It will also be observed that Count Katsura interpreted the Constitution exactly as it was interpreted three years ago by Marquis Ito. The Constitution, however, is like all other instruments of State polity: time may read new meanings between its lines.

CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, May 30.

As to the affair of the Kwangsi and Yunnan insurrection, a telegram published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* indicates that France has not actually sent any troops across the frontier but that she threatens to do so unless China takes speedier and more effective measures to quell the insurrection. It is further stated that Russia has intimated her approval of France's announcement, or has conveyed a statement of her belief in its necessity, and that the Chinese Government has emphatically denied that any occasion exists for such interference.

M. Lessar reached Peking, according to the *Jiji Shimpo'* correspondent, on the 28th instant. Something definite will now be heard, we presume about the Manchurian negotiations, We do not expect to hear, however, how it happened that M. Plancon, having presented a series of demands which were subsequently repudiated in the most emphatic manner by his Government, was suffered to remain in Peking as his country's duly credited representative. Assuredly historians will be puzzled to fix upon a rational version of that incident.

From the same source we learn that the Japanese Representative in Seoul having called upon ex-Viceroy Chang, found him inveterately opposed to Russia's procedure in Manchuria, and most desirous of taking his own departure from Peking.

Monday, June 1.

Telegrams from Peking announce that Mr. Wu Ting-fong, the well-known former Chinese Representative in Washington, has been appointed Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The report is confirmed that Chang Chih-tung has declared to Mr. Uchida, Japanese Minister in Peking, his firm resolve not to accept any post in Peking. Unless he can return as Viceroy to Wu-chang he seems determined to retire from public life.

From Peking the *Kokumin* publishes an interesting item of intelligence. M. Plancon, we are told, officially informed the Chinese Foreign Office that inasmuch as M. Lessar's arrival in the city might be expected on the 29th of May, it was desirable that a categorical answer should be given to the demands already preferred by Russia and now lying at the Foreign Office awaiting reply. Presumably the demands to which M. Plancon refers are those substituted by Russia for her original and subsequently disowned series. It is evident, at all events, that M. Plancon retains his place and discharges his duties. How that happens if he so greatly exceeded his instructions as the St. Petersburg Government affirms, we are wholly at a loss to understand.

Tuesday, June 2.

It is stated by the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent that the trouble about the Kaiping coal mine is to be referred to a court of law in London, from which we infer that the British Company are the defendants.

The Foreign Office in Peking has informed the Representatives of the various Powers that the insurgents in Liu-ki have been subdued and that the persons and property of foreigners residing at Mantsu are protected by the regular forces of China.

There is a rumour that the Chinese delegates to the Osaka Exhibition have expressed great dissatisfaction at the treatment they received from Japan, but it appears to us that, whatever the truth of this story may be, it is premature. Besides, the delegates certainly showed no sign of discontent while in Japan. On the contrary, Mr. Bredon expressed himself in warm terms about the courtesies he had received.

The Chinese Resident in Thibet is said to have addressed a telegram to his Government in the sense that a body of about 140 Russians, apparently soldiers, have entered Thibet from the east and are making preparations which seem to indicate permanent residence. They are conducting operations of survey, and their presence is reported to be causing much consternation among the people. This rumour comes from the *Asahi's* Peking correspondent. It must be confessed that if Russia be innocent of all the enterprises attributed to her, she is strangely belied. The only thing to be said is that she is probably the victim of great exaggeration.

Foreign opinion in Peking is reported to be much exercised about the appointment of Mr. Wu Ting-fong to such a comparatively insignificant office as that of a Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. The idea is that a post of so little importance is an insult to the high reputation won by Mr. Wu in the United States and to his profound knowledge of foreign affairs. Everyone acquainted with Mr. Wu's career, and above all every one that knows him personally, must endorse that view. Mr. Wu was several years a distinguished member of the Hongkong Legislative Council, and there is probably not a man in China who excels him in intimate information about European and American affairs. He speaks English absolutely like an Englishman, and his appreciation of any question is acute and profound. As a Vice-Minister in the Foreign Office he would be virtually nobody, nor would there be any scope for his great abilities. Were Li Hung-chang alive, such an office would never have been offered to one of his most distinguished lieutenants.

It is reported that the difficulties about the Shanghai-Nanking Railway have been amicably disposed of, the English representatives of the company having agreed to accept the views of their Chinese colleagues.

Terrible accounts continue to be received about the famine in Kwangsi. It is said that human flesh is openly sold. Mr. Conger is reported to have appealed to the Charity Society of New York, and it is added that the Christians of Hongkong and Shanghai have put up a sum of 200,000 taels.

A telegram from Shanghai to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has purchased all the property—steamers, warehouses and good-will—of the McBain Yangtse S. S. Company, which, acording to the same authority, ranks next to the China Navigation S.S. Company in point of magnitude and importance. The correspondent adds that a German association tried to effect the same purchase last year but was unsuccessful.

The *North-China Daily News* of May 25th contains the following:—

News received by us on Saturday from a private but thoroughly reliable source explains Russia's activity on the Yalu, and her endeavours to gain as much time as possible by negotiation at Peking. We learn that a German steamer, the *Amoy*, chartered at Port Arthur by the Russian authorities was last week lying outside the mouth of the Yalu, as near as her captain could get, discharging railway iron, the ostensible object being to lay a railway to bring down timber from the Russian forest concession on the Yalu. What is really being done however, it is understood, is the building of a railway to connect the Chinese Eastern Railway with the Yalu, which will enable Russia to bring her troops to the Korean border by rail. There is a Chinese General there with a thousand Chinese troops, all in Russian pay, who are to act as a buffer to keep the Russian and Japanese from coming into actual contact, while the new railway is being hurried on. It may be added, as a significant fact, that the Russian authorities have been endeavouring to engage British shipmasters who know the coast to act as pilots in the Korean Gulf. Russia's continued protestations that she will not go to war must be contrasted with her feverish activity in a course of action which must inevitably lead to war if it is maintained.

The *Amoy*, we presume, is one of the two steamers which, according to a report received in Tokyo on the 26th of May, were employed in preserving communications between the mouth of the Yalu and Antung; in other words, between the new Russian settlement at Yong Am-pho and the military base in Manchuria. It is quite reasonable to suppose that the railway-building operations referred to by our Shanghai contemporary are connected in a *bonâ fide* sense with the timber-cutting enterprise of Russian subjects in the Yalu forests. But we shall scarcely be accused of needless suspicion if we call attention to the significant coincidence of these operations with the proposal said to have been made by Russia for the concession of the Seoul-Wiju Railway. The building of the latter line and its junction with the East-China roads would bring the Korean capital within the sphere of Russia's military potentiality, and thereafter any attempts to preserve the independence of the peninsular empire must be doomed to ultimate failure. If it were possible to discern any limit to Russia's expansion towards the south, all these events might be divested of some of their interest. But since her progress is continual, imagination has no difficulty in picturing the sequel of her various advances.

Friday, June 5.

The name of Governor Wang Chih-chun of Kwang-si was much before the public recently. From several quarters charges were preferred against him of having sought the aid of French troops and French money for the purpose of quelling the insurgents in his province. Wang has now strenuously denied everything of the kind. In a telegram to the Vice-President of the Board of War, he details the steps taken by him to raise an efficient force and the substantial assistance he received from the late Viceroy Liu Kun-yi and from Chang Chih-tung. He claims to have restored order completely by means of these troops, except in some unimportant hill districts.

Messrs. Pearson and Company are building the Honan section of the Lu-Han Railway, which is to run from Peking to Hankow. From a report issued by them and epitomised by the *N.-C. Daily News*, we take the following:—

Beginning with generalities the reporting engineers give the length of the Lu-Han line as 720 miles, and in January the earthwork was completed within

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about 180 miles north and south of the Yellow River. The river makes a natural dividing line between the two main sections into which, for purposes of construction, the line is divided. These main divisions are again subdivided into sections of about 40 miles, each under a chief of section and having each three assistants in particular charge of yet shorter lengths of from ten to fifteen miles. There are superintendent engineers, one for each side of the Yellow River, and M. Jadot is Chief Engineer for the whole concern. From Peking to Chêngtingfu, a distance of 150 miles, there was at the time of the inspection a daily through train, which takes about 12 hours to make the journey. The train consists of a first-class car with four or five second-class and as many open trucks for coolies. The portion of line thus opened is beginning to make profits which are appropriated in equal portions to paying off the loan and carrying the construction further. By April, it was thought, the line would be open to passenger traffic as far as Shuntehfu which is approximately half-way to the river. A short branch line from Changsintien to Fêngtai, about six miles long, affords communication with the Imperial Chinese Railway and so with Tientsin.

As far as surveying is concerned that for the southern section is already complete. Preliminary investigation has been made also for the whole of the northern section and the actual surveying had been carried some miles south of Shuntehfu, while by June it was expected Weihuifu would be reached. M. Charignon and M. De Cote are in charge of the surveying. The low-lying nature of most of the country requires that the line shall be built on low banks throughout most of the length. There are, however, four cuttings through traversing ranges of hill. One of these cuttings is two miles long and another is through hills of rocky formation. Water bridges are, of course, numerous. The greatest will be that across the Yellow River itself, and is to be erected at Yung-tze. It is to be built on screw piles and will be just under a mile in length. On the southern side it will be approached through a tunnel about a third of a mile long, while on the north bank the bridge will be approached from a bluff. It will take 2½ years in building commencing from this summer and until it is completed passengers will be conveyed across the river by ferry. 180 miles south of Peking work has already been commenced on a bridge of about half-a-mile long across the Hsinho. About a year should see the bridge finished. There are several other large bridges south of Chêngtingfu. One crossing the Paihuaho was commenced last autumn, but owing to sickness among the coolies, work on it had to be abandoned till the commencement of the year. It should be finished by the end of the year. In some places temporary bridges are in course of erection, and at all the crossings there are wooden bridges to carry the construction trains. There are practically no road bridges and the level crossings are as yet of a primitive kind. The natives assist their carts over the rails by placing large lumps of stone against them, a practice which sounds as though it were hardly the safest. The line has no gradients to speak of and the sharpest curve has a radius of a third of a mile, while the average curve-radius is 2½ miles. The longest straight piece extends about 18 miles.

Chao, Governor of Hunan, has issued a remarkable proclamation, exhorting the people in this notoriously anti-foreign province to treat strangers with civility and consideration. The document is very long. We extract two paragraphs :—

Let it again be repeated that the aim of Roman Catholicism and Protestantism is to exhort people to be good, whilst the teachers of those religions are energetic and naturally desire to get as many converts as possible. Yet only those who really wish to join their churches are received. No compulsion is exercised. But it is their persistence and readiness to undergo every hardship for their Faith's sake that make those teachers of religion formidable. They fear neither danger nor death in the pursuit of their duties, and those receiving death in the performance of their work are exalted by the people of their own country who raise up statues of those martyrs to their religion, which are erected in public places where the myriad may see them and know what they have done, as an honour and example for all futurity. Hence these missionaries not only fear not death but even glory in death. When our people therefore oppose them to the death are they not thereby simply helping their victims on to glory? Be it known, however, that such stories as gouging out eyes and cutting out people's hearts are really manufactured by rowdies and desperadoes for the sake of creating riots and disturbances As a matter of fact there are not and never have been such things. * * * Moreover it is not to China alone that missionaries come; they go to all places, in Europe as well as America, wherever civilisation and ignorance reign there they proceed to teach those needing them. If therefore these missionaries are guilty of things which the ignorant masses accuse them of, can they remain at peace in other parts of the world also? Communication is now most easy with all parts of the universe. Foreigners certainly now come to China in large numbers, but then we also go to foreign countries and in even larger numbers; nay even more than a hundredfold larger numbers. If, for instance, the people of other countries were just as suspicious and ready to violence as our own ignorant masses, what pray, would become of our own people in other lands, especially when we feel ourselves as weak in power as at the present day of our existence? Could our people then live at peace for a single day in those countries?

It appears that Chang Chih-tung's audience at the Court in Peking was strictly private, the only persons present besides the Empress Dowager and the ex-Viceroy being two eunuchs. Hence it may be concluded that the various rumours circulated about what passed at the audience are untrustworthy.

Shêng Kung-pao appears to have recovered his old position. The Empress Dowoger took special care to bestow marks of favour on him during her recent peregrinations, and he is now said to be as powerful as ever.

The *Asahi's* Tientsin correspondent wires that an American engineer and a Japanese, engaged on the Canton-Hankow Railway, have experienced severe treatment at the hands of a mob. The same correspondent reports that the United States Authorities, deeming the protective measures taken by the Chinese Government to be insufficient, have despatched two war-vessels to the scene of the trouble.

Terrible statements continue to arrive about the Yunnan famine. Two hundred thousand people are said to be in a state of extreme destitution, and deaths from starvation are frequent.

Sir Robert Hart is said to have warned the Chinese Government that anti-dynastic rebels are included in the Yunnan insurgents, and that the latter should not be treated as ordinary rioters. From the Tonquin side, however, news is said to have been received to the effect that things are practically quieted in Yunnan. The French and German Consuls in Mantsu have reported, it is alleged, that order has been completely restored in that district. It does not appear, however, that the insurrection at Lingan has yet been effectually dealt with.

The *Kokumin's* Peking correspondent reports that there is no appearance of M. Lessar opening negotiations with the Chinese Government about the Manchurian question, but that M. Plancon is pressing for a reply, one way or the other, to the modified demands presented by him. His latest importunity took the form of an inquiry whether China intended to wait until next year before giving any answer. Prince Ching is said to be pretexting illness, but the truth is supposed to be that he is postponing his reply until he can consult with Prince Tsai on the latter's return from Japan.

KOREA.

Saturday, May 30.

A telegram to the *Nichi Nichi* from Peking says that the Russian Syndicate's timber-felling operations on the Yalu are assuming very large dimensions. Five thousand Chinese labourers are being collected in the Tientsin and Chefoo district and assembled in Ying-kow for transport to the Yalu forests. It is becoming more and more evident that the outcome of this lumber business will be what we have several times predicted, the practical control of the line of the Yalu by Russia.

Monday, June 1.

Japanese journals predict that sooner or later a collision must occur between the two companies engaged in timber-felling enterprise on the Yalu. These two companies are the *Shinrin Kaisha*, which is understood to be a purely Russian affair, and the *Rizai Kaisha*, which was founded by a Japanese subject, Mr. Abe Junsuke, and has Chinese members. Both companies are reported to be busily working in the forests, and as the Korean Government does not appear to have taken the precaution of clearly delimiting the sphere of operations of each *concessionaire*, it is evidently likely that their interests will be found to conflict actively one of these days. Perhaps it is scarcely fair to lay the whole blame for this neglect upon Korean shoulders. The Russian Legation in Seoul does not seem disposed to facilitate any procedure-tending to a clear discrimination of concessions. M. Pablov is reported to have adopted a very curt tone towards the Korean Government. He is said to have virtually dismissed the latter's protest by intimating that his nationals intended to prosecute their timber-felling enterprise in the Yalu regions, and that as he himself was too much occupied to devote attention to such matters, Baron Gunsberg, the chief *concessionaire*, would henceforth conduct all discussions with the Korean officials, to which end he M. Pablov, wished to have a definite indication as to the Governmental department directly concerned. If that be true it may fairly be described as a humiliating rebuff for the Korean Government, and as a sign that the Russians intend to stand firmly in the position they have rightly or wrongly assumed. In this context we may add that the *Kokumin Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent speaks of the chief local official at Yongchhyong as having reported to the Seoul authorities that the Russians at Yong Ampho are behaving in a most arbitrary manner; that they are disturbing graveyards for the purpose of building houses, and that they force the people to sell lands and dwellings. This is eminently a case where it would be agreeable to fair-minded folks if some Russian account of the facts were forthcoming.

Tuesday, June 2.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram from Seoul saying that, according to reports officially received from Wiju, the number of Russians in Yong Am-pho is 80 and they are accompanied by at least a hundred Chinese. It appears from *Asahi* telegrams that the varying estimates of the Russian numbers are due to the fact that there is constant movement to and from the north side of the Yalu with corresponding increases or diminutions of the party at Yong Am-pho. All accounts agree, however, that they are levelling land and building houses with the evident intention of establishing a settlement, and that these operations have resulted in the disturbance of Korean graves, to the great discontent of the people.

It will be remembered that news reached Tokyo a few days ago in the sense that the sound of artillery had been heard in Wiju from the direction of the northern bank of the Yalu. This is now explained by a statement that the armed free-booters in Russian employ, having been invited to give in their arms and having refused, a force

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moved against them from Feng-hwang and a fight resulted, the freebooters losing 10 killed and 20 prisoners. But another account suggests that these bandits had been creating trouble by crossing the Korean frontier, and that application to have them restrained having been addressed from Seoul to Peking, the Chinese Government issued instructions to the General commanding in Mukden and also approached the Russian Representative in Peking. It appears not unlikely that in consequence of these remonstrances the officer commanding the Russian forces in Feng-hwang was directed to disarm the freebooters. One thing rendered certain by these events is that the Russians are in military occupation of Feng-hwang, a point hitherto regarded as doubtful.

While these things are going on in the north of Korea, it is alleged (*Nichi Nichi's* correspondent) that the Russian Representative in Seoul and the Korean Government have adopted a more conciliatory attitude towards each other and that there is prospect of an amicable arrangement at Yong Am-pho Whatever that arrangement may be, we entertain not the smallest doubt that Russia will emerge with duly recognised rights in the Yalu region, if not with a settlement on the southern side of the river.

Wednesday, June 3.

It will be remembered that the Russian Representative in Söul was stated to have recently sent a note to the Foreign Office in that city, saying that owing to pressure of other affairs he would be unable to attend personally to the problem of timber-felling privileges, which would therefore be discussed by the principal concessionaire, Baron Gunsberg. The Representative therefore desired to be informed what department of the Korean Government was charged with the management of such business. To this somewhat singular note the Korean Government is reported to have replied that, as a matter of course, the Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry was directly concerned, but that inasmuch as the question was between foreigners and Koreans, it naturally fell within the purview of the Foreign Office. This reply was accompanied by a strong remonstrance against the Russian interpretation of the concession. The Korean Government holds that, so far as the Tumên River is concerned, the timber-cutting concession refers to Musan only, and that in the case of the Yalu one region is indicated. Hence to interpret the document as granting privileges throughout the whole course of the Yalu from source to mouth, is altogether arbitrary. The Government suggests, therefore, that a joint commission be appointed for the purpose of delimiting the areas covered by the concession; a reasonable suggestion to which Russia can scarcely fail to agree.

Concerning this Musan, mentioned in connexion with the Tumên River, we know only one place of that name in Korea, and that place is in Hamgyong-do, on the west bank of the Tumên. The ideographs with which the name is written signify "thickly wooded mountain," and it is within the bounds of possibility that such an appellation may have been misconstrued by the concessionaires in a generic sense. But that hypothesis refers to the Tumên only. It has nothing to do with the Yalu.

PURCHASE OF THE MCBAIN LINE.

The purchase of the McBain Company's business by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was conducted with remarkable secrecy. Until the completion of the transaction the public had no inkling of what was going on. There are 5 English steamship companies operating on the Yangtse, 2 German and 1 Japanese (the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which has a subsidy of 366,000 *yen* for the service). The McBain Company own two steamers which make six trips monthly between Shanghai and Hankow, calling at Chinkiang, Wuhu, Kingan, Nanking and Kiukiang. The Company is excellently found as to wharves, warehouses and all appurtenances, and the Japanese press naturally expresses satisfaction that a great Japanese shipping concern has thus materially strengthened its footing on the Yangtse. It will be observed that by this purchase the Nippon Yusen Kaisha establishes connexion with the Hunan S. S. Company, whose service will be from Hankow to Changsha and beyond.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai says that the news of the purchase of the McBain line of steamers, with a considerable area of land and other appurtenances, by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was published on the evening of the 1st inst. in Shanghai and created no little excitement. The price paid is said to have been 1,300,000 taels, and it is reported that a Hankow Syndicate had been negotiating for the purchase when the Nippon Yusen Kaisha stepped in and anticipated the conclusion of the bargain. It is easy to see that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has a special interest in the matter, on account of the pending operations of the Hunan Steamship Company, which will run steamers from Hankow down the Tung-ting Lake to Changsha and beyond. By the acquisition of the McBain Line the Nippon Yusen Kaisha is brought into direct connexion with the Hunan Company, in which the former is very intimately interested, and thus goods from Japan to any ports of the Yangtse as far up as Hankow and as far inland from Wuchang as Shang-hiang, can be carried by steamers flying the Japanese flag and virtually controlled by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. This is undoubtedly a very important development, and the Directors of the Nippon Kaisha have shown a spirit of wise enterprise.

THE TOKYO ELECTRIC COMPANIES.

For a considerable time there has been talk of amalgamating the Tokyo Street Railway Company and the Tokyo Tram Company. Most of our readers are acquainted with the nature of these concerns. The Tram Company has been running horse trams in the city for many years and is now converting its system to electricity. The Street Railway Company has a concession for building electric lines in various parts of the city, and is now engaged in the work. It appears that the Tram Company's Directors are entirely willing to amalgamate, and that a considerable section of the other Company's Directors and shareholders take the same view, their leader being Mr. Okura Kihachiro. But Mr. Amenomiya, who is the largest shareholder of all, resolutely opposes amalgamation on the ground that it would involve heavy loss to his Company. No prospect of an arrangement is at present visible, which seems regrettable, for it could hardly fail to prove to the advantage of shareholders and citizens alike that the electric lines of the capital should be under one organization, since they can scarcely come into competition as they are now planned.

A meeting of the Street Railway Company was held in the Hall of the Young Men's Association on the 2nd instant, for the purpose of discussing the question of amalgamation with the Tram Company (Densha Kaisha). The latter company appears to be "sitting tight." As a going and highly lucrative concern, it evidently thinks that the Street Railway Company must ultimately come to its arms. Probably the forecast is right. There has been, however, a heated controversy in the ranks of the Street Railway Company. Mr. Amenomiya, the President, heads one powerful section, and Mr. Okura Kihachiro leads another. The caloric developed by the dispute almost reached the dimensions of a conflagration at the meeting on the 2nd. Even *soshi* made their appearance, and things threatened to become very disturbed when wiser counsels prevailed and a measure of compromise was substituted for the amalgamation bill. By the measure as it stands the shareholders announce their willingness to amalgamate, provided that suitable terms can be obtained, and the duty of discussing terms is left to the Directors. It may therefore be hoped that union will now result, and that the unsightly squabbles which have hitherto marked the progress, or rather helped to arrest the progress, of electric transport in Tokyo, will come to an end. There remains, of course, the Tokyo Electric Railway Company, which moves quietly along its own path and refrains from any disputes with the other enterprises. We may add that according to a statement of reasons attached to the amalgamation bill submitted, at the outset, to the meeting on the 2nd, the two companies, by uniting, will be able to reduce their number of cars from 450 to 300 or 305; their staffs will become smaller, and they can dispense with the building of lines which would have been necessary had they competed in districts where their systems approach within competing distance.

THE "JAPAN TIMES."

The *Japan Times* has greatly increased the dimensions of its sheet, which fact may be interpreted as a sign of prosperity and therefore calls for congratulation. Being the only daily newspaper, worthy of the name, published in English in the metropolis of Japan, our contemporary supplies a want and supplies it well. A distinguished American journalist who lived for many years in Tokyo and who has there his last resting place, used to find more diversion than edification in the idea of Japanese subjects editing and publishing an English journal in Japan. Certainly the enterprise has its quaint side, but our own opinion has always been that such a publication may act a most useful part by representing the true views of Japanese on current questions and correcting the greatly mistaken estimates often formed by foreigners with regard to the affairs of this country. The *Japan Times* has its own political leanings. That is natural. But, in spite of its periodical assaults on ourselves, which are probably inspired mainly by a desire to produce a little scintillation in the languid atmosphere, we offer our tribute to the persevering ability with which our contemporary is conducted.

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MR. KONDO REMPEI'S SPEECH.

The following is an accurate translation of the speech delivered by the President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Mr. Kondo Rempei, at the general meeting of shareholders on the 25th of May :—

GENTLEMEN,—The reports you have just heard indicate that the results of our business during the half year under review were not equal to the results of the previous half year; they show a certain diminution of revenue. This is due simply to the fact that owing to continued and increased tradal depression and large supplies of shipping, rates of freight had to be reduced, and thus though the movement of goods was considerable, the resulting income was not proportionate. Fortunately the business management being good, reached large dimensions, and some income from the Bombay Line, not previously included in the settled accounts, having been placed to the credit of the period under review, on the whole, we have been able to maintain a fair average in our returns and to propose the payment of a dividend not less than that for the previous half year, which is a matter of congratulation for the Company's sake. The only subject that inspires some regret is that the sums carried to the Capital Fund for Services Extension and Fleet Improvement and to the Reserve are 100,000 *yen* less than the figure for the last half year, though compared with previous periods the total is the same. In the results of our business, too, there is no great difference in comparison with last term. In view of the nature of the year it must be said that we have made a tolerable record.

Such being the facts with regard to the period under review, the question is, how will things fare in the succeeding half year. As to that, I presume, gentlemen, that you entertain your own views, but I think that, having regard to present conditions, no very great change need be anticipated. Judging from economical circumstances to-day and from business conditions, there is not much hope yet, I think, of a revival of commercial activity or tradal prosperity.

It has been my custom at each of these meetings to speak to you about the state of the world's maritime enterprise. On this occasion I can not say that any specially new material has come to my knowledge, so I shall merely take the opportunity of submitting for your consideration one or two items of recent intelligence.

Gentlemen, you are aware that the Pacific Union S.S. Company, an outgrowth of the Morgan combination which has attracted such world-wide attention, made a contract at the close of last December, for the transfer of the property concerned, the result being the establishment of the International Mercantile Marine Company. What achievements that organization will show is a question for the future. Mr. Morgan's plan is to coördinate the profits of this trust with the profits accruing from a previously formed trust, namely, that arising from a combination of the great railway companies of North America. Thus will come into existence a huge commercial mechanism, extending from the north part of America, cutting right across the continent and stretching east and west. It will be a wonderful thing to see the completion of this great design for obtaining control of interport facilities by sea and land. To be connected with this, as you know, are the huge twenty-two-thousand-ton vessels of the Great Northern S.S. Company, now in course of construction, which will be finished in the course of this year or by the beginning of next, and which will certainly be placed before long on the Far-Eastern Service. Further, the Pacific Mail, which connects with the Union Pacific at San Francisco in the South, had two large steamers recently built and placed upon its line, and news comes that it has bought two other new vessels of over ten thousand tons each. Are we to conclude that on England's side there will be competition with the Pacific Trust or the railway trust? As I stated at our last meeting, England has made a special agreement with the Cunard Company providing for the construction of two large fast steamers. It would seem also, from recent intelligence, that in Canada too the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, uniting with the Beaver Line, is going to make a stand against the Morgan Combination. There will then be created another necessity for placing on the Vancouver and Far-Eastern route ships larger than those now performing that service. And not on the Pacific Ocean only but in the Far East also I think that in a not-distant future we shall see ships of over twenty thousand tons. There is news too that Morgan entertains a plan for opening a new line of railway from Alaska to Siberia and thus getting command of the communications between Europe, America and Asia. If that is true, such a state of affairs will be reached, I think, that the future development of maritime enterprise can hardly be calculated.

The English Government seeing that the various States encourage each its own maritime enterprise and for that purpose grant financial subsidies, has had a special committee investigating, for the past two or three years, the effect produced by the operation of that system upon England's shipping companies. The Committee brought its labours to a close last December, and presented a report, which, having been re-produced in newspapers and periodicals at home and abroad, is doubtless familiar to you. It consists of fifty articles, and its contents indicate that the inquiry was of a thoroughly minute and careful nature. We can not have anything but admiration, I think, for the investigations of a committee which represents the matured experience of a great country called by the world the queen of the ocean. Neither can we doubt that the views expressed by such a committee are of the most reasonable nature. There does not appear to be in the committee's advice any recommendation that the British Government should act like other countries in giving encouragement by means of monetary subsidies. The chief suggestion is that light-house dues should be made a State charge, and that the load-line should altered, At the end a desire is expressed that the privileges of the coasting trade should be reserved to domestic shipping. I think it one of the great world-questions of the day whether England will adopt and give effect to that advice or not. As other countries are already following the system, it is a problem whether England may not reserve the same privileges as they do so as to protect her own ships against them. Of course, being able to act as she pleases in the matter, she may possibly carry out the system, but so far as I can see the English Government is not very likely to enact this restrictive law. The cabotage of Canada or Australia is a thing apart, but I am disposed to think that as between the mother country and the Straits Settlements or other colonies, the system will not be adopted. For this reason that, according to the investigations of the Committee, the tonnage of British vessels engaged in the coastwise trade is 9¼ millions of tons, whereas the tonnage of foreign vessels plying between England and her colonies is only 950,000 tons. In other words, only ten per cent. of the shipping is affected by the system. It is doubtful whether on account of such a result England would abandon her long pursued policy of free trade in favour of restrictive laws. Besides I do not think that there is any falling off in the commerce between the home country and the Straits Settlements or the Far East. The fact is, that it appears to show some development. Not British ships alone yearly grow in number at present; the vessels of other countries also are on the seas, and have naturally caused a competition of freight rates, bringing them down to such a point that this cheap carriage enables inferior grades of commodities to be transported. It is a fact that owing to the low rate between Japan and Europe, cheap articles can be sent from this side, and for the same reason the volume of goods going by sea from the Straits Settlements, as cocoa-nut fibre, gums and other bulky articles, has, I think, increased. About ten years ago, before Germany and Japan had established their Far-Eastern lines by the Suez Canal, English ships did the bulk of the carrying business and the French came next. The rate of freight was then some 40 shillings or over, but to-day it is only 20 shillings—varying with the nature of the goods, of course, but about 20 shillings on the average. Forty shillings means some 20 *yen* of our money, and 20 shillings is 10 *yen*. If commodities can be carried to a distance of over ten thousand miles for something like ten *yen* a ton, cheap grades of goods will be transported. I am inclined to think that the development witnessed to-day in the trade between Europe and the Far East and between the Straits Settlements and the Far East is due to that cause. As to what would happen if this carrying business were limited to British vessels alone, there can be little doubt that rates of freight would go up, and I am disposed to think that with high rates the prosperous conditions now existing in the import and export trades would no longer be seen, and that the trade between the mother country and the colonies might suffer appreciably. Considering that aspect of the question, I am disposed to think that the Government of Great Britain, with its ripe practical experience, its luminous outlook and its breadth of view, will not easily be induced to subject the coastwise trade to restrictive laws. That, of course, is only my own view. Should it happen that England did actually give effect to such a system, my belief is that the consequences would be as I have now suggested. As to what the effect would be upon the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, that is a question. England might deem it a necessary measure of protection to treat other countries in the same manner as they treat her, but with us the carrying trade in goods and passengers between the open ports may be engaged in by the ships of foreign countries; the cabotage is not restricted by any severe laws. If Japan does not enact such laws, I should think that England also will refrain from adopting any severe measures towards Japanese ships. The matter could probably be brought within the scope of treaties of reciprocity, and I am therefore disposed to believe that the business of our Company will not be affected by that factor. If, again, instead of taking cargo from intermediate ports, to England, it is found cheaper to carry goods from the colonies direct to points on the continent, shippers will largely come to adopt the latter plan, in which case the Company's income would probably not show any very great reduction. It is one of the questions of the time whether England will or will not adopt this policy, but my opinion is that the British Government will not easily consent to do so, and that even if they did, there would not be any serious injury to the business of our Company. These are my ideas as an individual. I merely submit them for your consideration.

JAPANESE POLITICS IN "THE TIMES."

Saturday, May 30.

We are at a loss to understand the object of the *Japan Times* in endeavouring to support its strange statement that certain intelligence wired to *The Times* from Tokyo on April 14th was "absolutely without foundation." The plain fact is, as every one conversant with passing events must remember distinctly, that immediately after the naval review at Kobe, news was wired to Tokyo that a meeting had been held by a large number of *Seiyu-kai* members, and that a strongly worded manifesto had been issued protesting against the methods adopted by the Party's leaders. This was followed by the issue of a similar document from another party of malcontents in Tokyo, and in order to recall the incidents to the recollections of the *Japan Times* we quote an extract from the columns of the *Japan Daily Mail* of April 16th :—

A further development of the secession-like action taken by a part of the *Seiyu-kai* as described in our last issue, is that a manifesto closely resembling the malcontents' protest has been addressed to the Managing Committee of the Party by twenty other members of the Lower House, who are said to have worked together for some time under the appellation of the *Mumeito*, or "anonymities." This memorial is almost identical with that of the Osaka protesters; that is to say, it calls for a radical change of the present *sensei soshoku* (arbitrary organization); asks that all persons placed in responsible positions shall be chosen by a general vote; advises that the number of the managing committee be reduced to three, and demands that every question of importance shall be discussed and decided by the Party in conclave. Of course no political party could work with such a programme, but the interesting feature of this demonstration is, not the practicality or otherwise of the malcontents' suggestion, but the spirit of insubordination they display. Moreover, if these twenty "anonymities" be added to the Osaka protesters, it would seem that at least a hundred parliamentary members have joined the demonstration.

Various versions of this event and conjectures about its significance are published. The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that discontent has been brewing for a long time in the ranks of the Party, but that the object of the dissatisfaction is, not the leader, Marquis Ito, but the members of the managing committee. The *Nichi Nichi* is inclined to magnify the dimensions of the revolt. It notes that the Osaka protesters numbered only 80 members of the Lower House, but that as they have supporters in the *Kwan-to*, *Tohoku* and *Hoku-shin* regions, they must aggregate fully a hundred, to which total may be added the 20 Tokyo memorialists mentionod above. The same journal notes that rumour connects Viscount Watanabe with this commotion, and that some people attribute it to the Ministry's manœuvring, but the *Nichi Nichi* regards both theories as quite ludicrous.

This paragraph represents the state of affairs two days subsequent to the despatch of the telegram to *The Times* containing news which our Tokyo contemporary now declares to have been "absolutely without foundation," though the events in question were treated seriously by such journals as the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Moreover the *Jiumin*, one of the organs of the *Seiyu-kai*, published, on the 17th of April, an article which is thus summarized in the *Japan Mail* of the following day :—

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There appears to be no room for doubt that the Osaka manifesto was a genuine document, and that the same epithet applies to the Tokyo memorial which followed it. The *Jimmin*, which is the organ of the old Liberals, is very frank about the incident. It says that there has long been discontent in connexion with the organization of the *Seiyu-kai*, and that a strong section, headed by such men as Messrs. Sugita Teiichi, Kusaka Yoshio, Kuribara Ryoichi, Sugawara Tsuto, Tatsuno Shuichiro and others, held a meeting in the fall of 1901, on the verge of the Diet's assembly, and compiled a memorial asking chiefly for a reduction in the number of the standing committee. The memorial received the approval of a majority at a general meeting of the Party, but in the absence of Marquis Ito no further step was taken. On the return of the Marquis he announced that the proposal should receive his attention, and about a year later he informed the Party at a general meeting that for the present there should be no change of organization. This decision, coming after nearly a twelvemonths' deliberation, was not favourably received. The malcontents came together again, and the party leaders, apprehending an agitation which might have disintegrating effects, adopted the policy of wholesale opposition to continuing the increased land tax. In short, according to the *Jimmin*, the land-tax problem was seized upon merely as a weapon to ward off dangers threatening the cohesion of the party. This manœuvre succeeded for the time. No one thought of discussing re-organization in the heat of the fight that ensued. But now that the Diet is approaching its eighteenth session, the malcontents have returned to their old position. The *Jimmin* adds that the Osaka manifesto ought not to have been given to the public so soon; that it had been drafted and submitted to the recalcitrants, but that its immediate appearance in the columns of two newspapers had not been anticipated, and that, in view of the fact, nothing remained for the Tokyo fellow-thinkers except to follow suit with a memorial of their own, though they were not able to endorse the Osaka document in its entirety.

Now it certainly turned out subsequently that whatever had been the original intention of the framers and supporters of the manifesto and the memorial, they finally refrained from seceding, though at first it was scarcely possible, we submit, to construe their action as anything short of secession in the face of such proceedings. Immediately on its becoming known that the threatened disruption had been averted by the expulsion of four members from the Party's ranks and by a recasting of its organization, the fact was wired to *The Times*. Of course the statement that 80 members had actually seceded proved to be inaccurate, but undoubtedly at the moment of sending the telegram to *The Times* the affair admitted of no other construction. We should have expected that when the facts were recalled to its recollection, the *Japan Times* would have apologised for its use of the extraordinary criticism "absolutely without foundation." On the contrary, it attempts to justify it.

Friday, June 5.

The *Japan Times* continues its extraordinary and now ludicrous efforts to justify the charge it preferred against the Tokyo correspondent of *The Times*, namely, that he had telegraphed to London news "absolutely without foundation." It is not within our experience to have seen any accusation so quaintly reckless preferred with such insistence and such assurance. The fact is, as everybody knows perfectly well, that on the 15th of April all Tokyo was ringing with the news which *The Times* correspondent had telegraphed on the 14th to London. It is quite true that the correspondent was mistaken in representing 80 secessions to have already taken place from the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. But at the time of despatching his telegram that was the information in his possession, information which expressed the belief entertained in many quarters. Secessions were supposed to have practically taken place, and there was plainly a crisis in the Party, a crisis averted a few days later by the expulsion of four members, ringleaders of the agitation, and by re-organization of the Party in the sense desired by the latter. To say that the news sent to *The Times* was "absolutely without foundation" in the face of these facts, is amusingly audacious. We are at a loss to understand the purpose or motive of such a wanton attack on the correspondent of *The Times* and incidentally upon this journal for supporting him. The *Japan Times* does not even display the most ordinary ingenuousness in its treatment of the matter. Having declared the correspondent's news to have been "absolutely without foundation," it now makes the discovery that the same news was published on the morning of April 14th by the *Niroku Shimpo*, and while disavowing any desire "to insinuate that *The Times* correspondent got his inspiration from the columns of the *Niroku*," it nevertheless finds "the coincidence somewhat remarkable." What is meant by quoting the *Niroku* alone? Does the *Japan Times* mean its readers to infer that no other Japanese newspaper published similar news at the same time? If it does not intend to suggest such an inference, why does it make a parade of the *Niroku* as though that untrustworthy journal had been the sole source of intelligence. The fact is—a fact which the *Japan Times* either ignores, in which case it is not qualified to conduct this discussion, or conceals, in which case it is disqualified for another reason—the fact is that the *Nippon*, in such matters an excellently informed newspaper, published, substantially the same news on the same morning, putting the number of the Kobe malcontents at 100, and plainly interpreting their attitude as a revolt against the one-man authority by which the Party was controlled. That evening at 9 p.m. the violently worded manifesto compiled by the malcontents, though not brought forward at their meeting, and never stated by *The Times* correspondent to have been so brought forward or so adopted, although the *Japan Times* would have its readers believe that he telegraphed in that sense—that evening at 9 p.m. the text of the manifesto, already in the hands of *The Times* correspondent, was telephoned to the *Nippon* from Osaka. And on the morning of the 15th, not one leading paper in Tokyo was issued without an account, more or less full, of this momentous incident, which the *Japan Times* now dismisses as "absolutely without foundation." The *Nichi Nichi*, the *Kokumin*, the *Jiji*, the *Asahi* and others, all treated the matter quite seriously and even the wholly unpolitical *Shogyo Shimpo* speaks of "over 80 members opposed to the system of *sosai dokusai*" (sole control of the leader). They were right in so treating it, for the threatened split was subsequently averted only by the drastic measures of expelling four members and re-organizing the administration of the Party. What conceivable justification is there for alleging that in these circumstances *The Times* correspondent wired an item of intelligence "absolutely without foundation" The charge is quite monstrous.

HELPING HANDS.

We have been asked to publish the two following letters, and gladly comply. The first is from the Secretary of the Church of England Homes for Waifs and Strays—a Society which has over 3,000 children now under its care; the second is from Dr. Thos. J. Barnardo, of the National Incorporated Association for the Reclamation of Destitute Waif Children, otherwise known as Dr. Barnardo's Homes. This Association is now maintaining nearly 7,000 orphan and destitute boys and girls.

14th April, 1903.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to thank you most sincerely for your kind remittance, £3-16-9, for which I have pleasure in sending a receipt. May I trouble you to kindly express my grateful thanks to the children of Christ Church, Yokohama, for their welcome contribution to our funds, and assure them that their efforts for those poor children less fortunate than themselves, are fully appreciated both by the Committee and myself.

With renewed and grateful thanks for all your kind help and interest,

Believe me, Yours very truly,

E. DE M. RUDOLF.

20th April, 1903.

DEAR SIR,—Many thanks for your kind letter duly to hand, enclosing the welcome sum of £7.3.6 in aid of my work, half of which amount is, I note with much pleasure, from the Children of Christ's Church, and the other half, a subscription from yourself. To you and them alike I would tender my heartiest thanks in the name of my great family. I have nearly 7,000 Boys and Girls under my care to-day; and each week about 70 fresh admissions take place, whilst one of the most pathetic features of my flock is the number of helpless and afflicted Little Ones who daily need medical attention and careful nursing, and who in only too many instances have but entered our Homes to be tenderly looked after and then to die. Amongst such may be found the blind, the deaf and dumb, the deformed, the incurably afflicted, and many infants of tender years.

May I ask you to express to my dear young friends at Christ's Church my special appreciation of their gift. I am always particularly glad of the sympathy of young friends, and I hope as they grow up into life their sympathies will still be extended to the neglected and destitute.

Again cordially thanking you all,

Believe me, very faithfully yours

In the service of the Waifs and Strays,

THOS. J. BARNARDO.

ACCIDENT ON THE "CHIN-YUEN."

Accidents to guns on men-of-war are unfortunately numerous now-a-days. It is reported that the *Chin-yuen* had a fatal experience during gun practice in Ise Bay on the 27th ultimo. She began her firing at 8 a.m. and about noon a gun burst, killing five men and severely injuring three. The ship at once headed for Yokosuka. Accounts vary as to the number of casualties. They are put by some versions at ten.

Later news says that the gun which caused the trouble on the *Chin-yen* was a 30-centimetre Krupp. Details are kept secret, but according to the newspapers the immediate cause of the disaster was failure of the breech mechanism. The casualties are reported to have been 13 severely wounded and 6 slightly. One of the former expired on the way back to Yokosuka. But these figures are open to correction.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to the report in number 6244 of your paper, dated 1st inst., saying that a Krupp gun has burst on board the *Chin Yuen* causing some deaths and wounding others, we hereby request you to be good enough to note the result of our enquiries which by kind permission of the Imperial Ministry of the Navy we were enabled to make in person on board of the above man-of-war, viz:

The accident was in no way due to the gun; on the contrary the same is in first class condition and could be used for firing at this moment.

Trusting that you will publish this correction in favor of the Krupp gun as speedily as you were ready—without any previous investigation of the incident in question—to publish your false report, we are, Sir, yours, etc.

C. ILLIES & CO.
Agents Fried. Krupp, Essen.

Yokohama, June 4th, 1903.

[We publish this charmingly polite letter, just as received. As to the incident in question, our statement was; "Later news says that the gun which caused the trouble on the *Chin-yuen* was a 30-centimetre Krupp. Details are kept secret, but according to the newspapers the immediate cause of the disaster was failure of the breech mechanism."—ED. *J. M.*]

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KEELUNG HARBOUR.

The Keelung harbour constitutes another difficulty ranking side by side with that of the text-books. Work is actually proceeding at Keelung, and if it be now suspended, the resulting loss is calculated to amount to a million *yen*. This fact was made quite plain to the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives. Yet they rejected the Government's Budget. Here again the party politicians appear to have acted to some extent under the influence of sentiment. They are not averse, it is understood, to the prosecution of the work, but they object to the manner in which they were treated, as they suppose. That requires a word of explanation. Last session, namely, in the session of 1901-2, the Diet was asked, and consented, to vote an appropriation for dredging Keelung harbour. There was then no official talk of extensive harbour works. This session a large scheme of works was elaborated, the total outlay involved being ten million *yen*, and the sum required for the current fiscal year, 600,000 *yen*. The Budget Committee were informed that unless the vote were passed, the work would have to be suspended, and there would result a loss of a million *yen*. It followed that the Committee drew a deduction. "So then," they said, "the work must have been actually commenced without waiting for our vote, and we are now subjected to a kind of coercion under the threat of a loss of a million. Let the million go. We decline to pass the appropriation." Probably the contention of the engineers engaged at Keelung is that until the dredging operations were carried to a certain point there was no possibility of determining whether and what larger operations of construction would be necessary, and that unless these larger operations be undertaken in the immediate sequel of the dredging, the latter will prove futile. But no such sequence of needs appears to have been made out to the satisfaction of the Budget Committe. The members imagined that they were being led by the nose, and they rebelled. We seem to see in all these incidents the shadow of the Wakamatsu Foundry. That enterprise, with its wonderful capacity of absorption, was presented originally to the Diet under a most innocent guise, and subsequent Houses of Representatives were called upon to vote fresh appropriations in order to avert the sacrifice of monies already spent. The Diet feels sore about that business and not without reason. To outsiders it looks as though the Administration and the Legislature have very little confidence in each other.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There are now twenty thousand Japanese subjects in Hawaii, it is said. Our readers are aware that an agitation has been commenced against them, and that an attempt is being made to restrict the sphere of their industries by passing a law that no one unable to speak and read English shall become a carriage driver, in which business some 300 Japanese are engaged. The Japanese in the island are reported to be being much incensed about this matter, Tokyo newspapers urge the Government to protest strongly against such a violation of the country's treaty rights.

The Hibiya Park has been opened. It has been finished with considerable expedition. The project came before the Tokyo City Council on April of 1901 and was approved in October of that year, the sum appropriated being 175,490 *yen*, which was subsequently increased by 5,671 *yen*. Some of our readers, who have amused themselves speculating about the area of the Park, may be interested to learn that it measures 51,172 tsubo, or about 43 acres. The sum voted has not been entirely spent. Contrary to the usual record of public works, fifteen thousand *yen* remain, ten thousand of which will probably be devoted to building a house for musical performances.

It seems not unlikely that private subscriptions may be offered to enable the Department of Education to carry out the programme of text-book compilation, which the House of Representatives defeated by refusing to grant a sum of 23,000 *yen*. Mr. Sakata, who is described as belonging to Hokkaido, has set the example by offering 500 *yen*, on the ground of public duty, and it is thought that many will follow his example. That would be a pretty pointed declaration of dissent from the policy pursued by the majority in the Lower House.

Viscount Seki has been deprived of his title of nobility for conduct unbecoming a peer. This is in connexion with the text-book scandal. It was proved that the Viscount had actually received and appropriated to his own uses money given by a book store to obtain surreptitious support for its volumes. How things will fare with Baron Funakoshi remains to be seen. His performance did not apparently extend beyond acting as a medium for the conveyance of bribes.

The Cotton-spinners Union has addressed a representation to the Government urging that Japan agree to the proposal made by China for the payment of the Indemnity in silver. The reason alleged by the signatories of the representation is that one of the principal causes of the depreciation of silver is the large sales of that metal necessitated by the payment of the Indemnity in gold. They add that owing to this depreciation the silver prices of imported commodities are raised in China, a diminution of sales being the inevitable consequence, and that even since the payments of the Indemnity commenced, Japan's trade with China has languished. England and America, which have such a large interest in China's commerce, have both consented to silver payments, and it behoves Japan to follow their example.

The writer of Church Notes in the *Globe* says the new use at Westminster Abbey with regard to the Athanasian Creed was followed on Easter Day. The Creed was sung as an anthem, with the omission of the first two sentences, two others in the middle, and the damnatory clauses. It was printed in the service paper in that form and called "Fides Catholica." A footnote pointed out that "no statement in regard to the doctrine of the Trinity and the Incarnation has been omitted or changed."

The recent heavy rains are reported to have done considerable damage in Yamaguchi prefecture, embankments being washed away, bridges broken and houses inundated. From Mitajiri comes a statement that the barley crop in that vicinity has been virtually destroyed.

Viscount Tani took occasion, when the supplementary naval budgets came before the Peers Budget Committee, of which he is chairman, to point out that there had been several accidents of late to the country's war-vessels. He frankly admitted the necessity for increasing the navy, but is appeared to him that possibly the service was growing in size without a corresponding development of seamanship. Admiral Yamamoto, Minister of State for the Navy, took this comment in very good part. He thanked the Viscount for calling attention to the fact, and he availed himself of the opportunity to explain in detail what measures had been adopted with regard to the officers responsible for these accidents.

The *Niroku Shimpo* publishes what professes to be a *resumé* of an amended series of demands preferred by M. Lessar as preliminary to the evacuation of Manchuria. It is scarcely necessary to give any detailed account of news emanating from a journal which has shown such remarkable enterprise. We allude to the fact merely as illustrating the opening of a new era of "intelligence."

The House of Peers met yesterday (2nd instant) and passed all the Supplementary Budgets as amended by the Representatives. There was one exception, but being merely a matter of routine, it does not suggest any complication. Some opposition declared itself in connection with the reversion to the loan system and the excision of appropriations essentially necessary. But these objections found no serious support. The House rose at 1.30 p.m.

The Russian Minister of War is expected to reach Tokyo on the 10th or the 11th instant. It is stated that His Excellency will be the guest of the Empire, and that he will occupy the Shiba Detached Palace during his sojourn in Tokyo. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* welcomes him in a very sympathetic article. Our contemporary is persuaded that his visit will contribute materially to the cause of peace.

The Torishima eruption in May, though very violent, and though its consequences were disastrous to the crops in the district, appears to have caused no loss of life. Several solfataras of large dimensions were formed and the country throughout an area of some seventeen or eighteen hundred yards radius was covered with ashes and stones. Everything green seems to have been destroyed, except the *sotetsu* trees (sago palms), which now constitute the people's chief means of subsistence. Many cattle and horses have perished, or are dying and it is unquestionable that there will be much suffering among the inhabitants, who number 960. These facts are taken from the report of the official experts sent from Tokyo to investigate the phenomenon.

The Camphor Monopoly Bill, which is a measure of much importance to many people, passed the House of Peers on the 2nd instant and was immediately transmitted to the Representatives. Inasmuch as the session ends on the 4th instant, it was not supposed that the measure would be taken up at all by the Lower Chamber. Apparently, however, the disposition to carry the measure is strong. It was at once handed by the Representatives to a special committee, and the latter is expected to present its report on the 4th instant, when the Bill will probably be carried through all its readings. The monopoly is simply a device for enhancing the price of an article of which Japan is the chief, almost the sole, producer. It means, of course, that the foreign consumer will have to pay more, but Japan can not be blamed if she employs legitimate means of enriching herself.

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GENERAL KUROPATKIN.

General Kuropatkin arrived at Vladivostock on the 25th ultimo and appears to have been received with very great eclat. Salutes, guards of honour and all the adjuncts of distinction were conspicuously present. The *Jiji Shimpo's* Vladivostock correspondent says that the preparations for the General's reception exceeded those for the reception of Mr. de Witte as much as moonlight exceeds starlight, from which comparison the power of militarism in Russia may be inferred. On the 29th ultimo the General set out for Possiet Bay in the cruiser *Askold*, his intention being to visit the Amur regions after carefully inspecting Saghalien and all the ports along the coasts. Doubts are now expressed as to whether he will come to Japan at all. Well informed persons are represented as saying that he will not do so. In any event it is evident that if he completes his present programme, his visit to Japan will be at a later period than that originally expected.

IMPERIAL DIET.

The House of Peers met on the 29th instant at 10 a.m. Viscount Tani having spoken to a Question presented by him with reference to poisonous emanations from the Ashiwo Mine, the Order of the Day was taken. The first measure was a Government Bill for extending the monopoly of camphor and camphor oil to the whole Empire.

In answer to a remonstrance that a Bill of such importance should not be presented in an extraordinary session, Dr. Goto, Head of the Civil Government of Formosa, explained that the rejection of the same Bill in the session of 1901-2 had caused an immediate fall in the price of camphor from 85 *yen* to 75 *yen* per picul, the result being a loss of 300,000 *yen* to the camphor producers of Japan proper and 500,000 *yen* to those of Formosa. The Bill was finally handed to a Special Committee.

Various other Bills have been similarily treated, the House rose at 11 a.m.

The House of Representatives met at 1 p.m., and after a speech by one of the members introducing a Question of secondary importance, the Order of the Day was taken.

A Bill to facilitate the financing of Formosan Public Works was passed through all its readings.

The House then proceeded to debate two Resolutions introduced by Progressist members, one with reference to the text-book scandal, the other with reference to the Exchange Regulations. The former Resolution virtually impeached all previous Cabinets as well as the present. It was introduced by Mr. Takata Sanaye, who declared that the subject was sufficiently important to be embodied in an Address to the Throne, but that an appeal to the conscience of the Ministers had been adopted as the milder course. Speaking broadly, the Resolution alleged that all these scandals could not have occurred had the management of the Education Department been efficient.

Baron Kikuchi explained in detail the various measures taken by the Government precisely for the purpose of preventing such abuses, and contended that on the part of officialdom there had been no failure whatever to recognise and discharge due responsibility.

Mr. Fujisawa introduced the Resolution relating to the Exchange Regulations. He charged the Government not only with subverting its own decisions at brief notice, but also with nullifying an Imperial Ordinance by means of a Departmental Order, thus acting in flagrant violation of the Constitution.

Mr. Hirata, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, denied that there had been any such conflict between an Imperial Decree and a Departmental Order. The subjects of the two measures were distinct. He further contended that the Government had not revoked its own laws. The Imperial Ordinance had dealt with time bargains; the Departmental Order, with deferred transactions. It had been the Government's object to restrain the former and to encourage the latter.

Mr. Takenokoshi Yosaburo, the well known author of the *Nisen-gohyaku-nen-shi*, moved to add to the first Resolution a clause fixing the responsibility on the present Government. He spoke very ably, prefacing his remarks with an explanation that the *entente* with the Cabinet referred to one matter alone and did not preclude the party from pronouncing censure about any other matter deserving to be censured.

After some further remarks, the closure was moved and carried, and both Resolutions were adopted by very large majorities,

Several Bills introduced by members were then dealt with. None were of special importance. Three were handed to special committees, one was passed, one rejected, one withdrawn and one postponed.

The House rose at 4 p.m.

The House of Peers met on the 3rd instant. Viscount Soga, President of the Budget Committee, in presenting the report of the Committée on the Bills relating to an increase of Railway Bonds, said that the Committee recommended the measures as a matter of necessity rather than of judgment. As for the details, the Committee did not understand them. Neither did the Minister of Finance. Probably no one did except Messrs. Sakatani and Matsuo.

Mr. Kubota was persuaded that these bonds could not be sold in the open market and that the Government would have to fall back on the Deposit Bureau of the Treasury. He wanted to know what funds were available in that Bureau.

Mr. Matsuo replied by handing in documents.

Mr. Nishimura considered that this matter might very well be deferred until next session. He made a motion in that sense, but it was defeated, and the House passed the Bills, dispensing with the second and third readings,

After sundry minor measures had been passed, Marquis Kuroda, in a short but powerful speech, introduced a Representation urging the Government not to revert to the policy of domestic loans, but to continue the system of relying on taxation, as fixed by the Diet in its 16th session.

Viscount Soga would have supported the Representation were there any prospect of its producing an affect. But it would be quite futile, for the Government had given ample evidence of its resolve to ignore responsibility and the dictates of morality. Incidentally the Viscount mentioned that he himself, Baron Sone and Baron Kioura had been among the signatories of the document urging Marquis Ito to remove from his Cabinet Mr. Hoshi Toru, who had shown his indifference to responsibility. These men could be severe enough when another sinned, but their own faults weighed lightly in their eyes. Nevertheless—the Viscount stated in answer to questions—he did not advocate an Address to the Throne but only some amendments of the language of the Representation.

Viscount Date and Baron Matsudaira having supported the measure, the House rose for the noon-day recess, and on its re-assembly Viscount Tani delivered a long speech. He contended that if the Representation urged the avoidance of domestic loans in all circumstances, it would have some sense. But it merely urged that loans should not be resorted to except in unavoidable cases. The Government claimed that the present was an unavoidable case, and there the matter ended. He himself had a different idea of dealing with the situation. (The Viscount here hinted very plainly that he had drafted an Address to the Throne on the same subject, and was prepared to read it if the House approved). He then entered into a long denunciation of the Government's financial policy during the past few years, and he concluded by opposing the Representation as futile, and as calculated to injure the reputation of the House of Peers.

After a speech in support from Mr. Mishima, the House adopted the Representation and rose at 2 p.m.

The House met again on the 4th and having dealt with various petitions, proceeded to receive the reports of the Budget Committee and special committees. The proceedings presented no feature of interest and the House rose at 11.45 a.m.

The House of Representatives met in the forenoon. It was understood that this early meeting was for the purpose of enabling members to air their eloquence in connection with the presentation of Questions to the Government, and seven members availed themselves of the opportunity, speaking in succession and occupying the time of a thoroughly wearied audience until noon. The first measure discussed in the afternoon was the Bill sent down from the Upper House for extending the Formosan Camphor Monopoly to the whole empire. Mr. Taguchi bitterly opposed the project, predicting certain failure for it, but the House ultimately passed it through all its readings.

In connexion with the Settled Accounts for 1899-1900, the Settled Accounts Committee presented a report showing that there had been flagrant irregularities and even frauds. Since, however, the Ministry responsible was no longer in power, the House had to be satisfied with an assurance from the Minister of State for Finance that the minor officials directly chargeable had been duly punished, with one or two exceptions still under consideration.

Some amendments made by the Peers in bills sent up from the Representatives were endorsed, and a Representation relating to poisonous emanations from mines was adopted. At 3.50 p.m. the House was counted out, and the Vice-President, Mr. Sugita, made a brief speech congratulating the House on the results of its labours. The session came to a close at 4.30 p.m.

YACHTING IN YOKOHAMA.

Last Saturday's yachting programme included a race for the 39-raters and cruisers to Uraga, and another for the 21-raters, and, in addition, the "Larks" were given a turn round the No. 1 course, inside the harbour. There was a fresh southerly breeze and rain began to fall about tiffin; and as the glass was going down the big boats did not start, which was rather fortunate as Saturday night's and Sunday's weather would not have been pleasant to return in.

The 21-raters got away in good order and ran down wind to the harbour mouth where *Sunbeam*, Mr. Hall's new boat, was first, but *Vixen* overhauled her and passed the Lightship in the lead, *Pele* third The black boat kept first place all the way to the Widow Buoy but in the act of rounding had some trouble, which allowed *Pele* to pass her. Once set agoing again, however, *Vixen* soon ran past her rival and got home nearly four minutes ahead. She thus takes first prize and two record points. The second prize and two record points go, subject, we believe, to measurement, to *Daisy May*. Following are the times:—

	Finish.	Corrected.
	h. m. s.	h. m. s.
Pele	4.30.10	4.30.10
Wettinge	4.36.00	4.36.00
Sunbeam	4.31.05	4.31.05
Daisy May	4.40.35	—
Vixen	4.26.40	4.21.42

Nine "Larks" had their sails hoisted but No. 11 (Mr. Abbey's) capsized before the race and only five started. Three got to the North Breakwater buoy, however, the others coming back. The three in question had to meet the usual nasty sea that a southerly breeze and the backwash from the breakwater combined always kicks up at the buoy, which is the northern mark of the course. In the end all three got round and beating back finished in this order:—

	h.m.s.
No. 6 (Mr. Poole)	3.25.16
No. 14 (Mr. Eyton)	3.25.24
No. 2 (Mr. Manley)	3.26.30

No. 6 wins first prize and two record points, No. 14 second and one point.

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JAPAN'S POLITICIANS.

TWENTY years ago a distinguished foreign diplomatist, appraising Japan's political prospects, predicted for her the fate of a South-American republic. That forecast has been recalled by observers of recent events. They deny that any solid reason can be assigned for the threatened disruption of the country's principal political party, and they see in the event a confirmation of the analysis that Japanese politicians, when out of office, will always be irresponsible agitators. Well, after all, politicians out of office are mostly agitators, to whatever nationality they belong. And it may reasonably be doubted whether the prizes of power are the real motive forces of the *Seiyu-kai's* disquiet. For we have to remember that when the Parliamentary members of the Party in full conclave were invited to vote for or against an *entente* with the Ministry, only six opponents stood up. That is to say, out of over 180 members only six were unwilling that an arrangement should be effected leaving the present cabinet in office and condemning the party politicians to a further term of waiting. Therefore it was not solely impatience to grasp the spoils that prompted the subsequent discontent: it was dissatisfaction with the terms of the arrangement. Here a radical divergence of views became apparent. Many of the *Seiyu-kai* members hold that were administrative reform conscientiously effected, there would result a saving of expenditures sufficient to cover all outlay on account of naval expansion. This problem of administrative reform is very old. It has been before the country since 1887. When the KURODA Cabinet took office in that year, a committee, with Count OKUMA for president, was appointed to draft a scheme of reorganization. Before the results of these investigations became public property, the Ministry went out of power, and thereafter every Cabinet in turn was assailed by its opponents with charges of neglecting this cardinal duty of retrenchment. Indeed it may be said that upon no party banner during the whole of the constitutional period has there been permanently inscribed any intelligible motto except the familiar words *gyosei sasshin saisei seiri* (administrative reconstruction and financial reform). Therefore when the *Seiyu-kai* adopted that creed last session they were quite true to their own traditions. As to whether administrative reconstruction and financial reform are possible in the measure contemplated by the party politicians, we venture no opinion. For the purposes of our present analysis the only important point is that such was the contention. In order to satisfy the *Seiyu-kai*, Governmental economies should have been the basic source of revenue for naval purposes. But they are not the basic source in the scheme of *entente*. Out of an annual appropriation of 11½ million *yen* only 1 million is to be obtained by such economies. Here, then, in the ground of discontent. To outsiders it seems a considerable thing that the Cabinet, in addition to some four millions of retrenchments already accomplished, should now undertake to accomplish another million. The *Seiyu-kai's* Budget Committee, however, under the presidency of Mr. HARA KEI, decided, last session, that ten millions could be saved, and many of the members now revolt against the notion of accepting such a fraction as one-tenth. Whatever may be said about the sincerity of their contention, its sufficiency is undeniable. They can not fairly be charged with either caprice or unpatriotic greed for office. Then, too, there is their complaint that they were not sufficiently consulted by their leader. Perhaps that wound to their self-esteem rankles most keenly. On the whole, therefore, some disaffection is not surprising, especially to us who, when the first news of an *entente* was published some weeks ago, predicted that one result would be a heavy shock to the solidarity of the *Seiyu-kai*.

But there is the other question, what will be the cost of consummated disaffection? At least it will be the loss of Marquis ITO's leadership. An irreparable loss, for it was Marquis ITO's leadership, and Marquis ITO's leadership alone, that completed the *Seiyu-kai* office-holding competence. If the teachings of the past twelve years have any value, no political party can yet aspire to form a stable Ministry without the hearty cōoperation of the *Meiji* statesmen. There have been two experiments, one complete, the other partial. The former was the ITAGAKI-OKUMA Cabinet of 1898; the latter, the ITO Cabinet of 1901. It is not too much to say that the ITAGAKI-OKUMA Ministry was a fiasco, and the fate of the ITO Ministry of 1901 demonstrated that even the prestige gained by association with Japan's greatest statesman could not qualify a political party for toleration by the Upper House. Separated from Marquis ITO the *Seiyu-kai* would find itself again wandering in the desert, quite out of sight of the promised land. Marquis ITO thoroughly appreciates the situation, and understands that the goal of the constitutional system can be reached only by patient and slow progress. Such of his quondam followers as have not sufficient discernment to be guided by him at this juncture, will surely repent by and bye.

THE "NOVOYE VREMYA."

IN an article translated elsewhere in our columns, the *Novoye Vremya* denounces as "fiction, pure and simple," all the information hitherto sent to England by Reuter and the Peking correspondent of *The Times* with reference to Russia's attitude in China. The Russian journal asks what object the English newspaper correspondents in the Far East have when they circulate such "fantastic canards." But it does not answer the question; unless, indeed, we are to understand it as suggesting that England and Japan seek to interrupt any negotiations tending to the peaceful evacuation and the rendition of Manchuria. In truth it appears to us that the *Novoye Vremya's* article had better have been left unwritten for all the light it throws on the situation. Nothing could be clumsier than its attempt to persuade the public that all the smoke which recently filled the air and which still fills it was entirely without fire. The Peking correspondent of *The Times* might have been deceived. Reuter's agent might have been deceived. But there are other sources of information which can not be so lightly discredited, and it is quite idle for any Russian journal to pretend that the governments and peoples alike of several countries have been living in a land of chimeras. That method of explanation defeats itself by its extravagance. Moreover, the St. Petersburg journal unwittingly suggests a sinister interpretation of Russia's procedure. It virtually tells us between the lines of its leader that unless the statesmen of the Northern Power are suffered to make their own arrangements about evacuation—arrangements which would reduce the evacuation to a mere empty form—they will refrain from endeavouring to make any arrangements whatsoever, and will quietly await the course of events. It is but a short step from that menace to the hypothesis that in formulating impossible conditions, Russia deliberately sought a pretext for resorting to the policy which the *Novoye Vremya* now regards as likely to become inevitable. That is not our belief about Russia, however. The *Novoye Vremya* slanders when it seeks to vindicate. Russia did not "abandon negotiations" last year because China got into trouble about demands untruly said to have been made upon her. On the contrary Russia substituted for those demands a convention unexceptionable from the point of view of the Powers interested. Nothing is now asked except that she should abide by the terms of that convention. Very possibly some further stipulations are essential in order that the withdrawal of her troops may not be followed by disturbances. Her material interests in Manchuria may demand that precaution, and no one will be so unreasonable as to deny her right to take it. But the demands preferred by M. PLANCON in Peking on his Government's behalf far exceeded the most liberal estimate of legitimate precautions and the situation is merely rendered more exasperating when onlookers of all non-Russian nationalities are asked to regard themselves as silly dupes. That is not the way to mend matters. The *Novoye Vremya* does not represent the Russian Government, but it is a leading Russian journal, and lovers of peace can not fail to be disappointed that it rests its explanation of a great crisis on the assertion that all Japanese, American and British sources of information are wholly untrustworthy, and that to place any credit in them is to convict oneself of blind and stupid credulity.

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THE WAKAMATSU IRON FOUNDRY.

SOME time ago the Japanese Government appointed a Committee to make a thorough investigation into the affairs of the Wakamatsu Iron Foundry, which has proved a nine days' wonder by absorbing about three times the sum originally appropriated for its construction and equipment, and by being still in need of further outlays before it can reach a productive stage. The Committee's labours have now been concluded, and as the greatest care is said to have been exercised by the members, among whom are included some eminent experts, it is thought that their report merits full confidence.

The conclusion they reach is set forth at the head of the report. It is that if the necessary works be completed, there is not the slightest reason to apprehend that the future of the enterprise will not be successful. Moreover, these necessary works do not present any special difficulty, neither is the financial outlook without hope. Six reasons are assigned for the failure that has hitherto attended the Foundry. They are, first, that the scheme of the enterprise, being faulty, involved defects of construction and of operation; secondly, that the manner of compiling the estimates and of managing the finances was very unsuitable; thirdly, that very great carelessness was shown in originally starting the enterprise with the intention of using domestic ore mainly, and then changing that idea midway; fourthly, that mistakes were made as to the engagement of foreign experts and in the manner of using their services; fifthly, that before all the equipment was provided or perfected work was precipitately commenced; and sixthly, that the chief inspector did not discharge his duties efficiently. That is a formidable indictment. It is followed by a *resumé* of the causes directly responsible for the insufficiency of the funds originally allotted. Those causes are five:—That the prices of imported articles appreciated; that import duties were increased; that works over and above the estimates had to be undertaken; that supplementary works were required; that the cost of labour augmented, and that domestic commodities went to figures much higher than those set down in the scheme.

The Committee then proceed to expose their opinions as to the amount that must still be expended in order to bring the enterprise to a point of efficiency. They put the whole sum at 8 million *yen*, which would be spread over five years and devoted to the following purposes:—

	Yen.
To make up deficiencies in the fund for building and equipment	6,392,300
To improving the Futase coal-mine	1,046,300
To maintaining the Akeya Iron Mine	20,000
To reserve funds	541,500
Total	8,000,000

This, however, does not represent the full extent to which the country will have to put ts hand into its pocket. During the next our years losses will have to be faced as the result of the working of the Foundry; losses aggregating 4 million *yen*. The following is the Committee's forecast of the Foundry's financial prospects:—

Year.	Working Expenses. Yen.	Quantity of Iron, &c., produced.	Value of produce. Yen.	Result. Yen.	
1903-4	3,217,000	30,000 tons	2,010,000	1,207,000	Loss
1904-5	4,315,000	45,000 tons	3,015,000	1,300,000	Loss
1905-6	5,140,000	60,000 tons	4,140,000	1,000,000	Loss
1906-7	5,330,000	70,000 tons	4,830,000	500,000	Loss
1907-8	5,520,000	80,000 tons	5,520,000	—	Balance
1908-9	5,720,000	90,000 tons	6,380,000	660,000	Profit
1909-10	5,720,000	90,000 tons	6,970,000	1,250,000	Profit
1910-11	5,720,000	100,000 tons	7,660,000	1,940,000	Profit

These figures show, in certain places, the heart-breaking inaccuracy that constantly disfigures all Japanese journalistic transcripts of accounts. For the first two years entered in the table the selling price of the iron produced appears to be 67 *yen* per ton. During the next three years it is 69 *yen*. Then it changes to over 70 *yen*, then to over 77 *yen*, and finally to about 76 *yen*. Besides, while the production increases steadily up to the year 1908-9, it is shown as stationary in 1909-10. Evidently there is some mistake which probably consists in putting the produce of 1909-10 at 90,000 tons instead of 100,000, and the produce of 1910-11 at 100,000 tons instead of 110,000. Still we have only approximations, but they are sufficiently close for all practical purposes. The Committee append a note that if one or two Siemens' smelting furnaces be added from 1907, without any other new works, the produce may be carried to 120,000 tons, or even 150,000.

Turning now to the question of the monies already expended, we find the following statement:—

	Yen.
Administrative Expenses	1,193,292
Constructions and Equipment	10,099,319
Trial Workings	396,626
Wakamatsu Harbour Works	500,000
Purchase of a coal mine	3,448,983
Losses on Working up to 1902	2,640,710
On hand	1,959,285
Total	20,238,215

From this account it appears that there is a sum of nearly 2 million *yen* on hand, but the Foundry owes to the Deposit Bureau of the Finance Department 935,526 *yen*, and moreover 2 millions are shown as having been temporarily borrowed from the Treasury. The various sums actually voted hitherto by the Diet, are set down as aggregating 19,202,694 *yen*.

One of the points that have suggested doubts to foreign on-lookers is the country's capacity to use the full production of the Foundry. As to that the Committee evidently entertain no hesitation. They say that during the past three years the average import of iron in various forms has been 118,000 tons, valued at 14,000,000 *yen*, and they add that when the Foundry is in full working order, it will be able to supply the whole demand of the country. Perhaps this report will restore public confidence in the soundness of the enterprise, but there is certainly a strong feeling against it at present. Meanwhile it will be seen from the figures given above that the record is not quite so bad as the public have been roughly led to suppose. Out of the total of 18¼ millions actually expended up to the present, about 4 millions have gone to the purchase of a coal mine and the improvement of Wakamatsu harbour, so that the cost of the works has been only 14¼ millions. Moreover, from the latter sum must be deducted a further sum of nearly 3 millions, representing losses on operating and outlays on account of trial workings, so that the sum really spent on the Foundry itself becomes 11¼ millions, against the original estimate of 6½ millions. Finally, it will be observed that, according to the Committee's investigations, sixty thousand tons of iron must be produced yearly and sold in order to pay running expenses, and that when the production rises to about double that quantity there will be a net gain of 2 millions. The money spent by the country on all accounts will then have aggregated some 32 million *yen*, so that the Foundry would pay about 6¼ per cent. on the total capital invested.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION.

A GREAT deal of sympathy seems to be felt with the Minister of State for Education. He has been treated with extreme injustice by the House of Representatives. If any reproach attached to the immoral practices connected with the selection of text-books, Baron KIKUCHI ought to be publicly thanked for exposing the corruption and endeavouring to check it by drastic means. Yet, in the blindness of their political bias, the party leaders in the Lower House organized and directed an agitation to drive him out of office. In point of logic the proceeding is about on a par with holding a procurator responsible for crimes which he is instrumental in bringing to justice. The House has further declined to vote a sum of twenty-three thousand *yen* for the purposes of having text-books compiled under the auspices of the Education Department, which method Baron KIKUCHI and his fellow-officials consider most effective for preventing corrupt practices. If only volumes that bear the cachet of the Department are used at the schools, there can be no selection by bribery. Now the position of the educational authorities is that they are interdicted from continuing to sanction the use of text-books that were introduced at the schools by dishonest methods. The text-books themselves may be good enough, but to allow their continued use would be to confirm their publishers in the enjoyment of illegal profits. Again, an Imperial Ordinance has actually been issued directing that the compilation of certain text-books shall be undertaken by the Department of Education. But the House of Representatives has refused to grant the money required for that purpose. In fact, the House seems to have acted under the influence of blind resentment, and to have resolved that its power should be exercised in every possible manner to embarrass the Department. An impression now prevails that the Ministry will adopt a dras-

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tic course for dealing with the situation. Such a course would be to issue an Imperial Ordinance sanctioning the expenditure which the Diet has declined to sanction. But Urgency Ordinances in lieu of parliamentary votes, and, above all, Urgency Ordinances in opposition to parliamentary votes, are supposed to be issued only on occasion of imperative necessity: imperative, that is to say, from the point of view of the national welfare. Several journals argue that an incident connected with the compilation of text-books can not reasonably be included among nationally imperative affairs, and that should the Government resort to the device of an Urgency Ordinance in this case, it will deliberately create a new cause of collision with the Diet. Assuredly the position is somewhat perplexing. According to the Imperial Ordinance issued on the 29th of April, there devolves on the Department of Education the duty of compiling before the 31st of next March, text-books of morals, of the Japanese language, of mathematics, of Japanese history, of geography and of drawing. The actual publication of these volumes will be entrusted to book-sellers or printing establishments, but the work of compilation must be done by the Department, and no text-book of the above subjects that is not copyrighted officially may be used in the primary schools after next March. The provisions of that Ordinance can not be carried out in the absence of funds, and the Government has to choose between revoking the Ordinance or resorting to some arbitrary method of furnishing money. Apparently the contemplation of such contingencies does not at all disturb the equanimity of party politicians. They profess to think that the Education Department is not competent to compile good text-books, though it includes among its staff many of the best scholars in the empire, and though it is now under the direction of a Minister whose erudition won high honours at one of the greatest of European universities. On the other hand, we can not but think that the Government's procedure is open to question. Why should there have been issued, on April 29th, an Imperial Ordinance whose provisions could not be carried into effect without a vote of funds from a Diet which was to be opened a fortnight later? The Ordinance must necessarily remain a dead letter until the Diet granted an appropriation. Surely it would have been wiser to defer the issue of the Ordinance until the Diet had been consulted? That appears to us to be a weak spot in the Ministry's armour. Of course there was not the slightest expectation that the House of Representatives would reject this paltry item, but it is just possible that the Government's premature action in the matter of the Ordinance had some influence on the House's mood.

THE PEERS.

THE action of the Peers looks at first sight contradictory and ill-considered. Having passed, with little cavil, all the Supplementary Budgets as amended by the Lower Chamber, and the Railway Fund Law, and having thus declared their assent to the Government's programme of recourse to domestic loans in lieu of taxation, they then voted a Representation embodying emphatic disapproval of the loan system. That certainly appears inconsistent. But closer inspection reveals a different aspect. The Representation did indeed condemn public loans as compared with reliance on taxation. It did indeed pronounce the former method injurious to the health of the money market at home and to the credit of the country abroad. But it contained also a saving clause, namely, that the device of public loans should be resorted to only in cases of urgent necessity, and the House, having passed the Supplementary Budgets as well as the altered Law of Railway Funds, must be held to have proclaimed its belief that the present case belongs to the category of urgency. The Peers, in short, while assenting to the programme which the Cabinet had to adopt as the only alternative of abandoning the scheme of naval increment, has placed on record a protest against the inference that such assent means a mandate of reversion to the loan policy for which the Ito Cabinet wisely induced the Diet in its sixteenth session to substitute increased taxation. Thus considered, the Representation ceases to bear the character of an attack upon the Cabinet, and becomes rather an attack upon the politicians who forced the Cabinet to revert to the old and condemned system. The *Seiyu kai*, on its side, may plead with justice that in opposing the continuance of an increased rate of land tax, it never contemplated, still less suggested, recourse to domestic loans, its clearly formulated conviction being that all the funds required for naval increment could be obtained by administrative economies. It was the compromise, then, that rehabilitated a policy which has shaken the stability of the *Seiyu-kai* almost to disruption, and has induced the Peers to pass a Representation withholding general assent from a course which they have temporarily sanctioned under pressure of necessity.

An interesting feature of the debate on the Representation was that Viscount TANI appeared as an opponent, and therefore constructively, some may suppose, as a supporter of the Cabinet. No such supposition would be correct. The Viscount opposed the Representation simply because he had the penetration to see that it could accomplish nothing towards the overthrow of the Government. The Viscount should have Celtic blood in his veins. He is invariably "agin the Government." While he spoke against the Representation he had in his pocket the draft of an Address to the Throne praying the EMPEROR to order the Ministry to abandon the loan policy and to obtain the required funds by administrative retrenchments. He did not introduce the Address because, in spite of his invitation, the House showed a plainly cold demeanour towards any such measure, and because—so it is said—the rejection of an Address in this session would have militated against its re-introduction in the next. To an outsider it would thus seem that Viscount TANI is at one with the basic policy of the *Seiyu-kai*. So he is apparently. But when any political party succeeds in securing the persistent support of Viscount TANI, it will be time to think of holding cat-fish under gourds.

"THE CENTURY DICTIONARY" FROM A JAPANESE STAND-POINT.

"The Century Dictionary" has been eulogized in the warmest possible terms by men of science and of letters. It is beyond all compare the greatest work of its kind that has ever been published in the English language, and those that imagine themselves to be supplied with a sufficiently good lexicon when they possess Webster are simply enjoying the bliss of ignorance. What interests us about the book, however, is its special uses from the stand-point of a Japanese student of English. Its reputation among Anglo-Saxons is already established, and it is pretty well known within a narrow circle of Japanese *literateurs* in this country. But now for the first time a resolute and enterprising effort is being made to bring it to the notice of the nation at large, and there will be natural desire to ascertain what, if any, special advantages a Japanese may hope to derive from its possession. To answer that question with anything like intelligence we must examine the book under the guidance of our acquaintance with the main difficulties that beset Japanese speakers and writers of English, because to them there present themselves many embarrassments which have no existence for the Anglo-Saxon "to the manner born." To set about such a task is not easy. We can not systematise the perplexities among which Japanese students stumble, neither can we tabulate them exhaustively. All that we can do is to jot them down as they occur to us, and then to turn to the dictionary for means of estimating the aid it gives in each case.

Let us begin by considering a few of the words which, though of every-day use, are often wrongly interchanged by Japanese speakers of English. Among such words a common series is that relating to the pleasurable occupation of the mind or body, as *amuse*, *divert*, *entertain*, *beguile*, *play*, etc. It is not impossible to find exact Japanese equivalents for all these expressions, but the point is that the limits of their employment are different in the two languages, and thus the only hope of avoiding mistakes is to have a thoroughly clear acquaintance with the significance of the English words. Here is what "The Century" does for us:—"*Amuse* may imply merely the prevention of the tedium of idleness or emptiness of mind: as, I can *amuse* myself by looking out of the window; or it may suggest a stronger interest: as, I was greatly amused by their tricks. *Divert* is to turn the attention aside, and

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(in the use considered here) to something light or mirthful. *Entertain* is to engage and sustain the attention by something of a pleasing and perhaps instructive character, as conversation; hence the general name *entertainment* for lectures, exhibitions, &c., designed to interest in this way. Whatever amuses serves to kill time, to lull the faculties and banish reflection; it may be solitary, sedentary and lifeless; whatever diverts causes mirth and provokes laughter; it will be active, lively and tumultuous; whatever entertains acts on the senses and awakens the understanding: it must be rational and is mostly social. *Beguile* is, figuratively, to cheat one out of weariness, of dull time, &c. The word is as often thus applied to the thing as to the person: as to *beguile* a weary hour; to *beguile* out of his cares. *Play* is to take part as a contestant in a game (or pastime) engaged in at a particular time and place; also, to be in the habit of engaging in (a particular kind) of game, be able to join in it: as to *play* a rubber of whist; to play a round of golf; he does not play chess but he can play billiards." We have here set down only brief extracts from the numerous columns of the Dictionary devoted to explaining and illustrating these words but it will be admitted that with the above before him a Japanese student should experience no difficulty in distinguishing them and formulating for himself a rule as to their employment. In his own language he may use the same verb for "play," "amuse," etc., in many cases, but after reference to the "Century" he should not be in much danger of saying, as many Japanese do:—"I entertained greatly bathing last Summer," or "I was played by the juggling." Take, again, four common forms of expression which very few Japanese indeed ever succeed in mastering:—"*I suppose*, or *I believe*, or *I think*, or *I imagine*, that there has been so and so." "The Century" gives us the following clues:—*Suppose*—to infer hypothetically; to conceive a state of things and dwell upon the idea (for at least a moment), with an inclination to believe it true, due to the agreement of its consequences with observed facts, but not free from doubt. *Believe*—to have faith or confidence; * * * to credit upon the ground of authority, testimony, argument, or any other ground than complete demonstration; accept as true; give credence to. *Think*—to judge, say to oneself mentally; form a judgment or conception; * * * form a conception of in the mind and recognise it as possibly true without decidedly assuming it as such. *Imagine*—to form a mental image of; produce by the imagination; especially, to construct by the productive imagination." Short of actually setting forth the exact Japanese equivalents for the above phrases—a feat which no lexicographer has yet essayed—, it will be admitted that the "Century's" definitions supply the best available safeguards against confusion. In fact no one after carefully examining such definitions should have any excuse for blundering in the employment of these words.

Let us now, by way of concluding this particular line of inquiry, refer to the verbs, *bring*, *take* and *lead*, which, also, are a frequent source of error to Japanese students of English. About these the "Century" tells us—"*Bring*—to bear, convey or take along in coming; take to the place where the receiver is, or where the bearer stays or abides; fetch: as '*bring* it hither or to me'; '*to bring* a book home.' *Take*—(36 different significations are given, all illustrated, with examples, and these are followed by a vast number of special idioms. In the special sense here considered we have):—"To conduct; escort; convey; lead or carry: as '*take* the stranger to my house, and with you *take* the chain'; 'Enid took his charger to the stall.'" Then, under *take out*, we have "to remove from within a place or from among a number of things: as, to *take* an invalid out for a walk; to *take* a book out of a library"; and under *take with* we find: "to accept or have as a companion." Finally, *lead* is defined as: "to go before as a guide; guide the steps or movements of; precede or accompany in order to show the way to: as to *lead* the blind; a star led the three wise men to Bethlehem."

Examples of this nature might evidently be multiplied. We have indeed tabulated a great many which experience has indicated as specially embarrassing to Japanese students, but space prevents us from detailing them here. We pass rather to a branch of Anglo-Saxon speech which is declared by the Japanese themselves to share with the use of relative pronouns the distinction of presenting almost insuperable difficulties. That branch is the employment of prepositions. There is the question of prepositions necessarily suffixed to verbs to complete their meaning, a kind of construction that has no existence in Japanese; and there is the correlated question of separating these prepositions in order to place them before pronouns standing in the relation of objects to such verbs; an equally unknown usage in Japan. No dictionary, of course, can guide the student through that labyrinth: he must seek the aid of the grammarian. But there is also the question of the exact value of the prepositions themselves. An Englishman can scarcely appreciate the vast perplexity of that problem to a Japanese. For example, we do not say "a hole *below* the earth"; we say rather, a hole *under* the earth"; neither do we say "the calf of the leg *under* the knee," but "the calf of the leg *below* the knee." Why these distinctions? Why should *under* be right in the former case and *below* in the latter? What the "Century" tells about *above* and *below*, *over* and *under* makes the matter clear. "*Above*—(1) In or to a higher place; overhead; on the upper side (opposed to *beneath*); toward the top (opposed to *below*): as, leaves green *above*, glaucous *beneath*; stems smooth *above*, hairy *below*. In or to a higher place than: as, fowls that fly above the earth. *Below*—(1) In or to a lower place or level; beneath; downward from a higher point: as, look below; in the valley below. (2) Under in place; beneath; not so high as: as, below the knee; the dust below my feet. *Over*—In a place or position higher than, and in a vertical direction from (the object); above in place, position, authority, &c., as, the roof *over* our head: clouds hang *over* the lake; a lamp burned *over* the altar. *Under*—Below; beneath; expressing position with reference to that which is above, whether in immediate contact or not, which towers aloft, surmounts, covers or overtops: as, all under heaven, under the earth or the sea; under the surface; under the table; to take shelter under a tree; to live under the same roof; to hide a thing under a heap of straw; to overhear a conversation under one's window." Even superficial readers can not find any difficulty in making a general analysis of these definitions, and discovering that whereas *above* and *below* are used in a general sense to indicate difference of level or plain, *over* and *under* refer chiefly to difference of height; which is the one essential point of distinction. Take, again, the prepositions *during* and *for*, which, being sometimes interchangeable, present the greater difficulties. The "Century's" explanations are:—"*During*—In the time of; in the course of; throughout the continuance of: as, *during* life; *during* our earthly pilgrimage; during the space of a year; *during* the siege of Troy Ulysses invented the game of chess; *during* the whole time. *For*—Through; throughout; during the continuance of: as, we travelled *for* three days; to be appointed *for* life; he came to town *for* the winter." It becomes plain from these examples that *for* and *during* are not always interchangeable. We can not say "For my stay in Tokyo I frequently visited the theatre;" or "It rained twice for an hour" (which would mean that rain fell twice for a period of one hour each, and not that rain fell twice during an hour). When *for* is used of a period of time, the whole period is referred to, and if events are predicated of it, they must not suggest any definite interruption of the time.

There are, of course, some difficulties so essentially peculiar to the Japanese language that no English lexicon could be expected to solve them unless it were specially compiled for the purpose. Take, for example, the sentence we have just written: "difficulties so essentially peculiar to the Japanese language that no English lexicon could be expected to solve *them* unless *it* were specially compiled for the purpose." The two pronouns here italicized, *them* and *it*, would not appear in a Japanese reproduction of this phrase, and their omission illustrates a besetting perplexity to the Japanese speaker of English. Here the "Century" does not give any direct help. But with reference to another serious stumbling block, namely, the use of *it* as the subject of an impersonal verb, or as the representative of a clause, the great lexicon is very succinct:—*It* (*b*) As the nominative of an impersonal verb, or verb used impersonally, when the thing for which it stands is expressed or implied by the verb itself: as, *it* rains (the rain rains or is falling); *it* is blowing (the wind is blowing). (*c*) As the grammatical subject of a clause of which the logical subject is a phrase or clause, generally following, and regarded as in opposition with *it*: as, *it* is said that he has won the prize; he is poor, *it* is true, but he is honest; *it* behooves you to bestir yourself; *it* is they that have done this mischief." As cognate with *it* in these uses may be noticed *they* and *people*, when employed indefinitely. These, too, are amply explained in the "Century."

We have hitherto considered words only. Let us now, by way of conclusion, observe what the dictionary tells about the rules of punctuation, which are another trouble for the Japanese, whose written language is entirely innocent of such aids to understanding. Looking at what is said under the head of "punctuation," we learn that the best modern English usage prescribes the open system of punctuation, that is to say, the system which dispenses with all marks of pause except such as are essentially serviceable to elucidate the sense. We have then the following definition of the comma, the semi-colon and the colon:—"Comma—A point (,) used to indicate the smallest interruptions in continuity of thought or grammatical construction, the marking of which contributes to clearness." "Semicolon—

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The point (;). It is used to mark a division of a sentence somewhat more independent than that marked by a comma." "Colon—A mark of punctuation (:), used to mark a discontinuity of grammatical construction greater than that indicated by the semicolon and less than that indicated by the period. The colon is commonly used (1) to emphasize a close connexion in thought between two clauses of which each forms a complete sentence, and which might with grammatical propriety be separated by a period; (2) to separate a clause which is grammatically complete from a second which contains an illustration or amplification of its meaning; (3) to introduce a formal statement, an extract, a speech in a dialogue, &c." These definitions and rules do not constitute a full thesis on the art of punctuation, but they convey the best lexicographical exposition of that art that can be found anywhere.

We have taken words at random for the purposes of this brief review, guided solely by our knowledge of the difficulties lying in the path of Japanese students of English, and we set down only a fraction of the tests to which we have subjected the "Century" within these limits. Our definite conclusion is that no book now extant is likely to prove of comparable value from the Japanese student's point of view. Of course such a voluminous work, cheap as it is in consideration of its size and quantity of matter, scarcely lies within reach of an ordinary learner. But to any one engaged in the duty of teaching, or any one desiring to supplement and correct his knowledge of English, the "Century" seems altogether essential. Its encyclopedic character is not less striking than its lexicographic, but the former, having received full appreciations from many great authorities in Anglo-Saxondom, does not call for any comment here. What seems to us to be of special interest is the welcome the great work ought to have in Japan, now that by a liberal system of deferred payments it is brought within the reach of men who could not otherwise afford to acquire it. We entertain no doubt that its wide circulation in this country would prove of most substantial benefit to the nation's knowledge of English.

"IN THE LAND OF THE BOXERS."

We reproduce from the *St. James's Gazette* a review of Captain Casserly's work published under the above title. An eminent authority, who had exceptional opportunities of judging at first hand, said, after reading the review:—"Every word of what the writer says about the qualities of the various troops is what I should have said had I been asked." There is, however, one point at which we join issue with Captain Casserly. He speaks of Marshal von Waldersee as an "old man huddled up on his charger." Nothing could be less descriptive of the Field-Marshal. He held himself, whether on foot or on horseback, as straight as an arrow and looked every inch a soldier:—

The ability to wield pen as well as sword is conspicuously present among the officers of our Army. Several of the finest contributions to the literature of the Boer War have been made by officers, among whom "Linesman" stands pre-eminent. What that brilliant author wrought by way of vivid description of modern warfare as it was practised in South Africa, Captain Casserly has attempted to accomplish by somewhat different methods in regard to the expedition of the international forces in China in 1900. And it may be said at once that Captain Casserly has given us an extremely entertaining and valuable book. His narrative is picturesque and graphic. It gives a very clear and concise account of the principal military operations during the campaign. But perhaps its chiefest interest lies in the comparisons which he makes, from a soldier's point of view, between the quality and stamina, the skill and military knowledge and practice, of the troops of the various nationalities who served under Field Marshal von Waldersee in the neighbourhood of Tientsin and Peking in 1900. That comparison is made not in any spirit of boastfulness about British superiority, but it is nevertheless gratifying to our national pride to find how completely our men—both British and native Indian—vindicated their brilliant reputation for endurance and fighting ability. Captain Casserly tells us that the officers of the Anglo-Indian forces saw with pride that they had little to learn from their Continental brothers-in-arms. The world has long believed that the German Army is in every respect superior to all others. But, says the author of this book, those who saw its China expeditionary force—composed as it was of picked troops and carefully selected officers—will not agree with this verdict.

"The German authorities are still faithful to the traditions of close formations and centralisation of command under fire. Unbroken lines in the attack are the rule, and no divergence from the straight, forward direction, in order to take advantage of cover lying towards a flank, is authorised. The increased destructive power given by low trajectory to modern firearms does not seem to be properly understood by them. The creeping forward of widely extended and irregularly advancing lines of skirmishers, seizing every cover available within easy reach, is not favoured; and the dread of the effect of cavalry charges on the flanks of such scattered formations still rules the tactics of the attack. The development of the initiative of the soldier, of his power of acting for himself under fire, is not striven after. In steady, mechanical drill the German private is still pre-eminent, but in wide extensions he is helpless without someone at his elbow to give him orders. One of the Prussian General Staff—sent out as a Special Service Officer—argued seriously with me that even when advancing over open ground against an entrenched enemy armed with modern rifles, it would be impossible to extend to more than an interval of one pace, 'as otherwise the captain could not command his company.'"

Furthermore, Captain Casserly says that the German transport was, at first, very cumbersome and defective. Their knowledge of horsemanship was not impressive, and their animals always looked badly kept and ill-used. Captain Casserly pays a tribute to the French soldiers' marching powers. They were trained in the same obsolete close formations as the Germans; "but, with the traditional aptitude for loose fighting which dates from the days of Napoleon's *tirailleurs*, they can adapt themselves much more rapidly to extended order."

This is what Captain Casserly has to say about the Russian soldier:—

"The Russian troops were composed of big, heavy, rather fleshy men. Unintelligent and slow, for the most part, they were determined fighters, but seemed devoid of the power of initative or of thinking for themselves. I doubt if the Muscovite soldier is much more advanced than his Crimean predecessor. The men of the Siberian army may be best described as cheerful savages, obedient under an iron discipline, but not averse to excesses when not under the stern hand of authority, especially when their blood has been heated by fighting. The great power of the Russian soldier lies in his wonderful endurance under privations that few other European troops could support. I should be sorry to offer Englishmen the meagre fare on which he manages to exist. His commissariat rations were anything but lavish in China, and had to be supplemented by the men themselves by foraging. Yet those whom I saw in North China and Manchuria looked well fed and almost fat."

Very glowing is the tribute paid to the Japanese. Their high patriotism and almost fanatical courage endow them with an absolute contempt of death, and their heroic bravery extorted the admiration even of such unfriendly critics as the Russians.

"The discipline of Japanese soldiers in small things as well as great is admirable. I have often watched crowded troop-trains arriving at the Shimbashi railway terminus in Tokio. The men sat quietly in their places until the order to leave the carriages was given. Then, without noise or confusion, they got out, fell in on the platforms, piled arms, fell out, and remained near their rifles without chattering; indeed, with hardly a word except in an undertone. Prompt and unquestioning obedience in everything is the motto of the Japanese soldier. The courage at the storming of Tientsin city, on the march to the capital, and at the capture of Pekin won the admiration of all the Allies, and their behaviour and self-restraint in the hour of victory were equalled only by their gallantry in action. No charges of cruelty to inoffensive peasants or women and children could be substantiated against them; and they treated the conquered Chinese with kindness. They employed their prisoners to work for them and paid them liberally for their labour. Their conduct in garrison was admirable. Well armed and equipped, well officered and led, the Japanese Army is now a powerful fighting machine, and would prove a formidable enemy or a useful ally in the field."

The Americans proved themselves ideal individual fighters; for scouting, skirmishing, and bush-whacking they could not, Captain Casserly asserts, be easily surpassed. Our Indian Field Force was, we are told, a revelation to Europe. Friend and foe realised for the first time that in the Indian Army England had a reserve of immense value.

"When we compared our Sikhs, Pathans, Gurkhas, and Punjaubis with the men of most of the Allied forces, we recognised that, led by British officers, they would render a good account of themselves if pitted against any troops in the world. And our sepoys return to India filled with immeasurable contempt for the foreign contingents they have seen in China. As the ripples caused by a stone thrown into a lake spread over the water, so their opinion will radiate through the length and breadth of the land; and this unexpected lesson of the campaign will have a far-reaching and beneficial effect throughout our Eastern Empire."

In the large enclosure in which stands the Temple of Heaven in Peking was held the historic British assault-at arms, when foreign officers were roused to enthusiasm at the splendid riding of our Indian cavalry and the marvellous skill of the Royal Horse Artillery as they swung their teams at full speed round the marks in the driving competition.

Apropos of the latter corps a story is told of Field-Marshal Von Waldersee's introduction to them at the first review he held of British troops at Tientsin. When the horse gunners came thundering down towards the saluting base in a cloud of dust, their horses stretching to a mad gallop, the guns bounding behind them like things of no weight but with every muzzle in line, the German Commander-in-Chief is said to have burst into admiring exclamation: "Splendid! Marvellous!" he cried. As they flew past the old man huddled up on his charger, he started in surprise and peered forward.

"Donnerwetter!" he exclaimed, "why, they actually have their guns with them!" The pace was so furious that he had been under the impression that they were galloping past with the teams only; for he had thought it impossible for artillery to move at such speed drawing their field-pieces. The other officers of the Allied Armies were equally amazed at the sight.

"It is positively dangerous!" said a German.

"C'est incroyable! Ca ne peut pas!" cried an excited Frenchman.

"Say, that'll show the Dagos that they've got something still to learn," said a pleased Yankee.

But we must not in justice to the author and his publisher quote further from this section of Captain Casserly's book. The reader may be strongly recommended to turn to it for himself. He will certainly not be disappointed for his pains.

In a final chapter Captain Casserly sums up his impressions of China, past present, and future. He thinks, and he is not alone in believing, that signs of the great awakening are at hand. Unfortunately few Chinamen, save those who have been educated in Europe, are inspired by the love of country as we know it. The mandarins batten on China's misfortunes. "The higher in rank they are the readier they prove themselves to intrigue with its (China's) enemies and sell their country for foreign gold." Like the Duke of Plazatoro in Gilbert's "Gondoliers," who

> —led his soldiers from behind,
> He found it less exciting,

the mandarins drive the common folk to battle and stay at home themselves. "The generals and the officers, with few exceptions, are never found in front of their troops in action, unless when a retirement is ordered." Nevertheless, in spite of this curse of mandarinism, Captain Casserly thinks that China will in time follow the example of Japan.

All that Japan has become, China may yet be. Nay, more. The former is poor, her territory small, the greater part of the country encumbered with unprofitable mountains. The undeveloped wealth of the latter is enormous. Gold, silver, copper, iron, and coal are all found. Vast stretches of forest cover the interior. The soil is incredibly fertile; and her people are naturally intelligent. The Chinese in Hongkong and elsewhere, as merchants, as shipowners, as professional men, prove it. The schools and colleges of our island colony are filled with the clever, almond-eyed students. In the Straits Settlements, as in Hongkong, they compete with the Europeans in commerce and vie with them in wealth. All that he is in other countries the Chinaman can become in his own under the liberal rule of an enlightened Government.

The trouble is to get in China an enlightened Government. But perhaps the Great Awakening will bring that in its train. Though not until that irascible, fanatical old lady, the Dowager-Empress, has joined her ancestors shall we be certain that even the Great Awakening is really begun.

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PROPOSED NEW PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED CHURCH IN TOKYO.

The following circular, addressed by the Rev. William Imbrie to the members of his Church in the United States, is self-explanatory :—

The Ichi Bancho Church is situated in what is known as the Bancho District of Tokyo; one of the best residence parts of the city, and the one containing the largest number of church-going people.

The congregation has a membership of about three hundred and fifty; of whom some one hundred and fifty reside in Tokyo, the remainder living in many places throughout the empire, but for most part retaining their interest in the church. The attendance upon service on Sunday is from one hundred to one hundred and fifty. Of those two-thirds are men and one-third women. Among the members of the congregation are a number of professors and a considerable number of students. The students come from the Imperial University, Waseda (Count Okuma's) University, and the Commercial College and the Foreign Languages School. Financially, as might be expected, the students are not of great assistance to the church; but their influence in behalf of Christianity, as they scatter over the empire, is peculiarly great. For these a special class, well attended, is held every Sunday from 12.30 to 2 p.m. in the house of the Pastor next door to the church. The ladies of the congregation, in some cases the wives of men who though not Christians themselves are friendly to Christianity, are carefully organized for mutual help and common work; and financially form an important element in the strength of the congregation. Absolutely this strength is not great, but relatively it is; and it is steadily increasing. During the year before last the contributions amounted to about $500 (gold); during last year, to about $600. Within the past seven years they have increased five fold.

Ever since its organization, now some seventeen years ago, the spirit of the congregation has been that of harmony. In all this time there have never been any serious differences. Moreover the congregation has always been, and has been recognized throughout the country as being evangelistic in word and in work. Pastor and people alike have always to a marked degree maintained an interest in the Board of Home Missions of the Church. The church is widely known as a centre of Christianity; and strangers visiting the capital and knowing something of Christianity frequently come to it, or to its Pastor, for fuller knowledge.

The present building, a small and rude frame one, was erected at the time when the number of those professing Christianity was increasing with extraordinary rapidity (most congregations doubling every three years); and the natural expectation was that by the end of five years, it would easily be possible to erect another one better suited to the needs of the congregation. But, as is known to most who are interested in the spread of Christianity in Japan, that time of rapid increase was followed by what is commonly spoken of as the Reaction; and for some ten years the congregation was forced to content itself with the old building. Those were years that called for faith and good works to a degree known only to those intimately acquainted with the inner life of the church.

About four years ago however the future began to brighten. While there was no such movement in direction of Christianity as characterized the former period, a change for the better was evident. The Sunday services were well attended, and by a constant congregation. As one expressed it, "The congregation was growing larger and larger and the building smaller and smaller." So the old hope of erecting a suitable place of worship was revived; alike by the signs of promise and the stress of necessity.

The congregation accordingly decided to begin a systematic endeavor to raise the funds needed. The amount required for the purchase of land and the erection of a building was estimated to be about $15,000 (gold). A committee of men of character and standing in the community was appointed to collect funds. At present the subscriptions amount to $3,750; of which $2,520 are now in bank.

The immediate and urgent reasons for a new and better building are those above stated; but these may fairly be supplemented by reminding those acquainted with the city that while other Churches (Episcopal and Methodist) are supplied with one or more attractive places of worship greatly to their advantage, the Church of Christ in Japan (Presbyterian and Reformed) has none that can properly be so described.

The committee has already sent out a circular to the members and other friends of the church residing in Japan; and it now sends out this to those in America, in the certain confidence that they will do all in their power, be it much or little, to aid the old church in building the home of which it is so well worthy.

"RUSSIA & THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION."

The *Novoye Vremya* of April 29 contains a leading article under the above heading, of which the following is a translation :—

"Russian ultimatum," "Conditions on which Russia consents to evacuate Manchuria," "Russia's violation of her engagements," "Russia puts an end to the policy of the Open Door," "The Powers protest against the demands of Russia," "China refuses Russia's ultimatum;"—these are a few of the sensational headings which are to be found in all the London papers received to night.

Something astounding, uncommon, has surely happened to astonish the whole world. From all places cries of indignation are heard, English newspapers suggest that a hint be given to Russia that, &c., &c. More fiery organs say that England must act more energetically, that the time has come for the Anglo-Japanese alliance to show that it exists and that it was not concluded in order to allow the two parties to it to remain calm spectators of the illegal actions of Russia.

God save us! How frightful is all this! But what is all the row about anyhow? What has taken place? About what do the British orators make such a noise?

Reuter's agency and the Peking correspondent of the *Times* explain what is the matter, but, judging from their telegrams the cause of all this excitement is very slight. It is said that the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* in Peking presented to the Chinese Government an ultimatum in which he asked that Government to immediately sign a separate treaty with regard to Manchuria, a treaty which was very unfavourable to China.

It was laid down in this ultimatum that in case the Chinese Government did not sign the treaty at once, Russia would not evacuate Manchuria. The treaty which Russia asked China to sign consisted of eight articles in which it was stipulated that China was not to allow any foreigners save Russians to obtain a foothold in Manchuria, that no new ports were to be opened to foreign trade, that the number of foreign consuls in Manchuria must not be increased.

(The *Novoye Vremya* then goes on to summarize the information about the Russian demands which had reached London from Peking and with which readers of the *Japan Daily Mail* are already familiar.—Translator).

Now we can say with certainty, for we derive our knowledge from a most trustworthy source, that Russia did not send any ultimatum to the Chinese Government and did not request China to sign a new treaty about Manchuria as a condition of the evacuation of that country.

All the information, therefore, that Reuter's agent and the Peking correspondent of the *Times* have sent home in this connection is fiction, pure and simple fiction.

What object then had the English newspaper correspondents in the Far East in view when they circulated these fantastic *canards* about an ultimatum?

It is not quite easy to fathom the true designs of our friends in the Far East. But fortunately they showed their hand once before. Nearly two years ago, in March, 1901, the rumour that Russia intended to make Manchuria a protectorate was industriously circulated, Reuter assisting. Then as now Reuter gave the world the text of the alleged Russo-Chinese treaty by which the terms of that protectorate were to be arranged.

What are the true facts of what then took place? The facts are these. At the time this rumour about the protectorate was in circulation, the Russian Government prepared a draft of a special agreement with China concerning the evacuation of Manchuria and also drew up at the same time some temporary regulations the object of which was to preserve peace in that district and prevent the breaking out of any disorders. It was on the foundation of that arrangement with China for the return of Manchuria that the rumours to the effect that Russia wanted to make Manchuria a protectorate were based. Russia never dreamt of establishing any such protectorate but the circulation of the rumour in question prevented the conclusion of the said agreement. China got into such serious trouble in connection with demands that never were made on her by us that we had to abandon negotiations with her on the subject.

It now seems that the same thing is going to take place again.

We do not intend to go back on our promises regarding the gradual evacuation of Manchuria and the transference to the hands of the local authorities of all military and civil power; but when the transference of a large territory like Manchuria is in question some separate arrangements have got to be considered. These arrangements are for the interest of both parties.

But evidently the peaceful carrying out of this programme is not pleasant to those who wish to prepare new troubles for us in the Far East. Hence the audacious rumour about the ultimatum and the protests of the Great Powers.

Our enemies are sadly mistaken if they think that they can by these means force Russia from her path. If obstacles are again placed in our way in connection with our evacuation of Manchuria we can temporarily postpone this evacuation and quietly await the course of events.

Do others in the Far East wish this?

Y. C. AND A. C. ATHLETIC MEETING.

The Spring Athletic Meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club came off on Saturday afternoon under anything but pleasant conditions. The morning opened with a promise of rain and about 12 o'clock there was a sharp shower, which was followed at intervals throughout the afternoon with little flurries which were not enough to drive one under shelter but sufficiently insistent to make rain-coats a continual necessity throughout the whole course of the proceedings. Under the circumstances the attendance of ladies was surprisingly large, though many of them did not care to leave the Pavilion until late in the afternoon. With a sodden turf making the going very heavy it was impossible for any of the athletes to attempt to lower records in the flat races, but in one event—throwing the Cricket Ball—E. W. Kilby established a local record with the magnificent throw down wind of 114 yards 1 ft. 8 in. Libeaud is to be congratulated on his three wins—the 100 Yards, the Quarter Mile, and the 220 Yards Dash. He was in capital form and had manifestly been through a conscientious course of training—an ordeal too greatly shirked in Yokohama now-a-days. A popular victory was that of E. W. Kilby in the One Mile. Here again a word of praise should be awarded for the arduous previous training which the winner had undertaken. As a result he came on to the ground in the pink of condition and the only regret keen sportsmen have in connection with the race is that he had not an opportunity of displaying his powers to their fullest extent. If Graham had had, say 150 yards and H. W. Kilby 70 yards handicap, instead of 50 and 20 yards, the race would have been all the better. As it was E. W. Kilby got through his men in the first lap and after that was never pushed, though Libeaud considerately paced him for the last 220 yards. The first quarter of the race was covered in 61 secs., but after this the pace slackened considerably and the winner was clocked for the full distance, 5m. 13⅗ secs. Mr. Dare's Challenge Cup now becomes the absolute property of E. W. Kilby, he having won it three times. Mr. Dare, however, is putting up another trophy, for like a good sportsman he is anxious to see whether his record of 1876 of 4m. 45 secs. for the mile, cannot be approached, if not pulled down. Of course it must not be forgotten that he ran on cinders, while Kilby on Saturday was running on very wet grass. While on the subject of records it is interesting to note that Paymaster Nicholson, who last year made a local record in Putting the Shot, 36ft. 8¾ in., was on the ground on Saturday and attempted to beat his former figure, but he only succeeded in covering 34 ft. 11⅗ in.

The Ladies' Purse was presented to Libeaud by Miss Zaidee Rogers, who made a charming little speech. The recipient of the trophy in reply thanked the fair donor and begged her acceptance of a bouquet of flowers. The other prizes were presented at the close of the sports by Mrs.

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Edwin Wheeler, wife of the genial President of the Club. She was duly thanked by the Secretary and then lusty cheers rang out for her and the Ladies. The band of H.M.S. *Albion* was in attendance and played a lively selection of airs throughout the afternoon.

Officers of the Day:—Mr. W. L. Merriman, Rev. W. Weston, Mr. F. E. White, Judges; Mr. S. Wheeler, Mr. W. S. Moss, Mr. J. H. Bathgate, Handicappers; Mr. E. Mendelson, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Mr. A. W. Read, Timekeepers; Mr. J. H. Bathgate, Starter; Mr. W. Y. Showler, Clerk of the Course.

100 yards. Club Record, 10¼ sec., E. Abbott, Oct. 1884.

C. E. Libeaud	Scratch	1
J. F. Drummond	Scratch	2
S. Wheeler	1 Yard	3
M. Mendelson	1 Yard	0
G. N. Fairhurst	2 Yards	0
C. H. Thorn	2½ Yards	0

There were nine entries but only six competitors turned out in the rain to face the starter, allowing of the race to be run off in one heat. They got off well and it looked as if the crowd had spotted the winner in Drummond, but Libeaud caught up and passed him on the tape while the others were close up, barely three yards separating the leader from the hindmost. Time, 11 1/5 sec.

High Jump. "Tea Prize.":—Club Record, 5 ft. 6⅞ in., W. P. Wise, June, 1901.

J. F. Drummond	Scratch	1
J. L. Graham	2 Inches.	2
W. B. Mason, Jr.	2 Inches.	0
C. H. Thorn	2 Inches.	0
S. Kuhn	3 Inches.	0

Seven entries and five essayed the task. Up to 58 inches all were clear of the bar, but after this they dropped out one by one, leaving Graham and Drummond to fight it out. Drummond had to concede Graham 2 inches, and when he cleared 65 the bar was lowered to 63 to enable the other to beat him if he could. But Graham failed to do so and took second place with a jump of 62 in., Drummond winning with 5 ft. 5 in.

Quarter Mile. The "Ladies Prize.":—Club Record 53⅘ sec., C. E. Libeaud, May 1902.

C. E. Libeaud	Scratch	1
S. Wheeler	5 Yards	2
G. N. Fairhurst	10 Yards	0

H. Goddard was the only one of the entrants who failed to come to the post. Wheeler soon passed Fairhurst and led half way round; then Libeaud drew up and passed to the front, eventually winning as he pleased. Time, 55 secs.

Putting the Shot. The "German Prize":—Club Record, 36ft., 8⅝ in., R. Nicholson, May 1902.

P. Schluter	Scratch	1
J. F. Drummond	Scratch	2
S. H. Kuhn	½ Foot	0
W. B. Mason, Jr.	2 Feet	0
A. Kingdon	2 Feet	0
W. J. Waddilove	2 Feet	0
C. H. Thorn	2 Feet	0

Drummond led off with a put of 27 ft. 8 in., Thorn came next with 24 ft., Kingdon next with 27 ft. 0¾ in.; Mason, 25 ft. 3 in.; Kuhn, 27 ft., 1 in.; Schluter, 30 ft. 10 in. Both Drummond and Schluter improved in their next put and eventually the latter won with a put of 32ft. 7in., and Drummond came second with 27ft. 10¼in.

120 yards Hurdles (3'6" high). "Silk Prize":—Club Record 17 secs., J. F. Drummond, May 1902.

W. B. Mason, Jr.	10 Yards and 1 hurdle removed	1
J. F. Drummond	Scratch	2
C. H. Thorn	10 Yards and 1 hurdle removed	3
W. Graham	20 Yards and 2 hurdles removed	0
K. Dodds	20 Yards and 2 hurdles removed	0
J. L. Graham	10 Yards and 1 hurdle removed	0

The race was divided into two heats. Mason, Thorn and J. L. Graham were in the first. Graham fell at the second hurdle, leaving the race to Thorn and Mason. The former won, getting in with a couple of yards to spare. The second heat brought out W. Graham, Drummond and Dodds. Graham soon took the lead and kept it to the end, Drummond finishing second.

The final was a good race, Mason only getting home in front of Drummond by barely a couple of yards. Drummond, in fact, starting at scratch, covered the whole flight in 17secs., exactly the time he made in 1902. The winner's time was 16⅘sec.

220 yards dash:—Prize Presented by Messrs. Arthur & Bond.

C. E. Libeaud	Scratch	1
M. Mendelson	2 Yards	2
G. N. Fairhurst	3 Yards	3
S. Wheeler	1 Yard	0
J. W. Thompson	3 Yards	0
H. Goddard	3 Yards	0

A fairly big field turned out for this newly introduced event. Goddard led for half the distance, then Mendelson passed through the field and kept ahead till the last 50 yards, when Libeaud spurted and passed him, winning by about a yard. Goddard shortly before the finish gave up. Time, 25 4/5 secs.

Half Mile. "Bankers' Prize":—Club Record 2 m 9 sec., A. H. Dare, May 1876.

F. O. Stuart	Scratch	1
W. Graham	30 Yards	2
J. M. Mollison	10 Yards	0

This was Stuart's race all through. He soon assumed the lead and won as he liked. Time, 2m. 14⅘ secs.

Long Jump. "Brokers' Prize":—Club Record 20 ft. 11½ in., J. F. Drummond, May, 1902.

W. B. Mason, Jr.	1 Foot 6 Inches	1
J. F. Drummond	Scratch	2
C. H. Thorn	2 Feet	0

Six entries but only three competitors. Considering the state of the ground the jumping was very creditable. Mason, with a handicap of 1 ft. 6 inches, won the event with a jump of 19 ft. 6¼ in. Drummond, the scratch man, made 20 ft. 10 in., and thus took second place, Thorn being third with 17ft. 10½ in.

Throwing the Cricket Ball. "Committee Prize" Club Record 114 yards 1 ft. 5 in., E. S. Swan, May, 1902.

E. W. Kilby	Scratch	1
G. Woodruff	20 Yards	2
P. Schluter	5 Yards	0
J. M. Mollison	5 Yards	0
H. W. Kilby	10 Yards	0
C. H. Thorn	10 Yards	0
J. W. Thompson	15 Yards	0

By the time this event came along the rain had decided to hold off for a bit and a little breeze sprang up, blowing down the ground, though rather unsteadily, the conditions in regard to windage being somewhat as they were last year when Swan made a local record. This year Kilby took the figures yet higher up the board, making a magnificent throw of 114 yards 1ft. 8in.

The second man, Woodruff, made a throw of 85 yards 5 inches, and adding to this his handicap of 20 yards, we get 105 yards 5 in. The other competitors did not reach 100 yards.

One Mile. The "Dare Challenge Cup":—Club Record 4m. 45sec., A. H. Dare, May, 1876.

E. W. Kilby	Scratch	1
H. W. Kilby	20 Yards	2
J. L. Graham	50 Yards	0
W. Graham	50 Yards	0
A. P. S. Moss	60 Yards	0

The first two laps saw nobody left in the race but the Kilby Brothers, and E. W. Kilby was then leading. He won in 5 m. 1⅘ secs.

Three legged race.—"Club Prize."

G. Allcock & H. Y. Irwine	1
C. Thorn & M. Mendelson	2
J. F. Drummond & J. L. Graham	0
J. M. Mollison & S. Wheeler	0
W. J. Waddilove & H. Goddard	0
A. Kingdon & W. B. Mason, Jr.	0
W. Graham & J. W. Thompson	0
A. P. S. Moss & J. E. Moss	0
W. S. Moss & F. W. R. Ward	0

From now on the remaining races were got up purely for the fun which each contained. Laughter therefore held the field to the close. In the Three-legged race the winners romped home with any amount to spare, most of the field being placed *hors de combat* long ere the course was covered.

Sack Race. "Club Prize."

H. Russell	1
J. L. Graham	2

In addition to the entries on the card post entries were accepted and so Mr. Bathgate found an awkward squad of 15 anxious to depart at the discharge of his pistol. He got them off well together but only a few managed to cover the distance to the tape.

Obstacle Race. "Insurance Prize.":—

H. Y. Irwine	1
J. L. Graham	2
J. F. Drummond	disq.
J. W. Thompson	disq.
E. W. Kilby	0
C. H. Thorn	0
H. W. Kilby	0
M. Mendelson	0
A. Kingdon	0
W. B. Mason	0
W. Graham	0
S. Wheeler	0
A. P. S. Moss	0
J. W. Waddilove	0
F. Pollard	0

The Committee man who allotted the Insurance Prize to the obstacle race must possess a large amount of the saving grace of humour. At any rate he had the satisfaction of seeing one of the largest fields of the day start on the perilous round. The first thing to be negotiated was a clay bank topped with laurels, which guarded a fifteen feet water-jump. Drummond was the only man to clear this—and he did it beautifully—the others all splashing into and through it. The most graceful dive through the swinging tubs was made by J. W. Thompson and this brought him and Drummond well to the front. They both omitted to crawl under the tarpaulin, however, and thus were disqualified on reaching home, the race being awarded to Irwine, third man in, with J. L. Graham, fourth man, as second. Needless to say it was very a muddy, grimy band that got round to the winning post.

As a matter of interest to local athletes we append the records of the 'Varsity meeting in March last:—

Event.	Oxford.	Cambridge.
100 Yards	10 3-5sec.	10 1-5sec.
Quarter-mile	51 1-5sec.	50sec.
Half-mile	2min. 0 3-5sec.	2min. 2sec.
One Mile	4min. 33 3-5sec.	4 min. 26 1-5sec.
Three Miles	15min. 16 3-5sec.	14min. 58sec.
Hurdles	16 4-5sec.	16 3-5sec.
Hammer	121ft.	129ft. 6in.
Weight	34ft.	38ft. 4in.
High Jump	5ft. 6in.	5ft. 10in.
Long Jump	22ft. 8½in.	21ft. 4in.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Tokyo papers state that the Hiroshima branch office of the New York Life Insurance Company was searched by local Court officials on June 1st, and also the dwellings of Takeichiro Murata, Assistant Manager of the branch, and Sutetara Tanahashi, canvasser. Both men were subsequently arrested. Our contemporaries add that the business has been subjected to much public criticism.

Enquiry at the head office of the New York Life Insurance Co. in Yokohama has elicited the facts that two of its employees at Hiroshima are now under arrest, and that it was because of monetary troubles with the company that they were arrested. It is not at all improbable that a search has been made with reference to documents or books connected with these men's transactions, but such an investigation, if conducted, has been not merely with the consent but at the instance of the company. The suggestion, more than implied, that the company's manner of conducting its business had aroused the suspicions of the authorities, can, doubtless, be safely attributed to business jealousy.

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"THE CHIEFTAIN."

There can be little doubt that the music of "The Chieftain" is of a quality that grows upon one the more often it is heard. In fact, a first hearing does not do justice to the manifold charms of Sir Arthur Sullivan's composition, and this, perhaps, may account for the additional heartiness which the audience threw into their applause on Tuesday night. They were more familiar with the music, and therefore could appreciate its high qualities and many dainty beauties. But the same can not be said, we fear, of the majority of the jokes, which bear a literary flavour about them. These mostly fell flat, particularly—and we blush to write it—*Grigg's* remark: "What, Borrow in Spain!" Patiently he waited for even a slight recognition of the playwright's wit, but, alas and alack, not the faintest ripple of a smile disturbed the placid sea of content in which the audience were lapped. The *Chieftain* had even worse luck with his "Mark Innocent Twain all Abroad." Yet surely these are not so very recondite allusions? A better fate awaited the local jokes and skits introduced by Mr. Brady—these found their mark each and every time, and thunders of applause rewarded the witty player.

On the whole the second performance of "The Chieftain" went with a merrier swing than on the opening night, despite the month's interval. The principals were all in good form: the chorus again right excellent. Mrs. Mollison, it is almost needless to say, charmed every one with her exquisite rendering of "The tinkling sheep-bell knells the parting day," and the house would fain have heard it again, but in view of the arduous labours before her the fair singer could only bow her acknowledgements. But in the duet between herself and Mr. Maitland in the second act, the French song, the house would not allow her to proceed without a repetition, and this was kindly given. Mr. Maitland's "Gay Hussar" song was warmly received, and there can be little doubt that his handsome and striking costume eminently befits the character he there assumes. Mrs. Brockhurst, the *Chieftainess*, again did capital work, and deserves all praise. To take such a part at a moment's notice, fill it satisfactorily, and at the same time make one's *debut* on the stage is no mean achievement, and we feel sure she will reap her reward. Miss Poole's dainty playing of the part of *Dolly* was again a feature of the second act, and the audience insisted on her repeating her song, so fresh and sweet were the tones of her voice and so graciously unaffected her acting. And exactly the same must be said of Mrs. Thwaites: both ladies deserved a wider field of opportunity. Mr. Cain, as the real Simon Pure *Chieftain*, seemed more at home in his part than on his first appearance and did completer justice, we think, to his difficult Spanish song. Mr. Somerton, we were glad to see, displayed no trace of his recent illness and with Mr. E. W. Kilby fully sustained the character of brigand officers in word and deed; while Mr. Skrimshire was again inimitable in his part, displaying a quaint vein of humour most delightful to witness. But the life and soul of the whole piece is—Brady. With him comes "Laughter tripping gaily on the stage," to hold its own till he departs. His versatility is marvellous; his freshness and unexpectedness truly wonderful. Of the choruses, the opening one went with fine spirit, but the Gold-washers was infinitely better, while "Bustle, bustle," was capital. Mr. W. K. Vincent must feel proud of his work as chorus-master: he is justified in so doing.

The most charming thing in Tuesday's performance we have left to the last in this notice: we allude to the *Danse de ballet* introduced just after *Peter Grigg* has accepted the inevitable and been led an unwilling victim to share the rustic throne of the Queen of the Ladrones. This had been arranged by Miss Carst, and the music specially composed by Mr. W. Karl Vincent. The ladies and gentlemen taking part were Mrs. Thwaites, Miss Bagnall, Miss Anna Carst, Miss Ross, and Miss Rosie Cameron; Messrs. J. F. Drummond, E. W. Kilby, C. A. S. Palmer, J. M. Mollison, and Dr. Norris. Anything more bewitching than this dance we have never seen at the Public Hall, and the surprised and delighted audience literally "rose" at it and asked to have it repeated. Their request was granted. We are glad to hear that there is a possibility of another dance being introduced during the second Act next Saturday evening, and if it proves as dainty in movement and the music as pretty as Tuesday's,—well, a treat is in store for us.

After the performance, at the invitation of *Mr. Peter Adolphus Grigg*, the whole "Chieftain" company and several friends sat down to supper, served in the upper room of the Public Hall. It was a right merry and jovial party and Mr. J. P. Mollison, President of the A.D.C., made a very genial Chairman. Many toasts were proposed, all of which were received with "honours," and several good speeches were made; after which an adjournment was made to the stage where a dance or so brought a very delightful evening to a reluctant close.

THE PLAGUE.

Some little discussion has naturally arisen among the Yokohama foreign community with regard to the fatal case of plague at the General Hospital. It should be distinctly borne in mind that when the Chinaman appeared at the Hospital the staff had no suspicion of the nature of the case. The man was ill and he bore a letter from the agents of the *Aragonia*, in which Messrs. Illies and Co., stated that they would be responsible for his medical expenses. Previous to his turning up at the General Hospital the man had seen Dr. Munro who found diptheritic symptoms and advised him to go to the Japanese Infectious Diseases Hospital, and Dr. Munro's diagnosis was confirmed by Dr. Davis when he saw the patient some time after his arrival at the Hospital, Dr. Davis being absent when the man first presented himself. Everything has been done to disinfect the place; the ward has been placed in quarantine and the nurse who attended the man segregated. The condition of the Hospital generally has been restored to the normal.

We learn that the portion of the cargo landed in Yokohama from the steamer *Aragonia*,—about 1,000 tons—will be disinfected in the compound of the Customs. One hundred and forty coolies who were engaged on May 26th in landing the cargo, and 120 coolies working on the steamer on the 27th, are still at large, but the officials are endeavouring to trace them.

The *Aragonia* left Yokohama about 3 o'clock on May 29th for Nagahama Quarantine, where she will be detained for some days.

The cargo still in the steamer is estimated at about four thousand tons. The goods destined for Yokohama are:—

Rice	231 bags
Rails and other iron materials	10,970 pieces
Machinery	45 packages.
Sugar	1,071 bags.
Cotton	1,053 bales.
Sundries	4,968 packages.

The goods for Kobe are:—

Flour	7,442 bags.
Iron materials	89 pieces.
Mats	201 bundles.

The Yokohama cargo will be forwarded from Nagahama by lighters after disinfection. The Kobe cargo will be kept at the quarantine station until the steamer is released.

Mayor Ichihara on May 28th asked the City Councillors' Assembly for *yen* 53,800 towards cleansing the whole city. His request was at once complied with.

It is rumoured that the War Department has decided not to call up the men of the Army Reserve living in Yokohama and surrounding places for their annual inspection this summer, now shortly due.

Ten houses at Tobe-machi, Yokohama, which had been isolated in connexion with the plague outbreak, were burned down on May 30th.

Governor Sufu issued a notification on May 29th ordering that cargo landed from the steamer *Aragonia* shall not be permitted to be removed from its place without disinfection by the authorities. Those who contravene the notice will be punished by a fine under *yen* 10. The order was to be enforced from the day of issue.

FIRES.

At 1.20 a.m. on the 30th ultimo fire broke out in the stables of Prince Arisugawa's residence in Kasumiga.seki, beside the Foreign Office. The flames were extinguished in half an hour. Three horses escaped from the stable or were released. Two of them were caught by the police and the third took up its quarters in Prince Iwakura's compound on the other side of the street. There was no injury to life or limb.

Fire broke out on May 28th in the Naokata Post Office, Fukuoka Prefecture, burning down thirty buildings. Three of the post office staff were injured.

On the morning of the same day, fire occurred at Tenmon-kan-dori, in Kagoshima Prefecture, destroying seventy-six houses.

Twenty houses at Kita-chijo, in Sapporo, were burned down by a fire which occurred on the same day.

On the 28th fire broke out at Take-cho, Shitaya, Tokyo. One house was destroyed and another damaged.

Several fires were reported in Tokyo on the morning of May 30th. The first was at Tanaka-machi, Asakusa, destroying twenty-six houses and damaging fifteen. Another occurred in a godown at Kanasugi, Shiba, but the damage was fortunately limited to one room. A third was in the large junk *Kaiichi Maru* destroying it and its cargo of sulphuric ash.

Fire also occurred at Kata-machi, Yokosuka, burning nine houses.

Fire occurred on May 29th at the village of Nojiri, Aso-gori, Kumamoto prefecture, burning a primary school, a village office, a police station and forty houses. One person was injured.

The same day a village office and a school were destroyed by fire which broke out at the village of Rifu in Miyagi prefecture.

Fire occurred on the morning of May 31st at Meguro, Tokyo, destroying one house.

On the night of May 30th fire broke out in the village of Yoshihara, Ishikawa prefecture, with the result that forty-two buildings were burned down.

Early on the morning of May 31st fire broke out in an unoccupied house at Kurumasaka-machi, Shitaya, Tokyo, destroying six houses and damaging nineteen.

At the village of Shimo-Nerima, Tokyo, a fire broke out on May 30th burning down seven houses.

Fire broke out in No. 17 warehouse of the Mitsui Warehouse Co. at Ono, at 10 o'clock on May 29th and large quantities of raw cotton and miscellaneous goods were destroyed. The firemen succeeded in confining the outbreak to the one warehouse. The damage is roughly estimated at *yen* 170,000. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

In the village of Ohanazawa, Yamagata prefecture, a fire occurred on the morning of June 2nd, destroying nineteen buildings.

Fire broke out early in the morning of June 2nd in an unoccupied house, at Saeki-cho, Kanda, Tokyo, burning down one house. A man named Y. Fujinami was arrested on suspicion of incendiarism in connection with the matter.

About the same time, another fire occured at Motozono-cho, Kijimachi, Tokyo, but it was put out before extensive damage could be done.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Since the death of Dr. Takayama Rinjirō, Mr. Ōmachi Keigetsu has been the editor of the *Taiyō*. In No. 3 of that widely circulated magazine the editor published an article on religion, of a very hostile kind, to which the *Koye* (R. Catholic) replies in successive numbers. Mr. Ōmachi's main contention is that religion is not needed. He dwells at considerable length on the corrupt state of Buddhism and then proceeds to comment thus on religion in general. Religion has always originated with a certain state of timidity to which many persons are subject. Objects of worship (*Kami*) have been invented and men have been taught that they must obey the commands of these gods and that they will thus obtain peace of mind. Religion teaches men to ask God to bestow on them certain things in this life and still more in the next life. Religion is not based on reason. It goes on the principle stated in the words *Shinu no ga iyasa ni Kami ni inairu* (to pray to God out of dislike of death). The foundation of religion is belief in God and in the immortality of the soul. On this basis a system of doctrines is erected and certain ceremonies are enjoined. To this the *Koye* replies:—It would seem as though the editor of the *Taiyō* had been drinking the dregs of Epicureanism. He writes like one entirely ignorant of that fundamental principle of psychology which teaches that ideas come before feeling. To say that the feeling of fear produces the idea of God is to reverse the true order of things. Before there can be any fear of God in the heart of man the idea of God must be present there.

The *Taiyō* continues: The World's philosophers, though awake, are like men talking in sleep, and by the enlightened no value is attached to what they say. Science is the foundation of all knowledge. What it cannot teach us nobody else and nothing else can. Hence as instruction philosophy and religion are alike useless.

To this the *Koye* replies: Though there is nothing surer than the facts which science has tested, yet they are by no means the only facts to be met with in the world. Is it not also a fact that since the dawn of history in every part of the world there have been people believing in God and the immortality of the soul? Writers who attach so much importance to facts should before they ridicule religion explain the above-named fact. No matter how short-tempered a man may be, it is not allowable for him to ignore the facts of history and to sneer at those who respect them, as Mr. Ōmachi does. Such writing is hardly worthy of a literary graduate of the University. Mr. Ōmachi may be versed in Japanese literature, but he is certainly not qualified to write on philosophy or religion.

The *Taiyō* proceeds: Those who have founded religions in the world have made no mistake in their estimate of human nature. To appeal to reason they knew would be of no avail; and so they appealed to feelings. Men's weaknesses were utilized for deceiving them, but people today are no longer to be thus deceived (*Hito no jakuten ni tsuke-komi, kore wo damasu; konnichi no jimmin wa mohaya sore ni damasarezu*). The teaching about God appeals to fear, the immortality of the soul and the promised future bliss gratify man's longing for more than he has here. Christianity is not pessimistic like Buddhism and, having been adapted to the ideas of Europeans and Americans, it has undoubtedly exercised an enormous influence in the West. But among a people like the Japanese who regard the Emperor as the most sacred of all personages, who make filial piety the basis of all virtue, who reverence their ancestors and hold family descent in high regard, such a religion is out of place. It is neither in accordance with our nationality nor our humanity (*Nihon no kokutai, ninjō to Yasokyō to wa ai irezaru mono, etc.*)

Such sentiments, says the *Koye*, one only expects to hear from the lips of some antiquated country school teacher. The whole tone of Mr. Ōmachi's utterances is so flippant that he is not worth taking seriously. He advocates our living the life of the Epicurean and of our dismissing the notion of a future life as a mere idle dream. There are some other quotations from the *Taiyō* in the *Koye* which are not quite fit for reproduction here. The *Koye* says that Mr. Ōmachi's writing reminds him of the Latin writer who called himself "Epicure's pig." Nothing could be more unrestrained and unscrupulous than the tirade against religion in which the editor of the *Taiyō* has indulged, concludes the *Koye*.

* * *

A writer signing himself "K. M." contributes to the *Fukuin Shimpō* an account of the methods followed by the Roman Catholics and of their work in Japan, said to have been derived from an interview with L'Abbe E. Ligneul. We proceed to epitomize "K. M's" article. (1) *The revival of Roman Catholicism in Japan.* This began at Nagasaki in 1865, where a Church was built and when the descendants of the old Christians came forward in large numbers to welcome the arrival of foreign missionaries. Having mentioned the principal works of reference on the Roman Catholic Missions in Japan, M. Ligneul went on to speak (2) *Of the present state of their churches.* The following table gives the numerical strength of the Mission:—

Ecclesiastical Districts	Converts.	Japanese Priests.	Japanese Evangelists.	Foreign Missionaries.
Tōkyō	9,245	4	20	37
Nagasaki	38,160	27	180	31
Ōsaka	4,273	2	40	27
Hakodate	4,643	1	20	20
Total	56,321	34	260	115

The fact that comparatively little is known of the work being carried on by the Roman Catholics throughout the country is no accidental affair. It is one of the principles observed by the whole mission to refrain from the use of the methods employed by other missions for making their work known to the public generally. Roman Catholic missionaries shrink from ostentation of all kinds. They hold that quiet work done nobody knows when or how is the very best of all work. (3) *In reference to the use of the Bible their practice differs from that of Protestants.* They do not encourage indiscriminate perusa of the scriptures by laymen. The interpretation of the meaning of the sacred book is entrusted to duly authorized teachers and the Church holds that without guidance inquirers are not likely to obtain a true conception of Christianity by a simple perusal of the Bible. The Roman Catholics make a point of including in all their elementary teaching those doctrines to which the successors of the Apostles attached much importance. It is not the teaching of Christ and His Apostles only, but the teaching of holy fathers as well that has to be imparted to the new converts. The Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's prayer, and all the rites of the Church take their part in setting forth the truths of religion. Many of the abuses that exist among Protestant Churches have sprung from the practice of allowing each convert to read and interpret the Bible for himself or herself. We consider it an extremely risky thing to place the Bible as it is written in the hands of uninstructed persons. Some passages in the Old Testament are not of a character to be read by our Christians at any time (*Koto ni Kyūyaku-zensho no gotoki, yaya mo sureba, koto waisetsu ni wataru kiji saye aru wo motte, waga kyōkai wa mushiro yomashimuru wo konomazu*). To read the Bible without knowing the point of view of the writers and other matters connected with its compilation, is certainly apt to produce an entirely mistaken conception of the religion we have come to teach. (4) *The influence of religion in Japan.*—It is not easy to ascertain what is true in reference to the attitude of the Japanese to religion without offending people in the process of inquiry. Among the Japanese themselves there is great difference of opinion on this subject, some asserting with pride that the nation is not religious, and others feeling that to be considered unsusceptible to religious influences is by no means creditable to the nation. But to me it seems that the Japanese are among the peoples of the world exceptionally religious. (*Ware wa Nihonjin wa sekai mare naru shūkyō teki kokumin nari to iu*). By this I mean that there is no nation whose customs, habits and feelings have been more affected by religious teaching than have those of the Japanese. But to speak candidly, the religions of Japan no longer exercise the influence they once did. Confucianism is dying out. Shintoism is no more than mythology. Buddhism may be appropriately called a philosophy. These three native systems are at war with each other, and they all show signs of approaching decay. The attempt to prop up Buddhism by means of arguments quoted from the writings of German pantheists and rationalists tends to deprive it of the religious element it once possessed and to convert it more and more into a system of philosophy. But I do not intend it to be thought that I go so far as to say that all remnants of the three old creeds of Japan will be removed. In language, in customs, in ceremonies, and the like, the influence of these religions will be felt to all time. And both in Shintoism and Buddhism there are fundamental truths which have played no mean part in sustaining the life of the nation; and from the point of view of the State, it is most undesirable that prior to the adoption by the Japanese of a new faith these old faiths should be abandoned. (5) *Japanese Scholars.* Learned men in Japan have excellent memories, their tastes are high class and they range over a wide area of thought. But they are more like walking dictionaries than anything else. They are not men with pronounced principles and opinions. They hold no fixed theory or idea as to the place occupied by man in the universe. So, lacking this fundamental conception, they have nothing on which to build a system of thought or philosophic belief, and hence the notions which they entertain lack cohesion and consolidation. The knowledge which they have collected seems to need arranging. Even a man like Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō has changed his opinion no less than five times since he began to publish his views. He is moved by the books that he reads. Like a ship without either rudder or compass, he is carried down whatever stream of thought he may chance to float into. Hence Dr. Inoue is no sure guide. The learned world must seek a pilot elsewhere. But perhaps this state of things has its source rather in the age in which we live than in the character of such writers as Dr. Inoue. For the past 30 years Japan has been busy making her collection of exhibits in the whole world of science and philosophy. The classification and the appraisement of the various articles she has accumulated have not yet been accomplished. We live in the midst of the chaos (*konton*) that precedes the Cosmos.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Shimpō* (Weekly News) thus enumerates the facilities furnished by modern Japan for evangelistic work: (1) Easy means of communication. (2) A good supply of books which explain the Christian religion. (3) A language which is understood in every part of the country. (4) One Government and one set of laws, freedom of belief and freedom of speech. (5) The introduction of Western civilisation; which acts as a medium for teaching Christianity and contains Christian elements. (6) The visits paid by Japanese to foreign countries enable them to see the influence of Christianity in the West, and many of them return to Japan with favourable impressions. But these aids are all more or less of a material kind. To these must be added the subjoined psychical influences:—(1) *The Bushidō.* This system of morality taught men to sacrifice their lives for the sake of their masters or for some good cause. (2) *Shintōism*, though it principally consists of ancestor worship, made known to the nation that there exist beings who are high above man. The realization that supernatural beings exist was a distinct step towards Christianity. (3) *Buddhism* in exhorting men to subdue the evil within them and to curb their desires prepared the way for Christianity. (4) *Confucianism* has permeated all our thought and all our institutions and the sage who said: "What you would not have done to you, that do not to others (*Onore no hossezaru tokoro, kore wo hito ni hodokosu nakare*), may be said to have laid down a rule that closely resembled that em-

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bodied in the words:—"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." In the fulness of time Christianity has come to Japan. This is the day of grace and of salvation.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* (*Christian World*), in No. 1,025, has an article entitled *Hokon no Jisei to Kirisutokyō* (The Tendency of the Times and Christianity) the substance of which we transcribe in an abbreviated form under the headings of the writer. Though truth is always the same, says the essayist, yet it reveals itself in different ways at different times, and so there is a special kind of Christianity needed for the age in which we live. We will set down here the leading characteristics of this Christianity. (1) *It must be universal in type.*—That God is one father, that all mankind are brethren and that the world is our temporary abode—these are truths that we need to lay stress on in order to dispel those insular notions on which our Shintō rests. (2) *Our religion must display great activity and progressiveness.*—As a nation we are beginning to feel that Japan is too small for us. To branch out to other countries and make their influence felt there, is the aspiration of many modern Japanese. A Gospel of energy, enterprise and hopefulness is what we must preach. Buddhist pessimism is no longer in favour. But great activity is only possible when the chief aim of life has been determined on. (3) *There must be a spiritual side to our teaching.*—We must lay stress on the spiritual capabilities of man, on the eternal life which he may enjoy by believing in Christ.

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* furnishes an account of a Christian Conference held at Ōsaka on April 14th and publishes as a leading article in No. 1,026 the comments of Mr. Minata on the results of the gathering. Though there were a few things connected with the Conference to be regretted, says Mr. Minata, one feature of it is specially worthy of note and that is the harmony which prevailed among the various sects represented. Perhaps too much has been made of the differences that exist between the various bodies. Though we are in favour of union as far as possible, yet variety of view has its uses in the discovery of truth, and we are against trying to force union when the difference of opinion is very great. Nor is it desirable to stop discussion on disputed points. A mere patched-up agreement in views is of little use. It is to the interest of the church that methods of work, ceremonies and customs should all be thoroughly discussed.

The following is the gist of the comments of the *Shinjin* on the Ōsaka Conference.

The big meeting of Christians held at Ōsaka was a highly representative gathering. It was thrown open to all Christian sects, notwithstanding an attempt to confine it to Christians holding special views. There were some 170 pastors and evangelists present, a few from Hokkaidō and a few from Formosa. Together with the Ōsaka Christians the number who assembled reached 400. About 160 female workers were present, Ainus and Koreans being included among them. The chief subjects discussed were the union of the various sects for evangelistic purposes, and the self-support and independence of churches. There was a general feeling that the time had come for sinking minor differences and for united effort in preaching the Gospel. The object of this conference and that of the Evangelical Alliance are quite different. The latter insists on the holding of certain views as a basis of fellowship and union. The conveners of the Ōsaka Conference made use of no doctrinal tests of any kind. They welcomed the orthodox and unorthodox, they welcomed all who value Christianity and who are prepared to do their best to make it known to their fellow-countymen. The summoning of a conference on this broad basis is a step in the right direction and the harmony that prevailed is certainly a good omen. For the time that the conference lasted the sectarian spirit was in abeyance and men and women met as Christians.

* * *

The *Fukuin Shimpō* publishes in Nos. 409 and 410 the views of Viscount Watanabe Kunitake, who, in addition to possessing an intimate acquaintance with politics and finance, is a Buddhist scholar who has a minute knowledge of the teaching of the Zen Sect. The opinions stated were obtained by an interviewer directly from the lips of the Viscount. We condense the articles which appear in the *Fukuin Shimpō* thus:—To mistake names for realities is a common error. By the number of sects that exist and by the noise that is made by the discussion of the tenets of various philosophers one might imagine that both religion and philosophy had made extraordinary progress in this country. But in too many instances talk about a thing is mistaken for the possession of the thing itself. Theological controversy, the contention between sects, are no proof whatever that religion is prospering. Religion consists of deep knowledge and deep feeling. It is only the thoroughly enlightened (*daigo-tetsei*) and the inspired who can give to others the guidance and the comfort they need. The present state of corruption among people generally in this country shows a lack of religions devotion and self-sacrifice among us. Our native religious are effete. Christianity, in order to be widely adopted must be nationalized, say some, so they are doing their best to effect this purpose, but in vain. I say let the real essence of Christianity be taught and let there be no attempt to Japonicize it. One of the reasons of the deterioration of Buddhism in this country was its subjection to a process of modification to suit Japanese ideas. The more a religion is altered in order to make it agree with national sentiment the less effective as a reforming agency it becomes. The Tendai-shū, once a very powerful sect, lost its influence in this country by being allied to the State. And the reason of the prominence of the Shin sect among Buddhist denominations is to be found in the fact that it has always objected to State entanglements of any kind. It seems to me that one of the principal causes of the lack of influence possessed by Christians at the present time is the practice so widely followed of making converts by mere argument. Religion does not consist of argument. Those who have become converts under the influence of powerful reasoning are very liable to give up their Christianity under the spell of logic of a different type later on. Japanese scholars habitually put aside miracles as incredible and look upon ceremonies as mere superstitions. And there are persons who regard that which has been divested of the miraculous and that which is capable of being logically demonstrated as desirable as of the very essence of true religion. What they call religion, however, is nothing more than philosophy. But true religion is a life, and not a system of philosophy. Unitarianism may exist as a philosophy, but as a religion it has little power. A religion which has not sufficient life in it to permeate and control men's minds is not worthy of the name of a religion. I do not say that Buddhism is not a religion, but when I ask myself how many modern Buddhists are there that have religious life in their souls, I answer, none. The Viscount's words are: *Ware wa Bukkyō wo shūkyō ni arazu to wa iwazu. Shikaredomo karera Bukkyō-to ni shūkyo-teki seimei wo yetaru mono ari ya? ware wa imada kore wo kikazaru nari** . . . . . There are many ways of propagating a religion, but resorting to works of charity and benevolence as a means of spreading it has always seemed to me unjustifiable. There are certain persons who when this is done make a pretence of accepting the religion for the sake of the temporary benefits those who teach it have it in their power to bestow. The dispensing of charity should be kept separate from religious teaching. All religious teaching should be of a direct kind and should aim at an object that is clear to everybody. When it is mixed up with this, that, and the other thing, it loses all definiteness of character, and it is impossible to say whether those who profess attachment to it like it for its own sake or for the sake of those things which are associated with it. At the present time there is far too much use of devices for making religion appear attractive to unbelievers. . . . The State that has no religion is like the individual who is without a religion, it has no ideal, no fundamental national principle of any strength. Japan has not enough religion to preserve her national life. In countries like France, Spain and Italy the power of the Roman Catholics is so great that frequently the State has to defend itself against it. . . . In all Catholic countries the power of the State seems to be on the decline, and few great statesmen make their appearance. One reason of this is that in most cases there is no real belief in the articles of faith drawn up by the Church. I neither like the utter effeteness of religion in Japan, nor the excessive power it wields in Spain and Italy. England it seems to me, furnishes a model of what is desirable. I see no ill effects of religion there. When the Religions' Bill was under discussion I was opposed to legislation on the subject of religion. What we want is not legislation about religion, but religion itself. There is nothing more dangerous to the country than to give power to a number of men who have no religious convictions whatever. Though a religion that depends on political power for making headway is of little value, that the minds of statesmen should be enlightened by religious teaching is very important. In the idea of courage is included self-sacrifice and devotion. Unless there is some attempt to cultivate these virtues politicians cannot be safely entrusted with power. The way to life is through death, that is, men must be prepared to sacrifice themselves for the sake of others. What we want to see is the courage that enables a man to bear great losses and privations and reproach from the world for the sake of his principles and his creed. This is more powerful than argument. A friend of mine, Iwanami Misusu by name, was a disciple of Hirata Atsutane. When I do not quite know, he became a Christian. His life was clouded with many adverse circumstances, but he still continued his evangelistic work up to the time of his death last year. This was a case of true devotion to a cause; Iwanami was a real hero and it is these kind of men that the country needs just now.

* Does the Viscount think that such men as Dr. Murakami Sensei, Dr. Inoue Enryō and 20 or 30 other very earnest, prominent Buddhists that could be named have no religious life in their souls?—(WRITER OF THE SUMMARY).

* * *

In his *Seisho no Kenkyū* Mr. Uchimura Kanzō discusses in the following terms the connection of Christianity and Socialism. Christianity and Socialism have different objects in view. One is concerned with the amelioration of things in this life exclusively; the other makes it its principal aim to teach men about a future life. Though Christianity benefits men in this life in many ways, this is not the chief reason for its existence. Christianity preaches no community of goods. It does not teach that the poor have any claim to share the wealth of the rich, though on the latter class it enjoins charity. What it teaches is that all a man's possessions should be devoted to God and used for the good of mankind. Christianity neither fixes forms of government nor suggests special ways of organizing society. Its chief function is to explain the nature of God and the nature of man and to show the relation of man to God. It says to worldly men:—"Be Imperialists if you will, only in all your dealings be fair, be compassionate, respect the rights of all men. If you act otherwise, God will destroy you." It says to the Socialists "Be devout. Be careful not to go too far in advocating the cause of the poor. Be just to the rich. Be courteous to all. Condemn violence of all kinds. Let humility and meekness characterize all your appeals to your fellowmen on behalf of the principles in which you believe." The essential difference between Christianity and Socialism is that the work of the former begins will the heart and thence extends its influence to other quarters; whereas the latter begins by an attempt to ameliorate the outward condition of society and aims at subsequent mental improvement. According to Christianity the inequalities of society all proceed from men's estrangement from God and are not the result of imperfect organization, and therefore it is that Christianity attaches little importance to the remedy proposed by the Socialists, namely, reorganization.

* * *

The action of the Department of Education in

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the *Tetsugakkan* Ethical Text-book affair is still discussed in various religious organs, it being maintained that principles of primary importance are involved in the course followed by the Mombusho. Here is the substance of an article on the subject appearing in a recent number of the *Dokuritsu Hyōron*. To timid people all learning is dangerous. If Muirhead's teaching is open to abuse, so also was that of Mencius, who defended the slaying of the Emperor (紂) Chū, on the ground that by extreme wickedness he had forfeited his right to reign. By a perusal of the Analects of Confucius we perceive that the sage thought it right to forsake his own country and serve a foreign monarch if by so doing he could enjoy greater freedom of conscience. This is liberty that might well be represented as dangerous to a State. The Buddhists teach that not even kings are free from the consequences of their deeds, and that hence they may be sent to hell. This might be interpreted as an insult to royalty. The doctrines of the evolutionists at the Imperial University represent man as originating from the lower animals, and thus put all mankind on a level that allows of no distinction being made between high and low, if the theory be pushed to its extreme limits. The materialists reduce everything to matter and leave no place for the existence even of those Imperial ancestral spirits, which in Imperial rescripts are said to be enthroned on high. The fact is that the sensitiveness about royalty and the respect due to it among some of us amounts to a disease. The notion that an empire that has stood for 2,500 years, is capable of receiving any serious injury from ethical or philosophic theories of any kind is quite ridiculous. The calamities which overtake empires proceed from other causes than the arguments of philosophers. For a Government Department to be attacking the latter reminds one of the proverb *ke wo fuki kizu wo motome* (to exert oneself to one's own hurt). Such action has the tendency of arousing hostility where it did not previously exist.

* * *

In the *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) Mr. Ishikawa Kisaburō writes in the following strain on "Religion and Poetry." It is quite common to find it taken for granted that religion and poetry are closely related to each other. This is certainly the view held by the majority of writers who have discussed the subject, but there are ecclesiastics and literary men who maintain that they have no necessary connection with each other. The truth seems to be that both religion and philosophy borrow poetic form for the sake of making their teaching more attractive. But looking back to ancient times in China, Japan, and India, as in Western Countries, all the great poems were full of religion. Mr. Ishikawa furnishes abundant proof of this, but we have no space for his numerous quotations and allusions. He then goes on to show that religion has been as closely connected with art and with painting as with poetry. Taking the hymns and psalms now in use in the three great sections of Christendom, there is considerable difference between them. Those used by the Roman Catholics were composed in different ages in Latin, and they reflect a great variety of national and human feeling. The sacred songs of the Protestants are allied to ordinary popular poems in character, and hence are defective in certain psychical essentials. Our Greek church hymnology has a character of its own. It is distinctly doctrinal in tendency and dwells principally on the sins, the sorrows, the comforts and the salvation of mankind generally. But all the hymns in use in various churches are characterized by deep religious feeling. In some of our native poems religion is portrayed in a very sublime and fascinating manner. In the 日蓮記 *Nichirenki* and the 石童丸 *Ishidō Maru* dramas there are many examples of this. In the verses of Saigyō and Bashō, which with Buddhism as a guide give us general views of the world and of human life, devout souls will find a certain charm, which is to be attributed to the religious feeling to which the writers gave such eloquent expression. Mr. Ishikawa also discusses the connection of music with religion, but for this part of his article we have no space here.

DEATH OF M. ANDRE CONIL.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of M. André Conil, Principal Agent in this port of the Messageries Maritimes Cie. M. Conil, who was in his seventieth year, was a confirmed sufferer from asthma but up to within a few hours of the end no thought was entertained that his situation was at all dangerous. He was greatly troubled by difficulty of breathing during Saturday night, and a servant who sat up to fan him found about 4 o'clock on Sunday morning that his master had passed away. The assistant, M. Maire, who also stays at No. 9, Bund, was at once called and Dr. Von der Heyden was sent for, but life was extinct, doubtless as much owing to the deceased gentleman's advanced years as to his ailment.

M. Conil was a native of the Isle of Bourbon (Reunion), where he was born in 1833. He entered the service of the Messageries Maritimes in 1859, his connection with the Company thus lasting over 44 years. His first agency was at Aden, he was afterwards agent (acting) at Hongkong and at Yokohama. He left this port to go to Sydney, which post he vacated in 1892, to succeed M. Blanc here, where he has since remained, with one or two short absences on leave to visit home, as Principal Agent of the Company. M Conil was a greatly respected member of the French community, and his removal will be lamented by many of his fellow-residents belonging to other nationalities. He leaves a married daughter and no fewer than nine grand-children, to whom the public will extend its respectful sympathy.

On Tuesday afternoon the obsequies were celebrated of M. André Conil, Principal Agent of the Messageries Maritimes at this port, Conseiller du Commerce Extérieur, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, Decoré de la 4-e Classe de l'Ordre du Soleil Levant, Chevalier de l'Ordre de Léopold and Chevalier de l'Ordre de St. Grégoire le Grand. Early in the day the coffin, a leaden casket encased in polished *keyaki*, was removed to the Catholic Church, where a funeral service took place, Abbe Pettier being the officiating priest, and Bishop Mugabure pronouncing the benediction. The Church was crowded to the doors, many, in fact, finding it impossible to gain admission. The coffin was afterwards placed in the hearse and the funeral cortége set out for the Cemetery. Attending the coffin there walked the pallbearers—Messrs. B. C. Howard, Agent of the P.M. and O. & O. S.S. Cos.; W. T. Payne, Agent of the C.P.R. Co.; H. W. Buckland, Acting Agent, P. & O. S. N. Co.; M. Surth, representing the Nordd. Lloyds; K. Nagai, Manager, Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and H. Maire, Messageries Maritimes. Following there came the mourners, of whom the chief were the French Minister and the Staff of the Legation, Messrs. Chaix, Acting Agent of the Messageries Maritimes; J. Colomb; Capt. Guigues, commanding the M.M. steamer in port; Governor Sufu; the Russian Minister; the Mexican Minister; the Swiss Consul-General, M. E. Tronquois, French Vice-Consul, and the Staff of the Consulate; the Italian Consul; the Brazilian Consul; the Consul of the Netherlands; M. L. Van de Polder from the Netherlands Legation, etc. In addition to the above a large body of Japanese and foreigners formed the procession to the Cemetery. At the grave side the ceremony was of the briefest, and after the forms of the Roman Catholic Church had been observed the coffin was consigned to the earth, with the usual burning of incense and sprinkling of holy water.

The floral tributes were both numerous and beautiful, the wreaths, crosses, etc., numbering over seventy. Of these the chief were borne by petty officers and men from the *Oceanien*.

A jinrikisha coolie named H. Uchida (47) living at Nagasumi-cho, Yotsuya, Tokyo, attempted to murder his wife Yoshi (27) on June 3rd, inflicting two severe wounds on her forehead with a large knife. He also attempted to commit suicide by inflicting injuries on his throat. Jealousy is said to be the cause.

LAW CASES.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL, & CO.

Judge Kano gave judgement in this case on May 29th in the Yokohama District Court.

1.—Defendants were ordered to pay *yen* 226,250 to plaintiff with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, from April 20th, 1902, to date of execution. The costs to be borne by defendants.

2.—The costs which were incurred by their intervention to be borne by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

GROSSER & CO. v. YAZAWA.

In the Yokohama District Court the further hearing of this case, which arose over a peppermint transaction, adjourned on May 4th, came up again before Judge Kato on the 29th.

Mr. Paul Kleinwort, of Messrs M. Raspe and Co., was present as a witness. He stated that he had very frequently purchased crystallized peppermint and oil from Yazawa, Kotobuki-cho, during the past nine years. He knew the name of the Japanese peppermint dealer as Yazawa and Co., and by the initial "T." used by the firm he understood that the proprietor was Yazawa Totaro. He did not know whether there was a partner in the firm named Aranami Masataro.

Cross-examined.—Witness made a contract to purchase a certain quantity of the product from Yazawa and Co. in September or October last year. In this contract, Mr. T. Yazawa signed for the firm.

The Court then rose.

In the Yokohama District Court the hearing of this case was resumed before Judge Kato on June 1st when a Japanese named T. Yazawa gave evidence.

The witness stated that he lived at Kotobuki-cho down to October last year where he was dealing in peppermint under the name of T. Yazawa Shoten. The business name was transferred, however, to a man named M. Aranami from whom the witness had borrowed a sum of money. With reference to the two documents shown him by the Court he said that these were contracts made in Sept. and Oct., 1902, by him with Messrs. Grosser and Co. to supply peppermint to the foreign firm. On being asked by the Court how he could use a business name which he had transferred to another, he replied in an embarrassed fashion that he merely used it as his name is T. Yazawa to which he added "Shoten," and that in doing so he had no particular meaning.

Plaintiffs' counsel asked the Court to procure the document which Messrs. Simon, Evers and Co. had lodged with the public procuratar accusing the witness of having misappropriated goods entrusted to him by the firm. The Court rejected the application.

The case was then adjourned till June 15th.

EMBEZZLEMENT CASE.

Judgment was delivered on May 29th in the Court of Cassation in the case instituted by Mr. Denys Larrieu, No. 21, Ipponmatsu-machi, Tokyo, against a former employee named S. Kaneda (33), Negishi, Yokohama, quashing the judgment of imprisonment with hard labour and the decree of the lower courts ordering the money to be paid, and releasing the convict. The French gentleman it is stated purchased three hundred shares of the Amakusa Colliery Company in 1898 or 1899 under the name of his employee to whom the dividends have been paid by the Mining Company. The Japanese retained the money and the plaintiff prosecuted and sued to recover the money in the Yokohama District Court, where the former was found guilty. An appeal was dismissed in the Tokyo Appeal Court. According to Art 3 of the Mining Regulations, at the time of the offence no foreigner was permitted to become a partner or shareholder in a mining enterprise. Therefore as the prosecutor had no right to be owner of the shares, the Japanese had no responsibility towards the foreigner.

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SIMON EVERS v. YAMADA & CO.

This case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on June 1st when defendant's counsel stated that the witness G. Yamada, for whose examination he had applied, was unable to be present in consequence of illness. Counsel applied for the evidence of K. Ishikawa, who is *banto* of Yamada, and who carries on his business.

The Court decided to grant this request and adjourned to June 10th.

S. NAKASE v. F. RETZ.

In the Yokohama District Court the hearing of this case, which was adjourned on May 11th, was resumed before Judge Kato on June 1st.

Plaintiff's Counsel repeated the statement which he gave at the previous hearing and explained the extent of damage which was caused to certain buildings by a landslip from land belonging to defendant.

Defendant's Counsel contended that on the day when the damage occurred (August, 1899) there was a severe storm and it was not ascertained whether the direct cause of damage was the landslip or the storm. Defendant being a subject of Prussia would not be responsible for a natural calamity under the German Law. At the time of the damage the system of the consular courts was in existence and to this the relation of responsibility must be referred.

The Court rose at noon.

The Court sat at 1 p.m. when defendant's Counsel applied for leave to examine two Japanese as witnesses. The Court decided to examine them on June 15th at 10 a.m.

CLAIM ON A PROMISSORY NOTE.

The hearing of a case instituted by Mr. F. H. Ziegfeld against Nakamura Bunji and another Japanese claiming a sum of money on a promissory note was begun in the Tokyo District Court on June 1st.

ACTION AGAINST A MINISTER.

In the Tokyo Appeal Court a suit instituted by T. Matsui against Viscount Yoshikawa, Minister of State for Communications, claiming repayment of money deposited in the Department, came up on June 1st.

BROWER v. MRS. POPE.

In the Yokohama District Court, the hearing of this case, instituted by Dr. A. G. Smith, a trustee of Mr. T. L. Brower, against Mrs. Ivor Giles Pope, No. 2,334, Negishi, claiming *yen* 225, began before Judge Kano on June 4th.

Mr. Sato was present for the plaintiff and Mr. Sawada for the defendant.

Plaintiff's Counsel stated that this case was an appeal against a decision of the Local Court where plaintiff claimed *yen* 225 for three months' rent—January to March, 1903—of a dwelling house on lot No. 252 Bluff leased to defendant, and applied for leave to temporarily seize the property belonging to the latter, which application was dismissed on the objection of Mr. R. Pope, husband of the defendant, that the trustee of the plaintiff was not authorized by a family conference to take action. Mr. R. Pope, however, was not the defendant against whom the case was instituted and his objection could not be recognized.

Defendant's counsel stated that a mistake was found after the decision in the lower Court and that Mr. R. Pope was sued by plaintiff as he is now occupying the property instead of Mrs. Pope, who left there before the beginning of this year. Counsel contended that Mr. Pope might defend the action for his wife without her instructions according to British Law, as to which further investigation would be made before next hearing.

The case was then adjourned till June 18th.

LEI CHIEN HSIANG v. J. C. HARTLAND.

The hearing of this case instituted by a Chinaman, Lei Chien Hsiang No. 132, against Mr. J. C. Hartland, No. 211, began in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 4th.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Fujiwara and defendant by Mr. Sawada.

Plaintiff's Counsel petitioned for nullification of the registry of the permanent lease of the land at No. 97 and three godowns and four dwelling houses situated thereon which registry was made by defendant on April 21st after he had lent *yen* 20,000 to a third person named Kwan How Chong (formerly compradore of Mr. J. Johnstone) by whom the property was offered as security. Counsel stated that plaintiff jointly with the third person possessed the property since October 1st, 1897, and Kwan How Chong in offering defendant the property as security was guilty of fraud.

Defendant's Counsel said he did not recognize plaintiff to be a joint-owner with reference to the property in dispute. He objected to the nullification of the registry which was made in the Yokohama Local Court.

Plaintiff's Counsel applied for leave to examine a Chinaman and a Japanese as witnesses. The Court decided to do so on June 18th.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.

The Yokohama Customs authorities gave a decision on May 19th in the matter of a protest filed by the Nozawa-gumi, No. 24, Yokohama. It appears that the firm imported a quantity of waste fur on which the Customs imposed 10 per cent. ad valorem duty under No. 496 of the Tariff. The importers protested, urging that the duty should be imposed under No 183 as the goods were only rabbit fur. The protest was sustained.

A protest filed by the Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha has also been decided by the Customs. The firm imported cameras and dry plates, on which the Customs imposed 25 per cent *ad volorem* duty under No. 490 of the tariff. The importers protested, insisting that the duty should be imposed as per No. 15. The protest was dismissed.

There was also decided a protest filed by the Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha. The firm imported a quantity of waste cocoons on which the appraisers of the Customs imposed 25 per cent *ad valorem* duty under No. 341 of the Tariff. The importers protested, contending that the duty should be imposed under No. 504. The protest was not sustained.

The Yokohama Customs rendered a decision on May 20th in the matter of a protest filed by Messrs. Carl Rohde and Co., No. 70, Yokohama. The firm imported certain cases of glass on which the Customs imposed a duty of *yen* 6.896 per 100 square feet under No. 168 of the Tariff. The importers protested insisting that the duty should be imposed under No. 167 or No. 172. The protest was dismissed on the ground that the goods were polished and intended for the manufacture of glass implements.

Another protest filed by Messrs A. Oestmann and Co., No. 74, Yokohama, was also decided that day. The firm imported a quantity of chalk on which the Customs imposed 20 per cent. *ad valorem* duty under No. 497 of the Tariff. The firm protested urging that duty should be imposed under No. 420, in which "Chalk and Whiting" are specified. The protest was not sustained on the ground that the chalk in dispute differs from common chalk or whiting, being specially prepared for the use of tailors.

A decision was rendered on May 25th upon a protest filed by the Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha. The firm imported several pieces of woollen cloth on which the Customs imposed 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty under No. 60-B of the Conventional Tariff between Japan and Great Britain. The importers protested, holding that the duty should be imposed under No. 55 of the same tariff, which refers to woollen serges. The protest was not sustained.

On the same day was decided a protest filed by the Nozawa-gumi, No. 24, Yokohama. The firm imported certain cases of ribbed glass on which the appraisers imposed 20 per cent *ad valorem* duty under No. 172 of the Tariff. The importers protested contending that the duty should be imposed under No. 167-B. The protest was not sustained on the ground that the goods in dispute were not common glass plate.

Another decision was also given on May 28th by the Yokohama Customs upon a protest filed by the American Trading Company, No. 28. The firm imported a certain number of silver plated forks and spoons, on which the Customs imposed 25 per cent *ad valorem* duty under No. 266 of the Tariff. The importers protested, insisting that the goods, being brought from home as samples, should be free from duty. This protest was also dismissed on the ground that duty free goods are mentioned in the seventh clause of Art. V. of the Customs Tariff Law, in which it is stated that import duty shall not be levied on samples of commodities which are only suitable as such. The goods under protest were intended to be sold as merchandise and could be put to actual use.

PROFITS OF GERMAN INDUSTRIES IN 1902.

The American State Department has issued a consular report showing the dividends paid by some of the principal industrial undertakings in Germany during 1902 as compared with 1901; most of the industries show a falling off in profits. The textile line and the porcelain and glass industry show some improvement, while the chemical industry about holds its own, and upon the whole makes a favourable showing. The average dividend paid by stock companies in the more important branches of manufacturing in 1901 was 7.29 per cent. In 1902 the same industries paid an average dividend of 6.69 per cent., or a falling off of 1.29 per cent. The following table shows the average dividends paid in 1902 and 1901 by some of the principal industries carried on by stock companies:

Description.	Per cent. 1902.	Per cent. 1901.
Porcelain and glass	12.98	12.93
Chemical manufacture.....	10.39	10.43
Mining and blast furnace...	7.73	9.66
Sugar manufactue	7.64	10.88
Brewing business	8.86	9.4
Textile industry.....	4.69	2.91
Machine manufacture	4.77	6.13
Electrical industry	4.13	5.92
Cement industry	4.51	5.24
Paper industry	8.76	8.76
Milling industry	1.47	3.09

It is generally believed that the turning point in the business depression in Germany has been reached, if not passed. Many corporations which had fallen into financial difficulties have been reorganized and put once more upon a stable foundation. American orders have been instrumental in reducing the surplus stock of the iron and steel companies. Building enterprises are being undertaken, and there is a demand for construction material. The number of applicants for labour at the Government employment offices has decreased. The passage of the new tariff law has removed an element of uncertainty, and, with the new commercial treaties which are being negotiated, the impression prevails that business will once more assume a normal condition.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

What will you do, poor little child of earth,
When comes the call
To part from all—
The comrades and the sunshine and the mirth?
How will you leave the laughter and the light—
You who so fear
The darkness drear,
The loneliness and terrors of the night?
Many there are, weary and fain to go
With aching heart;
Let them depart—
Not you, so glad, who love and prize it so.
Such thousand joys still here for you remain,
Wise little schemes
And happy dreams
That throng and crowd in that sweet busy brain.
From trembling little fingers there will fall
Those treasures prized,
When, thus surprised,
Amidst your mirth there comes the sudden call.
With quivering lips, yet in obedience blind,
Then you will rise,
And piteous eyes
Will take long leave of all the bliss behind.—M.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A case of dysentery appeared on June 2nd in the Hiroshima Normal School.

By the *Hongkong Maru* Mr. F. Vivanti returned to Japan for a short business trip.

A violent earthquake was felt in Yokohama about half-past twelve o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

The Tokyo Rice Exchange will hold a general meeting on June 15th when a dividend at the rate of 24 per cent per annum will be declared.

A Chinaman named Tam Yan Kit and his two daughters living at No. 81, Yokohama, have applied to the authorities for nationalization as Japanese.

Lot No. 266 Bluff was sold by auction on Tuesday for *yen* 15,500, and Settlement lot No. 72 was withdrawn at *yen* 64,000, both at Mr. J. W. Hall's auction rooms.

A farmer named S. Iwai living at the village of Wada, in Chiba Prefecture, murdered his infant child with the assistance of his wife, on June 2nd. The couple have been arrested.

A telegram under date May 30th from the Governor of Chiba prefecture, says a Norwegian steamer which stranded off Inuboye, floated on the 29th at 8 p.m. and proceeded to her destination.

Some officers of the Yokosuha naval station left on May 31st by the steamer *Asagao Maru* for Nemuro to assist in the work on the warship *Soko*. They will change to the steamer *Toshiwo Maru* at Hakodate.

The steamer *Aikoku Maru*, which stranded on May 31st off Nanao was floated on the following day at noon. The passengers and all of the crew are safe and no damage has been caused to the cargo or the hull.

A woman named Shige, the wife of a farmer living in the village of Narita, Chiba prefecture, murdered her mother-in-law on May 28th and committed suicide by jumping into a well near by. No details are given.

In the Tokyo District Court on Monday an educational official was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour and fined *yen* 10, and a bribe amounting to *yen* 950 which he had received, was ordered to be confiscated.

According to statements made by the paymaster of the steamer *Cheefoo Maru*, which arrived on May 28th at Kobe from Newchwang, says the *Asahi*, the Russian Minister to Peking was still at Port Arthur, and the condition of Newchwang was tranquil.

Two men who entered the store of Mr. T. M. Laffin, No. 42, on the night of May 31st and stole four cases of whisky valued at *yen* 60, were arrested by the Kagacho police on the afternoon of June 3rd. It appears that they broke a window on the ground floor and so gained access to the building.

A plucky attempt to save life occurred in the roads at Singapore on the 12th May. One of the Japanese sailors on the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamer *Kinshiu Maru* fell overboard accidentally and Mr. Salter, the chief offier, dived in after him, and though managing to get hold of the man he was unable to keep him above water. In consequence of his struggles Mr. Salter had to release his hold and the man sank to rise no more. He attempted to dive several times to try to find him, and though several boats were soon on the spot no further trace of the unfortunate seaman could be found. It is a pity that such a gallant attempt was not successful; but none the less is it worthy of notice and praise.

Details with regard to the damage caused by the recent floods in Yamaguchi prefecture state that six persons were drowned, three houses swept away, six hundred and eighteen buildings immersed, nine bridges destroyed, twenty-nine sections of roadway and twenty-three portions of river embankment broken through, while four landslips were caused.

A telegram from Fukuoka prefecture states that a boiler exploded on June 3rd at the Naval coal mine, Gotoku, Kurate-gori, with the result that one person was killed and and six were more or less injured.

According to Major-General Akiyama, who arrived at Shimonoseki on June 1st from China, a part of the Russian garrison has been withdrawn from Moukden which, however, is still occupied by Russia. The actual time of evacuation is a matter of doubt.

Prince Kujo, father of the Crown Princess, proceeded on June 4th to Maiko where the Crown Prince and Princess are staying and will pay a visit to them. The *Nichi Nichi* states that the Crown Prince and Princess will leave Maiko on or about June 10th for Shizuoka where they will spend a night at the d etached palace. They will start thence for Tokyo.

Mr. G. F. Nasch, lately employed by the New York Life Insurance Co., No. 70, Yokohama, who was arrested the other day at Nagasaki on a charge of having stolen a cheque for *yen* 1,000 belonging to the Company arrived in Yokohama under police escort on the evening of May 27th. He was immediately sent to the Negishi detention ward. The date of trial has not yet been fixed.

The service arranged in Yokohama for Memorial Day (Saturday) was largely attended and fortunately the programme, including the decorating of the graves of American soldiers and sailors in the Cemetery, was concluded before the rain began to fall. The exercises began with the singing of the National Anthem (Mrs. Poole leading on the piano), and the devotional service which consisted mostly of prayers was brought to a close with the singing of a hymn, and the benediction. The large ships of the squadron having left on Friday there was no representation from the Navy afloat and the same reason accounted for the absence of Taps. The flowers, of which there was a large supply of the most beautiful blooms, were then conveyed to the cemetery and reverently placed on the graves.

The *N.-C. Daily News* of the 27th ult. says: All old residents in Shpnghai as well as many later comers will read with very great regret the announcement of the death yesterday, in his 66th year, of Mr. Augustus White, who was formerly connected as a bill-broker with the well-known Mr. J. Howard Gwyther, and the late Mr. Rowley Miller. Mr. White came to Shanghai some forty years ago in the Commercial Bank of India, and on the closing of that bank in the sixties, he became a bill-broker. His sterling qualities and his business abilities made him very widely liked and respected, and his success in his profession was amply deserved. His favourite recreation was gardening. His portly figure was a landmark in Shanghai that will be greatly missed, and deep sympathy is felt with his children in the loss they have sustained.

Details as to the seven lighters which sank on May 21st alongside the steamer *Nanyo Maru*—(gross tonnage 3,000 tons) chartered by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha—off Muroran are to hand. The junks had been employed to load sleepers into the steamer when a severe storm occurred causing high seas, which put them in a dangerous condition. A rope from the vessel was thrown to one of the junks to rescue the sailors, but it broke, leaving three men in the water. Another rope was given to another junk but it proved in vain, four men being washed away before they could catch hold. Five other boats, in which were twenty-one men, were sunk by the waves and all on board are missing. The Muroran police sent to the rescue the *Horonai Maru*, but the vessel found it impossible to proceed. On the following day only one broken boat and three dead bodies were found on shore.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

The war which the negro preachers of Chicago are waging on "policy" culminated in an attempt to dynamite the Institutional Church, at No. 3,825 Dearborn Street, on the night of May 4th. A negro mass meeting had been dismissed only a few minutes when the dynamite exploded. The few persons who remained in the building were not ihjured. The explosion broke all the windows and blew a large hole in the south wall.

Ex-Judge A. E. Maxwell, except Senator Vest the last survivor of the Confederate States Senate, died at Shipley, Fla., on Tuesday, May 5th, in his 83rd year. He was a native of Georgia, was educated at the University of Virginia, and moved to Florida in 1845. He had served in both branches of the state legislature and had been secretary of state and attorney-general of Florida. He was a member of Congress from 1853 to 1857; was Confederate States senator from 1862 until 1865; was appointed judge of the state Supreme Court in 1866; was circuit judge from 1877 to 1885, and was chief justice of Florida from 1887 to 1891.

Charles V. Barton, otherwise known as Earl Count Courtney, "the dream prophet," who 80 days before President McKinley's assassination in Buffalo, came to Washington from Seattle to warn the chief executive not to leave Washington as he had dreamed of an impending disaster threatening Mr. McKinley, has dreamed that President Roosevelt will be defeated for re-election by a New York State Democrat.

That the President remembered the anniversary of the naval victory in Manila Bay on May 1, 1898, is shown by the following personal telegram to Admiral Dewey, dated at Topeka, May 1, and delivered to the Admiral on his return from inspecting the North Atlantic squadron: "On this anniversary of your great services to the nation I wish you all possible happiness and a long life. THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

In a report to the State Department from St. Petersburg, in regard to the Siberian fur industry, United States Consul-General Holloway says that unless Russia, the United States, England, Canada and Japan agree to put a stop to pelagic sealing, seal furs will disappear from the market. He says that at the recent Ishit Fair the supply was not equal to that of former years, that the number of buyers from Europe and America had increased and prices were higher.

In a report to the State Department Mr. Squiers, the United States Minister to Cuba, says that since Jan. 1st, 1899, the beginning of the American occupation of the island, there has been a great decrease in the Cuban death rate, and the rate of the year just closed was the lowest in the island's history, being 21.19 per 1,000, while that of Washington was 21.21 per 1,000. The average rate for the 30 years ending 1900, was 41.95 per 1,000.

The Bank of California (San Francisco) has purchased the national bank of D. O. Mills & Co., of Sacramento, one of the oldest banking institutions in the state. The Mills banks has a paid-up capital stock of $500,000 and a surplus and profits last April of $312,231. The Bank of California recently amended its by-laws so as to allow the bank to invest a portion of its vast surplus, now amounting to $4,292,163, or more than double its capital.

Mr. John R. Mott, the student volunteer leader, has just started on a third tour of visiting to foreign colleges. This time Australia and New Zealand are his objectives. These countries were visited by Mr. Mott on his first trip, which encircled the world, but since that time several new universities have sprung up in Australia,—notably one at Melbourne, which now musters 1,500 students. Mr. Mott will spend four months among the schools of the antipodes.

According to the New York *Herald*, the new theatres now in process of construction in the

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United States will cost in the aggregate about $18,000,000. New York is to have one new theatre costing as much as $2,000,000, one costing $1,500,000, two costing $1,000,000 and nine more costing each from $750,000 to $50,000, the total amounting for that one city to $8,500,000. Boston, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Menominee, Mich., are all building $1,000,000 theatres, while Los Angeles, Boston and San Francisco are to have $500,000 houses. A large number of other cities are to have new theatres costing $100,000 or more.

The vigorous immigration policy which is pursued by the Canadian Minister of the Interior is shown by the returns of his department for the four months ending April. These figures show that the arrivals in Canada from Great Britain alone in four months have increased by three times those for the same time last year, and no less than five times those for the same period in 1901. The arrivals for April alone number 21,254, as follows: British, 9,400; continent of Europe, 4,796, and United States, 7,058. For the first four months of the calendar year the arrivals for the past three years are as follows:—

	1901.	1902.	1933.
British	3,347	5,186	16,457
United States	5,031	9,820	13,770
Continent of Europe	5,015	7,476	10,445
Total	13,393	22,482	40,672

The homestead entries for the first four months of 1903 totaled 10,274, compared with 5,022 for the same period in 1902.

Of the nearly half a million immigrants reaching the United States in the nine months ending with March, Italy supplied the largest number, namely, 129,800. The next largest number, considered by nationality, was from Austria-Hungary, viz., 123,234, and third in rank came Russia (including Finland) with 81,731. The following table shows the number of immigrants arriving in the United States, by grand divisions and principal countries, during the nine months ending with March, 1902 and 1903, respectively:

	1902.	1903.
Europe	351,540	464,980
Austria-Hungary	105,084	123,234
Belgium	1,641	1,958
Denmark	3,383	3,938
France	2,180	3,222
German empire	16,642	23,482
Greece	3,102	6,633
Italy	95,265	129,800
Netherlands	1,266	2,010
Norway	8,049	11,316
Portugal	2,504	5,156
Roumania	5,270	7,358
Russia	63,282	81,731
Spain	720	1,231
Sweden	15,601	25,080
Switzerland	1,471	2,362
England	9,423	14,621
Ireland	13,886	16,930
Wales	512	789
Asia	13,540	22,499
Chinese empire	1,017	1,465
Japan	8,197	15,185
India	48	33
Turkey in Asia	4,252	5,676
Australasia	243	612
Africa	34	61
North America	4,811	5,792
South America	234	273
Totals, all countries	370,575	494,425

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE REV. GEO. ALBRECHT'S ACCUSATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am extremely reluctant to have to occupy your valuable space with further comments on Mr. Albrecht's unsupported assertions in reference to the attitude of the writer of the Summary of the Religious Press to orthodox Christianity. I am again accused of "making war against orthodox Christianity and Missions in Japan" in these Summaries. In support of this unscrupulous and astounding accusation Mr. Albrecht quotes two or three notes from *one* Summary out of about *80* that have been penned by the present writer, which in an extremely malicious manner he interprets to imply hostility to missionaries, utterly ignoring the fact that the notes in question are capable of being read in quite a different sense to that which for controversial purposes he tries to put on them. Since it is probable that the general public cares not two cents what Mr. Geo. Albrecht may think of the Summaries and will read them in quite a different spirit to that displayed by this would-be champion of impartiality, I do not feel called on to do more than again deny most emphatically his assertions and inferences, and to suggest that in future he refrain from printing accusations which he makes no attempt whatever to prove by quotations from the numerous articles supplied to your columns by the present writer.

Mr. Albrecht now tells us that he has no personal animosity to the writer of the Summaries. If the sentence in his first letter: "For one I would rather see Mr. Ebina, or either one of the two Professors Inoue or Professor Motora prepare the Monthly Summary than the present writer. I believe the work would be done more impartially," coming from a writer who feels bound to admit that the Summaries which have been published in past years "constitute one of the most valuable features of the *Japan Mail*" and who tells us that if they appear in book form he would certainly purchase them, indicate no personal hostility then language has no meaning. Never were more sweeping charges against a writer supported by so little evidence as those in which Mr. Albrecht has seen fit to indulge. On the question of his habitual fairness to all parties concerned the writer of the Summaries appeals to all unbiassed readers of his articles.

I am yours, etc.,
WRITER OF THE MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

May 3, 1903.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

London, May 29.

It is stated by the *Temps* that President Loubet will visit King Edward in July, after visiting the King of Italy.

PLAGUE IN THE PUNJAUB.

The deaths from plague in the Punjaub from Jan. 4th to May 2nd were 141,789 out of a population of 23½ millions.

CHAMBERLAIN'S POLICY.

On the 28th instant, on a motion to adjourn for Whitsuntide, Sir Charles Dilke raised a discussion about Mr. Chamberlain's policy. Mr. Balfour advocated recasting the commercial policy of the empire in the direction of reciprocity, and said Mr. Chamberlain was justified in taking the country's opinion in view of the resolution proposed at the colonial conference. He recalled the complete change that had taken place in the circumstances since Cobden's day. He described as obsolete the idea of raising revenue for the sole purpose of meeting expenditure. If foreign countries treated our colonies as foreign nations we must retaliate.

The House adjourned till June 8th.

CHAMBERLAIN'S FISCAL POLICY.

London, May 30.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking in the House of Commons, said that, though he did not suggest an entire reversal of the fiscal policy of the nation, the application of his suggestions would require a new mandate involving the consideration of the general condition of the country and the position of the working classes. Without a closer fiscal relationship, closer political union of the empire was impossible. When the mandate in question was obtained he would call another Colonial Conference. Meanwhile he would collect the fullest information as to the effect which preferential tariffs would have on the country's manufactures.

The Opposition leaders did not participate in the debate. They are awaiting Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's motion regarding the country's fiscal policy.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

London, May, 31.

The reported visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to India lacks foundation.

RUSSIA EXPELS A JOURNALIST.

The Times correspondent at St. Petersburg has been expelled from Russia, it is supposed for criticising internal affairs.

BRITAIN'S FISCAL POLICY.

The German press is profoundly impressed by Mr. Balfour's and Mr. Chamberlain's speeches. It had believed that Mr. Balfour would have repudiated the idea, but it now realizes that Mr. Chamberlain and the Government are in earnest.

American opinion is incredulous regarding the practicability of the proposals.

SOMALILAND.

The *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent at Bohotle reports that by the 15th of June Galkayu will be evacuated. Scurvy is raging among the native troops and many British officers have been invalided home.

ENGLISH POLITICS.

Later.

The Liberal party are actively preparing for a general election. The leaders of the Labour Party are opposed to Mr. Chamberlain's policy. They declare that the working classes will not be blinded by the proferred bribes.

GERMANY AND JAPAN.

News from Berlin says that the Emperor has conferred the Order of Louise of Prussia upon the Empress of Japan, and the medal of the Red Cross on Prince Komatsu.

RUSSIA AND "THE TIMES."

The Russian authorities have informed *The Times* correspondent that they dislike the tone of his correspondence to *The Times* in general, which has attacked Russia's policy, therefore they are resolved to read *The Times* a lesson.

MONT PELEE AGAIN ACTIVE.

London, June 1.

Mont Pelee is again active. The Council-General at Martinique are urging the evacuation of the whole north side of the island. Latest reports state that at least 200 perished in the last outbreak.

SERIOUS FLOODS IN AMERICA.

There are great floods in many States of North America and 20,000 people are homeless. Enormous damage has been done in the town of North Topeka, Kansas, which has been cut off by floods and then set on fire by burning lumber.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

London, June 2.

While M. Jonnart, Governor-General of Algiers, was on a tour of inspection, which included consideration of measures to prevent raids by the Moorish tribes across the frontier, he was attacked near a narrow pass by an ambuscade of 600 tribesmen from Figuig. The Moors were repulsed with heavy loss. Jonnart's escort consisted of two companies of the Foreign Legion, which had seventeen wounded.

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THE NORTH TOPEKA DISASTER.

The rains have extinguished most of the fires in North Topeka but probably all the buildings will be swept away by the floods. It is known that at least 150 have been drowned.

THE MOROCCO AFFAIR.

Later.

In view of the impotence of the Moorish authorities at Figuig, the French Government have authorised M. Jonnart to take repressive action across the frontier. Jonnart, in announcing the fact, said that the Moorish Government would benefit as much as France, and that no occupation of territory was contemplated. A French force has been despatched to the scene.

FATAL FIRE AT ETON.

One of the masters' houses at Eton was burned during the night. A number of the boys jumped from a window. Two were burned to death.

THE ALGERIAN AFFAIR.

London, June 3.

M. Jonnart, in a speech, declared that France would have preferred to leave the punishment of the raiders to the Moorish Government, but in the circumstances France was perfectly justified in making reprisals.

THE COLONIES AND GREAT BRITAIN.

Sir Edward Barton, the Australian premier, strongly favours Mr. Chamberlain's policy, provided each self-governing colony has freedom in its own fiscal affairs. He believes that it will be of enormous imperial advantage.

GERMANY AND CANADA.

London, June 4.

A semi-official explanation has been published in Berlin regarding the question of customs duties between Canada and Germany which declares that at no stage had Germany, any idea of interfering in the internal relations between Great Britain and her colonies, but that she merely gave effect to the provisions of existing law. It is urged in Berlin that Great Britain herself laid stress on the fact that the British colonies possessed their own tariff system.

DESTRUCTIVE HURRICANE: HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE.

Later.

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Arequipa* and several other vessels have foundered during a hurricane at Valparaiso. Out of the *Arequipa's* crew of ninety only seventeen were saved.

THE GERMAN PRESS.

It is noteworthy that the German press, evidently as the result of official influence, abstained after the first outcry from any provocative language concerning Mr. Chamberlain's tariff scheme.

(Received at the Legation of France.)

KING OF ITALY.

Saigon; May 29.

The King of Italy will come to Paris at the beginning of July.

PRESIDENT LOUBET.

President Loubet will go to London in the second fortnight of July.

AFFAIRS IN ALGIERS.

Saigon, June 3.

News from Ain-Sefra says that the Governor-General of Algiers, M. Jonnart, made a tour of inspection of the frontier of South Oranais. At the request of the Amel of Figuig he approached to within 600 metres of the frontier. During his return and while still accompanied by the Amel, an ambuscade of Figuigines fired on the escort, wounding 17, of whom four were severely injured. The escort replied, inflicting enormous losses on the Figuig folk.

Two battalions of the Foreign Legion and some batteries have been sent to Beniunif. The action against Figuig will commence on June 8th.

SOUTHERN CHINA.

M. Delcassé has received a telegram from Peking saying that all the French have arrived at Yunnan-fu under escort and in safety.

ALGIERS.

Saigon, June 4.

M. Jonnart has returned to the Government-General at Algiers. Strong bands of Moors are assembling near Quedaibat, preaching a holy war. The sentries at Beniunif received numerous rifle shots during the night.

(Received at the Foreign Office in Tokyo.)

THE PEST.

St. Petersburg, June 2.

The Russian Government has declared Nagasaki a pest-infected port.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer	Date.
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	F. June 5
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Roon 1	Sa. June 6
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 2	M. June 8
Hongkong	T. K. K	H'kong Maru 3	M. June 8
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam 4	W. June 10
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Shawmut 5	W. June 10
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of China 6	Th. June 11
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Tacoma 7	F. June 12
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia 8	Su. June 14
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru 9	M. June 15
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	M. June 15
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. June 22
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar	W. June 24
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. June 25
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. June 30

1 Left Nagasaki on the 3rd inst.
2 Left Vancouver on the 25th ult
3 Left Hongkong on the 30th ult.
4 Left Hongkong on the 31st ult.
5 Left Hongkong on the 30th ult
6 Left Hongkong on the 3rd inst.
7 Left Tacoma on the 25th ult
8 Left San Francisco on the 26th ult
9 Left Seattle on the 30th ult

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Sa. June 6
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa. June 6
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	M. June 8
America	T. K. K.	H'kong Maru	W. June 10
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Th June 11
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Shawmut	Th June 11
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of China	F. June 12
Hongkong	N. P. Co	Tacoma	F. June 19
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Roon	Su June 13
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kawachi Maru	Sa. June 13
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. June 15
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	Tu. June 16
America	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. June 17
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam	F. June 19
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. June 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. June 25
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. June 27
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. July 5

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, M. J. Curnow, 29th May,—Shanghai via ports, 23rd May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cheltenham, British steamer, 2,415, H. Brophy, 29th May.—Rangoon, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 29th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 29th May,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 29th May,—Yokkaichi, 28th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 29th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 874, Ishikawa, 29th May.—Kobe, 28th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Neil Macleod, American steamer, 688, Jose H. Vgarte, 30th May,—Iloilo, P.I., Sugar.—Captain.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 30th May,—Yokkaichi, 29th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, K. Asai, 30th May,—Newchwang, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bjorn, Norwegian steamer, 722, A. N. Christiansen, 30th May,—Iloilo, P.I., Sugar.—M. Raspe & Co.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 30th May,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe 29th May, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 31st May,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 30th May, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 31st May,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 30th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 31st May,—Kobe, 29th May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. S. Cox, 1st June,—Iloilo, P.I., Sugar.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 1st June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 1st June,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 16th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Goliath (16 guns), British battleship, 12,950, Capt. L. E. Wintz, 2nd June,—Weihaiwei via Nagasaki and Kobe.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,870, F. Davies, 2nd June,—London via ports, and Kobe, 31st May, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, J. Panton, 3rd June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 3rd June,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., 16th May, Mails & General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande 3rd June,—Kobe, 1st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 3rd June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 16th May, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 3rd June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, C. F. Lockstone, 3rd June,—London via ports, and Kobe, 2nd June, General.—P. & G. S.N Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 3rd June,—Yokkaichi, 2nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 4th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer 437, T. Arakawa, 4th June,—Yokkaichi, 3rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tremont, American steamer, 6,155, T. W. Garlick, 29th May,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Yeijio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, Yamashita, 29th May,—Chemulpo via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,531, Forst, 29th May,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Oregon (16 guns), U.S. battleship, 10,288, Capt. W. T. Burwell, 29th May,—Chefoo.

New Orleans, U.S. cruiser, 3,769, Capt. Brocklinger, 29th May.—Chefoo.

Helena (8 guns), U.S. gunboat, 1,392, Com. Staunton, 29th May,—Chefoo.

Kentucky (41 guns), U.S. flagship, 11,500, Captain Berry, 29th May.—Chefoo.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,856, S. J. G. Parsons, 30th May,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moravia, Austrian steamer, 2,267, L. Soich, 30th May,—Trieste via ports, General.—Pollak Bros.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, G. Lapraik, 30th May,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amphitrite (16 guns), British cruiser, 11,000, Captain Windham, 30th May,—Wei-hai-wei via Kobe.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 30th May,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Charles Tiberghien, French steamer, 2,750, P. Le Roy, 30th May,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 31st May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 31st May,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Don Juan de Austria (8 guns), U.S. gunboat, 1,159, Com. Ward, 1st May,—Kobe.

Stuttgart, German steamer, 3,209, P. Grosch, 1st May,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 1st June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, Y. Yamanouchi, 1st June,—Otaru via Kobe and ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyson, British steamer, 4,232, J. A. Davies, 2nd May,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

King David, British ship, 2,067, T. G. Pryde, 2nd June,—Port Townsend, Wash., Ballast.—Standard Oil Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Wm. Finch, 2nd June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, C. H. Butler, 2nd June,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 2nd June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,593, S. Nagata, 2nd June,—Takao via ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,592, A. Christiansen, 3rd June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia, American steamer, 1,691, J. Truebridge, 3rd June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Bjorn, Norwegian steamer, 722, A. N. Christiansen, 3rd June,—Vladivostock, Ballast.—M. Raspe & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 3rd June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Neil Macleod, American steamer, 688, Jose H. Vgarte, 3rd June,—Karatsu, Ballast.—Brown & Co.

Firth of Dornock, British steamer, 1,893, G. Jones, 3rd June,—Moji, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Bombay Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,830, T. Murai, 3rd June,—Bombay via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, M. J. Curnow, 4th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, American steamer, 2,112, Jno. Panton, 4th June,—Tacoma, Wash., and Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Virago (6 guns), British torpedo-boat destroyer, 360, Lieut. A. B. Barker, 4th June,—Kobe.

Eclipse (11 guns), British cruiser, 5,600, Capt. Stokes, 4th June,—Kobe.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 4th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Capt. Blocklinger, Master Blocklinger, Mrs. Goldman, Master A. Goldman, Mr. and Mrs. Lefeber, Master A. Lefeber, Mrs. D. Appele, Capt. H. Goldman, Miss Goldman, Mr. T. B. Glover, Master Glover, Mr. Koong Koogchi, Mr. Hosoi, Mrs. Iwata, Mr. Nakamura, Mrs. and Miss Yoshina, Mr. Iwata, Mr. and Mrs. Morita, and Mrs. and Miss Ishimaru, in cabin; Mr. Yoshida, Mr. Takayanagi, Mr. Yamada, Mr. Tanaka, Mr. and Mrs. Yamada, and Mrs. Ishibashi, in second class; 35 Japanese, and 20 Chinese, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, from Europe via ports:—Dr. Mischke, Mr. and Mrs. Z. Moscowitz, Mr. Varia Dass, Miss Rosa Kunz, Mr. F. Abt, Mr. Metzenthen, Mr. G. de Lalande, Dr. Mex. Lentz, Miss Ella du Cane, Miss Florence du Cane, Mr. Weinberger, Mr. H. H. Buckland, Mr. Carl Gruner, Miss Marie Zitelmann, Miss Hertha Ohly, Mr. H. W. Walker, Mr. Rowin, Mr. R. A. Gottwald, and Mr. Otsuka, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. H. G. Van de Venter, Mr. H. Willson, Mrs. M. Ahearn, Mrs. P. P. Lane, Mrs. Dr. Lane, Mr. D. H. Moon, Mr. Frank Homann, Mr. T. R. Bridgwater and Mr. J. P. Trafton in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. F. W. Sutterle, Mrs. Sutterle, Miss J. K. McKenzie, Mrs. E. Morrison, Mr. P. J. Yanes, Mrs. Yanes, Dr. J. Dreier, and Miss Burdette, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Iyo Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Baron M. Iwakura, Mr. S. Watanabe, Mr. M. Watanabe, Mr. G. Ishikawa, Mr. S. Ishimaru, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Tomotaka, Miss Patteson, Miss M. Patteson, Mrs. J. H. Swan and infant, Miss Knapp, Mr. T. Uyeno, Mr. K. Tsuji, and Mr. B. M. Stiebel, in cabin. For America:—Miss Jewell, Mrs. Murray and infant, Mr. E. C. Emmeth, Mr. R. W. Parker, Mr. A. Lyall, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Studey and infant, Mr. W. S. Estes, Mrs. Claugh, Mrs. Stuart and 4 children, Mrs. Davis, and Mr. A. Rosenthall, in second class; 250 in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tosa Maru*, from Seattle, Wash.:—Mr. T. Asanuma, Mr. U. Takio, and Mr. J. Julien, in cabin; Mr. N. Shimono, in second class; 3 Japanese, in steerage. In Transit:—Mr. S. G. Larson, in cabin; Mr. Wm. Wesley, Mr. M. L. Cunningham, Mr. J. G. Cole, Miss L. Maberg, Miss L. Burkey, Miss K. Burkey, Miss C. Flaglery, Miss Hill, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Crouse and family, and Mr. G. J. T. Newman, in second class; 10 Japanese, 5 Chinese, and 2 Americans, in steerage.

Per American steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. C. F. Avis, Mr. R. Montinola, Mr. H. Solinap, Mr. B. Foster, and Mr. P. Botus, in cabin. For Tacoma:—Mrs. Corning, Mrs. E. M. Knight, Mr. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Curice, Mr. D. Macdonald, Dr. C. A. Nahl, Mr. W. Terrill, Mr. F. Ferris, Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard and child, Mr. A. Voskressensky, and Mr. S. J. Monroe, in cabin; 141 Chinese, and 22 Japanese, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via ports:—Mr. G. Miyake, Col. C. F. Homer, Mr. and Mrs. W. Kobayashi and 3 children, Mr. J. B. Havre, Gen. D. W. Congdon, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Higginbotham and 2 children, Mr. Leon Meyer, Mr. H. Shimatome, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Rube and child, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Avery, Mr. F. A. Vivanti, and Mr. F. K. Hodgson, in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. C. B. Olds, and Miss Wisdom, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. R. W. Thomberry and infant, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. R. Schwind, Mr. A. Faga, Mr. Louis Faga, and Mrs. Louis Faga, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. H. J. Hardy, Mr. W. J. Kealey, Mr. W. F. Gallin, Miss An Qui, Dr. F. F. Spraque, Mr. C. J. A'Connor, Mr. Chas. Hottke, Mr. I. K. Adreon, Mr. F. A. Brien, Mr. H. C. Williamson, Mr. M. A. Hamburyer, Miss A. Russeu, Mr. Q. P. Keeney, Mr. S. H. Mussick, Mr. M. L. Polaski, and Mrs. W. F. Hall, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Sado Maru*, for London via ports:—Mrs. J. J. Raby, Mr. A. Scott, Baron Stengel, Mr. Chas. Bryan, Mr. Y. Nagatomi, Mr. T. Yoneda, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Griffin, Mr. T. Arai, Mr. and Mrs. I. Arai, Mr. Dean, Mr. Barnby, Mrs. and Master E. K. Cole, Capt. E. K. Cole, Miss A. J. Crocke, Miss Sercombe, Miss S. Knight, Miss Knight, Mr. H. F. Christie, Mr. Valentine Hensen, Dr. T. Aiso, and Mr. F. M. Hick, in cabin; Mr. I. Nakamura, Mr. A. Ogawa, Mr. R. Furuso, Mr. K. Shirai, Mr. Y. Amaha, Mr. C. Nakamura, Mr. K. Ichikawa, Mr. T. Kuchibiki, Mr. Thomas Bards, Mr. J. G. Joren, Mr. Nonikram, Mr. Sin Tak, Mr. Shawles, Mr. Chin, Mr. Chin Shin, Mr. Rio Han and child, Mr. Henry E. Neibert, Mr. Manuel Cansunji, Mr. Jose Cansunji, Mr. N. Nishiyama, Mr. T. Izaki, Mr. M. Sugiyama, Mr. Nelson Marius, Master T. Nakagawa, and Master K. Watanabe, in second class; 6, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Stuttgart*, for Europe via ports:—Mr. H. W. Lea, Princess Khilkoff and 2 children, Mrs. Sichomiroff, Mr. J. F. Hibbs, Mr. H. R. du Mosch and native servant, Mr. W. W. Howard, Mr. Heye, Mr. A Blass, Mr. Yamada, Mrs. J. Monteggia, Mr. J. Toppin, Dr. F. Omori, Mr. Gulajef, Mr. T. Hirata, Mr. Yu Sun Leen, and Mr. Tong San Kee, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Emil Abt, Mr. Ariste Allard, Mr. T. L. Bainbridge, Mr. C. E. Bell, Mrs. C. E. Bell, Mr. J. H. Bell, Mrs. J. H. Bell, Miss Daisy Bell, Mr. T. R. Bridgwater, Mrs. T. R. Bridgwater, Miss Burdette, Mr. R. L. Cocks, Mr. Geo. Coombs, Mr. Christian Crone, U.S.N., Mr. H. S. Dadley, Mrs. H. S. Dadley, Mrs. T. F. Daly, Dr. J. Dreier, Mr. G. B. Francis, Mrs. G. B. Francis, Mr. Arnold C. Gardner, Mr. D. Gervai, Mrs. A. F. Gibbs, Miss Gibbs, Mr. Louis Glass, Mrs. Louis Glass, Miss Glass, Mr. R. A. Gottwald, Mr. Lorenz Hauser, Mr. Frank Homann, Mr. W. Homann, Mr. A. C. Jewett, Mr. J. J. Leahy, Mrs. J. J. Leahy, Miss J. K. McKenzie, Mr. Charles Monti, Mrs. E. Morrison, Mr. D. S. Oliver, Mrs. D. S. Oliver, Mr. D. H. Paddock, Miss C. H. B. Paddock, Mr. M. Guy Pearse, Mr. Charles Pin, Miss C. Post, Mr. Ernest Regnault, Mrs. Ernest Regnault, Mr. C. R. Richter, Mr. W. Vaughn Robinson, Mrs. M. Rutherford, Mrs. M. L. Sawyer, Mr. W. von Scheven, Miss Ruth Schumaker, Miss Lois Schumaker, Mr. C. P. Scott, Mr Otto von Stetten, Miss Stonier, Mr. F. W. Sutterle, Mrs. F. W. Sutterle, Miss Thompson, Mr. W. F. Wenyon, Capt. E. E. West, U.S.M.C., Mr. H. Wilson, Mr. R. Winterberg, Mr. P. J. Yanes, Mrs. P. J. Yanes, and Mr. W. R. Yule, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Iyo Maru*, for Seattle, Wash.:—Rev. J. H. De Forest, Mr. H. A. Short, Miss S. D. J. Emerson and 3 children, Major Bernstein, Mr. A. Marks, Miss Hooper, Mr. R. A. Hort, Mr. G. J. Moggan, Mr. C. E. Moggan, Mr. S. Toba, Mr. Y. Kato, Mr. K. Tange, Mr. S. Ishiwatari, Mr. A. Shield, and Mr. V. F. Riddle, in cabin; Mr. Y. Arizumi, Mr. A. Ikeda, Mr. N. Mochizuki, Mr. M. Yamanishi, Mr. M. Okada, Mr. S. Sayegi, and Mr. R. Miyazawa, in second class; 81, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. F. J. Hall, Mr. H. Gunn, Miss James, Miss Simpson, Miss Christian, Mr. Thomas James, Mr. H. Y. Irwine, Mr. R. Fujisawa, Mr. T. Abbey, Mr. T. M. Laffin, Mr. P. F. Wisner, Capt. Y. Kishi, Mrs. F. B. Upham, Mr. T. Suka, Mr. James Boyd, Mr. H. B. Clark, Mrs. FitzGerald, Capt. C. P. Stephen, Mrs. Lassette, and Miss Antell, in cabin; Mr. B. Shimoda, Mr. McLain, Mr. T. Yoshida, Mr. C. Nishimura, Mr. S. Nishimura, Mrs. T. Nishimura, Miss S. Nishimura, Miss M. Nishimura, Miss C. Nishimura, Miss A. Carreld, Mr. Obstlecobe, and Mr. Chin Kon Gyn, in second class; 23, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Stuttgart*:

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Milan.	Bremen and Other Cities	Genoa.	Marseilles	London.	Trieste.
Sieber & Co.....	57	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer, Mayet, Guilliee Co.....	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co....	58	—	—	—	17	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent ...	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
DelPOro & Co. ...	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
C. Eymard	—	—	—	—	51	—	—	—
Total.....	195	—	—	—	73	—	—	—

CARGO.

Per American steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma:—

TEA.

	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Kobe	—	508	1,361	—	—	1,869
Yokohama...	—	1,262	1,745	—	—	3,007
Colombo ...	46	—	—	147	—	193
Total ...	46	1,770	3,106	147	—	5,069

SILK.

	New York.	South	Manchester.	Total Bales.
Hongkong	20	.....	—	20
Shanghai	—	.....	—	—
Yokohama	—	.....	—	—
Total	20	.....	—	20

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Very quite; no change to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD
White Shirting—{40 yds. 36 in.} {50 yds. 36 in.}	0.09 to 0.1
	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.25
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton Italians and Satteens...	0.20 to 0.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.65

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 140.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles...	145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	155.00 to 160.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	245.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	295.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 Gassed	425.00 to 435.00

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RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	Nominal. 31
Indian Broach	Nominal. 26
Chinese	Nominal. 23

METALS.

The market is quiet and only a small business is passing.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward	Y.4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.10 to 11.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	6.90 to 7.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅜ inch)	5.00 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The market is dull and nothing special to note.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.72
Langkat	2.50

SUGAR.

The market for Hongkong refined is dull and there is nothing doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y.6.50 to 6.60
Brown Manila	6.00 to 7.10
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.80
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.10
White Refined	8.80 to 11.40

INDIGO.

Nothing special to report.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best	280.00 to 330.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	200.00 to 285.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best	135.00 to 165.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best	100.00 to 140.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

We are now between seasons and there is no market. Advices from Lyons are dull and are even worse from New York. There is consequently no demand here. Crop prospects in Europe have improved, while we are assured of a bountiful crop in both China and Japan.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	Y. —
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Season closed. No stock of merchantable quality. All prices withdrawn.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Buying has continued, settlements being mostly grades costing *yen* 40 to 50, though a fair quantity has been bought as low as *yen* 35.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine	38 to 41
Good Medium	35 to 37
Medium	33
Good Common	—
Common	—

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Warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales and soften the thickened cuticle, gentle anointings with CUTICURA OINTMENT, to instantly allay itching, irritation, and inflammation, and soothe and heal, to be followed in the severer cases by mild doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (see below), to cool and cleanse the blood, are all that can be desired for the alleviation of the suffering of skin-tortured infants and children and the comfort of worn-out, worried mothers. A single set is often sufficient to cure when the best physicians fail.

Millions of Women Use Cuticura Soap

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itchings, and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, especially mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery.

CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated) are prepared to meet the wants of delicate women, and sensitive children, and are pure, sweet, and tasteless. They are beyond question the most successful blood purifiers and humour cures yet compounded.

CUTICURA REMEDIES are sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: R. Towns & Co., Sydney. British Depot: 27-28, Charterhouse Sq., London. French Depot: 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. Corp., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A. "All about the Skin," free.

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 4.

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, no change in China sterling quotations, and local rates steady without alteration.

London—Bank T.T.	2 0.⁹/₁₆d
— — Bills on demand	2/0⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/0⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1⅛ @ ⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅜ @ ½
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	263 @ ⅛
— — 6 months' sight	264½ @ 5
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	82¼*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	79¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87*
— Private 10 days' sight	89½*
India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	156
America—Bank sight	50
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅝ @ ¾
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅜ @ ½
Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214½
Bar Silver (London)	24½

* Nominal.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

LOCAL SHARE LIST.

Yokohama, June 4.

Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, sellers at *yen* 108. Grand Hotels, buyers at *yen* 250. Club Hotels, sellers at *yen* 75. Oriental Hotels, Kobe, at *yen* 70 nominal. Langfeldts, sales at *yen* 28. Japan Brewery, buyers at *yen* 100. Y. U. Club and Brewery debentures are wanted.

	YEN.
Yokohama E. & I. Works	108 Sellers.
Grand Hotel	250 Buyers.
Club Hotel	75 Sellers.
Oriental Hotel, Kobe	70 Nominal.
Langfeldt & Co.	28 Sales.
Japan Brewery Co.	100 Buyers.
C. Nickel & Co.	26½ Sales.
Helm Bros.	38½ Sales.

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J. Witkowski & Co.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR JAPAN.
Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M. 1y.

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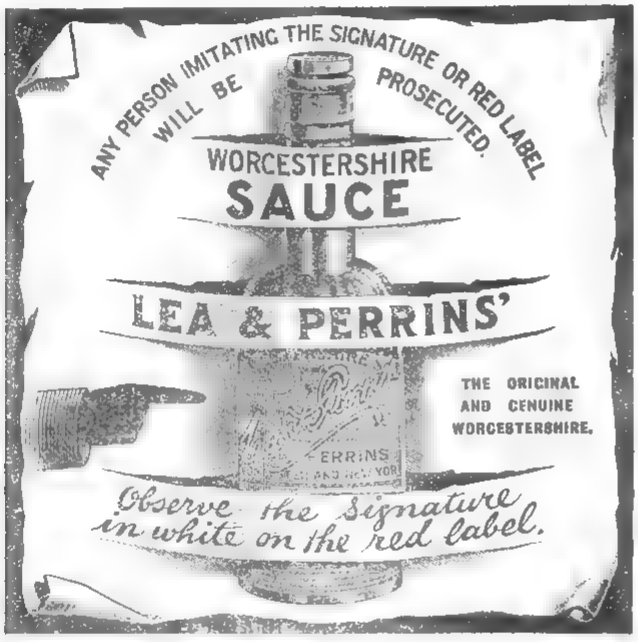

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH, 1903.

DEATH.

On the 6th inst., at No. 103 Bluff, Yokohama, CHARLES D. MOSS, aged 60, of Yokohama and Frampton Mansell, Gloucestershire.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MEASLES are prevalent in Matsue and surrounding localities.

CAPTAIN G. HAYASHI was promoted to Rear-Admiral on June 4th.

SALES at the Osaka Exhibition, says the *Yorodzu*, now amount to about *yen* 200,000.

THE 17th Bank which had suspended business for a long time resumed on June 5th.

THE Nagano Rice, Stock and Commodities Exchange wound up its affairs on June 4th.

CALCUTTA had a heat wave in the first week of May, with the thermometer at 107° in the shade.

MR. PAK YONG-HO, the Korean refugee, who has been living in Hiroshima, arrived at Matsue on June 7th.

IT is stated by the *Jiji* that Phya Raja Nuprabantha, Siamese Minister in Tokyo, will shortly leave for home as he has been appointed Minister to London. His successor will arrive in Tokyo at the end of this month.

SOLDIERS numbering over 170 left Shimonoseki on June 4th for Formosa to take the place of time-expired troops.

MISS F. R. SCIDMORE, the well-known traveller and authoress, returned to Yokohama on Monday by the *Empress of India*.

THE new Brazilian Minister in Tokyo proceeded on June 4th to the Palace and had audience of the Emperor and Empress.

A JAPANESE engineer on the N. Y. K. *Tamba Maru* hanged himself on May 25, while the ship was between Colombo and Singapore.

THREE swords reputed to have been forged by ancient masters were stolen from the Yushi-kwan museum during June 5th, 6th, or 7th.

A YOUNG woman named Naka (18), living at Shinagawa, committed suicide on June 7th by cutting her throat with a razor. The cause is not stated.

THE Premier, Count Katsura, gave a dinner to the members of both Houses and the Government Delegates at the Imperial Hotel on June 5th.

MR. TSUKADA, who is employed by the Chinese Government as an adviser on financial affairs, left Shimonoseki on June 6th for his post.

A STUDENT named S. Yamagata was drowned while swimming in the Sumida river near Etchujima, on June 8th. The corpse was found the same evening.

TWO workmen of the Shunto Electric Tramway fell on June 7th from a pole on which they were working. One died immediately and the other sustained severe injuries.

A NORWEGIAN steamer chartered by the Russian Government arrived on June 6th at Nagasaki *en route* to Vladivostock with a cargo of military stores from Germany.

A FISHERMAN named Koshichi, living at the village of Funakata, Awa province, was arrested on June 6th charged with having murdered his father on the previous day.

THE Kawasaki Electric Tramway Company have decided to extend to Yokohama at a cost of *yen* 85,000. The work will be begun about September this year.

A MAN named S. Kano living at Kanda, Tokyo, is being prosecuted by the Tokyo Gas Company on the ground that he tapped the company's pipe and used the gas.

A TELEGRAM from Hiroshima states that two trains collided on the morning of June 6th at Hongo station and three goods cars were overturned. One person was injured.

THE dead body of a man was found on June 5th in the river by Take-machi, Chiba prefecture. The corpse was wrapped in a mat and it is believed that the man was murdered and thrown into the water.

A TELEGRAM from Okayama states that a woman named Ume, living at Kurashi-machi, murdered her two children on June 5th, and attempted to commit suicide. Insanity is reported to have been the cause.

A NATIVE doctor on June 4th informed the Tobe Police, Yokohama, that a female patient named Sada (28) living at Isecho, who had been suffering since May 25th had a swelling in the groin. The authorities are watching the case.

A FEMALE hairdresser named Hisa (24) living at Shina-machi, Nagoya, was found dead on the morning of the June 4th, having been strangled with a cord. Seven men suspected of complicity in her murder have been examined at the police station.

TWO men, former employees of the Hyogo Bank of Agriculture and Industry, were arrested on June 6th charged with having embezzled *yen* 24,000 while in the bank. The money had been deposited in the bank by the Hyogo Prefectural Office.

MR. VON ERCKERT, Secretary of the German Legation in Tokyo, arrived at Hiroshima on June 6th bringing decorations which are to be conferred by the Kaiser on Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, Commander-in-chief of the Fifth Division, and eighty other officers.

MR. S. ITO, director of the Kobe Noko Bank, was arrested on June 6th. The charge against him has not been ascertained, but the *Jiji* states that it is rumoured he spent money belonging to the bank, while seeking election as a parliamentary representative in August last year.

THE *Asahi* states that the authorities intend to compel foreign insurance companies in the empire to provide a special reserve as security for the payment of losses. The reserve, it is reported, will be fixed at some ratio with reference to the amount insured.

THE French steamer *Paul Doumer*, 332 tons, from Hongkong to Kuangchouwan, struck a sunken rock near the Ladrone Islands, and sank in half-an-hour. Five native passengers were drowned owing to the capsizing of a boat, the rest and the Europeans on board being saved by junks and a passing steamer.

TWO coolies named Y. Oda (28) and K. Kobayashi, who work at the hatoba, were arrested by the harbour police on the night of June 6th on a charge of having stolen raw silk weighing 8 *kwamme* (1 *kwamme*=3.75 kilos.) valued at about *yen* 500, from bales which were to be shipped by the steamer *Athenian*.

TWO Chinese cooks, Cheng (41) and Lieu (56), employed in a Chinese restaurant, at Shintomi-cho, Tokyo, attempted to murder another cook named Liensi-sang (32), by cutting him with knives. The two were immediately arrested. The cause seems to be due to a monetary dispute.

A TELEGRAM from Shimonoseki says over 130 students of the Commercial School made trouble on the morning of June 6th, destroying window glass, tables, etc. Two policemen who endeavoured to pacify them were injured. Subsequently fifteen of the students were removed to the police station. It seems that they were dissatisfied with their treatment by the master.

A FARMER named J. Matsukawa, living at the village of Surisawa, Higashi-Iwai, Iwate prefecture, attempted on the night of June 3rd to murder his wife and a man with whom she was on friendly terms, inflicting severe injuries on them with a sickle. The offender was at once arrested; the cause is reported to be jealousy.

A CHINESE exchange shop, No. 165, Yokohama, purchased, on June 5th, 15 Russian notes, each valued at about *yen* 3, from a Japanese who appeared to be a coolie. They paid the man *yen* 45, but the following day when the notes were presented at the Russo-Chinese Bank they were found to be counterfeit.

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THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Friday, June 5.

A meeting of some twenty-five members of the *Seiyu-kai* was held at the Mikawaya in Akasaka, Tokyo, on the evening of the 3rd instant. Mr. Hayashi Yuzo seems to have been the principal person present. He is reported as having denied that he ever favoured the system of one-man authority adopted as the basis of the Party's organization, and, according to Progressist newspapers, there is likely soon to be a determined revolt against that kind of control. But the *Kokumin Shimbun* suggests, with much greater probability, that what is needed is simply more intimate relations and a more unrestrained exchange of views between Marquis Ito and the prominent men of the Party. To foreign onlookers it must seem that should any large section of the *Seiyu-kai* break away from Marquis Ito on such a plea, its members will be merely committing political suicide. If recent events have shown anything they have shown how powerless the party politicians are *per se*.

Saturday, June 6.

There seems to be some prospect that the members of the *Seiyu-kai*, or at least a majority of them, will recognise the suicidal unwisdom of attempting to depose Marquis Ito from the position of controlling leadership hitherto held by him. We have already reported that a meeting of a section of the party took place on the 4th instant, when there appeared to be a strong disposition to fight for thorough re-organization of the Party's administration. Mr. Hayashi Yuzo acted as spokesman of that tendency, though Mr. Hayashi's relations with his chief have hitherto been of a nature such as to prelude all idea of revolt. Another meeting, spoken of as a kind of sequel, was held on the 5th, and on this second occasion it was found that much less drastic counsels prevailed. The line of argument generally adopted was that nothing could be gained by making the past a basis of contention, and that its lessons alone should be considered important. These lessons taught that the source of trouble lay, not in any arbitrary action on the part of the leader, but rather in an insufficient interchange of views between him and the lesser luminaries of the Party. That means, we may assume, that Marquis Ito is held not to have taken his juniors as fully into his confidence as might have been, even while maintaining his authority to decide everything in the last resort and to require that his decision should be binding on the Party. But, from a practical point of view, such a decision means very little so far as future management is concerned, and we do not apprehend that Marquis Ito will have the least difficulty in smoothing and keeping smooth these susceptibilities of his followers. The Marquis came to Tokyo on the 5th instant, and the following afternoon a convivial gathering of the parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* was held at the residence of Baron Suyematsu, when, to put the matter briefly, a general shaking of hands took place, and hope revived that, after all, in the case of a large majority of the members at any rate, recent troubles will be found to have acted the part of the rain which is ultimately an agent of consolidation, according to the Japanese apologue.

The only cloud on the new horizon is the attitude of the Tosa Section of the Party. There is a prospect—strong or faint, we can not discern which—that some or all of those that have already seceded may be induced to return to their allegiance without any radical change of the Party's organization. There seceders total, we believe, some 25. That number, at all events, has been confidently stated by several Tokyo journals, and the names of the seceding members have been published. Considering the vehement character of their conduct and utterances at the moment of storm and stress, it may be questioned whether their re-enrolment in the Party's ranks would really strengthen it. Be that as it may, the question of the Tosa section remains. That section includes men of such political prominence as Messrs. Kataoka, Hayashi, Takenouchi and Nishiyama, whose defection would involve, not merely a weakening of actual strength, but also a loss of prestige, for Tosa is the very cradle of Japanese liberalism. It is there that the old original Liberal Party saw the light, and was reared and educated under Count Itagaki and Messrs. Kataoka and Hayashi. To lose the Tosa men would mean for the *Seiyu-kai* the loss of many drops of heart's blood. None the less at this moment the forecast of Tokyo journals is that the Tosa men will secede, and set up a flag of their own. If they do, and if they are joined by the members that have already cast off their allegiance, the *Seiyu-kai's* number in the Lower House will be reduced to about 150, and there will be a wandering section of from 30 to 35 free-lances.

Concerning the latter, however, it is predicted that they will coalesce with a section of the Progressists. For the Progressists also are threatened, or said to be threatened, with disruption. Messrs. Oishi Masami and Inukai Ki have long been more or less at discord, and many observers predict that Mr. Oishi will now go into a camp of his own, whither he will be followed by a considerable number of Progressist fellow-thinkers and where he will be joined by the seceders from the *Seiyu-kai*. That would be confusion worse confounded. There would then be three Richmonds in the field, and the last state of Japanese domestic politics would be worse than the first.

Meanwhile the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* agree in pointing out that the *Seiyu-kai* had for its foundation-stone the principle of one-man control, and that any attempt to introduce a system of collegiate administration would be to overthrow the Party's basis. That is incontrovertible.

A majority, the extremists, of those that have hitherto seceded now issue a manifesto in defence of the defection. It is, of course, a powerfully worded document. The drawing up of manifestoes is a species of occupation not uncongenial to Japanese. Briefly speaking, the gist of the seceders' contention is that Marquis Ito managed matters entirely on his own account. But since they distinctly agreed that he should do so when they enrolled themselves under his banner, the signatories of the manifesto are compelled to push their charge a little further, and consequently they allege that he controlled not only his Party but also the House of Representatives, though professing to leave his followers free to act as they thought best within the walls of the House. Need we observe that such talk is pure moonshine. If a stateman is invested with the absolute control of a party which commands an overwhelming majority in the House of Representatives, then assuredly he controls the House also. Either his authority must be acknowledged within the walls or it must be illusory outside. The plain truth is that these malcontents expected Marquis Ito to adopt the foolishly unpractical course of promising a compromise in the name of his Party and then leaving the members to arrange the details at their pleasure.

Sunday, June 7.

The parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* met on the 6th instant and after hearing a report which recapitulated the main events of the past month and claimed that, while agreeing to a compromise with the Cabinet in the interests of the nation, the Party's leaders had not condoned any of the Ministry's offenses but had taken duly constitutional steps to censure the Ministers responsible for the text book scandal and the affair of the Exchanges, one of the Managers, Mr. Ito, read a statement to the effect that Messrs. Kataoka, Hayashi, Yamamoto (Tadahide), Nishiyama, Yamamoto (Yukihiko) and Kusume, all representatives of Tosa prefecture, had withdrawn from the Party. Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, who, after the withdrawal of Messrs. Kataoka and Hayashi, occupies the most prominent place among the original Liberals now adhering to the Party, made a speech deploring the secession of these old friends and fellow-workers. From what he said we gather two salient facts. The first is that the seceders desire to have further changes made in the organization of the Party. Our readers know that in consequence of the Kobe agitation after the naval review in April and in consequence of the manifesto and memorial then circulated, a radical change of organization was actually effected, the number of the Business Committee being reduced to three, and a Consultative Committee of thirty being nominated. Consequently when Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, representing the Tosa malcontents, asked for further changes, his demand seemed somewhat unreasonable, as compliance would have exposed the Party to public ridicule. He did not define exactly what measures of reorganization were sought, and he intimated that before meeting Marquis Ito face to face and formulating in detail the ideas of himself and his friends, it would be necessary to ascertain what amount of support he might expect from the members of the Party. This indicates the second fact which we gather from M. Matsuda's account; namely, that the Tosa seniders were unable to secure adherents sufficiently numerous to justify them in approaching Marquis Ito, and that they consequently decided to resign.

Marquis Ito then spoke at considerable length. He set out by congratulating the *Seiyu-kai* on having dealt placably with a difficult situation and brought the session of the Diet to a peaceful conclusion, in the interests of the country. Then he affirmed that the lesson taught by the last elections had been that the nation was not prepared for any continuance of the increased rate of land tax or for any augmentation of its direct fiscal burdens. The fact was that although manufacturing enterprise had developed greatly in Japan, the country was still agricultural in the main, and the Government could not but attach large importance to the feelings and condition of the peasant class. If the empire were hereafter threatened with any disaster an occasion might arise when it would be necessary to have recourse to the agricultural class, but at present there was no such necessity, and to insist that a necessity exists would be to place the Diet in a difficult position and to cause popular discontent. On the other hand,

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had events been allowed to take their course, it might have happened that a serious conjuncture would arise, and that another dissolution of the Lower House would have been witnessed. Therefore an *entente* with the Cabinet was desirable in the general interests. As to the question of public loans, he had held many conferences with the Ministers of the Crown. But to insist upon men doing things which they can not do is futile. That would be merely creating an *impasse* fatal to the interests of the State. On the other hand, the steps leading to compromise had been taken by him, the speaker, as an individual. They did not in any way impose a restraint, and were never supposed to impose any restraint, upon the proceedings of the House of Representatives. He appreciated the embarrassing position in which the Standing Committee had been placed during the course of these incidents. Some sacrifice of views had been necessary, and it afforded him the greatest satisfaction that the Party at large had risen to the occasion and made that sacrifice. He recommended the members not to allow themselves to be disturbed by the numerous and sensational rumours circulating in the newspapers and elsewhere. Constitutional Government was a machine not working without many difficulties. "Many men many minds." It was inevitable that opinions should differ, under the influence of local considerations or individual proclivities, and obviously if such differences were emphasized and accentuated in an assembly which could not discharge its duties without some measure of unanimity, representative institutions could never work. The members of the Party were now about to return to their constituencies. They would be able to tell them that the increased rate of land tax was not to be continued. That assurance ought to satisfy the voters. It was true that domestic loans to the extent of 5 or 5½ million *yen* were to be floated, but, on the other hand, the Government had promised to spare no effort for the reduction of administrative expenses so as to dispense, in part at any rate, with the issue of such loans. He had confidence in that promise, and unless very convincing reasons presented themselves, it would doubtless be fulfilled. It was a source of great regret to him to observe that the entente with the Cabinet had proved unwelcome to a section of the Party and that several secessions had taken place. It seemed likely that more careful reflection might have averted that result. But whether the discontent was directed against himself personally or against the policy adopted, he was so unfortunate as not to be able to clearly comprehend it. No Party could be efficiently powerful unless individuals made some sacrifice of their minor views upon the altar of general cōoperation. There might be a rupture about a great question. Even in England, where the party system had been carried to an unparalleled point of perfection, the Irish problem had caused a signal reconstruction of parties. But if each and every one insisted on giving practical currency to his own unessential opinions, the strength of a party would be paralyzed. He could not see that there was any cause for a disturbance of the *Seiyu-kai*'s solidarity. Were he himself at fault, amendment might not be difficult. But where conscience affords no indication of error, the road to correction is obscure. If he had joined the *Seiyu-kai* with the hope of contributing to its success, it had been with full appreciation of the difficulties that would have to be encountered. So long, however, as he stood in the Party's ranks, he should place the interests of the country first in his calculations and those of the association second. Much talk seemed to have assailed their ears. They were told that their leader exercised his authority in a manner too arbitrary, and that he had invited those that did not agree with him to quit the Party. What sense would there be in his remaining their leader if they ceased to be his supporters? They were told, too, that he himself contemplated leaving them. He had no such intention. If they had any confidence in him, there could be no occasion for these hasty secessions. If they had no confidence in him, it would be futile to complain or to invite their trust. Possibly there might be many more secessions. He would greatly regret it, but there was no help. To go round arguing with each malcontent would be merely to accentuate the differences of view. Things must be suffered to take their course. The constitution was not superior to the State: the former existed for the sake of the latter. To secure the effective working of the Constitution should be the common aim of all parties, whether they called themselves *Seiyu-kai* or *Shimpo-to*. Sincerity was, in his opinion, the one thing needed. For himself he proposed to do his duty, as duty presented itself to his conscience and his intelligence, and to adhere to that resolve throughout, let the end be what it might. He knew that among the malcontents there were some who alleged that he never took them into his confidence. There could be no greater mistake. It was impossible for him to go round from man to man enunciating his own opinions and intentions or consulting those of his *vis-à-vis*, but he was always ready to receive and converse freely with those that chose to visit him. If they knew the truth they would know that he devoted the utmost attention and took infinite pains to keep them all in touch with the course of the Party's policy. He asked them to credit that.

On the motion of Mr. Noda Utaro it was decided that delegates should be appointed from all the sections of the Party to consult with Messrs. Kataoka and Hayashi, and to endeavour to change their purpose of seceding.

Subsequently a convivial meeting took place at the residence of Baron Suyematsu.

Mr. Kataoka has resigned his post as President of the Lower House. He thus sacrifices the highest position the Party has to offer after that of leader, and he also sacrifices a stipend of 4,000 *yen* annually.

The name of Mr. Takenouchi Tsuna was subsequently added to those of the Tosa seceders. According to our calculations the number of secessions of parliamentary members now totals 33, but it is difficult to rely on newspaper statements in such a matter. If 33 be correct, the *Seiyu-kai* now commands only 150 votes in the Lower House. The next six months will be a most interesting era in Japanese domestic politics.

The parliamentary members of the Progressists also held a meeting on the 7th instant. A resolution was read from the non-parliamentary members, strongly eulogizing the conduct of the Party during the session just closed, and urging that a lecture tour should be undertaken throughout the provinces for the purpose of disseminating the Party's views.

Count Okuma delivered an address. After complimenting the Party on its able conduct in a difficult juncture, he observed that their cōoperation with the *Seiyu-kai* before the session had been for the purpose of attacking their common enemy, as indicated by the voice of the people speaking through their constituencies. To their surprise the *Seiyu-kai* had made a compromise with that enemy, thus placing the Progressists in an exceedingly embarrassing position. The greatest general and the best army could not but be perplexed when its ally suddenly went over and joined the ranks of the enemy. Yet they had showed no confusion. They had stood their ground firmly and emerged unscathed from the ordeal. Politics had fallen into an abyss of deceptions and manœuvres after the fashion of diplomacy. Trick and scheme had the ascendant. It was a kind of theatre. The curtain had fallen two days previously. It might be taken for granted that the nation rose unedified from the spectacle, and as for the other Party, disruption and disintegration had overtaken it. Such was the state of affairs in the central region. As for the localities they were equally perturbed. The firmament was filled with an atmosphere of discontent. Everywhere the feeling was one of wrath at the deception that had been practised. As for the Government, it always made a pretext of foreign policy to escape from its domestic dilemmas. Since the war with China there had been no material change in the field of foreign politics yet the people were led to believe that something formidable menaced the country and that the Ministry must be supported. It was curious to observe how these alarms subsided when the occasion for utilizing them disappeared. If this deceptive route were followed in domestic politics, it would affect the country's foreign relations also in the end. They were told that loans to the extent of 5½ million *yen* annually would suffice. He predicted that the figure would soon be ten millions. For what confidence could be placed in the promises of any Cabinet which, having staked its reputation on the necessity of continuing the land tax, had calmly abandoned that measure; and having declared that the system of loans was financially fatal, nevertheless had recourse to it? When the market declined to buy bonds, increased taxes would be again imposed, after the precedent established by Marquis Ito, and when the nation protested, foreign politics would be again criticized as a plea for another *entente* with the Ministry. With such a chaotic government convulsions were inevitable. The day had dawned for the nation to open its eyes, and the Party must take advantage of the occasion to swell its own strength. There had been a time when their Party possesed a majority in the Lower House, but owing to secessions they were left in a minority. For four and a half years they had stood patiently and consistently maintaining their policy, and now they saw, and the country saw, how things had fared with the other party. The nation must appreciate the firm and unflinching attitude preserved by them from first to last, and must now know where its trust might be placed.

There is an impression in well-informed circles that some change in the Ministry is inevitable. The *Jiji Shimpo* reflects this idea. Its article implies that although the Cabinet has escaped a serious collision with the Diet, it has suffered morally, and must make some sacrifice to the nation's sense of ministerial responsibility. Apparently our

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contemporary thinks that the situation would be satisfied by a change of one or two portfolios. It says that the Exchange affair was a flagrant blunder and some one should be held responsible. That, of course, means Baron Hirata. Indirectly Baron Kikuchi is also indicated. There never has been a greater injustice than the removal of Baron Kikuchi would be, but still he will probably have to go. Baron Utsumi, according to rumour, is so ill that he can not continue to serve. Thus three portfolios are in question. The *Jiji* says that if the Cabinet thinks it could not survive such changes, it had better resign *en bloc*.

Tuesday, June 9.

There have been two more secessions from the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*, and others are expected. The newspapers all agree in expressing doubts about the continued allegiance of the *Kwan-to* and *Hoku-shin* sections, which have been for some time an uncertain element. It would merely perplex our readers did we attempt to reproduce all the rumours now circulating on this subject. What is approximately certain is that 35 members have seceded up to the present, though even that number is open to some query. The trend of the various reports is that a considerable element of the Progressists are watching for a favourable opportunity to abandon Count Okuma's banner, and to form, under the leadership of Mr. Oishi Masami, a coalition with the seceders from the *Seiyu-kai*, so that a new party would be organized. It is difficult to estimate what strength such a party would command in the Lower House, but the fact is apparent that if many more defections take place from the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*, we shall again witness the unpractical and almost chaotic state of affairs that existed prior to Marquis Ito's descent into the arena of parties, when no one organization possessed commanding strength.

After the Kobe commotion in April an institution called the *Seiyu* Club was organized, having for its nucleus the 4 members expelled in the sequel of that commotion. This club, whose numbers had swelled to 13, held a meeting on the 6th instant, and decided by dissolve in view of the necessity of joining hands with fellow-thinkers. It is supposed that the members of the Club took that step by way of preliminary to enlisting in the ranks of Mr. Kataoka's followers.

Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, as reported by the *Jimmin*, says that the enrolment of the old Constitutional Party (*Kensei-to*) under the flag of the *Seiyu-kai* was the work chiefly of himself, the late Mr. Hoshi Toru and Baron Ito Miyoji. Perhaps we should mention here, for the information of readers not acquainted accurately with the course of Japanese politics, that "Constitutionists" (*Kensei-to*) was the name taken by the Liberals and the Progressists when they amalgamated in 1899. Their amalgamation was immediately followed by the transfer of administrative authority to their hands. The Cabinet thus formed, under the guidance of Counts Itagaki and Okuma, lasted only a few months. It ended on the resolution of the "Constitutionists" into their original elements of Liberals and Progressists. But the old names were not resumed. Each party claimed to be entitled to the appellation they had borne in combination, and while the Liberals called themselves "Constitutionists" (*Kensei-to*), the Progressists adopted the term "True Constitutionists" (*Kensei Hon-to*). Then, in 1900, the former, coalescing with a number of prominent men, disciples of Marquis Ito, and with some other political coteries, organized the *Seiyu-kai*. It is in the work of this organization that Mr. Hayashi—who has just seceded in company with Mr. Kataoka—claims to have taken a prominent part. Therefore he says that he felt bound to support the Marquis as far as possible, and that he did so loyally. It is his opinion that the attitude taken by that statesman towards the Diet in the session of 1902-3—the 17th session—was thoroughly constitutional. He is further of opinion that the inevitable and only logical sequel of that attitude when the 18th session took place, should have been either a second dissolution of the House of Representatives or the reignation of the Cabinet *en bloc*. Any middle course must be unconstitutional and inconsequential. But to his great surprise, Marquis Ito concluded with the Cabinet an arrangement by which both of these courses were avoided. When Marquis Ito, assembling the Standing Committee and others at the Imperial Hotel, informed them of the agreement, he accompanied the information with a statement that his promise, having been definitely given, could not be retracted, and that nothing remained for those that could not endorse it except to leave the Party. The mere fact of an *entente* with the Cabinet was bad, in the circumstances. But an *entente* involving a compact between the *Meiji* statesmen alone, to the exclusion of the members of the *Seiyu-kai*, and involving the practical expulsion of all that did not endorse it, meant an arbitrary interference with the procedure of the members of the Diet itself and contituted a line of conduct irreconcilable with any theory of party politics. Mr. Hayashi would then have resigned at once. But it appeared to him that many of his fellow-members approved of the *entente*, and that it would therefore be unwise to make any movement which might be discredited by its insignificance. He therefore took counsel with Count Itagaki, and finally resolved to postpone his secession until after the Diet rose. He takes care to explain that the unlimited authority exercised by Marquis Ito was not in itself a cause of dissatisfactiou to him (Mr. Hayashi). The exercise of such authority would have been useful up to a certain limit. But in the present case it had been carried to the extreme of controlling even the sentiments and competence of the members. Even though this one instance were endured, the same course if pursued without modification, would reduce them all to the position of slaves. Moreover Marquis Ito had called this a touch-stone (*shikinseki*) of his Party's allegiance, and had evidently intended, if he found that they endured the test, to take it as a rule of future conduct. Some folks accused him of wanting to bring about Marquis Ito's retirement. He utterly repudiated such an idea. What he wanted was to bring Marquis Ito into line with public sentiment and thus increase the nation's confidence in him (!) He had consulted with the members of the Standing Committee and the Consultative Council, but had found that while they agreed with him as to the unpractical nature of the situation and the impossibility of its continuance, none of them had the courage to join him in seceding.

Wednesday, June 10.

With the exception of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the leading journals of Tokyo allege that Baron Ito Miyoji visited Count Itagaki, in behalf of Marquis Ito, and sought his intervention to recall Messrs. Kataoka, Hayashi and Nishiyama to the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. The *Nichi Nichi's* version is that Baron Ito's visit was not for the purpose of soliciting Count Itagaki's intervention, but merely with the object of making the latter finally acquainted with Marquis Ito's view. At all events all accounts agree—and we may well credit them—that Marquis Ito expressed surprise at the precipitate action of these men in quitting the Party without giving definite expression to the causes of their discontent, and without attempting to enlist their leader's sympathy with any reform they might desire. All accounts further agree in attributing to Count Itagaki a plainly expressed resolve not to interfere, though whether he based his resolve on inability or on inexpediency is doubtful.

It is further stated that Messrs. Matsuda and Sugita also waited on Count Itagaki with the same object and with the same ill-success. They, however, pointed out that although Mr. Kataoka might insist on leaving the Party, there was no valid reason for his resigning the presidency of the Lower House, and Count Itagaki seems to have agreed to advise Mr. Kataoka to that effect. But Mr. Kataoka is represented as pretexting ill-health, and as being quite resolved not to withdraw his resignation.

The Committee appointed by the Sections of the *Seiyu-kai* to solicit the return of the seceding members, has failed in its object. For the present, therefore, the split in the Party's ranks seems irremediable.

The *Nippon* and the *Yomiuri*, which may be regarded as the Russo-phobe journals of Japan, learn that inasmuch as the arrival of M. Lessar in Peking and the advent of General Kuropatkin to Japan, render it expedient for the Government of this empire to adopt some hard-and-fast line of policy towards the Manchurian question, a council of Elder Statesmen (*Genro*) is to be held. Both journals express emphatic disapproval of such a course. The *Nippon* treats the matter briefly, but the *Yomiuri* devotes a leading article to it, the gist of which is that the Elder Statesmen are practically ignorant of foreign affairs and that Marquis Ito, above all, is an element of national danger in such a matter. Nothing can exceed our contemporary's outspokenness. It admits that in England, France and Germany there are old men whose knowledge and experience qualify them to be the nation's advisers in foreign politics, but it claims that in Japan the Elder Statesmen have lost their touch of the times and their knowledge of contemporary history. A strange argument truly. It is the *Yomiuri*, we should say, that has lost its touch of the times. There may be among the Elder Statesmen men whose moral development has not kept pace with the growth of their country's prestige, though to their efforts mainly is that prestige due. In their minds the Japan of 1903 may not be nearly so far removed from the Japan of 1867 as she is in reality, and they may consequently shrink from claiming for her the full measure of international consideration she deserves. But they are still her greatest men. They have made their record; a record immortally eloquent. Such an article as that of the *Yomiuri* does not discredit the *Genro*, but suggests a disquieting estimate of the young generation's indiscretion and imperfect sense of proportion.

Friday, June 12.

It is evidently thought by careful observers, among them the *Jiji Shimpo*, that

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"chaos" is the only term applicable to the present condition of political society. There had been a general expectation, that the parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai* would not leave Tokyo until some effective steps had been taken to close up the Paety's ranks and re-consolidate its organization. But they have all departed, and the inference drawn is that, despairing of any satisfactory re-adjustment, they have gone to consult with their constituents. The Progressists, too, although they seem to be retaining their cohesion and standing their ground firmly, are declared to be in a condition of seething unrest, many of them being persuaded that the time has come for a grand re-organization of parties. On the whole the epithet "chaotic" seems to be well chosen. But we strongly suspect that when the *Seiyu-kai* members come to reflect maturely, they will appreciate the hopelessness of effecting anything without Marquis Ito.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA IN SHANGHAI

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Fiji Shimpo* sends to that journal a long statement of the greatly improved position now occupied by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in Shanghai. He says that when he went to reside in that place in 1899, the company had only three vessels visiting the port once a week, so that the total tonnage standing to its credit in the schedule of entries did not exceed 150,000 tons. Now there are fully twenty steamers constantly coming and going, and the schedule figure stands at about 1½ millions of tons. The correspondent thinks there can be little doubt that the Company will soon re-open its North-China-Shanghai line. Moreover, work is now being vigorously prosecuted at the storehouses and wharves of the Company. The position of these is excellent, but hitherto the storage accommodation did not exceed 15,000 tons whereas, at the close of this year when the new constructions are finished, the capacity will be raised to forty or fifty thousand tons. The Company has also a fine plot of land at Woosung, and it is there building a wharf 1,100 feet long for the accommodation of its big European liners. Woosung being now in railway communication with Shanghai, the importance and utility of this wharf will be at once evident. A serious difficulty hitherto has been the want of feeders in the shape of small steamers and inland organization. The great English companies are well supplied in that respect, but the German and Japanese companies, having entered the field subsequently, have been at a heavy disadvantage. The defect, so far as concerns the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, is now completely remedied by the acquisition of the McBain property with all its appurtenances. Mr. McBain laid the foundation of his business 30 years ago, and not only is his organization complete, but he possesses fully the confidence of Chinese shippers. Four years ago, the Germans endeavoured to acquire his property, and last fall they very nearly succeeded in coming to terms with him. In these circumstances the correspondent is disposed to give great credit to the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for their enterprise, and to their agent, Mr. Hayashi Tamio, who not only conducted the negotiations direct with Mr. McBain, but also succeeded in keeping the matter absolutely secret until the bargain was completed.

THE RUSSIANS IN MANCHURIA.

The *Fiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent sends to that journal a very long telegram dated the 4th instant at 4 p.m. He has just returned from a fortnight's tour in Manchuria, and he gives the result of his observations. In Shingking, he says, there are some signs of evacuation, but on the whole the military situation there shows no material difference as compared with the situation prior to the 8th of April. On the contrary, the troops garrisoning Liao-yang have been actually increased. In the province of Kirin the occupation is as effective as ever, and there is nothing whatever to suggest any forecast of a withdrawal of the troops. As for Newchwang, where Russia has no tradal interests and where Japan, America and England have important commercial business, Russia has control of the sanitation, and is now planning a Russo-German telegraph station. She is pressing the Chinese Government to give its formal sanction to both of these arrangements, and her Consul, M. Grosser, openly threatens that if China refuses, the military occupation shall be made permanent. (At this point the language of the telegram is confused). Relying on the habitually yielding and placable character of the policy pursued by America, England and Japan, and perceiving that they are not likely to adopt any resolute line of action, the Russians are behaving in the most arbitrary manner. Barracks and forts in various places are being constructed diligently, the work going on by night as well as by day. Plans have been laid for a railway from Liao-yang to the Yalu *viâ* Fenghwang, and though the work of construction has not yet been actually commenced, that of surveying is being conducted with the greatest speed and the engineering staff has been duly nominated. Further, roads fit for the passage of field artillery have been made through this region and are now open to traffic. Russia's employment of Manchurian freebooters has had unanticipated results. It has antagonized the peaceful inhabitants, and moreover owing to irregularities in paying the wages of these employees, they have shown themselves truculent and unmanageable, and Russia seems to be now recognising that she has acted unwisely in this matter. The timber-felling enterprise in the Yalu forests is nominally in the hands of the Gunsberg Company, but in reality it is managed by Russian officers. On the upper reaches of the Liao River the Russians have effected an arrangement with General Tso, the Chinese Commander-in-Chief, for imposing heavier taxes, and three *likin* stations are being built for that purpose. It is a false rumour (here again the telegram is confused) that Russia is trying to divert the course of trade from Newchwang to Dalny. Mr. Segawa, Japanese Consul at Newchwang, recently addressed to General Tso a remonstrance against the increasing number of *likin* stations on the Liao and the obstacles thus placed in the way of trade. Russia may have no specially aggressive designs at present, but if the question of evacuation comes into the forefront of practical politics, she will probably take care that her railway is raided and that the districts adjoining it fall into a state of turbulence. At present only the Russian language and Russian money circulate along the line. The Japanese subjects settled in various parts of Manchuria complain that unless Japan asserts herself, their business will cease to be possible.

KOREA.

Further news sent by the *Fiji's* correspondent from Peking relates to the Yalu. He quotes an official who recently visited Wiju on public business as saying that the Russians have purchased about 12 acres of land at Yong Am-pho in the name of their Korean interpreter, and that they are busily collecting there stores of coal and bricks, and are building a *Decauville* railway. There are about a hundred Russians and they have with them a number of Manchurian freebooters who are in their employment. All the Koreans in the neighbourhood have effected their escape. As for the statement that these operations are connected with the prosecution of the timber-felling enterprise, it is altogether illusory.

There is intelligence from Seoul (*Asahi Shimbun*) that the Korean Government has sent a strong protest to the Russian Representative on the subject of the trespasses committed by Russian subjects at Yong Am-pho, and above all upon their desecration of family tombs.

On the night of the 7th instant there was a collision between Russian soldiers and Japanese civilians in Seoul. The Japanese, who are described as merchants, had three wounded.

There appears to have been an attempt in the Korean capital to create an agitation against the notes issued by the First Bank (Japanese) and by a Chinese exchange shop called Tung Shun-ta. A placard was posted in Belfry Street inviting a public meeting to discuss the matter. The Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Japanese Legation, however, took prompt measures to deal with the matter, and it seems to have ended in a fiasco. There ought not to be any difficulty in fixing the responsibility as the placard bore the names of four citizens—unless, indeed, the names were forged.

The mystery of the *Yang-mu* remains unexplained. The *Yang-mu* is a vessel purchased by the Korean Government from the Mitsui Firm, by whom, in accordance with the desire of the purchasers, she was fitted up as a frigate. But for some unexplained reason the Koreans refused to take delivery. It appears that they sent officials to inspect the ship and her equipment at Chemulpo a month ago, and that no fault was then found. But the cardinal item of payment remains unfulfilled, and the War Office is endeavouring to elude its obligation. There are two sides to every story. We are bound to assume that the Koreans have some justification in their own eyes. It would seem, however, that the Japanese Representative in Seoul can not appreciate the Korean pleas, for he is reported to have addressed a very strong despatch to the War Office declaring that no course is now possible except prompt implementing of the agreement to purchase. We gather that, according to Mr. Hayashi's view, the Koreans should have long ago formulated their objections if they had any to make.

THE GRAVES OF BRITISH SOLDIERS AND SAILORS IN YOKOHAMA.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums on account of a fund for the restoration of the monuments and the care of the graves of British soldiers and sailors interred in Yokohama Cemetery :—

"Alliance" ..... 15 yen.
"F.B." ..... 5 "

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M. LESSAR AND MANCHURIA.

In two Tokyo journals, the *Jimmin* and the *Chiuo*, we find a statement that M. Lessar has formulated a new basis of agreement with reference to the Manchurian problem. The terms are said to be; first, that for ten years there shall be no alienation of Manchurian territory; secondly, that all the rights and privileges hitherto acquired by Russian subjects shall be respected; thirdly, that there shall be no change in the administrative system of Manchuria without Russia's concurrence; fourthly, that there shall not be granted to foreign Powers any concessions such as would impair the rights and privileges of Russian subjects; and fifthly, that during ten years no part of Manchuria except Newchwang shall be opened to foreign trade, which period of ten years may be extended according to circumstances. These proposals are said to have been conveyed by M. Lessar to Kwun Kung, who now represents the pro-Russian views entertained by the late Yung Lu. The desire of the Russian Representative is that the approval of the Empress Dowager shall be obtained before the draft agreement is submitted to the Foreign Office in Peking. It should scarcely be necessary to remind our readers that an important item of intelligence appearing in identical language in two such journals as the *Chiuo* and the *Jimmin* and not confirmed from any other sources, must be received with the greatest caution.

An idea is apparently gaining ground that Russia has announced her intention of carrying out the work of evacuation at one *coup* next October, by the 8th of which month she is conventionally bound to have withdrawn all her troops. But when October comes, say the holders of this view, it will inevitably be found too cold for transporting troops to any great distance, and thus a postponement until next spring will be dictated by natural causes. During the period of delay thus gained Russia will have completed all her preparations for dispensing with the removal of any forces at all. The day of evacuation will be found to have passed *in toto*. We mention this estimate of future events because it appears to be acquiring currency.

The *Nippon* publishes a vehement communication from its Vladivostock correspondent who alleges that the preparations made by the Russians at Harbin and elsewhere in Manchuria are absolutely inconsistent with any intention of evacuation, and that the world is again on the eve of seeing itself deluded by the familiar manœuvres of the great Northern Power. The correspondent declares his conviction that nothing whatever can be accomplished so long as the remonstrances of the Powers are addressed to China. A direct appeal to Russia from England, Japan and the United States is alone capable of achieving anything.

Two other Tokyo journals the *Yomiuri* and the *Niroku*, entertain their readers with an announcement that the Japanese Cabinet has resolved to adopt a firm and determined attitude towards the Manchurian question. It need scarcely be said that the *Niroku*, with its usually miraculous insight, publishes an accurate analysis of the plans which Baron Komura is revolving or has revolved in his mind.

CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, June 6.

Apparently M. Lessar's first move on reaching Peking has been an endeavour to narrow the audience observing the transactions between his country and China. According to the *Kokumin's* correspondent, he has represented to the Foreign Office that there has been a marked absence of privacy in the conduct of negotiations hitherto, the newspaper press, and through it all the world, having been kept informed of everything that passed between the negotiators. That, said His Excellency, is fatal to satisfactory discussion. He therefore urged that two officials should be specially delegated to manage these matters, so that responsibility for violating secrecy could be accurately located. What reply the Foreign Office made we do not learn, but it ought to be unlikely that China would allow herself to be dictated to in such a manner. She is under no kind of obligation to observe secrecy if she deems that publicity would conduce to her national interests. Besides, there is another consideration. The world has been officially assured from St. Petersburg that the alleged negotiations in Peking which attracted so much comment, never took place at all, no demands having been preferred by Russia in the sense described by newspaper correspondents. If that be so, then the blame should be laid at the door of the correspondents' unveracity not at the door of Chinese officialdom.

Sir Cyprian Bridge reached Peking on the 3rd instant.

Monday, June 8.

The *Asahi's* Peking correspondent wires that there is an increasing tendency in diplomatic circles to accept England's suggestion as to receiving the Indemnity in silver up to 1910, and then consulting about means of making good the loss thus sustained. As for the seemingly munificent attitude of the United States, it is insisted that whereas America's actual outlays did not exceed 1½ millions sterling, she obtained 5 millions. Thus she has a large margin of possible concession, and it is scarcely fair for her to expect that countries not so favourably situated will keep step with her in this matter. Russia, it is further pointed out, enjoys a similar advantage, her share of the Indemnity being much out of proportion to her share of the expenditure.

M. Plancon is stated to have left Peking in consequence of the arrival of M. Lessar. Simultaneously with his departure the British Legation is said to have informed the Chinese Government that for every concession it makes to Russia's demands, a similar concession must be made to Great Britains.

The province of Chili is suffering from severe drought. Everywhere prayers are put up for rain. On the other hand, the financial situation in Tientsin is likely to be eased by the organization of an officially supported bank, to the capital of which the Customs will contribute a million taels.

M. Lessar seems to have adopted a programme of masterly inactivity. He is reported to be simply taking his ease in Peking. That is an attitude not calculated to re-assure the Chinese mind.

Tuesday, June 9.

Quoting recently from a Russian journal, we noted that it attributed a particularly placable demeanour to the Russian authorities in dealing with the free-booters of Manchuria. These gentry, according to the journal in question, were required only to refrain from molesting Russian subjects, in consideration of which forbearance they might treat other nationals as they pleased. But the truth seems to be that the Russian authorities have adopted the shrewd device of converting the some-time bandits into responsible soldiers. Five thousand of these *Hufei*, as they are called, have been enlisted and armed, it is said, preparatory to admission to the Mukden army. Some folks are disposed to think that Russia has no desire to wean the freebooters from their evil courses, since the more turbulent they show themselves, the better reason is furnished for non-evacuation. But it seems much more probable that finding this exceptionally facile military material ready to hand, Russia has begun to employ it, as suggested above, and one may fairly foresee that to give legitimate occupation to these men is even a better method of putting an end to their lawless courses than the sword and the halter would be.

Wednesday, June 10.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* states that a collision took place on the 25th of May in the vicinity of Antung between a force of Chinese regulars and a body of free-booters in Russian employ. The latter were defeated with a loss of nine killed and nine taken prisoners. It is alleged that the Russian officer responsible for the conduct of the Russian native levies in general, happened to be at Yong Am-pho when this trouble occurred. He hastened to the scene, and brought a strong charge against the officer in charge of the Chinese regulars, who, in turn, appealed to Peking, claiming that the free-booters had been behaving with the greatest lawlessness, raiding private houses and stealing property. Some fifty complaints had been lodged against them. The Russian Consul from Mukden proceeded to Antung to settle the matter. It will be remembered that accounts received from Wiju at the close of May spoke of the sound of firing having been heard in the direction of Antung, and the subsequent conjecture was that the Russians themselves had adopted strong measures for the purpose of disarming a body of truculent banditti. The hypothesis is that this firing was due to the engagement above described.

It is stated that China objects to the terms of England's proposal as to the payment of the Indemnity, and that the negotiations seem likely to fail.

Prince Ching has resumed his duties.

The Chinese Resident in Tibet is said to have reported that the Russians who recently entered that country had been joined by an escort of several hundreds of troops. They claim that these troops are for their protection solely, and that they themselves have no object other than peaceful travel! Further they allege that they are authorized by the Chinese Government to travel with an armed escort. Instructions from Peking on this subject are sought by the Chinese officials in Llassa, who deny that any official information has reached them with reference to the coming of these Russians. On receipt of this intelligence Prince Ching is said to have approached the Russian Representative in Peking, who, in reply, declared that he had no knowledge whatever of these Russians. The Prince accordingly wired to Llassa in the sense that

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the statement of the Russians as to their right of armed escort and so forth were entirely baseless, and that Chinese officials should not allow themselves to be misled by such tales.

Thursday, June 11.

The public learned some time ago that the United States Government was not satisfied with China's refusal to open Mukden and Takushan (or Tatung), that refusal being based on an alleged Russian objection which Russia subsequently disavowed. It is now stated that pressure is being brought upon China to induce her to consent, and that Japan is adding her voice to that of America. Certainly readers of China's modern history can not fail to be struck by the change that has come over the face of events. Formerly China used to regard each newly opened port as an additional centre of aggressive activities; now she is asked to regard it as an instrument for saving her from aggression. Nothing seems more certain than that if she had opened the whole of her dominions long ago to the trade and travel of the world, she would now be in comparatively little danger of losing her integrity. But to apply that remedy the abolition of consular jurisdiction would have been a necessary preliminary, and of course nothing of the kind was possible. Sir Robert Hart, in a moment when his appreciation of the immense dangers menacing China outweighed his estimate of the imperfections of Chinese law courts, suggested that foreign lives and property should be entrusted to the guardianship of the Middle Kingdom in the hope that her gratitude for such confidence would prevent her from abusing it. Such an experiment is inconceivable. Every analysis of China's difficulties is found at last to have the same ultimate remainder, namely, her own blind conservatism.

From the *China Times* of the 30th ult. we learn that the Empress Dowager witnessed an entertainment of European music and dancing at the palace on the 28th May. Sir Robert Hart's band furnished the music, with which her Majesty was very much delighted. The Misses Yu Kung—whom many in Tokyo will remember—dressed as a French peasant boy and girl, danced a minuet, after which Lady Yu Kung with her daughters, a German lady, and four Chinese princesses, danced a set of Lancers; all of which her Majesty appears to have found very entertaining.

There has been some hitch in the opening of the officially supported bank at Tientsin, which was to have relieved the financial pressure. The postponement of this enterprise is reported to have aggravated the situation, and several exchange shops are expected to put up their shutters. Meanwhile the branch office of the Japanese Specie Bank has begun to issue silver notes. Their denomination is 5 taels, but ten-tael and one-hundred-tael notes will soon follow.

Friday, June 12.

It is not surprising to find that the demonstration made in Shanghai with reference to the alleged conduct of the Governor of Kwangsi in inviting the military aid of France, caused some anger in Peking. The officials in the Chinese metropolis do not yet understand the blunder of their ancient proverb, "Cover up what smells badly." They find it ominous and shocking that private citizens should have the temerity to hold public meetings and organise indignant protests against the conduct of high officials. Consequently, orders were sent from Peking—so it is stated—for the arrest and punishment of the six persons who made themselves prominent at the meetings in Chang Su-ho's garden, and elsewhere, when the action of Governor Wang Chih-ch'un was so loudly denounced. We can not discover whether the orders were carried out. But neither can we find that any of the newspapers which brought the accusation against Wang Chih-ch'un have acknowledged its injustice. Yet surely there is now a wide-spread assurance that Wang made no such requisition? What small spark of fire caused the cloud of smoke that recently rolled up from the Kwang-si frontier, there is as yet no explanation. But that France did not move a soldier or fire a gun, may be taken as proved. Peking might well have been contented to leave the matter at that, instead of arresting and punishing men whose main fault was excessive patriotism.

There was a destructive fire in Peking on the afternoon of the 9th instant. Two of the principal Government offices seem to have been destroyed. Peking is almost completely destitute of any supply of water adequate to cope with such emergencies.

Shêng Kung-pao has returned to Shanghai but is laid up with sickness.

THE DIET.

Mr. Oishi and Mr. Mochizuki received very curt answers to the Questions which they took the lead in presenting to the Government during the session just ended. The former member had suggested that the Government was neglecting to take advantage of the Anglo-Japanese alliance to check Russian aggression, and was also neglecting to foster Japanese enterprise in China. To this the answer was, first, that the occasion did not permit reply; secondly, that the questioner's facts were incorrect, and thirdly, that the Question was of a controversial nature. Mr. Mochizuki's queries had been framed on the lines of the policy advocated by Mr. Ozaki Yukio, namely, an agreement with Russia as to Korea's independence. To this the Minister of Foreign Affairs briefly answered that the Question was controversial and therefore called for no answer.

Mr. Itakura had sought information about events on the Korean frontier. The answer was that the facts would be generally known in due time, but that the moment for making a statement had not come.

Mr. Ogawa had asked about compensation for the families of Japanese subjects who lost their lives two years ago in Korea. The answer was that nothing definite had yet been obtained from the Korean Government but that the matter was being pressed.

Other questions received equally curt replies, which, in our opinion, is pretty much the treatment they deserved. Questions addressed to the Government have become an almost ludicrous feature of parliamentary procedure in Japan.

The ceremony of closing the Diet took place at 10 a.m. yesterday. The speech from the Throne was read by the Prime Minister. It was of the usual brief character; a recognition of the labours of the two Houses.

The people of Imari, Saga Prefecture, have decided to ask the authorities to open the port for foreign trade and have elected three delegates to present their petition to the Departments for Home Affairs and for Finance.

RUSSIA'S DEMANDS.

In *The Times* of May 4th there appears the following communication from its Peking correspondent:—

The following is a careful *précis* of the authoritative Russian text of the demands with reference to Manchuria, which will remove certain obscurities in previous messages due to the imperfections of the Chinese text.

The preamble begins by stating that by command of the Imperial Government the following communication is sent. Russia and China have been friendly neighbours for more than two centuries. They have a conterminous frontier for 3,000 miles. The interference of strangers in these mutually friendly relations would impair them, impeding a friendly settlement of affairs. Therefore Russia considers it her duty to guard them against alien interference, especially as affecting Manchuria. There Russia has sacrificed thousands of lives and millions of money in order to pacify the country and restore the Chinese lawful authority. By right of conquest Russia could annex the country; but she is unwilling to profit by this, and, as in 1881 she returned Ili to China and last year the portion between the Great Wall and Niu-chwang, so now she will restore Mukden and Kirin provinces and Niu-chwang treaty port provided China gives the following pledges:—

1. No portion of the restored territories will be transferred under any form to another Power. If this is evaded, Russia will take the most decisive measures.

2. The present administration of Mongolia shall not be disturbed, because, if it were altered, the people would be disquieted and complications would ensue along the Russian frontier.

3. China will undertake not to open new treaty ports in Manchuria or to permit new Consuls without the previous assent of the Russian Government.

4. Should China desire to employ foreigners in any branch of her administration, their authority shall not extend to affairs in North China, where Russian interests predominate. There they shall be entrusted to Russians only. For example, if foreign mining advisers are engaged, their authority will not extend to mining affairs in Manchurian or Mongolia, for which Russian advisers must be appointed.

5. Russia will retain under her own control the existing telegraph line between Port Arthur, Niu-chwang and Mukden for the whole period of existence of the Peking-Niu-chwang telegraph line of which it is a necessary prolongation.

6. After the restoration of the Niu-chwang Chinese administration the Russo-Chinese Bank will continue as at present its functions as a Customs bank.

7. All rights acquired in Manchuria by Russian subjects during the occupation shall remain in force after the evacuation.

Finally, there is a long clause as epilogue, stating that Russia, being responsible for health along the railway, requires the continuance of the present effective sanitary board. It is, therefore, indispensable that the Customs Commissioner and the Customs doctor shall be Russians. The sanitary board must consist of these two officials, a Customs taotai, the Consuls, a bacteriologist, a representative of the Russian railway, and a taotai to find the requisite funds.

Whenever an official reply is received giving assent to the foregoing conditions Russia will withdraw from Mukden, Kirin, and Niu-chwang.

The document bears the signature of M. de Plancon and is dated April 5 (18).

Peking, May 4.

The Russian Government is awaiting the arrival here of M. Lessar, the Russian Minister to China, who is now hastening to Peking after a sojourn in Europe on account of his health, before making its next move in the Manchurian negotiations.

It is significant that M. Pokotiloff, manager of the Russo-Chinese Bank, an equally important factor of Russian diplomacy in China, who was recently appointed to succeed M. Tatistcheff, as Russian financial agent in London and was expected to leave for St. Petersburg in May, has received instructions to remain for the present. Meanwhile, M. de Plancon, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, following the lead of St. Petersburg, has issued a statement repudiating all designs upon the integrity of Manchuria, beginning with a sweeping denial that any conditions have been demanded from China in return for Russia's fulfilling her agreement to evacuate the province, and ending with the plea that the conditions required are necessary for the protection of Russian interests.

Mr. Conger, the United States Minister, Mr. Townley, the British Chargé d'Affaires, and M. Uchida Yasuya, the Japanese Minister, have each had several interviews with reference to Manchuria with Prince Ching, who was at first reserved, but afterwards discussed the negotiations with greater freedom.

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THE SILK MARKET IN AMERICA.

American papers to hand by the C.P.R. mail contain rather pessimistic reports concerning the immediate outlook of the silk market. Mr. Dwight Ashley, President of the Paterson Silk Industry Association, is said to predict that 75 per cent. of the silk looms must be closed before the middle of July.

"Many of the looms are already stopped," said he, "and others will be as soon as they finish filling orders. The situation is unfortunate, both for the manufacturers and the employes, as many of the latter will be thrown out of employment, but under existing conditions manufacturers cannot make any profit, and naturally they will not operate at a loss.

"There has been a remarkable advance in raw silk during the last year, and prices of silk goods have not been advanced in proportion. Trade is dull under present quotations, and will not stand an advance. The mills will not be closed entirely, as a rule, but not over 25 per cent. of the looms will be operated.

"Manufacturers have about enough silk on hand to fill fall orders. This will be done in a short time. The situation is similar to that of the cotton goods market, except that the silk manufacturers have to purchase a much more expensive staple than cotton, and would therefore be taking much greater chances if they continued to operate."

"The price of raw silk will not soon be reduced. The market is strong, both because of crop failures in Europe and the fact that manufacturers have small stocks. Ordinarily we carry over anywhere from 30,000 to 40,000 bales of raw silk, but this year is an exception.

"The trade must be educated up to paying higher prices for the manufactured article, and then the mills can afford to pay a price for raw silk. I do not expect a price decline in the near future, nor to see five-cent cotton again. The advances in raw material must be followed by corresponding advances in the price of manufactured goods, and the sooner the trade learns this, the sooner will better conditions be brought about."

Mr. Franklin Allen, the well-known secretary of the Silk Association of America, writes that he does not see what a prudent silk manufacturer can do but close down his looms, or the larger proportion of them.

"The price of raw silk," said Mr. Allen, "has advanced during the year an average of $1.00 a pound, and it has reached a point where manufacturers cannot afford to purchase."

"The mill owners of New Jersey can tell better about how much raw silk they have in stock now, but I do not think they have a very large supply. The advance in raw silk is due to the short silk crops and not to speculation. The crops in Europe, Japan and China were cut short by cold weather. In Italy it is estimated that the crop is between 30 per cent. and 40 per cent. of last year. When it is remembered that Italy produces about 30 per cent. of the world's supply of raw silk, it can be seen what this shortage amounts to.

"Manufacturers are already curtailing their production between 15 per cent and 20 per cent, the looms having already been closed down, and I think that it is but a question of a short time until many other mills will also be forced to curtail their production."

Another well-posted authority on the silk trade, in discussing the situation, spoke as follows:—

"On account of the strike of the dryers' helpers a year ago the manufacturers of silk were enabled to sell off all their accumulated stock and the profits of mill owners were so large in consequence that it was thought best not to make a public statement of the amount, for fear the labourers would see how much their employers were making and insist upon an increase in wages.

"Since then prices of raw silk have steadily advanced, and now conditions are bad for the manufacturers. Prices of silk goods increased 10 per cent, and manufacturers started in this season expecting to maintain this advance.

"Dull business, however, caused many to cut in order to secure trade, and, as a consequence, only a 5 per cent., instead of a 10 per cent., advance was maintained. This was already creating dissatisfaction in view of the strong condition of the raw silk market, when the latter commenced soaring on account of the bad crop reports from Europe, followed by further advances on account of similar reports rom Japan and China."

ENGLAND AND JAPAN.

It appears to be accepted as a fact in well-informed quarters that on the 3rd instant the British and Japanese Representatives in Peking addressed a joint note to the Chinese Government urging the rejection of Russia's demands. But what these demands are there is no profession of knowledge. The *Jiji Shimpo* suggests that the step may have been taken in consequence of M. Lessar's attempt to secure privacy for his negotiations, which attempt suggested plainly that he contemplated formulating some new proposals. It is scarcely likely, however, that the two Powers would have taken any official action on account of such a move, and still less is it likely that they would urge the rejection of demands with which they were not acquainted. If the alleged note was really presented, we may assume that some fresh series of demands have been advanced.

In connexion with this question the *Jiji Shimpo* publishes an interesting article insisting on the opening of Tatung and Mukden to foreign trade. Both Japan and America included a demand in that sense in their proposals for revision of the commercial treaties at the Shanghai conference, and China, so far from disagreeing, showed evident alacrity to consent at the outset. But subsequently, acting under the influence of Russia, she drew back. It is, however, absolutely essential in the interests of tradal development that the transactions of the world—and in this case the world means England, America and Japan, which three countries virtually transact the whole business—should not be limited to one port, and that such a defective port as Newchwang. In proportion to its great extent Manchuria is so ill-supplied with sea-board that the opening of some place in the interior is necessary. Mukden is plainly indicated by nature. It is at Mukden that the products of the provinces are gathered before distribution. Tatung is not a first-class port, but it may be said to command the mouth of the Yalu, and that it is capable of considerable tradal development can not be doubted. The *Jiji* expresses a strong hope that this policy of opening new marts will not be abandoned. It has often been maintained in these columns that the only peaceable method of preventing the absorption of Manchuria by Russia is the opening of Manchurian marts to foreign trade and residence. The sole alternatives are the quiet endorsement of absorption or armed resistance.

THE KWANG-SI REBELLION.

Certainly there has not been any more perplexing incident in the modern history of the Far East than the progress of the Kwangsi insurrection. At one moment the public are informed that the affair does not deserve a moment's thought; next they hear tales suggesting that it is of cardinal importance. The *North-China Daily News* now publishes a letter "from a reliable source," which says: "The rebels of Kwangsi are daily getting stronger, especially in the vicinity of the prefectural city of Kweilin, the capital of Kwangsi, namely in the districts of Yining and Hsingan. Here the rebels, unlike other bands, conduct the government of the two cities, collect regular taxes after the style of foreign municipalities, enlist troops, and drill, pay, and arm them after foreign methods. A perfectly regular, peaceful and beneficent government rules the region comprised within the areas of the two districts and there is not a single official of the Manchu dynasty in them, while the inhabitants appear quite contented at their lot. Strict discipline is enforced amongst the rebels by their officers, who give all their commands in English, while the arms and ammunition used are of the most modern. These are constantly arriving, being brought by friends and partisans from neighbouring provinces, so that there is now a very large accumulation of the best of arms and ammunition for a numerous and formidable army. In fact the region spoken of above has been apparently chosen as the headquarters of the rebellion and the men there are to form the nucleus of a great army for the conquest of the Empire from the Manchus. There is immense enthusiasm amongst the rank and file of the so-called rebel army in Yining and Hsingan, which counts a great deal in a movement like this. As soon as everything has been prepared and ready for active hostilities, the mandarins will find the present one ten times more formidable than the former Taiping rebellion. With the risings which have so far taken place throughout the province of Kwangsi, desultory and scattered as they have been, every one already knows that the mandarins have invariably been unable to deal, and that they have been again and again defeated and put to flight by these wandering bands of rebels and disbanded soldiery. What then must happen when in place of these scattered and badly led and still worsed organised bands the mandarins find themselves opposed by an army which is just the contrary of what has gone before?"

If this account has any elements of truth the world may be on the eve of a very momentous crisis. The Powers will have to decide upon their attitude towards the rebels, and should the latter extend the field of operations to Chili itself, as the Taipings did twice, the foreign garrison of that province must either withdraw or take arms against the invaders. Japanese journals, however, are silent about this topic, and it will be singular if the great movement described by our Shanghai contemporary's correspondent has really been developing strength and solidarity all this time in such complete secrecy.

COUNT AND COUNTESS DE LABRY.

The following extracts from French journals will have much interest for residents of Japan.

"Tangiers, 19th April.—Count and Countess de Labry, who set out yesterday for Tetuan by a route supposed to be safe, were robbed by armed mountaineers at a distance of some kilometers from Tangiers. All the animals of the caravan their baggage and their personal property were taken. A soldier of the Government's cavalry who accompanied them was severely wounded by a gun-shot. The Count and the Countess returned safe and sound to Tangiers. * * * Tangiers, 22nd April.—The mules and a certain part of the products of the theft committed on the caravan of Count Labry have been restored. The mountaineers protest against the voyages undertaken by European tourists in the interior, at a time when authority no longer exists. These tourists inevitably become victims of the first band of robbers, and the crime is imputed to the whole tribe. Count and Countess de Labry may deem themselves fortunate to have escaped safe and sound. The Moorish soldier who accompanied them was seriously wounded."

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MR. KATAOKA.

Many efforts are being made to induce Mr. Kataoka to retain his post of President of the Lower House. He pleads broken health as the reason for his resignation, and as a matter of fact he has been in hospital for a considerable time. But we can not imagine that even were he in robust health he could reconcile it with his conscience to retain the post. His election was due not merely to the esteem in which his character and abilities are held, but also, and mainly, to his affiliation with the *Seiyu-kai*. In short, he was the *Seiyu-kai's* candidate, and as an honorable man he is precluded from supposing that had he not belonged to the big Party he would have been chosen President. Leaving the Party then, he is in a measure bound to resign the appointment which he owes to the Party's support. Meanwhile there is talk of his being raised to the peerage, should his resignation be finally accepted. The newspapers speak of this as though such a course would be in accord with foreign precedents. But we recall the fact that the first President of the Lower House, Mr. Nakajima Nobuyuki, and also the third, Mr. Kusumoto, received baronages on their retirement. There is no need, therefore, to go abroad for examples. Mr. Kataoka has been three times placed in the chair, and he certainly merits any honour conferred on his predecessors.

Tokyo journals vary in their statements about Mr. Kataoka. Several of them say that he will be induced, or has actually been induced, to abandon his intention of resigning the presidency of the Lower House. The ill-health which he now assigns as a pretext for resigning existed before he accepted the appointment and can not therefore constitute a valid reason at the present time. As for the desire to prevent his retirement, it is interpreted to mean that the *Seiyu-kai*, in their weakened condition, do not feel confident about electing a successor from their own ranks, and would rather have a seceder like Mr. Kataoka than run the risk of seeing a Progressist candidate appointed. That, of course, is a theory advanced by the *Seiyu-kai's* enemies. For our own part we do not see how Mr. Kataoka can conscientiously retain the position, and we have given our reasons for so thinking.

THE HACHIOJI-KOFU RAILWAY.

The official opening of the railway from Hachioji to Kofu took place on the 11th instant. As a matter of fact trains have been running for some time as far as Hajikana, and only the Hajikana-Kofu section remained to be opened. This line, though only 53 miles long, has taken nearly 8 years to build. The office of the Construction Bureau was established in Hachioji in 1896. It will therefore be conjectured that great engineering difficulties had to be overcome. No less than forty-two tunnels had to be pierced, the longest being that under the Sasago Pass, namely, nearly 3 miles, and the next that under the Kobotoke Pass, which is 1 mile 44 chains. All these tunnels together represent a length of 63,220 feet, or nearly 12 miles. This line is the Eastern section of the Chiuo (Central) Road which constitutes the inland military railway of Japan. Running from Hachioji to Kofu and thence to Shiojiri in Shinano, it joins the Nagoya road at the latter place; while in a northerly direction it proceeds to Shinonoi and thence to Naoyetsu. The total length is 223 miles from Hachioji to Nagoya. There are 34 bridges having an aggregate length of 4,301 feet. The section just completed, namely that from Hachioji to Kofu, is said to consist mainly of tunnels, bridges and viaducts. The sums hitherto paid out on account of the whole line from Hachioji to Nagoya have totalled 13,069,224 *yen*, one half of which is estimated to have been spent on tunnels and bridges. The average cost per mile is 250,000 *yen*. The line should have much interest for foreign travellers as it passes many places of historical note It is calculated that very great influence will be produced by the opening of this line on the goods traffic to Koshu. At present the only available route from Yokohama to that province is by the Tokaido line to Iwabuchi; thence by boat up the Fuji-kawa as far as Kajika, and thence by pack-horse to Kofu, the result being that the carriage of a bag of flour costs 47 *sen*, and that of a bag of sugar 1.20 *yen* to 1.30 *yen* By the newly-opened route these figures will be reduced to 6½ *sen* and 20 *sen* respectively. It is further noted that as Kanagawa is more convenient than Yokohama for the despatch of goods by the Central Road, the prosperity of the former place will be materially increased. That will be only a temporary matter, however, for the question has now to be determined of a line from Hachioji to Yokohama. It will be remembered that this remained long in abeyance, the Government being uncertain whether to undertake the work itself or entrust it to a private company. Finally the latter course was adopted, but the work has not been commenced, and it thus results that railway communication between Yokohama and Hachioji, which has always been one of the most prosperous places in Musashi province, can not be effected except by taking train to Tokyo and thence to Yokohama. Now, however, no time is to be lost in building the road. It is stated that the uncertainty as to the best site for the station at the Yokohama end has been solved by choosing Hiranuma Shinden. Topographically Kanagawa would be most convenient, but to make the station there would involve heavy tunnelling under the Takashima hill.

ANNIVERSARY OF BISHOP JOHN MC'KIM'S CONSECRATION.

Next Sunday, June 14, is the tenth anniversary of the consecration of the Rt. Rev. John McKim as Bishop, and there is to be a special commemoration of the occasion in Trinity Cathedral, Tsukiji, Tokyo. It will be two-fold;—one by the Japanese of the *Nippon Sei Ko Kwai*, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, when a memorial gift will be made, and addresses of congratulation delivered. The other will be at the usual hour of the English Evensong, 6 o'clock, on the same day, when full choral Evensong, in cathedral style, will be chanted and a Pastoral Staff will be given the Bishop by the clergy and other workers of the American Church.

This Pastoral Staff was designed by one of the leading architects and designers of ecclesiastical art in America, Mr. H. M. Congdon, of New York, and it was made under his personal direction and supervision. It is a very rich and beautiful piece of work, and is most appropriate, both to the Episcopal office and to him who so worthily fulfills its duties in this case. The address of presentation will be made by one of the clergy on behalf of the Mission, and after the service a solemn *Te Deum* will be sung.

PRINCE TSAI CHENG AND HIS FATHER.

From Peking the *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent sends three interesting and momentous items of intelligence. The first is that Prince Tsai Chêng, on his return from Japan, informed the Court that Japan is not disposed to go to war with Russia. The meaning of such a statement, we presume, is that Japan would greatly prefer to see the Manchurian question settled without an appeal to the sword. So would Russia, it may be taken for granted. But however moderate and placable Japan's disposition may be, there are some contingencies which she can not tamely contemplate, and if Prince Tsai carried away the idea that her patience is inexhaustible, he made a mistake.

The second item of news is that Prince Ching—Prince Tsai's father—has secretly informed the Empress Dowager that the Foreign Office is on the road to a settlement with Russia and that it would be a great mistake to allow the ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to interfere in any way.

The third item is that Chang Chih-tung, on his side, has urged the Court to rely on England and Japan, and on no account to accede to Russia's demands.

We venture to commend to the purveyors of Chinese intelligence one field in which their ingenuity has not yet been exercised; namely, the nature of the compensation that England and Japan will exact from China should she sign away their treaty rights in Manchuria. That is a prolific source of conjecture, and it is also of interest secondary only to the fate of Manchuria itself. If China insists on breaking herself up and giving away the pieces, what will Japan and England substitute for their compact to preserve her integrity?

"COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE" ON "RUSSIA AND THE FAR EAST."

Commercial Intelligence has the following paragraph under the heading of "Russia and the Far East":—

Since the day when, at the request of Russia, Lord Salisbury ordered our warships out of Port Arthur, there has been little doubt as to the intentions of Russia regarding Manchuria, and the present situation in the Far East throws an interesting light upon the value of the much vaunted treaty which we made with Japan in January, 1902. This treaty declared to all whom it might concern that the two contracting Powers, England and Japan, were interested in the maintenance of the integrity of China and Korea. Further, under certain conditions, the treaty consitutes an offensive and defensive alliance. If either of the Powers, in defence of their interests in China, which, as we have said, are declared by the treaty to be bound up with the preservation of the integrity of China and Korea, should find it necessary to wage war, the other party is to maintain a strict neutrality, but if a third Power enters the arena, then the other high contracting party must also come in, and conduct the war in common, and make peace in mutual agreement with its ally. The integrity of China is now disappearing, the Japanese are naturally indignant, excited articles are appearing in their newspapers, and there is little doubt that they are looking anxiously to England for a sign. That sign, it is hardly necessary to add, they will not behold. As a matter of fact, we are viewing the proceedings of Russia with a very mild surprise, for few of us have had any doubts as to her real intentions with regard to Manchuria. The *Times* counsels Japan in the following amusing terms:—

"The spectacle may well try the patience of the Japanese, but our confidence in the proved self-restraint of that remarkable people, and in the wisdom of their Government, is sufficient assurance that under this last provocation, as under so many which have gone before it, they will continue to observe that attitude of calm and deliberate vigilance which is not the least of the factors in their greatness as a nation."

In other words, Japan may fume, but she is to sit still while Manchuria is digested. "And there was a great (and 'deliberate') calm."

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From a sober journal devoted to commercial questions one may be excused for expecting less flippant comments than the above on an important question of foreign policy. The paragraph begins with a falsehood which, like the Cassini convention and, indeed, falsehood in general, bears a charmed life. British war-ships were not ordered out of Port Arthur at Russia's request. That was long ago proved to be a baseless tale, and has been again and again corrected; but a well-found canard once upon the wing is very hard to destroy. As to the Anglo-Japanese alliance, it is not the perfunctory, fruitless compact suggested by *Commercial Intelligence*. It is serving its purpose excellently. That purpose is, not to plunge either of the contracting parties into war, as our London contemporary seems to imply, but to enable them to preserve peace by the exercise of their united fiat. Nothing is easier than to fight, but statesmen have to estimate the cost of war as compared with its probable results, and, above all, have to consider whether better results can not be obtained by peaceful methods. There has not been anything as yet to demand the drawing of the sword.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Nagato Maru*, which reached Kobe on the 3rd, is said to have brought Major-General Akiyama, who commands the Japanese garrison in Peking, with whom came a son of Viceroy Yuan, a son of His Excellency Li Hung-tsau, and the President of the Medical College in Peking. The party left Kobe the same day for Tokyo.

The Russian authorities at Dalny are said to have agreed that a lot of land chosen by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha shall be included in the next auction sale at that port. It is stated that the lot in question is eminently well suited for the erection of a branch office of the S.S. Company. We may mention in this context that the differentiation against Japanese acquisitions of land at the recent sale in Dalny was subsequently withdrawn.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that another storm has arisen in the region of the Tokyo Street Railway. At a meeting held by the shareholders who advocate immediate coalition with the Tram Company, it was agreed that so long as Mr. Amenomiya remained President, things could not work smoothly. They accordingly determined to ask him to resign. But he, learning of this resolve, anticipated events by resigning at once. That might be supposed to have rendered the situation easier for the pro-coalition party. But it is expected to have just the opposite effect.

The death is announced of Marquis Ikeda, formerly feudal Chief of Okayama. He expired at his Tokyo residence on the 5th instant at the age of 68. The funeral will be on the 14th instant.

The Standard Oil Company's quarterly dividend, payable on June 15th, is at the rate of $7 per share on the $100,000,000 capital stock, a drop of $3 on the last dividend. The disbursement for the current quarter means that shareholders will receive $7,000,000. Last year the company disbursed $45,000,000 to stockholders. In 1900 and 1901 $48,000,000 was disbursed each year. Since January 1st, 1900, the Standard Oil Co. has declared $168 a share in dividends, making total payments of $168,000,000 to shareholders on a capital stock of a little less than $100,000,000. Of the dividends declared during the last three and a half years Mr. John D. Rockefeller's share has been something like $56,000,000, as he holds in the neighbourhood of 33 per cent. of the capital stock of the Standard Oil Co. Last year 20 per cent. was paid in the first quarter, 10 per cent. in the second, 5 per cent. in the third quarter and 10 per cent. in the fourth quarter. The dividends for a period of years have been as follows: 1891-1895, $12 a year; 1896, $31; 1897, $33; 1898, $30; 1899, $33; 1900, $48; 1901, $48, and 1902, $45. So far this year, $27.

Miss Howard, who has been for some years engaged as instructress in the family of Prince Shimazu in Tokyo, left for England on leave on the 6th inst. Marquis Oyama, Count and Countess Matsukata and several other distinguished personages assembled at Shimbashi to bid her farewell, and she was accompanied to Yokohama by Prince Shimazu and his family. Miss Howard has been eminently successful in the discharge of her duties in Tokyo.

The third anniversary of the death of Mr. Hoshi Toru was celebrated with great pomp and circumstance at the Ikegami Temple on the forenoon of the 7th instant. An oration compiled by Mr. Matsuda Masahisa was read by the chief officiating priest. This oration contained one statement with which all must agree; namely, that on every occasion of political commotion the memory of Mr. Hoshi is recalled.

We learn from the *Peking and Tientsin Times* that the Russian Authorities at Port Arthur contemplate starting an English journal for the purpose of supporting Russian interests in the Far East. That would be an excellent move, and Englishmen would welcome it as much as Russians.

Japanese newspapers, especially the *Kokumin*, contain accounts of a brilliant banquet given at the German Legation on the 7th instant, mainly for the purpose of decorating twenty Japanese officers with Orders bestowed by the Emperor of Germany. H.R.H. Prince Rupprecht handed the Orders to their recipients, of whom the principal was Colonel Shiba. He received the Red Eagle of the Second Class. Over seventy other officers, not present at the banquet, have also been decorated, at their head being Lieut.-General Yamaguchi, who receives the First Class of the same Order. Several distinguished personages were among the guests, notably His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi, His Highness Prince Kuni, Marquis Oyama, Sir Claude MacDonald, Baron Komura and Lieut.-General Terauchi. Several speeches were delivered, one of them, by Lieut.-General Janson, who eulogised the Japanese Army, and one by Marquis Oyama who returned the compliment to Germany. The banquet is said to have been a brilliant success, which is always the verdict about anything in which Count Arco Valley is concerned.

All the Tokyo newspapers state that Baron Kodama, Governor-General of Formosa, will shortly start for Europe by the Trans-Asian Railway. Proceeding in the first place to England, he will then visit South Africa, and returning to England, will travel home *viâ* America. Naturally this journey has given rise to various rumours, the gist of them being that the Governor-General, disgusted with the Diet's treatment of his Formosan appropriations in the Budget, is to be soothed with the sop of a foreign tour. But that sensational interpretation is flatly denied by leading journals. They allege that there is real occasion for Baron Kodama to inspect the working of the British colonial system, and that he is taking advantage of a comparatively inactive time in Formosan affairs. He is to be accompanied by Messrs. Nitobe and Sekiya. Mr. Nitobe is well-known as the author of "Bushido."

The Japanese Commercial Agent in Vladivostock reports to the Imperial Foreign Office that, according to statistics published by the Russian Department of Communications the total length of the Siberian Railway is 7,783 miles. Divided into sections the mileages are:—

Siberian Line	3,140	miles.
Baikal Line	1,418	"
Ussuri Line	812	"
East-China Line	2,413	"
Total	7,783	"

From St. Petersburg to Vladivostock the distance is 7,217 miles and from St. Petersburg to Port Arthur 7,535 miles. The sum expended on the work hitherto has been 780 millions of roubles. If this means the legal-tender rouble the outlay represents 1,201 millions of *yen*, or nearly 155,000 *yen* per mile, an immense figure. Probably the paper rouble is signified. In that case the outlay is 780 millions of *yen*, or something over 100,000 *yen* per mile.

In the early spring the barley crop gave promise of a splendid yield, but thereafter most unseasonable weather persistently prevailed, and the result has been disastrous. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce publishes an estimate, from which we learn that the crop will probably be 13.9 per cent. less than that of last year, and 17.9 per cent. below the average. The figures given are these:—

Yield for	1894	in *Koku*	19,822,000
"	1895	"	19,537,840
"	1896	"	17,340,466
"	1897	"	18,005,490
"	1898	"	20,462,053
"	1899	"	19,335,952
"	1900	"	20,398,385
"	1901	"	20,658,217
"	1902	"	18,425,626
"	1903	"	15,854,228

Of course it will be understood that this last figure is only an estimate.

It is stated that a number of Russian students from Vladivostock, Khabarovsk and Blagovestchensk will arrive in Japan at the end of the month. They are expected to leave Vladivostock on the 22nd instant by the *Kotsu Maru*, and as they will touch at Nanawo and visit Kanazawa, the citizens of those places are preparing to give them a hearty welcome. It is expected that the party will number about a hundred. All their expenses are to be defrayed by subscription.

There has been another serious land-slip at the celebrated silver mine of Handa in Fukushima. No casualties to life or limb occurred, but there was considerable injury to cultivated land, and three houses were buried. It is stated that there are symptoms of further disturbance.

The Russian Minister of War and his suite arrived at Shimonoseki on the 10th instant in the war-ship *Askold*. They were received by Major-General Tamura and other officers of the War Department. There appears to have been some misapprehension about the landing place, and the arrangements were consequently disturbed. General Kuropatkin and

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his suite, numbering eleven in all, left Shimonoseki for Kobe on the 11th instant, and are expected to proceed direct to Tokyo. It is said to be uncertain how long the Minister will remain in Tokyo, some authorities naming two days, and others alleging that he will stay until some arrangement is concluded about Manchuria.

The *Fiji Shimpo* publishes a statement of the details of the scheme of naval increment. There will be three line-of-battle ships of the *Shikishima* pattern; three armoured cruisers of the *Asama* type; and two second-class cruisers of the *Chitose* type. The experts of the Naval Department are now engaged upon the drawings and specifications. It is not yet determined where the orders will be placed, but, as far as possible, the work of construction will be in Japan.

Discussing the question of the danger of infection from the use of a common chalice in the administering of the Sacrament, the *Lancet* quotes from the *Church Times* that a notice has been placed in the English church at Davos, where most, if not all, of the communicants are tuberculous, which calls attention to the fact that by permission of the Bishop acting for North and Central Europe the Holy Communion will be administered in both kinds at once by "dipping pieces of bread into the consecrated wine and placing the same in the mouth or on the hand of each communicant." "We have previously," adds the *Lancet*, "advocated the allowing of 'intinction, and now that one bishop has allowed it we hope to see others follow suit. At such seasons as Easter, for instance, when the churches are thronged with communicants, such a modification of the strict letter of the Prayer-Book would avoid a widespread risk, and would, moreover, lighten the labours of many a hard-worked parish perist, work which when some 800 or 1,000 persons communicate is very heavy."

FIRES.

A fire occurred at Iwabuchi-machi in the Itabashi suburb of Tokyo on the 4th instant at 2 p.m., during the prevalence of a heavy wind. Some 300 houses were burned, and it is reported that there was some loss of life. The newspapers say that a foreigner who was seated in the train as it reached the place, distributed from the window of a second-class carriage all the money he had about him.

An outbreak of fire has occurred at Takahata-machi, Yamagata prefecture, burning down 21 houses and 5 godowns.

An outbreak of fire occurred on June 4th in the village of Ikegami where the famous Buddhist temple of Hommonji is situated, and burned down four houses.

Fire broke out on June 8th at Kitanijo-machi, Sapporo, destroying two houses.

Fire broke out on June 9th in the Inonomoto Hotel, Nishikicho, Kanda, Tokyo, destroying the building.

An umbrella dealer named T. Yamada (31), living at Sano, near Yokosuka, attempted on June 6th to murder his wife Yoshi (30) and her cousin Yen (46), by inflicting severe injuries with a sword, in the dwelling of the last named. The offender gave himself up at the police station. The victims were at once removed to the Miura Hospital where they are in a precarious condition. Jealousy is supposed to have been the cause.

KING'S DAUGHTERS CIRCLE.

The members of the K. D. C. take pleasure in laying before the public the result of their last year's work, and in expressing, at the same time, their thanks to the public for the generous and kind assistance which the K. D. C. have received during the year.

	Yen.
To the Japanese Ladies' Benevolent Association, proceeds from K. D. C.'s booth at Charity Bazaar	33.00
To Annual subscription to the L. B. A. for care of patient at General Hospital	100.00
To the Ladies' Hospital Fund	157.65
To the Aomori Relief Fund	100.00
To annual subscription to Ladies' Hospital Fund	100.00
To travelling expenses of an amah sent as companion to a child to Formosa	35.00
	525.65

AUGUSTA ABENHEIM,
Hon. Treas.

TRIAL OF MR. LE PREVOST AND OTHERS.

In the criminal section of the Yokohama District Court, on Monday, before Judge Danno and two associates, with whom were Public Procurators Nakamura and Midzutani, the public trial began of:—

Alfred Le Prevost (39), British subject, care of No. 60, Bluff, Yokohama.

Carl Bremer (37), German subject, No. 173, Bluff, Yokohama.

Sawada Tokutaro (32), No. 11, Sakae-cho, Ni-chome, Yokohama.

Nishida Kaho (33), No. 9, Hanabusa-cho, Yokohama.

Okazawa Yeichi (32), No. 34, Miyagawa-cho, San-chome, Yokohama.

Messrs. Akiyama, Hanai, Kishi, Yano, Shimoda, Ideura and Ohashi were present as counsel.

About a hundred volumes of books, including ledgers, cash books, copy books, letter files and others were brought into Court for production as evidence.

After the usual preparatory examination, Public Procurator Nakamura stated that the accused were charged with fraud and with having stolen goods entrusted to them. Le Prevost was engaged by Messrs. Cornes & Co. on June 1st, 1899, as manager of the firm's silk department, and his duties were to purchase silk goods for exportation. He was also entrusted with the control of all the financial part of this silk-business, being given full power. The charges now laid against him were that he designed, along with Carl Bremer, Tokutaro, Kaho and Yekichi, —these last three Japanese employees in the silk department of the firm—to defraud Messrs. Cornes and Co. In November, 1901, he took over the business of a firm named Fraser, Farley and Co., No. 258, Yokohama, along with its goodwill, under the name of Bremer (the actual transfer was made on January 9th, 1902.) At this time Bremer and Le Prevost opened a joint business at the newly purchased establishment, and both attended to business there, though the former was still in the service of the firm of Cornes & Co. Le Prevost arbitrarily discharged many of the Japanese employees of the silk department of Cornes & Co. and moved them to Fraser, Farley & Co. Only Tokujiro remained in the service of Cornes & Co. His duties were those of accountant and bookkeeper and he acted under the instructions of Le Prevost. From Nov. 28th, 1901, to July 25th 1902, Le Prevost and his accomplices obtained possession of silk goods, on forty-one different occasions, from the godowns of Cornes & Co., and used the goods in their private business, viz., for the business of Fraser, Farley, who exported them abroad. The latter firm intentionally made false entries in their books that these goods had been bought from the silk brokers Sawada and Yoshikawa, living at Kitanakadori. The proceeds of these illegal transactions they appropriated to their own uses. The procurator then went through the forty-one counts of which the accused were severally charged, and which were set out in the decision given in January, 1903, after the preliminary trial of accused.

Mr. Carl Bremer was first examined with regard to the details of the transactions, which were carried on all in the same way: the silk was taken from the godown of Cornes & Co. and removed to the office of Fraser, Farley & Co. who then exported them to their customers. Mr. Bremer stated that he was purchasing the silk from various places but he made an entry in his book that the seller was Yoshikawa or Sawada, because Mr. Le Prevost who was always assisting in his business had requested him to do so. Mr. Le Prevost, however, was not his partner. Some time during his absence from Yokohama he authorized Mr. Le Prevost to sign the documents of the 100th Bank and the Boyeki Bank in behalf of Fraser, Farley & Co., so that there were found some receipts for silk goods delivered through the banks which receipts Mr. Le Prevost had signed. The signature had of course, previously been lodged to the banks. He paid commission to the two brothers whose names were used on the pretext that goods were brought from them. The rate of commision was *sen* 2 per piece of silk. At the end of July last year, he paid to Cornes and Co. over *yen* 50,000 by several cheques. The reason why several cheques were drawn instead of one was a request by Mr. Le Prevost.

After the court rose at noon the trial was resumed at 2 p.m. when Mr. Le Prevost was examined.

The examination was with reference to the silk business of Cornes & Co. to which the accused had attended. The details were supplied by him principally to the customers Kahn and Kahn, and others abroad.

After a recess for twenty minutes the trial was adjourned *sine die*.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

The following notes are taken from the report of the Board of Managers of the Protestant Episcopal Church, held in New York on April 14th, 1903, printed in *The Spirit of Missions* for May:—

Letters were received from the bishops in China and Japan and some of their missionaries. It having been announced that Bishop Schereschewsky had forwarded a complete copy of his version of the Holy Bible in Wen-li for the Library of the Church Missions House, the Board adopted the following resolution:

"That, in view of the completion of the translation and the publication of the Holy Scriptures into the Wen-li tongue, the members of this Board desire to put on record their high appreciation of this, the crowning work of Bishop Schereschewsky's ministry, and to express their devout gratitude to Almighty God for vouchsafing His servant continuance of life and strength, even in the midst of much bodily weakness, to complete this monumental and most needful work. They acknowledge with thanks to the Bishop the receipt of a copy of this work for the Church Missions House Library.

The Board's attention having been called by a letter from the Bishop of Fond du Lac to a communication from the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, of Tokyo, which appeared in a recent periodical, concerning which the Bishop said that he had written to Bishop McKim, the Board adopted the following resolution:

"That it is the sense of this Board that the apparent disloyalty to this Church of the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, as manifested by a communication recently published above his signature, demands immediate investigation, and that the Bishop of Tokyo be, and he hereby is requested to deal with the matter without delay."

[Since the meeting of the Board a cable message has been received from Bishop McKim containing the information that Mr. Lloyd has resigned.]

A special report was submitted to the Board upon the subject of holding real estate in Japan (outside the Foreign Concessions) under the present statutes of the Empire. Whereupon it was resolved:

"That the Board approves the plan submitted by Bishop McKim after consultation with the United States Consul at Tokyo and with legal advice, for holding real estate in the Empire of Japan by a corporation of those who are for the time being missionaries of the Episcopal Church in the United States, residing in Japan."

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VARIOUS VIEWS OF RUSSIA'S GROWTH.

HERE is an extract from an article by CHARLES JOHNSTON in the *North American Review* for May :—

Count Cassini has pointed out that the Chinese invasion of Russian territory in 1900 gave Russia a claim, perfectly good in international law, to the annexation of Manchuria. Russia waived this right, and contented herself with the conceded areas, already hers, under the Manchurian agreement. Since the Boxer uprising, a number of English and American writers or official personages have visited Manchuria; all these unite in bearing testimony to the rapid amelioration of conditions under Russian influence, to the growing wealth of natives and colonists alike. All equally bear witness to the broadly humane and sympathetic relations which have sprung up between the Russians and their Chinese neighbours, in complete contrast to the condition of things, morally and socially, which is to be found in Hongkong, for instance, or in Wei-hai-wei.

One is irresistibly led to contrast our present understanding of the genius and purposes of Russia with the prejudiced and hostile view which prevailed through most of the nineteenth century. The present emperor, following in the path marked out for his father, a man of great moral power, and profoundly Russian, has done much to make the genius of his people intelligible to the western world. It is recognised on all hands that, in bringing about The Hague convention, the emperor of Russia acted with high sincerity, and also with great practical wisdom. The same humanity, the same moderation and conservatism, mark Russia's present attitude in the near and the far east alike; and the world in general is gradually coming to recognize in Russia one of the greatest of world powers, yet one whose growth can be regarded with equanimity and reassurance.

Here again is an extract from an article entitled "Shall Russia dominate the World?" by A. MAURICE LAW in the *Independent* :—

China to-day is a sleeping giant waiting only for the magician's wand to make it cast off the shackles of centuries and spring into new life. It may become a great mart open to all the world if the United States and Great Britain so will it, or it may become merely an appanage of Russia if the United States and Great Britain are indifferent to their responsibilities and careless of their material interests. It is to the advantage of all the world that China be not permitted to be Russianized. This is said without the least prejudice, national or otherwise, so far as Russia is concerned, but for reasons which it is hoped the reader will admit are sound.

Because in the Russian there is an admixture of Tartar and Slav blood, the Russians and the Chinese, despite their difference in colour, are kin, and the Russian, like the Chinaman, is an Oriental. There are not as yet sufficient data on which to base a theory or to be able scientifically to assert that the yellow skinned Asiatics can be assimilated by the Russian, but there are many scientific observers who believe that if Russia is given unrestricted sway and permitted to become the hegemon of Asia, in the course of time the Asiatic will be absorbed into the Russian and a new mixed race will be the resulting product.

Does the reader appreciate what that means, its menace to the world and the danger which would confront the United States? To the East a hostile Europe; to the West a hostile European Power, a Power so absolutely the master of the West that no other Power could exist there except by sufferance. When that time shall have come Russia will be a colossus compared to whom all other nations will be pigmies. Her population will be so great, her resources so vast, her productive capacity so enormous, that industrially and militarily she can defy the world or any combination that might be made against her. Between the white skinned Caucasian and the yellow skinned Mongolian there will always be an impassable barrier that nothing can level; there will be intercourse but no close communion; there will be nothing in common either in thought or language or attitude toward life. The Asiatic is an Oriental, the Anglo-Saxon is an Occidental, and when that is said all is said. They are as wide apart as the points of the compass which mark their habitat. Between the East and the West is a gulf so wide and so deep that no bridge can span it.

But Russia! Already the abutment of the bridge rests on Russian soil, with its other end on Chinese territory, and Russians and Chinese find the transit easy. The Russian is at heart an Oriental veneered by Western civilization, with a natural leaning toward his origin. It is easier, far easier, for the Russian to revert to his original type and become an Oriental than it is for him to be in sympathy with Western nations. Russia cannot colonize in Europe, and if she should attempt it her efforts would be as dismal a failure as those of Germany have been in China, or of France in India, but as the Colonizer of Asia she has achieved marked success, although the civilization of the Tartar is not the civilization of the Saxon, and what the one regards as progression the other frequently holds to be retrogression. Given a free hand, permitted to work her will unhampered by consequences, determined only to accomplish one result—that result being to make Asia a part of the Russian Empire and the Pacific Ocean a Russian lake—it may be safely predicted that the end of the twentieth century would see that result accomplished. It was Napoleon at St. Helena who said :

"Russia is the Power that marches the most surely and with the greatest strides toward universal dominion, . . . for now there is no France and therefore no equilibrium."

It is to prevent this universal dominion and to preserve the equilibrium that Russia should be prevented from carrying out her ambitious designs. She can be prevented to-day far easier than she can be perhaps ten years hence; and ten years later it might be impossible.

Here again, is an extract from *The Times* which recently devoted a series of special articles to the subject of Russia in Manchuria :—

"It is a military strategical railway, guarded as no other railway in the world is guarded, with blockhouses every three or four miles, with garrisons at every important point. Every vulnerable point is guarded, every bridge is doubly guarded. There is no limit to the number of troops that can be stationed along the line. Russia has been given a free hand in this matter. Russia, and Russia alone, is to determine what force will be adequate. Railway guards are no longer called 'railway guards.' They are 'frontier guards,' and their admitted number is 30,000. They are paid by the Minister of Finance, are enlisted for three years, and are paid more highly than the regular troops, from whom they have been recruited. But the whole army of occupation can be concentrated along the railway—cavalry, infantry, and artillery; and there is none to say them nay. They are there to protect the railway. A regular soldier becomes a frontier guard by the changing of the colour of his shoulder-straps and collar patches into green. It is a lightning transformation."

* * * * *

"Permanent barracks are being built in the most important situations to accomodate thousands of soldiers. Cities, with electric light and water-supply, with parks and reading-rooms, have been built in the wilderness within the last five years by the hands of Chinese coolies for their Russian masters. Thousands of Russian civil immigrants have been introduced and have brought their wives and children and made their homes in this integral portion of the Chinese Emperor's dominions. In is impossible to withhold a measure of admiration from the energy and the skill with which the work has been prosecuted. In less than five years the empire which was so solicitous lest the victories of Japan should loosen the grasp of China upon this region and thereby upset the balance of power in the Far East, has 'transformed Manchuria from a Chinese possession into a virtually Russian province,' and has so transformed it while uttering the most fervent protestations of friendship to the dynasty whose territories she is appropriating to her own use. The railway in her hands had been at once the pretext and the instrument of aggression, as it is the bulwark which makes her position secure. It was in order to build the railway—which she has often assured us will prove of immeasurable benefit to the commerce of the world—that she obtained the right from China of sending 'railway guards' into Chinese territory."

Finally here is an extract from the *Temps*, as translated for the *Literary Digest* :—

"Instead of threatening the native Power she wishes to reduce, Russia overwhelms it with offers of her services and loads it with favors. She makes herself useful. Instead of taking her stand upon treaties, and insisting upon their observance in a fury of real or feigned rage, she works with and for the native Government—that is, for herself. She announces quite openly that she will maintain its integrity of its territory. All this time she is building roads, organizing regiments, establishing banks, offering loans, granting concessions, building harbours, while taking care not to seize a city by force, to openly wrest a slice of territory or to diminish or irritate its feeble power. Russia knows that all these things will come to her some day. She has an especial horror of descents in force that are followed by no effect, of imperious flourishes based on doubt. Knowing that she can not advantageously employ cannon, she refrains from placing herself in a position that might oblige her to resort to it. She has the triple advantage of remaining at peace, of seeming generous, and of deriving more benefit than a war of both words and swords would bring her."

All these articles may be said to concur in their estimates of Russian methods. They represent her as laying the foundations of her great enterprises in small beginnings, and thenceforth building steadily, and slowly if need be, but never resorting to force if her end can be attained by peaceful methods. No attentive reader of her history can arrive at any other conclusion. That is what renders it so necessary to watch carefully for the earliest signs of foundation-laying: necessary, that is to say, in the interests of those whom her advance threatens with danger, if not with destruction. Japan is among them. Could it be conceived that Manchuria, and, let us add, Mongolia and Thibet, were to be the final and concluding additions to Russia's East Asiatic empire, Japan might also be a unconcerned observer. But the world agrees that what Russia needs most is good maritime outlets. The littoral of Manchuria furnishes no such outlets. The Amur region does not furnish them. Dalny is little better than Vladivostock as an all-year harbour. But the southern coasts of Korea abound in excellent ports open at every season. That Russia, holding the Amur region and the Liaotung Peninsula, should not be irresistably tempted to absorb Korea, is out of the question. She will be so tempted and she will yield to the temptation. Any nation would yield to it in her place. The question is, how will she set to work? The railway device is not available in this instance. Russia deserves the credit, if not of having invented that device, at least of having exhibited its potentialities. In her hands it has become a weapon of conquest as effective as the protection of tradal pioneers has been in England's. British subjects carry their commercial enterprise into distant lands and the flag follows them. The Russian Government carries its railways into distant lands and carries the flag with them. A few years ago Korea would have been just as convenient a field for that kind of exploitation as Manchuria is now proving. But Japan may be said to have already conquered the south of the Korean peninsula by railway building, and any Russian attempt to dispute that conquest by means of a road from Wiju to Seoul would involve a struggle such as it is entirely foreign to Russia's policy to invite. It may be observed, incidentally, that regarded by that light, the prospect that the whole of the Chinese empire will become a Russian appanage, loses much of its probability, for several other Powers have anticipated the Northern Colossus in organizing within the Eighteen Provinces machinery of peaceful conquest. Whatever may be the future of China, however, the situation in Korea is plain enough so far as priority and importance of railway occupation is concerned, and it seems neces-

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sary to look in another direction for the beginnings of Russia's advance. Apparently it is to the forests on the Yalu and the Tiumen that our eyes should be directed.

THE VALLEY OF THE TIGRIS.

IN connexion with the Bagdad Railway which is now attracting so much attention, Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS, Managing Director of the Daira Sanieh Company, and formerly Director-General of Reservoirs in Egypt, has published a most interesting brochure entitled, "The Restoration of the Ancient Irrigation Works on the Tigris, or the Recreation of Chaldea." The very name has a charmed sound. It echoes with memories of the marvellous Biblical histories that occupied our young attention, and it recalls the Arabian Nights and other delightful legends. The greater part of the Valley of the Tigris, and especially the district about Bagdad, is now almost a desert. Yet it was once the richest and most productive region of the East. Here the Kaliphs had their capital; here HAROUN AL RASHID held his court; here NEBUCHADNEZZAR erected his golden image; here stood Opis, the richest mart of the Orient; here was the famed Babylon itself, and hence XENOPHON began the retreat that gave us the Anabasis. But all this prosperity depended on irrigation works; on a system of giant canals. These had their heads in proximity to Opis, and they irrigated the Delta of the Tigris, spreading its snow-fed waters over nearly 3 millions of acres where the annual rainfall is altogether inadequate for purposes of cultivation. The area in Lower Egypt which owes its fertility to artificial works of irrigation is three million acres, a figure which indicates the importance of a similar enterprise in Chaldea. In ancient times there were two great systems of canals, Sir WILLIAM WILCOCKS tells us, which started from points above the final rapids of the Tigris, massive rubble weirs being placed across the river down stream of the canal heads, so as to secure a good volume of water. These weirs were partially removed by ALEXANDER THE GREAT, when he wanted the full volume of the stream to carry his invading army to Bagdad and Babylon. He restored them subsequently. Prominent among the canals was the Nahrwân. "No Egyptian canal can compare with it in magnitude, nor indeed can any Indian canal." Throughout the first 15 kilometres of its course it had a trough 15 metres deep and 20 metres wide, "cut straight down through the hard conglomerate," and at the 20th kilometre it widened to 100 metres and subsequently to 120. A book written in 970 A.D. describes this canal as "flowing amid continuous extensive villages, date-groves and well-cultivated lands." Of such surroundings there are only traces to-day. The Nahrwân, though the principal, was only one of several canals forming the two systems. It belonged to the western system, and its rival in the eastern system was the Dijail, 100 kilometres long and 50 wide. There came a time, however, when, owing to some natural convulsion of which there is no record, the main stream of the Tigris deserted its ancient bed, followed that of the main canal and finally cut out a new channel for itself. The whole system was thus destroyed. "The summit of Opis," says Captain FELIX JONES, from whose exhaustive researches Sir W. WILLCOCKS derives most of his information, "as we gaze around, affords a picture of wreck that could scarcely be conceived if it were not spread at the feet of the beholder. Close to us are the dismembered walls of the great city and many other mounds of adjacent edifices, spread like islands over the vast plain, which is as bare of vegetation as a snow tract, and smooth and glass-like as a calm sea. This appearance of the country denotes that some sudden and overwhelming mass of water must have prostrated everything in its way, while the Tigris, as it anciently flowed, is seen to have left its channel, and to have taken its present course through the most flourishing portion of the district, severing in its mad career the neck of the great Nahrwân artery, and spreading devastation over the whole district around. Towns, villages and canals, men, animals and cultivation, must thus have been engulphed in a moment, but the immediate loss was doubtless small compared with the misery and gloom that followed. The whole region for a space of 400 kilometres averaging about thirty in breadth, was dependent on the conduit for water, and contained a population so dense, if we may judge from the ruins and great works traversing it in its whole extent, that no spot in the globe could perhaps excel it. Of those who were spared to witness the sad effects of the disaster, thousands, perhaps millions, had to fly to the banks of the Tigris for the immediate preservation of life, as the region at once became a desert, where before were animation and prosperity." What Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS plans is to recall this animation and prosperity. He proposes to restore the old system of irrigation, so that the rails of the Bagdad Railway shall be "laid on the banks of a renewed and remodelled Nahrwân Canal," and he asks whether the thing shall be done with British capital operating from the direction of the Persian Gulf, or with German capital coming from the West. "The construction of these great canals," he writes, "will create along the line of railway a country as rich as Egypt, whose rents will pay for both railway and canals, and leave a surplus which only those can realise who have been in intimate touch with Egyptian agriculture. Labourers from India and possibly from Egypt will dig the canals, construct the weirs and regulators, and then settle down in millions to reclaim and cultivate these lands potent with future wealth, just as though they were in another Punjâb or another Egypt." * * * "With cements and mortars of which the ancients knew nothing, with the powers of steam and electricity at our disposal, with blasting powders and dynamite, and above all with labour-saving machinery and dredgers, we shall be able in our day to accomplish in a score of years as much as a whole dynasty of ancient kings could not have accomplished with hundreds of thousands of prisoners and corvée." Of course there are many preliminary investigations to be made before accurate estimates can be compiled, but Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS, working by the aid of a life-time's devotion to irrigation works, calculates that the total cost of the enterprise would be eight millions sterling, and as the area reclaimed would be 1,280,000 acres, that means an outlay of £7 per acre. On the other hand, £30 an acre is a low assessment of value, and assuming that a rental of £3 per acre is obtained, one-half of which is spent on the maintenance of the canals, there results a net income of two millions against a capital expenditure of eight millions, or a return of 25 per cent. In Egypt the low-lying lands of the Nile Delta had been neglected and abandoned for a thousand years before the British occupation brought capital and enterprise to their reclamation. Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS hopes that the same factors will operate in the valley of the Tigris, and that the railway will be built simultaneously from the Persian Gulf and from the Mediterranean, the two sections meeting on the Euphrates or the Tigris. Once the enterprise had made its first success it would doubtless be extended to the Euphrates Valley also, and thus ultimately some five millions acres would be reclaimed, an area nearly as large as that of Egypt.

Of course we have here traced only the merest outlines of Sir WILLIAM WILLCOCKS' attractive essay. It was read before a meeting of the Khedival Geographical Society in Cairo on the 25th of last March, and we fully expect to hear that it has attracted much attention in Europe.

THE "SEIYU-KAI."

SECESSIONS continue from the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. They are not members of the Diet, and they consequently signify no reduction of voting strength in the Lower House, but they are men of more or less note, whose disaffection undoubtedly involves weakening. There prevails an impression that further defections are tolerably certain to take place, but the truth is that this question has now become a subject of political misrepresentation. One set of newspapers say one thing; another tell a different story. Probably it is inevitable that the seceders should be followed by men with whom their personal relations were very intimate, but so far as the parliamentary stability of the Party is concerned, good judges seem to think that at the worst it will retain a hundred and fifty votes in the Lower House. That will not be a working majority in a Chamber of 376. But it will

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be a much greater force than any other political association can muster. If the Progressists manage to draw over to their side a section of the *Seiyu-kai's* seceders, they many find themselves able to dispose of 120 or 130 votes. But no one can reasonably imagine that the old Liberals will drift into the Progressist camp. It is there that the situation presents the greatest perplexity. What can the Tosa men possibly hope to accomplish by going out into the wilderness? Their history of 17 years, their associations, their prestige as the founders and leaders of the celebrated *Jiyu-to*, all combine to disqualify them totally for absorption into the body of any association where they would not hold the place of leaders. What then will be their role? If they attempt to stand alone, it is conceivable that they will gather to their side a following of some magnitude, but with even 40 or 50 followers—and that is a large estimate—their sole parliamentary function would be to hold the balance of power between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Progressists. The balance of power is a valuable possession when those that hold it are prepared to sway in either direction according to the dictates of ambition, but in the hands of the Tosa seceders it would be merely a means of postponing party government by demonstrating the impotence of parties to govern. In a word, Japanese politics have never looked more hopeless than they do at present. Marquis Ito can not be acquitted of the mistake of over-straining the allegiance of his followers, and we presume that he will hereafter contrive to take them more fully into his confidence. But when all is said and done the force of attraction remains with him. This little Tosa ring, thrown off from the parent orb, is a wholly impotent satellite, and when the initial velocity of its elements' indignation subsides, we look to see the ring drawn back to its old position of allegiance. That will be the only alternative of permanent insignificance.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

(Translated from the "Berliner Boersen Courier" for the "Japan Mail.")

As pioneers of civilisation, German engineers and German capital went to Anatolia. Cautiously one stone was placed upon the other. German intelligence built a railway from the Bosphorus into the centre of Asia Minor, and within the past years, has secured a concession from the Turkish government for the building of the Bagdad railway, thus rejuvenating the old delapidated highway, to extend the same to the Persian Gulf, and thereby unite Europe with India and the whole of Eastern Asia in the quickest and surest way.

This grand idea is of value to the whole civilized world, but its realization can only be accomplished after the most careful consideration and cautious calculation. The late Dr. George von Siemens regarded the promotion of this great enterprise as the task of his life, and it certainly could not be said of him, that he was ever inclined to pursue phantastic projects by phantastic means. Moreover, Siemens always protested against the notion that the Bagdad railway should be an all-German road, or that it should in any way be associated with the new German colonial plans, and he repeatedly emphasized, what those interested in the enterprise clearly perceived, that great financial interests must be enlisted. It was owing to his business-like conceptions and his practical method of representation, that the Sultan and the Porte became convinced that this German railway enterprise in no wise contemplated the inauguration of a national migration, in the sense of settling German farmers between the Euphrates and the Tigris under the protection of the German Eagle. Politically the attitude of Germany toward the Sultan has for years been one of unselfish friendship, and she always gave the Porte trustworthy advice. With regard to this railway enterprise she proceeded in the same manner, in order that this undertaking might be duly appreciated at Stambul, and the consequence was that little if any doubt was entertained on the part of Turkey.

But the Bagdad railway has other enemies. Even in Germany it was for a long time the favourite device of the agrarian papers to fling the spectre of the Mesopotamian wheat harvest on the wall, and to announce that a railway between Berlin and Bagdad would ruin German agricultural interests. That one of the greatest German landlords, the Emperor, evinced the liveliest interest in the Bagdad railway, in no wise disturbed these chiromancers. Not until this project had enlisted the attention of our neighbours did their nebulous fears pass away.

In Russia our plans were at first regarded with jealousy. But St. Petersburg was willing to be corrected, and now duly appreciates the enterprise; has in turn received railway concessions in the northern domains of Asiatic Turkey, and will endeavour to make the necessary connection with the Persian Gulf by the more convenient and more advantagious rate, via Teheran. The second member of this "Dreibund" is France, which fully appreciated the commercial importance of the Bagdad road. In perfect accord with the political factor, an understanding was reached between the German and French financial institutes, according to which French finances and French intelligence was enlisted, in the management of the road and in addition to this, the French railway in Syria will be connected with the Anatolian line.

The same advantages, and the same chances as were offered to French capitalists were, and still are, open to English financiers whenever they decide to participate. At first England's attitude toward this enterprise was hostile, then grudging and reserved. Whenever a new way to India is under consideration, there is always great sensitivenes in London. One would suppose that any shortening of the route would be considered most desirable to Britoins. In this respect they have not evinced the far—sightedness of a merchant, but rather the narrow-mindedness of a small shop-keeper. The Suez Canal gives striking proof of this. From the very start everything possible was done in London to hinder this great enterprise, but later it was discovered that this waterway was of the greatest possible advantage to British commerce and power. * * * Now again a door is to be opened which needs must be of great advantage to England. We will see whether London will take a course that entitles her to legitimate participation in the management of the Bagdad railway. Primier Balfour, the Premier, speaking on the subject in the House of Commons stated the case in a very sensible way. One cannot, however, ignore the fact that opinions were expressed in the Commons which had in view a demand that England should have a monopoly. Mr. Balfour carefully refrained from stating whether such a demand would be admitted or not. True, he pointed out, that ultimately the enterprise would be carried out whether England gave her consent or not, or whether she took part in the enterprise or otherwise, and therefore gave it as his opinion, that it would be wise and proper for English capital to participate; provided, of course, that the interests of Great Britain were duly safeguarded, in which case the British Government would assume a friendly attitude. These interests involve the question of extending the railway to the sea. In London the fear obtains that the terminal may be fixed somewhere on Persian territory, while it wishes that Koweit in Arabia should become the seaport of the new road. It cannot, however, be the desire of any of the interested parties to have this great railway end on Persian territory.

Moreover, the Turks would most decidedly object to this. Koweit is the natural place where this railway should end and shipping begin. The fear that in case the road should terminate in Persia it might induce Russia to settle down within dangerously close proximity cannot be ignored. If, however, England, like all the interested parties, recognizes that Koweit is the best adapted seaport for this road, she ought also to take other considerations into account. Koweit sustains a very loose relation to the Turkish empire, and an undefined relation to England. The ruling Sheik is regarded as a British puppet, and in the House of Commons the expression was scarcely screened, namely, that this territory is under British sovereignty. It may become necessary that Turkish sovereignty be re-established or, in case the city is to be of future importance, that this port be declared neutral territory. In this case England would have nothing to fear, inasmuch as her fleet is sufficiently strong to assure her influence and to give her the control in every emergency. The stoutest Imperialists will have to admit this.

CRICKET.

Y.C. and A.C. versus H.M.S. "Fleet."

The cricketing members of the Y.C. and A.C. were favoured once again with beautiful weather when they brought off their second match this season against the Navy, and once again fortune smiled upon them. Going in first they knocked up 200 runs, against which the Navy could only make 84. The features of Saturday's play were the 113, not out, by E. W. Kilby, and the splendid bowling of J. M. Mollison, who secured 8 wickets for 37 runs, six of which were cleanbowled. His future career promises well. Kilby's score was made rather slowly. He was third man in and carried out his bat: seven 4's, thirteen 3's, and eight 2's are included in his total. The only other man on his side to show up with the bat was E. B. S. Edwards, who made 24 in something like his old free style. The Navy saw but three men get into double figures, Onslow, 23; Harbottle, not out, 21; and Carne, 15. Both teams played 12 men aside. Score:—

Y.C. and A.C.

H. W. Kilby, run out	0
G. N. Fairhurst, c. Moore, b. Scott	7
E. W. Kilby, not out	113
J. M. Mollison, b. McKinley	11
P. A. Cox, c. Onslow, b. McKinley	17
P. B. Clarke, c. Scott, b. McKinley	9
C. M. Duff, b. Onslow	0
E. E. White, run out	6
F. B. S Edwards, b. Onslow	1
A. Kingdon, c. Onslow, b. Scott	24
W. Y. Showler, b. Scott	3
C. E. Libeaud, b. McKinley	0
b. 8, l.b. 2	10
	200

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
McKinley	147	64	4	4
Onslow	126	51	4	2
Scott	42	26	1	3
Hargreaves	66	47	0	0

H.B.M.'s Navy.

A. W. McKinley, b. Cox	3
Hargreaves, b. Mollison	0
J. B. Maxwell-Scott, b. Mollison	1
A. J. Onslow, c. Cox, b. Mollison	23
Rev. Moore, b. Cox	0
A. V. Eldridge, c. Edward, b. Mollison	6
G. C. B. Harbottle, not out	21
W. F. French, c. H. W. Kilby, b. Mollison	3
R. T. Baker, b. Mollison	1
Carne, b. Mollison	15
McLeod, c. Mollison, b. Libeaud	2
Boyle, b. Mollison	1
b. 8	8
	84

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mollison	67	37	2	8
Cox	42	22	1	2
Kilby, H. W.	18	9	0	0
Libeaud	6	8	0	1

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YACHTING IN YOKOHAMA.

Two races were sailed on Saturday afternoon under the auspices of the Yokohama Yacht Club —one a cruise of the big and middle class boats to Uraga, and the other an event for the "Larks," which took advantage of the mildness of both wind and sea to sail a course that led them to adventure as far as the Lightship. The breeze was moderate, about southerly, and uncertain at times.

Four cruisers started for the Uraga Race—none of the 39 raters thinking it worth while—and though *Spray* seemed to have the best of the start *Nina* was first out of the harbour, *Spray* next, with *Asagao* hanging boldly on her weather. *Nina* tacked and came in towards the breakwater, and making another board stood fair for the Lightship, and, both wind and tide favouring her greatly, she passed the mark quite three minutes ahead of *Spray*, which had made a long board out into the bay followed by *Asagao*. When last seen they were standing down the bay on starboard tack, *Nina* to windward, then *Spray*, then *Wanderer*, with *Asagao* in the distance.

They arrived at Uraga in the following order, *Spray*, *Wanderer*, *Nina*, *Asagao*, but *Spray* was disqualified for fouling *Nina*. The times of the others were as follows :—

	Finish.	Corrected.
	h.m.s.	h.m.s.
Wanderer	6.28.07	6.08,07
Nina	6.23.26	6.23.26
Asagao	6.16.40	6.16.40

Wanderer was thus first and *Asagao* second.

The "Larks" had an ideal day for their sport. Nine of them got under way and went off like a flock of birds before the wind. No. 4 (W. B. Mason) was first to come on the wind outside the breakwater, next being 10 (A. M. Watt), 14 (J. Eyton) and 5 (J. J. M. Carst). But there were changes too many to give an account of; which resulted in 10 coming back into the harbour first, chased by 11, the latter being displaced by 4 during the beat up the harbour. The finish was as follows :—

	h.m.s.
10	3.50.50
4	3.53.25
5	3.53.50

A LOCAL RECORD.

We should imagine that the trip which Mr. H. A. Poole has accomplished in his 12-rater *Madelaine* may be taken as a record. Leaving Kamakura, where he has had the boat for some time, on Sunday a fortnight ago, he sailed her along the coast through the Jogashima passage and up channel, being compelled by approaching darkness to put into Yokosuka. The trip occupied ten hours and he had favourable winds most of the way, the only tacking necessary being in the Jogashima strait and off Cape Sagami. Mr. W. W. Campbell, we think, sailed the *Nandeska* to Kamakura and back, but *Nandeska* was a 21 rater—much larger than the *Madelaine*. Mr. Poole went down to Yokosuka on Sunday last and brought the latter up to Yokohama.

THE INTERPORT REGATTA.

Yokohama won three of the interport events on Saturday at Kobe. They were as follows :—

INTERPORT FOURS.

Yokohama.	lbs.	Kobe.	lbs.	
H. Irwine	156	J. E. Paton	135	1
A. L. Manley	165	D. Weed	143	
B. J. Jackson	182	R. Kalckbrenner	162	
H. E. Hayward (str.)	140	C. Mancini (str.)	160	2
C. H. Abbey (cox.)	112	A. J. Chalfant (cox.)	114	

This was a very level race but about half-way up the course the crew of a fishing sampan—deliberately it is reported—placed their craft athwart the race, with the result that Kobe was in danger of fouling Yokohama or running into the native craft. An attempt was made to steer clear of the latter but it failed, the rudder of the "Four" being struck off. Another account states that Yokohama was at the time of the accident a length ahead. At first we believe the race was declared off, but subsequently it was decided in favour of Yokohama, which had rowed in and finished.

INTERPORT PAIRS.

Yokohama.	lbs.	Kobe.	lbs.	
H. E. Hayward	140	J. E. Patton	135	1
A. L. Manley (str.)	165	C. Mancini (str.)	160	
C. H. Abbey (cox.)	112	A. J. Chalfant (cox.)	114	2

The water was pretty rough but the boats made a fine match of it, Yokohama drawing away and winning by a length and three-quarters

INTERPORT DOUBLE SCULLS.—(One Mile).

YOKOHAMA.	lbs.
H. E. Hayward	140
H. Irwine (str.)	156
KOBE.	lbs.
P. Sillius	131
H. Fischer (str.)	140

The Interport Double Sculls proved another good thing for Yokohama although Silius and Fischer made a very plucky try to get one event for Kobe. The Yokohama crew never really exerted themselves and won as they pleased in 11 min. 50 2/5 secs.

A new and interesting feature of this year's Regatta was Interport sailing race under these condition :—

The Mosquito Yacht Club and the K.C. & D.C. have each put up 50 *yen* and purchased a Challenge Cup, the conditions of which are as follows :—

The Cup is to be a perpetual challenge cup to be raced for in the Spring and Autumn, Spring at this Port and Autumn at Yokohama.

The matches are to consist of best two out of three races at each port.

A crew of two men are to come from Yokohama and sail in one of our two most evenly matched boats, the Kobe crew sailing the other, the boats being drawn for prior to the race.

The same conditions will prevail at Yokohama when Kobe men go up there.

The *Kobe Herald* said on Saturday :—The Interport Sailing Race proved a great success for the wind was just fresh enough to allow the boats to get along at a good pace while it was not blowing stiff enough to necessitate reefed canvas. The course was a triangular one which had to be sailed over twice, the total distance being about five miles. A start was made at 3.28 with Fawkner and Summerhays on board the *Babe*, and Hall and Gunn on the *May* representing Yokohama. The Kobe boat arrived home at 4.32¼ and the Yokohama boat at 4.36.20.

We learn from the Kobe papers that the three races for the interport yachting challenge cup resulted in favour of Kobe, Yokohama winning only one race, the second.

There is likely to be some annoyance in store for Kobe rowing men if the attitude of the local fishermen is correctly described. Referring to the unfortunate affair that disabled the Kobe "Four" on Saturday, the *Kobe Herald* says: "It seems there had been trouble with the fishermen who had refused to stop casting their nets unless they were paid a certain sum. No agreement was come to, and it was an understood thing that the fishermen would endeavour to hinder the race from being rowed out fairly." In explanation of this it should be said that the course over which races are rowed at Mirume is partly on fishing grounds, and it has been the custom hitherto to make a payment to the fishing crews to leave the course open on regatta days. Probably they have increased their demand; hence the failure to come to an agreement. It is sincerely to be hoped that some kind of arrangement may be arrived at so that training and racing can be carried on without risk of molestation.

The crews of the interport boats and the Kobe Committee dined together on Saturday evening at the Oriental Hotel, after which an adjournment was made to the Gymnasium, where a good "smoker" programme had been arranged by Mr. E. T. Bethell. The audience, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, was not so large as usual, and if it was appreciative it certainly was not so demonstrative as those at Interport Smoking Concerts usually are. A new departure, and one which was much appreciated by artistes and audience alike, was the formation of an orchestra, under the direction of Mr. P. H. McKay.

During the evening Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, President of the K. R. & A. C., who presided, handed over the flag to Mr. Hall of the Yokohama Club, expressing at the same time the pleasure that it gave them to entertain their visitors.

Mr. Hall, in response, said that nobody regretted more than himself the unfortunate accident which spoilt what would undoubtedly have been a very close race. Indeed, had not the accident occurred, he would not say but that the result would have been different. Musical honours were accorded both clubs by their respective members.

At the instance of the Chairman, a vote of thanks was also accorded to the officials, to which Mr. Hansell responded, expressing the opinion that it would be a good thing if some of the old oars would coach the younger ones, and also hoping that the men would go in for stricter training and fewer cigarettes. Thanks were also accorded the orchestra and all who had assisted in the evening's entertainment.

"THE CHIEFTAIN."

The third and last performance of "The Chieftain" took place on Saturday evening, and was far and away the best of the season. As *Mr. Peter Adolphus Grigg* observed, after his unconventional entrance down the rocks, the critics had previously complained that "The Chieftain" suffered from a lack of "go," a want of action, rather, and so that "go" had to be supplied. Well, it was supplied in good earnest on Saturday night and the large audience assembled showed its appreciation of the players' spirited work by taking up nearly every other joke, applauding all the choruses —which went with a swing all through—and demanding second editions of many of the songs, duets and trios. The *danse du ballet* had of course to be repeated. Its effect was enhanced on this occasion by the introduction of castanets. Mr. Brady, as in duty bound, introduced a good many local topics into his "patter." He alluded to the afternoon's cricket match and the beating which twelve men of Yokohama had given a certain Goliath! Again he made mention of several noted race horses; and scoffed at the rumour, though he could not absolutely deny it, that "The Chieftain" was last seen following "A Gaiety Girl," who had gone off with an "Athenian"; while his now famous macaronigram read in its latest version :—

London wires
Do you confirm interport boatrace won by sampan? would suggest hiring Japanese fleet to keep the course in future
Lillie Putcheon.

All of which greatly tickled the house. The curtain finally descended about half-past eleven, only to rise again to allow of innumerable baskets and bouquets of flowers to be passed over the footlights to the ladies. Then the fine string band of H.M.S. *Albion* struck up a lively two-step, to the music of which the whole company started off to dance, bringing to a happy close one of the most successful operas ever staged by amateurs in Yokohama.

The ladies of the "Chieftain" chorus did a graceful act on Wednesday when they made a floral presentation to Mrs. C. F. McWilliams by way of recognising her invaluable services in the recent production. The event took place on board the Toyo Kisen Kaisha steamer *Hongkong Maru*, in which Mrs. McWilliams left later on a visit to the United States. The gift was a magnificent basket of flowers having a white satin ribbon with a suitable inscription and it was gracefully presented by Mrs. W. Kirkland Wilson and as gracefully acknowledged by the recipient. A goodly number of Yokohama residents were present to see Mrs. McWilliams off.

A telegram of June 10th from Shanghai stated that cotton yarn was quoted at 91 taels. No demand appeared in the market and quotations had a downward tendency.

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DEATH OF MR. C. D. MOSS.

It is with much regret that we announce the death of Mr. Charles Davis Moss, which took place about nine o'clock on Saturday morning at his residence No. 103, Bluff. Mr. Moss had not been in good health for many months, suffering from sprue, and it was in the hope of obtaining benefit that on the advice of his doctor he took a trip to Australia, starting from Yokohama in February last. The outward voyage seemed to do him good, yet he returned to Yokohama no better, but on the contrary worse for the venture. Since then days of improvement have been noted, but the general tendency has been towards increasing weakness. During the past week or so it was apparent that the end could not be far off. It came, as we have said, on Saturday morning, the patient sinking quietly to rest.

Born at Frampton Mansell, Gloucestershire, sixty years ago, Mr. C. D. Moss was educated at Bristol and began life in the Estate Office of Lord Dudley at Stourport, Worcestershire, proceeding after some years to Australia and thence to New Zealand. He was engaged for some time in the coasting trade on the N.Z. S.S. Co.'s steamship *Wellington*, and on resigning his position was presented by the other members of the staff with a handsome gold watch and chain, which he prized very highly. In 1872, Mr. Moss came to Japan, where his brother, Mr. E. J. Moss had been resident for some years, and, intending when he arrived to make only a short stay in the country, was induced to settle in Yokohama and make his home here. The deceased was first engaged in newspaper work, having acquired a half-interest in the *Japan Gazette*, of which he acted both as manager and sub-editor for some years. Later he sold his share and was appointed clerk of works in connection with the British Navy, and under Major Bridgford, R.M.A., superintended (among other undertakings) the building of the sea wall at the Royal Naval Yard and the erection of the Royal Naval Hospital. He was subsequently appointed to Her Majesty's Court for Japan and there in the joint capacities of Chief Clerk and Registrar he continued to transact public business till the coming into force of the new treaties abolished the Court and its staff. Mr. Moss retired on a pension, which, unhappily, he has not been permitted long to enjoy. After leaving the public service he established himself in business as a general estate agent.

Mr. Moss was a Freemason of high standing. He joined the craft in England and affiliated with the O'Tentosama Lodge on Feb. 3rd, 1875; filling various offices, being Secretary for several years and W.M. in 1883 and again in 1895. He was among the first Treasurers of the District Grand Lodge of Japan, and after serving as District Grand Warden was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the District Board of General Purposes, which office he held for some years.

The deceased gentleman was one of the best known of Yokohama residents and was greatly esteemed and respected by all with whom he came in contact. He leaves a widow and eight children, nearly all grown-up, to whom the sincerest sympathy of the community will be extended.

The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon in dull, rainy weather, and was very largely attended by residents wishing to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of a worthy man. The coffin, enshrouded in the Union Jack and covered with lovely flowers, was borne from the house, into the church, and finally to the grave by Messrs. H. C. Litchfield, B. Gillett, Jas. Walter, Captain Martin, Messrs. A. R. Riddle, John W. Hall, E. Hobart Hampden, H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, and Dr. Wheeler. The Chief Mourners were the eldest son, Mr. W. S. Moss, the brother, Mr. E. J. Moss; the sons, Messrs. E. H. and P. Moss; Mr. P. Vautier, son-in-law; and the nephews, Mr. J. E. and E. J. Moss, jun. The beautiful service of the Church of England was most impressively read by the Incumbent, the Rev. W. P. G. Field, and Chopin's *Marche Funèbre* was played by the Organist, Mr. W. Karl Vincent, as the procession mournfully prepared to set out for the Cemetery. The floral tributes of affection and respect, both Foreign and Japanese, were exceedingly numerous.

THE LATE MR. R. H. STODDARD.

Mr. Richard Henry Stoddard, poet and man of letters, died in New York, on May 12, less than a year after his wife. Only one well-known man of letters still active in the United States was Mr. Stoddard's senior in age and authorship. He is Mr. Donald G. Mitchell, born in 1822 and who began to publish at 25. Mr. Stoddard, who was born in Hingham, Mass., in 1825, made his first appearance as an author in 1849, when the volume of poems entitled "Footprints" was printed. Since he was 10 years old Mr. Stoddard lived in New York, and for more than thirty years he occupied the same home on East Fifteenth-street, where his wife died and where he also passed away. He was the friend of Nathaniel Hawthorne, Bayard Taylor and Artemus Ward, as well as the enemy of Edgar Allan Poe. His long literary life commenced more than half a century ago, and in the years that have passed he was the friend of most of the men who were known in American letters. He was formerly best known to his friends, perhaps, at the Century Club, of which he was one of the moving spirits for over thirty-five years. He saw New York grow from a small town into the chief city of the new world. For over twenty years he contributed regularly every week book reviews to the *New York Mail and Express*. In fact, he made his department one of the most interesting in the country because of his intimate knowledge of literature and his fairness as a critic. But, above all things, he was a poet and some of his verses will long endure. Among them may be mentioned the ode to Shakespeare; the Horatian ode to Abraham Lincoln, which formed itself under the poet's startled impression at the announcement of the President's death; the superbly Grecian "Fisher and Charon," which appeared in *Putnam's Magazine* almost forty years ago, and was attributed by clever critics to Walter Savage Landor; "The Dead Master," evoked by the announcement of the death of William Cullen Bryant; the "Hymn to the Sea" and almost all the story poems and Oriental songs. Among the story poems the most noteworthy are "The King's Sentinel," the basis of which is an anecdote of the "Tost Nameh," "The Pearl of the Philippines" and "Wratislaw." Mr. Stoddard was learned in the most intricate details of English literature, as his literary criticisms proved. He wrote for Duprat's edition of "Romeo and Juliet" a preface which will ever have its elevated place in Shakesperean scholarship. He regarded Hawthorne as the greatest prose writer of his century, the necessity to live by literature a misfortune, the advice to an artist not to marry sound, if the artist be sensitive to the needs of the hostages which he gives to fortune. On his seventieth birthday, July 2, 1895, the Authors' Club of New York gave a great dinner in honour of Mr. Stoddard at which Edmund Clarence Stedman presided and which was attended by 150 literary men and artists. The poet's wife, Elizabeth Drew Barstow, was a poetess, and her novels of New England life obtained the rare praise of Hawthorne. Her ancestors were shipbuilders; those of her husband were seamen and figured in Massachusetts in the records of Hingham in 1638. Their son Lorimer was a dramatic author of much promise, but died suddenly several years ago.

LITERARY GOSSIP.

Miss Sarianna Browning, sister of the poet, died on April 22, at La Torre all'Antella, near Florence, in her 90th year.

An editor in Missouri is about to relinquish his task owing to lack of public support. His valedictory leader is as follows:—"Don't worry about the editor. He has a charter from the State to act as doormat for the community. He'll get the paper out somehow, and stand up for you when you run for office, and lie about your pigeon-toed daughter's tackey wedding, and blow about your big-footed sons when they get a $4 a week job, and weep over your shrivelled soul when it is released from your grasping body, and smile at your giddy wife's second marriage. He'll get along. The Lord only knows how—but the editor will get there somehow."

Sir William Des Vœux has written the reminiscences of his very active life under the title *My Colonial Service*. This service has taken him to British Guiana, St. Lucia, Trinidad, Fiji, Australia, Newfoundland, and Hongkong. The book is to be in two volumes, and Mr. Murray will publish it.

A short time ago at the Hotel Drouet, in Paris, the library of Captain de La Croix-Laval was sold. Such a statement seems commonplace enough, but the library did not consist of more than 100 books, each of them *editions de luxe* and each works of master-bookbinders. They were catalogued, not in the order of their authors, but in that of their binders! The great French masters of the art—Amand Cuzinpère, René Kieffer, Michel, Petrus Ruban and others—were all represented by the cream of their work. In addition, it should be remarked that each volume was a rare edition, superbly illustrated, and very valuable, quite apart from its fine binding. Many of them were exhibited in the Exhibitions of 1889 and 1900. What would Ruskin say to such a collection, who cut the tops of his books if they were too big for his shelves?

Although neglected to a large extent by the general public in Manchester, the John Rylands Library in that city is known to bibliophiles all the world over as containing some of the rarest works in existence. Recently it was visited by the librarian of the Royal Library at Berlin, who had come to inspect examples of the early German Press which are not to be found in Germany. During the past year a number of rare books have been added to the collection. Six are unique, since no other copies can be traced; seven are fifteenth-century books; while thirty-four are English books printed before 1640. Over 200 tracts and pamphlets of great rarity dealing with the Solemn League and Covenant and the Commonwealth period have just been added, one of the most important being the first American edition of the Shorter Catechism of the Westminister Assembly, printed in Boston in 1767, of which no other copy is known.

The Turkish Customs officers are in temperament not unlike the Turkish Censors. For instance, dictionaries are forbidden entrance to the land because the Sultan is usually mentioned in such books, and that is contrary to Turkish law. Other forbidden books are Tasso's "Jerusalem," Chateaubriand's "Martyrs," Hugo's "Orientals," all Voltaire's works, Lafontaine's Fables, Rabelais, and many others. Nevertheless, most of these books are to be bought in Pera in the booksellers. It is very simple. Tear out the title page of the banned book, stick in any other inoffensive title-page, and there you are! The Customs official knows that such-and-such a book is forbidden, and he knows the title-pages of the dangerous books. He never by any chance glances further in the book, so if the title-page is changed, through goes the book with flying colours. Thus Zola's works, strictly forbidden in Turkey, are to be seen in all the Pera windows, under the strangest names, such as "Hints on the French Language," "Vegetable Cultivation." "Sophie's Accident," and so on.

Mr. W. Thayer, in an article in the *Forum* wishing to show the longevity of Anglo-Saxon men of genius, during the nineteenth century, is nevertheless unable to deny the premature death of many poets. Of forty-six cases, showing an average age of 66 years, nine poets died between the ages of 26 and 37—Byron, Shelley, Keats, Leopardi, and Poe among them. Of thirty-nine artists and sculptors, the average age attained being 66, one, Fortuny, died young, aged 36. Of thirty musicians, with an average age of 62 years, Auber was 89 years old when he died, and Verdi

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88; whilst four others died young—Bellini, Bizet, Schubert, Mendelssohn. Certain men of genius have retained their physical activity to a most advanced age; Humboldt, until he was 80 years old, and Verdi and Goethe (who wrote Faust when he was 81.) Beccaria, on the contrary, ceased all work when 32 years old; many more, as Leonardi da Vinci and Flaubert, left their work incomplete through their slowness of execution. Precocity is also a mark of genius. Dante wrote a sonnet to Beatrice when he was 9 years old, Mozart gave a concert at 6, Tasso wrote verses at 10, and Pascal at 13. But it is, on the other hand, true that some men have been backward, Alfieri, Wren, Humboldt, Linnæus, Flaubert. Domenichino (whom his friends called "the great bullock"), for instance.

The literary papers in England are warm in their praise of Mr. Zangwill's new book of poems, which he calls "Blind Children." One of the most brilliant of the poems is entitled "Asti Spumante," and reads:—

"Its pop excites my fellow-diners' glances
With images of reckless revelry.
Within a broad-brimmed glass it froths and dances,
Showy as Moet and as cheap as tea.

I pass the bottle to my silent neighbour,
He smacks his lips and spouts of mother Earth,
The ripe grape's tang and Nature's tropic labour,
Her tameless travail of eternal birth.

I pass the bottle to the man loquacious.
The tragic bard of Asti he recalls,
And Pisa's Campo Santo, white and spacious,
With that quaint fresco on the ancient walls:

The Vintage—grapes and grapes in purple splendour;
Green-kirtled gleaners; feet in vats deep-sunk;
O'erbrimming baskets borne by maidens slender,
And in a corner Noah lying drunk.

Ah yes, the Asti brings them pleasant fancies,
For me alone it works a miracle.
My childhood with its glamorous romances
Lies in a drop of that cheap Muscatel.

One sip—and fled the public foreign table,
Trust, innocence and wonder, all are mine!
For Asti, though Spumante, is unable
To hide relationship to raisin-wine.

The raisin-wine of ceremonies holy,
Wherein—to fête old Pharaoh's overthrow—
We dipped unleavened bread: the East moves slowly,
'Twas only some three thousand years ago.

O witching night when Earth was near to Heaven,
O blessedness to be a little Jew!
Where lay the magic in not eating leaven?
And how was Noah aped on raisin-brew?

I know not, but by Asti re-created,
All dewy-fresh the young enchantments rise,
And I forget that I am old and sated,
Lonely, and stained of soul, and worldly-wise.

Prate on, O friends, of Nature, Art and Dante,
Nor note my tears are weakening the wine.
Your world is stale as yesterday's Spumante,
My Ghetto sparkles youthfully divine."

Another poem, selected by the *Spectator* for quotation could have been written by no one else but Mr. Zangwill, so burning are the verses in their sincere indictment of the dualism in the Hebrew character:—

"Hear, O Israel, Jehovah, the Lord our God in One,
But we, Jehovah His people, are dual and so undone.

Slaves in eternal Egypts, baking their strawless bricks,
At ease in successive Zions, prating their politics;

Rotting in sunlit Roumania, pigging in Russian Pale,
Driving in Park, Bois and Prater, clinging to Fashion's tail;

Reeling before every rowdy, sore with a hundred stings,
Clothed in fine linen and purple, loved at the courts of Kings;

Faithful friends to our foemen, slaves to a scornful clique,
The only Christians in Europe, turning the other cheek;

Priests of the household altar, blessing the bread and wine,
Lords of the hells of Gomorrah, licensed keepers of swine;

Coughing o'er clattering treadles, saintly and underpaid,
Ousting the rough from Whitechapel—by learning the hooligan's trade;

Pious, fanatical zealots, throttled by Talmud-coil,
Impious, lecherous sceptics, cynical stalkers of spoil;
Wedded 'neath Hebrew awning, buried 'neath Hebrew sod,
Between not a dream of duty, never a glimpse of God;

Risking our lives for our countries, loving our nations' flags,
Hounded therefrom in repayment, hugging our bloody rags:

Blarneying, shivering, crawling, taking all colours and none,
Lying a fox in the covert, leaping an ape in the sun.

Tantalus-Proteus of Peoples, security comes from within!
Where is the lion of Judah? Wearing an ass's skin!

Hear, O Israel, Jehovah, the Lord our God is One,
But we, Jehovah His people, are dual and so undone."

THE ELDER STATESMEN MUST BE DISREGARDED.

The above is the title of an article which appeared in the *Tōkyō Asahi Shimbun* a short time ago. Since it undoubtedly represents the opinion of a growing section of modern Japanese politicians we have taken the trouble to translate it literally:—

It is because the elder statesmen have so much power that both the Government and political parties alike use their power for their own special purposes. This has in recent years been a marked tendency in our political arena. The uses to which the elder statesmen are put by the Government and political parties immensely increase their power. But those who use the elder statesmen do not submit themselves to them. On the contrary at times they think them a nuisance. While respected, they are often not consulted at all. But is it not a strange phenomenon that even while considered a nuisance and while only respected at a distance, these elder statesmen should all the time be adding to the power they wield? It is important to note that this is to be attributed to the fact that the elder statesmen in this country still retain unparalleled personal prestige. When their ages and mental and physical condition be considered, it cannot be said that they have entered a state of senile decay. With increasing years comes riper experience of the world. The older they get the greater are the expectations that these statesmen raise in men's minds both at home and abroad. Take the case of such a man as the late Marquis Saigō. You may say that he was a man of no power, and that certainly was the case. But while appearing in the eyes of general observers to be powerless, in political high places his influence was enormous. And in the case of such veterans as Itō, Yamagata and Okuma, have they not sufficient power to-day to make people regret that they are growing old so fast? How can they fall in with what the world thinks and retire?

We, indeed, think they should retire. But the elder statesmen themselves without exception, while assuming to an extraordinary extent the airs of persons who have retired from public life, while holding only nominal posts and objecting to figure conspicuously in the political arena, regard other men with supreme contempt and treat them as though they were their own children. While they themselves squat at ease with folded arms in front of their braziers, they give orders to others by moving their chins and expect to have their wishes carried out. This is the cause of the complications that take place in the political world. This is why the elder statesmen are considered by younger politicians to be a nuisance, and this is why they are only respected at a distance. The fault lies in the behaviour of the elder statesmen, which is marked by excessive self-will. They are treated at Court with all the respect due to ex-officials. They are decorated with high orders and in some cases raised to the rank of Marquises. Among them there are Marquises and Counts bearing the first Order of Merit. And yet to the world at large each of these statesmen is no more than an ordinary man whose lot is cast in the Meiji era, and who, like his fellow-countrymen, is doing his best to make that era prosperous. Neither the Law nor the Constitution gives to these statesmen a special right of interference in State affairs. In reference to this we approve of the method of treating the elder statesmen adopted by the Katsura Cabinet. There are Ministers of State now in office with whom refusal to allow the interference of the elder statesmen was made a condition of entrance to the Cabinet.

Under special circumstances in reference to some questions of foreign policy, the practice of consulting the elder statesmen has been introduced; so that when in the future situations of this kind arise steps will certainly still be taken to follow this evil habit. But in the case of the numerous questions of home policy, it is far more possible to disregard the elder statesmen. We look to Count Katsura to render this disregard an accomplished fact (to put this disregard into practice). If he does this, we shall consider it to be a characteristic of the Katsura Cabinet which calls for our unstinted praise. Count Katsura has of course to show deference (*lit.* bow the head) to Marquis Yamagata, who rendered so much assistance in forming the present Cabinet. And were Marquis Saigō still living, he would be entitled to similar deference. But regarding Marquis Yamagata simply as an elder statesman, there is no reason why Count Katsura should look up to him for guidance in Government administration. Though he is undoubtedly the founder and the god of the supra-party knot of politicians,* as long as he is not a member of the Cabinet, he is no more than an ordinary individual without any responsibility whatever. Then in the case of Marquis Itō, since he is the head of a party, in that capacity he may be approached, but to accept his guidance because he is an elder statesman is objectionable.

We should deem the disregard of the elder statesmen to be a distinctly progressive step in politics. And if it can be effected, we should like to see the practice of allowing persons outside the Cabinet to share responsibility even in the case of grave questions of foreign policy abolished as unconstitutional. And as for the Council of Elders, if later on it is got rid of and no traces of its existence are left, we shall regard it as a progressive measure of great importance. In that case the name "Elder Statesmen" would die out, and this is what we wish for above everything else. In the new political world of which we write, though the title "Elder Statesmen" would have been abolished, the men who had borne this title would by no means have disappeared from our midst. On the contrary, their influence would increase more and more. This influence would not be dependent on their age, but on their experience as statesmen, on their greatness as politicians. There would be created a condition of things in which influence could only be obtained by experienced and great politicians. They would be able to do good work in the service of the Crown and the country; in the former capacity as Ministers of State, in the latter as Members of the House of Peers or the House of Representatives. They would play important *rôles* on the stage of Japan and on the stage of the world. In the working of political machinery, simplicity and convenience are highly important. The existence of such useless mechanism as the elder statesmen is an excrescence (outgrowth) that disfigures the body of the Constitution. There is nothing for it but to ignore their existence; there is nothing for it but to bring about their final overthrow.

* It would be confusing to call the supra-party (*Chōzentō*) politicians a political party, as they have none of the distinctive characteristics and are without the organization of a political party. They agree in holding aloof from political parties, but in little else. They are without political coherence, without fixed principles and without an acknowledged head.—(TRANSLATOR).

Japan now leads the fashion in Siam, says a contemporary. This state of things has become far more conspicuous than was ever the case before since the announcement of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, which seems to have greatly enhanced Japan's importance in the eyes of the Siamese. In the compound of the Royal Palace there is now a Japanese building and a Japanese garden. The Crown Prince of Siam is also having a Japanese building constructed for himself. On the occasion of an audience that Mr. Inagaki had of the Crown Prince, the latter expressed a desire to pay another visit to Japan.

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LAW CASE.

SIMON, EVERS & CO. v. K. YAMADA.

In the Yokohama District Court the hearing of this case was resumed before Judge Kato on June 5th when a Japanese named K. Ishikawa, Tokyo, was examined as a witness.

Witness stated that about the end of June last year he purchased 1,000 bags of granulated sugar marked "Crown" at the rate of *yen* 8.85 per 100 *kin*, from Komiya; 500 bags for *yen* 8.87½ per 100 *kin* from Abe; 999 bags for *yen* 9.10 per 100 *kin* from Ito, and 501 bags for *yen* 8.87½ per 100 *kin* from Masuda, all of the same brand. The four men are sugar dealers in Yokohama. These three thousand bags were almost all stained and the contents of some bags had a salt taste. He did not know exactly whether the taste was caused by sea water, nor did he know from whom the four sugar merchants bought the goods. He took delivery of 2,000 bags at the Midoricho warehouse, but did not remember where the lot of 1,000 bags was transferred.

The case was then adjourned till June 10th at 1 p.m.

This case came up again before Judge Kato in the Yokohama District Court on June 10th.

After summing up the evidence introduced at the previous hearings, counsel for both parties entered upon a lengthy discussion of the legal aspects of the case, after which the Court reserved judgement till June 15th at 1 p.m.

DR. VAN DER HEYDEN v. H. L. STONEBRINK.

This case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 9th, when defendant's counsel presented a plan of the ground now held in joint possession. The plan was marked in section, A. B. C. D. E. and F. Counsel stated that the part marked A. was used by plaintiff; the two parts, B. and C. by defendant, and the remaining three parts, D. E. and F., were used jointly by both parties, only part of B. belongs specially to defendant and was not jointly owned. He applied for leave to examine an expert with regard to the assessment of the ground rent provided for in the lease, which is a point in the counter-claim.

Plaintiff's Counsel contended that it was not necessary to go into the question of rent under the counter-claim.

The Court decided to examine an expert and the Public Procurator was instructed to make the investigation.

The Court then rose.

P. SARDA v. S. HISHITANI.

In the Yokohama District Court on Thursday, the hearing of the case brought by Mr. P. Sarda against S. Hishitani, claiming *yen* 175 as house rent, for which judgement was given on May 21st in favour of plaintiff, against which defendant appealed on the ground that he was absent at the time of delivery of judgment, came up again before Judge Kano.

Mr. Fujiwara was present for plaintiff and Mr. Ideura for defendant.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that defendant leased a house on lot No.76, Yokohama, belonging to plaintiff on February 28th this year, at a rent of *yen* 125 per month. At the beginning of the contract he deposited *yen* 75 as guarantee. The rent for the last two months, which amounts to *yen* 250, is still unpaid. When the guarantee money, *yen* 75, is deducted, there is a balance of *yen* 175 left, which plaintiff claims.

Defendant's Counsel contended that defendant leased two buildings on lot No. 76 from plaintiff, one being an office at the rent of *yen* 25 per month, from June 1st, and another a godown at a rent of *yen* 100 per month from July 1st, and he held both down to February this year. He deposited *yen* 75 with plaintiff as guarantee. It was agreed at the commencement of the contract that plaintiff should undertake the repairing of the godown and defendant should pay half the amount, which, however, would be paid back to defendant on the expiration of the lease. In July, 1902, the work was completed at a cost of *yen* 195.64, of which defendant paid half—*yen* 97.82. There was still unpaid rent, *yen* 150, outstanding but defendant had a right against plaintiff to have the *yen* 75 deposit refunded and *yen* 97.82 temporarily credited to plaintiff for the repairs, together amounting to *yen* 172.82, from which the unpaid rent, *yen* 150 may be subtracted, leaving a balance of *yen* 24.82 in favour of defendant.

Counsel applied to the Court for leave to examine Mr. Charles Down, No. 60, as a witness. The Court decided to do so on June 16th.

THE STUDENT HOUSE IN TOKYO.

One of the most important events of the year in the Japan Mission is the opening of the Church House in Tokyo as a centre of Christian work and influence among the 2,000 students of the Imperial University. This house has been made possible by the gifts of people in the United States, through the Rev. B. T. Sakai, one of the Japanese clergy of the mission. Valuable aid was given to Mr. Sakai's plans by Mr. Franklin H. Beebe, a Boston layman, whose zealous work for missions is largely the result of his personal knowledge of conditions in mission lands. The business men who really study mission work in Asia almost invariably commend and support it. Mr. Sakai will have general charge of the house, under the direction of Bishop McKim. In his address on the opening day, he said, in explanation of the general plan on which it was to be conducted, that while a great variety of work would be carried on, the house was distinctly a Christian institution affiliated with the *Nippon Sei Kokwai*. Addresses were also made by Bishop McKim, by two Christian Japanese students, and by the Rev. J. A. Welbourn, one of the American clergy in the mission, who is associated with Mr. Sakai in the student work. One room at the house has been simply furnished as a chapel, and it is expected that members of the mission will have the opportunity of speaking frequently to interesting congregations of University students, and afterwards of meeting them socially. In a general way this Church House in Tokyo will aim to do for Japanese students what is being so well done for the students of India by the Oxford Mission to Calcutta and the Cambridge Mission to Delhi. Tokyo is the centre of Japan's intellectual strength. To it the University students come from all parts of the Empire, but as in all Japanese Government institutions, the University atmosphere is distinctly materialistic. Efforts well and wisely made to give due emphasis to the spiritual truths which are at once the motive and the end of all true education will prove an effective means of spreading Christian teaching. Those to whom such work may seem slow and small should remember that its results cannot be measured by fixed standards. Every student brought under the influence of the Church becomes in turn a centre of influence, and often reaches individuals and groups of people, perhaps in some distant part of the country, at present entirely beyond the reach of the usual missionary effort. In connection with this work among students we take pleasure in saying that the Rev. Arthur Lloyd, has been appointed Professor of English Literature in the University of Tokyo. He succeeds Mr. Lafcadio Hearn, whose books on Japan have been widely read and whose comments upon missionary work have doubtless been accepted by people unfamiliar with the fact that religiously he is a Buddhist agnostic, and consistently anti-Christian. This appointment means a great deal, because it comes entirely unsolicited, and in spite of Mr. Lloyd's prominence as a Christian worker. The Dean of the College of Literature is Professor Inouye Tetsujiro, the most learned and one of the most ardent Buddhists in Japan. Mr. Lloyd's selection is all the more interesting following so closely upon the government's appointment of Dr. Motoda, headmaster of St. Paul's College, Tokyo, to be head of the school for training Japanese officials for Formosa, with permission to give Christian instruction.—*The Spirit of Missions.*

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Korean refuge Pak Yong-ho left Matsuye on June 10th for Kobe.

Marquis Ito will probably return to his villa in Oiso on June 12th from Tokyo.

The Empress paid a visit on June 9th to the Imperial Botanical Garden at Shinjiku.

All the 50,000 Chinese in Manila are to be inoculated with bubonic plague serum.

A case of scarlet-fever appeared on June 9th in the village of Niho, Yamaguchi prefecture.

The body of the late Marquis Ikeda will be removed on June 14th to Okayama, which is his native place.

The Crown Prince and Princess have returned to Tokyo from the west, arriving at Shimbashi on June 10th at 3.15 p.m.

Permission to construct an electric tramway in Tokyo was given on June 10th. The work will commence on the 12th.

A woman named Kane (48), who murdered her mother on April 12th, 1901, was executed on June 9th at the Ichigaya prison, Tokyo.

A telegram from Yamagata Prefecture, reports that noises were heard from the Chokai mountain at noon on June 7th and caused a landslide.

In connexion with the affair of the Kobe Agriculture and Industry Bank, three members of the City Council were arrested on June 7th.

The Emperor entertained at dinner on June 9th Princes Fushimi and Kanin, Marquises Yamagata and Oyama, and other high military officers.

A serious shock of earthquake was felt at Taipeh, Formosa, on June 7th at 3.08 a.m. Two houses were damaged and one person was injured.

Mr. Tanaka, Director of the Mining Bureau, who was ordered to investigate mining affairs in Europe and America, is expected to leave Tokyo about June 25th.

Fire broke out on June 6th at the Tsunatori mine, in Iwate Prefecture, and burned down the dwellings of the workmen and also a large area of government forest.

An omnibus ran over a woman, at Hongomachi, Tokyo, on June 9th, inflicting severe injuries. She was at once removed to the hospital of the Medical College.

An official of the Hanamaki Tax Bureau, Iwate Prefecture, has been arrested on a charge of having received bribes from merchants who tried to escape payment of taxes.

The standing committee of the Tokyo Sanitary Assembly on June 9th decided to request the Municipal Council to spend *yen* 100,000 in preventing the spread of the plague.

Professor Tanakadachi will leave on June 12th for Germany to be present at a conference of the International Seismological Association, which is to be held in July at Strasburg.

It is alleged to have been discovered on June 9th that Y. Higuchi, headman of the village of Yega, near Osaka, had forged official documents and embezzled *yen* 12,000. He has absconded.

Princesses Tsune-no-miya and Kane-no-miya left Shidzuoka on the morning of June 4th and arrived at Osaka on the afternoon of the same day. They subsequently proceeded to the villa of Mr. Sumitomo.

The *Mainichi* reports that the half-yearly profit of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha amounts to 940,000, an increase of about *yen* 100,000 over last year. The dividend will be declared at the rate of 10 per cent.

A woman named Naka (45), wife of a wealthy farmer living at Masuko, Shimotsuke province,

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has been arrested on a charge of having murdered her husband on June 1st and thrown him into a pond. The cause of the crime is reported to be a dispute over property.

A lawyer named T. Yano was arrested at Fukuoka on June 10th on a charge of having uttered in Court a false statement when under examination as a witness.

There were three cases of dysentery among the patients of the Sugamo Lunacy Hospital, Tokyo, on the night of June 8oth. The metropolitan health officers are investigating as to the cause.

A woman named Hisa, wife of a farmer living at the village of Minami-Kasumi, Toyama prefecture, committed suicide on June 9th by drowning herself in a well together with her two daughters. The cause is not known.

The yacht "Lark" No. 8, the property of Mr. W. E. McMillan, was sold on Thursday by Mr. Jno. W. Hall for *yen* 70.00 the purchaser being Mr. Russell. She was offered for sale on account of the owner leaving Japan.

A steam launch of the warship *Fuso*, which is at anchor off Shinagawa, is reported to have struck some wooden piles on June 10th at 5 p.m. and to have immediately sunk. The crew were fortunately rescued by a passing launch.

The creditors of the Suwa Bank, Nagano prefecture, have presented to the District Court a petition asking a decree of bankruptcy against the Bank. The directors of the bank were arrested the other day on a charge of fraud and embezzlement.

The preliminary trial of I. Shirai and S. Tanabe, directors of the Keihin Fire Insurance Co. who are charged with fraud and uttering counterfeit drafts, concluded in the Tokyo District Court on June 10th and the accused were committed for trial.

In the Tokyo District Court, three educational officials connected with the text book affair were sentenced, on June 10th, to from two months to three months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 7 to *yen* 10, and the bribes which they had received were ordered to be confiscated.

A workman named K. Kuribara (24), employed at the Dorosha printing office, Kojimachi, Tokyo, was arrested on June 8th, on a charge of having stolen some stereotypes and a quantity of printing material valued at over *yen* 33 since March this year.

Early in the morning of June 9th, two men armed with swords entered the dwelling of a wealthy farmer named A. Ogawa, at Haruoka, near Omiya, Saitama prefecture, and demanded money. Some member of the family shot one of the intruders in the breast with a revolver, and the other at once fled.

A telegram from Takamatsu states that the steamer *Chusei Maru*, chartered by the Sanuki Railway Company, arrived there on June 10th. The company intend to enter into competition with the union of steamship companies in the western trade. The steamer will run between Osaka and Takamatsu.

Wealthy merchants at Mito in Ibaraki Prefecture who are promoting the Nippon Kogyo Railway, applied on June 8th to the Department of Home Affairs for a charter to construct the line between the village of Terashima, (Tokyo), Nagareyama, Shimodate, Tanakuchi and Shirakawa.

The concert to be given at Uyeno on Saturday afternoon, bids fair to be a real treat. In addition to the numbers originally advertised, Mrs. N. W. McIvor has generously consented to play a piano solo. Mr. Horne and Mr. Maitland are so deservedly popular that they will prove strong attractions, not to mention the cornet solos by Mr. Stick, the talented player from Sendai.

The British steamer *Crown of Arragon* was towed, in distress, into Colombo harbour on the 2nd instant. She had broken her tail shaft in the Indian Ocean on a voyage from Hamburg for Vladivostock. The vessel drifted about aimlessly for six days when she was picked up by the steamer *City of Corinth*, which took her to Colombo. The *Crown of Arragon* will be repaired there.

Abergwili Palace, Carmarthen, the residence of the Bishop of St. David's, has been destroyed by fire. The Bishop and Mrs. Owen, nine children, the chaplain, and ten indoor servants escaped without injury. With the exception of a small wing the palace is destroyed. The loss includes the Chapel of the Baptist, the valuable oil-paintings of former occupiers of the See, and priceless historical documents.

The Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Arequipa* which the telegram reports to have foundered in Valparaiso harbour, was a steel screw steamer built in 1889 by the Naval Construction and Armaments Company, Ld., of Barrow. She was 350 feet long, 45 feet beam, and 29ft. 9in. depth and was of 1,387 net and 2,953 gross tons. She was driven by triple expansion engines, with cylinders of 31in., 49in., and 78in. respectively, and of 471 nominal horsepower. The *Arequipa* was fitted with the electric light. She was in command of Capt. P. C. Lee.

The Yokohama police have received the following letter of thanks, which they ask us to print:—

June 9th, 1903.

To Superintendent
S. IKARIYAMA,
Kagacho Police Station, Yokohama.

DEAR SIR,—Please accept, both for yourself and officers my congratulations for the prompt recovery of the goods stolen from my premises on the 30th May, also my thanks for the safe return of the goods to me.

I am quite sure that the people of Yokohama are very fortunate in being under the protection of such an efficient police force. Again returning thanks,

I remain very respectfully,
(Signed) T. M. LAFFIN.

Mr. Robert Bradshaw Moorhead, Commissioner of I.M. Customs at Ningpo, died in Shanghai on June 3. Mr. Moorhead joined the I.M. Customs service in 1868. He was a very learned man, took great interest in the affairs of China, and frequently wrote articles for the *Shanghai Mercury*. His carefully written trade reports were always worth reading and proved him to be a safe and careful business man. In his report for 1897 of the Hangkow exports and imports he gave an interesting account of the survey of the railway line from Hankow to Peking, which was made by order of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung in 1895, and the causes of delay in commencing the necessary works. He was decorated with the Civil Rank of the Third Class on the 13th February, 1878, and received the decoration of the Double Dragon, Third Division, First Class, on the 3rd September, 1885. He was Commissioner in Hankow for a number of years and after taking a trip home was appointed Commissioner at Kowloon.

THE PLAGUE.

A case of plague appeared on June 6th at Matsukura-cho, Honjo, Tokyo. The victim is a woman named Tami (26), wife of a medical apparatus maker named H. Tomikawa. The patient has been suffering since the 4th, from fever and severe headache and pains in the joints. Dr. Tamura who attended her found on the 6th symptoms which led him to order her removal to the police station where she was found to be suffering from disease suspected to be plague.

A fresh case of plague appeared on June 7th in Yokohama. The victim is a boy aged fourteen, son of a coolie named S. Yamaguchi, living at Miyoshi-cho. He was immediately removed to the Manji Hospital. The dwelling of the patient and adjoining houses have been segregated. He died on June 10th.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

St. John's Cathedral, the most important building belonging to the Protestant Episcopal Church in Denver, was destroyed by fire, believed to be of incendiary origin, early on May 15. The loss is placed at $100,000; insurance, $80,000. The building was erected in 1881, and is said to have cost $150,000.

Miss Sybil Sanderson, the once famous Californian opera-singer, died in Paris on May 16, from pneumonia. She had long been suffering from atrophy of the liver, but the end came very unexpectedly. She was in her 39th year. Her greatest triumphs were obtained in the *rôles* of *Esclamonde*, *Manon*, *Phryne*, and *Thais*.

Postmaster-General Payne, says the *New York Tribune*, is demonstrating his ability to pursue investigations in his own department, but he is not above seeking advice outside on difficult questions. Lately the Post Office authorities found that a certain woman in Chicago was using the mails improperly, and, after a report had been rendered, the Postmaster-General issued a fraud order barring her letters from the mails. This stirred the subject of the order. She addressed a pathetic appeal to the Postmaster-General, asking for a personal and private interview, at which she might present her side of the case. "I feel sure," the letter ran, "that if I could get a chance to look you straight in your beautiful brown eyes you would hear my story."

Mr. Payne was much impressed. This sort of thing was rather an innovation. Then he solemnly endorsed the letter: "Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War for advice."

Routine took it through the regular channels, and, after many days, it returned again with this minute attached: "Risk one eye.—Elihu Root."

A number of eminent educators have been recently advocating the shortening of the college course, says *Leslie's Weekly*. President Eliot of Harvard believes that the period might well be reduced from four years to three, and President Hadley of Yale agrees with the view. Some would even cut the period down to two years for a certain class of students and certain degrees. President Tucker of Dartmouth, whose commanding place as a scholar every one concedes, stands by the four-year course. The point is one on which equally sincere and thoughtful men may honestly differ. On the face of it, it would seem that with the vast increase in the circle of human knowledge in modern times, the great and important additions which modern investigation and research have made to almost every branch of learning, a lengthening of the period of collegiate study rather than otherwise is made necessary for all who would gain what in older times would have been regarded as a high standard of scholarship. Is there not a danger that we shall infuse a spirit of haste and superficiality into our schemes of education and thus miss that finer result of true culture which comes only of earnest application and deep and quiet thinking? The royal road to knowledge is not the place for automobiles.

It is estimated that there are in New York city to-day 1,320 millionaires, as against 294 in 1880, and 25 in 1853. There were no millionaires in New York one hundred years ago. The first person to reach the distinction was the late John Jacob Astor, who became a millionaire about 1820. Six years before that the richest man in the city was Isaac Classon, who swore that he was worth $750,000. There is always a great deal of uncertainty in estimating the wealth of a person known to be a multi-millionaire, remarks the *New York Commercial*. Usually his wealth is greatly exaggerated. According to a prominent Wall Street banker, however, there are at least four persons in New York who are worth over $100,000,000. They are Messrs. John D. Rockefeller, William Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, and J. Pierpont Morgan. Mr. John D. Rockefeller is undoubtedly the wealthiest individual in the United States, the most conservative estimates placing his wealth at fully $500,000,000. Mr. Andrew Carnegie is the second wealthiest person,

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being worth about $300,000,000. The wealth of Mr. William Rockefeller and Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan is placed somewhere between $100,000,000 and $200,000,000 each. These figures are the estimates of a Wall Street banker who is in an exceptional position to speak authoritatively on such a subject. There are a number of persons in New York who are worth at least $50,000,000. Among them are John Jacob Astor, Alfred Vanderbilt, Russell Sage, George Gould, E. H. Harriman, D. Willis James, and George F. Baker. Mrs. Hetty Green is probably the wealthiest woman in the United States. Her wealth is estimated at about $30,000,000.

The valuation of the park lands of Greater New York is now put at $300,000,000; of Chicago at $65,000,000, Boston, $53,000,000: Philadelphia, $22,000,000; San Francisco, $12,000,000 and St. Louis, $8,000,000.

The new Canadian Yukon Commissioner says a good word for the agricultural possibilities of Alaska and Yukon Territory. He is reported as saying:—"I want to impress upon the public mind that the future of the Yukon does not depend upon minerals of any kind. The district is destined to be one of the greatest agricultural spots in the world. When the moss is removed from the soil it is found to be very fertile."

The *Springfield Republican* writing about the defender of the "America" cup this year, says that while the craft is American built, the crew consists of forty-six Norwegians, four Swedes and one Dane, and, if Captain Barr is in command, a naturalized Englishman is sailing master. The Deer island sailors, which made many of the past cup races famous through their splendid seamanship, have followed their old skipper, Hank Haff, into retirement.

Statistics compiled by the Board of Health show that the population of the city of New York is increasing at a remarkably rapid rate. The births reported in Manhattan borough alone during the first four months of the present year were 7000 in excess of those reported in the same period last year. At the same time there has been a falling off in the percentage of deaths. The city has also gained enormously by foreign immigration. The Board of Health estimates that the population of the city has grown from 3,437,202 at the last Federal census in 1900 to 3,732,390 at present.

According to a census bulletin recently issued, the mileage of electric street railways in the United States grew from 1261 in 1890 to 21,930 in 1902. During the same period, the mileage operated by animal power decreased from 5661 to 239 miles, and that of cable railroad from 488 to 240 miles. The total mileage of street railways in the United States on June 30, 1902, was 22,589 miles. During that fiscal year they carried 4,813,466,001 fare passengers, against 2,023,010,202 in 1890. The traffic of these railways has, consequently, reached a point where it is equivalent to moving the entire population of the earth four times.

The profession of bridesmaid seems to be growing in New York. For some time it has been the habit at weddings in that city to pay bridesmaids. At a recent wedding there were no fewer than fifteen bridesmaids, who were all punctually paid. Besides the beautiful dresses given by the bride's father, they each received $25 apiece for appearing in the wedding train. There are young ladies who accept as much as $100 for their office of honour. One girl who is much sought after for her beauty has appeared as bridesmaid at more than 200 weddings, and has in a short time amassed quite a goodly sum, besides receiving many costly presents.

Commenting on the late improvements in transatlantic accommodations for third-class passengers, as exemplified in the maiden voyage of the new Cunarder *Carpathia*, the *Glasgow Herald* says:—Ten years ago third-class passengers found their own bedding, dishes and other small articles they might need on the voyage, but now all is changed." On the *Carpathia* they are provided with everything, "abundant board, during the voyage, comfortable lodging, reasonable conveniences and a safe and fairly speedy passage across the ocean," at a rate of fare of only about 1 cent per mile. The *Carpathia* is a vessel of 34,000 tons displacement when fully loaded, and is represented to have "wonderfully comfortable quarters" for 1,700 third-class passengers.

The great seal of the United States is to be recast at an expense of $1,250. The present seal was made in 1885. It has always been in the custody of the Secretary of State and is mounted in a large press with sufficient power to impress it upon the thickest parchment. Technically only the Secretary of State can make use of it, and he has the privilege only when it is proposed to affix it to a paper bearing the signature of the President of the United States. Its use has become more and more restricted in recent years until now it is confined almost entirely to the commissions of Cabinet, Diplomatic, and Consular officers and those appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, proclamations over the President's signature, formal communications to representatives of foreign powers, treaties, pardons, or commutations of sentences, and on exequaturs to foreign Consular officers in the United States.

An effort will be made at the next session of Congress to revive the grade of Vice-Admiral in the Navy. The proposition has the hearty approval of Rear-Admiral Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Navigation. He recommended it last year, but the recommendation was not included in the annual report of the Secretary of the Navy. It is not improbable, however, that in his forthcoming report Secretary Moody may decide to ask Congress to create the grade and limit the number to two. Since the organization of the Navy there have been but two officers of this rank, Vice-Admiral Rodgers and Vice-Admiral Rowan. Upon the death of Vice-Admiral Rowan, about fifteen years ago, the grade was allowed to lapse. At the time of the Sampson-Schley controversy it was agreed that both of these officers should be made Vice-Admirals. The plan, however, was not adopted. Rear-Admiral Taylor bases his recommendation upon the number of ships that the officers in command of big squadrons will have under their direction.

It was announced some time ago that the Grand Trunk Railroad Company had abandoned its plans of parallelling the Canadian Pacific Railroad across the continent from Hudson bay to the west coast of British Columbia. This announcement seems to have been erroneous, as the company is now a petitioner before the Dominion Parliament for a transcontinental franchise. The line will be built some 200 miles further north than the route followed by the Canadian Pacific, and will cross the backbone of the continent either at Yellow Head pass or Peace river pass. If the former pass is adopted the western terminus will be established at Bute inlet, the point adopted by the late Mr. Waddington as the tide-water terminus of a wagon road to Cariboo. That enterprise was nipped in the bud nearly forty years ago by the massacre of all the roadmakers in their camp by the Chilicot Indians, and no effort was afterward made to renew the work. The new railroad will have the advantage of being much the shorter route between London and Japan; besides, it will open up the wheat lands of the great Northwest Territory, which is now rapidly filling with settlers.

The Maryland *Medical Journal* publishes the record of intercollegiate football from sixty colleges, covering a period of ten years and including 1,374 separate teams. The object is to show the dangerous character of the game. Of the 22,766 men in these teams 654 received serious injuries and were thereby prevented from carrying on college work. The number of fatalities were, also, numerous, although the statement omits the list. The number of players in intercollegiate teams has been steadily decreasing during the decade covered by the report, but the number of the injured has been rapidly increasing. Beginning in 1893, and ending with the close of the 1902 season, the number of injured in the intercollegiate football games each year runs thus—40, 46, 40, 48, 52, 52, 67, 90, 76 and 143. The enormous number of injuries and fatalities which occurred in the games played last year forced the college faculties to bring pressure to bear on the intercollege football executive committee to revise the mass play out of the game, which has been done. The revision is said to bring the game, as it will hereafter be played, nearer the old form of the Rugby game, which is being displaced in popular favour in England by Association football.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CRUELTY TO HORSES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It has been a matter of much gratification to me that the letter which I originally addressed to you, and which you were kind enough to insert in your columns, has met with the approval and evoked the criticism of at least two members of the community. This, at any rate, shows that the movement is one which, if properly followed up, might very easily yield the desired result.

One of your correspondents suggested sending out Post Cards, and, whilst, no doubt, under different circumstances the idea might prove a very valuable one, I hardly think, seeing how we are situated in Japan, that it would meet with much success.

Your other correspondent suggested that I should start a movement myself and that I would be sure to receive the support of the community.

Within the last few days I have had the opportunity of discussing this matter with Mr. Ikariyama, the Superintendent of Police, who was as courteous and obliging as he always is. Mr. Ikariyama told me, in the first place, that to his knowledge there was no organized society for the prevention of cruelty to animals in Yokohama, although one purported to exist in Tokyo. He seemed, however, very much surprised at the complaints which I laid before him, and assured me that it was a Police Regulation that no animals were to be ill-treated, and that many cases of punishment for this offence had recently come under his notice. He was therefore astonished that the cruelty which I mentioned should be still so prevalent.

He asked me to point out to the police on duty any cases which I might consider particularly noteworthy, and also to mention this to my friends who were interested in the matter. He also very kindly said that he would issue instructions that the Police pay extra attention to this matter.

The result of this conversation satisfies me that the most effectual way of achieving our object would be to draw up a suitably worded petition and forward it to Mr. Ikariyama, who would, I feel sure, give us his sympathetic support. If half a dozen gentlemen will signify their willingness, through the medium of this paper, to assist me in this matter I shall be very glad to take it up and circulate notices to the community.

I remain, dear Sir, your faithfully, "X."

Yokohama, June 5th, 1903.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I was glad to see "X's" letter in your issue of the 5th inst. and to read his very practical suggestion in connection with the above subject.

It is a coincidence that I, myself, had partly indited a letter to your paper, to precisely the same effect, viz., that far more might be accomplished by enlisting the sympathy of the police officials in the movement, than by individual efforts on the part of foreigners.

It is true there is already an organization in Tokyo for the prevention of cruelty to animals, which society has been in existence for some time, but, as far as I know, they have not succeeded in doing anything beyond getting a medal struck. The last I heard of them was that they were petitioning the authorities to recognise them as a registered institution.

I wish to assure "X" that I shall be glad to unite with him in his efforts, and I have no doubt many others will do likewise.

I am, dear Sir, Yours truly,

B. R. BERRICK.

Yokohama, 7th June 1903.

BRITANNIA'S SONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—After a somewhat long period of neglect, the graves of the British soldiers and sailors in the local cemetery are receiving some little attention, a detachment of men from the fleet in harbour, being sent ashore daily to weed the mounds, clean and re-paint the headstones, etc., and to generally put that part of the cemetery in fair order,—and it

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has been suggested that the British residents might give a finishing touch to the good work by arranging for a hardy flowering perennial to be placed on each grave. We Britons have no "Memorial Day" to remind us annually of our unhonoured dead, and we are too liable to forget the brave lads who have been laid to rest in this alien land in which they established, maintained, and protected our commercial and religious privileges. Even if they were not all heroes in the fullest sense of the word, they died in the service of their country, and we their fellow-countrymen, who benefit more directly from their work in this part of the world, might do well to see that their last resting place occasionally receives some little attention, in addition to the very limited supervision which the Cemetery Committee can be expected to give this part of the work.

Having followed up the suggestion referred to, I find that there some 400 or 500 of the graves in question, that small rosebushes would doubtless prove the most effective, appropriate, and lasting, and that the same could be procured on the wholesale basis of 25 *sen* per plant, so that the whole outlay should not far exceed 100 *yen*. A little cash and a little attention are the only essentials. I will gladly furnish the latter if assisted in the former. I have already received hearty encouragement, and generous support, and for lack of a volunteering treasurer am filling that rôle pro. tem. Being desirous of giving my fellow-countrymen an opportunity of showing some slight grateful remembrance of the military and naval sons of the Mother Country who sleep in our "God's Acre," I have taken this method of bringing the matter to their notice.

Thanking you for permitting this ventilation of the matter.

Yours faithfully, CLARENCE GRIFFIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A gentleman brought to the notice of British residents through your columns to-day, the neglect of the graves of the Army, Navy and Marine forces of H.B.M.'s Service, who are laid to rest in Yokohama Cemetery. One stone in particular has been sadly neglected, namely that of Capt. Robert Craigie, of H.M.S. *Kingdove*, who died in 1862. He was the Captain who brought his ship into Tokyo Bay when the inmates of the Legation and the early pioneers of Yokohama were doing the Sister Ann act. Trusting something will soon be done, for I am afraid the inscription will not stand another winter,

I am Sir, Yours respectfully,

TEMERAIRE.

[Our Correspondent would be interested in a book lately reviewed in our columns, "On the coasts of Cathay and Cipango," in which this particular trip of the *Kingdove* is mentioned.—ED. *J.M.*]

KARUIZAWA'S FAULTY WATER SUPPLY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Before long hundreds of foreigners will be at Karuizawa for the summer. The villagers since Treaty Revision have kept charging us with ever-increasing taxes for the purpose of building and keeping up schools, hospitals and other public institutions, which however do not benefit the foreigner, who though he is there for only two months in the year has to pay the bulk of the taxes. There would be no cause of complaint if the foreigner got any thing done for him in return. But what I would specially like to see householders there try and get installed is some form of waterworks. There is abundance of water to be had of the very best kind, but it runs to waste and is polluted by the villagers for drainage and other purposes. So far as the supply of water is concerned, nothing has been done to improve the primitive state of affairs which existed when Karuizawa was a deserted village with a scanty Japanese population and about half a dozen foreigners in the summer. Considering what the foreign summer visitors mean to the village it is strange those in authority there do not do more for them. This last two years at the end of the season there were a few cases of dysentery, caused I am sure by the faulty water supply, and there is yet time for steps to be taken to remedy this for this year. Though my family goes up there every year, unfortunately I myself can only be there for a few days at a time, but I hope some of the men who stop there for the whole of the summer will bestir themselves for the public good and see if something cannot be done to improve the water supply and try and prevent cultivation of vegetables requiring high smelling compounds too near where people live, and generally instil into the minds of the villagers that Karuizawa exists for the visitors, and not the visitors for Karuizawa.

I remain, Sir, Yours truly, KARUIZAWA.

Tokyo, June 6th, 1903.

TRADE OF JAPAN.

Summary of the foreign trade of Japan for May, and comparison with corresponding month of the previous year.

EXPORTS.

1903.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

	Quantities.	Values. Yen.
Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	133,062	1,809,758
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	204,111	61,431
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	78,461	273,455
Cotton tissues.....	—	341,909
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	56,509	32,750
Matches .....Gross	3,083,218	896,789
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	91,976
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	233,937
Lacquered ware.....	—	86,110
Umbrellas, European.....No.	155,404	100,483
Others.....	—	1,705,078
Total		5,633,676

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES HALF WROUGHT.

Silk, raw.....Kin	474,653	5,019,952
Silk, noshi and waste ... „	374,745	395,733
Cotton yarns ..... „	9,865,106	3,373,269
Straw-plaits .....Bun.	740,508	237,757
Tea .....Kin	3,759,769	2,002,983
Camphor..... „	496,118	419,742
Kanten or colle vegetale. „	150,045	94,592
Others.....	—	1,206,031
Total		12,750,059

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	328,360	1,878,589
Rice .....Picul	50,308	328,988
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	770,372	143,283
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds „	409,021	10,423
Mushroom, shiitake ..... „	133,326	79,223
Copper, coarse & refined. „	3,313,677	1,099,566
Fish oil ..... „	585,618	53,180
Vegetable wax ..... „	311,601	97,417
Others.....	—	1,247,618
Total		4,938,287
Grand total		23,322,022

1902.

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES.

Silk tissues, habutae .....Kin	140,930	1,797,903
Silk tissues, kaiki.....Yard	373,116	140,587
Silk handkerchiefs .....Doz.	119,454	357,402
Cotton tissues.....	—	501,800
Carpets, hemp or cotton S.yard	168,216	81,997
Matches .....Gross	2,773,872	828,393
Mats and mattings, Hanagoza	—	458,495
Porcelain and earthen ware...	—	257,324
Lacquered ware.....	—	76,827
Umbrellas, European.....No.	218,329	111,976
Others.....	—	1,652,869
Total		6,265,573

MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, HALF WROUGHT.

Silk, raw.....Kin	506,237	4,705,792
Silk, noshi and waste..... „	237,206	247,067
Cotton yarns ..... „	3,646,448	1,237,839
Straw-plaits .....Bun.	794,338	239,568
Tea .....Kin	2,155,250	783,480
Camphor..... „	582,252	478,906
Kanten or colle vegetale. „	190,946	120,604
Others.....	—	841,203
Total		8,654,459

RAW PRODUCTS.

Coal.....Ton	259,207	1,546,261
Rice .....Picul	129,338	663,973
Cuttle-fish .....Kin	723,059	130,241
Sea-weeds & cut sea-weeds „	315,781	9,435
Mushroom, shiitake ..... „	170,200	87,010
Copper, coarse & refined.. „	3,398,982	982,540
Fish oil..... „	481,182	34,582
Vegetable wax ..... „	598,698	92,715
Others.....	—	991,930
Total		4,538,687
Grand total		19,548,719

IMPORTS.

1903.

GROUP I.

	Quantities.	Values. Yen.
Cotton, raw .....Picul	282,672	6,341,050
Cotton yarns .....Kin	126,211	106,769
Wool ..... „	441,464	325,923
Iron nails..... „	2,640,983	129,911
Rail ..... „	7,317,840	251,738
Iron, bar and rod ..... „	7,434,465	317,853
Other iron and steel ..... „	18,338,409	848,731
Indigo, dry ..... „	152,996	345,492
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—	271,647
Leather, sole and other ...Kin	173,402	127,931
Machinery and engines... „	—	946,745
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers and railway freight..... „	—	111,297
Steam vessels .....No.	—	—
Others.....	—	2,958,409
Total		13,083,496

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine ...S.yard	892,863	283,781
Woollen & worsted cloths „	50,113	59,106
Italian cloths ..... „	21,761	9,043
Flannels ..... „	5,801	3,496
Shirtings & cotton prints „	6,051,403	596,839
Cotton satins & cotton velvets..... „	109,680	38,517
Sugar, brown & white...Picul	305,424	1,631,071
Watches .....No.	9,815	31,059
Others.....	—	1,328,265
Total		3,981,177

GROUP III.

Rice .....Picul	931,385	4,249,401
Beans, peas & pulse..... „	301,144	854,575
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	5,488,551	1,026,096
Oil-cake.....Picul	615,741	1,487,329
Others	—	1,750,896
Total		9,368,297
Grand total		26,432,970
Total of exports & imports ...		49,754,992
Excess of exports ...		—
Excess of imports ...		3,110,948

1902.

GROUP I.

Cotton, raw .....Picul	348,301	7,820,843
Cotton yarns .....Kin	291,510	185,734
Wool ..... „	407,010	267,041
Iron nails..... „	2,136,034	110,189
Rail ..... „	3,378,710	124,180
Iron, bar and rod ..... „	10,390,289	468,931
Other iron and steel ..... „	17,557,066	841,507
Indigo, dry ..... „	161,536	333,197
Paper (except Chinese paper)	—	297,496
Leather, sole and other ...Kin	173,182	112,732
Machinery and engines... „	—	429,196
Locomotive-engines, railway passengers and railway freight..... „	—	605,737
Steam vessels .....No.	2	49,104
Others.....	—	2,823,348
Total		14,469,235

GROUP II.

Mousseline de laine ...S.yard	799,221	208,183
Woollen & worsted cloths „	21,328	31,915
Italian cloths ..... „	87,493	32,918
Flannels ..... „	21,201	12,620
Shirtings & cotton prints „	5,748,119	540,077
Cotton satins & cotton velvets ..... „	258,208	93,008
Sugar, brown & white...Picul	183,792	1,029,924
Watches .....No.	5,206	18,561
Others.....	—	983,361
Total		2,950,567

GROUP III.

Rice .....Picul	217,779	785,461
Beans, peas & pulse ... „	124,198	355,778
Kerosene oil .....Gal.	4,505,127	996,254
Oil-cake.....Picul	878,196	1,944,689
Others	—	1,464,681
Total		5,546,863
Grand total		22,966,665
Total of exports & imports ...		42,425,384
Excess of exports ...		—
Excess of imports ...		3,507,946

Summary of total value of specie and bullion exported from and imported into Japan for the same period.

EXPORTS.

	1903. Yen.	1902. Yen.
Gold coin and gold bullion	87,197	26
Silver coin and silver bullion ...	92,387	49,433
Total	179,584	49,459

IMPORTS.

Gold coin and gold bullion	1,040,639	2,323,011
Silver coin and silver bullion ...	6,637	124,761
Total	1,047,276	2,447,772

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Excess of exports	—	—
Excess of inports	867,692	2,398,313

Summary of the foreign trade of Taiwan (Formosa) for the same period.

	1903. Yen.	1902. Yen.
Exports	1,595,699	1,753,842
Imports	1,374,603	899,322
Total.....	2,970,302	2,653,164
Excess of exports	221,096	854,520
Excess of imports	—	—
Exports, specie and bullion	8,940	16,639
Imports, specie and bullion	317,889	441,420
Excess of exports	—	—
Excess of imports	308,949	424,781

CHAMBERLAIN'S COMMERCIAL POLICY.

The speech by Mr. Chamberlain at Birmingham (which we published on June 9th) setting forth his views as to free trade caused a considerable sensation.

From Berlin it was wired on the 18th of May:—The possibility of trade hostilities with Great Britain, presented to Germany by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Chamberlain, in his recent speech at Birmingham, comes at an inopportune time. For Chancellor von Buelow a fresh problem arises, while the re-construction of the commercial treaties with other countries was proceeding on well understood conditions. What the members of the Ministry hope is that Mr. Balfour and the majority of the Cabinet will decline to follow Mr. Chamberlain's suggestion, and that he will be obliged to leave the Cabinet.

So far as any reply can be made to Mr. Chamberlain's contrast of the British attitude towards Germany's interstate actions and Germany's treatment of Canada, as though the latter was not a part of the British Empire, it is stated that Canada is an independent state in commercial relations. Canada fixes her own trade conditions, and discriminated against Germany without asking Great Britain's consent.

The newspapers here, which are usually ready to avail themselves of any opportunity to attack Great Britain or Mr. Chamberlain, either say nothing on the subject, or use moderate language in contending that Germany can injure British trade more than Great Britain can injure Germany's trade. A hint seems to have gone out from the Foreign Office here to the editors, to say nothing which might irritate the British unduly, and to simply wait and see what happens in the British Cabinet. Some of the papers affirm that Great Britain will be initiating a tariff war on all exporting countries, including the United States, if she supports her Colonies in imposing preferential tariffs.

A London dispatch said on May 18th:—Speaking generally, the Ministerialist journals throughout the country applaud Mr. Chamberlain's programme. *The Times* has another editorial on Canadian appreciation of the Imperial largeness of Mr. Chamberlain's conceptions.

German telegrams indicate that a profound impression has been made. Leading Berlin journals are awaiting official inspiration, but other journals forecast a political and commercial upheaval, the issue of which it is impossible to foresee. They plead that Germany has no desire for a tariff war with Canada.

The English Liberal journals, with a few Imperialist exceptions, attack Mr. Chamberlain and quote against him the British blue-book issued to-day, showing that Britain imported last year foreign merchandise of the value of £421,000,000 and Colonial merchandise of the value of only £106,000,000. They argue that Mr. Chamberlain proposes to penalise four-fifths for the benefit of a fifth.

The *Westminster Gazette* to-night deplores Mr. Chamberlain's attitude as inevitably making Colonial questions subject to partisan strife in the Mother Land.

No one doubts here that Mr. Chamberlain is sketching his own electoral programme. The question is whether the Ministry will ultimately assent, despite Mr. Balfour's present hesitation, or whether Mr. Chamberlain will start a campaign of his own accord.

The *Chronicle* says: "It looks as if Mr. Chamberlain wished to open negotiations with the Colonies in view of his election to the Prime Ministership."

In a speech at Burnley, Lancashire, on May 19th Lord Rosebery, referring to Mr. Chamberlain's speech at Birmingham, on May 15th, in which the Colonial Secretary made an appeal for trade reciprocity within the British Empire, said that, before the tariffs were changed, the Colonies ought to be represented in the Government of the country, and that he did not think that the idea was so impracticable as it was sometimes considered. He did not regard Free Trade as a part of the "Sermon on the Mount," but the question arose whether it would be wise without long and deep consideration, to change the fiscal system under which Great Britain had achieved her commercial success.

"We must consider," continued Lord Rosebery, "whether it would be judicious to quarrel with customers who give us two-thirds and possibly three-quarters of our trade, in order to oblige customers who give us a-quarter or a-third of it. In any case, a conference between British and Colonial financial experts should precede any alteration in the British fiscal system."

Lord Rosebery dealt with Mr. Chamberlain's scheme in a very judicial manner, being careful neither to approve nor condemn it, but on the whole showing that he had no great sympathy with it. He said that he would not reject any scheme for really cementing or uniting the Empire, and it might be possible that its advantages would counterbalance the disadvantages, but he pointed out that Great Britain already bore the cost of the defence of the Empire, and therefore could not be accused of doing nothing for the Colonies. It might be inadvisable even for the benefit of her Colonies for Great Britain to quarrel with customers who had enabled her to accumulate wealth which enabled her to bear that heavy expenditure.

Then, looking to the likelihood of the discontented Colonies constantly insisting on modifications in the Tariff, Lord Rosebery said that he thought it would not add to the harmony of the relations between the Colonies and the Mother Country, to have these shifting tariffs between, and pleaded for the most careful consideration of all sides of the question, before any fiscal change was made.

A London dispatch of May 21st said:—Lord Rosebery expresses surprise that his speech at Burnley, Lancashire, on May 19th in which he dealt with the Colonial Secretary's Tariff speech, delivered at Birmingham on May 1st, has been interpreted as in any way supporting Mr. Chamberlain's proposal to establish reciprocity between Great Britain and her Colonies, and explains that he purposely treated the subject uncontroversially, because he was addressing a non-political audience. Lord Rosebery adheres absolutely to his opinion that the Liberal Party is indissolubly bound to free trade, and that anything like an Imperial commercial league would weaken the Empire internally and excite the permanent hostility of the whole world.

In a letter to a constituent, Mr. Chamberlain emphasises his belief in the necessity of an Imperial commercial league. He says:—

"I am firmly convinced that the prosperity of this country depends largely on our trade with the Colonies, which, under a wise system of mutual concession, will increase by leaps and bounds. We have been apt in the past to consider too much the advantage of buying cheaply, and not to pay sufficient attention to methods whereby we may have the means that enable us to pay at all. Increased wages are even more important to the working classes than reduced cost of living."

Mr. Chamberlain adds that he has the fullest confidence in the working classes, and in their power to realise the "great issues which depend on our present action."

THE CAVENDISH SPIRIT-RAPPING CASE.

The Court of Chancery on May 13th set aside the deed by which Henry H. S. Cavendish turned over the bulk of his property to Major C. H. Strutt, an officer in the British Army. Cavendish brought suit against Strutt to recover possession of the property on the ground that the officer had gained control of it through spiritualistic devices.

The plaintiff is the young African explorer. He spent nearly $1,000,000 in four years, largely in theatrical ventures and in buying jewelry for actresses. A year ago last April he married Isabel Jay, the leading lady of the Savoy Theatre. After spending a great deal of money in explorations and in the other ways referred to, Cavendish turned over the remainder of his property amounting to some $200,000, by settlement to the defendant Strutt, to administer in trust for him.

The evidence showed that Cavendish had been induced to believe by table rappings, slate writing and other devices that he was in communication with the spirit of his dead mother, who spoke to him. Cavendish testified during the trial that Major and Mrs. Strutt carried on spiritualistic seances daily, only stopping long enough for meals.

"We," said the plaintiff, "had communications from angels and archangels. All sorts of messages came from them—prayers, poetry and stories of processions in heaven. Sometimes the angels made reference to our business matters. This advice always coincided with that of the Strutts."

The Judge, in rendering the decision held that the plaintiff had not been fairly advised in regard to the full meaning of the settlement with Strutt, which he accordingly set aside.

THE GAELIC LEAGUE AND THE KING.

We learn from a Dublin telegram of May 18th that a scene of extreme disorder was witnessed at a meeting of citizens in the Rotunda, held that evening in support of the Irish Parliamentary Fund, owing to the presence of members of the Gaelic League, who are opposed to giving the King a friendly welcome on his visit to Ireland. Mr. Timothy Harrington, Lord Mayor of Dublin, was in the chair.

While Mr. John Redmond was addressing the audience, Mrs. McBride, formerly Miss Maude Gonne, advanced to the platform, and interrupted the meeting to ask the Lord Mayor if he intended, as head of the Municipality, to oppose the presentation of an address of welcome to the King.

Mr. Harrington replied in an evasive way.

Mrs. McBride insisted on a direct answer, whereupon scenes of the wildest disorder occurred, and prevented Mr. John Redmond from continuing his speech.

The members of the Gaelic League tried to storm the platform amid cries of "Put them out." Fierce collisions between the Gaelic Leaguers and the other members of the assembly ensued. Chairs were hurled to and from the platform, and many persons were injured in the desperate efforts made to eject the disturbers and restore order. Mr. John O'Donnell, member of Parliament for South Mayo, was badly injured in the head during the scuffle. Many persons fled terror-stricken from the hall.

Mr. John Redmond continued his speech, and eventually a semblance of order was regained, and a resolution in accordance with the object of the meeting was carried.

Mr. John Redmond, M.P., furnished the Associated Press with a signed statement, concerning the disorderly proceedings. Mr. Redmond says:—"The disturbance would have been easily nipped at the outset, but the people naturally shrank from using force to remove Mrs. McBride (formerly Miss Maude Gonne) and other ladies who led the disorder. After a while these ladies left, and the other disturbers were speedily removed. They consisted of thirty or forty young men, who acted in concert. They were roughly and violently treated, which I regretted, but it was impossible to restrain the people. The disturbance was quickly over, and for two hours after, unanimity and enthusiasm prevailed.'

Long speeches were delivered, a resolution in conformity with the meeting was unanimously adopted and large sums were subscribed to the Irish Parliamentary Fund. On emerging into the street, Lord Mayor Harrington received an enthusiastic ovation. The disturbance was planned by an irresponsible junta in Dublin, who are exasperated at the prospects for Ireland."

A SCOTTISH SHIP CANAL.

One of the Scottish Members of Parliament, Mr. James Caldwell, has been pressing on the House of Commons the advantages of Scotland from a Naval point of view, and the desirability of a ship canal between the Clyde and the Forth. Scotland has excellent harbour accommodation both on the East and on the West coasts and the Clyde, with its shipbuilding, its supply of workmen, and its proximity to the coal and iron fields, is pre-eminently suitable for a Government Dockyard. It was true, he admitted, that the new Naval Base at St. Margaret's Hope on the Forth would to a large extent, if not entirely, mitigate the grievance so far as the East coast of Scotland was concerned. It would provide a Government Dockyard proximity to the eastern coal and iron industries, and an excellent harbour for a fleet of any size watching and protecting the harbours and ports and shipping on the East coast, but under existing circumstances it would not help the harbour and shipping interests on the West of Scotland in the event of war. The whole complexion of the matter would be changed by the formation of a canal between the Forth and the Clyde, which would enable ships of war to pass freely from one coast to the other. Such a canal would be only thirty miles in length, and capable of being traversed in from five to six hours. By its means the Naval Base at St. Margaret's Hope on the East coast would be in direct water communication with a fleet operating on the West coast, and also in direct communication with the shipbuilding yards on the Clyde and in the North of Ireland. There would also be no chance of a fleet being hopelessly blockaded at St. Margaret's Hope—in fact, the importance of such a canal from a national defence point of view is obvious. The existing barge canal would be useless for the purposes of a ship canal, but it shows the practicability of making a canal suitable for the Admiralty on similar lines to the present one.

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THE BESSARABIAN BRUTALITIES.

A London telegram of May 18th said: *The Times* this morning published from a correspondent a literal translation of what purports to be the text of a confidential circular, sent by M. von Plehwe, Russian Minister of the Interior, to the Governor of Bessarabia, shortly before the outbreak at Kishineff. The correspondence is dated March 25th, and is headed:

"It has now come to my knowledge that in the region entrusted to you wide disturbances are being prepared against the Jews, who chiefly exploit the local populations. In view of the general disquietude, the disposition of the population of towns to seek a vent for itself, and also in view of the unquestionable undesirability of instilling, by too severe measures, anti-Governmental feelings into a population which has been necessarily affected by a propaganda, Your Excellency will not fail to contribute to the stopping of disorders which may arise by means of admonitions, without at all having recourse, however, to the use of arms."

Mr. David Alexander and Mr. Claude Montefiore, two of the leading representative Jews in England, publish in *The Times* this morning a long protest against the apathy of the Russian authorities, in view of the Kishineff horrors, and the deplorable indifference, if not actual anti-Semitism, displayed in every line of Minister von Plehwe's report on the outrages, which the writers declare bristles with misstatements. They declare that the outbreaks were deliberately organized by local anti-Semites assisted by inflammatory anti-Semite papers and tables of Jewish ritual murders. Details are given to substantiate all the horrible incidents hitherto published. Formal depositions have been made accusing the police of disarming Jews who tried to defend themselves. All appeals to the Governor to call out the military were vain, and when leading Jews tried to telegraph to St. Petersburg their messages were stopped."

A Washington telegram of May 18th said: Count Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, in a conversation to-day, with a representative of the Associated Press, relative to the Jewish troubles in Russia, said:—

"There is in Russia, as in Germany and Austria, a feeling against certain of the Jews. The reason for this unfriendly feeling is found in the fact that the Jews will not work in the field or engage in agriculture. They prefer to be money-lenders. In this capacity they take advantage of the Russian peasant, whom they soon have in their power and ultimately destroy. It is when the patience of the peasant is exhausted that a conflict between peasants and Jews occurs."

AMERICA IN THE PACIFIC.

At the Mechanics' Pavilion, San Francisco, President Roosevelt made the most important speech he has delivered since he left St. Louis. His subject was: "Expansion and Trade Development and Protection of the Country's Newly-Acquired Possession in the Pacific," together with the advocacy of a greater navy. He made his discourse of particular interest and roused his audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. He said:

"Before I saw the Pacific Slope I was an expansionist, and after seeing it I fail to understand how any man confident of his country's greatness, and glad that his country should challenge with proud confidence our mighty future, can be anything but an expansionist. America's geographical position on the Pacific is such as to insure our peaceful domination of its waters in the future, if only we grasp with sufficient resolution the advantages of this position. We are taking long strides in this direction. Witness the cables we are laying, and the great steamship lines we are starting. We have taken the first steps towards digging an Isthmian canal, to be under our own control, a canal which will make our Atlantic and Pacific Coast lines, to all intents and purposes, continuous, and will add immensely alike to our commercial and our military and naval strength. The inevitable march of events gave us the control of the Philippines, at a time so opportune that it may, without irreverence, be held Providential, unless we show ourselves weak. Unless we show ourselves degenerate sons of the sires from whose loins we spring, we must go on with the work that we have begun. I hope that this work will always be peaceful in character. We infinitely desire peace, and the surest way to obtain it is to show that we are not afraid of war. We should deal in a spirit of fairness and justice with all nations. We should show to the strongest that we are able to maintain our rights. Such showing cannot be made by bluster, for bluster merely invites contempt. Let us speak courteously, deal fairly and keep ourselves armed and ready. If we do these things we can count on the peace that comes only to the just man armed, and the just man who neither fears nor inflicts wrongs."

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

ENGLAND'S FISCAL POLICY.

London, June 5.

Sir Edward Grey, speaking at Bedford, said if we wanted to bind the empire together it were better to develope the nation's shipping and make trade facilities easier and not to disturb the present fiscal system.

PRESIDENT LOUBET'S VISIT.

Later.

Owing to the difficulty of adjusting dates, in view of King Edward's visit to Ireland, it has now been arranged that President Loubet arrives in London on the 6th July and remains in England three days.

SENTENCES REMITTED.

The sentences of the majority of the Transvaalers convicted of military offences during the war have been remitted.

FOREST FIRES IN NORTH AMERICA.

London, June 6.

After two months of drought, vast forest fires are raging in Eastern Canada, New England, New York State, and part of New Jersey. The dense smoke causes a darkness which is impeding the traffic in New York city and harbour. The town of Musquash, in New Brunswick, has been destroyed and 200 persons are homeless.

ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

It is officially announced that their Majesties the King and Queen, will arrive in Ireland on the 31st of July.

TERRIBLE HURRICANE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A hurricane is reported from the Philippines. Four American steamers, including the transport *Samshin*, were lost. The loss of life is unknown.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

The French Government has assured the British and other Governments interested, that the forthcoming expedition to Morocco is merely a punitive expedition and that no occupation of territory is intended.

"WOULD MAKE THE DEVIL BLUSH."

London, June 7.

Michael Davitt, who has been sent to Russia for the purpose of investigating the Kishineff massacre of Jews for a New York paper, writes to *The Times* describing the outrages at Kishineff as such that they would make the devil blush with shame. He declares that they are largely due to the dissemination of reports of the murder of Christian children by Jews for ritual purposes. He appeals to the Czar to issue a ukase to be read in the churches throughout the Empire, declaring this ancient superstition to be an atrocious calumny on the Jews.

DISASTROUS COLLISION.

London, June 8.

The Fraissenet steamers *Insulaire* and *Liban* have collided off Marseilles. The *Liban* sank. Twenty-nine corpses have been recovered.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales attended the Hospital Sunday service in St. Paul's yesterday.

THE DISASTER OFF MARSEILLES.

London, June 9.

There were from 200 to 250 people on board the steamer *Liban*, of whom it is believed that half perished. The *Liban* sank in twenty minutes.

THE AMERICAN FLOODS.

It is estimated that the floods in America have rendered 25,000 persons homeless and submerged 200,000 acres of fertile farms. Martial law has been proclaimed in St. Louis to prevent looting.

THE FOREST FIRES.

The forest fires in Canada and New England continue, being particularly alarming in the Canadian maritime provinces and around Ottawa and Montreal.

GERMAN OFFICIAL CHANGES.

Herr Syburg, German Consul-General at Batavia, has been transferred to Yokohama, replacing Herr G. Coates, Consul-General at that port, who has been appointed Minister at Bangkok.

JAPANESE BLUEJACKETS IN AUSTRALIA.

Japanese bluejackets took part in a review at Sydney with British and were greatly cheered.

BOMBARDING FIGUIG.

The French artillery have bombarded Figuig for two hours.

BOMBARDING FIGUIG.

Londod, June 10.

The French bombardment of Figuig lasted six hours. Six hundred shells were fired aud much damage was done.

FIRES AND DROUGHT.

The rains have extinguished the forest fires (in America and Canada) and ended the drought.

THE MAIL CONTRACTS.

In the Post Office Estimates the Peninsular and Oriental and Canadian Pacific Companies are severely criticised. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Postmaster-General, states that notice has been given to terminate the Peninsular and Oriental contract.

THE COLOUR LINE IN THE TRANSVAAL.

The Transvaal Legislative Council has adopted a clause excluding coloured persons and aliens from the municipal vote.

THE TARIFF QUESTION.

London, June 11.

Replying to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, the Speaker said that a full discussion of Mr. Chamberlains's proposals would be out of order in reference to the Finance Bill. This will probably mean indefinite postponement (of such discussion).

In the debate on the 10th on Mr. Chaplin's amendment to the Finance Bill condemning the remission of the Corn Duty, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach declared that Mr. Chamberlain's scheme was likely rather to disunite than to unite the empire, and likely also to destroy the Unionist Party. Mr. C. T. Ritchie (Chancellor of the Exchequer) said that as a convinced Free Trader he was unable to support a policy which he believed detrimental both to Britain and her colonies. He justified the imposition of the Corn Tax in a time of emergency and its repeal when prospects were brighter. The Ministers who had spoken on the subject of preferential tariffs clearly stated that they spoke for themselves not for the Government. Mr. H. Chaplin ascribed the situation to the incapacity of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the inaction of Government. Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain were absent throughout the debate, which was adjourned.

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THE FIGUIGIENS AND THE FRENCH.

Later.

The Figuigiens have tendered their absolute submission to the French.

THE TARIFF DEBATE.

Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain were absent only during the less important stage of the debate.

Sir Edward Grey said that the situation was intolerable. The Government, having raised an issue, was not entitled to hang it up.

The debate continues.

ASSASSINATION OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF SERVIA.

THE ARMY DECLARES FOR THE PRETENDER.

London, June 11.

The King and Queen of Servia have been assassinated in the Palace.

The Servian army proclaimed the Pretender Karageogevitch King.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

Saigon, June 6.

In the Chamber of Deputies the Prime Minister, M. Combes, declared that when the concentration of the troops is terminated, an exemplary lesson will be inflicted on the Figuigiens. The Government of the Republic does not desire either conquest or taking consecutive possession of Morocco. The foreign Powers will therefore see without apprehension a repression which the circumstances have rendered necessary.

THE KING OF ITALY.

Saigon, June 8.

It is officially announced that the King of Italy will arrive in Paris on July 16th.

A CONSULAR CHANGE.

The German Consul at Canton has been transferred to Saigon.

THE "LIBAN" DISASTER.

Saigon, June 9.

The packet *Insulaire*, coming from Toulon, collided with the *Liban* on her way to Bastia yesterday afternoon in the roadstead of Marseilles. The *Liban* was sunk. A hundred persons perished and a hundred were saved.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

The Krours of Figuig were bombarded in the morning for two hours. The French troops, who occupied two hills, did not suffer any loss. The loss of the enemy is unknown.

THE ACTION AT FIGUIG.

Saigon, June 10.

Six hundred shells were thrown at the Ksours in Figuig. They were directed principally at the Zenaga. The troops afterwards returned to Beniunif to wait until the Figuigiens come to an agreement. It is estimated that 300 were killed in the Zenaga and that there were many wounded. The Zenaga is destroyed.

Saigon, June 11.

It is reported from Beniounif that emissaries from Figuig offered their submisssion. General O'Connor refused to receive them, declaring that he would not consent to treat except with the Djemmaas.

THE BRITISH CABINET.

There are disagreements in the British Cabinet on the questions of protection and free trade.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN TOKYO.)

ITALIAN SILK CROP.

Rome, June 3.

On account of the bad weather and exceptional cold the mulberry trees have been injured, and, in consequence, sericulturists have had to throw away quantities of seed, so that the number of silk worms fed will not exceed one-half of that of last year. The production of silk will probably be reduced by one-third. The price of cocoons is rising.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST.")

THE KING OF ITALY.

Berlin, June 6.

It is certain that King Victor Emmanuel intends to pay a visit to Paris in July. On the other hand his expected visit to London has recently become doubtful. Also President Loubet's visit to the Pope is doubted.

GERMANY AND CANADA.

The Governmental paper *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* very clearly and quietly reviews the German-Canadian custom differences. The calm explanation in this paper and the distinguished reserve of the Government is approved by the whole German press. Also the American press speaks moderately. This has had a good effect in England too and the expected press controversey has not taken place. The reprisals against Canada are provisionally adjourned.

FRANKFURT HONOURED.

On occasion of the great singing contest in Frankfurt-am-Main the Kaiser addressed the municipal officials who welcomed him; he praised the town's administration for the keen interest shown by the improvement of the welfare of the working classes. He was pleased to fulfill a wish of the old free imperial city in giving to the 63rd artillery regiment there in garrison the name of "Frankfurt."

MOROCCO.

The French Premier, M. Combes, has given an explanation of the incidents in Figuig (Morocco) which is regarded in Berlin to be satisfactory. In the French press the tendency for the annexation of Morocco is continuing.

THE KAISER TO VISIT AUSTRIA.

Berlin, June 8.

An interview between Kaiser Wilhelm and the Emperor Franz Josef will take place on the 18th of September. The Austrian Heir-apparent, Erzherzog Franz Ferdinand, has sent to Emperor Wilhelm a hunting invitation for the 15th of September. Directly after the hunting the Kaiser will go to Vienna and meet there with the Austrian Emperor.

MONT PELEE.

At Mont Peleé, Martinique, a new violent eruption has happened.

THE CHANCELLOR.

The Chancellor Von Bülow has arrived at Berlin

THE KAISER AND THE VOLKSLIED.

At the great singing contest in Frankfurt-am-Main the Berlin Teachers Singing Club won the prize offered by the Emperor. At the end of the festivity the Kaiser addressed the singers and expressed himself much satisfied by the match. He desired the German popular song to be cultivated jealously and he proposed to make a comprehensive collection of German ballads.

LOAN TO FINLAND.

A group of German banks, with the "Deutsche Bank" at Berlin among them, tendered 10 millions for the loan of Finland.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

Berlin, June 9.

Reports coming from Washington state that the ill-humour felt in the U.S. against Russia on behalf of the Jew massacres at Kischinew, are diminishing, and that therefore the assembling of the American squadron off the Chinese shores will cause no complications.

MOROCCO.

Concerning the Figuig expedition and the boundary conflict between France and Morocco the Powers pursue a neutral course.

CANADA AND GERMANY.

Berlin, June 11.

The report of the Laffan Bureau stating the Canada had raised the duties imposed upon iron is not yet officially confirmed.

NO CRISIS.

The rumours according to which there is in England a ministerial crisis are false.

FIGUIG.

The French action against Figuig provisionally is finished.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

BRITAIN'S TRADE POLICY.

London, June 9.

The debate with reference to fiscal policy will begin to-night in the House of Commons.

GERMANY'S ASIATIC FLEET.

According to a statement made in Berlin, Germany will gradually send powerful re-inforcements to her navy on the Chinese coasts. Many battleships are about to be despatched. The authorities are pressing the early completion of cruisers which are now under construction.

The German Government expects that there will be trouble.

FIGUIG.

The French troops yesterday bombarded Figuig and destroyed Zenaga. The French fired shells from 75 milimetre and 95 milimetre guns.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

THE LADIES' RACE.

London, May 30.

The following is the result of the Oaks Stakes run at Epsom on the 29th of May:—

Mr. J. B. Joel's *Our Lassie*, b. f. by *Ayrshire—Yours* 2

Major Eustace Loder's *Hammerkop*, b. f. by *Gallinule—Concussion* 1

Mr. W. Raphael's *Skyscraper*, ch. f. by *Velasques* or *Ayrshire—Chelandry* 3

NEW LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY.

Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Carter Drury, K.C.S.I., has been appointed a Lord of the Admiralty, and Rear-Admiral George Lambart Atkinson-Willes (Commanding the Home squadron and second in command of the Home Fleet) succeeds him as Commander-in-chief, East Indies.

NATIVE LABOUR IN RHODESIA.

The Rhodesian Chamber of Mines has decided to try East Indian labourers. If these are unsatisfactory, the only alternative is Chinese.

THE GOLD STANDARD IN THE STRAITS.

Hongkong, May 30.

The Singapore Legislature has approved the new currency scheme with one dissentient. There is general satisfaction in the Straits.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S ZOLLVEREIN.

London, May 30.

Sir Edward Grey, M.P., speaking at Oxford, said that Mr. Chamberlain's proposals meant the ruin of the prosperity of Great Britain, and the break-up of the Empire. They should be resisted to the bitter end.

The feeling produced by the Ministerial pronouncements in favour of preferential tariffs recalls to some extent the days of Gladstone's Home Rule scheme. The cleavage of parties is too indistinct to permit definition, the newspapers, which are themselves at sixes and sevens, affording only a varying indication of the views of the people at large.

PRESIDENT LOUBET'S VISIT TO THE KING.

It is officially announced that President Loubet proceeds to London on the 18th or 20th of July, and stays there three or four days.

VIOLENT DEATH OF A BRITISH OFFICER.

London, May 31.

It is reported from Johannesburg that Sir Edward Hulse, formerly Press Censor there, has been found dead in his bedroom, shot through the head.

BRITISH HONOURS FOR HONGKONG.

London, May 31.

The Imperial Service order has been conferred on the Hon. R. M. Rumsey, R. N., Harbour Master, and Mr. B. Shepherd, of the Land Office, Hongkong; and Mr. A. Mackie, Chief Inspector of Police, Hongkong, has been granted a medal.

SIR EDWARD HULSE.

London, June 1.

It appears that Sir Edward Hulse (who was found dead in his room at Johannesburg) committed suicide.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S ZOLLVEREIN.

London, June 2.

Owing to Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has withdrawn the motion of which he gave notice on the 27th of May. This is regarded as another instance of the weakness and divided counsels of the Liberals.

It is understood that Sir Henry strongly objected to Sir Charles Dilke's motion as taking the wind out of the sails of the official resolution. Sir Charles refused to yield, and now Sir Henry washes his hands of the whole business.

NEW SILK CROP.

Wusieh, June 1.

The crop is a good one.

The quality of the coccons is good.

Fresh cocoons are being bought at $55 per picul.

Buyers are quiet.

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FAILURE OF THE ATTEMPT TO ENTRAP KANG YU-WEI.

Hongkong, June 2.

Kang Yü-wei, having received a telegram purporting to be sent by the Emperor, recalling him to Peking, arrived here from India on Sunday by the French mail.

The reformers on the spot apparently convinced him that the telegram was a forgery, and Kang Yü-wei took the earliest steamer south.

ANTI-AUSTRIAN FEELING IN ITALY.

London via Bombay, June 3.

Some disquietude is beginning to be felt at the continuous anti-Austrian demonstrations in many towns in Italy. They originated in resentment at an unimportant manifestation by some student at Innsbruck against the Italian students there, and it has now become a political movement which the Government finds it difficult to control.

FATAL FIRE AT ETON.

The fire at Eton was at Kindersley's house. Both the victims were fourteen years old; one of them was a grandson of Sir Edward Levy-Lawson, chief proprietor of the *Daily Telegraph*.

GERMAN OPINION.

London, June 4.

The German Chancellor, Count Von Bülow, appears anxious to avoid anything which, by fanning anti-German feeling in England, may promote Mr. Chamberlain's ideas.

FROM FIELD TO FORUM.

The *Standard's* correspondent at Johannesburg, telegraphing yesterday, states that the Dutch have decided to take an active part in politics in the Transvaal Colony. This marks the inauguration of a period of great political unrest.

General Louis Botha and his colleagues in the late War are strongly opposed to the introduction of Chinese labour. They advocate extensive recruiting in Africa itself, and, failing that, suggest bringing natives from Southern India.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S ZOLLVEREIN.

London, June 5.

The Governments of the Commonwealth and all the States of Australia approve Mr. Chamberlain's proposals. Only the extreme Free Traders oppose them. An immense majority in favour of the proposals is assured. The New Zealand Chambers of Commerce have endorsed the proposals.

THE COLOUR LINE IN THE TRANSVAAL.

The Transvaal Legislative Council adopted by 15 votes to 13 the clause in the ordinance granting the municipal franchise to coloured persons educated and socially qualified; but as the unofficial members almost unanimously opposed the grant of the franchise to coloured persons in any shape at present, the Government has withdrawn the clause in order to reconsider the matter.

(From the "Hongkong Daily Press.")

MANILA NEWS.

Manila, May 29.

An investigation of the records of the Workingmen's Union has caused the Prosecuting Attorney to arrest the President, Dominador Gomez, on a charge of directing an illegal association, misusing benefit funds, and brigandage, aiding Guillermo and other outlaws, and agitating by means of seditious plays.

Gomez had become a Labour Czar, calling strikes and fixing wages until every industry was threatened.

The arrest has caused the greatest sensation here. It is believed that the heads of the insurrecto element are involved in the affair.

(From the Manila "Cablenews.")

TERRIFIC CYCLONES IN NEBRASKA.

New York, May 27.

Two most destructive cyclones have swept across the state of Nebraska leaving death and terror in their paths. Seven towns have been wiped out, thirty persons killed, many wounded fatally and thousands rendered homeless. Great damage, also, has been done to growing crops and orchards in the afflicted section. The storms entered the state from the southwest, and travelled in a northeasterly direction.

The dangerous looking funnel-shaped clouds spread the alarm as they approached and much loss of life was saved by people taking refuge in cyclone caves. The storms were accompanied by heavy rain and hail which added greatly to the suffering of the injured and homeless. Relief is being rushed to the sufferers from neighbouring towns and the wounded are being cared for. The cyclones were the most destructive that have ever been known in the state.

KING ALPHONSO INHERITS MILLIONS.

A dispatch from Madrid brings the report that Alphonso XII, King of Spain, has fallen heir to estates valued at seven million dollars. The legacy comes from the closing up of the estate of the king's grandfather, who was possessed of great wealth.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma.....	N. P. Co.	Tacoma 1	F. June 12
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru 2	M. June 15
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	City of Peking 3	M. June 15
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. June 20
Hongkong.....	N. P. Co.	Lyra	Sa. June 20
America	O. & O. Co.	Coptic 4	M. June 22
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	W. June 24
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	W. June 24
Hongkong.....	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Th. June 25
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. June 29
America	T. K. K.	America Maru	Tu. June 30
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	Th. July 2
Hongkong.....	T. K. K	Nippon Maru	F. July 3
America	P. M. Co.	Korea	W. July 8

1 Left Tacoma on the 25th ult.
2 Left Seattle on the 30th ult.
3 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong...	N. P. Co.	Tacoma	F. June 12
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Roon	Sa. June 13
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kawachi Maru	Sa. June 13
Hongkong.....	P. M. Co.	Siberia	M. June 15
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	Tu. June 16
America.....	P. M. Co.	City of Peking	W. June 17
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kobe Maru	Th. June 18
Europe	M. M. Co.	Annam	F. June 19
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Lyra	Su. June 21
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu. June 23
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th. June 25
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. June 27
Hongkong.....	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. June 29.
Hongkong.....	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. July 2
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. July 3
Australia	N. Y. K	Yawata Maru	Sa. July 4
America.....	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. July 4

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Borck, 5th June,—Tsingtau via Moji, 2nd June, Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.

Vindobona, Austrian steamer, 2,689, B. Cobol, 5th June,—Trieste via ports, and Shanghai, 31st May, General.—Pollak Bros.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, F. E. Cope, 5th June,—Shanghai via ports, 30th May, Mails and General.—NipponYusen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,531, Forst, 5th June,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 5th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, Williams, 5th June,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 5th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 6th June,—Kobe, 4th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, S. Robinson, 6th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 4th June, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 7th June,—Yokkaichi, 6th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Roon, German steamer, 4,007, G. Meiners, 7th June,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 6th June, Mails & General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sazanami, Japanese torpedo boat destroyer, 300, 7th June,—Yokosuka, 7th June.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 7th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 8th June,—Vancouver, B.C., 25th May, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Girard, 8th June,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 7th June, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 8th June,—Kobe, 6th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 8th June,—Yokkaichi, 7th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 8th June,—Misumi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 8th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 7th June, Mails & General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 8th June,—Kobe, 7th June General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 9th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chatean Renault (20 guns), French flagship, 8,500, Captain Poidlorie, 9th June,—Nagasaki via Kagoshima, 30th May.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, W. Hutton, 10th June,—London via ports, and Kobe, 8th June, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kwangse, British steamer, 1,228, A. Harris, 10th June,—Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Battenhall, British steamer, 1,375, Weppener, 10th June,—Hamburg via Suez Canal, General and Dynamite.—Grosser & Co.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, G. Lapraik, 10th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albenga, German steamer, 2,769, Peterson, 10th June,—New York via ports, and Moji, 7th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 11th June,—Yokkaichi, 10th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 11th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 10th June, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Shawmut, American steamer, 6,195, Wm. Smith, 11th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 10th June, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,080, Guigues, 5th June,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 5th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,072, W. W. Greene, 5th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kawamuro, 5th June,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 6th June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,870, F. Davies, 5th June,—Kure, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ckeltenham, British steamer, 2,415, H. Brophy, 5th June,—Kuchinotsu via Yokkaichi, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 5th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Duke of Fife, British steamer, 2,416, J. S. Cox, 6th June,—Kobe, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co..

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,881, E. W. Haswell, 6th June,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Athenian, British steamer, 2,428, S. Robinson, 6th June,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 6th June,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, A. E. Hollingsworth, 6th June,—Portland, Ore., Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Vindobona, Austrian steamer, 2,689, B. Cobol, 7th June,—Trieste via ports, 7th June, General.—Pollak Bros.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,237, K. Iwanaga, 8th June,—Otaru via Kobe and West Coast ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 8th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 8th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 8th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Sazanami, Japanese torpedo-boat destroyer, 300, Com. ——, 8th June,—Yokosuka.

Antenor, British steamer, 3,327, R. Williams, 9th June,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Canton, British steamer, 2,164, C. F. Lockstone, 9th June,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & G. S.N. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 9th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, N. Nielsen, 9th June,—Moji, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 9th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Goliath (16 guns), British battleship, 12,950, Captain L. E. Wintz, 10th June,—Weihaiwei.

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Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 9th June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,047, W. E. Filmer, 10th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, T. Arakawa, 10th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, F. E. Cope, 11th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Battenhall, British steamer, 1,375, Weppener, 11th June,—Kobe, General and Dynamite.—Grosser & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 11th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3531, Forst, 11th June,—Calcutta via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663, Borck, 11th June,—Havre, Bremen and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports :—Mr. P. H. McLachlan, Mr. Prigirenbett, Mrs. Lynch, Mr. Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. Sugihara, Mrs. Tsuji, Mr. Crane, Mr. Hamada, and Mr. Nakamura, in cabin ; Mr. Murakoshi, and Mr. Toyoshima, in second class ; 30 Japanese, 9 Chinese, and 1 American, in steerage.

Per German steamer *Roon*, from Europe via ports :—Mr. H. A. de Meli, Mr. G. H. Ed. V. Hessenthal, Mrs. E. McClean, Mr. E. McNibrand, Mr. E. Mirow, Mr. E. F. Chard, Mr. R. Petrich, Mr. Laus. Baur, Mr. E. G. Craig, Mr. and Mrs. L. Kanton, Mr. F. Karcher, Mr. Refardt, Mr. T. Bunger, Mr. Denbigh, Miss Denbigh, Mr. G. Bertazzoli, Mr. Louise Burri, Mr. G. Hagmann, Mr. and Mrs. F. Feicke and amah, Master Feicke, Master F. Feicke, Master W. Feicke, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. C. H. Allan, Mr. K. Aramiki, Mr. F. D. Browne, Mr. Clark, Mr. J. H. Cock, Mr. H. C. Cock, Mr. J. C. Fletcher, Mrs. J. A. Ferguson and children, Mr. D. A. Greenwood, Mr. A. C. Gray, Mr. Horikoshi, Mr. Hassberger, Mr. H. Ikeda, Mr. H. Kitamura, Capt. H. C. King, Mr. Rankin Leslie, Mr. E. D. Levering, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Levering, Mr. L. A. Levering, Misses Levering (2), Mr. Lee Lum and daughter, Mr. T. E. Murphine, Mr. Paul Nash, Mr. J. C. O'Brien, Mr. W. S. Osborn, Mr. M. A. Peragia, Mrs. Sterling, Misses Sterling, Miss E. R. Scidmore, Mr. Paul Thomas, Mr. M. Wolfe, and Miss Z. Yusuf-Ben, is cabin.

Per French steamer *Annam*, from Marseilles via ports :—Mr. Brodersen, Mr. Dentici, Mr. H. Britt, Mr. H. Jode, Mr. Brandes, and 2 Chinese, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. M. A. Kern, Mr. Lionel Ingles, Mrs. Ingles, Mrs. W. A. Akers, Mr. F. M Dancy, Miss Fayelle Dodge, Dr. J. R. Hykes, Mr. H. Palmer, Mrs. L. L. Ferry, Mr. G. Irwin, Mrs. M. F. Levey, Dr. C. W. Curtis, Capt. J. P. Ryan, Mrs. J. P. Ryan and child, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Miss Helen Prattent, Mr. F. S. Heath, Mrs. F. J. Willson, Miss Willson, and Rev. H. B. Johnson, in cabin. For Honolulu :—Miss K. L. E. Meyers, in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mr. Wong Kai Kah and family, Mr. Li Kit Hsien, Mr. Yee Ngo Tong, Mr. Ostermayer, Mr. Ma Kang Yee, Mr. Tong Pou Ting, Mrs. Ostermayer, Mr. Sah Foh Kynin, Mr. Chang Yam Tang, Mr. Yang Yin Chuan, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. Yukit Men, Mr. Tong Sah Yee, Dr. Homer Eaton, and Mr. Geo. Thomas, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong via ports :—Mrs. M. Covell, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Major C. H. Watts, Mr. H. H. Todd and servant, Mr. H. E. Guyer, Mr. C. Lonquet, Major and Mrs. Pritchard, Capt. and Mrs. Simpson and child, Mr. A. G. Langley, Mr. Copman, Mr. A. M. Reith, Mr. Schutz, Mr. C. W. Dickson, Mr. C. H. Abbey, Mr. G. Barnett, Mr. C. S. Radford, Mr. R. Schmidt, Mrs. Cole, Mr. J. Paton, Mrs. Cameron, Mr. J. Mitchell, and Mr. Pass, in cabin ; 2, in intermediate. For Vancouver :—Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Byworth, Mr. P. C. Hogan, Lieut. B. W. Paul, Lieut. H. C. Napier, Rev. and Mrs. White and child, Dr. W. P. Wilson, Mr. J. L. Irwin, Mr. W. P. Robertson, Mr. L. H. Holbrook, Mrs. J. R. Hopkins, Mrs. A. Coffee and child, Mrs. S. A. Skelton, Mrs. Jeffery, Mr. A. H. Skelton, Lieut.-Col. H. Lawson, Mr. W. Lang, Mrs. Valerie, Miss M. King, Mr. H. C. Brushfield, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Pullan, Mrs. A. Michie, Mr. E. P. Hudson, Miss M. Loveridge, Capt. F. P. W. Dyer, R.M.A., Mr. F. W. Warburton, Mr. L. Anderson, Mrs., Miss and Master Grey, Miss Johnson, Mrs. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. F. Garlord, Mrs. and Miss Paton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Steedman and 4 children, Mr. P. Loonen, and Rev. A. Lombard, in cabin ; 11, in intermediate ; 370, in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oceanien*, for Marseilles via ports :—Mr. M. C. Goncalves Pereira, Brazilian Minister and valet, Mr. H. V. Gielen and native servant, Mrs. H. V. Gielen, Mr. and Mrs. J. Shoeninger, Miss J. Shoeninger, Mr. Emil Kanhauser, Mr. Mochiram, Mr. C. Illies, and Mr. Leun de Hoyer, in cabin ; 4, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mr. F. K. Andreon, Mr. Geo. Barnett, Mr. John S. Bradstreet, Rev. J. D. Davis, Dr. E. J. Craig, Miss Curtis, Mr. A. Faga, Mr. Louis Faga, Mrs. Louis Faga, Mr. C. M. Freed, Mrs. C. M. Freed, Miss H. M. Freeman, Mr. W. F. Gallin, Mrs. W. F. Hall, Mr. H. J. Hardy, Miss Herrick, Mr. J. A. Hill, Mr. Chas. Hoffke, Mrs. Iott, Mr. W. J. Kealy, Mr. T. P. Keeney, Mr. S. H. Musich, Mr. C. H. P. Noyes, Mr. F. O'Brien, Mr. C. J. O'Conor, Rev. C. B. Olds, Mrs. C. B. Olds, Miss Ah Quai, Mr. C. S. Radfort, Miss A. Russell, Mr. B. Schmid, Mr. R. Schwind, Dr. F. F. Pprague, Mr. S. Takemoto, Mrs. R. W. Thornberry and infant, Mr. Geo. C. Wilcox, Mrs. Geo. G. Wilcox, Mr. H. C. Williamson, and Miss D. E. Wisdom, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. C. H. Balfour, Mr. F. Barthelemy, Mr. Canaple, Mr. C. D. Drew, Miss E. Howard, Lieut. D. Kirkland, Mr. Montamat, Mr. J. T. Mussell, Mr. J. T. Norten, and Mrs. S. L. Skinner and child, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong via ports :—Mr. E. Arndt, Miss D. McCall, Mr. F. E. Hemenway, Mr. N. W. Van Cleve, Mrs. Twining, Lieut. Halm, Mrs. R. M. Berry, Mr. Louis Barlet, Miss M. Flint, Mr. J. E. Lee, Mr. Lord, Mr. Pieper, Miss Ben Yusuf, Mr. Alma Baker, Mr. A. Sussmann, Mr. F. Ilse, Mr. C. Wilson, Miss Steele, Miss Gillespie, Mr. A. Mason, Mr. W. Karl Vincent, Mr. E. Levedag, Mr. Jas. Hayes, Dr. T. Masao, Sir Wm. and Lady Goodman, and Misses Goodman (3), in cabin ; Mr. W. Sussmann, Mr. L. W. Gage, and Mr. Ruegg, in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mrs. L. Braithwaite, Miss Blackwood, Mr. J. W. Bour, Mrs. J. W. Bour and child, Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. Louis J. Boyd, Mr. E. M. Broun, Mrs. R. I. Cahn, Mr. S. W. Burtchaell, Mrs. S. W. Burtchaell, Mr. H. B. Chinnery, Mr. Yang Yin Chuan, Mr. C. W. Clyde, Mr. A. Corbin, Mrs. A. Corbin, Miss L. Dawsou, Dr. Homer Eaton, Miss Fabris, Mr. Ernest Federer, Mr. Ch. Flaig, Mr. N. Gottlieb, Mrs. N. Gottlieb and child, Mrs. C. M. Grower, Mr. Sidney Haslett, Mr. G. Hines, Mr. Lit Kit Hsien, Mr. Carl Jauss, His Ex. Wong Kai-Kah, Mr. K. Muramoto, Mr. S. Kodera, Mr. M. T. Kosugi, Mr. Sah Foh Kyuiu, Dr. L. M. Lane, Mrs. L. M. Lane, Dr. A. L. Lengfeld, Mrs. A. L. Lengfeld, Master Lengfeld. Mr. Wong Yung Loong, Mr. Jno. W. McLean, Mrs. Jno. W. McLean, Miss M. Maud, Mr. Yu Kit Men, Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, Miss K. L. E. Meyers, Mr. Louis Meyer, Mr. Kirk Munroe, Miss Nickelsberg, Mr. M. Ostermeyer, Mrs. Ostermeyer, Mr. R. H. Raphael, Mr. J. O. Reis, Mrs. J. O. Reis, Her Ex. Baroness von Reitzenstein, Mr. Albert Rosling, Mr. H. Schilling, Mr. Schott, Sir Colin Scott-Moncrieff, Lady Colin Scott-Moncrieff, Miss H. Scott-Moncrieff, Miss Seebohm, Mr. S. Slater, Mrs. S Slater, Mrs. Hiram C. Smith, Miss Smith, Mrs. A. M. Stanley, Mr. R. J. Stanley, Mr. E. J. Steinberg, Mr. Chang Yow Tang, Mr. F. Thomas, Mrs. F. Thomas, Mr. Geo. Thomas, Master Yee Ngo Ting, Master Wong Yung Tsing, Mr. E. A. Ulrich, Mrs. N. G. Vandeventer, Miss P. Vollmer, Dr. W. S. Washburn, Mr. A. B. Watson, Miss Wetmore, Miss Gertrude M. Wetmore, Mr. C. Yamanaka, Mr. Ma Yang Yee, Mr. Tang Suh Yee, Miss Wong Jing Yin, and Miss Wong Jing Yuk in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosai Maru*, for Shanghai via ports :—Mr. J. F. de Jesus, Mrs. A. C. de Jesus, Mr. H. R. Hunt, Mr. K. Nakamura, Col. and Mrs. C. Sears, Mr. Cadmonn, Mrs. H. Thompson and baby, Prof. H. Kondo, Mr. S. Yoshikawa, and Mrs. M. Yamazaki, in cabin ; Mr. K. Yamazaki, Mr. M. Yamazaki, and Mr. S. Kozaka, in second class ; 34, in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Athenian*, for Vancouver :—

From.	Canada.	TEA. Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkong .	352	—	—	583	—	934
Amoy	—	536	1,456	—	—	1,992
Shanghai...	20	326	1,245	—	—	1,591
Kobe	32	854	645	—	—	1,531
Yokohama..	639	4,246	322	75	—	5,282
Total...	1,043	5,962	3,668	658	—	11,331

From.	SILK. New York.	San F'cisco.	Easton.	South Manchester.	Total. Bales.
Hongkong & Canton	100	—	—	—	100
Shanghai	13	—	—	—	13
Yokohama	58	—	—	—	58
Total	171	—	—	—	171

Per British steamer *Indrapura*, for Portland, Or.:—

	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York and East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages.
Hongkang ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kobe	—	2,532	2,299	—	—	4,831
Yokohama...	—	3,530	627	3,191	—	7,348
Total ...	—	6,062	2,926	3,191	—	12,179

Per Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru*, for San Francisco :—

	TEA. San Francisco.	New York.	Chicago.	St Louis.	Other Cities.	Total
Shanghai..	1,570	590	—	—	—	2,160
Kobe	795	662	822	—	1,719	3.998
Yokohama	3,370	445	931	195	2,301	7,242
Hongkong	51	—	—	—	—	51
Total ...	5,786	1,697	1,753	195	4,010	13,451

	SILK. San Francisco.	New York.	Easton.	Total
Shanghai	—	.....	.....	.....
Hongkong	—	10	.....	10
Yokohama	—	6	.....	6
Total	—	16	.....	16

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw silk shipped per steamer *Oceanien* :—

	Raw silk.	Lyons.
Ulysse, Pila & Co.		10
Siber, Wolff & Co.		29
Total		39

Per British steamer *Canton*, for London via ports :—Waste Silk for Europe, 154 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market continues dull and no special feature is to be noted.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirting—{40 yds. 36 in. / 50 yds. 36 in.}	PER YARD. 0.09 to 0.1
Grey Shirting—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	PER PIECE. Y. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.25
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
Cotton Italians and Satteens...	PER YARD. 0.20 to 0.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	Y. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.65

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 140.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28 32, Singles	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles...	145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	155.00 to 160.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	245.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2 80, Gassed	295.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	425.00 to 435.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	Nominal. 31
Indian Broach...	26
Chinese	23

METALS.

A small business is going on but nothing calling for mention.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ½ inch and upward...	Y. 4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron...	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.10 to 11.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box...	6.90 to 7.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1⅝ inch)	5.00 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The market is dull and nothing special to note.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.72
Langkat	2.50

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SUGAR.

There is very little doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	...Y.6.50 to 6.60
Brown Manila...	6.00 to 7.10
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.80
White Java and Penang...	7.30 to 8.10
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.40

INDIGO.

Nothing special to report.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best...	280.00 to 330.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	200.00 to 285.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best ...	135.00 to 165.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best ..	100.00 to 140.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Crop prospects continue good and it is estimated that eighty to eighty-five thousand bales will be available. Transactions are so few and stocks so reduced that we withdraw all quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ...	Y. —
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½...	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½...	—

WASTE SILK.

There is no business and prices are all nominal.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

High grades continue firm, being dearer, though quality is deteriorating, for prices are maintained. Low grades are comparatively neglected and show some concession in prices.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	...55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine...	38 to 41
Good Medium	35 to 37
Medium	30 to 33
Good Common	27 to 29
Common...	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 11.

London silver ⅛ lower, Hongkong sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and Shanghai unchanged; local rates on China are firmer, but no change otherwise, quotations for the outgoing mail per steamer *Empress of China* being as under.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0⅝
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{13}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/1$\frac{1}{16}$
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/1$\frac{3}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight.....	263
— — 6 months' sight.....	264½
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100.	82*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	79½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	90*
India—Bank sight	152⅜
— Private 30 days' sight	156
America—Bank sight.....	50
— Private 30 days' sigh	50⅛ @ ⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛ @ ½
Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight.....	214½
Bar Silver (London)	24⅛

* Nominal.

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TOKUMIYA.

SHARE AND STOCK BROKER: FORWARD DELIVERY TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 11.

Yesterday's total transactions were 2,270 shares.

MORNING. Ending 9th			SHARES.	AFTERNOON. Ending 30th.		
June.	July.	Aug		June.	July.	Aug.
—	—	—	Nippon Railway	—	—	—
—	—	—	Nippon R. 3rd new	—	—	—
60 00	—	—	Sanyo Railway ...	60.60	—	—
—	42 80	43.10	Kansai Railway...	—	—	43.20
—	—	57.00	Kiushiu Railway..	—	56.95	57.10
—	74 55	75.10	Tanko Railway ...	—	75.00	75.50
—	—	—	Ta. ko R'way new	—	—	—
—	—	—	Tobu Railway.....	—	—	—
—	—	—	Sobu Railway	—	—	—
—	—	—	Boso Railway.....	—	—	—
—	—	—	Narita Railway ...	—	—	—
—	—	—	Narita R'way new	—	—	—
—	—	—	Kioto Railway ...	—	—	—
—	—	—	Hokuyetsu R'way.	—	—	—
—	—	—	Seoul-Fusan Rail..	—	—	—
—	—	96.00	Tokio Electric Car	—	—	—
—	—	79.90	Tokio Elec. C. new	—	—	80.10
—	—	—	Tokio Electric Ra.	—	—	—
—	53 80	53.60	Tokio Street Rail.	—	53 30	53.60
—	—	—	Kei-hin Elec. Car.	—	—	43.30
—	79.50	79.95	Nippon Yusen ...	—	79.45	79.80
—	31 90	32.05	Toyo Kisen	—	—	32.10
—	—	—	Osaka Shosen	—	—	—
—	—	—	Teikoku Shogyo..	—	97 15	—
—	—	—	Tokio Gas Co.....	—	—	—
—	—	—	Tokio Gas Co. new	—	—	—
—	—	75.30	Tokio Elec. Light.	—	—	75.00
—	—	—	Tokio Elec L. new	—	—	54.60
—	39.90	30.35	Kanegafuchi Sp'ng	—	39 75	39.50
—	—	—	Tokio Rice	—	—	—
—	163.10	161.70	Tokio Stock Ex....	—	160.50	163.00

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH, 1903.

BIRTH.

On the 17th inst., the wife of M. SURTH, of a Son (stillborn).

MARRIAGE.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, on 13th June, 1903, by the Rev. W. P. G. Field, M.A., ERNEST BENT, son of Baldwin H. Bent, of Goodworth House, Andover, Hants, to HELEN LOUISE, daughter of the late Admiral Prattent, R.N.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRINCESS MORI was delivered of a son on June 8th.

THE Japanese training ships left Sydney on June 14th for Townsville.

MR. R. KIMURA, member of the House of Peers, has applied for leave to resign.

THE new railway between Funagata and Shinsho was opened on June 11th for traffic.

HEAVY rains prevailed in Gifu on June 10th and 11th and floods are anticipated.

Two hundred and seventy members of the *Seiyukai* in Kochi prefecture have left the party.

A CASE of cholera appeared on June 13th in Tokushima and another in Shidzuoka prefecture.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited, applied on June 10th for permission to appoint an agent in Boston, U.S.A.

THE Suwa Bank, Nagano prefecture, was suspended on June 10th. The two directors are under arrest on a charge of fraud, as we have already reported.

THE *Niroku* states that Prince and Princess Rupprecht, who are at Nikko, will leave Tokyo on July 3rd for Europe.

REAR-ADMIRAL G. HAYASAKI, retired, has been promoted President of the Uraga Dockyard, which position has been vacant for some days.

THE shareholders of the Hoshu Electric Tramway Company decided on June 14th to wind up the concern and to reorganize it on another basis.

THE Crown Prince and Princess, who have just returned from the west, proceeded to the Palace on June 11th and had audience of the Emperor and Empress.

IT is stated that the export of biscuits for military use from Nagasaki to Port Arthur amounted to 1,175,503 *kin* from the first shipment in May to June 6th.

THE new dock at Hakodate, which has just been completed, will shortly be opened for business. On June 10th the caisson was opened by way of trial.

PRINCESSES FUMI AND YASU arrived at Osaka on June 16th by the 3.07 p.m. train, and immediately proceeded to the villa of Mr. Sumitomo, the wealthy merchant of that city.

A CONVICT named K. Ono (35) in the Sugamo Prison, Tokyo, who was sentenced on May 2nd to ten years' major confinement committed suicide on June 13th by hanging himself.

CAPTAIN M. TAKENO, commanding a company of the 37th regiment of infantry, fell into an old well near the Abe fields while engaged in training his men. He was taken out dead.

THE promoters of the scheme of reclaiming along the foreshore of Hommoku, Yokohama, have decided to begin the work shortly, and have made a first call of *sen* 50 per share.

THE native papers state that Prince Fushimi will be present, in behalf of the Emperor, at the Exhibition on July 1st when the ceremony of presenting the prizes will take place.

DURING a thunderstorm which occurred on June 15th in Chiba prefecture, a woman named Hatsu (25) living at the village of Tachibana, Totori, was fatally stricken by lightning.

THE construction of the steamer *Niigata Maru* ordered by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has been completed at the Mitsu Bishi dockyard, Nagasaki, and she will shortly leave for Yokohama.

THE followers of Abdullah, the Mullah of Somaliland, laugh at the small wounds caused by the British solid bullets, and declare that the Mullah causes the wounds to heal quickly.

THE pier at Keelung harbour, Formosa, which has been under construction, is about completed. Recently the steamer *Akashi Maru* (gross tonnage 1,571), was brought to the pier successfully.

Two stowaways named T. Yamada and T. Yamaoka, who intended to leave for America by the steamer *Aki Maru*, were arrested on June 16th, and removed to the police court on the 17th.

A TELEGRAM from Fukuoka states that a fall occurred on the morning of June 13th at the Tagawa mine belonging to the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. Fifteen workmen were buried. Five of them were taken out dead, four were rescued alive and six are still missing.

A PERMIT was granted on June 16th to the Mino Railway Company for the construction of the section between Gifu and Nagnse, 43 miles. The company will commence with a capital of *yen* 1,300,000.

A LANDSLIDE about 3 *ken* in width and about 60 *ken* in length has occurred at the northwestern part of the crater of Shirane, near Kusatsu, Gumma, where an eruption took place in 1882 and again in 1892.

THE body of a man was found on June 14th hanging on a cherry tree at Kamon-yama, Tobe, Yokohama. It is believed that he committed suicide. He was dressed very poorly and looked to be about 50 years old.

DR. R. WADA (39) formerly Vice-President of the Kashiwa-mura Hospital, Kanda, Tokyo, committed suicide on June 15th by taking morphine in his house at Kakigara-cho. The cause is believed to be temporary insanity.

Two clerks named Matsumoto and Watanabe of the Bureau of Tax Affairs, Awomori, were on June 14th arrested on a charge of having embezzled over *yen* 60 belonging to the office and were at once committed for preliminary trial.

A TELEGRAM from Karatsu stated that the steamer *Siam* had loaded there 4,000 tons of coal and was to leave for San Francisco on June 17th. Another steamer shipped a similar quantity of coal and left for the same destination on the 15th.

MR. KAEMON ISONO, Managing Director of the Osaka Stock Exchange and Rice Exchange, died on the morning of June 11th of consumption, from which he had long suffered. He was 73 years of age. The *Nichi Nichi* says he is related to Count Inouye.

THE Tokyo Electric Light Company held a general meeting on June 13th at the Doki Club and, according to the *Asahi*, decided to pay *yen* 174,000 as dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, the rate being *yen* 3 per old share and *yen* 1.80 per new share.

A MAN named C. Kaneda who is suspected being connected with the men who counterfeited *yen* 10 notes and were convicted in the Utsunomiya District Court in May this year has been arrested at Shirakawa and was removed to the former place on June 12th.

THE Committee of the Railway Society held a meeting on June 15th at the Kosei-kwan Club and prepared a letter to the Government in which it is advised that the Hokkaido Colliery Railway Co. should be made State property. The memorial will be presented on the 17th.

ACCORDING to official information the schooner *Zensho Maru* was found floating off Awomori on June 13th by the cruiser *Yoshino* and delivered to the authorities of the prefecture. The gross tonnage of the *Zensho* is 103, and she belongs to Hakodate. It is supposed that she upset in a storm and that her crew were drowned.

THE competition between the Sanuki Railway Company and the Steamship Companies Union has grown serious. A telegram to the *Jiji* states that the steamer *Chosei Maru*, belonging to the former, reduced the fare from June 13th to *yen* 1 for third class return between Takamatsu and Osaka, including railway fare. The latter also reduced its fare to *sen* 50 single between Tadotsu (near Takamatsu) and Osaka.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Saturday, June 13.

It is stated by the Peking correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* that Prince Ching's conduct is giving rise to many rumours. The Prince, while refusing to receive either the Japanese Minister or the British Chargé d'Affaires, gave three audiences to the Manager of the Russo-Chinese Bank prior to the latter's departure for Europe, and is apparently having secret meetings with the Russian Representative. Perhaps the world may wake up some fine morning to find the Manchurian problem solved in an unexpected manner. If, however, it be true that Prince Ching and M. Lessar are discussing the question secretly, it is also true that although, territorially speaking, Russia is entitled to a special position in any negotiations with China, conventionally speaking England, America and Japan have an equally conspicuous right to be consulted. The Russian Government knows that very well, and is not at all likely to ignore it.

It is stated that four millions of taels stored in the strong room of the Financial Department in Peking, were "destroyed" in the recent fire. A curious piece of news surely. We had not previously heard of a conflagration that could reduce silver or gold to ashes.

The latest rumour is that Russia thinks of making Mongolia rather than Manchuria the field of her ambition. Mongolia's time will come, of course. But as to this now-talked-of change, we do not believe a word of it.

There is another story which lends colour to the recently received news that M. Lessar's first measure on reaching Peking was to secure secrecy for all matters relating to Manchuria. The story is that whenever a report or a telegram is forwarded from the Manchurian officials to the Chinese capital, Wang Wen-shao himself performs the duty of clerk, not allowing anything of the slightest importance to pass through the hands of underlings.

The progressive spirit that Japan is trying to infuse into China is responsible for some disagreeable episodes. A Nganking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes as follows:—

A local sensation has just occurred in this conservative old city that is worthy of noting. For a year or more a public library of Western learning has been maintained here by the subscriptions of a few of the progressive clique. Recently a Western School with a rather pretentious prospectus was opened in connection with the library, also by private subscription. A few days ago, the city prefect made a raid on the premises, arrested several young men who were known to be promoters of the enterprise, and issued a proclamation confiscating the property, closing the library and school, and warning those who had been frequenters of the premises, that they had better seek better associations in future. It now appears that the premises had been a rendezvous of certain zealous advocates of reform, some of whom have recently returned from Japan and that patriotic assemblies were held there for the purpose of discussing methods of reform, and that a revolutionary paper published in Japan, which the Chinese officials are ineffectually trying to suppress, was being distributed from this library as a sort of local dépot. The prefect, hearing such rumours, visited the library during one of the meetings, and heard speeches on the Munchurian policy of the Government and the proper way to correct it, that were far more fervid than discreet. Upon his return to his yamên, the arrests were made. The young men might have fared badly, notwithstanding their high social connections, were it not for the intervention of the Governor. Since their release, however, they have not been seen in the city, and rumour says they have thought best to return to Japan for a season.

The prefect announces that he intends to turn the library into a middle-grade school of the new learning under government control, but the people think it an empty bluff.

If the Chinese of Yokohama take to sending revolutionary papers for secret circulation in their own country, the officials of the Middle Kingdom will begin to discredit Japan as a field of education.

The latest news from Kwangsi confirms the alarming intelligence previously received.

"The rebellion in Kuangsi is increasing and daily getting more dangerous and more formidable. The Imperial army here is too weak to be of any use and is insufficient to garrison all important cities and towns. The latest news is that the rebels have beseiged the city of Chungchou, belonging to the prefectural division of T'aipingfu (Kuangsi province) and that unless relief is sent at once it will certainly fall into the hands of the rebels. The prefect of T'aipingfu, Wu, has been sending appeal upon appeal for troops and the Governor (Wang Chih-ch'un) has therefore ordered a force under Ho Taotai and Major-General P'an to proceed to Chungchou to raise the siege." Chung chou is a departmental city, about forty-five miles north-east of Lungchou, and some twenty miles west of the Kuangtung border. Taipingfu city is about twenty odd miles from the Annamese borders.

Monday, June 15.

Japanese newspapers state that the first formal meeting took place between M. Lessar and Prince Ching on the 10th instant, but they differ in their account of what passed. The balance of testimony, however, goes to show that the Prince signified China's inability to concede any of the terms demanded by Russia, and further, that in reply to M. Lessar's objection as to the difficulty of evacuating Manchuria until order was restored, Prince Ching pointed out that order could not be restored so long as the Russian forces remained there. M. Lessar urged that a reply amounting simply to a wholesale refusal could not be reconciled with any theory of neighbourly amity, and asked whether some alternative course did not suggest itself, to which Prince Ching answered that he looked to M. Lessar to make a proposition. Of course every one at all familiar with diplomatic methods knows that what takes place at these formal meetings must not be interpreted as specially significant. Questions like that of Manchuria are arranged "out of court," and when the negotiators meet openly it is merely to confirm what has been privately agreed upon or to satisfy public observation. Thus M. Lessar and Prince Ching are reported to be secretly conferring—not directly, of course, but through emissaries—all the while, and it is rumoured that China has already agreed to Russia's proposals with regard to railways, telegraphs and customs. We do not know, however, what are the exact bases of Russia's present demands. No doubt is entertained that they are demands which were preferred by M. Plancon prior to M. Lessar's arrival; a fact which does not help to elucidate the situation in view of the St. Petersburg Government's emphatic repudiation of that official's original proposals. M. Lessar appears to be succeeding at least in investing his doings with secrecy, which is very wise on his part and must be welcomed as conducing to a peaceful settlement. Russia knows and China knows that England, America and Japan will not endorse any final arrangement calculated to impair their treaty rights. M. Lessar is not likely, therefore, to add another St. Stefano page to the chapters of history.

A telegram from Tientsin shows that the Russian Lumber Company is very busy on the Yalu, and that a number of small steamers are engaged towing rafts of timber to points in Manchuria. There can be no doubt as to the practical reality of this lumber enterprise, and it may be that the main object is to procure material for the construction of the Liaoyang-Fenghwang railway. But neither Japan nor Korea, taught by previous experience of European methods, can contemplate without anxiety the possible aftermath of these Yalu doings.

The United States Representative in Peking is said to have left for Newchwang, and Admiral Evans has arrived at Taku *en route* for Peking.

The concession of the Nanking-Shanghai Railway has at length been granted (*Jiji Shimpo's* telegrams) to an Anglo-Chinese syndicate. It is stated that the work must be commenced within a year.

It is expected that three months will be needed to completely quell the insurrection in Yunnan. Orders have been issued from Peking for the despatch of further troops to the disturbed districts.

Tuesday, June 16.

Telegrams to the *Asahi* and the *Jiji Shimpo*, from Shanghai say that the Chinese Government has decided to remove the scene of the commercial treaty negotiations from Shanghai to Peking. Orders in that sense have been issued to the Chinese Commissioners, and they are further instructed to place themselves in communication with ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung and Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai on reaching the capital. It is not expected that this change of place will be agreed to without protest. The Japanese and the American revised treaties have been carried so far that the new programme matters very little. But other Powers have the work before them still, and as they have entrusted the business of negotiation to their Consuls in Shanghai, much inconvenience would be entailed were it necessary to make Peking the scene of discussion.

Wednesday, June 17.

It is stated that the Imperial Chinese Customs will soon open an office at Dalny. Sir Robert Hart has appointed a Russian subject to be commissioner. According to one view this represents some kind of compromise, the Russians having agreed that in consideration of such an appointment they will offer no further opposition to the assumption of duty-collecting functions by the Chinese Customs. Others contend, however, that the appointment represents the first stage in a programme for placing the customs of Manchuria and North China under joint Chinese and Russian management. Indeed an agreement in that sense is said to have been actually signed. The latter theory derives some weight from the fact that the new appointee, M. Protasoff(?), is not a Customs officer: he has hitherto been a secretary in the service of the Russian Authorities at Talien. Sir Robert Hart's recent appointment of a Russian subject to be Commissioner of Customs at Newchwang caused much comment, and it must be confessed that considering the comparatively insignificant character of Russia's trade with North China, her ambition to be entrusted with a leading place in the control of the Customs has little justification. It would be unfair to criticise Sir Robert Hart's action since we have no knowledge of the inner history of the matter, but in the case of the Dalny appointment Japanese journals agree in stating that the Inspector General's share in the matter is purely nominal, a face-saving business, in short, and that the whole authority will be in the hands of the Russians, who will prepare the reports and lodge the duties with the Russo-Chinese Bank.

Telegrams from Peking recall the fact that

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Shanghai is indicated in the Peace Protocol as the place for carrying on the commercial-treaty-revision negotiations. Hence no change of locality can be made without the consent of the signatories of the Protocol, and that consent will be difficult to obtain. The reason for the proposed change is said to be the presence of the ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung in Peking, but we are inclined to think that the rumour must be erroneous in some respects, for it is scarcely credible that the Chinese should have undertaken to depart from the explicit provisions of the Protocol without previously consulting the signatories.

Thursday, June 18.

Prince Ching, according to the *Jiji's* Peking correspondent, while meeting and discussing matters with M. Lessar and with the Manager of the Russo-Chinese Bank, persistently refuses to receive either the British or the Japanese Representative. This discrimination is said to be attributed by a certain diplomatist to the fact that, according to the Prince's view, England and Japan confine themselves to talk, and have no manner of intention of taking active measures to give effect to their views. Consequently if, in deference to their protests, China shows an obdurate mien towards her great neighbour and thus imperils her relations with the latter, she alone will suffer.

We can easily understand that a Chinese statesman should take that view, for Russia's actual and visible progress is far more striking and menacing than any diplomatic urgings on the part of conservative States like England and Japan. But Prince Ching has to remember that for every concession made to Russia in derogation of British and Japanese treaty rights, a similar concession will have to be made to Japan and England. It is China that will suffer in any event. Perhaps, after all, Prince Ching is right in concluding that since his country is bound to be despoiled whatever resistance she makes, it is well for her to provoke as little hostility as possible in the process. The policy of protection by non-resistance has its merits.

The transfer of all the McBain Company's properties on the Yangtse and at Shanghai to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha was completed on the 15th instant, and the Japanese Company's flag was hoisted on the steamers and over the other belongings. The *Jiji Shimpo*, from which we take this information, adds that the financial arrangements will not be fully effected until "June 1st." Whether that is a clerical error for "July," or whether our contemporary's correspondent means that these arrangements were effected on June 1st, we can not distinguish. It has already been pointed out in these columns that by acquiring the McBain line, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha connects its own Shanghai service with the projected Hunan line which is to ply from Hankow to the lake district. Japan is thus brought into direct communication with one of the most important of China's inland markets.

It is stated (*Asahi Shimbun*) that the arrangements relative to the financing of the Shanghai-Hankow Railway have been completed. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Company and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, provide a loan of 3¼ millions sterling, on which the Chinese Government guarantees interest at the rate of five per cent. On the other hand, the British firm supplies the materials and rolling stock for the line, receiving a commission of five per cent.

Friday, June 19.

All the telegrams from Peking agree in stating that the Foreign Representatives concur in condemning the proposed transfer of the commercial-treaty negotiations to that city, and in expressing surprise and dissatisfaction at China's want of reflection. She should at least have consulted the Powers before taking a step that concerned them all.

It is stated that the recent destruction of official buildings by fire in Peking was the result of incendiary action by dishonest officials who desired to destroy the proofs of their guilt. Three times during the past ten years the treasury buildings have been consumed by fire, and on no occasion was the cause of the conflagration definitely ascertained.

The *Asahi* publishes a correction from its Shanghai correspondent. The latter had stated in a previous communication that the terms of the revised Japanese commercial treaty were identical with those of the American treaty in the matter of *likin*. His correction is that he should have said "will doubtless be identical." As a matter of fact the Japanese treaty is not yet fully negotiated, this very point of *likin* being the main cause of delay.

Rumour alleges that Russia is increasing her forces in Fenhwang and Antung. It is beyond all question that she has taken some steps of that kind during the past two months; that is to say, since the date when the second-period evacuation should have been completed; and we very much wish that some friendly publicist would undertake to reconcile such action with any appearance of intention to withdraw from Manchuria. Had there been evidences of local unrest in any of the districts immediately northward of the Korean frontier, a valid excuse would be furnished for Russia's increased military activity. But we have not heard of any such symptoms, and the only working theory we can advance for the presence of her soldiers in increased numbers at Feng-hwang, Antung and Kulien-ching is that she is occupying the country preparatory to constructing a railway from Liao-yang to Feng-hwang; in other words, from one of the principal towns on the Liao to the Korean frontier. That means that she is laying out another anchor in Manchuria. Guards will be required for the railway while in course of construction and after completion, and the posting and maintenance of railway guards are tantamount to military occupation. It would be absolutely fatuous to entertain any further hopes of evacuation. We ourselves have never entertained any such hopes, and our only source of astonishment has been the extraordinary and wasteful profusion of Russia's public assurances. What remains to be said now is that she can not be allowed to encircle Manchuria with a ring-fence for the exclusion of other nationals who at present enjoy access as a treaty right. Thus we come back to the old and solely wise as well as peaceful solution, the opening of Mukden, Liao-yang, Antung and Tatung-kou to the trade of all nations.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai says that on the 17th instant Mr. R. M. Campbell, the well-known broker, committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver. The receipt of this news came as a great shock in Yokohama, where Mr. Campbell had many staunch friends.

THE NEW REREDOS AT CHRIST CHURCH.

The new altar and reredos which have been so eagerly awaited by the members of Christ Church congregation have now arrived and been set up in their place. The reredos consists of five panels, beautifully carved in oak. The subject of the three centre panels is the Institution of the Blessed Sacrament, and is distinguished by a reverence of treatment, beyond what is common in the artistic handling of this great subject. The faces of the Apostles, each and all, are full of character and will bear attentive study. Of the outside panels, that on the right shows a blade of corn in full ear, with a medallion in the centre in which are represented some loaves of bread on a table. The panel on the left displays a vine, with a chalice set medallion-wise in the centre. These carvings are all of them the work of artists in Bruges. They are set in a very beautiful Gothic framwork of keyaki wood. The altar is of the same material, and is very handsome and solid.

Both altar and reredos, together with the steps leading up to them (which are also of keyaki wood), are the exceedingly generous gift of Mrs. W. W. Till, the recollection of whose good works remains fresh in Yokohama. She offers them in memory of her husband, who died at Woosung on his way home about two years ago. A small panel at the North end of the Altar bears this inscription:—

"To the Glory of God,
and in memory of W. W. Till,
who died 13th April, 1901."

The improvement to the East End of the Church is of course enormous. But it has the natural effect of showing up the bareness of brick wall throughout the rest of the Sanctuary in such a way as to make some further improvement almost imperative. The Trustees of the Church and the Committee will no doubt take this into their practical consideration in due time, unless they are forestalled by some generous donor.

A larger congregation than usual assembled in Christ Church on Sunday morning, it having been announced that the new altar and reredos, would then be consecrated. Special lessons were read, i. Chron. xxi. 15—xxii. 1, and Rev. vii. 9—viii. 5, and also a special Epistle and Gospel. Preaching from words in the Epistle, "We have an altar whereof they have no right to eat which sever the Tabernacle," the Rev. W. Field began his sermon with an account of the worship in Heaven as described by S. John in the book of the Revelation. He dwelt particularly on its sacrificial character as evidenced specially by the description of the Saviour as "the Lamb as it had been slain," by the High-Priestly character assigned to our Lord in the Epistle to the Hebrews, and by the presence of the Golden Altar which was before the Throne. Of that Heavenly Altar, they was about to consecrate that morning the earthly counterpart. And as from the Heavenly Altar, "the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God," so he prayed that the incense of their prayers and praises, offered up on that altar in union with the Perfect Sacrifice, might never cease to ascend in never-increasing volume as an acceptable offering to the Almighty Father.

Then followed the Dedication Service, consisting of Psalm xliii. and a few appropriate prayers. The Communion Service was fully choral. It was reverently and quietly sung and was much appreciated by the comparatively small congregation which remained to the end of a somewhat protracted service.

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GENERAL KUROPATKIN IN JAPAN.

Saturday, June 13.

Yesterday forenoon General Kuropatkin arrived in Tokyo, accompanied by his suite and by Major-General Tamura of the War Department as well as the other members of the Japanese reception committee. The General proceeded at once to the Shiba Detached Palace, where he will be the Emperor's guest during his stay in Tokyo. He lunched at the Russian Legation, and dined at the Detached Palace. On the 13th he is to be received in audience by the Emperor, and on the evening of that day he will dine with the Minister of State for War. On the evening of the 14th he is to be entertained by Baron Komura, and on the 15th he will dine at the Russian Legation. The 16th is now fixed as the day of his departure from Tokyo. It does not yet seem to be definitely settled what displays will be made for his edification, but we may assume that a review of the Tokyo garrison will be among the number.

The *Jiji Shumpo* has no doubt that the Minister's visit will furnish him experiences useful in determining his Government's policy. It draws his attention to the fact that Japan is now a constitutionally ruled country like certain European States. What the people at large desire finds expression in the programme of the Government. That is illustrated by the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The alliance had long been among the nation's wishes, though consummated only last year. It is not possible for Japanese statesmen to ignore the people's will. Thus, when in deference to the representations of Russia, Germany and France, the Liaotung Peninsula was given up, the Japanese nation, while appreciating the difficult position in which their Ministry found itself, did not withhold its condemnation and even went to the length of impeaching the Cabinet in the Diet. Russia's circumstances are very different. Her occupation of Manchuria is a temporary business, and in evacuating it, according to her promise, she would not have to fear any arraignment at the bar of public opinion. In fact, her statesmen are not fettered in their acts as are the statesmen of Japan. If General Kuropatkin imagines that the views of a section of Japanese politicians, however influential they may be, represent the views of the Japanese nation, he will fall into a serious blunder. Doubtless a man of General Kuropatkin's discernment will appreciate these things of his own accord, but it may possibly be of some assistance to him to learn the views of the Japanese.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* observes that in many respects the Russian people and the Japanese people err in their estimates of each other. Thus if the truth be plainly spoken there are many folks in Japan who regard General Kuropatkin as the leader of the war party in Russia, and who consider that his visit to Eastern Asia portends no good. The *Kokumin* wants to entertain a very different opinion, and it expresses a hope that General Kuropatkin will seize this opportunity to correct the mistake. His observations at first hand will also help him to dispel the false impression prevailing in his own country as to Japan's bellicose mood. "Having travelled through Manchuria and arrived in Japan, he will be able to perceive the pacific and broad-minded sentiment of this nation, and to understand with what strength of purpose, with what resolution, and with what hope Japan seeks to preserve the *status quo* and the peace of the Far East. Thus General Kuropatkin's visit and the observations he makes can scarcely fail to have a radical bearing on the settlement of the Manchurian problem."

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that Russian journalists may regard the visit of General Kuropatkin at such an epoch as likely to open a new chapter in Russo-Japanese relations, but the truth is that in Manchuria and Korea there are many points of almost inevitable friction between Japan and Russia. The Japanese people would gladly see a different state of affairs, but to bring it about is not a simple matter like the reconciliation of a Katsura Cabinet and a Marquis Ito. What Marquis Ito did in St. Petersburg is known and how it succeeded. General Kuropatkin must be well aware of the facts. We (the *Asahi*) share the sentiments of American journals in wishing that the Russian Minister's visit may have great results, but we regret to think that the conditions of the time do not warrant such a hope. Still among the circumstances that seem to force the two countries into collision, there are doubtless some due to errors of conception on one side or the other. These, at any rate, the coming of General Kuropatkin may help to correct.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* formulates the main errors that disturb the relations between Japan and Russia. On the Russian side, the peace party contend that Japan has no heart to fight; that her Liaotung experience crushed her spirit, and that there is no occasion to make elaborate warlike preparations against her. The war party, on the other hand, contend that the Japanese are essentially a fighting people; that if they silently suffered the Liaotung retrocession, the Kiaochow seizure, and the Port-Arthur occupation, it was because their military and naval organization was not complete, whereas now they are in a much stronger state, and their disposition to interfere was proved by their recent action in the matter of Russia's negotiations with China. Both of these views are erroneous, according to the *Yomiuri*. The Japanese are not a small-spirited people. If the action of any foreign Power in the Far East impairs their rights and interests, they are ready to rise to a man. But if they receive just and considerate treatment, they will be thoroughly pacific and amicable. It is much to be desired that General Kuropatkin should form a clear judgment on this point, for many an international quarrel has been precipitated by misconceptions on either side, and by the error of inferring the sentiments of the people at large from the views of a section of them. General Kuropatkin has come a long way to visit Japan. Let him be assured that he finds here a nation united in its attitude towards the problems of Manchuria and Korea; let him not commit the blunder of taking the views of a few for the sentiment of the many, and let him carry back to his country some elements of mutual appreciation independent of scenic beauties and convivial intereourse.

In writing these brief epitomes we have omitted the words of warm welcome which, with true Japanese courtesy, all the Tokyo journals offer to the Russian Minister. He is the nation's guest, and the nation knows well the duties of host. In addition to the journals we have quoted others publish paragraphs on the same subject, but their language does not embody any specially interesting reflections. The sum of the matter is that General Kuropatkin's visit excites keen attention in Japan, and that the people associate it with important contingencies. It is fortunate that the Russian statesman finds here in Baron Rosen a Minister with unrivalled knowledge of the country and the people, and with judgment that has never erred.

The *Jiumin* publishes the text of a letter said to have been written by Count Okuma to Prince Konoye. The writer declares his intention of working privately, and conjures Prince Konoye to work publicly, in order that the Russian visitor may gather an unequivocal conception of Japan's mood. How could such a letter possibly become public property? It is an obvious and glaring fraud. Many fine things are said about Japanese patriotism, but we look in vain for any evidence of the sentiment on the part of a journal which, to serve the ends of party politics, publishes a palpably forged document injurious to the Empire's interests.

Monday, June 15.

The Russian Minister of War witnessed a review of the Tokyo garrison on Sunday, the 14th instant, at Aoyama. Subsequently he lunched with His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi. To-day he is to visit the Officers' School and the Koishikawa Arsenal, lunching in the Park at the latter place as the guest of Marquis Oyama.

When received by the Emperor in audience on the 13th instant, General Kuropatkin had the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun conferred on him, while the two principal members of his suite, Lieut.-General Sollohout and Major-General Wogack, were decorated with the First Class of the Rising Sun and the First Class of the Sacred Treasure respectively.

Thursday, June 18.

General Kuropatkin left Tokyo at 7.30 a.m. on the 16th instant. That day a number of distinguished personages proceeded to the Palace, and it need scarcely be said that such an event occurring at such a moment gave rise to many disquieting rumours. But the truth seems to be that a number of interesting objects carried from China to Japan at the time of the Chili compaign, were set out in a building in Fukiage Park, and their arrangement having been completed within the past few days, the Cabinet Ministers, the *Genro* and others were invited to view them on the 16th instant.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* breaks a somewhat notable period of silence by publishing a strong article, declaring that in spite of the numerous assurances she has given to the world, Russia shows no sign of keeping her promises. "Relying on the weakness of her *vis-à-vis* she is seeking to obtain large advantages for herself. If she insists upon obtaining Chinese assent to the demands she has formulated, she will be responsible for a disturbance of the peace of the Orient. * * * When words are exhausted, recourse must be had to deeds. We do not shrink from deeds, but it is our most sincere wish to maintain the *status quo* and to preserve tranquillity."

The *Niroku Shimpo* published an extra yesterday afternoon to the effect that a convention was concluded between Baron Komura and General Kuropatkin before the latter's departure from Japan. The *Niroku* gives the text of the alleged convention and warns its readers that the Minister of Foreign Affairs will certainly contradict it.

We need scarcely say that such news coming from such a source is quite untrustworthy.

Friday, June 19.

All the Tokyo newspapers agree in

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declaring the *Niroku Shimpo's* "news" to be false. The officials of the Foreign Office denounce it as wholly baseless, and say that it is beyond the capacity of ordinary intelligence to divine the source of such a statement. The *Niroku*, however, while printing the official contradiction, repeats its original allegation and insists that a convention has actually been concluded. It even goes to the length of publishing a leading article criticising the terms of the agreement. We apprehend that this is the *Ultima Thule* of newspaper enterprise. Of course the *Niroku's* falsehood will find some believers, and at any rate the newspaper will have obtained notoriety. But at what expense? At the expense of publicly impugning the national good faith of Japan. An admirable display of patriotism, truly!

JAPAN, ENGLAND AND RUSSIA.

Some scarcely credible rumours are beginning to be circulated. For one of them the *Jimmin* alone is responsible. That journal alleges that a memorial, signed by noblemen of all ranks and by many eminent scholars, has been presented to the Cabinet urging the necessity of going to war with Russia. This document, the *Jimmin* says, is one of several bearing the same import, but none of the others carries such important signatories. We do not find any confirmation of this story.

Another story is that seven professors of the Tokyo University have thought it necessary to organise a movement against the policy of an exchange between Korea and Manchuria. These professors are said to have sought interviews with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and with other members of the Cabinet, but failing in that, they are taking other measures.

The *Yomiuri* publishes its views on the matter in the form of a letter addressed to Baron Komura. It sets out by paying a high compliment to Baron Komura, whom it ranks with the late Count Mutsu and with Mr. Kato Takaaki as the ablest of Japan's diplomalists, and it says that although the Anglo-Japanese alliance was not the result of any temporary labour, nevertheless the part contributed by Baron Komura to its consummation can never be forgotten. With such a man at the helm the Japanese nation may sleep peacefully even in the presence of the Manchurian crisis, which has now reached an acute phase. But the wisest sage may err. There is one great blot on Baron Komura's career; namely, that when he represented his country in Seoul, he allowed the Korean sovereign to be transported to the Russian Legation where his life was at the mercy of his custodians. What is past is past, however. The *Yomiuri* refrains from condemning the irrevocable and addresses itself solely to what it considers a mistake in the present. That mistake is that Baron Komura takes too high ground and pays too little attention to the views of others. That is proved by the fact that whereas, at this critical period of the nation's history, many patriotic men and clever publicists have sought interviews with the Minister for the purpose of exchanging views with him, he has refused to meet any of them. It has never been possible for any one except a being of altogether extraordinary capacity to act without reference to his fellows. Baron Komura is not such a being, and besides we are not now living in the eighteenth century, when the country's foreign policy was managed solely by the Throne. We are living at a time when the nation's voice must be heard in such matters. It is urged on Baron Komura's behalf that, apprehending interference on the part of the *Genro* (Elder Statesmen), he finds it necessary to deny himself to all. The *Yomiuri* sympathises with him in that. It credits the rumour that a certain celebrated *Genro* who, in matters of foreign policy has proved himself to be at once talentless and harmful, is trying to make his voice heard at this junction. Such persons should certainly be kept at arm's length, but is it not a pity that the process should be extended to men who have undoubted talent and whose advice would be surely profitable? "We believe that your Excellency's first duty is to turn your back on the Elder Statesmen and make the people at large your allies. Those that actually knock at your door seeking to submit their views to your Excellency, may not be arithmetically numerous, but behind them stand the people in their millions. If your Excellency joins hands with them to thrust aside the men that would impede the State's progressive policy in foreign affairs and to stand boldly against nations that would trample on our rights and interests, the country need not fear any calamity. The Russian troops should be withdrawn from Manchuria, but it is right also that the *Genro* should be withdrawn from the field of foreign politics. Manchuria should be opened to foreign trade, but it is also right that Your Excellency's door should be opened to public opinion. The world does not imagine that any Minister of Foreign Affairs can be indifferent to the support of his nationals."

We have given the gist of this epistolary article not merely because of its interest but also because of the moderate tone that pervades it. There is nothing violent or unfriendly in the language; a remarkable fact seeing that the *Yomiuri* is not a journal from which anything moderate towards the present Cabinet could be looked for.

Readers of these columns can not fail to have been struck by the fact that both the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Yomiuri* attach serious importance to the existence of a small body of statesmen and politicians who do not share the nation's confidence in the Anglo-Japanese alliance. There is such a party in England also, but no one pays very much attention to it. We infer that the Japanese coterie includes some men whose position invests them with special potentialities.

The *Nippon* also discusses this question. It sets out by insisting that the Anglo-Japanese alliance is founded in the heart of the nation. The present Cabinet may go out of office before the Diet's next session. The Alliance may not be renewed when its term expires. But whatever be the fate of the Cabinet or the duration of the Alliance's formal existence, the sentiment of the people will continue to be pro-English, and that fact must never be lost sight of. The attitude of the country towards the news of the alliance sufficiently proved how profoundly the agreement is approved. It is true that the *Seiyu-kai* under Marquis Ito's leadership showed a moment of hesitation, but they too fell quickly into line, and it may almost be said that there is nobody now who openly disapproves of the alliance. Yet in obscure quarters and without the sympathy of the people there may be some disposed to try "tricks." They can have little effect upon foreign politics so long as they are without public support. Japanese national opinion may not be a very stable quantity, but in this one matter of the Alliance it is certainly stable. Ten years ago many theories used to be advanced, but from the time of the war with China the nation came to a clear knowledge of its own mind, and its opinions were consolidated by the enforced restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula, by Germany's reasonless theft of Kiaochou and by Russia's lease of Talien and Port Arthur. It made itself distinctly audible for the first time when Russia sought to conclude a secret treaty about Manchuria last year. Russia drove Japan into the arms of England. The Russians must recognise that it was their own doing. It was after the Chinese war that Japan planned her armaments of 250,000 tons of naval shipping and a military force of 13 Divisions. These were not necessarily directed against Russia, but no sensible person can ignore the true motive which has induced the people to vote an outlay of another hundred millions at this time of financial straits. Japan does not entertain the silly idea of intimidating Russia. The Great Northern Power is probably quite unmoved by Japanese preparations. But at least Russia has evidence for inferring the strength of Japanese resolution. It must be admitted in the sequel of several years' experience that the Japanese nation shows little fixity of purpose in domestic politics. But they would greatly err who deduce similar vacillation in the field of foreign affairs. Patriotism is the very breath of the people's nostrils. A Japanese is always ready to sacrifice his life on the altar of right. Much more is that the case when the cause of his country is in question. It is true that there still exist some sprouts of the tree which flourished when the Liaotung Peninsula was tamely surrendered, but they were thrust out of sight at the time of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, and they must not again be allowed to show their heads. The Russian Minister of War is now in Japan's capital and the question of Manchurian evacuation is again occupying public attention. The nation hopes, in the interests of the future, that there will be no mistakes at this juncture.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes on the same question in an eminently pacific tone. It contends that Russia is incurring needless expense by continued occupation of Manchuria; that the duty of preserving order devolves properly on China; that if Russia simply carries out her treaty obligations no occasion exists for any secret convention; that the opening of Manchuria, or at any rate of some parts of it, would be eminently to Russia's advantage, and that a railway should be built from Seoul to Wiju by the Korean Government and another from Wiju to Newchwang by Russian, Chinese and Japanese capitalists.

THE OSAKA STRIKE.

The *Kobe Herald* of Saturday said that improved conditions prevailed in Osaka that day in regard to the strike of jinrikisha men. Miyawaki Yasukichi, a hawker, who was formerly employed as a rikisha man, was murdered by the strikers near Kanayabashi Bridge during the outrage on the river on Friday morning. The police authorities say the man died from natural causes; but an analytical examination held late in the afternoon proved that death had been caused by assault. It is reported that the man was attacked by mistake, the infuriated men taking him for an employee of the river boat company.

The strike of jinrikisha coolies in Osaka was settled and all resumed their usual work on June 14th.

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KOREA.

Saturday, June 13.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a telegram from Seoul dated the 11th instant, which represents the Russians as going on with their building operations at Yong Am-pho quite irrespective of the Korean Government's remonstrances. The construction of permanent houses, warehouses and workshops is proceeding space, and in the meanwhile the employees and officers of the lumber company are living in tents. Thirty-one rafts of timber have been floated down the Yalu to Yong Am-pho, and communications with the Manchurian mainland are preserved by three steamers which lie at Antung. It is impossible to suppose that all these reports are baseless. Apparently the Russians have deliberately selected a convenient place in Korea, purchased land there and set about forming a settlement. It is a bold move, or it would be bold in the face of any Power except Korea. Whether it is a wise move, however, we may reasonably doubt. Manchuria offers ample materials for international complications without the addition of territorial aggressions in Korea.

Tuesday, June 16.

A new feature is added to the scene in Northern Korea. Telegrams to Tokyo journals not only confirm the previously received intelligence that the Russians are carrying on extensive timber-felling operations at Musan on the Tumen, using Manchurian free-booters for the purpose, but also that they are seizing and appropriating any rafts of lumber floated down the Yalu by Korean subjects, their plea for such confiscations being that all the timber along the banks of the Yalu has become their property by concession.

This story sounds very bad, but it requires a moment's reflection. There seems to be no doubt that Musan is distinctly indicated in the Russian concession as a place where timber may be felled. The question then takes the form:—Is there any restriction as to the character of the persons by whom the work of felling is done? Is it unlawful for the Russians to use Manchurian free-booters, if these are specially accessible, and to employ soldiers as over-seers, if such a method is practical and economical? Certainly not. The appropriation of rafts belonging to Korean subjects is another matter: a matter of no special concern to outsiders.

Meanwhile it is again asserted that the Korean Government has endorsed the timber-felling concession granted to a Japanese subject, Mr. Abe Jinsuke (or Junsuke). Since this concession extends to the same regions as those where the Russians are engaged and confers the same privileges, complications are not unlikely to ensue.

Wednesday, June 17.

Rumours continue to arrive from the Yalu districts. Their gist is the old story, namely, that the Russians are extending their timber-felling enterprise and that there is every appearance of their permanent settlement on both banks of the river. A corps of a hundred cavalry with artillery is said to have reached Antung, and the news is confirmed as to the seizure of lumber-rafts belonging to Chinese or Korean subjects. It is added that two Chinese lumber-men who offered some resistance to this arbitrary procedure were shot by the Russians. How much truth these tales may embody we can not yet tell, but it seems to be altogether beyond question that trespasses have been committed in connexion with the lumber concession, and the most moderate on-looker must admit that in choosing this particular moment for sanctioning and encouraging such proceedings, the Russian Government shows little disposition to consult Japan's sentiment. The ultimate danger connected with Russia's annexation of Manchuria is, in Japanese eyes, that a strategical situation would thus be created which must sooner or later impel the Northern Power to stretch out its hand towards Korea also. Russia, by her present conduct, is thrusting that danger into the very forefront of a crisis already sufficiently acute. Altogether her treatment of the Manchurian problem appears to warrant the criticism that it is either perilously reckless or magnificently daring.

Concerning the "settlement" at Yong Ampho, the *Jiji Shimpo's* Seoul correspondent wires that during the past few days negotiations are said to have been going on between the Russian Representative and the Korean Government, with the result that an agreement has been secretly concluded which will leave the Russians undisturbed in the position they have gained. This, of course, requires confirmation. It may have no deeper foundation than the fact that since Korea sent in her official protest on the 28th of May nothing more has been publicly heard about the matter.

It is reported that on the afternoon of the 15th instant an attempt was made on the life of Li Yong-ik. That politician, now so prominent on the Korean stage, has been in hospital at Seoul for some time, and the opportunity was seized by his enemies. They either threw a bomb into his room or placed one under the stove. The accounts differ as to the method of procedure, but the throwing version seems more credible, since stoves are not in use at this time of year in Seoul. At all events the bomb exploded, happily without injuring anyone. Suspicion does not appear to have yet indicated the perpetrators. Korea can scarcely be called a progressive country, but we are compelled to admit that in the use of bombs she has shown herself a most apt disciple of the West. Ever since the days when the Tai Won-kun was the centre of political intrigue, for the past twenty years in fact, the throwing of bombs has been a not infrequent incident. The Koreans, however, appear to lack the element of recklessness which is essential to success in using this kind of missile. The bomb-thrower thinks as much of saving his own life as of taking his enemy's, and the result is that both alike escape. It is a pity that Japanese of the Kurushima Tsunekichi type are not unnerved by similar solicitude for their own safety.

Thursday, June 18.

Our readers are aware that rumours recently arrived in Tokyo to the effect that a secret agreement had been concluded between Russia and Korea with regard to the timber-felling question. It remains uncertain whether these rumours are true, but if they are, the inference is that the Court has acted independently of the Foreign Office, and that while the latter is officially complaining of Russia's treaty violations the former has allowed itself to be persuaded into making a compact in the sense desired by Russia. For the moment the truth is not attainable. Meanwhile Japanese papers publish a statement of seven protests said to have been addressed by the Korean Foreign Office to the Russian Representative. They are these:—First, instead of confining her timber-felling operations to Musan on the Tumen, which place is distinctly indicated in the concession, Russia extended them to Yong-Chhyong. Secondly, instead of making arrangements for the entry of duly authorized Russian subjects into Korean territory to give effect to the concession, people professing to be mere tourists were sent who subsequently developed into agents. Thirdly, instead of organizing a company to work the concession and establishing an office with the consent of the Korean Government, everything was done in an arbitrary and irregular manner according to Russian fancy. Fourthly, instead of employing Korean subjects chiefly in the work, Chinese subjects were engaged. Fifthly, when aliens enter the territory of a state, they should be duly furnished with passports issued by the Government of the latter, whereas in this case Russia caused a number of Chinese subjects to cross the Korean frontier without permits of any kind. Sixthly, whereas the banks of the Yalu have been officially selected as a nursery of afforestation, the Russians have made them a field for deforestation by felling timber at Pang-ma and Ika-to(?). Seventhly, whereas it is provided that the holders of the concession shall pay to the Korean Government 25 per cent. of the value of the timber felled no steps to implement that promise have been taken.

Friday, June 19.

It now transpires that the two Chinese subjects who were killed by Russians when the former were engaged steering a timber raft down the Yalu were Japanese employees. That, then, is the beginning of the complications that we have foreseen for some time. One of Japan's methods for averting a Russian monopoly of timber-felling concessions on the Yalu and the consequent occupation of the district by Russia, is to encourage Japanese enterprise of the same nature in the same region. Russia replies with a very practical measure; she shoots down the servants of the Japanese concessionaire. Of course the latter will soon find it impossible to obtain Chinese labourers, in such circumstances. His obvious plan is to obtain labour from his own country. Japanese labourers will neither be deterred by the risk of bullets nor submit tamely to be shot. Then there will be all the elements of direct collision.

It is stated that ten Korean students are to be sent from Seoul to Tokyo for the purpose of studying military and naval sciences. The *Asahi* conjectures that this measure is intended to balance the recent despatch of Korean students to Russia. Perhaps it is, but the reflection immediately suggested is that we shall by and by hear of renewed pecuniary troubles in connexion with these students. The last batch of young Koreans who came to Tokyo to be educated, had to be withdrawn finally on account of their Government's failure to provide funds for their support—a mere pittance too—and before they departed they had involved some charitable Japanese in a total outlay of fifteen thousand *yen*, unless our information be incorrect.

The Peddlars' Guild continue their agitation against the currency of the First Bank's notes in Korea. In consequence of strong representations made by the Japanese Minister, one of the persons engaged in the recent posting of placards has been arrested, and instructions have been issued to prevent demonstrations by the Guild. But the latter are said to be carrying on their opposition privately.

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POLITICAL NOTES.

Saturday, June 13.

The most confused rumours circulate about the intention and prospects of the politicians now wandering in the wilderness. One is led to imagine that new combinations and organizations are being planned here there and everywhere, but the ultimate impression produced by all this talk is that the seceders from the *Seiyu-kai* do not know what to do with themselves, and that, as a new planet moving in the political firmament, they are exercising a disturbing effect upon bodies of hitherto regular orbit. No one seems to know what will happen. The Progressists are supposed to be on the verge of disruption, and further sections of the *Seiyu-kai* seem to be infected by the example of the Tosa men. Rumour speaks of Count Itagaki's return to the arena, not because politics have recovered their attraction for him, but because he can not endure to see his old friends of Tosa perish from inanition, a reason which has much inferential suggestiveness. Mr. Ozaki Yukio augments the perplexities of the situation by launching into space one of those generally applicable theories which Japanese politicians so much affect. He declares that in the ranks of the political parties above all other places progress is not discernible, and in proof of that criticism he points to the Cabinet, where portfolios are held by men who, a few years ago, occupied subordinate positions, while at the head of political parties still stand those that have been there from the first: namely, Messrs. Kataoka, Matsuda and Hayashi at the head of the Liberals; Mr. Sasa at the head of the Imperialists; Messrs. Shimada and Taguchi at the head of the Independents, and Messrs. Inukai, Oishi and Hatoyama at the head of the Progressists. Mr. Ozaki is always clever and original, but what he means by throwing this last bombshell into the camp we can not tell. Would he set aside all the old leaders and place the direction of affairs entirely in the hands of the younger men? If so, it seems to us that he would himself be inconveniently affected, for though young in years he is distinctly old as a leader, for which the more credit is due to him. It is curious to observe how their traditional conception of the time and season for becoming *inkyo* clings to even the most modernized Japanese.

Wednesday, June 17.

The Liberal seceders from the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai* seem to be still the victims of indecision, and their uncertainty extends, or is said to extend, to many of those still marshalled under the Party's banner. According to the *Jiji Shimpo's* analysis they are divided into two coteries. One section are in favour of forcing Marquis Ito to abandon his leadership. That can be effected, they think, by persistent insubordination. There need not be any demonstrative revolts like that made after the Kobe naval review. All that need be done is for members in parliament, where the Marquis can not extend his control, to vote in opposition to his wishes. He will then step down in despair and the Liberals can close up their ranks again under some new leader. The other section are represented as supposed to have become averse to Marquis Ito, but they do not believe in active hostility. They place their trust in time.

Does not this analysis sound strange when we remember that the *Seiyu-kai* is only four years old? A very short life has exhausted its strength of cohesion. On the other hand, in what a plight will the Liberals find themselves if they persist in their insubordination! Association with Marquis Ito was the real source of their force. Without him they are virtually impotent. The situation is one which, unless precedents are valueless in Japan, must end in a compromise. Marquis Ito will concede something to the sensitiveness of his followers and they will return to a weakened allegiance. Their obedience was overtaxed, and besides it was asking too much of human nature to expect that they should tamely allow themselves to be utilized as instruments for giving new life to a Cabinet which their absorbing desire is to overthrow. They can not rise to the level of their leader's broad statesmanship, and he must either send them adrift or descend to their plane in part at any rate. If he lets go their hand altogether, confusion more confounded than ever will ensue, and to avert that he is still prepared, we imagine, to make many sacrifices.

THE CHINESE-AMERICAN REVISED TREATY.

It appears from a telegram to the *Asahi* that the negotiations for revising America's commercial treaty with China have been concluded. The terms of the new treaty are in the main identical with those of the Anglo-Chinese treaty, but the American document is said to contain a greatly improved arrangement with regard to *likin*. It provides that the import duty shall be 5 per cent., and that the surtax shall be 7½ per cent., the latter including all charges of every kind, so that on payment of a total sum of 12½ per cent., goods of foreign origin will be free to find their way to any and every part of the empire. In order to make this change effective, it is further agreed that all offices or stations for collecting *lekin* or transit dues of any kind throughout the whole of the Chinese Empire, the treaty ports excepted, shall be completely and finally abolished. With regard to exports, there is to be a uniform duty of 7 per cent. covering exports of every kind. But this does not apply to opium and salt of Chinese manufacture which may be specially taxed at the place of production. The Japanese revised treaty is said to be the same as the American in these respects.

As to the opening of new ports in Manchuria, however, our contemporary's correspondent alleges that the American proposal has been dropped; namely, the proposal about Mukden and Takushan. We must assume, of course, that, if such be the case, the Washington statesmen have acted in obedience to the best advice and after the most careful consideration. But in the absence of any accurate information about their motives, we are compelled to adhere to our frequently expressed view that the only peaceful and practical solution of the Manchurian problem is the opening of that region to the trade of the world. It is quite plain that if Russia wants to reap for her own people, as she very naturally will want to reap for them, the main part of the tradal advantages of Manchuria, her only hope lies in differentiating against the traders of other countries, for all experience goes to show that in the field of free and open commercial competition the Russian merchant does not take a front place. In short, the open door in Manchuria would mean that Russian railways had been constructed chiefly for the advantage of other nations. Say what she may then, and say it as sincerely as she pleases, Russia will sooner or later be impelled to draw an inviolable cordon round Manchuria if she acquires power to do so, and it is in preventing anything of that kind that the interest of Western States is involved. Unless the preventive measures be adopted now, we do not see when they are to be adopted. This is the purely tradal view of the question.

It is possible, however, that the telegram has another meaning. It may signify that the terms of the treaty have been satisfactorily arranged with the one exception of the question relating to the opening of Manchuria. We are led to hope that such is the case, for another telegram intimates that the proposal to transfer the place of negotiations to Peking is now said to have been suggested by the Russian commissioner alone. The latter is in Peking, and rumour attributes to him an idea that the demand for the opening of Manchuria could be more successfully opposed were the negotiations conducted in the capital. None of the other Powers has been consulted, however, and there is very little probability of their agreeing to the change. Of course all these manœuvres on Russia's part will expose her to a great deal of abuse from her rivals; but, after all, she is playing her old game. Her policy of seclusion is simply the policy of protection in an extreme form. The difference between closing a country's domestic markets to foreign goods by penalizing the latter in the matter of duties, and literally closing them by administrative enactment, is only academical. Protection is in vogue to-day and Russia is entitled to adopt her own form of it, and to enforce it if she be able. It is for her commercial competitors to checkmate her if they can, as they certainly can by insisting on their treaty rights in Manchuria as a section of the Chinese Empire.

THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PEKING.

A long telegram is sent by the Peking correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* with reference to the negotiations between Prince Ching and M. Lessar. The correspondent undertakes to give a verbatim account of what passed, but how can he be reasonably supposed to have acquired such knowledge? The gist of the story may be briefly stated. M. Lessar urged that Russia's sentiments towards China were those of neighbourly friendship, and that China should show a similar spirit; which remark elicited from Prince Ching the rejoinder that Russia did not prove her friendship by her habit of placing China in embarrassing positions. Thereto M. Lessar retorted that Russia could not be truly charged with anything of the kind; that on the occasion of the Liaotung Peninsula's retrocession and on that of the North-China complication, she had shown herself a friend, and that although she did not lay claim to having placed China under any obligation, she thought herself entitled to considerate treatment. The Prince maintained that she had received such treatment, since every possible privilege and concession had been given to her, but that the convention now proposed could not be agreed to. Nevertheless, answered M. Lessar, the convention is intended merely to supplement the evacuation treaty: it only fills up the *lacunæ* in the latter and converts it into a working arrangement. Prince Ching replied that the evacuation treaty was only a year old; that it had been negotiated between himself and M. Lessar; that its conditions were plain and simple; that to allege a necessity for

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supplementing it after such a brief interval and at the hands of the very officials by whom it had been negotiated was incomprehensible, and that were M. Lessar in his, the Prince's, place, he would not and could not entertain such a proposition. M. Lessar inferred from the Prince's language that some apprehension was entertained as to the interference of other Powers. But this was a matter that concerned solely the relations of the two empires. Russia had already withdrawn the demands originally presented by her and had substituted others of which a copy had been transmitted by the manager of the Russo-Chinese Bank, M. Pokotiloff. If any other Power attempted to interfere Russia had means of dealing with the incident and China need not be uneasy. Prince Ching asked what those means were, but M. Lessar thought it would not be too late to describe them after the negotiations were concluded. Prince Ching then said that he had already submitted M. Pokotiloff's draft to the Throne, but that it had failed to obtain the approval of either the Empress-Dowager or the Emperor; that Chinese public opinion was entirely opposed to it; that the Foreign Representatives condemned it, and that in the face of such objections at home and abroad he could only ask to have it withdrawn. M. Lessar stated that he had authority to make treaties but not to break them. If China would not agree to Russia's proposals, was she prepared to guarantee that there should be no future disturbances of order in Manchuria? The Prince answered that China would spare no pains to attain that result after the withdrawal of the Russian troops. M. Lessar observed that the former proposals having been withdrawn, only four points had now to be considered. He saw no difficulty in China agreeing to them, and he must press for a definite answer whether she would or would not agree. The Prince could not answer immediately. M. Lessar, however, opined that the Prince had full power, and urged him not to resort to evasions. Prince Ching denied that his power extended beyond discussion. The right of approval or rejection rested with the Throne. In a matter of such grave importance careful reflection was necessary. The conference then came to an end and Prince Ching at once proceeded to the Iwo Park.

As to the four proposals alluded to in the above conference, it is not publicly known what they are. Some allege that they are four out of the original seven; others that they are different, and others that they virtually embody the whole seven. At all events the fact that they were submitted through the Manager of the Russo-Chinese Bank seems to be clear. Further, if the above conference be correctly reported, M. Lessar, admitted that the celebrated Seven Demands had been presented by M. Plancon, whereas the St. Petersburg Cabinet denied anything of the kind. But our readers will probably agree with us in thinking that these exceedingly detailed reports of conferences which, according to all the rules of diplomacy, ought to be carefully guarded against publicity, must be received with much reserve.

Hongkong papers contain reports, running into several columns apiece, of the marriage of Miss Olive Blake, daughter of Sir Henry Blake, Governor of Hongkong, to Captain J. B. Arbuthnot, of the Scots Guards, and son of Colonel Arbuthnot, Norton Court, Glasgow, which occurred on the 8th inst. Miss Blake is the first daughter of a Governor to be married at Hongkong. She is well-known in Japan.

PRESENTATION TO BISHOP MCKIM.

Sunday was the tenth anniversary of the consecration of Bishop McKim, of North Tokyo, to the Episcopate, and the members of his mission, both clerical and lay, marked the day by the gift to their superior of a very rich and elaborate pastoral staff. There was full choral evensong in his cathedral church, at Tsukiji, Tokyo, at which a large number of clergymen—American, English and Japanese—were present, besides the Right Reverend Bishop Schereschewsky, and the Bishops of South Tokyo and of Kyoto. Bishop McKim was, of course, present in the place of honour and pronounced the absolution and the final benediction. The service itself bore a festal character, and was admirably well sung, the antiphonal chanting of the Psalms being especially effective. *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis* were sung to appropriate music, the unusual number of men's voices making the Gregorian chant for *Nunc dimittis* most impressive. After the service the Rev. E. R. Woodman, B.D., as the oldest priest of the missionary district, and as representing the members of the mission, delivered an address, chiefly historical, concerning the ten years of Bishop McKim's episcopate. He also spoke of the episcopal office as typically pastoral, and thus introduced the subject of the bishop's "crozier," or pastoral staff. This ornament was then brought in, and with touching words of esteem and affectionate confidence Mr. Woodman gave it to the Bishop, who responded in a very feeling manner. Prayers were then said by the Bishop, after which he solemnly pronounced the blessing from the altar-steps, holding his staff in his left hand. In conclusion Dyke's setting of the *Te Deum* was sung before the altar, and the choir and clergy left the chancel singing Heber's Trinity hymn, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty."

This staff is a work of great beauty. The crook is of pure silver, in the usual form, the surface being reticulated, to symbolize another part of the office of a bishop—"a fisher of men." The outer part of the curved portion has a series of crockets, and in the volute there is a double ornament;—on one side a Greek cross with floriated ends, adorned with jewels, on the other a sun in its glory, bearing an enamelled cross in red enamel. Below the curve the silver is divided into panels by lambs in heraldic style, the intervening panels bearing engraved flowers—a chrysanthemum, for Japan, a rose for England, a thistle for Scotland, and golden-rod for America—thus indicating the course of the American episcopal succession—*i.e.* from England and Scotland through America to Japan. The wood of the staff is African rosewood, chosen as least likely to be affected by dampness and heat. The large knob in the middle of the staff bears a suitable inscription, and it, like the crook and the spike at the foot (and indeed every bit of metal), is of pure silver and highly finished.

The work was designed by an eminent Church architect of New York, Mr. H. M. Congdon, and was especially made under his direct care at no expense to the committee; so that the whole cost of the work is in the work itself. We do not believe there is any richer piece of silver work in Japan, and we think that Japanese craftsmen, expert as they are—perhaps, rather, we ought to say because they are expert—will appreciate it. It certainly does credit to the New York silversmith who made it.

Thus, in a fitting way was noted the completion of ten years of faithful and effective work in the bishop's office by Dr. McKim. Happily also, this anniversary was all but coincident with the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bishop McKim's entrance to the Ministry; that is, on the sixteenth of June, 1878, he was ordained Deacon, as on the fourteenth of June, 1893, he was consecrated Bishop. We congratulate the Bishop on having a body of co-workers who are so attached to him personally, and thus able to further all his official plans for the work to which he and they alike are called and sent forth.

LORD KELVIN ON CREATIVE POWER.

"Christian Apologetics" is the subject of a course of five public lectures which have just been given in the theatre of University College, London. The Rev. Professor Henslow opened the course, with Lord Reay in the chair, supported by Lord Kelvin, by dealing with "Present Day Rationalism: An Examination of Darwinism." Lord Kelvin, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said he wished to make a personal explanation. He recently had occasion to make use of the expressions ether, atoms, electricity, and had been horrified to read in the Press that he had spoken of ether-atoms. Ether was absolutely non-atomic; it was absolutely structureless and homogeneous. He was in thorough sympathy with Professor Henslow in the fundamentals of his lecture, but he could not say that with regard to the origin of life science neither affirmed nor denied creative power. Science positively affirmed creative power. Science made everyone feel a miracle in himself. It was not in dead matter that they lived and moved and had their being, but in the creating and directive power which science compelled them to accept as an article of belief. They could not escape from that when they studied the physics and dynamics of living and dead matter all around. Modern biologists were coming once more to a firm acceptance of something, and that was a vital principle. They had an unknown object put before them in science. In thinking of that object they were all agnostics. They only knew God in His work, but they were absolutely forced by science to admit and to believe with absolute confidence in a directive power—in an influence other than physical, dynamical, electrical forces. Cicero had denied that they could have come into existence by a fortuitous concourse of atoms. There was nothing between absolute scientific belief in creative power and the acceptance of the theory of a fortuitous concourse of atoms. Was there, he asked, anything so absurd as to believe that a number of atoms by falling together of their own accord could make a sprig of moss, a microbe, a living animal? People thought that, given millions of years, these might come to pass, but they could not think that a million of years could give them unaided a beautiful world like ours. They had a spiritual influence, and in science a knowledge that there was that influence in the world around them. He admired the healthy, breezy atmosphere of free thought in Prof. Henslow's lecture. Let no one, he urged, be afraid of true freedom. They could be free in their thought, in their criticisms, and with freedom of thought they were bound to come to the conclusion that science was not antagonistic to religion, but a help for religion.

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"JAPANESE SPIES."

That is the heading of a remarkable paragraph which appears in *The Independent* of May 21st. We quote it:—

A somewhat remarkable feature of the present Manchurian crisis is the wonderful way in which Japan is served by her spies in Manchuria. Russia seems unable to shift even a corporal's guard in that immense region without the Government at Tokyo getting to know of it almost immediately; and, if war breaks out, the accuracy and extent of Japan's information will be more apparent. In the great fortress at Port Arthur Japanese spies are at present working among the Chinese labours, from whom they cannot well be distinguished by their employers or even by their fellow workmen, for they wear pig-tails of twenty years' growth, and there are so many dialects of Chinese that their accent excites no comment. During the seige of the Peking Legations European residents were astounded to find Japanese whom they had long known as barbers and in other menial capacities blossom forth all of a sudden into capable military officers of high ranks; and in every part of Manchuria at the present moment these little Japanese carry on their risky calling, generally in the guise of peddlers. The Russians are placed at a considerable disadvantages in dealing with them, because that, even when these alleged peddlers are not disguised as Chinamen, it is practically impossible to decipher the hieroglyphics—or, to be more accurate, the *shiragana* or *katakana*, or other form of Japanese writing—in which they take their notes. Add to this the fact that the Japanese are far quicker-witted than the Russians, and that the omnipresent Japanese Consul or Japanese journalist is sure to create a storm if any apparent injustice is done. The course adopted by the Russians is therefore a somewhat rough and mediæval one, which accords well with their general character. They incite the Chinese "Mounted Highwaymen" (who are now, it is said, in the pay of the Russians) to plunder and murder them; and doleful are the wails that are now being raised in the Tokyo press about the way in which these Chinese robbers attack inoffensive "itinerant merchants" from Japan while leaving Russians alone. Japanese spies also swarm in Siberia, as may be seen from the following pathetic little narrative that appeared in a Japanese paper regarding the arrest of some guileless Japanese apprentices in that country:

"They were shop assistants in certain Japanese shop at Harbin. They resigned their posts . . . and started for home, not forgetting, of course, to get passes from the proper authorities. They took the overland route and decided to work their way home by selling medicines to the Koreans. At Srawanca they were arrested on the charge of being spies. As ill-luck would have it, the note books they had contained some rude pictures or descriptions of some of the military barracks on the way. This slender evidence was regarded as sufficient to incriminate them by the Russian officers, who are very sensitive on all such matters when the Japanese are mixed up in them. The three were judged guilty at the preliminary examination, and were committed for trial, which may commence in three months or six months, or even more."

It really was "ill luck" that those poor, innocent shop assistants should have become interested in military matters. If they had sketched the drug stores they had come across on the road nobody would have said a word about it, but the Russians are so sensitive in military matters. Even in Japan, however, itinerant artists of this kind are not appreciated.

The writer of the above is not without imagination. Not five years have passed since Russia rented Liaotung, yet the writer in *The Independent*—misled, doubtless, by some authority whom he does not mention—speaks of Japanese subjects in Port Arthur one element of whose disguise is "pig-tails of twenty years' growth." Still it is not to be denied that many Japanese have been engaged collecting information at various places in Manchuria and China. They are perfectly justified in doing so and they have an absolute right to do so, martial law not having been proclaimed in those districts. An example of their enterprising research was afforded some months ago by the publication of a remarkable map showing the sphere of Russian enterprise in Eastern Asia. In the interests of veracity, however, it is right to protest against the highly coloured tone of *The Independent's* paragraph. Its readers would be led to infer that spying out the land was the chief occupation of Japanese resident in Manchuria, which, of course, would be a monstrous exaggeration. Then there is the question whether the Russians have any manner of right to arrest or otherwise meddle with the subjects or citizens of a treaty power because they take notes and make sketches of things seen in Manchuria. Manchuria has not yet been recognised as Russian property, and it would be hard to establish any such claim.

THE INTERPORT FOURS.

There appears to be some feeling in Kobe about the result of the Interport Fours. A collision, deliberately contrived by fishermen, deprived the Kobe boat of its rudder and incapacitated it for continuing the race, so that the Yokohama crew won virtually without a contest. The question is whether, in such circumstances, Yokohama should have taken the flag. It is stated that the Yokohama stroke, on being asked, immediately after the race, whether he would row it again, replied in the negative, and his answer seems to have evoked some criticism. But the strong probability, we may almost say the certainty, is that the Yokohama stroke, when he made that reply, regarded the collision as an ordinary accident for which the Kobe boat had to blame its own bad steering. His boat had escaped the danger, and he would naturally have thought that his opponents' craft must bear the responsibility of her own blunders. As soon, however, as he and his comrades understood the collision to have been the result of a deliberate scheme on the part of the fisherman, it can not be doubted that they were quite willing to row the race again. That was the only sportsmanlike course, so far as published facts indicate. And the same remark applies to the flag, Yokohama ought not to keep it. If the strict rules of racing be alone considered, the prize goes necessarily to those that technically win a race, provided that no unlawful act of their own contributes to their success. But morally and from a sporting point of view they ought not to take advantage of an incident such as the deliberate maiming of their adversaries by a party of roughs. It does not appear to us that there is any room for discussion. The race was Yokohama's and all bets on it hold—though we can not easily conceive any person pocketing money won under such conditions—, but the trophy of victory, the flag, should not have been accepted. Of course there are parallel if not exact precedents. When a horse is "doctored" on the eve of a race, no one questions the right of the winner to realize the stake, and on the same principle the Yokohama team are legally entitled to the prize. There remains, however, the sporting view of the matter, and concerning that opinions can scarcely differ.

BUDDHISM IN JAPAN.

Professor Rhys Davids discerns signs of a revival of Buddhism. We are specially interested to observe that he bases his opinion on a fact noted in these columns fifteen years ago, namely, that the advent of Christianity and of its vigorous propagandists in the East has galvanized Buddhism into new life. The Professor observes that the number of professing Buddhists in India has increased during the last two years from 7½ to 9½ millions, and he thinks that the conditions which led to the first spread of Buddhism there are again arising. In his opinion the Maha-Bodhi Society of Ceylon is doing strong work, and so is the Samagama Society of Mandalay, which has for its head a converted Scotch gentleman of scientific training. Concerning Japan his remarks are:—

In Japan, the rivalry of the twelve leading Buddhist sects has led to greater keenness of propagandist education. The intellectual adaptability of the Japanese has led some of these sects to send students to study Pali and Sanskrit in Europe. And the cause of Buddhist scholarship owes much to, and hopes much from, the works and research of writers like Messrs. Bunyu Nanjo, Fujishima, Takakusu, and Anesaki. *The Orient* is an excellently conducted periodical from the Buddhist standpoint, and publishes English readings of the chief Buddhist texts. This cultured and zealous activity is the more noteworthy in that the military class in Japan, now become through recent wars especially prominent, is unlike the ancient Indian Kshatriya supporters of Buddhism, almost exclusively of the old pagan or Shinto faith.

A Japanese mission has gained a footing at San Francisco, has already several branches in the neighbourhood, and publishes a Buddhist periodical entitled *The Light of Dharma*. There is no doubt as to the gradually increasing extent to which Buddhism is gaining on the attention of the general public in America. This was largely due to an awakening interest in the comparative study of religious belief, on the one hand, and to confused ideas among and about "Theosophists" on the other. Oriental propagandists of Buddhism protest that Theosophy, a doctrine steeped in "soul-heresy," "pilfers Buddhist terminology to mislead foolish people in England and America." At any rate, one result of this dual impetus has been a shower of popular text-books on Buddhism, which, even if they are the fruits of second-hand and not over accurate study, are yet helping to break down the appalling self-complacency of the ignorant, and to familiarize men's minds with the startling advance made, long before Christianity, and far from the basin of the Mediterranean, in the deepest problems of life and ethics.

JAPANESE TRAVEL ABROAD.

Elsewhere we publish a letter from a correspondent signing himself "Personal Liberty. He describes the case of a Japanese subject whose application to travel abroad was refused by the local authorities, the latter declining to assign any reason for their refusal. Our correspondent is much perplexed by the incident and doubts whether it should not be called "black tyranny." We are not acquainted with the facts of the case except so far as they are described by our correspondent, but we may say that according to our information, the rejection of such applications is an extremely rare event. Certain conditions have to be satisfied by the applicant, however. The principal of them is that he must furnish reputable securities for his independent maintenance while residing or travelling abroad, so that there shall be no danger of his becoming an object of public charity or having to be sent home at State charges. It may be presumed that in the case referred to by our correspondent the applicant failed in this cardinal respect, but if that was the case he certainly had a right to be informed as to the reason. For the alleged refusal of the authorities to furnish information we can not suggest any explanation, but, being acquainted with the procedure usually followed in such matters, we are strongly disposed to believe that a full statement of the facts has not reached our correspondent's ears. The case as he depicts it certainly suggests most arbitrary action on the part of Japanese officialdom, but it is only right to suspend judgment until something more explicit is learned about an incident so very exceptional.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The threatened trouble connected with a re-posting of placards in Seoul seems to have been easily settled. On this occasion there had not been any official connivance. A small section of native merchants thought that profit was to be made by opposing the circulation of Japanese bank-notes, and to that end caused placards to be displayed. These have now been withdrawn, and their exhibitors punished. The Peddlers' Guild are reported to have renewed their agitation against the notes, but it is not thought that they can accomplish anything. No inconvenience was caused to the First Bank by this demonstration.

Returns of visitors to Japanese domestic exhibitions are published as follows:—

1st Exhibition	120 days	454,116 visitors.
2nd Exhibition	122 days	822,295 visitors.
3rd Exhibition	122 days	1,023,693 visitors.
4th Exhibition	122 days	1,136,695 visitors.
5th Exhibition	100 days	3,004,957 visitors.

The figures for the 5th Exhibition, now open in Osaka, are up to the 8th of June. It is expected that there will be another million of visitors before the Exhibition closes.

The Emperor sent, on the 13th instant, a Chamberlain bearing tokens of sympathy to the family of the late Marquis Ikeda, and bearing also an Imperial message strongly eulogizing the loyal achievements of the deceased and expressing sorrow for his death.

Mr. Terahara, Governor of Nara, has been transferred to Ibaraki, and Mr. Kono, Governor of the latter, has been transferred to Nara.

Professor Muirhead has addressed to Dr. Nakajima a letter with reference to the now celebrated incident of the text-book on morals used at the school of Professor Inouye Enryo. It need scarcely be said that the Scottish savant defends the doctrine enunciated in his work and commiserates sincerely with Dr. Nakajima in his misfortune. Dr. Inouye Enryo being now in England, it is easy to understand the route by which Professor Muirhead was approached; and fortunately approached, for the consensus of opinion appears to be almost completely in favour of Dr. Nakajima and against the action of the authorities, the only prominent supporter of the latter being Dr. Maruyama, who was educated in the German school of philosophy. It has to be remembered that the text book in question discusses the theory, not the practice, of morality, a point of considerable importance in considering the doctrines enunciated. We understand that the views of the University men are all in favour of Dr. Nakajima, but there are as yet no signs that the punitive measures of the Mombusho will be revoked.

Somebody wrote the other day about the world needing rest. Professor Thomson, of Aberdeen, in the *London Quarterly Review*, has an article "On Growing Old," in which he points out that man is very deficient in the resting instinct, and seldom takes much thought about resting habits:

> A simple creature exhausts its stores of internal fuel, the nervous system gives the signal "hunger" or "fatigue," and infallibly the simple creature will eat or rest if it can. Its brain is not disobedient. In higher animals, however, and especially in man, the business is much more complicated. The signals for stoking or resting are plainly given, but some higher nerve-centre suddenly countermands them, and we say in our folly, "Full steam ahead," "No time for lunch to-day," "Late up to-night," "No holidays at Christmas this year!"

And so, adds the Professor, as it is preeminently by rest and change and quiet mind that the nervous system is kept young, we come back to the old commonplace, "Let us be aisy; and if we can't be aisy, let us be as aisy as we can."

The reception accorded King Edward in Paris surpassed all expectations. Even the lyrists of the boulevards were moved to song by his visit, and according to a friend now resident in Paris the most popular song of the Parisians in the first week of May ran thus:—

> Edouard, mon vieux frère,
> Toi, tu nous allais...
> Combien il nous tarde
> De t' voir revenir,
> Car Paris te garde
> Un bon souvenir.

The meeting of the heads of the two great Powers appears to have been most simple. "Vous vous portez bien, Monsieur le Président?" inquired the English King. "Votre Majesté n'est pas fatiguée de son voyage?" asked the President, and, having clasped hands somewhat lingeringly, they proceeded to the Reception Room together, and "le protocole" was satisfied.

We observe that the President of the United States has accepted from the publishers, Messrs. J. B. Millet and Company, of Boston, a copy of the "Oriental Series," of which Captain Brinkley is the author.

The Red Cross Society held its twelfth annual meeting on the 17th instant in the Exhibition Building, Uyeno Park. About twenty thousand persons were present. Her Majesty the Empress arrived at half-past nine, and was received by Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Kanin and Yamashina, Princesses Kitashirakawa and Kuni, Count Matsukata, President of the Society, Viscount Hanabusa, Vice-President, and other distinguished personages. Her Majesty delivered a brief speech expressing satisfaction at the progress and prosperity of the Society and urging further effort. Suitable replies were made by Prince Kanin and Count Matsukata. The Report, compiled up to the end of April, showed the following figures:—

Number of members	857,948
Number of lady members	29,595
Number of foreign members	775
Property of the Society at end of 1902.	7,621,801 *yen*.
Showing as compared with 1901 an increase of	1,448,848 *yen*.

The observation originally made by Professor Naumann that the state of the clouds on Fuji-san might furnish an accurate indication of pending changes of weather, has been taken up and elaborated by Professor Kanada Ryotaro, head of the Meteorological Station at Numazu. So far as we can perceive, the gist of a report recently compiled by him is that immediately prior to a change of weather Fuji dons a cloud cap (*kasa-gumo*). The advent of this cap is in itself a proof that some change impends, and the colour of the cap furnishes another indication. If it is black, the proximity of a storm centre may be confidently inferred; if white, the existence of such a centre, but at a considerable distance, is indicated. These conclusions, of which we can not give more than the outlines, have been arrived at after long and careful observations, and it is expected that they will prove of considerable meteorological value.

The most effective speech at the Royal Academy banquet was Admiral Sir John Fisher's, in responding for the Navy, remarks *Public Opinion*. The Prince of Wales showed a comprehensive interest in art as seen in national displays, such as the Coronation, the Delhi Durbar, and the forthcoming St. Louis Exhibition, where, he hopes, British art will be properly represented. Mr. Brodrick was earnest in his defence of his Army Reform scheme, and humorous in his suggested consolation that if he was to be hung on account of his proposals, at least he would be hung on the line—the thin red line, we imagine. Sir John Fisher's speech was so good because it embodied the splendid old sea-dog spirit to which the Empire owes so much. He told an excellent story of his inspection of a small torpedo-destroyer of some 260 tons, which had about it the swagger of 16,000 tons. The young lieutenant in command pointed to an inscription on the wheel: "Ut veniant omnes." "What the deuce is that?" asked the Admiral. "Let 'em all come," said the lieutenant, saluting. "In regard to naval warfare," said Sir John, "history is a record of exploded ideas. In the old days they were sailors' battles; now they are admirals' battles. And as for the question of co-operating with the Army—well, no soldier can go anywhere unless the sailor carries him on his back. On the British Navy rests the British Empire."

SONNET.

O! perfect star of Love who, from the heights
Of blue, vast heaven, look'st on earth below;
Serene in brightness, thou can'st never know
The heartaches here beneath her flickering lights,
The long-drawn days, the feverish, wakeful nights;
Nor can'st thou dim the lustre of thy birth,
Like human lights among the mists of earth,
For on thou shinest with unchanging glow.
O! bright, pure star, thou art a tear from God;
For He must weep to see His children bleed
As on they grope along this jagged road,
And blindly follow sounds that falsely lead.
And all the lesser stars are angels' tears,
Which they have shed o'er earth through countless years.

M. K.

BASEBALL.

The baseball match on Saturday afternoon between the Y. C. and A. C. and the Yokohama Commercial School proved an easy victory for the school team. For the first three innings neither side scored. Then the Y. C. S. started in to get runs, making 4 in the fourth innings, and at the close of the game had piled up 10, while the Y. C. and A. C. failed to get a single man back to the home plate. Indeed, after the fourth innings the Y. C. and A. C. team seemed to get hopelessly demoralized, throwing in wildly and "all over the shop." The Japanese players, of course, were in excellent trim, as a school team should be that can practise together every day of the week, and generally from year's end to year's end, while their opponents were almost wholly untrained and in some instances quite new to the game. Still it is a pity that a little practise is not indulged in by probable players at odd times, especially in fielding. Quite a feature of the game on Saturday was the "deadly" accuracy displayed by the Japanese in making catches—a feature, needless to say, almost entirely absent among the players in the foreign team, though Mollison on 1st base and Merriman did some excellent work at times.

A woman named Bun (35) keeper of a sea-water bath house at Oiso was arrested on June 12th on a charge of having twice attempted to set fire to her own house in order to obtain *yen* 500 from a fire insurance company.

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THE SERVIAN REVOLUTION.

SELDOM is the world so shocked as it was at the end of last week when the news was flashed to every quarter of the assassination of King ALEXANDER and Queen DRAGA in their palace at Belgrade. There can be little question that the Servians deeply resented the marriage of their young SOVEREIGN to the erstwhile lady-in-waiting, and when the news of her elaborate hoax regarding the probable arrival of a heir to the Throne became noised abroad, the dislike grewin intensity. But King ALEXANDER had always seemed popular with the Army, as his father MILAN had been, and so long as he had that at his back it was thought his position was secure. But the Army has evidently thrown itself into the main current of public opinion, for it has proclaimed Prince KARAGEORGEVITCH King and thus restored the leadership of the Servian people to the representative of a family that by many have always been looked upon as the rightful possessors of the dignity. The late King ALEXANDER was the fifth in the line of descent of the dynasty founded by MILOSH TODOROVIC OBRENOVIC, the second leader of the Servians in the war of insurrection to throw off the yoke of Turkey, which had lasted since 1459. That war raged from 1795 to 1829, when the Turkish Government was compelled to grant virtual independence to Servia. By the terms of the treaty, signed September 14, 1829, MILOSH OBRENOVIC was acknowledged Prince of Servia, and by a subsequent Firman of the SULTAN dated August 15, 1830, the dignity was made hereditary in his family. The independence of Servia from Turkey was established by article 34 of the Treaty of Berlin, signed July 13, 1878, and was solemnly proclaimed by Prince (afterwards King) MILAN at his capital, August 22, 1878. King MILAN abdicated on March 6, 1889, and proclaimed his son ALEXANDER, King. The lad was then thirteen years old, and in his seventeenth year he threw off the burden of the Regency which his father had arranged for him, taking the reins of Government completely into his own hands. His marriage to Queen DRAGA took place on August 5th, 1900, she being some nine years his senior. Recent political happenings in Servia have borne an air bordering on *opera bouffe*. The Radicals are the dominating factor in the politics of the country at present and recently they managed to get the Narodna-Shupshtina to pass various laws liberating the Press and establishing the ballot. Such proceedings seemed to have been very obnoxious to the KING, so accordingly on April 7th, he issued proclamations suspending the Constitution of 1901, and then, as absolute SOVEREIGN, dismissed the Senate, abolished the Council of State, and repealed the obnoxious laws. Next he appointed new Senators and Councillors of State, and three days afterwards restored the Constitution. The *coup d'état* at the time seemed to have caused little excitement, the Army still being with the KING. But apparently matters were, all unseen, moving to a crisis and a military plot was hatching which has culminated, as our telegram tells us, in the death of both KING and QUEEN. The *Deutsche Japan-Post* differs in its account of the tragedy, the news received by it from Berlin being that the KING, surprised by the conspirators in his bed-room, first shot Queen DRAGA and then blew out his own brains, while all the members of the Queen's family found in the Palace and many Ministers of State were murdered.

KARAGEORGEVITCH, who has been proclaimed King by the Army and later elected unanimously by the Shupshtina, is, as the name implies, the lineal descendant of GEORGE PETROVIC, or as he is popularly called throughout Servia, KARA GEORGE (the Black) who first led the nation in the war which brought about their liberation and who, when the country was almost rid of the Turks, became its autocratic ruler, as Prince of the Servians. KARA GEORGE was a humble neatherd by birth and never mastered the arts of reading or writing, but he was a heaven-sent ruler of men, one of those heroic figures that Providence evidently destines for the arduous posts of liberators of their country. Peerless as a leader of guerillas, he proved wanting when tested by the responsibility of sovereignty, and one day he fled from his country, leaving his faithful people to their fate. This was on October 3, 1813. Then it was that MILOSH OBRENOVIC stepped forward as leader of the Servians, and established the dynasty that has just ended in blood. But KARA GEORGE still remained a potent figure in Servian politics and he endeavoured to return in 1817 to lead a revolt against MILOSH. On the way he was met by emissaries of the reigning prince who attempted to persuade the old chieftain to return to his place of exile. Finding that he absolutely refused to comply with their request they, to close the argument, cut off his head. The tragic end of the renowned chief was bewailed throughout Servia and for a while the dynasty of MILOSH trembled. But he was a strong man and carried the day, and the head of KARA GEORGE eventually decorated a gate of the Seraglio at Constantinople bearing the inscription, "Head of the famous Servian bandit, Kara George."

To-day his descendant reigns in the Konak at Belgrade.

MR. KATAOKA KENKICHI.

MR. KATAOKA KENKICHI has published a statement of reasons for seceding from the *Seiyu-kai*. We have read it carefully. Everything emanating from such a man is worthy of close attention, even apart from the importance attaching to his utterances and his attitude as the leader of the Tosa Liberals. In one important respect we are obliged to confess inability to comprehend Mr. KATAOKA. Marquis Ito, addressing his Party at the moment of recent crisis, laid down the proposition that country must take precedence of party, and that where party policy conflicts with national interests the former must be sacrified to the latter. It is impossible to conceive that Mr. KATAOKA traverses that proposition, for it is incontrovertible. Yet he seems to traverse it. He seems to say that under no circumstances should a political party subserve its platform, since without a platform there can not be a party. Probably what he means is that inasmuch as a party's platform must be founded originally on national interests, the preservation of the one should never conflict with the conservation of the other. But, after all, that is merely an academical question upon which neither the dictum of Marquis ITO nor that of Mr. KATAOKA can have any permanent effect. Apart from it, what we find in Mr. KATAOKA'S *apologia*, what appears to us to be the very marrow of it, is a protest against the substitution of individual control for obedience to principle. And further, what we read between the lines is that whereas the Tosa leader looked for Marquis ITO'S assistance in overthrowing the "Clan Statesmen," he has encountered Marquis ITO'S opposition. In a word, Mr. KATAOKA rebels against the limitless exercise of Marquis ITO'S authority when it is not thrown direct into the scale with the aspirations of the old Liberals. That is a sufficient reason for the Tosa leader's secession.

But as outsiders we may be permitted to make one comment, prefacing it by the question, who and what are the "Clan Statesmen?" Did not that epithet long ago become obsolete and inapplicable? Clan influence is not now an appreciable factor in Japan's domestic politics. The term is, in truth, a subterfuge. Men instinctively shrink from using the epithet "Imperialists." Such an expression refuses to harmonize with the spirit of Japanese loyalty. Nevertheless it is the one and only sincere expression. The fight is between advocates of Ministerial responsibility to the Diet and Ministerial responsibility to the SOVEREIGN alone; between friends of party Cabinets and friends of Imperial Cabinets. Now as to that Marquis ITO has never wavered for an instant nor ever shrunk from unequivocally declaring his faith. If there was any moment when reticence might have been expected from him, it was the moment when he agreed to place himself at the head of a Party having for its principal element the old *Jiyu-to*, men whose motto throughout the whole of their political career had been *seito naikaku* (party cabinets). Yet that was precisely the moment he chose for telling his new followers that Japanese Ministers hold their mandate not from the Diet but from the Crown. Foreign onlookers regarded with astonishment that spectacle of politicians enlisting under the very banner they had for years fought to pull down. But neither Mr. KATAOKA, nor Mr. OZAKI, nor any other Japanese politician can now plead ignorance of the motto they then

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adopted, unless they are willing to sacrifice their reputation for intelligence. What Marquis Ito told them in effect was that they need not expect him to fight for the overthrow of a Ministry merely because it refused to bow to the will of the majority in the Lower House; that in such an event he purposed to be guided not by the interests of party government but by the interests of the State; and that unless they, on their side, intended to obey him, he could not lead them to success. Had he been gifted with power to project his vision into a future four years distant, he could not have shown clearer prescience. It comes to this, then, that Mr. Kataoka's appreciation of the country's good differs from Marquis Ito's appreciation, and that Mr. Kataoka declines to be guided by Marquis Ito. And it comes to this, also, that the real issue between the two is party Cabinets and Imperial Cabinets.

NEWSPAPER LIBELS.

THE State Legislature of Pennsylvania has passed a law providing that civil actions may be brought against newspapers for negligence in investigating the truth of facts published by them or in inserting matter affecting the character, reputation or business of citizens. So far as we have been able to learn, only one American journal speaks moderately of this measure, and even that journal bases its tolerance on a conviction that the judiciary may always be trusted to do justice. By other editors the measure is denounced as an attempt to "gag the press in the interest of plunderers and against the interests of the people;" as an "infamous and unjust law;" as "vicious and un-American;" as "thoroughly unconstitutional," and so forth. It strikes us that all this outcry merely illustrates the necessity for such a law. Why should a newspaper object to the obligation of exercising due care in verifying its statements? Every reputable member of civilized society is expected to exercise such care, and in the case of a journal the necessity is much more imperative since a large audience is addressed and negligence may inflict irreparable injury on some innocent person. Speaking of the press outside England, we should like to hear a frank discussion of the question whether the profession of journalist is regarded by the public with even the modicum of respect accorded to it thirty or forty years ago. In rare cases a newspaper wins esteem, perhaps because of its editor's facility with the pen, more probably because its access to sources of information is wide and prompt. But these exceptions go to prove the rule that in general the man who earns his bread by newspaper work receives even less consideration than the man who posts up a ledger or sells calico behind a counter. Is not that the case with the majority of journalists in the Far East? Here, perhaps, a special reason operates, namely, that the pecuniary rewards of such work are too small to permit social display, and when all is said and done the consequence a man enjoys in society is measured by the place his means enable him to take there. But apart from these exceptional factors, the point we wish to make is that the conduct of the average newspaper has lowered the whole of the press in public esteem. Men have learned to think that in the vast majority of cases a journalist knows less than they do themselves about the things he undertakes to discuss; that he attaches much greater importance to smartness or a prettily turned phrase than to accuracy or depth of research, and that he thinks more of entertaining his readers than of the reputations he may injure in the effort. In the very small communities of the Far East it is almost impossible for a newspaper to be quite independent, but journals in America address such big audiences that they can afford to take little account of the units and to consider only the masses. There results an almost intolerable invasion of private life and carelessness of facts, so that by degrees the newspaper is forfeiting all title to respect. Unfortunately for the Japanese they have copied the institution without observing its defects, and having allowed their ears to be deafened by the hackneyed clamour about freedom of speech and the wholesome influence of publicity, they are fast drifting into a condition where the law of libel will be a mere farce. If the Legislature of Pennsylvania found imitators everywhere, the world would benefit.

JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION.

WE can not agree with our local contemporaries that Japanese public opinion, as expressed in the columns of the vernacular press, exhibits any symptoms of a particularly violent mood at the present juncture. Two Yokohama journals have reproduced from the *Niroku Shimpo* a paragraph printed by that journal in English. It is an ill-balanced and hysterical composition, and apart from the special disqualifications of the *Niroku* as an exponent of Japanese sentiment, one can not but be surprised that even passing importance should be attached to such writing. Concerning the contention of one of our Yokohama contemporaries that the *Niroku* "may be said to fairly reflect the temper of the large section of the public to which it caters," we must conclude that the words were set down without reflection. On behalf of no newspaper in the world can such a claim be set up, and while we have some admiration for the curiously reckless enterprise of the *Niroku*, we emphatically allege that, so far as our sources of information show, its news and its opinions evoke only a smile from intelligent Japanese in Tokyo. After all, nothing could be more natural than that the coming of the Russian Minister of War should prompt Japanese journals to marshal their views about the Manchurian problem. Neither could it have been reasonably expected that those views would be altogether placable and moderate. The general verdict about Russia's doings in Manchuria must be that she is paltering with her obligations, and that no intelligible theory has yet been formulated to reconcile her deeds with her duties or her explanations with good faith. Japan is very closely affected by the crisis; incomparably more closely than any other Power. Her sentiment is profoundly offended by such a sequel to her own unceremonious exclusion from Manchuria eight years ago, and her material interest, if not her imperial integrity, is deeply involved in the contingencies of a Russian province extending to the banks of the Yalu. It is absolutely natural that her organs of public opinion should speak plainly, and for our own part what we should be disposed to attribute to them is, not intemperance, but remarkable moderation on the whole. General Kuropatkin's figure is not projected in very attractive guise upon the field of present events. He brings to this country the reputation of being distinctly anti-Japanese, and whether report slanders or truly represents him, his coming may well have troubled the water rather than thrown oil upon it. But the true inwardness of Japanese journalistic comments, we venture to think, is an apprehension about the mood of Japanese statesmen. Rightly or wrongly a belief has gained ground that the Cabinet, by some unexplained though variously conjectured process, has been brought under the influence of the small section of politicians who favour an *entente* with Russia on the basis of Japan's self-effacement in Manchuria, the *quid pro quo* being absolute abstention by Russia from all interference in Korea. The Japanese nation sees that the permanent value of such an exchange would depend entirely upon Russia's deliberate observance of restraints which no expanding Power has ever been able to impose upon itself, and which St. Petersburg has never shown any efficient disposition to impose on the immediate agents of Russian growth. The nation sees also that such an arrangement would be in palpable conflict not only with Japan's international declarations prior to the Anglo-Japanese alliance, but also with the obligations she undertook by the alliance. It is natural, therefore, that these rumours about the interference of the pro-Russian coterie should cause alarm and provoke protest. That we take to be the motive chiefly inspiring our Japanese contemporaries. It would be a mistake, we think, to infer that their columns reflect any access of Russo-phobe sentiment.

THE COLLISION CASE AT SHANGHAI.

ASTONISHMENT and adverse comments have been provoked by the result of a case recently tried before the Japanese Consul in Shanghai. A pilot's schooner lying at anchor in the Yangtse was run into and sunk by a Japanese steamer. The Shanghai Pilots Association sued the Shang-

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hai representative of the Japanese Company owning the steamer, but when the case came up for trial, the Japanese Consul had to admit the plea of the defendant, namely, that not being registered as competent to perform any legal function in behalf of the Company by which he was employed, he could not properly be sued in such a matter. This, of course, was a very unfortunate issue. It seems to amount to a denial of justice, and from that point of view it has been severely condemned. Now while freely admitting that the *Nippon Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha*—such is the name of the Company owning the steamer—ought to take care that its Shanghai agent is duly invested with authority to represent it legally, we find difficulty in endorsing the sweeping comments of the *North China Daily News*. Our contemporary argues that "it is the duty of the Japanese Consul-General to refuse to give any papers to the *Koyo Maru* (the colliding steamer) until it has a properly qualified agent here," and further declares that "the *Koyo Maru* in the meantime is somewhat in the position of a pirate: it can run down other vessels with impunity, protected by the fact that the Japanese Consul-General has, by his own statement, no jurisdiction over it." There is here a serious error and a singular miscomprehension. In the text of the Consul-General's judgment, as published by the *N.-C. Daily News* itself, we can not find that he said anything resembling a declaration of possessing no jurisdiction over the *Koyo Maru*:—"This case was instituted upon a mistaken representation of the defendant in the petition" who "has not been entrusted with power to enter into litigation" and "has no capacity to do any legal act on behalf of the Company." In short, the Consul-General found that a mistake of procedure had occurred: a wrong person had been sued. That is fundamentally different from stating that he had "no jurisdiction over the steamer." He had jurisdiction and could have exercised it had the proper person been sued, namely, the master of the vessel. The master is always legally responsible, whatever may be the juridical status of the agent, and such being the case it is manifestly extravagant to speak of the *Koyo Maru* as being "in the position of a pirate," or to allege that the Japanese Consul-General has no jurisdiction over her, or to blame him for giving papers to her. The plaintiffs have only to sue the right person.

These comments, however, do not by any means exhaust the question. We learn from our Shanghai contemporary that the Consul-General did his best to persuade the S.S. Company to accept arbitration. Hence the Company stands in the position of having deliberately declined to submit the matter to a species of tribunal which every ingenuous party should welcome, and of having sought to elude its responsibilities by taking refuge behind a legal quibble. There is only one name for such procedure: it is dishonourable and dishonest. *Prima facie* the colliding steamer was to blame. Her only excuse would be that the pilot schooner was not displaying lights according to regulation. But it rested with the steamer to establish the fact of that negligence, and if there had been any effective desire on the part of the managers of the *Nippon Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha* to acknowledge their just responsibilities they would have readily accepted arbitration instead of seeking to escape by a subterfuge. Of course there may have been difficulties in the way of arbitration. Our criticism is based solely on the facts thus far published, and they are facts which wear an aspect distinctly discreditable to the Japanese Company. Such incidents do incalculable discredit to the good name of the Japanese nation.

METHODS OF EXPANSION.

IT has often been noted that want of capital is Japan's chief handicap in the international race. Speaking broadly, the countries of the world fall into two categories: those that devote public funds to the promotion of national expansion, and those that trust solely to private enterprise in such matters. Prominent among the latter is Great Britain; foremost among the former is Russia. Japan's reason evidently prompts her to adopt the Anglo-Saxon principle, but her political situation impels her to follow Russia's example. In all the story of Russia's East-Asian growth there are no evidences of private enterprise. We do not regard the man at the front as a private individual for the purposes of this argument. If we did, it would be possible to compile a long list of distinguished Russian subjects who by profound foresight, hardy personal initiative and indifference to obstacles have contributed largely to the building of the empire of the Tsars. But these men, being agents and representatives of an imperial programme, servants of the State, supported by public money and working with public money, have nothing in common with private enterprise. For a true type of the latter we must look to England, where officialdom's function is to protect and safeguard the results of individual effort, and where the State uniformly follows the subject. That line of procedure is rendered possible in the case of Anglo-Saxon countries by the enormous stores of investment-seeking wealth accummulated in private hands. And an essential corollary of it is the doctrine of the open door. The Anglo-Saxon, having by the exercise of his own special capacities, material or moral, entered a new field for exploitation, relies fully on those capacities to maintain his leading place there and welcomes all nationals to assist in a development of which he looks to reap the main results. On the contrary, Russia, having opened a field by official enterprise, naturally wishes to fence it round against all foreign ingress until her own merchants and manufacturers can be induced to go there and enter into possession of the advantages which would otherwise be monopolized by aliens. The difference between the two methods has never been so marked as in the present era.

For it will perhaps be right to say that in nothing is the progress of humanity so conspicuous as in the world's aversion to wars and its condemnation of their incidents. The wars of former days were incomparably more brutal than those of modern times, but their horrors were hidden from the gaze of the nations, whereas every incident is now projected in shocking proportions on the field of general observation. Recourse to the sword has, therefore, fallen steadily into disrepute. But the old instinct of national expansion remains, and must always remain, since it is the practical result of an inexorable law, the law that dictates for everything in the universe a state of growth or a state of decay. Aggression, then, being necessary whereas the ancient instrument of aggression is tabooed, it has become necessary to find a new agent, and that agent is the railway. The Government of Russia has freely disbursed hundreds of millions of *yen* to carry her railways to the sea-board of Eastern Asia, and her munificence is rewarded to-day by the virtual possession of an immense territory with great potentialities. But the work is palpably incomplete. If she has gained access to the ocean on the east and on the west of Manchuria, those points of exit labour under such great natural disadvantages that her ambition is still far removed from achievement. Indeed, it may almost be said that she will have made a failure unless she brings Korea within the new circle of communications and unless she can add the ports of Southern Korea to the termini of her railways. How is Japan to prevent that? There is but one way, and in attempting to take it she is hampered by the want of capital alluded to above. She must build the Korean railways and get the system into her own hands. An excellent beginning has been made by acquiring the Seoul-Chemulpo and Seoul-Fusan lines, but there remain the Seoul-Wiju and the Seoul-Yuensan roads. If these latter fall under Russian control, directly or indirectly, either the peninsula will be gradually Russianized or a collision between the two empires will be precipitated. What Russia has done in Manchuria, that Japan must do in Korea. Some features of the original may be omitted from the copy, but the main outlines should be identical. No other method of saving the situation presents itself. To take this view, one need not be in any sense a Russo-phobe. Russia has her rights, and to obey the instinct of expansion is among them. It is merely a question of the limitations imposed by the safety of other States as well as by the interests of our own country. We do not think that Japan would be safe with Russia posted at Fusan, or at Masampo or at Mokpo, and we are sure that British interests would suffer greatly if Russia were allowed to include Korea within the ring fence which she will ultimately draw round Manchuria, if she can.

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JOTTINGS FROM BERLIN.

(SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

Dr. Gutschow, formerly head of the German Naval Hospital in Yokohama, died of diabetes in Berlin on April 24th in his 59th year. He arrived in Japan early in 1878 and stayed there for about five years, combining his official duties with a large surgical practice among the Foreign community. His professional skill and good management of the hospital under his charge won him an exceptionally quick promotion after his return, bringing him finally to the highest position in the sanitary service of the German Navy, viz., that of a "Generalstatsarzt." He was buried with high military honours in his birth-place, Brandenburg, on April 28th, the Emperor ordering the whole Sanitary Corps of the Navy to observe mourning for three days as a token of esteem for their defunct chief.

The Berlin *Wa Doku Kwai* (Japanese-German Society) has been very active and successful this winter. For the benefit of its Japanese members a series of instructive excursions under expert guidance were made to the Moabit Prison, the Municipal Refuge for the Homeless, the Hygienic Museum, etc., while an Exhibition of old works of Japanese Art arranged by the Society attracted the attention of the Berlin connoisseurs. Papers were read on the History of the Japanese National Flag and on Yeishi's and Utamaro's coloured prints, a special pamphlet being dedicated by the *Wa Doku Kwai* to the Oriental Congress in Hamburg. A Farewell Meeting to Professors Takahashi, Kitao and Omura gave an opportunity for mustering the numerous former Japan residents now living in Berlin. The growing prosperity of the Society is principally due to the great efforts of its President, Dr. Brunn.

There is also a flourishing German Asiatic-Society in Berlin, under the presidency of the Prussian General Baron von der Goltz, better known as Goltz Pasha. Its Transactions consist of three volumes up to the present, and contain a great variety of contributions for the advancement of our knowledge of Western and Eastern Asia. At the last meeting, on April 18th, Lieutenant Baron von Richthofen, formerly Military Attaché of the German Legation in Tokyo, gave an account of his observations in Formosa in 1900. As the result of the latest military surveys made in the island it seems now to be clear that besides the parallel central ranges of very old formation, another chain of mountains stretching from North to South along the Eastern shore of the island must be distinguished. A clearly defined furrow of varying width separates the two systems even in the extreme South where they come nearest each other. Besides, in the extreme North of the island, the relics of another geological structure of more recent origin account for the hot springs and extinct volcanoes found there. The Baron was most favourably impressed by the great sacrifices made by the Japanese administration for the schools, the hospitals and the prisons. The Government manufactories of Opium and the Refinery of Camphor were already in 1900 in good working order, while the pacification of the savage tribes was not yet accomplished. The large importation of rice, fire-wood and timber from Japan shows that the natural resources of the island are not yet available for the conquering race. The lecturer gave also an exhibition of lantern slides made from his own negatives. He pointed to the invariably thin and lean appearance of all savages that came in front of his camera during his excursions into the interior; he believes all aboriginals of Formosa to be underfed.

Many of your readers will remember Professor von Wenckstern who held the chair of Political Economy in the Imperial University of Tokyo from 1893 to 1895. He is now standing as candidate in a Berlin Parliamentary District in the forthcoming Elections for the German Reichstag. While his Academic career in the Fatherland has not been so brilliant as that of some other German ex-Professors of Tokyo University, he has become widely known as a political agitator and pamphleteer in the Conservative interest. His chances of being returned a Member of Parliament are very slight; but he uses the electioneering campaign for addressing the electors on the fallacy of the Marxistic system of political economy. It is characteristic of the evolution of the German Social Democratic Party that they have invited him to a public discussion of his views regarding the Socialistic doctrines about Capital and Labour, guaranteeing that for a full hour he will be listened to without interruption, whereupon a debate about the soundness of the Marxistic theory will follow. Ideology is still a factor in the party struggles of Germany, even in our days of practical brutality with all our trusts, unions, tariff wars and strikes.

THE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGETS.

On the 10th instant the Supplementary Budgets as amended and passed by the two Houses of the Diet, were published in the *Official Gazette*. There are seven of them, and we propose here to give the main figures in as intelligible a form as possible.

BUDGET A.

The first part of this Budget provides for an income of 349,697 *yen* and total expenditure of 8,118,506 *yen* (we omit fractions). The income is obtained by suspending the sinking fund of the Formosan Public Works Bonds. The expenditures are divided into ordinary and extraordinary, the former aggregating 3,304,385 *yen*; and the latter, 4,814,120 *yen*. The main details are:—

ORDINARY EXPENDITURES UNDER BUDGET A.

	Yen.	Yen.
Foreign Office—Legations		14,676
Home Office—	Yen.	
Engineering Bureau	32,000	
Police	9,835	
Hokkaido Bureau	8,154	
Cities and Prefectures	142,208	
Local Expenses	5,273	
Hokkaido Railways	70,495	267,965
Finance Department—		
Pensions	626,396	
House of Peers	24,799	
House of Representatives	279,181	
Customs	2,315	
Tax Collecting	12,000	
Expenses connected with export of manufactured tobacco	142,678	1,087,369
War Department—		
Military Expenses	446,733	
Gendarmerie	233	446,966
Naval Department—		
Naval Expenses		228,641
Judicial Department—Courts.		3,616
Education Department—		
Schools and Libraries	151,449	
Normal Schools in Prefectures	4,091	155,540
Department of Agriculture and Commerce—		
Head Office	11,836	
Agricultural Experiment Station	980	
Silk Conditioning Houses	25,087	
Horse Paddocks	327	
Subsidies	7,200	45,430
Department of Communications—		
Communications	535,491	
Aids to Navigation	14,482	
Navigation School	4,209	554,182
Total		3,304,385

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURES UNDER BUDGET A.

	Yen.
Foreign Office (Buildings, Removals of Legations)	22,208
Home Department (Various)	4,203
War Department (Buildings and Review Outlays)	50,510
Naval Department (Ship-building and Calamities)	2,714,702
Judicial Department (Building)	73,440
Education Department (Equipment and Primary School Extraordinary Outlays).	86,383
Agriculture and Commerce Department (St. Louis Exhibition)	500,000
Communications Department (Subsidies, &c.)	1,362,674
Total	4,814,120

The second part of Budget A deals with the continuing expenditures for Naval Expansion and for the St. Louis Exhibition.

NAVAL EXPANSION CONTINUING EXPENSES.

Year.	Ship-building Yen.	Armaments Yen.	Construction. Yen.
1903-4	1,241,088	1,446,594	—
1904-5	4,264,612	1,993,423	443,043
1905-6	5,012,004	2,515,409	1,019,816
1906-7	4,275,207	2,250,752	1,228,084
1907-8	5,725,497	3,120,873	1,554,725
1908-9	7,856,369	2,032,216	1,998,547
1909-1910	5,968,918	3,648,174	1,488,095
1910-1911	5,908,994	4,599,255	655,412
1911-1912	8,771,253	3,338,390	123,000
1912-1913	8,437,599	2,918,768	—
1913-1914	3,886,728	1,137,459	—
Total	62,348,269	29,001,313	8,510,722

ST. LOUIS EXHIBITION CONTINUING EXPENSES.

	Yen.
1903-4	500,000
1904-5	286,631
1905-6	13,369
Total	800,000

BUDGET B.

The first part of this Budget provides for an income of 2,687,683 *yen*, to be obtained by a loan redeemable in 2 years and carrying interest at the rate of 7 per cent. (vide Budget G.); and for an expenditure of 956,463 *yen*, namely:—

Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

	Yen.
War Foundry office expenses	10,000
Works Expenses	922,054
Mine Expenses	24,409
Total	956,463

The second part provides for Continuing Expenditures on account of Railway Improvement and Railway Construction.

IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING RAILWAYS.

	Yen.
1904-5	2,560,000
1905-6	3,200,000
1906-7	3,500,000
1907-8	3,500,000
1908-9	1,528,740
1909-10	200,000
Total	14,488,740

CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS.

	Yen.
Fund previously voted	99,185,280
Fund newly voted	41,415,725
Total	140,601,005

Out of the total previously voted the amount that will be spent by March 31st, 1904, is 88,749,633 *yen*. Hence there remains to be spent 51,851,372 *yen*, which is to be paid out as follows:—

	Yen.
1904-5	4,298,714
1905-6	9,600,000
1906-7	8,965,793
1907-8	7,181,921
1908-9	7,516,167
1909-10	5,900,000
1910-11	4,658,669
1911-12	2,300,000
1912-13	1,430,108

BUDGET C.

Budget C provides for an income of 2 million *yen* from miscellaneous sources, and an expenditure of 2,653,640 *yen*, the details of the expenditure being:—

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	Yen.	
Department of Justice—		
Courts of Justice (ordinary outlays)	1,266	
Constructions (extraordinary)	11,663	12,929
Department of Agriculture and Commerce—		
To supplement the Working Capital of the Iron Foundry		2,640,711
Total		2,653,640

BUDGET D.

This Budget contains items of Special Account. Thus :—

	Yen.
Home Department—	
Formosa—Railway building, &c.	447,446
Special Works	900,000
Pest Prevention	41,650
St. Louis Exhibition	36,000
Special Fund for expedition against natives	35,000
Total	1,460,096
Hokkaido Railways—	
Income from sales of articles	125,000
Expenditures for purchase of articles.	125,000
Department of War—	
Tokyo Arsenal	4,500
Osaka Arsenal	2,786
Senju Woollen Factory	986
Department of the Navy—	
Income from sale of ship-building materials	1,654,959
Expenditures for purchase of same	1,627,117
Department of Education—	
Tokyo University, Income	2,905
Outlays	9,351
Kyoto University, Income	176,457
Outlays	177,432

23 Schools, &c., in the various Prefectures and Cities, figure also in this Budget for small amounts.

Department of Communications—	
Income from Railways	1,069,784
Working Expenses of same	1,099,877
Articles for St. Louis Exhibition—	
1903-4	36,000
1904-5	36,000

BUDGET E.

This Budget provides for the transfer of a sum of 1 million *yen* to the ordinary revenue of the Iron Foundry to meet liabilities already incurred.

BUDGET F.

This Budget provides for various expenditures on account of rents of Legations, engagements of foreigners, etc., 25 items in all.

BUDGET G.

This Budget provides for the borrowing of a sum of 2,688,000 *yen* from the Naval Maintenance Fund, for a period of two years at 7 o/o interest, the money to be applied to purposes of Naval increment in 1903-4.

ARRIVAL OF THE U.S. MINISTER.

The P.M. S.S. *Siberia* arrived on Friday morn- two days ahead of her schedule time, bringing among her passengers Mr. Lloyd Carpenter Griscom, the new U.S. Minister to Japan.

About 9.15 Mr. and Mrs. Griscom disembarked at the hatoba and drove to the Consulate where they were received by Mr. E. C. Bellows, the Consul-General, and Mrs. Bellows; Deputy Consul-General G. H. Scidmore and an assemblage of gentlemen and a few ladies. Refreshments were served and after some conversation, the Minister and Mrs. Griscom drove to the station to proceed to Tokyo. They expressed much gratification with their reception, their recent voyage, the steadiness of the *Siberia*, the courtesy of the officers, the speed made by the great steamer and her luxurioms equipment.

The Minister was accompanied from the hatoba to the Consulate-General by the Secretary of the Tokyo Legation, Mr. Huntington Wilson, who has been acting as Chargé d'Affaires in his absence, and came down to Yokohama to meet His Excellency. He was afterwards joined at the Consulate by Mr. Ferguson, 2nd Secretary; Major O. E. Wood and Mrs. Wood; Lieut. Charles C. Marsh and Mrs. Marsh, who accompanied the Minister to Tokyo by the 10.10 a.m. trains. There was a large attendance of Americans at the reception.

THE RUSSIAN PRESS.

THE GREEK CHURCH IN JAPAN.

In the issue of the *Tserkovniya Vyedomosti* or *Church Gazette* (the official organ of the Russian Church) for March 29 (O.S.) there is a long article taken from the *Moscow Gazette* on the state of the Greek Church in Japan.

The writer says that there are now 260 congregations, one more than last year; 41 clergymen, including one bishop, two Russian clergymen (Who have now left Japan—Translator) 30 Japanese clergymen, one Russian deacon, 7 Japanese deacons: altogether three more persons than last year; Christians 27,245 (935 more than last year); Catechists 1,214 (643 adults, 571 minors, altogether 305 more than last year); deaths 279 (18 less than last year); marriages 29 (9 more than last year); churches or preachers' houses 174. The sum of the offerings made by the Christians in support of their church totalled 11,870 *yen* 41.8 *sen*, 4,505 *yen* 72.5 *sen* more than last year. The number of pupils in Mission schools totalled 152, 12 less than last year.

VLADIVOSTOCK AS IT IS.

An interesting letter from Vladivostock which appears in the *Peterburgskiya Vyedomosti* throws some light on that city, where there seems to be more journalistic activity than one would imagine and a good deal of investigation conducted on the lines of the Asiatic Society here.

"After a long slumber," says this correspondent, "our Scientific Society is now clearly awake, but whether it will remain awake is another question. One hundred or two hundred people came to hear the reading of the report, and it is noteworthy that they remained in their places throughout the ensuing debates. In contrast to Khabarovsk where the public lectures are generally delivered at the stern command of the military authorities by "the geographical battalion", to use a Khabarovsk witticism.

Vladivostock seeks to stir up the public by means of entertaining topics such as "the Chinese water-carriers and coolie porters in Vladivostock," "the abnormal gold business carried on in Siberia," "the pilgrimages from Mongolia to Thibet," and the "planting of a fishing population on the coast of Primorsky Province."

There has been a marked revival in the local Press. With the change in the editorship of the *Eastern Messenger* the leading articles in that paper improved. Its competitor the *Far East* (*Dalnioi Vostok*) did not delay to reinforce its editorial staff. The wearied public was content. Sometimes serious articles appeared. (One of these "serious" articles is perhaps a serial leader entitled "The Logic of our City Fathers" which is now running in the *Dalnioi Vostok*, taking three or four columns each time. Translator.—) These articles satisfied new arrivals on account of the light they threw on local peculiarities.

But in spite of this activity in scientific and journalistic circles, commerce is not flourishing and the competition of Dalny is bitterly complained of. The correspondent finally talks of the neglect of the authorities to do something for the enlargement and improvement of the port of Vladivostock and to allow merchants to build in the large tracts of suitable land conveniently situated but all belonging to some Government department or other.

"WHAT THE JAPANESE PAPERS ARE WRITING ABOUT."

This is the heading which the *Vladivostok* of May 4 gives to an article the tenor of which can easily be guessed. It is as follows :—

Almost every Japanese paper received just now seems to indulge in leading articles intended, judging by their warlike tone, to excite the mind of the people.

If any reliance is to be placed on these articles, a war between Japan and Russia is unavoidable in the near future, and of course such a war (judging by these articles) can only end in a complete triumph for the Japanese arms. But these bold challenges, this warlike spirit, do not conceal the fact that a terrible famine is prevailing in the northern provinces of the Island Empire. The famine embraces the most important centres of the country; people are dying of hunger even in the capital, Tokio, but the Japanese authorities, instead of appeasing the hunger of the people with bread, seek means for increasing the army and the fleet. One little circumstance that took place lately may give our readers some idea of how the more fortunate provinces of Japan extend a helping hand to their famine-stricken brethren.

Three Japanese called the other day with a subscription list in which subscriptions for the famine-stricken people were entered and asked with a bow for a small contribution. The curiosity of the person applied to was excited by the book, but principally by the emphasis laid on the good deed done by the Japanese in opening that subscription list and in their splendid character all round, and, taking it from the hands of one of the Japanese, he turned over the leaves of it.

Imagine, then, his surprise to find the Governor and his secretary down for three *yen* against from 250 to 260 *yen* contributed by the European residents of Nagasaki. But this is characteristically Japanese. Where, then, and in what consists the chivalry of these warlike men of the sword? Perhaps this explains why the Parliament at Tokyo, in which Young Japan rules, is ready to add a new load of taxation to this already overtaxed people (literally is prepared to tear the last piece of skin off this famine-stricken people *prediagaet s togo je golodnago lyooda sodrat poslyednyooyoo koju na uveleechenie flota*) for the sake of the expansion of their fleet. The object in this expansion is to keep up the dignity of the nation, is it not, before its great ally and to conquer the Russians?

(The writer then goes on to quote at considerable length from two obscure Japanese newspapers published in Nagasaki.—Translator.)

YACHTING.

Four races were sailed on Saturday in good weather. Four 39-raters started and *Mary*, having led all round, finished first and took two points, *Maid Marion* second with one point. The times were :—

	Finish. h. m. s.	Corrected. h. m. s.
Mary	5.03.05	5.03.05
Maid Marion	5.55.10	5.50.34
Haidee	6.17.40	6.12.07

The cruisers raced round the Tsurumi Mark and the Widow Buoy and had a good contest, *Daimyo* leading *Nina* all the way over and finishing first but losing the prize on handicap and taking two record points on Club time. *Nina* though winner of the first prize took only one point. The corrected times were :—

	Club. h.m.s.	Handicap. h.m.s.
Wanderer	5.47.03	5.34.03
Daimyo	4.57.56	5.03.30
Nina	5.00.14	4.58.48
Surprise	5.48.07	5.47.40
Asagao	5.54.57	6.08.10

Ten 21-raters started for prizes by the Club on club time and gave capital racing with quite a close finish, notably so between *Pele* and *Vixen*, the latter winning with two record points and *Pele* taking second position and one point. The times were :—

	Finish. h.m.s.	Corrected. h.m.s.
Sunbeam	3.52.45	3.52.45
Wettinge	3.50.40	3.50.40
Winsome	3.45.55	3.45.55
Pele	3.46.05	3.46.05
Edna	3.50.00	3.50.00
Stella	3.59.10	3.58.03
Chocho	4.55.50	4.54.47
Yugao	3.52.20	3.50.06
Vixen	3.46.02	3.42.33
Daisy May	3.54.45	3.47.18

The "Larks" race brought out fourteen of those craft, which had weather nicely suited to them. In the result No. 10 (A. M. Watt) finished at five seconds past four, and took first prize, beating No. 12 (R. Sander) by three seconds, No. 2 (A. L. Manley) well up in third place four seconds after No. 12.

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THE BOOKSHELF.

Pigs in Clover, by FRANK DANBY, London, WM. HEINEMANN.

On the title-page of this book the author prints part of a verse of poetry which reads :—

And each man kills the thing he loves.
By each let this be heard,
Some do it with a bitter look,
Some with a flattering word,
The coward does it with a kiss.....
.....

With such a text, it can be readily understood that the author has scarcely an attractive tale to tell. A bold man, he seeks to lay bare the hidden springs which set the Jameson raid in motion and later deluged South Africa in blood and rendered large parts of the Transvaal a howling wilderness. To do so he has necessarily to use as characters for his novel men and women of the present day who are in the forefront of English political and financial life, and though he labels them with fictitious names and jumbles one or two together in a conglomerate portrait, it is not difficult for any one with a passing acquaintance with public affairs to discern who the actual men and women are whom the novelist has made to dance within the borders of his puppet show. The result is far from satisfactory. Turning from this view of the book to its psychological side, again we must record a note of dissatisfaction. Seldom have we read a novel of modern life which has left such a nasty flavour behind. If we are to believe all that we hear, latter-day manners and public morals are not conducive to the development of squeamishness in the ordinary individual, but we imagine few can read the story of Louis Althaus' villainies without a sickening sense of repulsion and disgust.

Pigs in Clover, as we have said, deals with modern life. It opens just after Mr. Gladstone's last assumption of office and closes with the trial of the Jameson raiders. One of the principal characters is an English woman possessing remarkable literary gifts, who marries a Dutch farmer at the Cape; another is an English politician who becomes an Under-Secretary of State and is understood to give the sign to the gang of South African Millionaries which precipitates the Jameson Raid; his daughter also figures largely in the story. She is described as a beautiful woman whose mental development has been arrested during childhood owing to a great nervous shock, but nevertheless in the unravelling of the threads she has an important part to play. But the man who bulks above them all is Karl Althaus, the Jewish millionaire. The study of this deeply interesting type of a man who represents many of the grander qualities of his race, together with its strange limitations—"with hands so eager to grasp yet so ready to give"—is the best in the whole book, and perhaps it is only in accordance with the fitness of things that his foster-brother, Louis, should be such an out-and-out contrast, the very embodiment of all that is devilish. Of the book generally it may be said that it is written in clear, virile English; no trace of slip-shod work being found from title page to colophon.

FIRES.

On the morning of June 13th an outbreak of fire occurred at Uyeno-yama-cho, Yamágata prefecture, destroying twenty-three houses.

Early in the morning of June 14th fire broke out at Shimo-miyabicho, Ushigome, Tokyo, destroying five houses.

Fire broke out on the night of June 15th in the Shiga Agricultural School and burned down the place.

Early in the morning of June 16th fire broke out at Hirano-machi, Kagoshima, destroying nine houses. One man was killed.

Fire broke out on the night of June 16th at Sakaya-machi, Niigata Prefecture, destroying 120 buildings including three Buddhist temples. No one was hurt. The loss is estimated at about *yen* 35,000.

THE PLAGUE.

A case of suspected plague appeared on board the steamer *Kosho Maru* of the Chita Navigation Company (Chita Kogio Kwaisha) which arrived at Yokohama on the night of June 11th from Newchwang, the patient being one of the crew.

A case of suspected plague was declared on June 13th at Ogimachi, Sanchome, Yokohama, and the patient was removed to the Manji Hospital on the night of the same day. The victim is a woman named Kishi, 43 years old. Twelve houses in which 41 persons are living were segregated.

Twenty-one houses at Miyoshi-cho, Itchome, where a case of the disease recently appeared and ended fatally, were burned down on the morning of June 15th by the city authorities.

The suspected case of plague on board the steamer *Kosho Maru* was found on the evening of the 14th not to be pest. The steamer was consequently permitted to enter the harbour.

On the morning of June 14th the health officers found a young boy named Kenkichi (6) son of a man named Katsukawa, living at Yokokawa-cho, Honjo, Tokyo, suffering from a suspicious fever. The patient is now under surveillance.

The suspected plague case on board the steamer *Kaga Maru* is still kept on the ship and undergoing examination. He is a Japanese named M. Katada (24) who was first employed on the vessel for the present voyage. Eighty-five passengers, including five foreigners and ten Japanese in cabin, and seventy Japanese and Chinamen in the steerage, are detained on the ship.

The steamer *Kaga Maru*, which has been detained at the Quarantine station since her arrival from Seattle on Sunday, in consequence of a suspicious case of sickness on board, was sent to the Nagahama Quarantine station on June 17th, at noon. The case proves to be one of real pest.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* writing on June 11 said:—The prevalence of plague naturally continues to absorb a great deal of public attention in Hongkoeg, and the number of European cases recently reported has of course made a considerable impression on the minds of the white community here. In to-day's figures the occurrence of six more European cases, following on that of nine in twenty-four hours and four in the previous forty-eight, shows that in this year's record the proportion of European cases must necessarily be high. Yet, in spite of the inevitable disconcertment produced by such statistics, particularly after an abatement of the disease in 1902, it would be unwise to let any feelings of undue alarm gain ground. As far as we can discover, the type of the disease among the European patients has been generally mild.

LAW CASES.

S. NAKASE v. F. RETZ.

The hearing of this case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on June 15th when two Japanese named Sato and Arai were examined as witnesses.

The former stated that the ground at No. 59 Bluff belonged to Mr. F. Retz, but below the hill some small houses belonging to S. Nakase are situated, the latter being part of Motomachi, Nichome. The stone retaining wall of the hill facing in a north-east direction was made in 1894 or 1895 by a contractor named Y. Wada employed by the Kencho. After some time a part of the wall gave way but at the time he was not in Yokohama and did not know what condition the wall was in after the accident.

The other witness gave the Court almost identical testimony the hearing was then concluded Counsel for the parties agreeing not to enter upon any discussion.

The Court then rose reserving judgement till June 19th at 1 p.m.

GROSSER & CO. v. YAZAWA SHOTEN.

In the Yokohama District Court, this case came up again before Judge Kato on June 15th.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that Aranami and Yazawa are living in a house at Kofobuki-cho, which house is leased from the Teiyu Bank. He applied to the Court for leave to examine Mr. M. Kauffmann of Messrs. Simon, Evers & Co., a Japanese employee of plaintiff's firm named J. Kawai, and a Chinese broker. Without giving any decision as to the calling of the witnesses, the Court adjourned the case *sine* die on the request of Counsel for both parties.

SIMON EVERS & CO. v. K. YAMADA.

In the Yokohama District Court this case came up again before Judge Kato on June 15th, when judgement was delivered as follows :—

1. Defendant was ordered to pay *yen* 1,597,298 to plaintiffs.
2. Costs to be borne by the parties.

J. HELM v. T. HIKIDA.

The hearing of this case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on June 15th.

Defendants' Counsel introduced three documents numbered B. 3, 4, and 5, but Plaintiff's counsel refused to recognize them. The latter applied to the Court for leave to re-examine a Japanese named Ishii, living in Ishikawa prefecture, as witness. The Court granted the request and then rose.

P. SARDA v. HISHITANI.

The hearing of this case was resumed in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 16th when Mr. Charles Down was examined as a witness.

Previous to the examination, plaintiff's counsel objected to the qualification of the witness on the ground that he is an employee of Maruse, who is a partner of defendant, but it was rejected for the reason that he is not an employee of Maruse but a partner of defendant. The witness stated that he knew as a fact that Hishitani had leased an office and godown on lot No. 76 Yamashita-cho from Mr. P. Sarda and remembered that the lease commenced in July, 1902, and finished at the end of December of the same year. Mr. Sarda agreed with defendant to repair the godown, half of the expense to be deposited by the latter and to be paid back on the expiry of the lease. Defendant paid the rent in advance on the first day of every month.

Counsel then entered upon a brief discussion after which the Court rose.

P. SARDA v. GRAND HOTEL, LTD.

The hearing of this case instituted by Mr. P. Sarda against the Grand Hotel Ld., claiming *yen* 2,407,13 and the counter-claim of the latter for *yen* 37,267.01 began in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 16th.

Mr. Fujiwara was present for plaintiff and Mr. Sato for defendant.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that plaintiff made a contract with defendant in August, 1901, to build a house on lot No. 18. He entrusted the work to a Japanese contractor named K. Ishii and some others and he superintended and inspected the work. The building was completed before September 1st, 1902, and it cost *yen* 43,921.59. The customary rate of compensation for the architect was 10 per cent on the whole expenditure and therefore *yen* 4,392.16 was due to plaintiff, of which amount he received *yen* 2,000 on October 1st., 1902. With regard to the remainder defendants refused to meet the claim.

Defendants' counsel contended that Mr. Sarda did not give proper attention to the inspection of the work and was greatly negligent as superintending architect. Consequently liberal compensation could not be paid to him. Because of his negligence while the work was going on, a great many defects were found in the building, which formed the base of the counter-claim against plaintiff. (1). In place of galvanized pipes for water through the rooms, common iron gas piping was used and the latter had to be changed. which work cost about *yen* 344. (2) Pipe joints were imperfectly made and on several occasions leakage appeared and the wall paper was wetted. This damage was estimated at *yen* 1,000. (3) The concrete work with

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cement on floors and in the verandah was also very imperfect and cracks occurred in it. To replace it with new work will need an expense of *yen* 1,700. (4) The construction of the rooms in the basement was worst of all, and one of them, which was prepared for use as a barber's saloon, was too dark in consequence of insufficient windows. A room was leased for the purpose at *yen* 50 per month at a house near by. Including this loss, the damage was estimated at *yen* 6,000. (5) Bath rooms were badly made and to reconstruct them will take *yen* 557.01. (6) Ceilings must be repaired at a cost of *yen* 100. (7) The stone work on a part of the basement must also be repaired at *yen* 57. (8) The doors are all roughly made and there are cracks so that rooms can be peeped into from the outside. To replace them with new ones will cost *yen* 800. (9) The brick wall of the basement rooms is not perfect and to repair it will take *yen* 2,000 (10.) A defect arose in the northern part of the building and it will cost *yen* 20 to repair. (11.) The whole work on the building was to have been completed by April but it was prolonged to September. During about six months the building could not be used and the delay in construction caused a loss which amounted to *yen* 24,600. (12.) Ornaments on the ceiling are not properly fixed and sometimes fall. To repair them *yen* 100 will be needed.

Plaintiff's counsel declined to recognize the counter-claim, reserving his explanation till the next hearing, which is to take place on July 6th.

S. NAKAMURA v. SINGLETON, BENDA & CO.

The hearing of this case, brought by S. Nakamura against Messrs. Singleton, Benda & Co., Ltd., claiming *yen* 223.87, began in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano, on June 17th.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. T. Takahashi and defendants by Mr. S. Takahashi.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that plaintiff was employed by defendants down to August 31st, 1901, as *banto* in the silk department. During his employment by the firm, he was ordered by his employers, to make, fringe and hem-stitch 197 $^{11}/_{12}$ doz. silk handkerchiefs, the silk being supplied by the defendants and the silk thread by plaintiff. The cost of the silk thread amounted to *yen* 223.87. The work was duly completed and the whole number of handkerchiefs delivered to defendants' firm before August 30th, 1901. Since then, plaintiff had asked defendants for payment of the silk thread but the latter declined to accede.

Defendants' counsel contended that the firm did not make any such contract as described by the plaintiff, who was simply an employee.

Plaintiff's counsel applied to the Court for leave to examine Japanese as witnesses. The Court decided to do so on June 24th.

HIOKI v. SAMUEL SAMUEL & CO.

The following is a full translation of the text of the judgment delivered in the Yokohama District Court in the case instituted by Mr. Hioki, administrator of the bankrupt estate of Messrs Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. against Messrs Samuel Samuel & Co.

PRINCIPAL TEXT.—Defendants shall pay to plaintiff the sum of *yen* 226,250 with interest at 6 per cent per annum from April 20th, 1902, till payment of the said amount. The costs shall be borne by defendants, and the costs arising from the secondary participation shall be borne by the secondary participator.

FACTS.—Plaintiff's statement and the basis of that statement have been pointed out in the text of the interlocutory judgement, viz: the statement was that defendant jointly with E. C. Davis should be ordered to pay to plaintiff a sum of *yen* 226,250 with interest at 6 per cent per annum from April 20th 1902, till the time of execution of judgement. Plaintiff stated as a fact that defendants and two others made a contract on March 24th, 1900, in the name of Samuel Samuel & Co. with the Director of the Civil Administrative Bureau of the Formosan Government with regard to the camphor monopoly for a term of three years. On May 18th, 1900, a contract (Exhibit A-1.) was concluded between Mourilyan, Heimann & Co. and Samuel Samuel & Co. with reference to the camphor monopoly transaction, under which the former was to invest a sum equal to one-eighth of the capital required by the latter, in respect of which the former was to receive a share of the profits obtained and also bear a share of any loss arising from the business. The former party, in May, 1900, paid to the latter *yen* 12,500, in June, 1900, *yen* 106,875 and in August 1900, *yen* 106,875, and these made a total of *yen* 226,250 which formed a portion of the required capital. The former received several dividends of profits from the latter after July, 1901. For the plaintiff's firm, a decree of bankruptcy was, however, rendered in the Yokohama District Court on April 18th, 1902, and consequently the contract between the parties was terminated legally, but when the administrator demanded of defendants the return of the invested money they refused his demand. Plaintiff then adopted as evidence A. 1 to A. 10 and A. 12 to A. 14 of the exhibits and also availed himself of exhibits B. 4 to B. 7 and C. 2 and the testimony of the witness T. S. Baker.

The principal points of the defendant's statement was that the defendants Samuel Samuel & Co. admit that they concluded a contract as to the camphor monopoly business with the Director of the Civil Administrative Bureau of the Formosan Government and that they also made a contract with plaintiff's firm relating to joint participation in the monopoly ■ shown by exhibit A. 1. and that in accordance with contract, plaintiff's firm paid altogether *yen* 226,250 on several occasions to defendants. But this amount, being security required for the camphor monopoly business was deposited by Samuel Samuel & Co. in the 77th Bank, and the Bank of Formosa whence the defendants obtained loan bonds of the latter Bank on its security and then deposited the loan bonds with the Formosan Government. Originally as the plaintiff's firm borrowed the money from the secondary participator, plaintiff, defendant and the secondary participator concluded a contract in April, 1900, to the effect that the parties concerned had transfered to the participator the right to draw the deposited money from the 77th Bank, and the Bank of Formosa and the parties accordingly also consented that the secondary participator should nullify the right to claim for payment of the money lent to plaintiff and plaintiff should also nullify the right to claim for the security money lodged with defendants, on which conditions defendants transferred the receipts for the deposited money to the secondary participator after endorsement. Thus plaintiff's firm lost, under the contract, the right to claim for a retund of the security money and therefore was unable to gain this case. Plaintiff's firm wound up by decision of the partners on February 15th, 1902, before the decree of bankruptcy, and accordingly the contract of exhibit A. 1 was at the same time terminated. To claim for payment of the fund on the ground that the contract was terminated by the decree of bankruptcy was not legal. The money in dispute was contributed as security for the camphor monopoly business and that security was exchanged for loan bonds, of which fact plaintiff was previously aware so that to claim the return of the money was improper, and the claim should be on the market value of the bonds —supposing that plaintiff could claim at all. E. C. Davis, one of the defendants, was excluded from the case in the previous interlocutory judgement, and plaintiff's statement contending for the joint responsibility of defendants was not only improper but as the present case brought the defendants together with E. C. Davis in joint responsibility and as the claim against the latter had been dismissed, it must also of course be dismissed. For the foregoing reasons defendants demanded the rejection of the plaintiff's petition. As evidence, defendants produced B. 4 to B. 7 of the exhibits and also availed of exhibits A. 2 and A. 7 and the testimony of the witness T. S. Baker.

The secondary participator joined in the case to assist the defendants and stated that the funds which plaintiff claimed in the present case were not paid in by the bankrupt firm as a portion of the capital. As that firm was unable to pay the equivalent of one-eighth required as the security to be deposited with the Formosan Government, under the contract with Samuel Samuel & Co., after negotiations between the three parties—the secondary intervenor, the plaintiff's firm and Samuel Samuel and Co.—it was agreed that the intervenor should pay the money to be used as the security of the plaintiff's firm and Samuel Samuel and Co. were to keep it in trust on behalf of the intervenor. Further, that in case of the confiscation of the security as a result of the camphor monopoly business plaintiff's firm should repay the loss to the intervenor. The money therefore belonged to the secondary intervenor and there was no right of claim by the plaintiff. Samuel Samuel and Co. had no right to dispose of the money in any other way except to return it to the hands of the intervenor. For these reasons the secondary intervenor asked the Court to dismiss the claim of plaintiff and introduced C. 1 and C. 2 as evidence.

Reasons.—(1). Defendants' Counsel admitted that the funds in dispute were paid by plaintiff's firm but argued that the right to claim for repayment had been extinguished in accordance with the contract. The intervenor's Counsel insisted that the intervenor furnished the money in order to afford advantage to the plaintiff's firm. The statements of both parties are thus in conflict with each other. Defendants' statement must be preferred, under the provisions of Clause 2 of Art. 54 of the Law of Civil Procedure, as a basis. The defendant's counsel must prove the statement that though the money in dispute was paid by plaintiff there existed a contract between the parties which nullified the right of claiming its return. The testimony of the witness T. S. Baker which was intended to prove the point was very obscure (*sukoburu aimai*) and the Court is unable to arrive at a decisive point. But it would appear that the intervening bank did not lend the money in dispute to plaintiff's firm but handed it to Samuel Samuel & Co. in order to benefit the business of the plaintiff firm, and an arrangement had been arrived at that payment should be made by deposit notes of the 67th Bank, and the Bank of Formosa endorsed by the said company as exhibits B. 4, B. ■ and B. 7 and that in case the loan bonds were confiscated in connexion with the camphor monopoly business, and loss was incurred and it was impossible to return the money, plaintiff's firm it would seem, had no responsibility. In view of the fact that the deposition corresponds with the statements of the intervenor it could not be recognized that such a contract as was insisted on by defendants existed. The evidence of exhibits B. 4 to B. 7 is insufficient to prove the existence of such a contract as was insisted on by the defendants that plaintiff's firm's right of claiming the return of the funds had been rendered null and void and therefore the protest could not be sustained.

(2). The contract of A. 1 is an anonymons association contract as was explained in the interlocutory judgement, defendants being the active partners and the plaintiff's firm incognito partners. It is provided in clause 3 of Arts 302 and 303 of the Commercial Code that an anonymous association contract must cease on the bankruptcy of the dormant partners and that the active partners shall return to the former their contributed money upon the termination of the contract. There is no doubt that the plaintiff was decreed bankrupt in the Court on April 19th, 1902, and it should be decided that the contract of Exhibit A. 1 ceased under the decree of bankruptcy and defendants are therefore under the responsibility of returning the contributed money to the plaintiffs. Defendants insisted that the contract of exhibit A. 1 had ceased by the dissolution of the plaintiff's firm before the decree of bankruptcy but the death or dissolution of the dormant partners could not be contended as a cause for the termination of the contract because the anonymous association contract must be based on the credit of the dormant partners. Further, defendants insisted that the claim must be based on the market value of the loan bonds but the money in dispute was used as security for the camphor monopoly transaction and plaintiffs were also aware of the fact. By Art. 4th of the contract of exhibit A. 1 it is clearly shown that the cash formed the object of the investment. The contention of the defendant can not be adopted.

(3). Defendants' counsel argued again that plaintiff's statement holding the two defendants jointly responsible was improper after E. C. Davis, one of the defendants had been excluded by the previous interlocutory judgment, and W. F. Mitchell was alone a party in the case. But the statement had been made when Davis was a joint defendant and therefore it is proper to recognize that a separate statement against each of the defendants was made, and that the statement against Mitchell was such a one as shown in the present judgment. With regard to this suit, the fact that Davis is not jointly responsible as one of the defendants was already decided by the previous judgment. Plaintiff has therefore a right to claim against Mitchell alone. Defendant's Counsel also asked the rejection of plaintiff's claim that Davis had been adjudged to have no joint responsibility with defendants but the plaintiff's statement was that they were under joint obligation. Those jointly responsible were also separately responsible and therefore although one of them had no responsibility for the claim, it did not affect the obligation of the others, so that although the claim against Davis had been dismissed, yet that of the others can not be rejected.

For the above reasons it is found that the contentions of defendants are unreasonable and that the claim of plaintiff is right. As to the costs, judgment is given as in the principal text in accordance with Arts. 72 and 81 of the Law of Civil Procedure.

The judgment was dated June 6th in the Yokohama District Court, at the 2nd section of the Civil Department, and counter-signed by Presiding Judge K. Kato and Judge Associates J. Yamaguchi and S. Esaki.

THE TRIAL OF G. F. NASH.

The trial of George Franklin Nash took place in the criminal section of the Yokohama District Court before Judge Yasuda and two associates and Public Procurator Nakamura, on June 18th.

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Mr. H. Saito was present for the accused.

In the preliminary exmination, the accused stated that he lived at No. 1542 Nakamura, Yokohama. He was born in Kobe and came up to this city in his childhood. His profession was that of a mechanical engineer. He was a citizen of the United States, but he did not know whether he was registered at the U.S. Consulate in Kobe or in Yokohama. He had not previously been punished in a court but some time ago he was detained for ten days in a police detention ward.

The Public Procurator stated that during accused's employment at the office of the New York Life Insurance Company, No. 70, Yokohama, he stole on April 16th, 1903, a cheque for a sum of *yen* 1,000 which the Kyoto branch of the firm had remitted to the Yokohama office through the Omi Bank, payable at the 100th Bank, Yokohama. The cheque was enclosed in a letter dated April 15th, 1903, and addressed to the cashier of the firm. The cheque was "payable to the New York Life Insurance Co. or bearer." Accused stole it and on April 18th, 1903, sold it to a Chinese exchange at No. 136 at a commission of *yen* 3 and received *yen* 997, making an endorsement on the cheque "Received payment, H. Broadheim."

The examination was then continued:

The Judge—When did you enter the employment of the New York Life Insurance Co., Yokohama?—November last.

How long were you there?—Down to April 17th or 18th. I don't remember exactly but it was Saturday when I left the office.

Is it true that you were engaged in the policy department of the firm?—Yes.

Do you know that a letter in which was enclosed a cheque for *yen* 1,000 from Kyoto branch reached the office on April, 1903?—Yes, the letter arrived.

Was the cheque for *yen* 1,000 drawn on the Omi Bank, Kyoto, and payable at the 100th Bank, Yokohama, and made payable to the New York Life Insurance Co. or bearer?—I do not know exactly because the cheque was written in Japanese, which I could not understand. The face of the cheque was crossed. Was the letter in which the cheque was registered or a common letter?—Common letter.

Who always opened the letters addressed to the firm?—Sometimes I and sometimes others.

To whom was the letter addressed?—I don't remember now. The letter had already been opened and left on my desk with the contents. In such a case the cheque must be handed over to the accountant. That is the usual way. It is the instruction of Mr. Bryan that cheques and cash should be handed to the accountant. I do not know why the letter was opened and left on my desk.

Was the letter opened by you?—No. By some one else in the office.

While cheque ought to have been handed over to the cashier, you took it, and drew the money youself and spent it for your own use. Was that your original intention?—I can't say that it was my intention. It was not intentionally done.

Did you make an endorsement on the cheque?—Yes. I wrote it myself at the same time that I received the money.

Did you put an office stamp bearing the words "cashier of New York Life Insurance Co."?—Yes.

Did you write "H. Broadheim"?—Yes.

Is H. Broadheim assistant cashier?—Yes.

According to the testimony of H. Broadheim which he gave in the preliminary examination the word "Broadheim" was intentionally written ambiguously. Did you intend to do so?—No. I wrote the proper word.

Was it "Broadheim"?—Yes. I wrote his proper name.

Showing the accused the cheque on which he had made the endorsement, the Judge asked him whether he recognized it or not. The reply was that he recognized it.

Did you sell the cheque to the Chinese exchange named To-Kei-Bin, No. 136, Yokohama, on the same day that you found the opened letter on your desk?—Yes.

Did you write the signature which you saw on the cheque?—Yes. I did so. I received *yen* 997 out of *yen* 1,000; and *yen* 3 was taken as commission. I absconded the same day.

Did you visit Maganecho, and your own house?—Yes, both. I went to Shanghai, where I spent some days. Having left there I arrived at Nagasaki *en route* to Yokohama. I lent *yen* 500 to a friend at Shanghai and the remainder I spent in various expenses. My acquaintance in Shanghai is named Doyle. He came from Manila to Shanghai and he lost all his money in the horse races so that he was unable to return to the islands. I had no particular intention to steal the cheque.

Two letters were read from Mr. Chas. Bryan, Secretary of the Company, giving information to the police of the theft.

The Judge read other depositions, including a statement by Mr. H. Broadheim in the preliminary examination. Witness described the organization of the office and stated that all letters were opened either by Mr. Bryan or himself. He knew that the Kyoto branch sent a letter under date of April 15th in which were enclosed a statement of account and a cheque of *yen* 1,000.

The Judge also also a statement by Mr. A. D. Manley which was made at the preliminary trial to the effect that he was the cashier of the office. Letters regarding money were always addressed to the cashier who was in charge. The letter which contained the lost cheque was addressed to him.

The accused then said that he did not know that the letter was addressed to the cashier, and he remembered that it was opened by Mr. Bryan.

The Judge—How much was your salary?—*Yen* 150 per month.

Did you always received in advance a part of your salary?—No, not always, only before I left the office.

The Judge read a statement by the Chinese exchanger To-kei-Bin No. 136, testifying as to payment of the cheque.

The accused further stated that the manager ordered him to attend to a branch in Tokyo on December 30th last and in preparation to remove he sold off all his furniture. After he had done so, the manager changed his instructions. He was excessively intoxicated when he took the cheque and absconded.

The trial being concluded the Public Procurator and Counsel for the defence were heard after which the Court rose, reserving sentence till June 20th.

P. SARDA v. HISHITANI.

Judgment was delivered in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 18th in this case in favour of plaintiff and the costs were ordered to be paid by defendant.

LEI CHIEN HSING v. J. C. HARTLAND.

This case came up again in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 18th, when a Chinaman named Cock Sho Wing, living at No. 145 was examined as a witness.

He stated that he thought the property in dispute was jointly owned by Kwan Chong and plaintiff, but he did not know from whom the joint owners had been collecting the rent of the building. He had once written in behalf of both a document regarding their joint possession.

The case was adjourned till June 30th.

CLAUSEN v. KOMOR.

This case, brought by Mr. C. B. Clausen against Mr. S. Komor, claiming *yen* 918.26 and interest at 6 per cent. per annum from January 1st, 1903, till execution of judgment, and a counter-claim of *yen* 775 by defendant came up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kano on June 18th.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Ohashi and defendant by Mr. Sato.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that defendant ordered plaintiff in September, 1902, to repair and to add new work on his dwelling situated on lot No. 213, Bluff. Subsequently plaintiff made an estimate for *yen* 2,225 to the order of defendant. After the consent of the latter had been obtained the contractor commenced work and it was completed on November 30th in the same year. During the work, defendant made various alterations. The expense of the work amounted to *yen* 3,918.16, for which defendant paid *yen* 3,000. The remaining amount, *yen* 918.26, defendant refused to pay.

Defendant's Counsel contended that defendant had made a contract to repair the building for *yen* 2,225, which amount was not an estimate as was alleged by plaintiff. For alterations proposed defendant promised to pay liberal compensation and it was not with these that this case was concerned. Defendant advanced *yen* 3,000 to plaintiff, and afterwards the bill was reduced to *yen* 2,225, from that amount there was a balance of *yen* 775 for which defendant laid a counter-claim.

Counsel entered upon a discussion after which the Court rose, adjourning the case till June 23rd.

Judgment in the case Ishiwara Yasusaburo versus Bowden Bros & Co., Ld., for cancellation of an award of arbitration in a dispute regarding a sale of bone dust, has been given in the above Court. The Court announced that a part of the 2nd clause of the award as given by Messrs. F. J. Bardens and Kanematsu Fusajiro—*yen* 1,179.65 interest on *yen* 7,772.80, the amount of price for the undelivered stock, *yen* 883.20, storage for the goods, *yen* 85.02, coolie hire, and *yen* 483.75, insurance; *yen* 2,631.62 in all, to be divided in two and be borne by the parties concerned - shall be cancelled. The remaining claim of plaintiff was dismissed. Ninety per cent. of costs were given against defendants and ten per cent. against plaintiff.—*Kobe Herald.*

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Vice-Admiral Baron Yamamoto proceeded to Kobe accompanied by his family, on the night train of June 13th.

A meeting of directors on June 16th decided to postpone the issue of the proposed debentures of the Kyushu Railway Co.

Dr. Davies, formerly of Hongkong and lately connected with the Yokohama General Hospital, sailed on Tuesday by the *Aki Maru* for Seattle, *en route* for London.

A man named F. Nagahara (22) and a woman named Tama (20) committed suicide in the room of the latter in a house of ill-fame called Fusakin-ro, Susaki, Tokyo. They cut their throats with swords.

The case instituted by Mr. R. Masujima against Messrs. O. W. Heim and J. Kaufner, claiming payment of a sum of money alleged to have been paid on behalf of the latter, has been settled out of court.

A telegram of June 11th from Maebashi states that the supply of mulberry leaves is insufficient and prices run from *yen* 5 to *yen* 7 per 36 *kwamme*. The silk crop is expected to show a decrease of about 10 per cent. compared with that of last year.

The dead body of a man named M. Uyeda (49), who resided at Suyeyoshi-cho, Yokohama, was found early in the morning of June 12th floating near Takashima-cho. Examination by the harbour police showed that he had probably committed suicide.

The Countess Lonyay (Princess Stephanie of Belgium), is suing her father, King Leopold, to recover 17,000,000f. (£680,000), being her share of the property of her mother, the late Queen Marie. King Leopold offers his daughter 600,000f. (£20,400).

A jinrikisha drawn by a coolie named S. Kume (23) collided at Kotohira-cho, Shiba, Tokyo, on the evening of June 14th with a carriage which it is said, belongs to one of the Foreign Ministers. The *Jiji* states that some damage was inflicted on the former but the matter was settled without dispute.

An educational official who is connected with the text book affair was sentenced in the Tokyo District Court on June 15th to three months' im-

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prisonment with hard lahour and a fine of *yen* 10, the bribe of *yen* 800 which he had received being confiscated and the costs, *yen* 12.78, adjudged against the accused.

A thunder-storm with hail visited Saitama Prefecture on June 15th inflicting damage to the fields.

Princesses Fumi-no-miya and Yasu-no-miya paid a visit to the Exhibition, Osaka, on June 17th.

Decree of bankruptcy was issued on June 17th against the Suwa Bank, in the Nagano District Court.

General Kuropatkin and suite arrived at Osaka by train at 5.50 p.m. from Kyoto, and immediately left for Kobe.

At an extraordinary meeting of members of the Yokohama Amateur Dramatic Club on Wednesday it was decided to alter the rules to the extent of allowing a change in the time of holding the annual meeting.

In the Tokyo District Court, an educational official who was connected with the text book affair was, on June 17th, sentenced to four months' imprisonment and a fine of *yen* 15 and the bribe, *yen* 1,000, which he had received was ordered to be confiscated.

A man armed with a sword has made his appearance at Nogeyama. He met and threatened a woman named Yasu (31), wife of a coal merchant named H. Hara, living at Ota, Yokohama, and took from her a purse which contained *yen* 1.50.

Mr. John Roberts, the famous billiard player, gave an exhibition of his skill at the Masonic Club on Saturday evening, says the *Kobe Herald*. His opponent was Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, one of the best local players. The match was for 1,000 up, Mr. Johnson receiving 650 points. The play was interesting but one-sided as the local man was right out of form. Mr. Roberts won with ninety points to spare and his best break was one of 147.

The goodwill of *The Eastern World* and the stock and plant of the office were offered for sale by Messrs. Eyton and Pratt at their rooms on Thursday forenoon. Being put up as a going concern which, it was stated, was only being disposed of because of the proprietor's ill-health, the property elicited a bid of *yen* 10,000 from Mr. H. Ivison for a client. There was no competition and in the circumstances the auctioneer said he did not consider himself justified in giving out the upset price. The property was withdrawn.

The committee of Chambers of Commerce in Japan held a meeting in Osaka on June 15th and discussed five subjects on which it was proposed to present a statement to the Government: (1) asking for the establishment of a silk conditioning house in some northern place; (2) stating an opinion regarding the circulation of the *yen* 1 note; (3) introducing their opinion with reference to emigration and the protection of emigrants; (4) that industrial and business men should be added to the committees of the High Educational Conference; and (5) to offer an opinion in regard to protective trade policy.

An official telegram of June 7th from Sydney has been received by the Navy Department, says the *Jiji*, stating that the Japanese training squadron were warmly welcomed by the British officials and people when they arrived, and congratulated upon the Anglo-Japanese alliance. On the 6th a military review, taken part in by four thousand soldiers, was held when the Japanese national song *Kimiga-yo* was played by the band and the troops hoisted their helmets. There were many spectators. By request of the Governor-General a battalion of Japanese blue-jackets were present and took part in the review.

The Director of the Observatory of Zi-ka-wei has added to the long record of inestimable public service rendered by that institution, in the form of a new and revised code of typhoon signals. This code, which was to come into operation on June 15th, is an enlarged edition of that which has been in use since 1897, and it has been so arranged that all the old signals retain their former meaning. We note that nine new numbers are introduced to indicate typhoons about the Caroline and Mariana Islands and their progress eastward, as that region will soon be in cable connection with the continent. Provision is made also for forecasting and signalling more accurately the probable track of a centre. Typhoons proper are now more clearly discriminated from winter or land-storms. And finally we read:—"Our telegrams are no more received in the ports of Korea."

The Earl of Onslow, Colonial Under-Secretary, who has been appointed President of the Board of Agriculture, in succession to the late Mr. Hanbury, was born in 1853. He succeeded to the title in 1870. The earldom was created in 1801, and the first peer was Chancellor of the Exchequer. The present Earl, who belongs to the Conservative party, was a Lord in Waiting to the Queen from July, 1886, to February, 1887, when he was appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies, in succession to the Earl of Dunraven, resigned. He continued to hold this office until February, 1888, when, Sir Henry Holland being raised to a peerage under the title of Lord Knutsford, and it being considered desirable that there should be a representative of the Colonial Office in the House of Commons, the Earl of Onslow exchanged positions with Baron H. de Worms, who was then political secretary to the Board of Trade. The Earl of Onslow was Governor of New Zealand from 1888 to 1892 and Under-Secretary for India from 1895 to 1900, and later again became the Colonial Under-Secretary.

AMERICAN TOPICS.

The New York Yiddish stage furnishes a new interpretation of Shylock. Jacob P. Adler, a star of that stage, represents Shakespeare's Jew as just and affectionate, and the demand for the merchant's heart was, so to speak, a "bluff." Shylock desired to frighten his adversaries and then, when the law decided in his favour, he intended to throw away his knife and spare Antonio!

Latest reports gathered by the railways indicate increases in the planted area of from 10 to 50 per cent. in various localities of Manitoba and the northwest, and estimates on the spring-wheat production of the present crop, based on average conditions prevailing during the last ten years, indicate the crop of spring wheat in northwestern Canada will be from 80,000,000 to 90,000,000 bushels. There will also be a greater increase in the crop of coarse grain than in wheat.

It is announced that Mr. John C Brackenridge, chief engineer of the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company, who for three years has been aiding the growth of vegetables in his garden at Richmond Hill, Long Island, by forcing them with electricity, anticipates better results this year than he has yet obtained. He declares that he has discovered a method by which he can produce more and better vegetables than his friends and neighbours, and that he can bring forth several crops a year.

The Count de Rochambeau was so pleased over his reception in the United States last year that he has taken the initiative in securing for the American Government a bust of Washington by the great French sculptor, David d'Angers. The bust was done in 1828 in Carrara marble and sent to Washington, where it was destroyed by fire in 1851. The original model still exists in Paris, however, and an exact reproduction in bronze has been obtained by the Count, with whom are associated in the enterprise Marquis de Lafayette and Marquis de Grasse. The count writes (*The Independent*): "To have sent it back to you in marble would have required the hand of the grand artist, which long since is still in death. We can not get nearer than this to the bust as it existed in 1828. But we all feel sure that you will take the will for the deed, and see in our modest offering another sign of the old friendship which has so long bound the two nations together, though separated by so many miles."

The New York *World* has been letting the public into a secret concerning President Roosevelt's speeches on his recent tour. Not only, it seems, were they all carefully prepared and written beforehand, but every speech was in type in the New York newspaper offices long before its delivery. Except for the opportunity which was given of seeing and hearing the President throughout the West, the speeches might just as well have been doled out daily to the papers from Washington. As deliberate utterances, the very phrases of which have been refined upon and revised, the speeches carry perhaps greater weight, but they must lack something in the spontaneity which is the spice of rhetoric. Still such procedure is in accordance with English political procedure. All Mr. Gladstone's speeches were prepared before hand, committed to memory, and sometimes rehearsed once or twice; John Bright's were the same; Lord Salisbury's weightiest utterances were also thought out and memorized long before delivery.

The Hon. O. P. Austin estimates the annual value of the world's international trade in manufactures at about $4,000,000,000. Seven countries—the United Kingdom, Germany, France, the United States, Austria, Belgium and Switzerland—produce and export the larger portion of the surplus shown by exports over imports, and Great Britain leads with fully one-fourth of all exports of manufactures to its credit. The following table shows the total value of manufactures imported into and exported from the principal countries of the world, and the percentage which manufactures form of the total trade in each case:

	Imports.	Per ct.	Exports.	Per ct.
Argentina	$67,717,000	68.1	$704,000	.4
Australia	156,204,000	76.3	130,754,000	10.2
Aus'a Hungary	113,988,000	32.6	187,364,000	48.3
Belgium	104,210,000	23.7	178,840,000	49.9
Brazil	43,020,000	44.8	43,000	—
Canada	112,506,000	57.3	18,076,000	10.5
Denmark	39,855,000	37.5	3,882,000	4.9
France	212,592,000	24.9	508,803,000	63.2
Germany	366,669,000	28.4	824,051,000	78.1
Italy	101,739,000	36 8	75,373,000	28.5
Japan	69,895,000	51.7	59,902,000	47.0
Netherlands	241,739,000	29.5	231,510,000	33.3
Norway	33,595,000	43.5	12,083,000	28.8
Portugal	23,986,000	39.9	3,366,000	10.9
Russia	158,166,000	56.4	56,069,000	14.5
Spain	57,943,000	37.6	41,330,000	29.0
Sweden	51,835,000	42.0	39,419,000	41.6
Switzerland	93,049,000	42.7	113,111,000	80.1
U'ted Kingdom	725,752,000	28.2	1,076,056,000	77.9
United States	344,816,000	38.2	403,631,000	29.7

"Since the beginning of the present century two new features have become prominent in the railroad policies of the United States," remarks the *Wall Street Journal*. "They are the persistent and determined effort that is being devoted to the development of the north and the equally patient preparations of American railroads to handle, in days to come, the traffic to and from the Orient. The northern railroads of the west are those that have their main trunk lines north of the Missouri river, Denver, Salt Lake City and San Francisco. The group includes Great Northern, Northern Pacific, the Oregon lines, the 'Soo' line, Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern. Since January 1st, 1900, there has been evidence of a new impetus toward the upbuilding of these northern lines and the development of their territory. Mr. Hill first recognized the latent potentiality of the north country. Deliberately he set about the exploitation of it, using the rate schedule as a lever. He turned the forests of Washington into an asset by carrying them to Chicago on his trains at rates before undreamed of. Cities and towns followed his engineering parties. He took a straggling seaside town and made Seattle out of it. He made of a half-peopled wilderness a rich and powerful territory. Wealth followed

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the opening of this territory. Two or three years ago the country began to call for more railroads. The northern field became competitive. It is still competitive. To hold the dominancy of it, Mr. Hill created the Northern Securities Company. To secure a foothold in it south of the border, the Canadian Pacific bought the 'Soo' line. St. Paul has built six local traffic branches. Northwest has built four and bought two. Rock Island has invaded the southern line by the purchase of Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern. Union Pacific has created the Oregon division and is bidding for traffic through the Spokane gateway. North of the border, Canadian Pacific has built twenty-five branches, bought 800 miles of track, and stands prepared to build wherever people call for it. Grand Trunk Pacific will build 5,000 miles of railroad within the next five years. Railroad development of the continent centres to-day between California and Port Simpson on the west, Denver and Edmonton in central territory, and the Twin Cities and Winnipeg on the east. The biggest new projects of the railroad world lie in this territory."

The States of Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas were visited on May 25th and 26th by disastrous tornadoes. No fewer than three separate and distinct storms swept the first named State and in the different towns and cities visited six persons lost their lives, while over a score were injured. The town of Elmo in Missouri, just across the state line from Iowa, was practically effaced. We read that "the storm came from northeast and first struck the Wabash depot. The Massonic Temple was the next building in its path and it was demolished. On the lower floor of the temple was a general merchandise store, and in the store were gathered a number of the citizens of the town. The building was torn to pieces before any warning was received and the victims were buried beneath the wreckeage. Of the fourteen persons in the store only five escaped death and these received injuries which in two or three cases may prove fatal. The storm passed on through the town, leaving but a few buildings standing. A relief party at once began the rescue of those in the ruins of the temple and nine bodies were removed to an improvised morgue. Five others were taken out, some with broken legs and arms." In Nebraska no loss of life was reported but many persons sustained injuries. The aggregate loss of property was very great.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

To the *Chūō Kōron*. Dr. Motora contributes a thoughtful article entitled, "Japanese weaknesses derived from Feudalism," the gist of which we now proceed to give:—Every country has its strong points and its weak points, and should study how to overcome its defects as far as possible. In the present article I propose to deal with three questions: (1) What was the original character of the Japanese race? (2) in what respects was this character injuriously affected by feudalism? and (3) what are the remedies for acknowledged national weaknesses?

(1) The present Japanese race reached prominence by reason of its possession of very warlike, ambitious and progressive qualities. With the original Japanese there were great independence of spirit and self-assertion.

(2) But these qualities were crushed out of the race to a considerable extent by the Tokugawa rule. The centralization of government under the Tokugawa Shōguns cost the nation much. It involved an almost entire suppression of many of the good qualities of individuals. The will of the Shōgunate was stamped upon the nation, and the least tendency to divergence or modification was come down upon and suppressed. Thus there gradually grew up a deep-seated subserviency of spirit, reluctance to take the initiative in anything, for fear of arousing the jealousy and hostility of Government spies. This, too, encouraged hypocrisy and insincerity. When men did not agree with what was considered orthodox, they had to make a pretence of doing so. It was considered dangerous to express private opinions on most questions either in the school or in such public assemblies as were held. Thus it happened that men's speech and action were usually no indication of what they really thought, but only designed to create a favourable impression on observers. Connected with every man there was the *omote* and the *ura*, the outside and the inside. So real intercourse of a sincere kind became impossible. Men were afraid to disclose their real thoughts, lest they might become the objects of suspicion.

There are those who say that in temperament we resemble the French more than any European nation. This I think to be quite true. We are undoubtedly an emotional people. If our original independence of spirit and self-reliance had been fully developed, instead of being suppressed by the Tokugawa rule, we should now show more initiative, will and resolution in our actions, instead of proving ourselves to be the creatures of passing emotion, swayed this way and that by the tide of feeling. But from one point of view this weakness in our national character has proved of benefit to us. Had we been less fickle; less susceptible to exterior influences, we certainly should not have so readily adopted European civilisation in this *Meiji* era. But thinking of the future and all that lies before us, we can plainly see that it is necessary that our emotionalism should be suppressed.

(3) The remedy for the weak points in our national character is the better development of intellectual faculties. Neither men's feelings nor their wills are capable of such alteration and development as their intellects. The former when once set going in one direction are not easily turned into another course. But the intellect can sever its connection with the past, enter a new world of ideas and pursue fresh ideals. As a State and as individuals what we want is more passionless reflection, and we need, too, to cultivate the habit of more stability and persistence in the courses we follow. In some foreign countries we find individualism and respect for the State developed together; but there are countries where undue prominence is given to one or the other. In Germany, for instance, in connection with the consolidation of the empire the individual has been frequently sacrificed to State interests, and individual liberty is not enjoyed in that country to the extent it is elsewhere. In the matter of the consolidation of empire Japan and Germany are in quite different circustances. Japan has no fear of disunion. The centralisation of her government is not of recent date. It is therefore quite out of place to be preaching German doctrines on the importance of the State here. It is individual development rather that we need. *Iwa Doitsu ni oite kokka shugi no sakan naru wo mite, tadachi ni kore wo Nihon ni tekiyō sen to suru wa, kore tekiyō wo ayamaru no kirai ari.*

Hitherto Dr. Motora has figured as an advocate of what is known as *Kokka Shugi*, the preeminence of the State, as a principle to be insisted on in education; but he now argues in a most unmistakable way in favour of individualism as an educational principle, evidently thinking that in the minds of most Japanese subserviency to the State has been over-developed.

* * *

In the pages of the *Tōyō Gakugei Zasshi* Dr. Miyake Shū defends the envy to which women are said to be more subject than men. He says that women would not take care of their children as well as they do if they lacked this quality. He represents woman as a bundle of emotions, but as given to men by Heaven as a solace to their hours of loneliness and as alleviators of their sufferings. In Japan the number of female criminals is small compared to that of males. The numbers given for 1901 were 55,200 males against 3,673 females. Dr. Miyake thinks that Japanese women are much more conservative than men. Their conservatism he speaks of as a set-off to the fickleness which characterises them. He praises the submissiveness and extreme carefulness displayed in the lives of so many Japanese women. He takes the view that the bearing and training of children is the chief function of woman; he is no advocate of "woman's rights" of which so much is heard in the West.

* * *

We find in the *Kyōiku Kōhō* the report of an interesting discussion carried on at a meeting of the Imperial Education Society last December on "The Employment of Foreigners in Middle Schools as teachers of the elements of Foreign Languages." We give below the views of some leading educationists on this question.

Mr. Motoda Sakunoshin. Chūgakkō first year scholars are mere children, and it is a question whether it would be wise to place them at once under foreign instruction. Miss Hughes was of opinion that this was not the best course to adopt.

Mr. Matsuda Ikkitsu held that in the case of a foreigner who was well acquainted with Japanese affairs and who could speak the language, this might be done with safety.

Mr. Hasegawa Masabumi thought that for teaching English an Englishman or American was absolutely necessary, and that the sooner the work was begun the better, but he was not an advocate of allowing all the available hours for the study of the language to be appropriated by the foreign instructor. He would allow him, however, to have more than half the 6 or 7 hours per week set aside for this purpose.

The Rev. Arthur Lloyd was of opinion that if Japanese whose pronunciation is good were chosen, they would make more progress with beginners than any foreigner could.

Mr. Sugiura Teijirō agreed with Mr. Lloyd. He was in favour of only allowing a foreigner one hour a week during the first two years of study and of relying on Japanese teachers for the rest.

The discussion having become somewhat mixed up, with a view of straightening it out, Mr. Motoda observed that the question on which the Mombushō wished the meeting to express an opinion was not the exact number of hours a foreigner should be asked to teach beginners, but whether he should be allowed to take these classes at all. To this Mr. Hagiwara Kinta replied that, desirable as it might be to have foreigners attached to all the Middle Schools, funds were not available for it, and so it was more a financial question than an educational one. To this Mr. Hasegawa rejoined that it was undesirable to mix up the question of ways and means with the discussion of the educational policy to be followed. For pronunciation foreigners were necessary. That was absolutely certain. Here Mr. Miyamori Asatarō observed that it was an entire mistake to suppose that conversation with foreigners was one of the chief objects of a Japanese in acquiring a foreign language. The Japanese student wished to be able above all things to read and understand books. It had been found in the past that students who had graduated at such institutions as the Dōshisha or the Meiji Gakuin, though able to understand spoken English, were not at all proficient in translating from books. Even if pupils were to be placed under foreign instruction for 5 years, I venture to say, observed Mr. Miyamori, that not more than $\frac{1}{10}$ of the whole would be able to converse correctly. The rest would all fail. Do what we will our ability to understand spoken English must be very limited; because our opportunities of hearing it are few, and when we do hear it, it always appears to us that the utterance of a foreigner is too rapid, though to his fellow-countrymen it does not seem so. It seems to me that for the training of the ear two hours out of 7 devoted to the study of English in the week would be ample. I know that Dr. Jimbō Kotora tells us that in order to speak in a foreign language it is not necessary to trouble yourself with grammatical rules and correct idioms; that instead of, "Which is the way to the station?" you can say "where station?" and that you will be understood, which is all that is required. But surely most of us have more ambition than to be satisfied with such a standard. Mr. Asō Kinroku was of opinion that whatever economy in other departments the measure might involve, most certainly foreigners should be employed by all the Chūgakkō and that they should begin with first-year pupils, taking them at least 2 hours in the week. A bad begin-

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ning in language had in the past been the source of endless trouble and delay in Japanese schools. The Japanese pronunciation of English was altogether unreliable.

* * *

In the *Keiōgijiku Gakuhō*, the Principal of the School, Mr. Kamada Eikichi, draws a comparison between the moral system followed by the Chinese and Japanese Confucianists and that of Greece and Rome. He says that in ancient times filial piety, subjection to elders and general submissiveness were considered the most cardinal of all virtues and the family always ranked higher than the individual. With the Romans a father was allowed by the son to put his son to death if he thought proper to do so. The morality taught by Aristotle was based on experience, and that taught by Plato on intuition, but both these great men agreed in preaching the doctrine of subjection to authority, the authority of elders and the authority of the State. In all the countries ruled by ancient Greece the rights of the first-born were upheld and the younger members of the family were assigned a very subordinate position. Thus we see, says Mr. Kamada, that in ancient times there was no such wide difference between the moral ideas of Orientals and those of Occidentals as some people imagine.

* * *

"Questions for Socialists to Answer," is the title of an article that appears in No. 186 of the *Nipponjin*, the gist of which may be stated in a few words. There is no denying, says the *Nipponjin*, that with such men as Mr. Yano Fumio and Mr. Ōi Kentarō as leaders the Socialistic movement is making a great stir in the country. Next to Christians the Sunday Socialistic lecturers attract great crowds; but the impression one gets from a perusal of newspaper reports of speeches and articles on the subject is that the chief promoters of the cause have failed to show that circumstances in this country at present call for any of the measures advocated by European and American socialists. Is there in this country any special oppression of the poor by the rich? Are the inequalities between classes of a nature to call for stringent measures of any kind? If these questions be answered in the negative, as they certainly must be, then the whole Japanese socialistic movement assumes the character of a feeble re-echo of foreign sentiment. Our industry is not sufficiently advanced to call for agitation against employers in favour of the employed. The number of large workshops throughout the country is comparatively insignificant. Where then is the oppression which the would-be mediators are going to put down? To figure as labour partizans and as against capitalists at a time when to a large extent the industry on which principally the country's future wealth must depend is still undeveloped, is to become obstructors to industrial progress. To sow discontent among workmen where previously it had not existed may be regarded as benevolence by some very ignorant people, but level-headed men will look upon it in a very different light. The whole socialistic movement in this country calls for censure rather than commendation.

* * *

The *Nipponjin* has a longish article entitled "How to regard Russian Aggression," the tone of which is moderate and thoughtful. Epitomized, it reads thus: For a very long time it was a custom with English writers to denounce Russian policy and methods in a most wholesale fashion, to describe Russia as a tiger or a wolf greedy to devour all that comes in her way. Japan's early connection with Russia created a strong suspicion that she might have designs on these isles. In recent times Japan's opinion of Russia has been largely derived from the study of English works, that is, it may be said to be a reflection of English opinion. But opinion in England on this question is changing, if, in fact, it has not already changed. Our feelings in reference to Russian interference at Peking to-day, says the *Nipponjin*, very much resemble those of the English in respect of Russia's interference with Turkish affairs at Constantinople fifteen years ago. Though it has been customary in the past to represent Russia as an inferior Power and as the enemy of the most advanced type of civilisation, yet nobody can deny that in many particulars her rule has been an improvement on the Governments which she has replaced in various parts of Europe and Asia. Possessing a large amount of territory on the borders of the two great continents of Europe and Asia, she is in a position to blend in various ways the two types of civilisation. The difficulties she has overcome, the manner in which she has borne great responsibilities on various occasions, her pluck and persistence cannot but elicit our admiration. Being an aggressive Power, however, Japan and England naturally feel it their duty to take such measures as seem to be necessary for the guarding of their rival interests. But it should be the aim of these two Powers to utilize rather than to attempt to check Russian advance. If Russia opens up new territory for trade, so much the better for Japanese and English merchants. If she establishes order where hitherto lawlessness has reigned supreme, all civilised countries are indirectly benefited thereby. We are not, then, in favour of denouncing Russian development and progress in a wholesale manner, though we by no means approve of all the methods she adopts, and we plainly see that her interests may come into collision with ours to such an extent that war will be inevitable, and in that case we should not shrink from appealing to the sword. Though undoubtedly Russia is less civilised than many other countries, she is far ahead of the tribes and races which she has subdued, and thus may be used as a medium for raising the lowest types of humanity, if not to the level occupied by the most advanced nations, to a much higher plane than that they now occupy.

* * *

In tha *Chūō Kōron* there is an article entitled "The Future of the Empire and Chishima," in which a retired naval lieutenant, Gunji Naritada, who has spent more than 10 years in the island of Paramushiri, calls attention to the importance of that place from a national point of view. He says that few Japanese realize that only about 7 miles of sea separates Japan from Russian territory, and that there is hardly a school teacher in the whole country who takes the trouble to draw the attention of his pupils to the proximity of Paramushiri to Kamtchatka. The Japanese have yet to learn how great is the importance to be attached to a country's boundaries when that country is confronted by a Power that may at any time become hostile. Lieutenant Gunji illustrates his point by reference to the feelings of the Germans and the French on the boundary question at the time of the Franco-Prussian war. Had Japan's sense of the importance of guarding carefully the outposts of the empire been more developed at the time of the negotiations with Russia on the subject of Saghalin, continues the Lieutenant, the island would never have been ceded to that Power. It was quite impossible at that time to awaken general interest in boundary questions. That noted Chinese scholar, Okamoto Kansuke, in 1891, founded a Society known as the Chishima Kyōkai, with the object of increasing Japanese prestige and promoting national interests in the North. But the attempt failed on account of lack of support in the country generally. When Okamoto was sent by the Japanese Government to Saghalin to negotiate with the Russians on the boundary question in that island, he reported that the Russians were in the habit of pushing further and further south by a most unscrupulous method. When a strong northerly wind was blowing they would light a fire near a Japanese settlement, and when the Japanese, after being burnt out, had fled south, would rapidly erect ready-made houses on the sites previously occupied by the Japanese. The wronged settlers appealed in vain to the Edo Government for redress. Some of the documents in which they stated their grievances are still preserved, and are a revelation as illustrating the methods adopted by the Russians to drive the Japanese out of the island. There would be no need to recall these incidents now, were the nation fully awake to the importance of its northern territory, but it is not. Though for 10 years I have been taking the trouble to send reports to the newspapers, continues Lieut. Gunji, they have failed to attract the attention the subject of which they treat merits. There is nothing very interesting or attractive in passing one's life in a remote region of the empire in superintending the fishing industry. But I do it because I feel that this frontier island of our dominion must be developed to the utmost extent. When I first went to the island some Victorians were already there, and they informed me that they regarded the island as buffer ground. We had to make use of a little gunpowder before we convinced these gentlemen of their mistake and induced them to leave the island in our hands. As a result of a good deal of agitation, last year as many as 69 Japanese vessels were engaged in the fishing trade off the island. To my knowledge more than 50 Japanese have laid down their lives in the service of the empire in this remote corner of the world. They have most of them left families on the island, who regard the place as their permanent home. Our one great trouble is the lack of steam communication with the outside world. From Tōkyō a letter often takes five months to reach us. I have repeatedly asked the Government to supply this need, but in vain. In 1898 and 1899, owing to the very prosperous state of the Kamtchatka fisheries, a steamer ran to these parts and called at our island. But subsequently, she struck a rock, which was not marked in the Admiralty chart, in the Kurile Straits and was totally wrecked, involving a loss of 160,000 *yen*. The Marine Insurance Companies were so alarmed by the incident that now they refuse to insure ships going though the Straits at a lower rate than about 3/10. If the Japanese were really a seafaring nation this difficulty would be got over in no time. I have been running an old vessel I got from the Naval Department called the *Ishikawa Maru** for ten years without meeting with any mishap. So the Straits are not in any way dangerous. The Lieutenant concludes his interesting article by urging his fellow-countrymen to show more enterprise in the northern outskirts of the empire.

* * *

"Various Impressions" is the title of an address delivered at a meeting of the Imperial Education Society by Dr. Nitobe, reported very fully in the *Kyōiku Kōhō*. Dr. Nitobe gave an account of his travels in the South Pacific. He visited Java, many other islands, and Australia. At Java he felt persuaded that an eminent French ethnologist who not long ago said that, as the result of much investigation, he had come to the conclusion that the Japanese race was $^{6}/_{10}$ Malay, $^{3}/_{10}$ Mongolian and $^{1}/_{10}$ mixed, was right. Among the mixed elements there was an Aryan element, which came from India, and a negrito element. Now it is supposed, says Dr. Nitobe, that this negrito element comes from the Javanese. It no longer shows itself in the Japanese in regard to the form of the nose and that of the cheek-bones, but it is to be seen in the curly hair of certain inhabitants of Kyūshū. In Ōshū, from which I come, this peculiarity is not known. During my travels in the South Pacific Islands I was repeatedly struck by the similarity of Malay customs to our own. In the structure of their houses even this was very manifest. If originally we and the inhabitants of the Malay archipelago were the same race, the interesting question arises, might not this race affinity be utilized for the accomplishment of some great joint purpose in the future? There is no denying that one of the leading tendencies of modern times is the alliance of races. There is the Pan-German, the Pan-Slavic, and the Anglo-Saxon alliances, and the attempt of Mr. Chamberlain to unite the British Empire by the establishment of a special tariff for the colonies is founded on unity of race. This foreign wave of feeling has reached Japan. Our self-consciousness as a nation has been awakened. It has on occasions displayed itself in anti-foreign sentiment, and not so many years ago silly youths thought there was nothing so brave

* We presume the *Ishikawa Maru* is a sailing vessel.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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or so patriotic as to throw stones at foreign ladies. We have no doubt been looking around for affinities. The Dōbunkai (One-Script Society) movement is a proof of this. Before I visited the Philippine Islands I wondered whether the present condition and ideas of the inhabitants would warrant our joining hands with them in some enterprise or other. But I was doomed to disappointment. They are too degraded to allow of our allying ourselves to them in any way. We might teach them. This would be charity. But we cannot go beyond this. I would recommend Japanese to go to China, Formosa or Korea rather than to the Philippine islands. . . . .

Proceeding to speak of education in Japan, Dr. Nitobe observed that the great want of the times was the creation of a higher relationship between teachers and scholars. Their present relation resembled nothing so much as that of the seller and buyer of wares. There was no real feeling of respect or regard for the teachers felt by most students. We should say that this statement needs considerable modification, at any rate as regards the higher schools.

* * *

The *Taiyō* publishes a report of the huge Socialist meeting held at Ōsaka on April 6th. Dr. X. Stein from Austria was present at the meeting and gave an account of the state of socialism in Austria and Germany at the present time and of the manner in which the hostility of the two Governments is shown to the movement. The meeting passed the following three resolutions:—(1) We purpose improving the state of society by means of socialism. (2) We are resolved that Japanese socialistic principles shall be put into practice. (3) We deem it necessary to the success of the socialistic movement that sympathizers with the cause in various countries should work together. The *Taiyō* furnishes a short history of European and American socialism and refers to the ways in which the members of socialistic bodies in various countries cooperate with each other. It goes on to observe that the movement is supported by a large number of learned men who strongly disapprove of any resort to violent measures and that hence as a rule the cause is advocated in an eminently rational and dignified manner. The writer of the article from which we are quoting expresses doubt, however, as to the solidity of Japanese socialism. It lacks practicality and displays many signs of artificiality, says the *Taiyō*.

In the same number of the *Taiyō* Mr. Ōmach Keigetsu, the editor, criticizes unfavourably the Woman's University established by Mr. Naruse Nizō. This University according to some aims at something more than training women to make "good wives and intelligent mothers." This, says the *Taiyō*, is not the function of any school. A high-class female school should give a good general education and leave the after-education of girls to the society in which they mix after leaving school. In ancient times the manufacture of a number of blue-stockings was tried in various countries, but it was found that these learned ladies as a rule did not prove to be of much benefit to society generally. A few eminent writers among them there certainly were, but the existence of these does not prove that as an educational measure the production of women of the highly learned type is commendable. "It seems to us, continues the *Taiyō*, that if this University is designed to be a finishing institution, the students it admits are not properly prepared for entering such an institution. The standard of the institution is not as high as its name would seem to indicate. The girls who enter it do so with different motives no doubt; some for the sake of the education imparted, others for the better chance that it will give them of making a good match later in life or for the sake of the degree conferred. This is all natural enough, but what we demur to says the *Taiyō*, is the assumption of the name Daigaku by a school that does not insist on a high standard of attainment and thorough preparation in the girls that are admitted. The present teaching may be best suited to the actual needs of the country, but in that case the title University had better be dropped. The least one can expect from an institution assuming the title of Daigaku is that it should maintain a higher standard than the Female Normal High School. This Mr. Naruse's institution does not do. To lower standards in order to increase the attendance is one of the great evils of private schools in this country. We say "Make the examinations as strict as possible. Be content with a few women of the higher type. Aim at quality rather than quantity." The attainments of the girls now under instruction at the Joshi Daigaku are quite beneath those of High School male students and, according to some, even beneath those of the Female Normal School students; so that this University is one in name only. The time will come when the public will discover this, and the degree will then carry none of the weight the founders of the institution designed it to do. The Joshi Daigaku would do well to take a leaf out of the Waseda Semmon Gakkō book. Though that institution allows graduates of Middle Schools to enter the University Preparatory School without examination, in the case of candidates for the Waseda University itself, it applies a severe test, in order to keep up the standard of the higher institution.

* * *

We find the following interesting tables of statistics in the June number of the *Taiyō*, drawn up by Mr. S. Itō.

PROGRESS OF POPULATION SINCE 610.

Years.	Population.		Increase or Decrease.		Increase or Decrease per year
610.....	4,988,842		—		—
736.....	8,631,770		3,642,928		28,912
1723.....	26,065,422		17,433,652		17,663
1726.....	26,548,998		483,576		161,192
1732.....	26,921,816		372,818		62,136
1744.....	25,682,210	* (—)	1,239,606	(—)	163,301
1750.....	25,917,830		235,620		39,270
1756.....	26,061,830		144,000		24,000
1762.....	25,921,458	(—)	140,372	(—)	23,395
1768.....	26,252,057		330,599		55,100
1774.....	25,990,451	(—)	261,606	(—)	43,601
1780.....	26,010,600		20,149		3,358
1786.....	25,086,466	(—)	924,134	(—)	154,022
1792.....	24,891,441	(—)	195,025	(—)	32,504
1798.....	25,471,033		579,592		96,599
1804.....	25,621,957		150,924		25,154
1828.....	27,201,400		1,579,443		65,810
1846.....	26,907,625	(—)	293,775	(—)	24,481
1872.....	33,110,825		6,203,200		238,585
1882.....	37,185,492		4,074,667		407,467
1887.....	39,183,029		1,997,537		399,507
1892.....	41,089,940		1,906,911		381,382
1897.....	43,228,863		2,188,923		437,785
1900.....	44,805,937		1,577,074		525,691
1901.....	35,331,063		525,126		525,126
1902.....	45,862,343		531,280		531,280

* (—)=Decrease.

MARRIAGES, DIVORCES AND MARRIED COUPLES.

Years.	Marriages.	Divorces.	Married Couples. Dec. 31.	Marriages per 1,000 of Population.
1883	337,456	127,162	—	9.01
1884	287,842	109,905	—	7.60
1885	259,497	113,565	—	6.80
1886	315,311	117,964	7,289,001	8.19
1887	334,149	110,859	7,346,670	8.55
1888	330,246	109,175	7,419,953	8.34
1889	340,445	107,478	7,477,486	8.50
1890	325,141	109,088	7,456,901	8.04
1891	325,651	112,411	7,476,283	8.00
1892	349,489	113,498	7,561,900	8.51
1893	358,389	116,775	7,616,958	8.66
1894	361,319	114,436	7,681,145	8.64
1895	365,633	110,838	7,734,076	8.65
1896	501,777	115,654	7,877,457	11.75
1897	365,207	124,075	7,892,073	8.45
1898	471,298	99,464	7,979,383	10.77
1899	297,117	66,417	—	6.71
1900	345,158	63,773	—	7.70

JAPANESE RESIDING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Years.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per centage of Males to Female.
1880 ...	4,601	842	5,443	546.44
1881 ...	5,038	1,058	6,096	476.18
1882 ...	5,446	1,380	6,826	394.64
1883 ...	6,002	1,723	7,725	348.35
1884 ...	7,024	1,872	8,896	375.21
1885 ...	9,449	2,131	11,580	443.41
1889 ...	13,815	4,873	18,688	283.50
1890 ...	17,919	6,031	23,950	297.11
1891 ...	23,681	8,465	32,146	279.75
1892 ...	29,615	9,388	†39,011	315 46
1893 ...	31,147	10,055	41,202	309.77
1894 ...	31,632	9,958	41,590	317.65
1895 ...	34,332	11,945	46,277	287.42
1896 ...	40,348	13,994	54,342	288.32
1897 ...	43,707	15,078	58,785	289.87
1898 ...	*53,114	*17,687	70,801	300.30
1899 ...	*76,633	*22,406	99,039	342.91
1900 ...	*98,985	*24,986	123,971	396.16
1901 ...	*50,515	*14,558	65,073	346.99

† Including some whose sex is unknown.
* Including Formosans.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE ROBIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A military band is said to be of great use in keeping up the spirits of the men under depressing circumstances. Life in the Orient has its own peculiar heaviness which we all seek in various ways to lighten. I enclose a little poem, clipped from the *Christian Intelligence*, which by its blithe spirit, certainly lightened my heart, and which, I feel sure, will be appreciated not only by yourself, but by many of your readers, especially those from the country where "The robin now is bobbin' on the lawn."

Yours very truly, H. V. S. B.

THE ROBIN.

BY THE REV. WM. PATERSON BRUCE.

O, the robin,
Now is bobbin'
On the lawn
Just at dawn,
For a worm.
See it squirm.
Then he sings,
Flaps his wings,
With great glee,
To the tree,
Where's the nest
Of red breast?

Every year
He is here;
Glad to bring
News of spring;
Keeps in mind
How to find
His old home,
Though he roam
Miles untold
From the cold.
Instinct guides,
He confides.

Learn, O, man,
What you can;
All the worry,
All the flurry
Of your brain
Is in vain.
Work along.
Sing your song.
God has said
Daily bread
He'll provide.
Trust your guide.

SANITATION AT KARUIZAWA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent who signs himself "Karuizawa" in your issue of the 12th writes in strange ignorance. He speaks of a school and a hospital at Karuizawa as being of no use to the foreign summer visitors. As regards the former, does he suppose that improvements in sanitation can be effected as easily among the ignorant as among the educated? And as regards the latter, is he not aware that prompt removal to a hospital of every case of infectious disease is one of the best methods of checking the spread of that disease? And finally, as regards the visitors themselves, he has evidently never heard of the Karuizawa Public Welfare Committee, who are elected by the visitors, and who have bestirred themselves with some success, as he might discover by reading the *Japan Mail*, where he will find their reports published.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant, EISEI.

June 15th, 1903.

DOES THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT APPROVE THIS?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—This morning I had a visit from a young man (Japanese) in whom I am somewhat interested, and heard from him a most surprising statement. He had all arrangements made to go to America, but to-day his application for permission to leave Japan was returned by the local office with the

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simple remark that it was not approved (*Kyoka seau*). Naturally he wanted to know why, but the officials declined to give any reason whatsoever. He himself knows no reason. He is past age for army service, has committed no crime; is not going as a labourer but as a student; has means in his own right to pay his way and support himself. So none of these reasons can be assigned for the refusal. But if there is any reason at all, has he not a right under Japanese law to know the reason? To decline to give reasons seems about as grave an infringement of personal liberty as could well be imagined. If they can detain him in Japan without reason, by parity of reasoning they may with equal right detain him in a single spot—a dungeon—without any reason. This reminds us of mediæval Venice at once

If there is any possible reason you can suggest which will prevent this from being called tyranny of the most absolute type, I hope you will give it; for I am anxious to continue obeying the scripture injunction to "render honour to whom honour is due." But if this really has no explanation and turns out to be the black tyranny which it looks, and the Government approves it, is any honour due such a Government?

Respectfully yours, "PERSONAL LIBERTY."

June 15th, 1903.

THE INTERPORT FOURS.

The following letter has been sent to us for publication:—

K. R. AND A. C.

Kobe, 13 June, 1903.

C. THWAITES, Esq.,
Hon. Sec., Y.A.R.C.

DEAR SIR,

At a Committee Meeting held last night, a resolution was passed expressing the Committee's unanimous disapproval of certain letters that have appeared in the local press reflecting on the action taken by the Yokohama crew in respect to their win in the "fours." I should like to place on record the Committee's deep regret at the whole unfortunate incident, and to assure the Y.A.R.C. that steps have been taken which will do away with any chance of such an interference on the part of the fishermen in the future.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully.

P. S. SPENCE.
Hon. Sec., K. R. & A. C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Referring to your paragraph in to-day's issue about the Interport Fours, to me, as an outsider, the whole thing is as clear as daylight. The Yokohama coxswain evidently recognised that he had to keep clear of the fishing boat and steered accordingly, which meant a considerable detour. The Kobe coxswain no doubt recognised the same thing but he was behind and already pushing his crew, so probably it flashed through his mind that by keeping a straight course and crossing the bows of the fishing boat he might regain the lost ground and again get on equal terms with Yokohama. He risked this, with what result is known. He was himself to blame in my opinion for the unsatisfactory finish, and it is unfair even to suggest an unsportsmanlike feeling to the Yokohama crew, who, from all accounts, had the race well in hand when the incident occurred.

Yours truly, FAIRPLAY.

June 17th, 1903.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your to-day's article on "The Interport Fours," induces me to say a few words in justification of the lack of sportsmanlike manners of which our Yokohama oarsmen are accused.

It is always very unsatisfactory when an interruption of any sort occurs during a race; but, these things will happen. In the case under review, the Yokohama crew surely ran the same risk of colliding with the Japanese fishing-boat as did the Kobe men, only, perhaps, the visitors' boat was more judiciously steered.

Not having seen the race myself, I may perhaps be wrong in blaming the Kobe cox, but it is my experience that coxswains very often do not quite realise the importance of their position. Their office is certainly as important as that of any of the rowers.

You rightly say, that, following the rules of racing, the race was Yokohama's.

As to rowing it over again, it would in this case have been an exceedingly gracious and condescending act on the part of the visiting crew, for they were in no way at fault as regards Kobe's bad luck. The "Kobeites" were in their own water, and also were their own managers in regard to keeping the course clear.

I have witnessed and rowed in races which failed in the same way, and which, out of kindness, were rowed over again, but such a course is always rather hard on those who confer the favour.

To Kobe's umpire, who, right away, based on rules of his own no doubt, called the race off when the accident occurred, it ought to be lesson enough that his decision was overruled; but, to fully justify him, in case he should feel wronged, I will ask you to allow me to give an example of how boat-racing is conducted in his country, although I doubt not that he knows a good deal about it himself.

It was at Frankfort s. M. on the 24th and 25th of June, 1900, when your correspondent rowed in several four-oared races against German crews. The course on the river Main, having a very considerable bend in its first quarter, makes steering very difficult, the more so as in most races six boats started, which number took up the whole breadth of the river. In one of the principal events, our boat, having got off well at the start, was, just before reaching this nasty corner, run into, and No. 3's rollock clean broken off.

The Umpire, who followed in a steam launch, called out "Stop!" and, coming up to us, said:—"I am very sorry, it was entirely the other boat's fault."

Our stroke then said:—"Well, can we go and get another boat?" To which the Umpire replied:—"I am afraid we cannot wait for you," and, ordering us to paddle on, gave a flying start to the remaining competitors.

Now, surely, you will agree with me, that in this case, if in any, it would only have been fair to let us row the race over again, but present rules seem to contain no provision for that contingency.

The one satisfaction we had on this occasion was, on the second Regatta-day, when, we had the pleasure of meeting and beating, in the chief event, —the race for the Emperor's cup—, the winning crew of the race which was by mishap lost to us.

Therefore, let our Kobe friends not despair, but rather let them hope and try to regain their flag next year, when they come up here to row on more civilised and better controlled waters.

Yours faithfully, "OLD HAND."

Yokohama, June 17th, 1903.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Now that public interest is being aroused with regard to the considerate treatment of animals, and more especially of horses, it may be timely to revive a point which I unsuccessfully brought before the "powers that be" about three years ago;—namely the erection of drinking troughs for horses. Carriage horses, owned by foreigners, need no such provision, but the poor beasts to be seen in the neighbourhood of the Hatoba, and along some of the thoroughfares, would certainly be the better for a cooling drink, especially during the coming summer months. Stand-pumps are sufficiently numerous to render drinking-fountains unnecessary, but the horses derive no benefit therefrom, and the erection of troughs for their use would certainly be a humane measure and worthy of the efforts of the recently organised branch of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The initial outlay would be trivial, (especially if wooden troughs were used), the maintenance would entail but a small expense, and the amount of water required would not exceed the quantity which is daily running to waste through the useless fountain playing in the compound of the local Waterworks Office.

In the neighbourhood of the Custom House there are several spots where the first might be erected, a second would do well near the Yokohama Recreation Ground, perhaps a third near the Railway Station, etc.

Should lack of funds prevent the adoption of this suggestion, I shall be pleased to support my opinion by a donation for the purpose, and would even renew my offer of erecting an experimental trough, in order to demonstrate the benefits which would result therefrom.

Yours faithfully, H.

Yokohama, June 18th, 1903.

JAPANESE COMPANY AND A COLLISION CASE.

The following judgment given by Mr. M. Odagiri, Japanese Consul-General in Shanghai, has caused considerable comment:—

Plaintiffs:—The Shanghai Licensed Pilots Association, No. 5, Peking Road, International Settlement, Shanghai, China.

Francis Ellis, Counsel for the plaintiffs.

Defendants:—The Nihon Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha, Owners of the Steamer *Koyo Maru*, No. 78, Kiangse Road, International Settlement, Shanghai, China.

Saiyiro Okada, its representative.

Seüchi Kishi, a member of the Japanese Bar, Counsel for the defendants.

PETITION.

After hearing the case in the matter of damages between the above-named parties being No. 3 Civil case in the 36th year of Meiji (1903):—

Plaintiffs stated—The steamer *Koyo Maru* owned by the Nihon Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha, represented by the defendant Saiyiro Okada, collided with the *Bonita No. 9*, a pilot's schooner, owned by the plaintiffs, which anchored within two miles E.S.E. of the Kiutoan light-vessel, at 2 a.m. on the 13th March, 36th year of Meiji (1903) and sank the latter schooner. The collision and damages having been caused by the negligence and wrongful navigation of the crew of the *Koyo Maru*, the plaintiffs claim Tls. 5,000 S.S. from the defendants as damage and losses caused by the sinking of the schooner and that the costs of the case be born by the defendants.

ANSWER.

The defendants in answer pleaded:—

1.—The defendants do not recognise the existence of the plaintiffs as an individual or a legal person (Hojin) or their capacity of instituting legal action.

2.—Though the plaintiffs mentioned in their petition in this case that Saiyiro Okada is a representative of the Nihon Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha, Saiyiro Okada is neither director nor manager of the said "Kaisha" (Company) and thus has no authority to do any legal act for the Company, therefore the petition is not in accordance with the law.

3.—The defendant company has not its principal office within the jurisdiction of the Consulate-General of Shanghai and the Consulate-General of Shanghai only has jurisdiction over Japanese subjects who have their domiciles within the jurisdiction of the Consulate-General. Therefore even though the representation of the representative of the defendant company in the petition might be legally correct, still the Consular Court of Shanghai has no jurisdiction over this case.

For the above reasons the defendants pray the Court that the petition of the plaintiffs be "rejected" and the costs be borne by the plaintiffs.

JUDGMENT EXPLAINED.

After hearing the above I have to explain my judgment as follows:—

Saiyiro Okada, whom the plaintiffs describe as the representative of the defendant Company, is the head of the Shanghai Agency of the Nihon Shosen Kabushiki Kaisha, but he has not been entrusted with power to enter into litigation in this case and he has no capacity to do any legal act on behalf of the Company.

Therefore this case was instituted upon a mistaken representation of the defendant in the petition.

For the above reasons I have decided the case:—

The petition of the plaintiffs is hereby "rejected" and the costs of the case are to be borne by the plaintiffs.

The above decision was given at the Court Room of the Consular Court of Shanghai on the 3rd day of June, 36th year of Meiji (1903).

Dated 3rd June, 36th year of Meiji (1903) at the Japanese Consular Court of Shanghai.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

THE FINANCE BILL.

London, June 12.

Mr. Chaplin's amendment was rejected by 424 to 28, all the Liberals and Nationalists supporting the Government. There were some Unionists who abstained from voting. Mr. Balfour denied that the Government had broken any pledge in repealing the Corn Tax. He denied that it was his duty to express an opinion as to certain great fiscal colonial and international problems which had recently been raised. The subject must first be thoroughly examined. They would (not) be performing their duty if they professed settled convictions where none existed. What was wanted of the Government was common action and responsibility: no one wanted uniformity of speech or absolute uniformity of opinion. While he did not share the view that the present fiscal system must remain in force for all time, he did not believe they would ever revert to the tariffs of 1842.

THE SERVIAN REVOLT.

A special telegram says that the King and

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Queen of Servia were assassinated in their Palace. The Army proclaimed Karageorgevich King.

THE SERVIAN REVOLUTION.

London, June 13.

Queen Draga's brother and two sisters, the King's *Aide-de-camp*, one General, the Premier, two Ministers, and twelve of the palace guard were shot dead in the Royal Palace at Belgrade at midnight by the troops who closely surrounded the Palace.

The crime has horrified Europe and will, it is feared, inflame the whole East.

Later.

Prince Karageorgevich is at present in Geneva. He professes astonishment at the events in Belgrade.

A National Convention, to be held on the 15th inst., elects the King of Servia. The election is subject to recognition by Russia and Austria.

The British Press is horrified at the tragedy, and exhorts the Powers not to recognize the successor, who is unable to prove his innocence of complicity in the crime.

Later.

King Alexander and Queen Draga were unceremoniously buried by night in the Obrenovitch family vault. The Powers are evidently resolved to acquiesce in the situation, especially in view of the attitude of the Servians, who loudly abuse the late *régime*, especially execrating Queen Draga.

BRITISH FINANCE.

London, June 14.

The Finance Bill has been read a second time in the House of Commons without a division.

THE KING'S VISIT TO IRELAND.

The King's visit to Ireland includes three or four days in the West, in order that he may see as much as possible of the conditions of life there.

THE BELGRADE TRAGEDY.

Karageorgevitch has been interviewed at Geneva. He deplores the bloodshed at Belgrade and the Army's share therein, and declares that he was entirely ignorant of the whole plot.

ITALIAN CABINET RESIGNS.

The Italian Cabinet has resigned.

SOMALILAND.

A Camel Corps consisting of two British officers, 1,320 camels and 500 drivers will leave the Punjab shortly for Somaliland.

SIR ERNEST SATOW.

London, June 15.

Sir Ernest Mason Satow, British Minister in China, has been received in audience by King Edward.

The University of Cambridge has conferred upon Sir Ernest Satow the degree of LL.D.

SERVIAN AFFAIRS.

Servia is quiet. All prisoners for political and press offences will be released. After the election of the King on the 15th June, the Skuptschina will adjourn until the arrival of the King, who forms a new ministry.

SOMALILAND.

London, June 16.

A War Office despatch from Bohotle says that the Mullah has cut the telegraph lines and executed a flank march, with the intention of raiding the line of communications between Bohotle and Berbera. All the posts are being strengthened.

The *Daily Telegraph's* Aden correspondent says that the Mullah cut up a convoy between Garrero and Bohotle, and according to native rumours Colonel Cobbe is surrounded at Galadi and General Manning is unable to move to his assistance.

ELECTION OF SERVIAN KING.

Later.

Peter Karageorgevitch has been unanimously elected King of Servia.

BAD WEATHER IN BRITAIN.

Fifty-five hours of unceasing rain has fallen in London and the South of England, and is still falling. Large tracts are submerged; houses and streets are flooded, railway traffic is disorganized, and the hay crop is ruined.

Snow is falling in the Highlands of Scotland.

SERVIAN AFFAIRS.

London, June 17.

Karageorgevich has accepted his election.

Mr. Balfour has stated in the House of Commons that the continuance of diplomatic relations with the Servians who were concerned in the assassinations is under consideration.

CHAMBERLAIN'S POLICY.

Lord Goschen, in the House of Lords, raised a discussion on Mr. Chamberlain's policy and dwelt on the dangers of binding our hands by an agreement with the Colonies involving a tax on food. Mr. Chamberlain's retaliatory policy would land us in protection with all its dangers. The scheme was a gamble with the food of the people.

CHINA AND RAILWAY CONCESSIONS.

Later.

Lord Lansdowne, in the House of Lords, said we had serious cause of complaint with regard to the manner in which China dealt with applications for railway concessions. The Government had been obliged to remonstrate strongly, and Sir Ernest Satow was returning fully instructed to energetically support the views of the Government.

SOMALILAND.

London, June 18.

A considerable force in India has been ordered to hold itself in readiness to proceed to Somaliland.

SERVIA.

The Skuptshina has granted an amnesty to the assassins of the late King and Queen.

Karageorgevich has decided not to concern himself with events preceding his accession.

The Czar and the Emperor of Austria have telegraphed their congratulations, and the latter further promised his support.

FIGUIG.

Saigon, June 12.

The Djemaas of Figuig have made absolute submission. The conditions of peace will soon be regulated.

THE REVOLUTION IN BELGRADE.

News from Belgrade announces that a military conspiracy has broken out. King Alexander, Queen Draga, her brother, her sister, two of the Ministers and some soldiers were killed by rifle-shots during the night. Karageorgewich has been proclaimed King. A new Government has been formed under the presidency of Drakommowich. The town is quiet.

MOROCCO.

Saigon, June 14.

The Djemmaa of Figuig has accepted the conditions imposed.

SERVIA.

Calm continues in Servia. The Chamber recently dissolved by the late King Alexander will elect on the 15th of June King Karageorgewitch, now in Switzerland. The King and the Queen were buried secretly. The revolution is attributed to the King's intention of proclaiming as heir to the Throne the brother of the Queen. The European press considers that the event will not lead to any complication.

FRENCH MILITARY SERVICE.

Saigon, June 16.

The French Senate has passed the whole of the law for reducing military service to two years.

THE NEW SERVIAN KING.

The Assembly at Belgrade has unanimously elected Karageorgevitch to be King.

INCOME TAX PROPOSAL.

Saigon, June 17.

M. Rouvier, Minister of Finance, has introduced in the French Chamber a project of law proposing an income tax.

KELANTAN.

Saigon, June 18.

It is denied in London that a new treaty has been signed with reference to Kelantan.

STRIKE OF OSAKA JINRIKISHA MEN.

(From our Correspondent.)

Kobe, June 12.

All the Osaka jinrikisha men have gone out on strike and to-day there is not a single public jinrikisha on the streets. A mass meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A. Hall this morning at which the men threatened to continue the strike to-morrow, which is Osaka Day at the Exhibition.

THE OSAKA STRIKE.

Kobe, 7.20 p.m., June 12.

Affairs in Osaka appear ugly. This morning a meeting was dispersed by the police. Three hundred *Kurumaya* then proceeded to Minami-ku armed with clubs and other weapons and attempted to wreck the river steamers, though they allowed the passengers to land first. A strong force of police arrived and something like a free fight occurred, several of the rioters being ducked in the river.

Eventually the police managed to arrest 200. The river boats then resumed running, each with four policemen on board. The streets are deserted. The men declare that they will continue the strike to-morrow.

(From the "Deutsche Japan-Post.")

THE REVOLUTION IN SERVIA.

Berlin, June 12.

In Belgrade a military plot had been hatched against the King. The troops forced their way into the Konak, where the life-guard resisted only at intervals. King Alexander and Queen Draga were found naked in bed. The King first shot the Queen dead, then blew out his own brains. Prince Peter Karageoriewitsch was proclaimed King. All ministers who had not been killed were arrested.

Later.

Besides the Servian King and Queen killed by the former's hand, several adjutants, the Prime Minister, the Minister of War, the brothers and sisters and other relatives of the Queen were shot. A proclamation was issued. The old constitution passes again into law. The National Parliament dissolved by King Alexander was anew summoned. The popula- is comparatively calm. The new ministers were sympathically welcomed. There is no agitation on the European exchanges.

THE SERVIAN REVOLUTION.

Belgrade, (via Berlin) June 12.

The cause of the revolution was the return to Belgrade of the Queen's brother, Lieutenant Lunjewitza, whom Queen Draga on behalf of her being childless wished to proclaim as heir apparent. It was feared that the Skuptschina would consent to the selection of the young man as heir apparent. The streets of Belgrade were adorned with flags, in the evening a great illumination took place,

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ASSAULT ON THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR.

Berlin, June 13.

The Emperor of Austria was threatened by a man with a dagger while driving through Vienna in his carriage. The assailant, probably an insane man, was arrested.

THE NEW KING OF SERVIA.

Berlin, June 16.

In Servia the situation is perfectly quiet. Senate and Skuptschina have elected the pretender, Prince Peter Karageorgewich, as King without one dissentient voice.

SERVIA.

Berlin, June 17.

All the Powers will doubtless acknowledge Peter Karageorgewich as King of Servia. The question of the murderers' punishment involves many difficulties for the new ruler. Probably the Powers will not meddle with Servian affairs.

ILLNESS OF COUNT BÜLOW.

Berlin, June 6.

Chancellor Count Bülow has fallen ill.

A NEW BANK.

The China Bank will establish branch offices in Calcutta and Hongkong.

HUNGARY.

In the Hungarian Reichstag obstruction prevails against the army-bill. A ministerial crisis is imminent.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS.

The result of the election of members of the German Reichstag is a very large increase of the Socialistic vote. The social Democrats, among other electoral districts, conquered Bremen and the 5th Ward of Berlin. The final result is not yet known.

THE REICHSTAG ELECTIONS.

Berlin, June 6.

To-day we know 333 results of the election of the German Reichstag's members; in all there were to be elected 397 members. Second ballots are necessary in nearly half of the electoral districts, that means in 156. Definitively elected are 68 members of the clerical party, 53 social democrats, 23 conservatives and 11 Polish members and some others. Roesicke and Hahn, the leaders of the Farmer's League, have failed to be elected. The growth of the Socialists' party consists mostly in losses of the Liberals. In consequence of this the voting of the new Reichstag will be scarcely changed in most matters.

(From the "Jiji Shimpo.")

THE TRAGEDY IN SERVIA.

London, June 11.

King Alexander and Queen Draga, of Servia, were assassinated early this morning by soldiers in the Semlin (?) palace near Belgrade. Six others, including the Premier and Ministers of State, were also massacred.

Prince Karageorgevich was proclaimed King. A new Cabinet was organized, Dracommovich being appointed Premier.

London, June 12.

All the Servian army are supporters of Karageorgevich and six regiments were sent to the palace to carry out the insurrection. They at first requested the King to abdicate but the latter refused; subsequently numerous soldiers surrounded the palace where the King and many others were shot.

The ringleader of the insurrection is brother of the first husband of the Queen.

The members of the former Lower House will meet next Monday in order to confirm the action of the military proclaiming Karageorgevich King.

The son of Karageorgevich was educated at St. Petersburg.

Austria-Hungary has declared neutrality.

The new Cabinet restored the old constitution.

THE BRITISH TARIFF QUESTION.

The *Morning Post* says that it will be a most difficult matter for the Government to administer the affairs of the Empire without paying attention to the fiscal question which has caused various opinions in the Cabinet.

THE ITALIAN CABINET.

Berlin, June 12.

The Cabinet of Italy has resigned and Sr. Zanardelli will organize a new Ministry.

THE SERVIAN AFFAIR.

London, June 12.

Many erroneous statements with regard to the tragedy at Belgrade have been reported. The real facts are that the King and the Queen were handcuffed. The latter was murdered with an axe and the former was cut down to death.

The condition of Belgrade is peaceful and congratulations of the new sovereign have taken place.

AUSTRIA AND SERVIA.

According to a semi-official report in Vienna, the coronation of the new King will tend to assist Servia in maintaining peace. It seems that Austria-Hungary will maintain neutrality, but that should her interests be menaced by disorder she will take steps to interfere.

THE SERVIAN AFFAIR.

London, June 13.

The bodies of King Alexander and Queen Draga were unceremoniously and secretly buried during the night.

An Italian semi-official journal declares that the European powers must demand the punishment of those guilty of the assassination, the enormity of which could not be extenuated.

THE KING OF SERVIA.

London, June 16.

The Assembly at Belgrade has unanimously elected Prince Peter Karageorgevich King, and has granted amnesty to those who took part in the assassination.

Delegates of the Houses proceeded to Geneva to formally offer the crown to Karageorgewich.

Karageorgewich accepted his election and promised to allow the people freedom. He is not satisfied that Matsin (?) a ringleader of the assassins was appointed Minister of State for Industry.

PROTECTIVE POLICY.

Last night the House of Lords discussed protective policy. Lord Goschen opposed it but Lord Lansdowne, Lord Drent (?) and the Duke of Devonshire recognized the necessity of impartially investigating the matter, and considered that some alteration in the present system is needful to add to the Empire's power and solidarity. The general trend of the discussion was in favour of impartial investigation.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

THE COLLISION IN THE GULF OF LYONS.

London via Bombay, June 10.

It is estimated that 123 persons, all passengers, perished in the disaster to the *Liban*.

THE FIRE IN PEKING.

Peking, June 12.

In the fire at the Board of Revenue where sycee to the amount of about Tls. 4,000,000 is kept, the actual loss was not serious, only a part of the buildings in front having been burnt down.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY AT PEKING.

The result of the installation of wireless telegraphy on the Marconi system between the Italian Legation at Peking and the Italian cruisers at Taku is quite satisfactory.

NANKING-SHANGHAI RAILWAY.

The Nanking-Shanghai Railway agreement received the imperial sanction yesterday.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer		Date.
America	O. & O. Co.,	Coptic 1	M.	June 22
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons 2	W.	June 24
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen 3	W.	June 24
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Tartar 4	W.	June 24
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Lyra	W.	June 24
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Doric 5	Th.	June 25
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M.	June 29
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru 6	M.	June 29
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 7	Tu	June 30
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co	Em. of India	Th.	July 2
Hongkong	T. K. K	Nippon Maru	F.	July 3
America	P. M. Co	Korea	W.	July 8
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Sa	July 11
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa.	July 11

1 Left San Francisco on the 3rd inst.
2 Left Shanghai on the 19th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst
4 Left Vancouver on the 9th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.
6 Left Seattle on the 13th inst
7 Left San Francisco on the 11th inst

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	Tu.	June 23
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakuai Maru	Th.	June 25
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Th.	June 25
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Lyra	Th.	June 25
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Su.	June 27
Europe	N. Y. K.	Bingo Maru	Sa.	June 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa.	June 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M.	June 29
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu.	June 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th.	July 2
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	F.	July 3
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F.	July 3
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa.	July 4
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa.	July 4
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	Th.	July 9
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Su.	July 12
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Tu.	July 14

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, J. T. Smith, 12th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 26th May, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 12th June,—Shanghai via ports, 6th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Jno. Rafferty, 12th June,—London via ports, and Kobe, 11th June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Humber, British storeship, 1,640, Captain John D. Daintree, 12th June,—Weiweiwei.

Wisconsin (41 guns), U.S. flagship, 11,500, Captain U. Sebree, 12th June,—Bremerton via Honolulu.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, K. Nobeta, 12th June,—Kobe, 10th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Buhrmann, P. I., 12th June,—Ilo Ilo, Sugar, Becker & Co.

Alcinous, British steamer, 4,278, J. Pulford, 13th June, —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 12th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 13th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 13th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. Yagi, 13th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 13th June,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 25th May, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Manila, British steamer, 2,711, H. G. H. Lewellyn, 14th June,—London via ports, and Kobe, 13th June, General.—P. & G. S.N Co.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, S. Shimizu, 14th June,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, J. W. Ekstrand, 14th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 13th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Sudzuki, 14th June,—Yokkaichi, 13th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,870, F. Davies, 14th June,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 15th June,—Kobe, 13th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 15th June,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., 30th May, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Reduers Hocken, British steamer, 1,911, H. Hill, 15th June,—Batoum via Nagasaki, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 15th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 14th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 15th June,—Yokkaichi, 14th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Venus, American steamer, 614, D. P. A. Goicochen, 15th June,—Iloilo, P.I., Sugar.—Browne & Co.

Yangtsze, British steamer, 4,148, H. L. Allen, 15th June,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 14th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Peleus, British steamer, 4,800, J. Barwise, 16th June, —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 15th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Glenlogan, British steamer, 3,759, J. McGregor, 16th June,—Rangoon via Kobe, 15th June, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Badenia, German steamer, 4,243, A. Roerden, 16th June,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 15th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,783, J. W. Wale, 16th June,—London via ports, and Kobe, 15th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 16th June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 16th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chinglu, British steamer, 1,459, J. M. D. Howie, 17th June,—Australia via ports, and Hongkong, 11th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, G. Lapraik, 18th June,—Kobe, 16th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, I. Sato, 18th June,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Yamashiro Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,568, Sakai, 18th June,—Kobe, 17th June, Gneeral.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 12th June,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General,—C. P. R. Co,

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Shawmut, American steamer, 6,195, Wm. Smith, 12th June,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, G. Lapraik, 12th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 12th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, W. Hutton, 12th June,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Roon, German steamer, 4,907, G. Meiners, 13th June,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, J. T. Smith, 13th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, H. Fraser, 13th June,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yuseu Kaisha.

Kwangse, British steamer, 1,228, A. Harris, 13th June,—Moji via Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tacoma, American steamer, 1,661, A. Dixon, 13th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Albenga, German steamer, 2,769, Peterson, 13th June,—Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 874, Ishikawa, 13th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,433, I. Higo, 14th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 14th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,307, M. Yagi, 14th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Jno. Rafferty, 14th June,—New York via ports and Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Sudzuki, 15th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 15th June,—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, J. W. Ekstrand, 16th June,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 16th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. F. Robinson, 17th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. W. Horton, 17th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nitto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,318, K. Shibuya, 17th June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,906, G. Anderson, 17th June,—Nagahama Quarantine Station, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Loyal, German steamer, 1,237, Buhrmann, 17th June,—Moji, Ballast.—Becker & Co.

Venus, American steamer, 614, D. P. A. Goicochen, 17th June,—Nagasaki, General.—Browne & Co.

Taihoku Maru Japanese steamer, 1,560, Shimizu, 17th June,—Takao via ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,645, R. Swain, 18th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peleus, British steamer, 4,800, J. Barwise, 18th June,—Hakodate, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 18th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yaugtze, British steamer, 4,148, H. L. Allen, 18th June,—Port Arthur, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Reiwers Hocken, British steamer, 1,911, H. Hill, 18th June,—Uraga, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Humber, British storeship, 1,640, Captain John D. Daintree, 18th June,—Kobe.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Dr. E. Sisson, Mr. F. W. Sisson, Miss E. Sisson, Mr. Perry Garin, Mr. Robert Fulton, Miss M. E. Corrigan, Miss M. Monson and maid, Mr. A. Gastell, Dr. R. F. Weir and wife, Col. G. W. Macfarland and family, Mr. Alfred Porton, Mr. Valentine Mott, wife and child, Miss M. Gerard and maid, Miss M. E. Folger, Mr. C. S. Dixwell and wife, Mrs. Victor Blue and infant, Mr. J. B. Blades, Mr. Thos. Thornton, Miss M. Thornton, Mr. Geo. H. S. Cleghorn, Mr. G. H. Umbsen and wife, Mr. Franz Hopp, Mrs. Chester Bradley Mr. S. Isaacs, Mr. S. Schopflocher, Miss E. Dezengremel, Mrs. F. L. Chadbourne, Jr., Mrs. F. H. Koeller, Mr. Jeannie Perring and maid, Miss E. B. Alan, Mr. C. J. F. Hill, Mr. J. Szinel, Mr. Jno. McLean, Hon. Lloyd Griscom and wife, Miss M. Kinie and maid, Mr. M. Perry and valet, Mrs. P. H. Cooper, Miss D B. Cooper, Master L. B. Cooper, Mr. K. Ono, and Mr. Alex. Tison, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. P. M. Dooman, and Miss J. W. Holland, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. H. Jacquet, Mrs. H. Jacquet and daughter, Mrs. L. Rosenthal, child and infant, Dr. F. Walker and wife, Mr. J. H. Chrismen, Mr. W. M. Milne and wife, Master C. Walker, Miss J. E. M. Lebens, Miss M. Hasted, Miss M. Walker, Master R. Walker, Rev. A. L. Hall, and Mr. S. F. Wright, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. M. Avery Allen, Mr. A. H. Rennie and wife, Mr. E. C. Travis, Miss Olive Nagel, Mr. G. F. Thorndyke, Misses Edith and Louise McCornick, Mr. Lee Fischer, Mrs. J. H. Richards, Mr. Yuen Cheng and wife, Miss Eda Day, Mr. R. M. Lyle, Mr. A. N. Gray, Mr. Fred. Goble, Mr. Russel Tolegrove, Mr. E. L. Robertson, Mr. T. W. Brudges, and Rev. W. D. Westervelt and wife, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Mrs. J. D. Robnett and child, Mr. and Mrs. N. Vilandaki, Countess Nodzu, Mrs. Uyehara, Capt. Lee, Mr. L. Andrew, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Langridge, Mr. T. T. Pearson, Mr. Ogawa, Mr. Kawada, Mr. Ichimura, Mrs. Moses and child, Mr. C. G. Perirea, and 2 Chinese, in cabin; Mr. J. E. Holmes, Mrs. E. E. Holmes, Master R. G. Holmes, Miss E. D. Holmes, Mr. A. Ode Barros, Mr. Khwo Sing Yong, 2 Japanese, and 5 Chinese, in second class; 44, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Aki Maru*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Wendt and child, Mr. and Mrs. Brockelbank and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. MacLean, Prof. Loenholm, Mr. D. Arai, Mr. I. Arai, Mrs. T. Arai, Mr. and Mrs. Y. Kuroda, and Mr. and Mrs. T. Tokumi and child, in cabin; Mr. H. J. Williams, in intermediate; 1 Chinese, 7 Indians, and 5 Japanese, in steerage. For Seattle:—Mrs. W. D. Graham, Mr. D. Hollis, Lieut. and Mrs. E. Bissell, Mr. P. C. Wheeler, Mrs. P. Seaman, Miss E. A. Hartwell, Mr. C. Gleaden, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Well and 2 children, Mr. M. Bishop, Capt. and Mrs. J. S. Cox and child, Mr. H. Hardt, Mr. A. Rock, and Dr. W. Reid Faris and 3 children; Mr. Lan Chin Ko, Mr. Ching, Mr. A. E. Coutts, Mr. C. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Kitamura, and Miss Kitamura, in intermediate; 163 Chinese, 62 Japanese, and 1 Korean, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. C. G. Cummings, Mr. R. Mason, Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, Mr. J. F. Hibbs, Mr. W. Karl Vincent, Mr. R. H. Sherman, and Mrs. R. H. Sherman, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. E. E. Casper, Rev. M. Sola, Miss M. Roach, Mr. Lloyd Goble, Mr. W. E. Whitney, Mr. J. Mayer, Mrs. Westerhouse, Mr. H. W. Getchell, Rev. Frank Garrett, wife and two children, Mr. A. Gray, Rev. B. Perror, Miss C. Pfortner, Mr. O. A. Currie and Mrs. A. Gray, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. M. Adams, Staff Paymaster F. W. Airey, R.N., Mr. L. Anderson, Major J. H. E. Austin, Mrs. R. F. Austin and child, Mr. E. T. Barltrop, Miss Bell, Mr. H. L. Bell, Mr. H. Bolhurst, Dr. Wm. Briggs, Mr. W. P. Brigstocke and valet, Mrs. W. P. Brigstocke, Mr. H. C. Brushfield, Lieut.-Com. Bryan, U.S.N., Mr. L. A. Byworth, Mrs. L. A. Byworth, Mr. D. Campbell, Mrs. D. Campbell, Miss M. Douglas Clephane, Mrs. M. Clive, Mr. W. Cochrane, Mrs. A. J. Coffee, Miss Coffee, Mr. Douglas K. Courage, Mr. Godfrey M. Courage and valet, Mrs. M. Covell, Dr. J. R. Cox. Mr. E. H. Cresswell, Dr. W. J. Cross, Mrs. W. J. Cross, Miss Cross, Mr. R. W. Dalgety, R.N., Mr. A. Duncan, Capt. F. W. P. Dyer, R.M.A., Mrs Edwards, Miss Edwards, Mr. J. D. Farrell and valet, Mr. P. Gay, Mr. F. Gaylord, Mrs. F. Gaylord, Dr. P. N. Gerrard, Mr. A. O. Gillies, Mrs. Gray, Miss Gray, Master Gray, Mrs. Henderson, Mr. P. C. Hogan, Mr. L. H. Holbrook, Mrs. J. R. Hopkins, Mr. Eric P. Hudson, Mr. J. L. Irwin, Mrs. Jeffray, Mr. F. E. Jago, Col. Jenkins, Mrs. Jenkins, Miss Jenkins, Miss M. King, Dr. H. Kington and valet, Mr. Warrington Lang, Lieut.-Col. Lawson, Rev. J. Pitt Lewis, Miss Locock, Mr. C. E. Lodge, Rev. A. Lombard, Mr. P. Loonen, Miss M. Loveridge, Mr. T. H. Mann, Mr. D. H. Marshall, Mr. D. F. McAusland, Mrs. A. Michie, Mr. F. Middleton, Mr. W. A. Mowbray, Mr. E. L. Mowbray, Lieut. H. C. Napier, Miss Patterson, Mrs. Patton, Miss Patton, Lieut. B. W. Paul, Mr. W. H. Pease, Mrs. W. H. Pease, Mr. Hilton S. Pedley, Mr. V. Phelips, Mrs. V. Phelips, Mr. H. E. E. Philipps, Mr. W. H. Pullan, Mrs. W. H. Pullan, Mr. H. J. A. Poter, Mrs. H. J. A. Poter, Mr. H. A. Ramsay, Mr. W. P. Robertson, Mr. O. Roeders, Mr. W. Ross-Lane, Mrs. W. Ross-Lane, Mr. J. W. Ryder, Mr. Walter Shakespeare, Mr. E. Hamilton Sharp, Miss Sifton, Mrs. S. A. Skelton, Mr. A. D. Skelton, Mrs. Stansfield, Capt. J. Steedman, Mrs. J. Steedman, Miss Katie Steedman, Miss May Steedman, Miss Bessie Steedman, Master R. Steedman, Mr. A. W. Stiven, Mr. L. Sutherland, Mr. A Tanakadote, Mrs. Valerie, Mrs. Walker, Miss Walker, Mr. F. W. Warburton, Mr. D. Wellby, Miss S. M. Wellby, Miss L. S. Wellby, Rev. White, Mrs. White and 2 children, Dr. W. P. Wilson, Mr. H. C. Wilson, Mrs. H. C. Wilson and maid, Mr. A. G. W. Wright, and Mr. J. Young, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. M. Avery Allen, Mrs. Rames, Mr. G. W. Brudges, Mr. Yuen Chong, Mrs. Yuen Chong, Mr. H. A. Chrisman, Mr. C. H. Clough, Mrs. C. H. Clough, Mr. Russell Colegrove, Miss Eda Day, Mr. G. Dean, Mr. P. M. Dooman, Mr. Lee Fischer, Miss Freeman, Mr. Fred. Goble, Mr. A. M. Gray, Rev. A. L. Hall, Mr. M. A. Hamburger, Miss M. Hasted, Miss J. W. Holland, Mr. H. Jaquet, Mrs. H. Jaquet, Miss Jaquet, Mr. L. Knox, Mrs. L. Knox and native servant, Mr. J. E. M. Lebens, Miss Leung and native servant, Mr. R. M. Ryle, Mr. Jas. Marshall, Miss Edith McCormick, Miss Louise McCormick, Mr. E. Mendelson, Mr. W. M. Milne, Mrs. W. M. Milne, Miss Olive Nagel, Mr. J. W. Norton, Mr. J. Parrott, Mr. M. L. Polaski, Mrs. W. Quinton, child and maid, Mr. A. H. Rennie, Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mrs. J. H. Richards, Mr. E. L. Robertson, Mrs. Rosenthal and 2 children, Mr. W. Sewall, Dr. E. Sisson, Mr. F. W. Sisson, Miss Sisson, Mr. E. V. Thorn, Mr. G. F. Thorndyke, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Mrs. Ho Kom Tong and native servant, Master Tong, Master Tong, Mr. F. C. Travis, Mrs. Wong Kum Tuk and native servant, Mr. G. H. Umlsen Mrs. G. H. Umlsen, Mr. H. P. Wadman, Dr. F. Walker, Mrs. F. Walker, Miss M. Walker, Master B. Walker, Master C. Walker, Rev. W. D. Westervelt, Mrs. W. D. Westervelt, Dr. E. H. Woolsey, and Mr. S. F. Wright, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kawachi Maru*, for London via ports:—Mr. H. R. Hunt, Mrs. C. S. Lapraik, Mr. Geo. H. Wright, Mr. R. Masujima, Mr. G. Sakurai, Mrs. H. Muramatsu, Mr. G. Murota, Miss K. Okamura, Mr. C. F. Chase, Miss T Oyama, Mrs. S. Inomata, Mr. E. H. Witarne, Mr. Y. Shibata, Mr. G. Mochita, Mr. T. Tanekojima, and Mr. G. Shimada, in cabin; Mr. Y. Akiyoshi, Mr. K. Tozawa, Mr. T. Nakamura, Mrs. C. Tsutada, Mr. K. Tsutada, and Mr. S. Terada, in second class; 18, in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Aki Maru*, for Seattle:—Mr. S. Nakamura, Mr. S. E. Pratt, Mrs. E. Pratt, Mr. W. Dawson, Mr. A. Coutts, Mr. P. Kummell, Mr. J. Matsushima, Mr. W. F. Dannenberg, Mr. M. Kuga, Mr. A. Kitagaki, Dr. Wm. W. Cornish, Mrs. Cornish, Mr. H. Melladew, Mr. and Mrs. Patience, Miss Jardine, Mr. M. Kunogi, Mr. T. Favre, and Dr. W. J. Davies, in cabin; Mr. U. Sato, Mr. M. Ogawa, Mr. Y. Ogawa, Mr. T. Koma, Mr. T. Hirai, Mr. T. Takiyama, Mr. R. Kodama, Mr. K. Kadota. Mr. H. Koga, Mr. T. Murakami, Mr. T. Furuta, and Mr. K. Kumachiro, in second class; 67, in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. W. R. Bishop, Mr. John S. Bradstreet, Mr. B. B. Cook, Mr. E. E. Cosper, Mr. O. A. Currie, Rev. Frank Garrett, Mrs. Frank Garrett and 2 children, Mr. H. W. Getchell, Mr. Lloyd Goble, Mr. A. G. Gray, Mrs. A. G. Gray, Col. H. Landon, Mr. J. Mayor, Miss M. M. McDougell, Mr. F. A. Merrill, Mrs. E. A. Merrill, Mr. F. H. Moon, Rev. B. Perrer, Mr. W. S. Perry, Mrs. W. S. Perry, Miss C. Pfortner, Mr. Wm. H. Pinkerton, Mrs. C. Ramsay, Mrs. C. Richards, Miss M. Roach, Rev. M. Sole, Mr. R. E. Stallings, Mr. J. P. Trafton, Mr. F. Van Nuys, Mrs. Westerhouse, Mr. R. E. Whitney, and Capt. Berkeley C. Williams, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. S. Takagi, Master H. Tagaki, Mr. and Mrs. M. Takagi, Mr. R. Kan, Mr. H. Morita, Mr. A. S. Hay, Mr. T. Oka, Mr. B. A. Munster, Mr. C. W. Dickson, and Miss Poynton, in cabin; Mr. S. Kan, Mr. H. Yatabe, Mr. K. Matsumoto, Mrs. K. Sato, Master S. Sato, Master Sato, Mr. I. Kobayashi, Mr. C. Yokoyama, Mr. and Mrs. B. Ito, Mr. S. Takamasu, Mr. S. Matsumoto, Mr. S. Fuwa, Mr. Glameyer, and Mr. Salandt, in second class; 42, in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There are small sales and a better feeling prevails, especially in Fancy Cottons and Woollens, but no actual improvement can be reported.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirting—{40 yds. 36 in.}{50 yds. 36 in.}	PER YARD. 0.09 to 0.1
Grey Shirting—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	PER PIECE. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.25
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton Italians and Satteens...	0.29 to 0.40

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WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	¥.0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.30 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	¥. 140.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles	—
Nos. 32, Doubles	145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 42, Doubles	155.00 to 160.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	245.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	295.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	425.00 to 435.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling	Nominal. 31
Indian Broach	Nominal. 26
Chinese	Nominal. 23

METALS.

There is a moderate business in metals.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅝ inch and upward	¥.4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.10 to 11.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	6.90 to 7.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅜ to 1½ inch)	5.00 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

The market is weak.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.72
Langkat	2.40

SUGAR.

In Hongkong Refined there is absolutely nothing doing.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	¥.6.50 to 6.60
Brown Manila	6.00 to 7.10
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton	6.00 to 7.80
White Java and Penang	7.30 to 8.10
White Refined	8.80 to 11.40

INDIGO.

The indigo market continues dull.

	PICUL.
Java, Medium to best	280.00 to 330.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	200.00 to 285.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best	135.00 to 165.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best	100.00 to 140.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

News from America is not quite satisfactory and as holders are very firm, alleging slight shortness of the Japan crop, there is no business.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse	¥. —
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

WASTE SILK.

Still no business. Present stock is estimated at 1,550 piculs; Noshi 350 piculs, Kibiso 800 piculs, Sundries 400 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	—
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Second crop teas are coming in but it is not possible from them to predict the quality of later arrivals. Business is not brisk.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine	38 to 41
Good Medium	35 to 37
Medium	30 to 33
Good Common	27 to 29
Common	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 18.

London silver ⅛ lower and Hongkong sterling quotations ⅛ lower, but Shanghai is unchanged and local rates keep steady.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 15/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 15/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 13/16
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 3/16
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	263
— — 6 months' sight	264½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100.	82½*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	80*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	89½*
India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
America—Bank sight	50
— Private 30 days' sigh	50 3/16 @ ¼
— Private 4 months' sight	51 3/16 @ ⅜
Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214½
Bar Silver (London)	24 3/16

* Nominal.

SAVE YOUR HAIR

With Shampoos of Cuticura Soap and Light Dressings of Cuticura.

This treatment at once stops falling hair, removes crusts, scales, and dandruff, soothes irritated, itching surfaces, stimulates hair follicles, supplies the roots with energy and nourishment, and makes the hair grow upon a sweet, wholesome, healthy scalp when all else fails.

MILLIONS USE CUTICURA SOAP

Assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itchings, and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, and for all the purposes of the toilet, as well as by millions of women in the form of washes for ulcerative weaknesses, and many sanative, antiseptic purposes which readily suggest themselves to women and mothers.

COMPLETE TREATMENT FOR EVERY HUMOUR,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle; CUTICURA OINTMENT, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal; and CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure the most torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, and scaly skin, scalp, and blood humours, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney. British Depot: 27-28, Charterhouse Sq., London. French Depot: 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

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每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH, 1903.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Shinagawa electric tramway will be opened on July 1st.

TWO cases of suspected cholera appeared in Osaka on June 22nd.

THE Italian cruiser *Lombardia* arrived at Nagasaki on June 23rd from Chefoo.

THE steamer *Yeiko Maru* was launched from the Nagasaki Yard on June 22nd.

TWELVE hundred emigrants for Peru left Kobe by the steamer *Duke of Fife* on June 20th.

THE Emperor of Korea has conferred the third grade of the Rising Sun on Mr. Omiwa Chobei, of Osaka.

A CASE of dysentery was reported on June 20th at Noge-machi, Yokohama. The patient was removed to hospital.

ACCORDING to information from the purser of the steamer *Shinano Maru*, it is understood, says the *Asahi*, that the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's two Manila-Hongkong liners are now detained at the Hongkong Quarantine Station on the ground that plague patients have appeared on board both. The disease is raging in Hongkong and there are twenty or thirty victims every day.

A TERRIBLE hailstorm prevailed in parts of Ehime prefecture on June 22nd inflicting damage to fields and some injury to people.

S. MORI, living at Shintomi-cho, Tokyo, and a young woman committed suicide in a house of ill-fame at Susaki on June 21st by drinking poison.

THREE cases of gold bullion valued at *yen* 133,560, consigned to the Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited, arrived on June 22nd at Nagasaki from Shanghai.

THE boiler in the cocoon heating room of the Wakao filature exploded on June 21st, causing damage to the roof and other parts of the building. No one was hurt.

TRAFFIC between Hongo-Mori, 19 miles, Ranto-Otaru, 9 miles, and Yamamichi-Kumbbetsu, all branches of the Hokkaido Railway Company, commenced on June 27th.

A SERGEANT named Hatsushima, formerly belonging to an infantry regiment, was arrested on June 18th at Kokura on a charge having stolen *yen* 1,000 of military money.

STRAW-BRAID dealers throughout the Empire are about to organize a guild. The *Asahi* states that the promoters will hold a meeting, on June 25th, at Osaka to discuss preparations.

A CONVICT named T. Kaneko (26) absconded from the Yokosuka jail on June 22nd, at noon. He had been convicted of theft and sentenced to three years' imprisonment with hard labour.

DURING the thunderstorm in the evening of June 22nd in Hiki district, Saitama prefecture, a man named Y. Iketani, living at the village of Ikusa in the same locality, was killed by lightning.

S. WADA (26) employed by the branch of the Domestic Transport Co. at Yokohama, was arrested on June 22nd on a charge of having embezzled over *yen* 4,090 which the company should have paid to the customs as duty.

ACCORDING to news from Vienna, Princess Louise of Tuscany, formerly Crown Princess of Saxony, has asked the Emperor for permission to reside in Austria. His Majesty has given his consent on condition that she resides in a convent.

THE engineers and other workmen of the Sumida River Steamship Company, Tokyo, went on strike on the morning of June 22nd claiming an increase of wage and a yearly bonus, but they were all discharged, the company being able to find substitutes.

OWING to the troubles in Morocco, says a recent dispatch from Gibraltar, Spain has thrown up defences at Ceuta, a seaport in Morocco, belonging to Spain, and will ship thither six heavy guns which have been lying at Algeciras since the Spanish-American war.

A FANCY goods dealer, H. Sato by name (36), living at Nakamachi, Fukushima, has been sentenced in the District Court to a fine of *yen* 10,052, on a charge of infringing the playing card law. He sold over 2,600 sets of cards which did not bear the revenue stamp.

A CLERK of the Kita-Kambara county office, Niigata Prefecture, committed suicide by hanging himself with a cord on the night of June 20th. The cause is said to be temporary insanity. His younger brother committed suicide in the same way.

EARLY in the morning of June 19th a man armed with a sword entered the dwelling of a policeman named Funato, of the Sugita Station, Saitama, Saitama Prefecture, and demanded money and, being resisted, killed the officer. The murderer has not yet been arrested.

DR. SADAMOTO, a medical official attached to the Osaka Exhibition, was arrested on June 17th by the Nishi police. The charge is that he embezzled over *yen* 1,000 out of the funds to build the Osaka Charity Hospital which were contributed by the public.

IT is reported from Brussels that M. Capazza, the Belgian aëronaut, is building an air ship in which he will attempt to cross the Atlantic from Lisbon to Buenos Ayres in the spring of 1904. It is stated that M. Beclus, the French geographer, and others will accompany him.

A FARMER named Y. Isshiki, living at the village of Sakuragi, Ehime prefecture, murdered an innkeeper, his mother, wife and younger brother on June 21st. The offender is still at large. The weapon used was a hatchet. The cause of the tragedy is said to be jealousy.

ON the morning of June 20th a lighter loaded with 25 tons of manganese ore, from the Ishikawa godown, belonging to Messrs C. Illies and Co., No. 54, sank on her way to the steamer *Macduff*. B. Nagai, the man in charge, was rescued by a steam launch which was passing. The cause is said to have been a leak.

A STEERAGE passenger on the steamer *Third Kyodo Maru* jumped into the sea with her baby, on June 20th, off Numashima, Awa province, on the trip between Osaka and Tokushima. The bodies are missing. Her name is given as Shin Morimura (33) and she lived at Masago-cho, Hongo, Tokyo. The cause of the suicide is not reported.

EVIDENCE given at the Marine Court of Inquiry in Shanghai with regard to the stranding of the *Pembrokeshire* seems to have shown that there was a strong set of currents on the night in question. It was found that the ship was properly navigated and the Captain was exonerated. It is stated that the steamer goes to Nagasaki for repairs.

THE Yokohama Fire and Transport Insurance Co. held a general half-yearly meeting on June 21st and reported the half-yearly net profit to be *yen* 380,936.82. Out of this amount, *yen* 30,000 was added to the legal reserve, *yen* 8,427.30 to the special reserve to maintain the value of bonds owned by the company, *yen* 217,509.52 was carried over to the next account, and *yen* 125,000 is to be paid as a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

EARLY in the morning of June 18th a man whom two policemen were about to examine at Nedzu, Tokyo, in consequence of suspicious behaviour, assaulted both of them with a dagger, inflicting serious injuries. The officers, however, were able to arrest him with some assistance. On investigation, it was found that he had entered the dwelling of an official in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce at Hongo half an hour before and stolen a silver watch and over *yen* 3, threatening the family with the dagger.

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CHINESE NEWS.

Friday, June 19.

The question of the transferring to Peking the locus of the negotiations in the matter of the revised commercial treaties, continues to be perplexing. Correspondents are careful to represent the change as calculated in some way to promote Russian interests, but since Russia is now the butt of every newsmonger's suspicions, this charge against her need not be received without reserve. One may assume that she is desirous of preventing the opening of Manchuria to foreign trade, but assuredly if the Powers submit to her dictation in such a matter they will merit all the consequences of their weakness.

M. Lessar has the reputation of being a remarkably able diplomatist. Apparently he is justifying this verdict by his conduct in Peking. Reports say that since his return to that city, although his hand has been very little *en evidence*, he has managed to establish relations of confidence with many of the most influential Chinese officials, and has presented for their inspection such a view of the Manchurian problem that their sometime alarm has been succeeded by a mood of grateful complaisance, and Prince Ching, instead of troubling himself to the point of illness by listening to and ruminating on the sinister predictions of the British and Japanese Representatives, is leaving these officials severely alone and basking in the sunshine of Russian assurances. Prince Ching's standard of diplomatic integrity is not very high. That was proved by his procedure in the matter of Germany and the Yangtse Valley, on which occasion the British Government administered to him a reproof which no Foreign Minister in any other country could have survived. It is quite on the cards that he should spring an interesting surprise upon England, Japan and America one of these fine days. In that case, M. Lessar at any rate will deserve to be congratulated. Indeed, though we should be sorry to see the Russian diplomatist succeed in any of the designs attributed to him, we can not but pay a tribute of high admiration to the courage and patriotism which nerve him to toil for his country's sake at the expense of a frame already wasted by mortal sickness.

The *Asahi's* Peking correspondent wires that Russia objects to the present Taotai of Mukden, because of his want of knowledge of foreign affairs, and says that she has applied for his replacement by Li, now Taotai of Newchwang, who has the honour of being known as the "Muscovite dog."

Various stories continue to arrive from the region of the Yalu. The most piquant is a statement, coming from several sources, to the effect that the Russians are levying transit dues from any timber-rafts going down the river, except, of course, those in the hands of Russian subjects. As for the rafts, or raft, said to have been seized by them a few days ago, the Russian Representative on being applied to, is reported to have ordered its restoration. But we hear nothing about the restoration of the two unfortunate Chinese who were shot. Apparently a Chinese and Japanese Company is engaged in lumber work in the same field as the Russians, so we shall probably hear a good many tales from the Yalu in "the immediate future."

Saturday, June 20.

An impression has prevailed for some time that the Japanese Government's attitude towards the Manchurian problem is one of *insouciance*, and the idea was certainly not contradicted by the evidence of events. Whether such has been the case we do not undertake to say, but it would seem that now at all events Japan has stepped actively into the field, for she is pressing strongly in Peking for the opening of Mukden and Tatung-kou to foreign trade. Great Britain is adopting the same line, but according to a telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo*, published on the morning of the 20th inst., Prince Ching, though he had made an appointment to meet the British Chargé d'Affaires, failed at the eleventh hour to keep the engagement. and there is said to be some excitement in British circles in consequence. China appears to be opposing the opening of any new marts in Manchuria on the plea that the time is not suitable. If she is taking that line, the only intelligent interpretation of her conduct is that she prefers a Russian occupation of Manchuria to the admission of foreigners in general. Of course there is just a possibility that she still entertains the fatuous idea of recovering the region from Russia by pursuing a line of least resistance to the latter's demands. But we place more credit than that in Chinese shrewdness. At all events it is a manifest discrimination to the prejudice of treaty Powers other than Russia that she should have free access to all the principal towns of Manchuria, as she has at present, while American citizens and British and Japanese subjects are excluded.

The *Jiji* and the *Asahi* both publish telegrams from Peking to the effect that the present Chinese Representative in Tokyo is about to be replaced by Mr. Yang Shu, who formerly held the post of Chinese Consul in Yokohama and subsequently served as secretary of Legation. Mr. Yang is now a Taotai.

Sunday, June 21.

The ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung and Viceroy Yuan are said to have memorialized the Throne in the same sense as Prince Ching with regard to the opening of new marts in Manchuria. They both oppose the measure but their reasons differ from those of Prince Ching. The latter is said to be influenced by apprehension of provoking Russian hostility should he accede to a proposal which she opposes. But Chang and Yuan maintain that it would be futile to open new marts at the instance of Powers which have not even succeeded in inducing Russia to restore the administrative authority in Newchwang, though the latter has long been an open port. The two Viceroys are said to have asked what England, Japan and America could be expected to accomplish if their demand for new ports were conceded.

Prince Ching's diplomatic ailments are beginning to excite surprise. Having refused, on the plea of illness, to receive Mr. Uchida, Japan's Representative, he gave an interview the next morning—we quote from the *Jiji's* correspondence—to the British Chargé, who found the Prince in robust health.

On the occasion of the above interview, Prince Ching is said to have told Mr. Townley that negotiations with M. Lessar were progressing, and that an arrangement satisfactory to all the Powers would soon be concluded. The correspondent of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, alleges that Prince Ching is entirely under the thumb of Russia and that a convention has already been concluded.

In consequence of objections formulated by England and America, the Chinese Government appears to have abandoned the idea of transfering the commercial-treaty negotiations to Peking.

It is reported that the Governor of Sinkiang (in Ili) recently asked the Throne for permission to borrow a million taels, the money to be applied to purposes of military re-organization. Inquiries made in Shanghai disclosed the fact that the Russo-Chinese Bank had expressed its entire willingness to lend the money.

It is contended by a local contemporary, we observe, that the making of a secret convention by Japan with Russia on the subject of Manchuria and Korea would not constitute an act of *mala fides* on Japan's part, since her treaty of alliance with England merely provides that she shall not enter into separate arrangements, without consulting her ally, to the prejudice of the interests defined in the treaty. Our contemporary also seems to charge us with not welcoming a compact which would promote peace. There is no use in discussing the terms of the alleged convention for we regard the whole affair as a mere canard. But we may explain what we meant in speaking of bad faith, namely, to record our conviction that in view of the relations between Japan and Great Britain, each country is morally bound to consult the other before entering into an agreement with a third party on the subject of Korea and Manchuria. That applies to England just as much as to Japan. The sensational journal by which the canard was invented and promulgated, predicted that the British Minister would be the first to hasten to the Foreign Office in Tokyo when he learned of the convention, and in view of that assertion we said, and now repeat, that the story impugned Japan's good faith.

In connexion with the news that a Russian ex-official, not belonging to the Imperial Chinese Customs, has been appointed to be superintendent of customs at Dalny, the *Asahi Shimbun* writes in a determined tone. It interprets this incident as an element of Russia's programme, which is to impose restrictions upon foreign trade with Manchuria and make discriminations in favour of her own trade. The Powers can not submit to anything of that kind, says the *Asahi*. They must insist upon their treaty rights. But when all is said, we arrive at the bed-rock fact that so long as Russia does not abandon the military occupation of Manchuria, the interests of other Powers must continue to be imperilled. What has to be done then, is to get her out of Manchuria.

We refer to this article, not because it contains anything novel, but because it indicates that Japanese public opinion is not getting reconciled to the situation.

Tuesday, June 23.

The Russians are said to have intimated to the *Chi-hsien* of Kinchow that they are about to send a detachment of a hundred men to Kinchow, and as the force will remain there for 10 days, the *Chi-hsien* is advised to issue proclamation in that sense. That is a curious bit of news. The Kinchow in question is not the place of that name *en route* for Shan-hai-kwan. It is Kinchow in the Liaotung Peninsula, the scene of the first brush between the Chinese and Japanese forces after the latter's landing at Pit-se-wo. We should have supposed that considering Russia's position in Liaotung and her general assumption of military authority in Manchuria, she would not have thought it necessary to give any such notice.

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The long-prayed-for rain began to fall in Chili on the evening of the 20th instant, to the great relief of the farmers, who had commenced to anticipate a dire state of affairs. It would seem that Viceroy Yuan organized some special system of soliciting rain during the three days prior to the happy event, so the superstition about heaven's interference in such matters and incidentally the public's confidence in the Viceroy will be confirmed.

It is stated (*Jiji's* correspondence) that the Government in Peking has received definite intelligence of the complete quelling of the insurrection in Yunnan. This, of course, does not include the trouble in Kwangsi, of which nothing seems to be heard for the moment.

Wednesday, June 24.

The interview, previously announced as pending between Prince Ching and Mr. Uchida, Japan's Representative in Peking, is said to have taken place on the 22nd, but its only results were to furnish information that the Prince is in excellent health and that he is not disposed to say anything definite at present about arrangements with Russia. Mr. Uchida urged the rejection of Russia's demands about Manchuria, and the opening of several new marts in that district. But it is not unlikely that Chinese statesmen have by this time come to a definite conclusion about the probable consequences of rejecting the counsels of Great Britain and Japan and acceding to the demands of Russia, in part at any rate. In the days when China had no barometer to indicate the nature of the storm likely to be raised by a certain line of policy, she was much easier to deal with than she is now when several far-seeing and shrewd foreigners of various nationalities place their acumen at her service. She doubtless thinks that the aggressive punishment likely to be inflicted on her by England, Japan and America should she decline to assert herself against Russian encroachment in deference to their advice, will be a trifling matter compared with the penalty exacted by the Great Northern Power.

Thursday, June 25.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* confirms the intelligence already published by the *Jiji Shimpo*. Its Peking correspondent wires that a secret treaty was concluded between M. Lessar and Prince Ching five days ago; that the treaty embodied four articles; that having been submitted to St. Petersburg and approved, its signature is expected to take place immediately, and that no doubts whatever are entertained in Peking on the subject.

The correspondent adds that Japan's prestige has been greatly impaired by the event and that she is becoming more and more a neglected quantity in Far-Eastern international affairs. We do not see, however, why such a criticism should be more applicable to Japan than to Great Britain and even to the United States, for all three have been equally conspicuous in opposing Russia's acquisition of special privileges in Manchuria.

But what remains to be seen is whether the alleged "Four Articles" are really so objectionable from the point of view of the advocates of China's integrity and the open door. It is evidently foolish to fall into a ferment until we have some definite news on that subject.

Prince Ching's position is peculiar. There appears to be very little doubt that as late as the 22nd instant he assured the Japanese Representative that no secret treaty had been negotiated or would be negotiated with Russia. Yet if the latest news be correct, the treaty was then five days old. The extraordinary duplicity shown by Prince Ching on the occasion of Germany's attempt to acquire a special *status* in the Yangtse Valley, and the unprecedented rebuke addressed on that occasion by the British Government to China, are fresh in every one's mind. Has the Prince repeated that manœuvre? All things considered, it really seems likely that this Manchurian question will go down in the pages of history with an embroidery of deceptions too splendid to be appreciated by ordinary people.

But we must not jump to conclusions too readily. Up to noon on the 24th no official intimation of the signing of such a treaty had been received in Tokyo. Can this silence be reconciled with the hypothesis of a *fait accompli*? We do not think so.

It is stated (*Asahi's* Tientsin correspondent) that Russia is engaged constructing a light line of railway for the conveyance of goods only between Mukden and Kiu-lien-ching, also that she is engaged carrying large quantities of timber from Vladivostock to Niu-Kia-tung, whence it is to be distributed to railway-building centres. How these things are to be reconciled with any intention of evacuating Manchuria, we do not see. Above all significant is the news published in Tokyo on the 23rd instant, to the effect that having failed to obtain any reply from China with regard to an application for a twenty-five years' lease of land on the northern bank of the Yalu, Russia is now treating the land as though she held it under the desired lease. Whatever St. Petersburg may say, these concrete evidences of expansion and occupation are not to be gainsaid.

It would seem that the Chinese Government is becoming disturbed about the liberal tendencies of the rising generation. Instructions are said to have been sent from Peking to Shanghai and Nanking for the arrest of two of the most prominent among the youthful politicians, and in consideration of a report from His Excellency Mr. Tsai, with reference to the organization of a volunteer corps by the Chinese students in Tokyo, Mr. Wang, the Superintendent of Studies in Japan, is believed to have received special instructions for checking this assertive tendency.

The *Takachiho* and the *Miyako* arrived at Hankow on the 22nd instant.

Friday, June 26.

A telegram to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* from its Peking correspondent suggests that the Manchurian question is approaching a comparatively satisfactory solution. Seeing that any attempt to press demands such as the public have hitherto attributed to her would seriously offend the other Powers, Russia has shown herself willing to make an arrangement which, while free from any markedly objectionable features, will save her from the appearance of failure, and China, on her side, is prepared to make some concessions to the gravity of the situation. Hence it is anticipated that an agreement will be concluded, providing for a Russian sanitary office in Newchwang, for the management of the Newchwang customs by the Russo-Chinese Bank, and for the avoidance of any hasty reform of the system of administration in Manchuria. The first of these stipulations is a little farcical, it must be admitted, for unless Russia proposes to keep troops in Newchwang, the sanitation of the place has small concern for her, certainly far less than it has for England, America or Japan. Nevertheless sanitation is a matter of the most pressing importance in the case of a city frequented by Chinese, and it may be that Russia is about to constitute herself health-officer on frank behalf of all nationals. But why should the Customs be managed by the Russo-Chinese Bank? What use is to be made of the power thus ceded to Russia?

The *Asahi's* Peking news, dated the 24th instant, seems to lend some colour to the above. It says that the Empress Dowager conveyed to Ku Fun-ki, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, through her favourite eunuch Li Lien-yang, an intimation that for the sake of an amicable settlement some clauses among the Russian demands might be conceded, but that the utmost secrecy must be observed in conducting and concluding negotiations so as to avoid complications with other Powers. This decision having been conveyed to ex-Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, he is said to have declared that if such were the will of the Throne, nothing more remained to be said, but that, for his own part, he had done his duty in seeking to convey a clear idea of Chinese public sentiment to Their Majesties.

NEW MAYOR OF TOKYO.

June 23.

There has been some excitement in Tokyo about the election of a new Mayor in succession to Mr. Matsuda Hideo. The citizens are divided into three parties and considerable competition was expected. But at a meeting of representatives of the three sections on the 21st instant, the name of Mr. Ozaki Yukio was found in the lists of nominees put forward by all parties alike, and it was therefore decided that he should receive their support. The two names next in order were Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune and Mr. Obata Tokujiro. Doubtless Mr. Ozaki will be elected if he consents to serve. He seems to have declined at first, but his reluctance was due to an apprehension that the election might be disfigured by political disputes, and that some conditions might be imposed on his own procedure in office. Re-assured as to both these points he is fully expected by accede.

June 24.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio has agreed to serve as Mayor of Tokyo if elected, as he is pretty sure to be. The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a leading article about the mayoralty. We learn from it that there was some intention of having a nobleman for Mayor, but that in view of the many Municipal enterprises now awaiting consummation, it was ultimately thought better to have a working official unconnected with any political party. The *Jiji* does not express any direct approval of Mr. Ozaki's appointment, but its comments may be read in that sense.

June 26.

The result of the election for Mayor of Tokyo was that Mr. Ozaki Yukio secured 46 votes; Mr. Komuchi Tomotsune, 30; and Mr. Obata Tokujiro, 29. The position of Assistant was again secured by Mr. Maruyama Keisei with 32 votes. It was further resolved to send a letter of thanks together with a present of 16,550 *yen*, to Mr. Matsuda Hideo, the former Mayor.

Sir Claude MacDonald, British Minister, says the *Asahi*, gave on June 22nd at 7 p.m. a dinner to Prince and Princess Arisugawa, Marquis Ito, Baron Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and other high officials and military officers.

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KOREA.

Saturday, June 20.

Meanwhile wires from Yong Am-pho are said to represent the state of affairs in that town as going from bad to worse, which means, we presume, that the Russians are assuming the overlordship of the place in an increasingly practical manner. Accepting as true even a fraction of the rumours that have reached us, this business is one of the most magnificently audacious examples of international trespass on record. We wonder how Russia would behave were she confronted with activity at all resembling her own. Suppose, for example,—and the supposition is quite within the bounds of reason—suppose that some adventurous Japanese were to select Kiu-lien-ching as a point essential to the prosperous development of the lumber trade on the Yalu, and were to proceed thither, in Yong-Am-pho fashion "arms and the man," quietly forming a settlement and snapping their fingers at all the *conveniances*. Russia would clear them out very quickly, unless Japan forestalled her in doing so, and the latter is what would happen, for Japan dare not risk her international reputation by acts of piratical trespass such as Russia performs with impunity.

It is stated that Great Britain and Japan have despatched officials to inspect the state of affairs at Yong Chhyong and Yong Am-pho, and to make a report. That is an old story. Great Britain and Japan were long ago said to have done so, and we believe that they did. Moreover, it is alleged in well informed quarters that the British observer's report contained some instructive revelations. He apparently attached small importance to the timber-felling occupation as a commercial venture, being disposed rather to regard it as a blind for designs of a less innocent nature. He also found Russian soldiers undisguised in Kiu-lien-ching, and disguised elsewhere if not everywhere. Perhaps some of our readers may not be familiar with Kiu-lien-ching. It was a word much on men's lips in the autumn of 1894, for in crossing the Yalu from Wiju to the Manchurian side *via* the island that lies midway in the river, the first Manchurian town reached is this Kiu-lien-ching, and the Japanese troops had some difficulty in capturing it by way of preliminary to unmolested passage of the river. It is not within the compass of ordinary intelligence to conceive any rational connexion between the posting of a Russian military detachment at Kiu-lien-ching and the felling of timber by Russian concessionaries at Musan or even Peng-ma. In fact, the precautions which Russia has apparently taken to protect this lumber enterprise against imaginary molestation are certainly most adequate.

Monday, June 22.

The affair of the bomb which failed to hurt its intended victim, Li Yong-ik, is reported to have caused a strong anti-Japanese feeling in Seoul. Apparently the director of the hospital where the incident occurred is a Japanese subject, and attempts are being made to hold him responsible.

It is reported from the Yalu region that the timber-rafts of the Japanese-Korean Company are escaping Russian interference by hoisting the Japanese flag. Rafts in possession of Chinamen are compelled to pay transit dues to the Russians.

The Russian Representative in Seoul has complained, it is said, that his nationals in Yong Am-pho are not receiving kindly treatment at the hands of the Korean local officials and people. He thinks that unless a more courteous attitude be adopted, the relations of the two countries may be impaired. If that story be true it is very entertaining.

Tuesday, June 23.

The Russian Representative in Seoul is stated (*Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent) to have addressed a communication to the Korean Government on the 13th instant. He affirmed, first, that the Korean contention as to Russia having no right to fell timber along the Yalu was untenable in the face of the second Article of the Concession, where it was laid down that the system inaugurated for lumber enterprise on the Tumen should be applicable to the Yalu also. Secondly, that with regard to the attempt made by the Korean authorities to distinguish between the upper and the lower reaches of the Yalu, no such distinction could be reconciled with the Russian version of the Concession, where it was distinctly provided that both reaches alike were included, there being a further provision that in case of dispute the Russian text should be final. Finally, the Korean Government had expressed a desire to send a joint commission of delimitation to the Yalu for the purpose of fixing the places that might be included in the Concession, but the Concession itself contained no clause to that effect, and further, in erecting buildings for the better prosecution of the enterprise, the Russians were merely following the routine already adopted by them on the Tumen. The Minister added that his desire being to prevent all misunderstandings he had despatched the Russian Consul from Chemulpo to the Yalu region, and he now suggested that the Korean local officials should be instructed to confer with the Consul so as to arrive at an amicable arrangement.

The Koreans in Seoul continue to be much excited, or to simulate much excitement, about the bomb affair. Several memorials are reported to have been sent to the Authorities demanding that the hospital faculty shall be held responsible, and steps are being taken to organise demonstrations. The *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent denies that all this commotion is due in any sense to sympathy with Li Yong-ik against whose life the bomb was said to have been directed. It is rather a political move devised by the pro-Russian, and therefore anti-Japanese, party.

The sensitiveness or emotionalism of the Seoul populace when any question of home politics comes on the *tapis* seems to contrast in a marked manner with their indifference in matters of foreign politics. We do not learn that the Peddlars' Guild or any other busy patriots are giving themselves the slightest ostensible concern about the incidents occuring on the Yalu, but they are quick to fall into a ferment about an affair which promises to furnish material for one of the conspiracies apparently so congenial to Korean disposition. Whatever may be Seoul's other characteristics it is certainly a splendid place for intrigue.

Wednesday, June 24.

Peking sends word that Russia is now seeking in Seoul a twenty-five years' lease of certain lands on the Chinese side of the Yalu. She has a ninety-nine years' lease in Liaotung, but considering the rapidity of her eastwards and southwards expansion, a quarter of a century is quite long enough for all her purposes. If this news be true it is exactly what we have anticipated from the first. The timber-felling concession did not seem a very formidable enterprise at the outset, from an imperial point of view, but considered as the preface to a Russian lodgment on the Yalu its importance could scarcely be over-estimated.

The Peddler' Guild continue the agitation against the notes of the First Bank. They have distributed circulars to all the trading centres throughout the country calling upon the people to reject the notes. We learn further that the agitation with reference to the attempt upon Li Yong-ik's life has not subsided. The hospital where the bomb exploded is a Japanese institution, and the enemies of this country have seized the occasion to foment an anti-Japanese campaign. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent denies that these movements connected with the bomb and the banknotes are inspired officially or approved by the people. They have their origin solely in the activity of the pro-Russian cabal.

The *Asahi's* correspondent telegraphs from Chemulpo that owing to the large export of rice from Korea last year and to a brisk demand for the staple at present, prices have suddenly risen and the market is in a very disturbed state.

Thursday, June 25.

With reference to the efforts made by the Peddlars' Guild to prevent the circulation of notes issued by the First Bank, the *Asahi's* Seoul correspondence says that what the Guild does is to threaten confiscation of any notes found in the hands of the people. On the 22nd instant, in consequence of these menaces, four thousand *yen* worth of notes were presented for exchange at the Bank and fourteen thousand are said to have been refused in the town. The Japanese Representative has addressed a remonstrance to the Korean Government on the subject. Korea is now bound by treaty to permit the circulation of these notes, and it is evident that such lawless proceedings as those of the Peddlars' Guild can not be permitted for a moment.

Friday, June 26.

The Japanese Minister in Seoul appears to be taking very active steps with reference to the illegal interference organized by the Peddlars' Guild and others in the matter of the circulation of Japanese banknotes. He is said to have officially informed the Korean Government that inasmuch as no efficient measures of prevention or restraint have resulted from his previous representations, he will be obliged to adopt such a course as may seem advisable to him in the event of this lawless conduct continuing, and that he will feel obliged to hold the Government responsible for any losses caused by the interrupted circulation of the notes.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent wires that the total value of the notes presented for exchange at the agency of the First Bank in Seoul or refused at the stores in consequence of the action of the Peddlars' Guild, amounted to over sixty thousand *yen* between the 22nd instant and noon on the 24th. The figure for the forenoon of the 24th was ten thousand, so that there is no appearance of any cessation of the agitation or any diminution of its effects.

LOST PROPERTY.

The Kagacho Police have found two gold watches. One, to which a gold chain was attached, was picked up in the road in China town on June 24th, and the other in the public garden on the 22nd. An air pump for inflating bicycles was also found on the 24th in China town.

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THE MEMORIAL OF THE SEVEN PROFESSORS.

It has already been stated in these columns that at the commencement of the present month seven Professors of the Imperial University addressed to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs a memorial on the Manchurian question. The memorialists have now published the document, their alleged reason for doing so being that portions having been already published without their permission, and a wrong impression having thus been conveyed, they feel justified in making known the whole. The document sets out by insisting on the importance of not following a policy of drift and not allowing occasions to slip by. As illustrations the memorialists urge that had the rendition of the Liaotung Peninsula been made the occasion for demanding from China a pledge that the region should never be alienated, there would not now be any Manchurian problem. Again, when Germany with an utterly paltry force and without any assistance, seized Kiaochow, a determined protest on Japan's part would have completely changed the aspect of affairs. Finally, when an agreement was made as to the withdrawal of the troops from North China, Manchuria was not included in its scope and thus the present complications arose. If the same policy of neglect be pursued now, China, Japan and Korea will never be able to raise their heads again, and an everlasting calamity will be brought upon this empire. The Professors then go on to insist that Russia's aggressive progress in Eastern Asia is continuous and uninterrupted, and that the longer it is left unchecked, the more difficult it will be to check. The only satisfactory point in the situation is that just at present Japan's armaments are more or less superior to those of Russia in this part of the world. This superiority, however, will not last for more than a year. The details, being secret, are not published by the memorialists, but they claim to have fully investigated them. Russia can not be supposed to have entire confidence at present in her ability to defeat Japan in war; nevertheless she is showing her contempt for treaties; she is inciting the Manchurian free booters; she is sending troops under disguise into Korea; she is attempting to obtain leases of lands in the peninsular empire; she is behaving there as though Korea were not an independent State. If such is her conduct in these days of uncertain military preponderance, what may be expected of her when she feels herself altogether superior in the matter of armaments? And if she becomes mistress of Manchuria, how can she be kept out of Korea, and if she becomes mistress of Korea, what will be her next objective? The sum of the matter is that if the Manchurian problem be not satisfactorily solved, neither will the Korean; and if not the Korean, then neither will the Japanese. This is the time. Japan has the position and she has the men. Some folks say that the utmost circumspection is required in foreign affairs; that the attitude of each Power must be accurately determined beforehand. That is true. But in the present case, China's attitude is known. So are the attitudes of Germany and France, for although they will not favour Japan, neither will they join Russia at the cost of having to face England. As for the United States, it merely wants the open door in Manchuria, and it will not take part in any struggle for the sovereignty of the district. Hence England alone remains to be considered. Her treaty of alliance binds her to an attitude of neutrality in case Japan is confronted by one Power only. For the rest, the complications of the past two months should have furnished ample opportunity to test her disposition. If time is to be lost in further consultations with her, it will be very regrettable. The memorialists then deal with the policy of an exchange between Korea and Manchuria, which they condemn as totally unwise. They contend that the two problems must be treated independently. They further insist upon the lawlessness of Russia's failure to withdraw her troops, and point out that a mere transfer of her forces from one part of the region to another is in no sense a withdrawal. Quoting the treaty they show that it is plainly violated by the present situation and that Russia has never acquired any conventional right to place military guards along her lines of railway.

The names of the signatories are Professors Tomizu, Tomii, Terao, Kanai, Takahashi, Nakamura and Onozuka.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writes a strong condemnation of Professor Tomizu and his six colleagues who recently addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs a remonstrance against Japan's pacific attitude and a declaration that whereas she could fight Russia now with good hopes of success, she will not be able to do so ten years hence. It will be readily supposed that these professors are earnestly reminded by our contemporary of what they owe to their position and of the responsibilities attaching to men of admitted learning. Having warned them in that sense the *Nichi Nichi* then asks how they can have arrived at the conclusion that Japan will be comparatively weaker a few years hence than she is now. Russia would require 58 days under existing circumstances to concentrate in Manchuria a hundred thousand out of the two hundred and eighty thousand men that she has eastward of Moscow. When her lines of railway are doubled and all her preparations complete, she will be able to perform that feat in 22 days. But Japan in half the time could throw at least as large an army upon any point in Far Eastern Asia. Apart from these comparisons, too, there is the general question, what would be the limitations of such a war. The whole of Eastern Asia would be involved; the cost in life and treasure would be enormous, and the result, even supposing Japan victorious, must be very inconclusive. If these learned men who talk of plunging their country into such a vortex, would sit down and seriously consider practical probabilities, their belligerent mood might be softened. They are understood to hold, too, that in forming and acting upon her decision Japan might proceed quite independently of England, since neither of the signatories of the treaty of alliance is bound to interfere on the other's behalf unless the latter be attacked by two Powers. As to that the *Nichi Nichi* quotes the 5th Article of the Treaty, which says:—"When Japan or Great Britain shall have recognised that the aforesaid interests are imperilled, the Governments of both these Treaty Powers shall mutually and fully inform each other without reserve." If one of the two Powers deemed that the interests in question were imperilled to the point of requiring a declaration of war, and yet refrained from consulting with the other Power beforehand, the terms of this Article could scarcely be said to have been observed.

A COUNCIL IN THE PALACE.

Tokyo journals state that an important council of leading Japanese statesmen took place in the Palace on the 23rd instant. There were present Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Oyama, Count Inouye, Count Matsukata, Count Katsura, Baron Komura and Admiral Yamamoto. The Council took place at 9.20 a.m. and lasted until 2 p.m., the members lunching with His Majesty. At 4 p.m. a Cabinet Council was held. Nothing is known of what passed at these meetings, but in view of the hazardous condition of foreign politics, it is apparently conjectured that the Manchurian question was the topic of discussion.

The recent meeting of leading Japanese statesmen at the Palace, and the subsequent consultations of the Cabinet have naturally given rise to many conjectures. What transpired is secret, but the general impression seems to be that a decision was formed in the sense of addressing Russia direct. Japan will continue to pursue the route to an amicable settlement as far as possible, and her appeal to Russia will be animated by that sentiment. But she will not sacrifice any of her rights or interests, and should her negotiations in St. Petersburg fail to secure a satisfactory result, nothing will remain but the last resource. That appears to be the interpretation put by the public upon the present attitude of Japanese statesmen, as fixed at the important councils referred to above, but we need scarcely remind our readers that officialdom in Japan knows well how to hold its tongue, and that with the exception of what it wishes to be known, very little ever is known. For our own part, we do not believe that the Government has yet adopted the resolve attributed to it, or that it will prefer any direct remonstrance to Russia pending the result of the Peking negotiations. The Chinese statesmen are probably not so weak as popular rumour represents them to be, but should they, in the face of the remonstrances of the allies, conclude any agreement injurious to Japan's interests, the Tokyo Cabinet will not hesitate, we imagine, to carry its protest to St. Petersburg and to maintain it by whatever methods the dignity of this country demands. We believe the responsible officials to be fully sensible of the gravity of the crisis, but they will not expose their own procedure to the reproach of precipitancy.

The usually moderate peace-promoting *Kokumin Shimbun* writes in a strain decidedly significant. It rejoices that the sentiment of the people at large has made itself appreciated by those entrusted with the administration of the nation's affairs. The present condition, it says, is simply one of armed truce. It is as though the country were living on the edge of an active volcano. Men can not possibly devote themselves to pursuits demanding peace and tranquility for their successful prosecution. Possibly the counsels of the seven professors may be thought too strong, but as to the truly patriotic spirit of their utterancee there can be no doubt. The responsibility for causing the present state of affairs rests solely with Russia, but she can not be left to solve the difficulty while others look on calmly. Japanese statesmen have their duty to perform. Speaking broadly, Japanese public opinion is divided into three sections. First there are those that frankly advocate war. Their view is scarcely reconcilable with the dictates of modern civilization.

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Then there are those that demand a settlement of the problem on lines that will secure the protection of Japan's rights and interests, will prevent Russia from disturbing the world's peace, will preserve the tranquillity of the Far East, and will promote the cause of the world's civilization. The exponents of this view do not advise war, but neither do they shrink from it if their objects be not otherwise attainable. That is the view of the *Kokumin* itself. Finally there are those that would leave everything unsettled and place their trust in time alone. Some such opportunists are to be found among the elder politicians. Their method would bequeathe a heavy debt to posterity. Excess, as the proverb says, is as bad as deficiency, but to be deficient is sometimes the more fatal of the two. This is the time for the nation to make up its mind, approaching the question with deliberation as cold as ice and resolution as firm as steel. If the Empire's interests in Manchuria be not asserted, it is to be feared that the scene of conflict will one day be changed to the Tsushima Strait, the Bakan Strait, or the Tsugaru Strait.

This is very plain speaking. It indicates, so far as the *Kokumin* is concerned, that the stage of drift has been passed, and that Japan is determined not to endure this crippling disquiet any longer. We can not see that in the history of modern times there has been any clearer case of undivided responsibility than that now furnished by Russia in Manchuria. But we still retain our confidence in Russia's desire to make an amicable settlement in the cause of civilized progress, one phase of which her expansion certainly represents.

The *Yomiuri* is not a good barometer of national sentiment at such a time as this. It incites rather than indicates. But it has its influence, and we may therefore mention that its utterances to-day are directed to proving that Japan's unfortunate disposition is to sacrifice the substance to the shadow, whereas Russia pursues precisely the opposite route.

The *Asahi Shimbun* shrewdly observes that it is hard for China's friends to preserve her integrity if she is bent upon breaking herself up. This comment is founded on the story of recent diplomatic doings in Peking, where Prince Ching seems to be showing the cold shoulder to England and Japan while treating secretly with Russia. Something of the kind was always to be apprehended, but the evil conjuncture has come more rapidly than the world anticipated. Should the event be in accord with present indications, there will be nothing for the other Powers to do except to preserve their equality of privileges by seeking corresponding concessions from China. The latter is preparing for herself a day of evil reckoning. Japan and England have exhausted their recommendations and arguments to the Chinese Government. All their efforts in that direction have been fruitless. Therefore the time has come to adopt a different line and China had better take note of the fact. Thus the *Asahi*.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Rumour again asserts that Baron Utsumi, Minister of State for Home Affairs, has determined to resign owing to ill-health. His illness assumed a severe character some months ago, and it was then supposed that he must give up his portfolio. Subsequently, however, he recovered sufficiently to resume his duties. But his medical advisers are said to be of opinion that he must take complete rest, and it is thought likely that he will obey their counsel.

THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The united Chambers of Commerce of Japan came into session in Osaka on the 19th instant and passed some important resolutions. In the first place they declared against the policy of reverting to domestic loans to meet expenditures on account of State enterprises. In the second, they urged the importance of obtaining the removal of restrictions upon the export of Chinese rice. And in the third they declared themselves frankly in favour of a system of protection. They condemn the method hitherto pursued in Japan, namely, the method of granting public aid to individuals only, and they advocate the adoption of protection for products. Speaking broadly they would impose duties on all foreign manufactures that compete with similar Japanese products in home markets, and they would afford facilities to Japanese manufactures that compete with foreign products in the markets of China, India and East Asia generally. The intention is to embody this policy in a representation to the Government, but by way of preliminary the Chambers have resolved to appoint a committee of investigation which shall conduct researches for the purpose of determining what articles are best adapted to receive protection and how the protection should be given.

We do not perceive that this question has more than academical interest at the present time, though it will have very vivid interest 8 years hence when Japan recovers her full tariff autonomy.

The full text of the protest made by the united Chambers of Commerce against the Government's financial policy has been published. From it we learn that what the Chambers would like best would be to see administrative economy conducted on a drastic scale, and the proceeds applied to promoting productive enterprises. But at any rate they strongly object to reverting to the loan system, and they urge the Treasury to undertake such retrenchments as will suffice for the purpose of naval increment without floating loans and without diverting funds from railway and telephone extension. They even go to the length of suggesting that some other source of revenue should be sought in preference, by which they mean, we presume, a tax on sugar or on silk stuffs. It certainly seems that the intelligent section of the public are opposed to the patch-work financial policy which the Government has been forced to adopt by way of compromise with the *Seiyu-kai*.

ELECTRIC RAILWAY CHARGES IN TOKYO.

The Directors of the Tokyo Densha Kaisha, that is to say of the horse-tram company which is now engaged in converting its system to electric traction, have applied for permission to raise their fares by one third; namely, to charge ■ *sen* per section as against 1½ *sen*, the present fare. This proposal is exciting a great deal of opposition in Tokyo. The fact is that the horse-trams have for many years held a monopoly of the cream of the Tokyo traffic, and have paid dividends ranging from 25 to 35 per cent. Such prosperity has roused the ire of the citizens, especially in consideration of the somewhat unsatisfactory nature of the accommodation furnished. Hence there is a strong objection to making any fresh concession in the matter of fares. The Directors of the Company point out that in connexion with the substitution of electric traction for horses they will have to treble the capital, and, according to the *Shogyo Shimpo*, they anticipate a reduction of their profits to 13 or 14 per cent., if present rates are maintained. The citizens retort that 13 or 14 per cent. ought to satisfy the shareholders and that the Company should take into account its prosperity in the past. With all deference to the citizens we regard such an argument as somewhat superfluous. The question should turn, not at all on what the Company has earned hitherto with the horse system, but solely on what it is fairly entitled to earn with electric traction; and to determine the latter point some reference should be made to the earnings of electric trams elsewhere in Japan and in foreign countries. It seems a reasonable supposition that if the Directors estimate a net income of 13 or 14 per cent. with the electric system, their figures will prove to be much under the mark; and it also seems a reasonable supposition that if they obtained a thoroughly adequate supply of rolling stock, they could greatly increase their takings. However, the main point is that their earnings in the past with a wretchedly equipped system and a proportionately small outlay of capital, should not be considered in connexion with their earnings under a new system, except in so far as the former supply data for estimating the probable number of passengers. Even there, too, the calculation must probably be corrected, for the Densha Kaisha will soon have rivals by whose vehicles a part of its customers will be drawn off. At present many people proceed from the neighbouring districts to Ginza for the express purpose of taking the only tram available. These folks will patronize a more accessible route as it becomes available. It may be doubted whether a charge of one half-penny (*2 sen*) per section is not as low a figure as any electric-tram company could be expected to charge, and if the citizens have hitherto been paying 1½ farthings for a seat in horse tram-cars, they really ought not to demur to the disbursement of another half farthing for the luxury of electric cars.

THE HOUSE TAX QUESTION.

It appears that another prolongation of the period for preparing the House-tax case has been asked for by Germany, France and Great Britain. According to the original agreement the time allowed was eight months from August 28th, 1902. At the request of the above three Powers this was extended to twelve months, and now a further extension of three months has been sought and granted. It is difficult to reconcile these repeated postponements with the extremely confident attitude of the opponents of the tax at the time when its levy was imminent. No condemnation was then too strong for those that asserted the justice of the tax. They were denounced as public enemies; their capacity to form an honest judgment was denied; the advice supposed to have been given by some of them to the Japanese Government was condemned as mischievous and self-seeking, and the Japanese Government itself was charged with taking a course almost inconceivably injudicious and improper. All this assurance must have had a very solid basis, one imagines. There ought to have been no difficulty in setting down forthwith and in a fully convincing form the arguments from which such absolute certainty was derived. But it would seem that when these confident people came to

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marshall their points, they found eight months insufficient; then twelve months proved too little, and now they want fifteen months. It is possible, of course, that as they proceeded with their demonstration they discovered "points" not previously suspected, and that they consequently became anxious to have full leisure for exploiting this unforeseen mine. Let us hope that such is the case, for the record now before us suggests that their original opposition to the tax was not founded on such clear and unequivocal proofs as the public were led to understand. In consequence of this last postponement, the arguments need not be handed in until November 28th, and as each side will then have 6 months to prepare a reply to the other's statement, we are brought to May, 1904. The tribunal assembles at soonest two months later to consider its judgment, and consequently the problem is not likely to be solved until the autumn of next year.

GENERAL KUROPATKIN.

Of course the Russian Minister of War foresaw, when he decided to prolong his stay in Japan, that he would afford much material for the manufacture of rumours. Japanese journals have a great deal to tell about him, or rather about his companions and staff, for the General himself seems to be remaining very quiet, occupying his time with his favourite amusement of fishing. We read in our contemporaries' columns that telegrams costing hundred of dollars are passing between Kobe and St. Petersburg, and that various visitings are taking place between Japanese officials and members of the Minister's suite. The impression conveyed by all these tales is that General Kuropatkin is engaged in something more important than diverting himself, and it can not be denied that his very leisurely sojourn in Japan contrasts curiously with the celerity that marked his movements *en route* for this country.

Tokyo journals—except the extremely yellow sheets—represent General Kuropatkin as despatching numerous telegrams to St. Petersburg, but nevertheless agree that his mission has no other purpose than to inspect and report upon the state of affairs in Japan. The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a letter—editorial we imagine—pointing out to the General that while Japan is most pacifically disposed, it would be a great error to imagine that her mind is not absolutely fixed upon two matters, namely the opening of Manchuria to the free trade of the nations, and the maintenance of the special influence which belongs to Japan in Korea from the points of view of history, of geography, of national defence and of economics.

General Kuropatkin, who was to have left Kobe on the 28th, and to have proceeded direct to Port Arthur, has hastened his departure. He embarked in the *Askold* on the 25th. This incident, too, has become a basis of disquieting conjectures, but the fact seems to be that the General decided suddenly to make a detour to Nagasaki, and for that reason changed the date for setting out from Kobe. Whatever the Russian Minister did was certain to evoke curious comment. Nothing puzzled the mystery-lovers so much as his fishing expeditions. They thought that in such untimely indulgences an affectation of *nonchalance* might be detected.

A NOTABLE BI-CENTENNIAL.

Sunday, June 28—June 17, Old Style—is the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of John Wesley. The event is to have world-wide recognition, not only by "the people called Methodists," but by many of the other evangelical denominations. This is eminently proper, for Wesley was one of the world's greatest benefactors and did a work that will endure as long as time shall last. A distinguished man recently pronounced him to have been "the greatest force of the eighteenth century," and there are many who believe he was "the greatest ecclesiastical character since the days of Paul or Jesus." His is one of the few names that shine the brighter as the years pass on.

John Wesley was the Founder of Methodism. But this was not the only work he did, neither was it his chief work. "The creation of a large, powerful, active sect," wrote Mr. Leckey, "was one of the consequences" of his labours; while the great historian, J. R. Green, says, "the Methodists themselves were the least result of the Methodist revival."

What were some of the other results of the labours of this eminent man?

(1) The quickening of the Dissenting Churches: Secular and Church history agree in the statement of Isaac Taylor that when Mr. Wesley began his work, the Dissenting Churches were at "very low ebb" and were tending rapidly "to be found in no place but in books." The same authority says the Wesleyan "revival preserved from extinction and reanimated the languishing nonconformity of the eighteenth century."

(2) The effect on the Church of England: One writer tells us that when Mr. Wesley began his ministry, the Anglican Church was a system under which the people of England "had lapsed into a state hardly to be distinguished from heathenism." Good old Bishop Burnet wrote of those times that "the clergy were under more contempt than those of any other Church in all Europe." Mr. Wesley was the instrument to change all this. Green says "the revival broke the lethargy of the clergy." "The whole spirit of the English church was gradually changed," wrote Mr. Leckey, "a new fire and passion of devotion being infused into it."

A clergyman of the Church of England, a philosophic author, is on record as saying, "The starting point of modern religious history dates from Mr. Wesley's work;" while another has written that Mr. Wesley "originated, or developed" nearly all the "great religious and philanthropic institutions which now chiefly embody the moral power of Protestantism," such as "the Bible Society, the Tract Society, the modern Missionary Society and the Sunday School."

(3) The moral uplift of England: "Englishmen of to-day can scarcely conceive of the state of public morals in Wesley's age," is the statement of a recent writer. It is unnecessary to present to the intelligent reader a picture of the awful moral degeneracy into which England had lapsed during the early days of the eighteenth century. This is a familiar subject to the student of the history and the literature of that period.

Mr. Wesley began his work about 1740 and the effects were almost immediate. E. W. Montague, who died in 1761, wrote in his autobiography that Wesley had "stemmed the tide" of degeneracy and introduced a better state of things. "These three kingdom," writes another contemporary of Wesley "have been pervaded by the influence of his ministry and by the ministry of those who have laboured with him in a manner that is astonishing. Its power has been felt not only in the cities, but even in smallest villages; it has even reached the bottom of the mines." Green, in his History of the English People, says, "In the nation at large appeared a new moral enthusiasm which . . . was seen in the disappearance of the profligacy which had disgraced the upper classes and the foulness which had affected literature ever since the Reformation." A more recent writer has said, "As since the days of Luther no Julius II, or Alexander Borgia has occupied the papal throne, so, in England, since the days of Wesley, Bishops have not had their card tables, or rectors and vicars their foxchases; no George the Second has wielded the scepter, no Walpole has been premier of the realm." These quotations might be multiplied indefinitely.

(4) The checking of the revolutionary and sceptical spirit: Mr. Wesley lived in a period of political, as well as of moral degeneracy. The opinions of the Encyclopedists, which "antagonized all government and tended to subvert the foundations of society" were being propagated. These opinions spread to nearly all of the nations of Europe and began rapidly to take root in English soil. "The extent to which they advanced in England can not be appreciated without extended study." Mr. Leckey calls attention to the influence of the Wesleyan revival in checking the growth of these revolutionary ideas. Historians generally agree with him. Green says "this was the noblest result of the Methodist Movement."

A member of the English Parliament has recently written thus of Mr. Wesley: "You cannot cut him out of the national life. No single figure influenced so many minds, no single voice touched so many hearts. No other man did such a life work for England." Robert Southey, generally rated as an unfriendly critic of Methodism, in a letter to Wilberforce, used the following language: "I consider Wesley the most influential mind of the last century, the man who will have produced the greatest effects centuries, or, perhaps, milleniums hence, if the present race of men should continue so long."

It is proper, eminently proper, that the bi-centennial of the birth of this great man should be celebrated by the Christian world. In some places, the event is to be commemorated by the erection of permament memorials to his memory. Your space will not permit of even an enumeration of the many plans that are now on foot to do him honour and to help carry on the great work that he began in the world.

AN ADMIRER OF WESLEY.

The following telegram, which appears in American papers just to hand, is very interesting when read in connection with the preceding article:—

St. Louis, May 9.

To make the bicentennial of the birth of John Wesley notable the board of missions now in session here yesterday decided to undertake the raising of $500,000 during the year to be used for home and foreign missions.

Committees were appointed to suggest plans for securing the amount for each branch of missions.

The routine business of the day was the consideration of the report of the committee on estimates.

Appropriations were made for carrying on missionary work in China, Japan, Cuba and Mexico.

Bishop Galloway of the Japan Conference and Dr. S. H. Wainwright, president of the school for high learning of Kobe, Japan, made addresses before the board.

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THE TOKYO STREET RAILWAY COMPANY.

The Tokyo Street Railway Company organized a celebration in one of its buildings in Yuraku-cho, Tokyo, on the 21st instant, in honour of the opening of its works. A large number of persons attended, including Mr. Asada, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Furuichi, Mr. Ooka and others. Mr. Amenomiya, President of the Company, delivered a speech in which he explained that although electric railways for the capital had been projected as far back as 1888, the Shigai Company had not obtained its charter for building 120 miles until 1900, and even then the conditions of the money market had necessitated a postponement of the work of construction. Now at length the Company could congratulate itself on having made a solid commencement. A cold collation was then served and the party broke up at 3 p.m.

We may observe in this context that the shares of the Tokyo Electric Railway Company—not the Street Railway Company alluded to above—have fallen suddenly from 63 *yen* (50 paid up) to 49½ *yen*. This is an illustration of the extreme smallness of the Japanese money market. Nothing of any kind has happened to impair the intrinsic value of these shares or the quality of the enterprise itself, but in connexion with the necessary extension of the Company's capital, the right to a number of new shares is said to have been acquired by shareholders whose association with the affair is mainly speculative, and owing to an attempt on the part of these men to realize money by selling their titles—not the shares themselves but the right to acquire them—, the market has been shaken. If this explanation be correct, and we see no reason to doubt it, the inference is that the soundest enterprises are exposed to risks of temporary discredit in Japan owing to the paltriest causes.

THE OSAKA GAS QUESTION.

A friendly arrangement of the Osaka gas question has been at length effected. It is agreed that the charter shall be for 50 years, after which time the Municipality shall be entitled to purchase the enterprise at a price not exceeding twenty times the average dividend declared during the three years immediately preceding the transaction; that 20 per cent. reduction shall be made on gas supplied for public uses; that any advance made in the price of gas after the enterprise has been inaugurated for 5 years, shall require the consent of the Municipality; that the Company shall pay to the Municipality 5 per cent. of its net annual profits; that should the dividend exceed 12 per cent., one-fourth of the excess shall go to the Municipality: that all additions to capital, issues of debentures and combinations of companies shall be previously discussed with the Municipality, this restriction not to apply, however, to debentures which do not exceed one-half of the paid up capital; that with the exception of the ordinary city taxes the Municipality will not impose on the Company any fee for the use of the roads or any charge of that nature; that the Municipality will grant all possible facilities to the Company with regard to the use of roads, bridges and riparian lots, and with regard to removals or alterations of public structures; and that the Municipality will not itself engage in the gas enterprise or grant permission to any other company to engage in it.

It will be admitted that these terms are very moderate and that they should prove thoroughly satisfactory to the Company. Perhaps we are now justified in recalling our often-expressed conviction that the Municipality's ultimate treatment of this question would not be found to justify the very intemperate comments made by several of our contemporaries when the matter first came upon the *tapis*.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The insignia of the Grand Cross of the Bath, conferred by the King of England on His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa, having at length reached Japan, were presented to His Imperial Highness on the 19th instant by Sir Claude MacDonald. The Prince subsequently entertained Sir Claude and a number of distinguished personages at luncheon.

Tokyo newspapers publish a correction of a report recently circulated by them to the effect that of the three line-of-battle ships included in the programme of naval expansion, only one would be ordered abroad, the other two being constructed in Japan, the plates being supplied by the Kure Steel Foundry. Our contemporaries now say that they did not intend to express anything more than a hope of the carrying out of this plan of domestic building.

On the morning of the 18th instant a party of 150 insurgents attacked a camphor station in Gilan, and killed eleven Japanese, among whom several policemen were included. The insurgents are described as *Sei ban-jin*, that is to say, savages who have not yet been brought under any pacifying influences. The telegram gives no indication of the amount of injury done to the station.

The O. & O. steamer *Coptic* on her present trip across from San Francisco and Honolulu, called at Midway Island on June 13, to leave mails for the naval staff and the men engaged at the cable station. The new Pacific cable was expected to reach Midway Island on June 19th. The U. S. S. *Iroquois* is now at the island guarding the station. On arrival at Midway her commander had to warn-off a Japanese schooner whose crew had been devastating the bird-colony on the island, these men killing ruthlessly and recklessly every feathered thing they could reach.

Some interest has been excited by the case of Mr. Mizobe, formerly Governor of Tochigi Prefecture, who was recently sentenced to 2 months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of 7 *yen* for having permitted bribery. He appealed against the sentence as unduly heavy, and the public procurator appealed against it as unduly light, the procurator's contention being that Mr. Mizobe should be convicted of actually receiving bribes not merely of permitting them to be received. Judgment has now been rendered by the Tokyo Court of Appeal. It adopts the procurator's view, and revises the sentence to 4 months' imprisonment, a fine of 10 *yen*, and the restitution of 1,000 *yen* received as bribes. This is one of the text-book incidents.

The Tokyo City Council has decided to raise a loan of 1,403,000 *yen* for the purpose of extending the city's water works. Applications will be received at the First and Third Banks from July 1st to 15th, the rate of interest being 6 per cent. and the minimum price of the bonds, 95. Applications must be accompanied by 10 *yen* per bond applied for, which sum will be regarded as an amount paid up in the event of any bonds being allotted to an applicant. A further payment of 50 *yen* per bond will be required between the 1st and 15th of August, and the final payment between September 1st and 15th.

Baron Kodama's visit to Europe and America is now officially announced. His Excellency will include South Africa in the sphere of his travels, and he will be accompanied by Major Ozawa, Professor Nitobe and Mr. Sekiya. The date of his departure is not yet announced.

H.I.H. Princess Nashimoto was pleased on the 19th inst. to give a private audience to M. J. Adam, Consul and First Interpreter of the French Legation, and to Mrs. Adam who are on the eve of their departure for France on furlough. H.I.H. offered Mrs. Adam a handsome present as a *souvenir d'adieu*.

A Japanese representative present at the International Medical Conference in Madrid sends a very unfavourable report of the proceedings. It is published in the *Nippon*. We read that the delay and confusion attending the issue of programmes were indescribable, and that when the Conference met, it turned out that nearly all the lectures were to be delivered by Spanish experts, insomuch that the affair was dubbed a Spanish demonstration not an international conference. The Germans, according to the *Nippon's* correspondent, seem to have been specially enraged, and it is stated that a large number of the experts of various countries dispersed to view the sights of Madrid instead of attending the conference. There were eight Japanese delegates, all of whom are said to be bitterly disappointed. This story is so inconsistent with the traditions of Castilian courtesy that we can not believe it without much confirmation.

There have been violent disturbances at the Commercial Colleges in Shimonoseki and Tokuyama. In the latter case some discontent in connexion with the dormitories seems to have been the cause; in the former immoral conduct on the part of two teachers. It is dangerous to generalize about such incidents, but in England the fault would be laid primarily at the door of the faculty, and one can scarcely escape the often-repeated conviction that Japan may not hope to have properly managed schools so long as she pays to her teachers salaries as low as a workman's wages.

The new United States Minister presented his credentials to the Emperor on the 22nd instant, and His Excellency and Mrs. Griscom were received subsequently by the Empress. The Minister and Mrs. Griscom have removed to the Legation from the Imperial Hotel.

The attention of the *Hongkong Daily Press* has been called to a surprising display of sagacity on the part of a pigeon owned by Police Sergeant MacSwayed, well-known in the Colony as an enthusiastic bird-fancier. The bird in question, a blue homer cock, has been trained to fly any distance up to one hundred miles, and about eight months ago was lost in a heavy rainstorm whilst returning from Macao. He turned up eventually, however, a mere bundle of feathers, and showing every trace of hard times.

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Four months ago he disappeared from the cote at Yaumati Police Station, and not a sign of him could be seen anywhere. On Friday last (June 12), Sergeant MacSwayed, who had given up hope of ever seeing the bird again, being under the impression that he had been stolen and eaten by Chinese, was amazed to see the missing homer walking along the street towards the station and the cote. He was picked up and examined, and it was found that both wings had been clipped so closely as to make flight an impossibility. The bird had succeeded in escaping from capitivity and walked all the way back to its home, doubtless with great difficulty and danger not alone from the street traffic but also from thieving natives with an eye to gastronomical delicacies.

It appears to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* necessary to combat the view that among the vessels to be added to the Navy under the new programme two line-of-battle ships, three armoured first-class cruisers and three second-class cruisers may be constructed in Japan, only one line-of-battle ship being obtained abroad. The advocates of that plan calculate that a line-of-battle ship could be built in Japan in 4¼ years, an armoured cruiser in the same time, and a second-class cruiser in 3½ years. Twelve months hence the Kure steel factory will be able to forge plates at the rate of 3,500 tons annually, and if a line-of-battle ship, an armoured cruiser and a second-class cruiser be put on the stocks together, Kure is expected to be in a position to supply materials as fast as the artificers at the docks can employ them. The *Nichi Nichi's* argument is that it would be altogether unwise to trust to any such forecast in the case of vessels urgently needed by the country. No absolute reliance may be placed on these estimates. Certainly nothing in the past story of State enterprises justifies the public in according implicit faith to official promises. The country wants the ships quickly and had better make sure of getting them quickly.

YACHTING.

A good breeze offered fine sport for yachting on Saturday but the rain spoilt everybody's pleasure, though various enthusiasts persevered with the events in which they were concerned. The 39-raters were to have sailed on arbitrary handicap round the Lightship and Widow Buoy, but with one accord they all refrained from starting.

The only race sailed under the rules of the Yokohama Yacht Club was that for the "Larks," of which six started. After a close race they finished as follows:

	h.m.s.
No. 10 (A. M. Watt)	4.13.20
No. 4 (W. B. Mason)	4.13.50
No. 12 (R. Sander)	4.14.10

Nos. 10 and 12 have, however, protested against No. 4 for fouling them, and should the protest be sustained No. 11 (F. H. Abbey) will take third place.

Half a dozen 21-raters raced under the auspices of the Mosquito Yacht Club. This furnished close competition, the most noticeable feature being perhaps the manner in which *Edna* ran past *Pele* on the reach in from the Lightship. The following were the corrected times:

	h.m.s.
Chocho	4.01.12
Yugao	3.44.17
Edna	3.40.38
Pele	3.41 38
Vixen	3.39 46
Winsome	3.37.52

Winsome therefore takes first and *Vixen* second place.

CALISTHENICS.

The heavy rain which fell on Saturday and prevented cricket, tennis, and sundry juvenile picnics from taking place as arranged, also interfered with the attendance at the interesting entertainment organised by Miss E. Burdett Leach at Van Schaick Hall. It was a pity that not more were present, for, to quote Mr. J. P. Mollison, who at the close of the entertainment moved a vote of thanks to Miss Leach, the manner in which the calisthenic class went through their drills and evolutions was a revelation. Every movement was graceful, while the whole were imbued with a spirit of exact precision and lively action too often lacking in such displays, and thus indirectly testified to the thoroughness, patience, and care with which Miss Leach instructs her pupils. Interspersed between the calisthenic exercises were many instrumental and vocal selections which were received with the applause they richly deserved. Mrs. Irwine sang most feelingly, "Life's Lullaby," and was rewarded with appreciative thanks by her delighted hearers. We append the full programme:—

1.—Dumb Bells.....The Class.
2.—Piano Solo.." Valse Capricieuse ".....B. Grodzki.
Miss Poole.
3.—Rings.....The Class.
4.—Song....." Life's Lullaby ".....G. Lane.
Mrs. Irwine.
5.—Swimming .....The Class.
6.—Recitation.." Gran' mama's Bombazine "...
Eugene Field.
Miss Ross.
7.—French Bar Bells .....The Class.
8.—Piano Solo.." Valse de Concert ".....G. Mattei.
Mr. W. Karl Vincent.
9.—Violin Solo....." Legend ".....C. Bohm.
Mr. C. H. Thorn.
10.—Ball Drill .....The Class.
11.—Song....." Pensee d'Automme ".....Massenet.
Mrs. Irwine.
12.—Song....." The Kerry Dance " .....Molloy.
Mr. Atkinson.
13.—Scarf Drill.....The Class.
14.—Comic Songs.." The Char-a-banc ".....
" When I was a boy at School "
Mr. Brady.

SHIPPING CASUALTY AT THE BONIN ISLANDS.

Four members of the crew of the N.Y.K. steamer *Hyogo Maru* lost their lives on the last trip made by the vessel to the Bonin Islands. While lying near one of the islands, Hahashima, on the 14th of June waiting for cargo, the second and third officers, a quartermaster and an apprentice were sent off in a native boat to take soundings. In the course of this work the boat disappeared round a headland, but it was not till they had been several hours away that any alarm was aroused. Boats were at once sent in search but no trace could be found of the craft or its crew, and it was not till three days afterwards that the boat was found thrown up on the other side of the island. There were indications that an outrigger had broken and it is supposed that the boat then capsized. The men had apparently fastened themselves to the boat but the waters in the vicinity swarm with sharks and there seems no doubt of their fate. The *Hyogo Maru* stayed by the island till the 19th.

According to information from the harbour police, to whom the Captain of the steamer reported the affair on arrival here on June 24th, the names of the missing men are H. Tamaoki (26), 2nd officer; M. Watanabe (26), 3rd officer; S. Itakura (25) quartermaster; and U. Machida (23) apprentice.

TYPHUS ON THE "INDRAWADI."

A case of typhus was found among the crew of the steamer *Indrawadi*, which arrived at Yokohama on June 25th from New York. The patient is a Chinese waiter named Lan Cheong (23). The authorities of the health office duly disinfected the cabin where the patient slept.

THE PLAGUE.

Two cases of plague appeared on June 18th at No. 3864, Negishi (in the neighbourhood of the former rifle range) Yokohama, and the patients were at once removed to the Manji Hospital, where they died the same day. One of the victims was a boy named Shojiro (9), the son of a grocer and the other an old woman named Kane (65) employed in the grocer's shop. Seventy-nine houses in the locality, inhabited by about 350 persons, are segregated.

Two cases of plague have appeared at Nishi-Tobe, Yokohama. One was that of a woman named Masu Kondo (59), and she died on the night of June 22nd at the disinfecting hospital. The other is also a woman named Sono Ishimura (17), living in the house next to the first. She was removed to the same hospital at noon on the 23rd. The place was segregated, as well as thirty other houses in which ninety-one persons are living.

The waiter of the steamer *Kaga Maru*, who is now under medical treatment at the Nagahama Quarantine station, is reported to be in a dangerous condition.

A live rat trapped at Oshiage-cho, Honjo, Tokyo, was found infested with plague germs on June 23rd.

A telegram has been received at the British Consulate from the Colonial Secretary at Singapore stating that Yokohama is declared to be infected with plague.

M. Pasquet, the Frenchman, who was brought from Canton to Hongkong plague-stricken, died on the 13th.

FIRES.

The inhabitants of Iwabuchi have succeeded in getting the Japan Railway Company to acknowledge their claim. Iwabuchi is a suburb of Tokyo. Two hundred houses were lately destroyed there by fire. The origin of the conflagration was said to be a spark from the chimney of a locomotive, and the Iwabuchi fold demanded compensation to the amount of 25,000 *yen*. The Company has agreed, it is said, to pay 20,000.

An outbreak of fire occurred on the night of June 17th at Otaba-machi, Koishikawa, Tokyo, destroying four houses and damaging four others.

Fire broke out on June 18th at the village of Irikuru, Kagoshima, destroying over ninety houses.

An outbreak of fire occurred on June 23rd at the village of Shimosho, Yamaguchi prefecture, destroying fourteen houses. One person was killed.

On the night of June 22nd, fire appeared at Minami-Nijo, Sapporo, burning down ten buildings.

On June 22nd lightning struck the dwelling of a farmer named T. Sato, at the village of Taki, Minami-Tama-gori, Tokyo, and caused a fire. The flames were put out before inflicting serious damage. The farmer, however, was injured by the lightning on both feet.

Fire broke out on June 24th in the building of the *Kochi Jitsugyo Shimbun*, destroying ten houses.

BASEBALL.

A baseball match between teams representing the U.S. battleship *Wisconsin* and the staff of the U.S. Naval Hospital was commenced on June 25th on the Cricket Ground. The weather at first was pleasant though rather warm, but about half past four rain began to fall and the game had to be stopped when the score stood, *Wisconsin*, 20; Naval Hospital, 1. The teams were:

Wisconsin:—Wheeler, Robbins, Shine, Redge, Metcalf, Joyce, Feed, Carson, Stracht.

Naval Hospital:—Schmidt, Diebrich, Dene, Thompson, Dunnaher, McKenzie, Burton, Cassidy, Garthon.

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THE DOMESTIC QUESTION IN JAPAN.

AT this stage in the career of Japanese political parties it is interesting to recall their origin. English onlookers are naturally disposed to regard such organizations as representative of the people's views. No such character could be claimed for Japanese parties at the outset. Their nucleus consisted solely of seceders from the official camp. The split had its proximate cause in a problem of foreign politics. Was Korean arrogance to be chastised by force of arms, or should Japan, adopting the procedure that had been employed against herself by Western States, draw the peninsular kingdom into the comity of nations? The question had important ramifications. It involved no less an issue than whether Korea should be placed beyond the range of foreign aggression by virtual inclusion in Japan's dominions—the euphemism "sphere of influence" had not then been invented—; or whether she should be induced to protect herself by "mimicry." In the light of the wisdom that succeeds the event some present day publicists are probably disposed to think that a more daring policy on Japan's part in those times of undisputed opportunity would have averted many subsequent complications. But the men of that era did not project their vision into such a distant future. At any rate what concerns us here is that the official house became divided against itself in connexion with a problem of foreign policy, not at all in connexion with any questions about popular representation, freedom of speech, individual liberty or other matters usually regarded as the bases of party agitation. It is on historical record that such items did not figure at all in the account drawn up by the founder and subsequent leader of the Liberals. The people, as a factor of government, were not in his thoughts. What he wanted, what would have entirely satisfied him for the moment at all events, was representation for the *Samurai*. Among the ruins of feudalism this ruling element of Japanese society and Japanese administration seemed in danger of public extinction, and the future father of liberalism sought to prolong the influential existence of the military men by organizing a so-called "national assembly" consisting solely of their nominees. Into the ranks of the coterie occupying this platform, essentially aggressive abroad, essentially conservative at home, there gradually drifted all the outcasts from officialdom and all the other discontented or unsuccessful publicists of the time. It is easy to see how the cry against clan influence became their shibboleth. Not only were they powerless in council against Satsuma and Choshiu, but to these two also seemed to fall all the prizes of office. Nevertheless the real aim of the malcontents was, not the exclusion of clan influence from the councils of the State, but the subversion of one set of clans in favour of another; the deposition of Satsuma and Choshu to make room for Tosa and Hizen. Fifteen years is a long period in the evolution of political parties. Between 1876 and 1891 the platform of the agitators—augmented in 1881 by the Progressists—underwent both expansion and change. The plank, representation of the military class, was re-modelled into representation of the people at large, and the "strong foreign politicians" turned their attention from Korea to treaty revision. But the most striking feature of that long interval was the Government's apparently absolute indifference to the development of political parties. No attempt was made by those in power to organize any body of supporters outside the ranks of officialdom. They confined themselves to such repressive measures as were dictated by their estimate of the requirements of law and order, and since the sufferers by these measures posed as victims of tyranny, fuel was constantly added to the fire of agitation. There could be only one result. When the national assembly opened in 1891, it was found to consist mainly of the Administration's enemies, who had been in undisputed possession of the ear of the constituencies throughout. Even now, after mature observation, it would puzzle any historian to explain clearly how the so-called "clan statesmen" lived through the storm they had thus allowed to brew. They have survived it, however; with greatly thinned ranks, it is true, but with little-diminished prestige. And if there were occasion to-day to name the salient features of the period of constitutional practice, the twelve years that have elapsed since 1891, must not the list be headed by the same feature that distinguished the fifteen-year period of preparation, namely, official abstention from party forming? There have been fitful and almost farcically petty exceptions to the rule, but on the whole the men in office have behaved as though parties were altogether negligeable quantities in the management of State affairs. Another more noticeable fact is that the foremost of the Clan Statesmen, the very general of the citadel against which the political agitators had long directed their assaults, is now the latter's leader, and that, in placing himself at their head, he denounced, in the most explicit terms, their fundamental doctrine of party Cabinets. At one *coup* he deprived them of the pretext that they were fighting for the people against the clans, and annihilated their theory that the Constitution confers a Ministry-making mandate on the Lower House. But neither Marquis Ito nor any other statesman can deny the fact that the Constitution does confer on the Lower House effective power to mar a Ministry. How long will officialdom continue to ignore the latter fact? The Constitution, we may presume, has come to stay. Nothing is less likely than its repeal or radical alteration. But if the Constitution is to work with any semblance of smoothness, either the political parties must place themselves under the complete control of the *Meiji* statesmen and their followers, or the *Meiji* statesmen must join the ranks of the parties. Recent events having proved the hopelessness of the former, it would seem that the latter alone remains.

FINANCE.

IN a recent issue we printed the principal figures of the Supplementary Budgets as passed by the Diet in its extraordinary session. Readers doubtless observed that while various expenditures were there provided for, little reference was made to sources of revenue. The explanation of that apparent want of balance is that, owing to the failure of the General Budget for 1903-4 to come into existence, a result attributable to the dissolution of the House of Representatives, the Budget for 1902-3 had to be taken as a basis for this year's accounts, and the consequence is that certain surpluses of revenue became available. To make this clear it should be explained that, owing to the operation of the *post-bellum* programme, the expenditures of the State are now on a descending scale. Certain extensive works included in that programme have to be paid for by a system of continuing outlays, and in proportion as the works approach completion, the outlays for each year diminish. Thus the appropriations under these headings for the year 1902-3 exceed the sums actually required for the prosecution of the enterprises in 1903-4, and it follows that when the Budget of the former year continues to be operative in the latter, the income provided exceeds the outlay required. It is from this excess that funds are to be taken for the purposes of the Supplementary Budgets.

This explanation does not extend to naval expansion, which is altogether a new programme, and as it appears that some perplexity still exists about the sources of revenue for that purpose, a word may be added here. Included in the *post-bellum* list of State enterprises was a considerable extension of the railway-building scheme inaugurated some years previously. The idea then was, and the practice hitherto had been, to obtain funds for railway construction by means of domestic loans. But when public bonds, losing their attractions for investors, ceased to be saleable at reasonable rates, the Government adopted, and after much difficulty induced the Diet to endorse, the policy of providing money for the prosecution of the *post-bellum* works out of the proceeds of increased taxation. The Chinese Indemnity was applied to the same purpose, but we are here speaking only of outlays in excess of the Indemnity. Hence the cost of extending the State system of railways is now met by income derived from taxes—and in this context we may mention that the sum accruing annually from increases of taxation made since 1898 now aggregates nearly 90 millions of *yen*. Speaking in round figures the total appropriation for the construction of railways deemed primarily necessary, was 90 million *yen*. But practical experience showed that the work could not be completed for that outlay. Appreciation of commodities, increased cost of labour, and, perhaps, some unforeseen engineering difficulties, affected the estimates so largely that the Government found itself

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obliged to ask for a further appropriation. What the exact dimensions of that appropriation would have been had the financing of the scheme of naval increment remained entirely independent, we do not know at present. But the Lower House having refused to endorse the proposal for obtaining naval funds by continuing the present rate of land tax, the Ministry determined to draw upon the railway appropriations, and with that in view the Diet was asked to vote an additional sum of 100 million *yen* on the latter account, being 45 millions more than the total actually needed according to the revised estimates. It will be understood, of course, that we are here dealing with aggregate figures; that is to say, with the totals of appropriations spread over a period of 10 years. The final result of this arrangement is that a sum of 45 million *yen*, obtained from the proceeds of taxation, is to be diverted from railway expenditures to naval increment, and as the total required for the latter purpose is 115 millions, there remain 70 millions to be provided from other sources. These 70 millions are to be found by administrative economies representing 10 millions in 10 years, by drafts upon the telephone-expansion fund representing 5 millions in 10 years, and by domestic loans representing 55 millions in the same time.

We are compelled to say that some parts of this programme bear the aspect of unsound finance. Its frontispiece might appropriately be a picture of the devil getting whipped round a post. What is the use of paying public money nominally into the railway-extension fund and then diverting it to purposes of naval expansion? Such a transaction carries with it an atmosphere of subterfuge that taints the entire arrangement. If the country's administrators and legislators are persuaded that they must follow the example of all the principal nations of the Occident in the matter of developing armaments, it would surely be franker and sounder from the point of view of the country's credit, to accept the burden directly instead of resorting to a manœuvre as futile as it is transparent. Then, in the matter of telephones, the public have an unquestionable right to complain of the Government's dilatoriness. Thousands of applicants are waiting, and have been long waiting, to be supplied with telephones. Every *yen* invested in the enterprise brings a fine return, and the State, having monopolized the business, is under moral obligation to consult the people's convenience by developing the service as fully and rapidly as it would be developed in private hands. Telephones stand in a special category of public works. They are essential factors of wealth-earning, for they largely economise time and labour and they reduce the cost of communications to a minimum. Any failure to extend them is a loss to the community at large, and it would be difficult to depart from the principles of sound finance more widely than by diverting to unproductive naval increment money destined originally for the highly productive object of telephone extension. If this be one of the alternatives the Ministry is compelled to adopt in deference to the obstinacy of the Diet, the parliamentary system can not be said to confer much benefit on Japan.

As to the project of obtaining 55 million *yen* in the course of ten years by domestic loans, some of the objections advanced by the critics do not appear quite reasonable. The money market, they say, will be disturbed by such transactions. Truly it is hard to appreciate the force of that contention. If the money market does not want the bonds, it need not take them. If it does want them, there can be no inconvenience in issuing them. Besides, it is not fair to impose upon one generation the whole cost of armaments' expansion by which the next generation will benefit equally, and from that point of view to obtain the necessary funds by means of a loan is better than to obtain them by taxation. But the question of credit is different. Foreigners infer the financial condition of the Japanese State largely from the circumstances of the domestic market. If, even by offering 6 or 7 per cent., a paltry loan of half a million sterling can not be floated in Japan, outsiders can not fail to draw damaging deductions. In that respect it would certainly be advantageous were the necessary money procured in some other manner. At all events we do not believe that the financial arrangements for the naval programme will be left undisturbed when the Diet meets next session.

CLAN STATESMEN AND PARTY CABINETS.

IN commenting recently on Mr. KATAOKA KENKICHI'S *apologia* we traversed the propriety of continuing to use the old shibboleth "Clan Statesmen"; the familiar war-cry of the Liberals and the Progressists. The *Japan Times* makes some interesting remarks on that subject. It tells us that the term "Clan Statesmen," though no longer applicable in its original sense, continues to be a proper designation for the body of politicians against whom the *Seiyu-kai* are arrayed. For these politicians have organized themselves into a close corporation which aims at monopolizing the places of power, and which in reality curtails the Imperial Prerogatives it pretends to protect, since by declaring the incompatibility of party politicians for ministerial posts, it restricts the EMPEROR'S latitude of choice. In one respect we endorse our contemporary's remarks, for we agree with it in thinking that the narrow exclusiveness of some Japanese conservatives does at least as much violence to the Constitution as do the pretensions of those contending for Party Cabinets. But whether such a view of the situation is exhaustive we greatly doubt. What, after all, is the issue finally in dispute? Is it not the contention that no Cabinet shall accept office unless it commands a majority in the Lower House, and that no Cabinet shall retain office after it has lost the confidence of such a majority? If the controversy turned merely upon the eligibility or non-eligibility of party politicians for portfolios, then evidently a coalition Cabinet would meet the difficulty completely. If nothing were needed beyond the removal of all practical discrimination against men enrolled in party ranks, then surely it would be easy to form combination Ministries of the highest competence and credit. But would that satisfy the party leaders? If so, what is the meaning of their unvarying motto "Responsible Cabinets" (*sekinin naikaku*)? Responsible to whom? Responsibility to the Diet is the only rational interpretation, for assuredly responsibility to the SOVEREIGN can not be signified, that being already acknowledged conspicuously by the so-called "Clan Statesmen." If, however, the principle of responsibility to the Diet be admitted, what shall be its limitations? Evidently it can have no practical value unless Cabinets make their tenure of office dependent on the fiat of the House of Representatives, in which case the Imperial Prerogative of appointing and dismissing all officials is plainly violated. This is a most interesting question. As we understand the *Japan Times*, it claims that Marquis ITO, in his manifesto to the newly formed *Seiyu-kai*, did not assert the constitutional doctrine of Ministerial responsibility to the EMPEROR alone, but rather denied the unconstitutional dogma of every party politician being disqualified for Imperial nomination. In other words, what the distinguished statesman contended for was merely the absolutely unrestricted latitude of HIS MAJESTY'S right of choice. Pass, then, from the question of accession to the question of tenure. Would Japanese party leaders, outside Marquis ITO, be content that a Cabinet should remain in office after it had forfeited the confidence of the Lower House, and if they would not be content, surely it follows inevitably that the Lower House would be the final depository of power to appoint and to dismiss? It appears to us that there is no half-way house. Ministers can not serve two masters in Japan or anywhere else. We would gladly accept the *Japan Times*' apparent interpretation that nothing more serious is at stake than the question of party politicians' eligibility to high office, and that the dispute is not between the Diet's mandate and the Sovereign's mandate, for if that were so, an easy end would soon come in sight. But we can not construct any working system out of our contemporary's theory, or reconcile it with the clearly advanced claims of the party leaders themselves. On the other hand, we entirely agree that the conservatives must descend from their pedestal of aloofness from parties, their attitude having ceased to be compatible with the conditions of the time. On that point, however, we have already expressed our ideas very clearly in a previous issue.

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THE GROUPING OF THE POWERS.

IN the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* a leading article published on the 20th instant derives special interest from the fact that it discusses questions generally tabooed in the columns of that journal. The *Nichi Nichi's* habitual and most praiseworthy tone is pacific. It perpetually counsels peace and labours to remove prejudices that make for war. In this case, however, it applies itself to consider the probable grouping of the Powers in the event of a disturbance in the Far East, and it arrives at the conclusion that though the Russo-French alliance extends to China, or, to speak more correctly, was extended to China in the immediate sequel of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, it does not embrace Korea, whereas the Anglo-Japanese alliance explicitly takes Korea into its purview. Hence it follows, in the *Nichi Nichi's* estimate, that in the event of a war between Japan and Russia with reference to China, France might interfere if England did, whereas a war between Russia and Japan with reference to Korea would not summon France to the field, although it would probably summon England. The *Nichi Nichi* does not say a word that can be construed in the sense of advocating the latter of these wars, but its view can not fail to sway some minds in that direction.

It is evidently impossible to speak with any degree of assurance about events which depend upon so many unforeseeable contingencies; but we may venture to express the opinion that England's attitude in case of war between Russia and Japan about Korea would depend largely upon the nature of the question at issue between the two belligerents. Certainly England would not support Japan in any attempt to aggress in Korea, but certainly she would support her in every attempt to check such aggressions on Russia's part as might imperil the independence of the peninsular empire or impair the legitimate interests of the treaty Powers. The difficulty would be to define what kind of aggressions involve these dangers. In our opinion the permanent independence of Korea would become quite illusory from the hour that Manchuria passed finally into Russia's possession. For Vladivostock and Dalny without Masampo, Mokpho or some other port on the south of Korea, would be from Russia's point of view a programme scarcely less incomplete than the Black Sea and the Caspian without access to either the Mediterranean or the Persian Gulf. Who will undertake to determine, however, the exact moment of Manchuria's final absorption into the Russian Empire? It is with these great territorial redistributions as with the advent of death in the case of nature's normal processes. The fatal consummation is preceded by a gradual metamorphosis which prepares us for the catastrophe by accustoming us to the idea of its probability. If, three years ago, Russia could have suddenly assumed in Manchuria the position she holds there to-day, very few of the Treaty Powers would have abstained from vehement protest. But the steps of progress have been so slow, and, taken separately, so inconspicuous, that we are confronted with results almost before we have fully appreciated the preliminaries. Thus it is always possible that the drift of the current may be suffered to continue uninterrupted until the rapid is reached and finally the cataract, by which time some sort of right of prescription has been established by tacit acquiescence, and, at any rate, the opportunity for successful interference has escaped. While, then, we believe that England would join Japan in endeavouring to prevent Korea's absorption by Russia, it seems to us distinctly probable that both England and Japan may miss the mandate of events, and that for Japan there may finally arise a necessity which England would hesitate to recognise. At what point, for example, are Russia's present doings on the Yalu to be construed as preliminary to bringing Korea within her sphere of influence? They are doings which would long ago have been vigorously resisted by any self-respecting or competent State, and so far as we can judge, they were from the outset doings plainly inconsistent with any recognition of Korea as such a State. But they are not doings that would fully justify an appeal to the sword. So it will probably be with their immediate consequence, and so with the latter's sequel, until one can easily conceive a situation precluding Japanese or British interference except in a seemingly arbitrary and even aggressive form. It is as certain as anything human can be that had not Japan fought with China in 1894, and thus detached Korea definitely from that fringe of buffer States which, one by one, have been absorbed by Foreign Powers in the latters' predatory approach to the Chinese citadel, the very practical sphere of influence now established by Russia in Manchuria would include also the Korean peninsula. Where the momentum of continuous and daring aggression on one side is confronted only by the inertia of hesitating and pacific deprecation on the other, there can be no efficient readjuster except the violent hand of war. It appears more practical, therefore, to try and detect the psychological moment than to speculate on unions and interactions which must depend entirely on the nature of that moment.

PROCRASTINATION AND UNCERTAINTY.

THE *Kokumin Shimbun* strikes a true note when it complains that the uncertainty enveloping Far-Eastern affairs is disturbing the course of trade and paralysing enterprise. From that point of view Russia is unquestionably responsible to the Powers. Her action in Manchuria and on the Yalu has thrown the Orient into a state of embarrassing alarm, and all countries having material interests in this quarter of the world are entitled to demand that the situation shall be resolved without further delay. The *Kokumin* thinks that attempts to meet the difficulty indirectly by bringing pressure to bear upon China are useless and that Russia must be approached direct. That is a view advocated in many quarters, but its supporters do not seem to have always appreciated the diplomatic solecism of leaving China out of a negotiation which ultimately concerns the fate of Chinese territory. The Powers are bound to persist up to the last moment in themselves according to China the recognition they claim for her as an independent empire. It is from her that the first complaint might come with propriety were the question taken out of her court. But the point is, as we understand the *Kokumin*, that the futility of relying on China's instinct of self-preservation has now been amply demonstrated, and that unless the Powers are content to condemn their nationals to a continuance of this fatal uncertainty and apprehension, they must address themselves to Russia direct. We make every possible allowance for Russia's circumstances. We have even been willing to admit some comparison between her situation in Manchuria and England's situation in Egypt, though in reality there is no logical parallel whatever. But we can not deny the fact that Russia is a constant disturber of the tranquility and prosperity of the Far East, neither can we discover any plausible pretext for her doings other than the instinct of expansion. Were she employing the resources of the State to protect the interests and enterprise of her nationals, her title to consideration would be different; but so long as she simply advances her flag and invites her people to follow its shadow, she can not expect either sympathy or tolerance at the hands of those who suffer indirectly by her imperial ambitions. Further, she resolutely declines to take the Powers into her confidence. Her persistent claim is that negotiations relating to Manchuria fall solely within the Russo-Chinese purview, and that other States have no title to interfere. That in itself is a severe tax upon the patience of countries which, having unquestionable interests and rights in Manchuria, can not be expected to submit tamely to complete exclusion from the discussion. Russia is certainly pushing matters to a perilous extreme, but since the statesmen of St. Petersburg can not but be willing to effect some arrangement tolerably satisfactory to all concerned, it is to be hoped that the negotiations will not be taken out of their natural groove until such an exceptional course becomes absolutely inevitable.

JAPAN IN KOREA.

NO intelligent reader of modern history nor any close observer of the times will deny, we imagine, that Japan's hope of keeping Korea within her sphere of influence is realizable by one of two methods only, namely, recourse to arms or recourse to capital. It is not accusing Russia of any

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designs specially sinister or unscrupulous to say that the law of expansion impels her towards Korea and that unless she obtains on the southern shore of the peninsula some port or ports connected with her Trans-Asian system of railways, her development in the Far East will be stunted and unsatisfying. Neither is it casting any injurious reflection on her character to say that as an immediate neighbour she would be very unwelcome to Japan. So long as the yeast of expansion continues to work vigorously, as it is working at present, in the mass of the Russian empire, the proximity of the latter to any other Power must be a source of constant uneasiness. That is the conviction traditionally obeyed by English statesmen when they seek to maintain Afghanistan as a buffer State between British India and the domain of the TSARS, and though some publicists have denounced the anomaly of preserving between two civilized Occidental empires a kingdom inhabited by semi-barbarous Orientals who constitute a perpetual danger of complications, the doctrine has not yet received practical recognition. At any rate a Russianized Korea is a prospect intolerable to Japan, and as for the notion, entertained by certain Japanese, that such a consummation might be successfully averted by obtaining from Russia a promise of self-effacement in regions South of the Yalu, it is sufficient to say that Russia could not give a promise of the kind with any conscientious faith in her own ability to keep it. No help, then, being afforded by negotiation, and war being the last thing to contemplate, we reach the conclusion that Japan should endeavour to gain a footing in Korea as Russia has gained a footing in Manchuria, namely, by railway building. But she is confronted by a serious obstacle, the Diet. It is to the Diet that she owes her crippling deficiency of capital. Could she release a hundred millions of the money she has sunk in railways at home, there would be no difficulty in carrying out all necessary enterprises in Korea. That she can not release it is the Diet's fault and the Diet's fault only. More than a year has passed since British capitalists declared their willingness to lend Japan any sum from ten to a hundred millions on the security of her private railways, provided that she amended her laws in such a manner as to render the security practically trustworthy. Nothing exceptional was required as a *sine quâ non*. The Englishmen declared themselves willing to accept generally such terms as they can get in places like Canada. They wanted ultimately from the Japanese no more than they had already obtained in an Occidental country, but they were not prepared to accept less. There can not be the least doubt that had the Government of ante-constitutional days been in power, the requisite amendment of the laws would have been effected immediately. The country's statesmen would have appreciated the moderation of the British capitalists' requisition, and would also have seen that if the railway companies were to be borrowers at all, it would be to their own interest to be able to offer the best possible security to the lenders. It has been alleged that the British capitalists' draft of proposed alterations in the law contained some inconvenient provisions. That is true we believe, but the draft was well understood to be only an outline, the details being open to modification. The point is, however, that no hope being entertained of inducing the Diet to take an intelligent view of the case, the Cabinet refrained from bringing it forward for discussion, and there are apprehensions that a similar difficulty will be felt next session. It is evident that if the Japanese spend money on railways in Korea, they will desire to confine themselves to their own money and not to have direct recourse to foreign. How they are to accomplish that unless they liquify the capital fixed in their private railways, we do not see. The Russian Government, not being obliged to render any account of the manner in which it spends the proceeds of taxation, has an immense advantage in the new-fashioned field of imperial expansion; an advantage which almost defies competition. But Japan is needlessly crippled. Not without amused surprise did we read the series of questions presented to the Government in the Lower House last session by one of the Progressist leaders. The Authorities were charged with tamely allowing themselves to be distanced in the race of encouragement given by Occidental States to the enterprise of their nationals in the Far East. Japan, it was complained, made no show at all in the competition because her administrators failed to discharge their duty in that respect. It would have been much more to the purpose had the discontented politician delivered a lecture against the obstructiveness of himself and his colleagues in the Diet, and had he pointed out how thoroughly the imperial progress of the country is thus blocked.

THE QUESTION OF STATE RAILWAYS.

THE Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* in their Report on the course of events in the last session of the Diet, claim that the Party induced the Government to accept its policy. It is our opinion that the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* will by-and-by be as anxious to dissociate themselves from the financial programme dictated by them, or, at any rate, resulting from their interference, as they are now ready to accept responsibility for it. Passing, however, from generalities to particulars, our readers may be interested in considering one point specially noticed in the Report, namely, an assertion that the Ministry, at the instance of the *Seiyu-kai*, have promised to introduce in the next session of the Diet a bill providing that expenditures on account of the expansion of State Railways shall be confined to the profits derived from lines already open. At first sight that seems a retrogressive measure. It was an essential feature of the *post-bellum* programme of 1896 that while committing itself to various unproductive outlays, the country should also engage in enterprises of a wealth-developing character, notable among them being railway extension. In pursuance of that policy a certain scheme of appropriations was voted, to continue for several years, which scheme the *Seiyu-kai* leaders now appear disposed to limit by the above provision. The truth is, however, that recent developments of State Railways have provoked much popular discontent. They have come to be regarded as mainly strategical undertakings which, though they contribute to the empire's military efficiency, do not add anything directly to its wealth. Moreover, the earnings of some of these lines give nothing like an adequate return on the outlays incurred for construction purposes. To render the matter clear, and to convey an idea of the nature of the State's enterprise in railways (apart from Hokkaido and Formosa), reference may be made to the Construction Bureau's Report of the conditions existing in April, 1902. In the first place, we tabulate the railways actually in process of building :—

Name of Line.	Construction Period.	Total Estimated Cost.	Total Outlay hitherto.
		Yen.	Yen.
Chuō Road or Central Line.. (from Hachioji on the east and Nagoya on the West, joining at Shiojiri in Shinshiu).	1895 to 1904	27,120,000	17,417,000
Shinonoi Road. (from Shinonoi in Shinano to join the Central Line at Shiojiri).	1895 to 1903	7,677,000	7,011,000
O-U Road ..... (from Fukushima *viâ* Yamagata and Akita Prefectures to Awomori).	1895 to 1905	32,122,000	16,407,000
In-Yo Road ... (joining the Sanin-do and Sanyo-do system).	1900 to 1907	7,948,000	1,658,000
Kure Road.....	1900 to 1906	2,156,000	340,000
Kagoshima Road ..... (from Kumamoto to Kagoshima).	1897 to 1903	8,226,000	4,792,000
Totals		85,249,000	47,625,000

MILEAGES OF THE ABOVE ROADS.

Road.	Miles open to be traffic.	Miles to be still opened.
Central Road.....	36	 186
Shimonoi Road.....	17	 23
O-U.....	99	 138
In-Yo Road	—	 135
Kure Road	—	 13
Kagoshima Road....	17	 74
Totals.....	169	 569

It would appear from the above figures that while more than one half of the total appropriation had been expended by April of 1902, less than one-third of the total mileage had been completed. But of course that conclusion must be amended in the sense that the work actually done is not measurable by the number of miles in operation: a large part of the unopened sections may have been nearly completed. What is certain, however, is that the original estimate of cost has proved insufficient, and that the Treasury was obliged to ask the Diet for a further total appropriation of 100 millions, out of which sum 45 millions are to be diverted to naval expansion. As for the actual cost of construction per mile the figures given are :—

Road.	Cost of Construction per mile. Yen.
Central Road	265,559
Shinonoi	207,750
O-U	104,322
Kagoshima	96,312

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Of course until each of the above roads is opened in its entirety, no statement of operative expenses and earnings can be really representative. However, the figures before the public are these :—

Road.	Gross earnings annually.	Net earnings.	Per-centage of profit or loss.
	yen	yen	
Central Road (Nagoya section).....	135,790	86,599	2.5 profit.
Central Road (Hachioji section).....	34,827	10,527	0.2 loss.
Shinonoi Road	74,292	6,986	0.2 loss.
O-U Road	333,374	15,657	0.2 profit.
Ine-yo Road (Aomori section).....	319,191	33,320	0.6 profit.
Kagoshima Road...	56,963	1,995	0.1 profit.

It can not be doubted that these figures will soon show substantial improvement, but at present they are very discouraging, and the impression gathered by the public is that the proceeds of taxation are devoted to enterprises not financially sound nor yet immediately necessary. Hence the desire of the *Seiyu-kai* and of many publicists to bring about the enacting of a law that the tax-payer shall not be asked to make any sacrifices on account of railway expansion, and that the latter shall be restricted, so far as State enterprise is concerned, to funds accruing from the railways themselves.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Geography and Atlas of Protestant Missions, by HARLAN P. BEACH, M.A., F.R.G.S.; New York, Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions. $4 (gold) per set; or $3 paper bindings.

WHILE prepared primarily for the use of students in the universities and colleges of the United States and Canada, who are making a study of missions, these excellent volumes will be found of value to all who take an interest in the vast and diversified labours now undertaken by Protestant missionaries in all quarters of the habitable globe. The general aim of the author has been to present in Part I. of each chapter of Volume I. facts bearing on the geography, ethnography, and religions of the country under discussion, "thus placing the reader in possession of the main elements in the missionary's environment." Part II. follows with a statement of the force at work in the various fields of missionary activity, together with the outlook at the present day. Volume II. is a royal quarto. It contains, in addition to maps specially prepared for this work, an index to mission stations and the statistics of more than four hundred independent and auxiliary stations. We have found the maps excellent in design and unique in the variety of information they contain. A cursory glance shows how much of each particular land is "occupied," and how much more remains to be entered upon by the pioneers for Christ; while the tables and statistics are very complete. To collect and verify such a vast amount of detailed information must have entailed a great deal of labour—indeed Mr. Beach acknowledges his indebtedness to nearly three hundred missionary societies for reports and statistics alone—and we heartily congratulate him upon the ability with which he has collated and digested the various contributions, presenting to his readers a finished and compact work that will take high rank among studies of this class.

Beginning in Chapter I with the Aborigines of America, the author takes us on to Mexico, then to Central America, and so through the West Indies, South America, Oceania, New Zealand and Australia, the Malay Archipelago, Japan and its outlying islands, Korea, China and dependencies, Siam, Laos, Straits Settlements and Protected States, Burma and Ceylon, India, Persia, or Iran, Turkey, Africa, Madagascar and other African Islands; then finally to fields practically unoccupied—Siberia, Central Asia, Eastern Turkistan, Tibet, Afghanistan, Arabia, French Indo-China—; while Chapter XX is devoted to Missions to the Jews, and Chapter XXI to Japanese and Chinese in Christian Lands—a deeply interesting study of a peculiarly difficult subject. Everywhere throughout the book one is struck by the candour and painstaking care displayed by the author. He faces facts boldly, never seeks to colour the pictures he presents, and points out the lines along which Protestants should move in order to overcome obstacles and perfect the work. But in doing this, he shows no dogmatic spirit; his suggestions are really the suggestions of men actually at work in the fields discussed, rather than the conclusions of the author reached after his own study of the problems at a distance.

There are one or two things that might with advantage be deleted should the work reach a second edition. Speaking of the experiences of newcomers to Japan, he says: "The most striking impression made by Japanese upon the traveller as he lands at one of the ports and is rowed by a man who is an aggregation of knotted muscles to the shore, there to be whirled away by a fellow-countryman in an exaggerated baby-carriage at a pace excelling that of an ordinary horse"—etc. The "aggregation of knotted muscles" of the sampan man, is, too often, the result of varicose veins or rheumatism, not muscular exertion; while the *kurumaya* possessing the "pace excelling that of an ordinary horse" would be as difficult to find as a white swallow in late autumn. Both these "observations," however, are continually cropping up in books about Japan and we suppose they will live in the descriptive "pen-pictures" of tourists for many years yet. Still, if an opportunity for rectifying them presents it should be taken advantage of. Again, dealing with the island of Formosa, we come across a statement that needs some modifying. The author is quoting an unavowed authority when he says:—"With the cession of the island to Japan in 1895, a considerable influx of Japanese resulted and under its Governor-General pacification is proceeding, though 'the process of subjugation is ruthless and indiscriminate.'" This statement does not square with the experience of Mr. Davidson, who has gone into the subject thoroughly in his book on Formosa. We prefer Mr. Davidson's to Mr. Beach's unknown authority. Again it is a pity that no account is given of the marvellous work accomplished by Dutch Missionaries in Formosa in the seventeenth century—a very heroic chapter indeed in the history of Protestant Missions.

Turning to the Malay Archipelago and the Dutch East Indies, Mr. Beach makes allusion to the rapid spread of Mohammedanism among the Malays and Arab settlers; and later to the great influence it wields in India. Recently Mr. Hugh Clifford, who has spent a life-time in these regions, has been writing upon this theme, and his theory explaining the wide-spread success of the unpaid missionaries of Islam is that they teach the *Gospel of Pride*, as opposed to the *Gospel of Humility*, preached by the Christian propagandists; and the Gospel of Pride appeals greatly to the races among which Mohammedanism has spread, and thus becomes the greatest obstacle of the many which lay in the path of the teachers of Christ in these sun-steeped lands.

In Ceylon, as likewise in Japan, the revival of Buddhism was a marked feature of the closing decades of the nineteenth century. To quote:—

Nearly all the societies (in Ceylon) complain of the inroads upon their membership, and of interference with their work, by an aroused Buddhism. The present recrudescence of that ancient cult is mainly due to the visit of the Occidental Theosophists, Colonel Olcott and Madame Blavatsky, who reorganized in Ceylon twenty years since a branch of the Theosophical Society "for the diffusion of Buddhistic knowledge, as a set-off against the Christians. The Bible was denounced, and at Kandy was publicly kicked about the street. Sunday schools for the training of children in the Buddhist Catechism; a young men's Buddhist Association; the observance of Buddha's birthday in May, in much the same way as Christmas is celebrated; the establishment of schools and a college at government expense—so far as they comply with its regulations; the publication of tracts and periodicals, one of them in English, "The Buddhist;" teaching their co-religionists all the stock arguments against Christianity—these are some of the weapons used against the religion of Jesus Chrest. It is a favourable fact that, with increased attention to education, the priests are also insisting upon a better morality, especially the observance of the Five Precepts—not to kill, not to steal, not to lie, not to be impure, not to drink liquors. Doubtless the temporary injury caused by the revival will be found in the end helpful of the work, as was the case in the similar revival of 1862-64.

Space will not allow us to quote, as we should like, many extracts dealing with almost unknown races, such as the Karens of Burma, with their traditions bearing such a strong resemblance to the Old Testament account of the creation, of the temptation and fall, and of the flood—a race which even retain the Hebrew name of God, though their religious books were lost ages ago; of the strange "Hauhau" superstition of the Maori, based on Old Testament stories, which "in a few months completely altered the character of the people whose rapid Christianization up to that time was one of the greatest triumphs of missionary enterprise in the nineteenth century;" of the revivifying effect of Protestant Missions upon the Greek and Armenian Churches in the Turkish empire; and a thousand and one deeply interesting subjects touched upon in this volume.

We close our review by expressing pleasure at the way the book has been printed, the good, clear type used; the careful spacing and adjustment of the pages; and the use of linen-thread stitching by the binders in place of the wire-stapling so soon ruinous to many a modern book that has to undergo many and extreme vicissitudes of climate.

THE INTERPORT REGATTA.

We note that Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, President of the Kobe Rowing and Athletic Club, writes to the *Kobe Herald* in the following terms:—"With reference to the unfortunate incident which marred the Interport Fours Race at the last Regatta, I am glad to be able to inform you that an arrangement has been concluded with the fishermen of Iwaya and Wakinohama (villages lying between Mirume Boat House and Kobe) by which they bind themselves, in consideration of an annual sum of 20 *yen* to be paid to them by the K. R. and A. C., to abstain from fishing or otherwise interfering with racing on Regatta days.

"The fishermen of Shindaiki who collided with the Kobe boat were examined and detained at the Mikage Police Station, and eventually apologized fully to me for their misconduct and promised that such interference would never again occur.

"I would like to seize this opportunity of expressing to His Excellency Governor Hattori the thanks of the K. R. & A. C. Committee for the prompt and courteous action which he has been so kind as to take in the settling of this matter."

LAWN TENNIS.

The finals in the Ladies' Doubles of the Ladies Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club took place in the Bluff Gardens on Friday afternoon and attracted a considerable attendance. The weather was all that could be desired, being remarkably cool for the time of year, and without any glare to bother the players. The games were most interesting to watch, being well contested throughout and the winners turned up in the Misses H. and G. Page, who won with the score of 6-4, 6-5. Their volleying was very good and that it was evidently appreciated by the spectators was shown by the frequent bursts of applause which broke from the on-lookers. The losers, Miss Ross and Miss Dodds, it must be admitted, appeared to be a little off their usual game, though they stood up well to the excellent combination of their opponents.

At the conclusion of play, Mrs. James, in her usual charming manner, presented the prizes, accompanying them with appropriate remarks.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A case of cholera was reported on June 24th in Oita prefecture.

Over 900 U.S. volunteers arrived at Nagasaki on June 19th from Manila *en route* for home.

The Kure Naval Authorities are advertising for three fish torpedoes that have gone astray.

M. Kobayashi (31) living at Odawara, quarrelled on June 19th with his wife Hide (24) and inflicted fatal injuries.

The nephew of Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, who arrived in Japan the other day, has proceeded to Osaka to visit the Exhibition.

I. Inouye, clerk of the Takefu Local Court, Fukui prefecture, was arrested on June 24th on a charge of having accepted a bribe.

The South African fever-infected blankets were sold at Cape Town by the military authorities to the number of 180,000 at 2½d. each.

Mr. K. Muro, former member of the Diet, elected for Niigata Prefecture, died on June 20th. He had been suffering from heart disease.

Mr. S. Osawa, member of Parliament for Chiba prefecture, was arrested on the night of June 20th on a charge of being implicated in the text book affair.

H. Terakawa, proprietor of the *Esashi Mainichi Shimbun*, Hokkaido, was arrested on June 21st on a charge of having used menaces and committed fraud.

K. Harada (57), of Fukui prefecture, who murdered his father by hanging him and was sentenced to death, was executed on June 24th at the Ichigaya Jail, Tokyo.

A fisherman named K. Kanawa (52) was run over by train on the railway near Kawasaki and crushed to death on June 24. He was excessively intodicated at the time.

A telegram from Okayama states that the sea wall along Yatsuhama was broken on the morning of June 24th and the water spread over the locality, flooding sixty-two houses.

A joint meeting of rice, stock and other exchanges throughout the Empire will probably be held at Tokyo in the middle of July. The business is not reported by the Japanese papers.

A Calcutta telegram, dated May 29, says:—The Prince and Princess of Wales start for America in August or September—not for India as stated by Reuter. Their Royal Highnesses are not expected in India until the autumn of 1904.

Mr. F. Shimomura intends to organize a trust at Vladivostock in cooperation with merchants of Moscow. Their intention is to monopolize the import and export trade between that port and Japan.

The Maharajah of Bikanir, who was in Hongkong in 1900 and is well known to be one of the keenest sportsmen among Indian princes, has promised to subscribe 1,000 rupees towards the expenses of the tour of an Indian cricket team in England.

The N. D. L. steamer *Nuernberg* which arrived in harbour on Monday had encountered a severe typhoon in the China Sea. One European sailor was washed over board and drowned, and a considerable quantity of deck cargo was also carried away.

The *Diario do Governo* of the 18th April states that His Majesty the King of Portugal has graciously bestowed the dignity of Knight in the Order of the Conception upon Chev. L. Casati, Interpreter at the Italian Legation and Acting Consul-General in Yokohama.

An educational official who was implicated in the text book affair was on June 19th sentenced in the Tokyo District Court to 3½ months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 14. The bribe, *yen* 1,500, which he had received was ordered to be confiscated.

Mr. C. H. Hinton, the old Headmaster of the Victoria Public School, Yokohama, has invented a patent base-ball pitcher. The machine is said to be a great success. Of course it is only for use during practise, and for this purpose is said to answer all the requirements.

Yesterday, the 25th, being the birth-day of the Crown Princess and of her second son (Prince Atsu), Prince Arisugawa, Marquis Oyama, Viscount Tanaka, Minister for the Imperial Household, and other nobles and high officials were entertained at noon at the Palace of the Crown Prince.

T. Hayai (43) an assistant engineer of Osaka city, who was engaged at Sakai, was arrested on June 23rd on a charge of having accepted a bribe of *yen* 50 from the contractor who built the Tondabayashi School. His house was searched for evidence.

In the Tokyo District Court, four educational officials who were implicated in the text book affair were on June 22nd sentenced to from 1½ months to 4½ months' imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of *yen* 5 to *yen* 10, and the bribes which they had received were ordered to be confiscated.

Two coolies named Yoshida (25) and Iijima (41) were arrested on June 17th by the Kagacho police. It is stated that they stole four bundles of gassed yarn belonging to Capt. A. Weston, at the Hatoba on the 16th and sold them to a dealer, in Kotobukicho. The value of the goods was about *yen* 45.

The result of the shooting at Osaka on Sunday put Mr. A. J. Buckley, Kobe, in second place with 70 points, Mr. L. W. Eyton in third place with the same number. Mr. de Voeux, Kobe, ninth with 67 and Mr. J. Eyton, Jr, tenth with 66. Messrs. Buckley and L. Eyton receivedsilver medals.

It is reported by the *Asahi* that the authorities of the Foreign Office intend to construct a large building at Peking for the Japanese Legation, at an expense of *yen* 250,000. Operations are designed to be completed within three years. Mr. Maki, chief architect of the work, has left Tokyo for China accompanied by his family.

C. Tanaka, living at Narashino, Chiba prefecture, who secretly brewed *saké* and escaped paying taxes for many years, has been arrested. The material he used for the manufacture of the liquor was boiled rice sold by the 13th and 14th Regiments after being served to the soldiers. He sold his *sake* under market rates to the military camps.

Mr. K. Takahashi, member of the Diet for Matsue, who was sentenced in the Matsue District Court to four months' imprisonment with hard labour on a charge of using threats, and who appealed to the Tokyo Appeal Court, was sentenced on June 18th to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, the previous sentence being quashed.

The entertainment given on Monday evening in the Public Hall should have been seen by a very much larger audience. With the exception of some clever acrobatic feats the whole programme was by one man, who did everything with tops that it seemed possible to do with them, and achieved a great deal that was positively amazing. The spectators vastly enjoyed Mr. Kotoji Takezawa's feats and were not stinted in their applause.

A clerk named S. Tanaka (35) of the Tanaka Bank, Kanda, Tokyo, was arrested at Nagoya on June 17th on a charge of having stolen *yen* 3,500 by a forged document from the 100th Bank, Tokyo, on December 8th last year. The money was spent at the Yoshiwara, and on June 4th he went to Osaka where he arranged with a man named M. Tsukamoto, an employee of the 130th Bank, to obtain money by fraudulent means. They made a false draft amounting to *yen* 3,750 on the 15th Bank, Tokyo, payable at the Aichi Bank, Nagoya, and Tanaka was attempting to collect the money at the latter bank on the day of his arrest.

Sir Claude MacDonald paid a visit on June 24th at 2.30 p.m. to the Department of Foreign Affairs, where he had a conference with Baron Komura, Minister. Count Inouye left for Kyoto in the evening of June 23rd after his visit to the palace and he is expected to return on the evening of the 26th. Marquises Ito and Yamagata and Baron Yamamoto, Minister for the Navy, met on June 24th at the official dwelling of Count Katsura, the Premier, where they held a lengthy conference.

K. Miyakawa (32) who embezzled over *yen* 400 belonging to the Nanjo Country Office, Fukui prefecture, while in service there as a clerk, and absconded in May, was arrested in Tokyo on June 23rd and subsequently removed to Nanjo. It appears that after absconding to Hakodate he squandered all the money and then came up to Tokyo, taking refuge in a Buddhist temple, the Kofukuji, near Omori.

A telegram under date of June 18th from Taipeh reported that heavy rain had prevailed in the island since the 16th, with the result that flooding had taken place and bridges were carried away. Communication was interrupted. Another report says that on the morning of the 18th natives to the number of about 150 attacked the camphor mill at Parisha, Yuran province, and killed a policeman and ten guards, whose heads were carried off. Three others were seriously wounded.

The billiard match between Mr. John Roberts and Mr. R. C. K. Johnson, which took place at the Y. U. Club on Saturday evening was very disappointing so far as the play of the ex-champion was concerned. Mr. Johnson received 650 points and he had made 1,000 by the time Mr. Roberts had reached 675. Mr. Johnson was in fine form, but Roberts was distinctly off his game. This may have been partly due to the excessive dampness of the weather as well as to the fact that the table used was the worst in the Club. Some seventy persons were present.

Miss E. R. Scidmore appears to have been successful in carrying through a spelling reform of some importance. On Feb. 3, 1897, the U.S. Board of Geographic Names decided to adopt the Cantonese pronunciation of the name of the Chinese capital, spelling the word "Pekin," but by collecting opinions from well-known authorities and presenting them to the Board Miss Scidmore was able to convince the members that the 1897 resolution was wrong. Everybody who is any body in sinological matters is strongly in favour of the "g," so the anomaly has now been removed.

A benefit concert to raise funds for maintaining the Yokohama Charity Hospital, Negishi, was held at the Hagoromo Theatre on June 23rd commencing at 2 p.m., under the auspices of the Japanese Ladies Benevolent Society. Of the various numbers on a very long programme the *Satsuma-biwa*, the *Sankyoku* (*koto*, *samisen* and *shakuhachi*) and the dancing of Hanayagi's company were undoubted specialities. The performance was to last till 10 o'clock at night. Mrs. H. Bonar and Mrs. C. W. Van Petten gave valuable assistance to the members of the society and the arrangements were successfully carried through.

As a consequence of the expulsion of the Carthusian monks from their ancient monastery in France, it is expected that Chartreuse liqueur of matured quality will soon become scarce and rise in price. The Paris agent of the monks has already received instructions to limit foreign orders to a maximum of three litres (five and-a-quarter pints). There is, however, a large stock of the liqueur, both green and yellow, in bond at Southampton. It is under the control of an English agent, who is appointed by the head of the brotherhood. The monks have decided to establish their distillery at Tarragona, in Spain. It is popularly believed that the mode of mixing and distilling the herbs is known to only two

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persons, the head of the settlement and his appointed successor. The recipe was supposed to have been preserved beneath the altar of the chapel in the monastery. The settlement originated in the year 1084, and has seen many troublous times. The aromatic liqueur is known to be composed of carnations, absinthium, and the young buds of pine trees, and is made in three strengths—green, yellow, and white. Very little of the latter is imported into England.

The *Asahi* states that the members of the Hakodate branch of the *Seiyu-kai* will hold a meeting on July 12th when they will probably decide to desert from the party. The *Hakodate Nichi Nichi*, the organ of the branch, seems on June 22nd to have broken with the local body. A telegram from Urawa, Saitama prefecture, to the same Tokyo paper, reports that those who deserted from the *Seiyu-kai* have organized a body called the Saitama Kakushin Club and held a meeting on June 22nd at the Koyo Kwan to discuss the proposed bye-laws and manifesto for organizing the body. They then decided to urge those who still remain in the *Seiyu-kwai*, to leave.

In the House of Commons on May 11th Sir Henry Fowler asked the Postmaster-General whether any arrangements have been come to with the Russian Government for the conveyance of mails from England to China and the Far East by the Trans-Siberian Railway, having regard to the great saving of time effected in transmission by this route; and whether the mails from Germany to China are carried by the Trans-Siberian route. Mr. Austen Chamberlain stated that he is in negotiation with the Russian Government for the conveyance of British mails to China and the Far East by the Trans-Siberian Railway, but has not yet been able to settle terms. He adds that he has reason to believe that German mails for China are likewise not yet forwarded by the Trans-Siberian route.

The gun trials of the battleship *Duncan* at Portsmouth last month will rank among the most remarkable and successful that have ever been attempted. The trials were superintended by Captain Percy Scott and the staff of the *Excellent*, and the progressive loading was carried out on two of the *Duncan's* guns, beginning with a charge of 176lbs. and steadily advancing to 220lbs. Two rounds were then fired with 232lbs., and the complement of men in the gun-loading chamber declared that they felt no more violent concussion with this charge than with 176lbs. To the next two rounds another 12lbs. was added, with precisely similar results, and with this charge of 244lbs. it was estimated that the projectile traversed a distance of about fifteen miles. A good deal of time had to be occupied in examining the guns after being fired, and as the light was bad it was decided at this point to leave the new maximum charge of 256lbs. to the next occasion when a battleship comes to Portsmouth for gun trials. The guns and mountings will now be subjected to strict mechanical tests in order to ascertain if the minute adjustments of the apparatus have in any way been affected.

The *Shanghai Mercury* of Wednesday, June 17th, says:—At about 12.15 p.m. to-day Mr. R. M. Campbell, of 56 Sinza road, Shanghai, the well-known bullion broker, went to the General Hospital, where he wrote a chit, handed it to his mafoo and told him to take it to the office of Mr. F. Anderson, which the mafoo at once proceeded to do. He had only gone a short distance when a couple of coolies ran after him and told him that his master had shot himself. Hurrying back to the scene he found it to be only too true. One of our staff was passing at the time, heard the shot fired and saw Mr. Campbell fall down. He informs us that deceased shot himself with a small revolver in the temple, the bullet coming out of the back of the head. A number of British sailors who were in the Hospital grounds at the time, heard the shot and rushed out only to see the unfortunate man lying on the ground. They assisted in carrying him inside, and medical aid was at once summoned, but he expired shortly after. A chit was found by the side of his hat asking that Dr. McLeod be sent for at once. The entire community feels greatly shocked at this strange occurrence, and every one will extend their heartfelt sympathy to his widow and family. An inquest was held this afternoon and the jury returned a verdict that deceased committed suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity.

LAW CASES.

S. NAKASE v. F. RETZ.

Judgement was delivered in this case in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on June 19th. Plaintiff's claim was dismissed and he was ordered to pay the costs.

LIEN PEH SENG v. NORWICH UNION FIRE INSURANCE CO.

The hearing of this case, brought by Lien Peh Seng against the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Co., whose Yokohama agents are Messrs. Cornes & Co., claiming insurance money, began in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on June 22nd.

Mr. Ideura was present for plaintiff and Mr. Sawada for defendant.

Plaintiff's counsel stated that plaintiff took out policies on January 10th, 1899, for *yen* 5,000, and on February 27th in the same year *yen* 1,000, covering a printing machine and other properties belonging to the periodical known as the *Shin Gie Pao* (*Chinese Discussion*) No. 139 Yamashita-cho. On October 28th, the same year, fire broke out in the office destroying almost all the property. The debris, however, was sold for *yen* 1,064.35. Taking this from the value of the policies, *yen* 6,000, plaintiff claimed from defendants the balance, but the latter declined to pay.

Defendants' counsel contended that the property belonged to the Chinese printers Kingsell & Co., No. 53. These printers at first applied to Messrs. Bavier & Co., who were agents at the time, for insurance to cover the property but the latter declined to accept it, owing to the prevalence of a rumour that the Chinamen intended that the place should catch fire so that they could obtain the insurance money. Plaintiff next applied to cover the same property on the pretext that the place and plant belonged to him and not to Kingsell & Co. The agents, accepting this proposal, made two contracts, the policies being in one case for *yen* 5,000 and in the other for *yen* 1,000. After the fire, plaintiff did not carry out the provisions stipulated in the contract.

Plaintiff's counsel held that plaintiff was the manager of the Chinese periodical, and accordingly he was a juridical person within the meaning of the Japanese Civil Code. He had authority to conclude contracts such as related to fire insurance. After the fire he went through the process provided in the terms of the contract. The debris was sold by Mr. J. W. Hall on November 14th, when a sum of *yen* 1,064.35 was realised after commission had been paid to him.

Counsel for both parties then introduced various evidence, after which the case was adjourned till September 17th.

C. B. CLAUSEN v. S. KOMOR.

Judgement was delivered on June 23rd in this case in the Yokohama District Court, Judge Kano dismissing the plaintiff's claim with costs.

The counter-claim of the defendant was withdrawn before the judgement.

S. ISAACS v. M. ISAACS.

An action for "urgent executory process" with regard to certain property, instituted by Mr. Sigismund Isaacs against Mr. Marcus Isaacs came up in the Yokohama District Court before Judge Kato on June 24th.

Plaintiff's counsel, Mr. R. Masujima, was absent and defendant alone was present in person.

When the case was called Judge Kato announced that the Japanese language must be used in proceedings in that Court, and he asked defendant whether he could understand that tongue. Defendant said he could not speak the language but he was desirous that the Court interpreter should interpret for him. The Judge then explained that the Court interpreter was only permitted to translate for foreign witnesses and not for principals in a suit.

Mr. M. Isaacs then sent a messenger for an interpreter and asked the Court to suspend the hearing for a few minutes until an interpreter could arrive.

The Court waited for a while and then adjourned the case *sine die*.

HIROSHIMA MASU v. E. T. BETHELL.

A settlement was arrived at in the Kobe Ku Saibansho on Monday in this case. The claim was by an amah who had been engaged to accompany Mrs. E. T. Bethell to England and who alleged that she was to receive *yen* 40 a month—the defendant contending, however, that she was only to receive *yen* 20. The Judge ordered the amah to consent to a compromise and to withdraw certain objectionable words that she had used regarding the defendant, and she thereupon consented to accept *yen* 11 in full discharge, *yen* 9 having already been paid to a person who had lent her that amount.

SENTENCE ON G. F. NASH.

G. F. Nash, former employee of the New York Life Insurance Co., Yokohama, who was charged with having stolen a cheque for *yen* 1,000 and endorsed it himself in order to obtain the money, was sentenced in the Criminal Section of the Yokohama District Court by Judge Yasuda on June 20th to two years' imprisonment with hard labour and six months' police surveillance. The judgment stated that the action of the accused in stealing the cheque was punishable under the provisions of Arts 366 and 376 of the Penal Code, and the endorsement under Art. 209. In case there were two penalties the heaviest must be imposed, but as there were extenuating circumstances, the penalty was lowered in accordance with Arts. 89 and 90.

KOBE INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL CASE.

Judgment in the Hiogo International Hospital case was given on Tuesday in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho. Defendants (Mr. J. Carey Hall and four others, Trustees of the Hospital), were ordered to remove all the buildings standing on No. 34, Yamamoto dori, Ichome, Kobe, and to surrender the lot to plaintiffs. The latter were authorised to remove all buildings at the expense of defendants if the latter fail to do so. Defendants were ordered to pay costs.

Commenting on the case, the *Kobe Herald* says:—It will be remembered that the hearing which has just been brought to a conclusion in the local District Court was the result of an appeal lodged with the Osaka Appeal Court by the plaintiffs (Hiramori Bungo and another) against a judgment recorded in favour of defendants by the local District Court on November 27th last. The Court of Appeal quashed both the interlocutory and final judgments of the lower Court and ordered the case to be heard *de novo*. That was on March 25th last. On the 23rd April the case was accordingly reopened, the plaintiffs on this occasion suing the trustees as representatives of a juridical person. In the original proceedings they had prosecuted the Trustees in their individual capacity and the Court held that they should have sued the Hospital itself. On the later occasion the Court held that the case should be instituted against the Trustees as representatives of the Hospital, a juridical body. As a matter of fact, the Hospital is not registered as a juridical body. The second, third and fourth hearings took place on May 17th, 19th and 28th, when the case was adjourned to June 4th. On the 4th inst. it was again adjourned to the 9th, when an official of the City Office was examined. On this occasion Counsel for plaintiffs applied for the examination of two of the Trustees, which accordingly took place on the 16th inst., when, after further discussion and examination as to the exact legal standing of the Hospital, to determine whether or not it was a juridical body, the Court announced that judgment would be given on the 23rd inst. This case was first instituted rather more than a year ago—the initial hearing taking place on June 26th, 1902. It is, we believe, on a par with other cases affecting leases of land here,—unworthy of serious consideration if respect is to be had to the lease. At the same time we cannot say that the method of defence employed by the Trustees commends itself entirely to our approval. Leaving on one side the absence of the Trustees from the various hearings—Mr. J. Carey

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Hall and Rev. G. H. Davies only attended on the 16th inst. in response to a summons—it appears to us that altogether too much stress has been laid throughout on technical points. The important matter to keep before the Court was the lease and not the standing of the parties named as defendants in the case. They were Trustees of the Hospital anyway, and as the representatives of the owners—the foreign community—we are disposed to believe they would have been better advised had they instructed their legal representative to keep technical and subordinate questions in the background and confine the arguments to the crux of the whole question—the lease. As there is now a prospect of further litigation it might be advisable for the Trutees to call a meeting so that the public may be given an authoritative statement of the present position of affairs.

THE LATE CARDINAL VAUGHAN.

Since the death of Cardinal Manning, the leading figure in Roman Catholic circles in England has been His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan, D.D., formerly Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford. The late Prince of the Church was the eldest son of the late Lieut.-Colonel Vaughan of Courtfield, Herefordshire, and his wife Eliza Rous, born at Gloucester, April 15, 1832. He received his education at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, on the Continent, and in Rome, where he entered the Accademia dei nobili Ecclesiastici. From *Men and Women of the Time* we take the following account of his life:—

He was ordained a priest at Lucca, Oct. 28, 1854, and, returning to England, joined the Oblates of St. Charles, a congregation of secular priests founded at Bayswater by the late Cardinal Manning. From the Oblates he was sent to St. Edmund's College, near Ware, of which he was Vice-President until 1862. He went in 1863 to America in order to gather funds for founding a Missionary College. In 1869 he founded, and was President-General of, St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary College, Mill Hill, Middlesex, and towards the close of the year 1871 accompanied to Maryland the first detachment of priests who were sent from that institution on a special mission to the coloured population of the United States. On the death of Bishop Turner he was elected Bishop of Salford, and consecrated in his cathedral by the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, Oct. 28, 1872. At Salford he published a series of pastoral letters, and identified himself prominently with the crusade against intemperance, with rescue work among children, and the cause of commercial education, in the interests of which he built St. Bede's College. On March 29, 1892, he was elected by the Pope, and on the recommendation of the Propaganda, to the See of Westminster, left vacant by the death of Cardinal Manning. On May 15 he took possession of his See and received the pallium on August 16. He was summoned to Rome in January, 1893, to be created a Cardinal, and was received with great distinction during his stay. Cardinal Vaughan, who had acquired a considerable reputation as a preacher, published many letters and pamphlets, and was the proprietor of the *Tablet* newspaper and of the *Dublin Review*. A speech of his, in which he dwelt upon the validity of Anglican Orders, led to a long controversy in the *Times* and other papers during the autumn of 1894. In September, 1897, on the occasion of the Roman Catholic celebration of the 13th centenary of the landing of St. Augustine and his monks at Ebbsfleet, Cardinal Vaughan delivered an important address at the Granville Hall, Ramsgate, which may be regarded as a Roman reply to the Lambeth Conference of that year. In this address the Cardinal reviewed the growth of Christianity in England and the present position of Anglicans and Romans in this country. He adverted especially to the proposition agreed to by the then recent Lambeth Conference, emphasizing "the Divine purpose of visible unity amongst Christians as a fact of revelation." Prior Vaughan, the Cardinal's brother, died in September 1896. Another brother is the well known Father Bernard Vaughan, of Brompton Oratory.

THE IMPORTANCE TO MISSIONARIES OF SOCIAL SCIENCE.

By Rev. Sidney L. Gulick, M.A.

The substance of the following paper was given as an address at the Annual Meeting of the Japan Mission of the American Board held in Kobe, Japan, July 3-10, 1902.

Among the most impressive of Mr. Mott's addresses last autumn was that on "Christians of Reality." He there struck a note increasingly characteristic of all recent thought whether in science, philosophy or religion. The modern man is impatient with mere philosophies, theories and professions. He wants to know the actual, living world of being and power. He has no places or use for sham men and shallow science. It is not too much to say that the central secret of modern life and progress is the increasingly insistent search for and the actual attainment of reality. In proportion as men are real and handle reality do they secure results, whether in the physical or psychical realms of being.

The missionary too, needs to get into close touch with the real. He must know the reality of the men and the people he would lead to Christ. *A priori* ideas in regard to the individual or society are sure to be defective if not wholly false and so far a hindrance to effective work.

The importance to missionaries of social science depends first on what foreign missionary work is, and second on what social science is. Let us seek answers to these questions.

Broadly speaking, we may define foreign missions as the effective preaching of the Gospel to unevangelized peoples. Here we see at once two elements; the Gospel has long been obvious. But is it equally realized that though knowing the Gospel well, a man may still be an inefficient missionary merely because he does not know the people to whom he goes. I fear this aspect of the truth is inadequately realized. In the above definition lies also a third element, effective preaching; here come in the science and the art of missions. The missionary then is a workman, having specific material on which to work, the Gospel, and a specific purpose, from that material to produce Christians.

Now no one will dispute the axiom that skilled workmanship is essential to success in high-grade work. It is also obvious that in proportion to the grade of the work must be the trained ability of the man who attempts it. These obvious principles, so well tested in the business world, apply with full force to Christian work and Christian workers. Their task, the upbuilding of Christlike character from non-Christian material, is the highest conceivable work given to man.

Wherein lies, let us now ask, the skill of a modern workman? Is it not in the scientific accuracy of his knowledge of nature? And does not this reveal to us the source of the skill of him who would mould human nature? Must not he too, have adequate and accurate knowledge of the material on which he works? Surely. As natural science is the key to Nature's mysteries and to power over her, so social science is the key to the mysteries of human nature, conferring power with knowledge. It gives insight into the nature of society and its vital processes. It makes plain the methods essential to missionary work and enables the worker to proceed like a master workman to the accomplishment of his ends, wasting neither material nor time. It is not too much to say that without some knowledge of social science the missionary can understand neither Christendom nor heathendom on the one hand, nor on the other, either the Gospel or the real nature and the wisest methods of missionary work. Countless missionary treasure is wasted, and in the aggregate thousand of years of labour is mis-spent for lack of such adequate and accurate knowledge of the nature of society and of the laws governing its life, as social science aims to give.

But let me at once guard against a possible misunderstanding. I do not mean to say that because they may not have made a formal study of the science, the thousands of missionaries throughout the world are utterly ignorant of the Gospel, the heathen, and the purpose and methods of missionary work. Far from it. Many a man, through the possession of a sound though unconscious scientific common sense, and by making use of such empirical rules as centuries may have proved useful, may be a relatively successful machinist, even though he may never have made a formal study of the science of mechanics. Yet who can doubt that the same machinist would attain a greater success were he, by the help of that science, complete master of all the principles involved in his business? So, too, many a missionary may attain considerable success by the use of methods found useful by others and by the help of a practical and consecrated common sense, even though he may never have made a formal study of social science. Through his individual experience and intuitive judgment, he may attain even considerable insight into the principles of social life and social reform. Yet who can doubt that he would attain more accurate and profound insight and accomplish greater results with less loss of time and material, were he master of all the sociological principles involved in his calling? Is it presumptuous to think that a systematic study of society, assisted by hundreds of gifted specialists, would be of immense value to the missionary?

On the other hand, missionaries owe it to the world to make scientific observations on society, for they are at work in a unique social laboratory. As social students they have special opportunities both for observation and experiment. They can see at first hand phenomena relatively out of the sight of the ordinary student of society in Christendom. How important to the science would be the expert testimony they might give. The science needs their help no less than they need its help.

But what is Social Science? Negatively, it is not socialism. Positively it has been defined as the empirical study of society; that is, the study of society as an objective entity which may be examined, weighed, experimented with and treated just as any other science treats its material, as for instance, chemistry, biology, or psychology. Social science seeks to grasp man's life as a whole, and not in fragments. It asks. What is the nature of society as such? What are its constitutive and also its governing principles? Even a preliminary study of social science reveals to the thoughtful student the fact that the spontaneous, native conceptions of even the modern man regarding the individual and society are as crude and far from reality as were the ancient man's spontaneous, naive conceptions of the earth and the heavens. If so, then he who would know the reality of man's social life needs the help of social science, by whose aid he may gain a reasoned, comprehensive, and adequate conception. Society in all its manifestations, is the product of man's mind and heart and will. It is a psychic entity. The laws governing its activity, therefore, both past and present, are psychic laws. Its generative and regenerative processes are psychic processes.

Some salient points in which social science is important to the missionary.—I remark first that it helps him rise out of the particular race or civilization in which he was reared and to look at it and at every alien race objectively, from an impartial standpoint. This is an essential condition of truly understanding both his own race and himself, much more so of understanding an alien race. Social science introduces the missionary to the subject of Racial Psychology, a branch of science as yet little developed but of incalculable value to him who would profoundly understand an alien people. If we wish really to comprehend the Japanese we must gain insight into the comparative psychological characteristics of the Anglo-Saxon and Japanese races. We must be able to put our fingers on the characteristic thought, motions and volitions differentiating them from us. Without this ability, our judgements of them are necessarily vague, subjective feeling, consisting largely of haphazard guesswork. Much of the criticism of Japan and her people is worthless for lack of all knowledge of Racial Psychology, and for lack of an objective impartial standpoint.

Again, by showing us that society is a psychic entity, sociology convinces us that all the laws governing its activity are psychic laws. The full significance of this is not easily grasped. Perhaps one of the most important points is that society is, in our thought, lifted out of the category of dead nature, subject to necessary laws, to fatality, and is put into the category of freedom, of self-activity and self-determination. Society is seen to have powers of self-creation. It is determined from within, not exclusively from without. This principle has vital relations to mission theory and work.

By showing us the mutual relations of society and the individual and by insisting on the fact, impossible in the physical world but actual in psychic life, of each living in all and all in each, social science points the way along which we must walk if we would understand those non-Christian individuals whom we would win to Christ. In his stimulating address at Karuizawa last summer, Dr. Ashmore, of China, emphasized the need of knowing the individual heathen with whom you are dealing. Yes, we all agree on that point. But how are you going to know him? That is the difficult problem. Suppose you persuade him to sit down beside you; will you come to know him by merely looking at him or by merely being near him? You may discover the colour of his skin and hair and eyes, whether his ancestry is predominantly Malay or Negro, Mongol or Tatar; you may easily make out the shape and make of his clothes, if he has any; but knowing these or other external or physiological features even to perfection, do you know his real self? Not in the least. You cannot know any particular individual until you know in pretty large measure his entire people. You must not only have command of their objective language, but you must be thoroughly familiar with their subjective language and their language of emotion, so that you are able to understand and appreciate all their ruling ideas and emotions with their reactions in volitions before you can know with any certainty or fulness a single individual of that people; for an individual is merely a concrete expression of the whole, a miniature copy of his society, slightly accentuated.

Therefore, difficult though it be, as missionaries wishing to know people, we must strive to secure community of feeling, and in a measure at least, come to feel as they feel.

By the help of social science the missionary

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secures new insight into the meaning of race and civilisation. Apart from the insight it is hardly possible for him to have any adequate understanding of the meaning of the mighty racial conflicts and problems confronting the Twentieth Century. But social science does more than this. It helps us to new and deeper insight into the meaning of the Gospel and to the part it is to take in the regeneration of the world. It helps us to appreciate that marvelous teaching of Christ in regard to mutual indwelling. "Abide in me and I in you." Physically impossible it may be a psychical reality.

Christ conceived the Kingdom as the freely accepted indwelling of God in man, resulting in man's attainment of Godlikeness. And by the help of social science we gain insight into the Kingdom as a unity. Though individuals are its component elements they are fused into a unity. It recreates the individuals and the society accepting it and conforms them to its own inner nature. We come to think of the Kingdom in such a way as that the full salvation of each is intimately bound up with that of all. No one liveth to himself or dieth to himself.

Extreme individualism is now outgrown in every human science. The new conception of man, balancing the individualistic by the socialised view, is now dominating them all. In this respect the missionary needs to follow in the path of advancing science.

Social science also gives us a new insight into the true purpose of foreign missionary work. The old view looks upon this merely as the saving of individuals. It counted the millions dying each year and urged the endless misery of their fate as incentives to our work. It pointed out that more heathen are born each year than we are converting. We must therefore attack the work more faithfully and vigorously. We must save these perishing millions as brands from the burning, one by one. The new view does not ignore or even make light of individual salvation, but it sees the hopelessness, the impossibility of saving the millions until the ruling ideas, emotions and volitions of the social group have been essentially Christianized. Missionary work therefore aims to transform the social order as well as to save individuals.

Again, social science discloses to us the fact that the different branches of the human race have passed through or are still in radically different stages or systems of social life. The difference between advanced and belated peoples lies not so much in their material civilization, in their mastery of nature as in the internal, psychical structure of their social organism. Social science distinguishes between the individualistic and the communal types of social structure and shows us how Oriental peoples are predominantly organized on the communal type of social structure, while Occidental peoples are predominantly individualistic.

Mr. Miyagawa's statement in his valuable address to us yesterday, that the Japanese do not often nor at first ask "What must I do to be saved?" and his brief explanation that this is due to the slight development of individuality in Japan will hardly be appreciated by one who has not grasped the difference between the individualistic social order of the west and the communal social order of the East, and the far reaching consequences of that difference. Through the insight thus given us by social science much that at first seems irrational in an alien people, on more profound knowledge is seen to be quite rational and intelligible.

That an Occiental may adequately understand and appreciate the ethical life of non-Christian races, also, is social science of great importance. Similarly in regard to religion. social science is essential to its proper understanding. The mutual influence of the social order and the religious life must be grasped if we would truly understand the full phenomena of social life. They play into each other as cause and effect, the social order moulding the religion, and the religion directing the social development. Social science has much light to throw on this subject. Every missionary who seeks to be a master workman should know what it teaches.

And this suggests our next point, which is that social science is important to us because it emphasizes the principle of continuity. Social development does not take place by disconnected leaps, over unbridged chasms, or cataclysmally, but through the uniform, natural process of building the new on the old, of the new growing out of the old and transcending it. This is a profound law of the social generative process and needs full recognition by him who seeks to regenerate society. The divine forces for moral and religious regeneration are already latent in every society and in every individual. The wise missionary seeks to find them out, to discover their lurking place and nature, and to apply such motives as are calculated to release them from their inhibitions and call them into activity.

Still another point. By fixing our attention on the intellectual, emotional and volitional activities differentiating the psychic life of diverse peoples, and the different stages of the social life of the same people, social science helps us to see to what an extent the Christian view of God, of man, and of the world has already entered into the warp and woof of the social fabric of Western people. To quote Dr. Ashmore again, Christianity has been "capitalized" in Christian lands—incorporated into the social system. Not until we understand what this means, and not until we understand what are the peculiarities of the psychic life of a people where Christianity has not "capitalized," can we be said to understand in any comprehensive way the Gospel we are to preach, the people we are to preach to, the work already accomplished in Christendom, or that which is to be done in heathendom, nor can we realize the difference between the home pastor's problem and the missionary's problem. The pastor's work is to force home to the heart and already known and secretly or unconsciously admitted ethical and religious truth. The missionary, however, has little or no footing in his hearers heart, no common ground of admitted truth. At one and the same time he must "capitalize" Christian truth where an alien system has prepossession, and secure its personal acceptance by individual men and women.

The sociological conception of the purpose and principles of missionary work may be thought to lead toward missionary pessimism. If it is so difficult to save a single individual, as experience proves, how impossible to transform a race, it will be argued. But looked into carefully, the individualistic is the pessimistic view, while the view of social science is the really hopeful one. For taking into consideration all the conditions it is really amazing how easily whole peoples, as a matter of fact, have been permeated with new ideas, emotions and volitions.

The revolution which has swept over the ideas, emotions and volitions of the Japanese race during the past fifty years is stupendous. It completely refutes the arguments of those who urge physiological heredity as the essential factor in the transmission of psychic characteristics. It is also utterly beyond the power of the individualistic thinker to appreciate. Only one who has gained a sociological view of man's nature can adequately see and appreciate these facts. Only he can have a true comprehension of the "Real Japan" in the midst of which we are living. Social science carefully ponders these facts and gathers therefrom an inspiration wholly impossible to the individualistic view.

If the argument of this paper is sound, social science has important light to throw on the immediate methods of missionary work, on the science and art of missions. Under this general head we should study the evangelistic, educational, eleemosynary, industrial and publicational branches of our work in the light of social science. Let us content ourselves with a few more or less directly practical suggestions by way of example.

Perhaps the two most important practical suggestions of social science are; (a) to those committees at home whose duty it is to select those who are to be sent as missionaries to the foreign field, to urge on them great care. But I need not dwell on this point here.

(b) To those individuals thus selected, to urge on them the need of hard, systematic study in preparation for their life work. Without years of patient, persistent toil on the language until one is fairly its master, and without a good knowledge of the history, the social customs, the industrial, political, ethical and religious life of the people one is sent to win, the ordinary missionary must not count himself a skilled workman; he cannot expect to accomplish much. Whatever may be the success of the missionary genius, adequate knowledge, proficiency and success can be gained by the average missionary only by years of incessant study. Be not deceived. Efficient missionary work demands enormous and laborious preparation.

Centuries of practical experience in Christian work in many lands has given the church a wide variety of effective methods. Practical and consecrated common sense has, by a process of the survival of the fittest methods, led Christian workers into innumerable methods wholly in accord with the principles of social science. By a long series of experiments, Christian workers have attained a rule of thumb, so to speak, by which to direct their efforts. Much good work has thus been and is now being done. But the day is passed when high-grade, aggressive work can be done even in physics merely by rule of thumb. Adequate knowledge and insight are increasingly needed. And this is particularly true in Christian work. Social science, therefore, while offering no revolutionary suggestions as to general methods of work, does emphasize the need of adequate preparation, leading to accurate, profound insight, together with the adoption of certain principles in the prosecution of the methods already adopted.

Our plans for evangelistic work must include the millions. Wide use of the printed page is to-day the most hopeful way of doing this in Japan. We must be ready to expend tens of thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands of dollars in printing and distributing intelligible and interesting, well illustrated reading matter, for all Japan can read. We should make much use of the secular daily paper and the monthly magazine. A well-subsidized daily Christian newspaper which could command the strongest writers by paying well for their contributions, even though published at a heavy loss financially would be a paying missionary method. A well illustrated, Christian, popular magazine though published at a loss would be a powerful instrument in our Christian work. Frequent and attractive theatre meetings may be expensive, but they are important ways of reaching multitudes who never would go to church or look at the Christian newspaper or tract. We should also utilize the national and local festivals and fairs for extensive scattering of the seed by open-air preaching, Bible selling and tract distribution. Were it possible for all Christians and missionaries in Japan to make a systematic distribution of some one suitable tract to every house in Japan within a short time, it would set the nation to talking and thinking, with results that could not be estimated. Were we as lavish and universal in our methods as Murai's Tobacco Trust we would move the nation.

Another principle by which to guide our work is that we must not estimate our effectiveness exclusively by the immediate or the visible results. We must always remember that we are seeking to introduce new modes of thought, of emotion and of will among the millions, and this cannot be done suddenly. For millions move slowly. If we can get crowds to listen to Christian sermons, or even scientific-religious lectures in theatres or elsewhere, even though not one individual professes conversion, we may be assured that our real results are not small, for we have set our hearers thinking on new lines, we have introduced them to new motives, and their lives can never thereafter remain exactly as though they had never heard us.

In our preaching we must ever strive to make moral and religious connection with our hearers. For this we must be well acquainted with Japan's ethical and religious teachers. This is where most missionaries fail. He who has not this knowledge may perhaps preach helpfully to Christians, he may in a measure be able to expound the Bible to those who are eager to study it, but he cannot do much popular, aggressive work. He will be ever beating the air. His hearers will not understand what he is driving at. Social science, as we have seen, emphasizes the continuity of psychic life. Connection is necessary to continuity. The missionary must in some way make connection between what he has to urge and that truth which his audience already has, if he would lift them. If his sermon is strictly Biblical in ideas and phraseology from first to last, he may be sure that its intelligibility to non-Christian hearers will be very slight and its power *nil*.

Again, the preacher should ever seek to draw out to full consciousness in his hearers those principles of Christian life already more or less unconsciously adopted by them. Japan's new social order is essentially Christian. We need to realize this clearly ourselves and keep forcing it home on our Japanese hearers. We also need to show that if this new social order is to develop its full flowers and fruit it must become completely and consciously Christian. This can take place only through the acceptance of Christ by millions of Japan's citizens. Public morality depends on private morality. A Christian civilization may be imitated, but it cannot grow to independent life and power, unless Christian truth is accepted by millions of the individuals constituting the social group. It will fall into ruin. This we must constantly urge. But at the same time we must remember that although there are tens of millions of individual heathen in Japan—and are there not countless heathen in every land—yet we should insist that as a nation with a constitutional government and all that implies, Japan is no longer the old style heathen, but in important respects has become a Christian nation. She has become a part of Christendom, and is in close living connection with it. Let us emphasize that fact and show its meaning and urge individuals to accept all that lies implicite in it.

On the other hand, social science emphasizes specific work for individuals, no less than for the millions. One by one men are converted, born into the Kingdom of God, as children are into the family. Appeal for immediate decision by those who have heard enough to know what they are doing is highly important, and thoroughly agrees with the sociological principles. But the general and the individualistic methods are essential. We must not be only and always planting. Neither must we be always and only seeking to reap. Let us not neglect either method for the other. Society cannot be fully saved unless the individual is converted. The social regenerative process takes place in individuals. Although individuals are reproductions of their social system—micro-societies—no two persons are exactly alike. Each is an individual, is differently accentuated, and accordingly needs special treatment suited to his particular case. True social science emphasizes

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the need of personal work no less than of social work.

Social science lays great emphasis on the importance to the missionary of language study because (a) only so can the missionary gain a living, vital, knowledge of the people, and (a) only through their own native tongue can the hearts and wills of the people be reached. Language mastery is as important to a missionary as the mastery of the science of chemistry is to the professional chemist or of the details of government to a statesman.

Finally, fully as important as language study, is the careful and persistent reading of a carefully prepared course of reading on Japan. No single missionary unaided can make all the necessary original investigations and thus discover all that a missionary needs to know. Should he attempt it, he would have no time for his missionary work. We must acquire in the quickest possible time consistent with accuracy and insight the results of the investigations of others. Having read all the books we can lay hands on, we shall be quick to see, and perhaps in time to add something ourselves to the general stock of knowledge. No skilled workman can afford to be ignorant of any work done or knowledge gained along the line of his specialty.

Social science, then, is important to the missionary because it gives him exact knowledge of individuals and of society; it gives him insight into their true nature; it brings him into touch with reality; it shows him just what he is doing, how much he has already accomplished and how much he has already to accomplish. It gives him hope and courage. It gives him a deeper understanding of the Gospel and of the aim of missionary work. It gives him a reasoned, comprehensive and orderly account of the primary principles of human life, and adequate and accurate knowledge of the social generative process.

It gives him close and conscious connection with the many bright minds who have made this subject the object of their life study. As a result, it should help him attain effective methods of work and enable him to become a wise and skilled workman, a masterhand in moulding society along the lines in which it should develope. †

† [Though the works on social science are innumerable the science is still young. The field is so enormous that no one has yet mastered it, at least no single work covers the whole ground. Many faddists, moreover, have arisen, who have striven to explain all the phenomena of society from a single inadequate view-point. The following works on Sociology may, however, be recommended to a beginner:—

Prof. Fairbank's Introduction to Sociology.
Prof. Henderson's Social Elements.
Small and Vincent's Introduction to the Study of Society.
Prof. Mackenzie's Introduction to Social Philosophy.
Prof. Giddings' Principles of Sociology.
Prof. Ward's Psychic Elements of Civilization.

He who has fairly mastered these six volumes will be able thereafter to direct his own reading in Sociology.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

SCIENCE AND RELIGION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I am sure the following extracts will be of great interest to many of your readers, so I venture to ask you to publish them. The first is a letter from Lord Kelvin and is from the London *Times*, to which paper it was addressed:

To the Editor of "The Times."

Sir,—In your report of a few words which I said in proposing a vote of thanks to Professor Henslow for his lecture "On Present Day Rationalism," yesterday evening, in University College, I find the following:—"Was there anything so absurd as to believe that a number of atoms by falling together of their own accord could make a crystal, a sprig of moss, a microbe, a living animal?" I wish to delete "a crystal" though no doubt your report of what I said is correct. Exceedingly narrow limits of time prevented me from endeavouring to explain how different is the structure of a crystal from that of any portion, large or small of an animal or plant or the cellular formation of which the bodies of animals and plants are made; but I desired to point out that, while 'fortuitous concourse of atoms' is not an inappropriate description of the formation of a crystal, it is utterly absurd in respect to the coming into existence or the growth or the continuation of the molecular combinations presented in the bodies of living things. Here scientific thought is compelled to accept the idea of creative power. Forty years ago I asked Liebig, walking in the country, if he believed that the grass and flowers grew by mere chemical forces. He answered, "No, no more than I could believe that a book of botany describing them could grow by mere chemical forces."

Every action of human free will is a miracle to physical and chemical and mathematical science.

Yours faithfully, KELVIN.

15 Eaton Place, London, S.W. May 2.

The next quotation is from the *Daily Mail*, London: "Testimony such as Lord Kelvin's must necessarily exert tremendous moral force. Man, a mere speck on the earth's surface, weighs and measures his terrestrial sphere; traces the mechanism of the heavens and dissolves all substance into a handful of elements, but he stands baffled before the mystery of life—the mystery which Spencer has called 'the unknowable' and both Tyndall and Huxley declined to deny. But with the more certain note of a maturer science, Lord Kelvin says that men 'are bound to come to the conclusion that science is not antagonistic to religion, but a help for religion'; and a religion be it added very different from Matthew Arnold's 'morality touched by emotion.'"

Lord Kelvin's remarks were reported in the *Daily Mail*, *Times* and other leading papers. From the columns of the London *Christian World* I make an extract:

"Lord Kelvin made a remarkable and interesting statement at the close of a lecture by Rev. Prof. G. Henslow at University College, London, on "Present Day Rationalism." Lord Kelvin said 'Modern biologists were coming once more to the acceptance of something unknown which they might call "vital force."' In thinking of that unknown object, they were *in science* (my italics) all agnostics; they did not know. They only knew God in his works but they were absolutely forced by science to admit and believe in a directive power—something more than physical, dynamical, electric forces. There was nothing between absolute belief in creative power and the acceptance of the theory of a fortuitous concourse of atoms. But it was absurd to think of a sprig of moss, a microbe, a living animal arising through a number of atoms falling together of their own accord. A million of millions of years could not in that way give them a beautiful world like ours. In science they had a knowledge that there was a spiritual influence in the world about them."

Now, Mr. Editor, I suppose it will be an easy thing for some University Professor or Reviewer in Japan to work out a Huxleyan definition of the *Natural* so that it will include Lord Kelvin's "directive power—something more than physical, dynamical, electric forces. . . . . A spiritual influence in the world about them" and then we will all clearly see that Lord Kelvin is in harmony with "the intellectual position occupied by modern Japanese Scholars." Without some such illuminating definition a lot of the uninitiated will tumble into the error that Lord Kelvin believes in the *Supernatural*. In fact ever since the British Science Association met in the city of Toronto, Canada—my native city—I have been unable to get entirely rid of the idea that not only Lord Kelvin but also a very large number of distinguished British Scientists are believers in the Supernatural. I got that notion from their utterances during their visit to Toronto—some of those utterances made in various evangelical Churches in the summer of 1897 when the Association met there.

We may excuse some Japanese scholars for concluding that educated men have given up belief in Christianity but how any intelligent well-informed Westerner living in Japan can have persuaded himself that such a statement is true of educated men generally in America or England is beyond my comprehension. Admitted, that "attendance at church or chapel and outward conformity to existing religious customs and professions are by no means a proof that miracles, the Divinity of Christ, and similar dogmas are accepted." (see Mr. Dening's letter in *Japan Mail* of May 11th). But when public men such as the President of the United States, Judges of the Supreme Court, numerous Presidents of Universities express themselves publicly as believing in the Divinity of Christ, in the Supernatural, and in the dogmas of Twentieth Century Evangelical Christianity which do not differ materially from the essential dogmas of Second Century Christianity, what are we to think they believe? It may be difficult to know the convictions of "shrewd American officials" but until I have some slight shadow of evidence, I am not so credulous as to believe that the majority of public men such as the late Pres. McKinley, Pres. Roosevelt, the late Sir Oliver Mowat, Lieut. Gov. of Ontario, and formerly Minister of Justice for Canada, and many University Professors are to be classed as hypocrites and sycophants. For such are the only terms applicable to men who on public platforms or through the press lead the public to think that they heartily believe the Divinity of Christ in the generally accepted significance of that term—that is the Deity of Christ and similar dogmas,—if they do not believe these things. "To discuss such things is worse than useless." Then why make assertions about them and give no shadow of evidence? My humble, honest opinion and belief after reading the Religious Summaries in the *Japan Mail* for some years and after talking with many teachers and students and educated men in Japan is that scholars in Japan will come, and are beginning to come to that "intellectual position occupied" by the great majority of highly educated men in America and England, viz. a belief in the Supernatural and in the Divinity of Christ. And that, to use Lord Kelvin's words in another part of his address referred to above, "not as an article of traditional faith but as an article of belief from which there is no escape." With apologies for taking up so much of your valuable space.

I am yours, &c., D. NORMAN.

Nagano, June 17th, 1903.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have read with much pleasure the correspondence which appeared under the above heading in your issue of the 20th inst., and avail myself of this opportunity to present a somewhat different, but perhaps quite as widely accepted, view of the question. The detailed quotations from Lord Kelvin in the previous correspondence contain among others, that "men are bound to come to the conclusion that science is not antagonistic to religion, but a help for religion," and in connection herewith I would like to enquire if the previous correspondent is familiar with a work entitled "The Conflict between Religion and Science," by Dr. J. W. Draper, as well as Lecky's "Rise and Influence of Rationalism in Europe," which treat of the subject in a very technical manner.

To all who study this secession on the hand of history, there can remain little doubt that the relative position of religion and science fully justify the term "conflict," even in the present day. In this conflict there have been various stages at various epochs, in which the respective parties assumed very different roles. At first it was science which endeavored to prove that it was not in disaccord with religion (religion being then in power), now the tables have been turned and religion endeavors to prove that it does not disagree with science, (that power having meantime been secularized). When four centuries ago the first explorer started on his voyage around the world, the priest said: "Don't go; you will fall off." It would be useless to quote the many incidents of this conflict; they are a matter of history. Luther was a believer in a personal devil, with whom he said he held conversations, and John Wesley preached a sermon on "The cause and cure of earthquakes," which latter ought to be of particular interest in Japan. These men were the founders of two of our large and flourishing sects, and if they knew as much about the next world as they did about this, it would be difficult to appreciate the value of their knowledge.

When in the days of our grandfathers Dr. Jenner invented vaccination, his invention was denounced from many pulpits as "diabolical," it was averred that vaccinated children became "ox faced," that abscesses broke out to indicate "sprouting horns," and that the countenance was gradually transmuted into the visage of a cow, and the voice into the bellowing of bulls. In our day Darwin and Huxley have met with the most cordial opposition of clergymen, and only to the extent that the doctrines established by them have advanced, has the church receded. This conflict has existed from time immemorial; it is a conflict between gentlemen who are going to reward us in another world, and men who hold that we should confine our attention solely to this. Science as a handmaid of religion has been a failure. The science of mathematics has not informed us of the mathematical relation of the 3 to 1, and 1 to 3 (without dividing the substance, or confounding the whole). The telescope has been pointed at the stars; but the new Jerusalem is not there. Geography has also failed; for it has taught us neither the geographical position of heaven, nor that of the other place.

It may perhaps be difficult for a man who has been born but once to comprehend these matters, and I will therefore gladly leave their interpretation to those initiated into the mysteries of the second birth.

Sincerely yours, "M."

Yokohama, June, 1903.

BRITANNIA'S SONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—May I again avail myself of your courtesy to inform those who are interested in the matter, that the suggestion regarding the planting of rose-bushes has been carried out and practically completed,—over 450 having been inserted in the graves of the British Soldiers, Sailors and Marines? The funds have proved adequate,—in fact there is a sufficiently large balance in hand to warrant an extension of the original proposal, and I suggest that some

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little attention be paid to the mounds which bear absolutely no record, but beneath many of which undoubtedly some of Britannia's sons have been laid to rest. As there are no indications of name or nationality, these mounds did not come under the original proposition, but, provided there is no objection from the subscribers, I propose that part of the balance in hand be expended upon the provision of small head-boards or crosses (painted white) to be placed at the head of these name-less mounds which now appear doubly neglected in comparison with the recently renovated and decorated graves around them. To render this attention to every unrecorded grave in the cemetery would exceed the funds available, but by confining the work to those which presumably belong to our fellow-countrymen the plan should be feasible, and leave a small balance in hand for the provision of primrose-roots to be planted next spring. Should there be no other proposal forthcoming, I shall proceed as above.

The thanks of the approvers and supporters of the rose-bush suggestion are due to its originator, Mr. C. Holgate, who himself superintended the buying and planting of the bushes, effecting the purchases, and supplying all labour free of any expense beyond the actual cost of the plants. The economies thus effected permit of the extension of the plan proposed above. In fact, it was also the same gentleman who suggested to the British Admiral that the old stones and inscriptions might be renovated, and now that this good work is nearing completion, we are better able to appreciate his thoughtfulness, Your correspondent "Temeraire" will find that the stone to which he called attention has been duly renovated, and in case there are any similar monuments which might be overlooked I shall be very pleased to receive notice of the same.

Regarding the extension now proposed, I may add that I have submitted the same to the Secretary of the Committee, and have again been favoured with his kind permission to proceed.

Yours faithfully, CLARENCE GRIFFIN.

Yokohama, June 19th, 1903.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SPECIAL SERVICE.)

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE BELGRADE TRAGEDY.

London, June 19.

Mr. A. J. Balfour, speaking in the House of Commons, said that the British Government had considered the question whether it should mark its reprobation of the disgraceful crime committed at Belgrade by withdrawing the British Representative, and had decided that the Minister shall remain there for the present to watch events, but he would not be accredited to the Servian Court until further information had been received regarding the circumstances wherein the present Government had come into power.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Apart from the large Socialist gains, which were made at the expense of the Radicals, the balance of parties in the new Reichstag will be little changed.

SOMALILAND CAUSING UNEASINESS.

London, June 19.

The situation in Somaliland is causing uneasiness in England. The difficulties of transport are increasing and the line of communications between Berbera and Bohotle is threatened. Three companies of the Hampshire Regiment and 300 native troops from Aden have been ordered to proceed to Somaliland.

SIR ERNEST SATOW.

Sir Ernest Satow has started for China.

THE SERVIAN QUESTION.

An official *communiqué* from St. Petersburg recognises Peter Karageorgevich as King, but declares that it is incumbent upon him to punish the assassins of the late King and Queen. This news has caused consternation at Belgrade, where the assassins had been regarded as the heroes of the hour.

FATAL EXPLOSION AT WOOLWICH.

London, June 20.

An explosion of a lyddite shell on the 18th inst., at Woolwich Arsenal, killed 16 men and injured 17.

Mr. Brodrick, Secretary of War, has received a telegram from the French Minister of War expressing condolence in the name of the French Army.

SOMALILAND.

Mr. Brodrick, speaking in the House of Commons, said he had not heard from General Manning for two or three weeks. He presumed that General Manning and Colonel Cobbe had united their forces.

THE POWERS AND SERVIA.

Later.

Italy, Germany and France have adopted a similar attitude to England at Belgrade.

The Russian Court has ordered 24 days' mourning for the late Servian Sovereigns.

CARDINAL VAUGHAN DEAD.

London, June 21.

Cardinal Vaughan is dead.

BRITAIN AND THE SERVIANS.

The British Minister at Belgrade has been recalled. He leaves the Consul in charge.

NEWS FROM MANNING.

Dispatches from General Manning dated the 15th have reached Damot, where all are well though closely watched by the enemy. Cobbe and Manning are due at Damot on the 21st.

SIR ERNEST SATOW.

Sir Ernest Satow visits India *en route* for China.

SERVIAN GOVERNMENT UNEASY.

London, June 22.

There are indications that the Servian Government is becoming uneasy at the attitude of the Powers. The Servian Foreign Minister declares that the Government is not concerned about the murders, and is only fulfilling its patriotic duty in taking up office. It is admittedly difficult to punish the murderers owing to the power of the army, which could depose the new King, Peter, or overthrow the Government.

PRESIDENT LOUBET'S SYMPATHY.

London, June 23.

President Loubet telegraphed to the King of England his sympathy with the families of the victims who suffered at Woolwich.

PROMOTING ASSASSINS.

Several officers who were conspicuous at Belgrade in connection with the assassinations have been promoted.

SOMALILAND.

A special telegram of the 23rd says that General Manning and Colonel Cobbe, who were making their way to Bohotle, are now approaching Damot, where the garrison is unable to move owing to the proximity of the Mullah in strength. An engagement is expected.

Major-General C. C. Egerton, C.B., (Commanding the Punjaub Force and District), has been appointed from India to the command in Somaliland. This appointment is universally approved. It indicates that the operations will be much more elaborate.

THE NEW KING.

London, June 24.

Karageorgevich (King Peter I.) left Geneva for Belgrade to-day.

THE MORGAN TRUST.

The Cunard line have withdrawn from the pooling agreement with the Morgan Shipping Trust as their demands have been ignored. The supply of ships exceeds the demand and acute disappointment is felt generally in England and America at the Trust's operations. The shares have fallen enormously.

THE POWERS AND SERVIA.

The British, French, Dutch, American and Turkish Ministers have left Belgrade. The Russian and Austrian representatives alone attend the ceremonies on the King's arrival.

THE MULLAH'S HENCHMEN.

London, June 25.

The Mullah has a number of educated men with him, including former interpreters in the British navy who are well acquainted with British methods. He has a regular intelligence system connected with Djibutil and other ports. His force includes 1,500 riflemen and a mob of spearmen. The British forces will be about 6,000 of all arms. Experts maintain that owing to the transport problem the mere pouring of troops into the country will increase the difficulties. They advocate the adoption of later South African tactics of small light columns.

THE NEW KING AT BELGRADE.

Later.

Karageorgevich had an enthusiastic reception at Belgrade. He attended mass in the Cathedral. The Russian and Austrian Ministers met him at the station. His demeanour was grave but nervous throughout the ceremony. The Premier presented to him the leaders of the conspiracy, including the chief conspirator, Maclen, whom the King received in silence.

SOMALILAND.

General Manning telegraphs that he has arrived at Bohotle, and that he is leaving an adequate garrison at Damot.

(RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE.)

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Saigon, June 21.

At the elections for the German Reichstag the Socialists gained 12 seats in the first ballots.

THE SERVIAN SUCCESSION.

Russia and Austria have recognised Karageorgewich as King of Servia.

DEATH OF MR. FERGUSON IN KOBE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Kobe, June 22.

Mr. Ferguson, Chief Engineer of the P.M. S.S. *Siberia*, who met with a nasty accident through falling from the promenade deck of that vessel on June 14, died at noon to-day in the International hospital. Pneumonia developed only recently.

Mr. Ferguson superintended the building of the *Siberia* and *Korea*, and the Agent of the Company here, Mr. W. W. Campbell, has cabled home for instructions regarding the disposal of the body.

(RECEIVED IN TOKYO.)

KOREA.

Seoul, June 23.

The posting of placards forbidding the circulation of notes of the First Bank increases daily in Korea. As a result there is much embarrassment on the exchanges, and it is thought probable that a commotion like the recent one will again take place.

RUSSIA ON THE YALU.

At the close of last year Russia asked China for a twenty-five years' lease of certain land on the east bank of the Yalu, but

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China did not reply in either the negative or the affirmative. It is now stated that Russia is treating the land in question as she pleases, and is taking various measures with regard to it.

(RECEIVED BY THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

SECRET CONVENTION AT PEKING.

Peking, June 23.

On the 20th instant a secret treaty was concluded and signed between M. Lessar and Prince Ching with regard to Manchuria, according to private intelligence. As soon as the particulars can be obtained they shall be telegraphed.

With reference to the above the *Jiji* says that according to a telegram received in a certain quarter on the night of the 22nd at 11 o'clock from Peking, Prince Ching, when interrogated by Mr. Uchida, declared that China would make no secret treaty with Russia, and that she had refused the Seven Demands categorically to M. Lessar. It would thus seem as though a secret treaty had not been concluded, but in view of the importance of the matter no time has been lost in publishing the above telegram.

RUSSIA AND KOREA.

London, June 22.

It is believed in St. Petersburg that Russia's special envoy to Korea, M. Waeber, succeeded in accomplishing something important during his long residence in Seoul where he was on intimate terms with the Sovereign. M. Waeber is still on his way home.

(FROM THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

THE SERVIAN AFFAIR.

London, June 17.

The Czar of Russia and the Emperor of Austria have conveyed their congratulations to Peter I, the new King of Servia.

Amnesty has been granted to those who were concerned in the recent *emeute*. In the Cathedral at Belgrade, a religious ceremony has been held. The presiding Bishop expressed the nation's thanks to the army.

THE "LEVIATHAN" TO COME EAST.

The first class armoured cruiser *Leviathan* (14,100 tons, 30,000 horse power, 23 knots, and newly built) will be added to the British squadron in the China seas.

EXPLOSION OF LYDDITE.

London, June 19.

At Woolwich arsenal a quantity of lyddite, with which seven of the largest shells were being loaded, exploded. Sixteen persons were killed and seventeen were injured. Extensive damage was caused to the buildings.

SERVIA AND RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has apprised Servia of the necessity of punishing the assassins. By order of the Czar, the Imperial Court observed twenty-four days' mourning for the late King and Queen of Servia.

GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

London, June 20.

In reference to the explosion that occurred in Woolwich Arsenal, the French Government yesterday conveyed, by telegraph, its condolences with the British Government. The British people warmly appreciate the kindly feelings.

The military review at Aldershot has been postponed till the arrival of President Loubet.

THE SERVIAN AFFAIR.

Lord Lansdowne, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has declared in the House of Lords that diplomatic relations between Great Britain and Servia will be suspended until punishment is inflicted on the assassins, and that the British Minister will be ordered to leave Belgrade during the time of the ceremony of the coronation. He stated that the Servians are showing an inclination to refuse the demands of the Powers with reference to the punishment of the guilty, that France and Germany have assumed an attitude similar to that of Great Britain, and that Russia has obtained a pretext to interfere in Servia and had informed Great Britain of the condition of affairs.

SOMALILAND AFFAIRS.

London, June 22.

Major-General Egerton, new commander of the British force, with re-enforcements, is about to start for Somaliland. General Manning and his force is in a dangerous situation.

RUSSO-CHINESE BANK.

The Russo-Chinese Bank has obtained permission to establish branches at San Francisco, Hongkong and Calcutta.

THE SERVIAN AFFAIR.

The U. S. Government has suspended diplomatic relations with Servia.

(FROM THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST.")

THE TSAR AND SERVIA.

Berlin, June 18.

The Tsar acknowledges Prince Peter Karageorgevich as King of Servia and demands the punishment of the murderers.

THE GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Berlin, June 19.

The final results in the elections of the German Reichstag are as follows. There were elected, (those in brackets will participate in the second ballots): Social Democrats 54 (122), Conservatives 31 (37), Centre 83 (35), Poles 14 (8), Imperial party 6 (16), Alsacians 6 (4), National Liberals 5 (65), Danes 1 (0), Anti-Semites 1 (13), Bavarian peasants' league 3 (6), Independent members 4 (10). Progressives ■ (24). Liberal union 0 (11), South-German Democrats 0 (8), Guelfs 0 (8), Farmers' league 0 (1).

THE SULTAN.

Berlin, June 22.

The rumours that the Sultan intends to abdicate are based on wilful invention.

THE KAISER AT HAMBURG.

Berlin, June 23.

The Kaiser was present at the unveiling of Emperor Wilhelm I.'s monument in Hamburg. He was received by the population in an overwhelming manner. Answering the toast proposed during the banquet given by the city, the Kaiser said that he was convinced Germany will see a great future. He further said that Hamburg sets the Fatherland a good example in the enlightenment of the people and in exercising practical Christianity. He finished his speech by saying that Hamburg would thrive and prosper.

The Kaiser for the first time attended the Derby at Horn, near Hamburg. The Austrian horse won the race.

ITALY.

The Italian ministerial crisis has terminated. The Home Secretary, Sig. Giolitti, will resign office.

COUNT BULOW.

Berlin, June 25.

The German Chancellor Count Bulow has quite recovered from his illness.

SERVIA.

At the enthronization of Prince Peter Karageorgiwich as King of Servia only the Russian and Austrian Ministers will assist.

HUNGARY.

The Ministerial crisis in Hungary is finished.

U.S. SQUADRON AT KIEL.

The American squadron has arrived at Kiel.

HONOURING A SHIPOWNER.

Kaiser Wilhelm has conferred a high order on the shipowner, Mr. Krogmann, at Hamburg on account of the service he has rendered to the establishment of a new cargo ship line.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

SOMALILAND.

London, June 18.

A dispatch from Reuter's correspondent at the Abyssinian camp at Jigjigga, dated the 12th inst., says that Ras Makonnen, the Abyssinian General, and the British Consul at Harrar are endeavouring to effect an exchange of three English prisoners now in the hands of the Mullah, two of whom were wounded in the fight at Gamburu.

London, June 19.

The Mullah's force appears to be growing stronger, and it is feared that the prolonged strain will affect the hitherto friendly tribes. The people round Berbera are constantly fearing an attack, and this is the reason for the dispatch of reinforcements from Aden.

NEW TRANSVAAL DIAMOND MINES.

In the debate on the Precious Stones Ordinance in the Transvaal Legislative Council, Sir Richard Solomon, K.C.M.G., K.C., Attorney-General, declared that diamond mines recently discovered in the Transvaal are larger and richer than any others in South Africa. Sir Richard is an old Kimberley man, and a diamond expert.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan 1	M. June 29
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Riojun Maru 2	M. June 29
America	T. K. K.	America Maru 3	Tu. June 30
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India 4	Th. July 2
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 5	F. July 3
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Hamburg	Sa. July 4
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Olympia	M. July 6
Europe	M. M. Co.	Polynesien	Tu. July 7
America	P. M. Co.	Korea 6	W. July 8
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Sa. July 11
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Sa. July 11
America	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	Th. July 16
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. July 16
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Coptic	M. July 20
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	F. July 31

1 Left Vancouver on the 15th inst.
2 Left Seattle on the 13th inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst.
5 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 19th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. Lloyd	Preussen	Sa. June 27
Europe	N. Y. K.	Bingo Maru	Sa. June 27
America	O. & O. Co.	Doric	Sa. June 27
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of Japan	M. June 29
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu. June 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	America Maru	Th. July 2
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Th. July 2
Europe	M. M. Co.	Ernest Simons	F. July 3
Canada	C. P. R. Co.	Em. of India	F. July 3
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. July 4
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Sa. July 4
Tacoma	N. P. Co.	Olympia	Tu. July 7
Hongkong	P. M. Co.	Korea	Th. July 9
Hongkong	N. P. Co.	Victoria	Su. July 12
America	P. M. Co.	Siberia	Tu. July 14
Hongkong	C. P. R. Co.	Athenian	Th. July 16
Hongkong	O. & O. Co.	Gaelic	F. July 17
Vancouver	C. P. R. Co.	Tartar	Sa. Aug. 1

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Sudzuki, 18th June,—Yokkaichi, 17th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, M. J. Curnow, 19th June,—Shanghai via ports, 13th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Telemachus, British steamer, 4,802, J. H. Goodwin, 19th June,—Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 18th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Atholl, British steamer, 3,031, E. Porter, 19th June, —San Francisco, 28th May, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kennebec, British steamer, 3,301, Wallace, 19th June, —New York via ports, General. - Standard Oil Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 19th June,—Yokkaichi, 18th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 19th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,925, H. W. Willy, 20th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 19th June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 20th June, —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 19th June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Indrawadi, British steamer, 3,369, H. B. Conby, 20th June,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,881, R. Glegg, 20th June, —Liverpool via ports, and Kobe, 18th June, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 21st June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, 3rd June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Nuernberg, German steamer, 2,663, Jaburg, 21st June,—Hamburg via ports, and Kobe, 20th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, H. Yada, 21st June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 21st June,—Kobe, 19th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 21st June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Sudzuki, 22nd June,—Yokkaichi, 21st June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,260, Dupuy-Fromy, 23rd June,—Marseilles via ports, and Kobe, 22nd June, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.

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Prima, Norwegian steamer, 761, B. A. Mayer, 23rd June,—Iloilo, P.I., Sugar.—Chiat Yue & Co.
Preussen, German steamer, 3,278, E. Prehn, 23rd June,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, and Kobe, 22nd June, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Anna, Norwegian steamer, 784, Ola Olsen, 23rd June,—Iloilo, P.I., Sugar.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Ismaila, British steamer, 3,381, F. W. Fry, 23rd June,—Rangoon via ports, and Manila, 15th June, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, Kuwahara, 23rd June,—Uraga, Ballast.—NipponYusen Kaisha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, K. Nishihara, 23rd June,—Yokkaichi, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer 2,038, S. Yoshizawa, 23rd June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Albion (16 guns), British flagship, 12,950, Captain T. H. M. Jerram, 23rd June,—Target Practice.
Peleus, British steamer, 4,800, J. Barwise, 24th June,—Hakodate, 22nd June, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, De La Lande, 24th June,—Kobe, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, G. Nomura, 24th June,—Bonin Islands, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer 2,035, J. Nagao, 24th June,—Bombay via ports, and Kobe, 22nd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Trieste, Austrian steamer, 3,202, Mecozzi, 24th June,—Trieste via ports, and Hongkong, 18th June, Mails and General.—Pollak Bros.
Lyra, American steamer, 3,516, G. V. Williams, 25th June,—Moji via Kobe, 23rd June, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.
Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 25th June,—Vancouver, B.C., 9th June, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Djiguit (15 guns), Russian cruiser, 1,300, Captain Nazarevsky, 25th June,—Marshall Islands.
Ambria, German steamer, 3,526, Duckstein, 25th June,—Hamburg via ports, and Hongkong, 18th June, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Indravelli, British steamer, 3,152, Porter, 25th June,—Portland, Ore., 7th June, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,364, A. E. Moses, 25th June,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, and Kobe, 24th June, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Doric, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Smith, 25th June,—Hongkong via ports, and Kobe, 24th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, S. Yamamoto, 25th June,—Kobe, 23rd June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer 1,556, K. Nobeta, 25th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Annam, French steamer, 2,331, Girard, 19th June,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M. M. S.S. Co.
Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Sudzuki, 19th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Atholl, British steamer, 3,031, E. Porter, 20th June,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, I. Sato, 20th June,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
Asagao Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,526, G. Lapraik, 20th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 20th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Chingtu, British steamer, 1,459, J. M. D. Howie, 20th June,—Australia via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,706, T. Tibballs, 11st June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,744, J. H. Rinder, 22nd June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Rainbow, (12 guns), U.S. flagship, 6,000, Com. Dyer, 22nd June,—Cavite, P.I.
Macduff, British steamer, 1,881, R. Glegg, 22nd June,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Telemachus, British steamer, 4,802, J. H. Goodwin, 22nd June,—Victoria, B.C., and Puget Sound ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Alcinous, British steamer, 4,278, J. Pulford, 23rd June,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Glenlogan, British steamer, J. 3,759, McGregor, 23rd June,—Calcutta, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Glengarry, British steamer, 1,925, H. W. Willy, 23rd June,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Manila, British steamer, 2,711, H. G. H. Lewellin, 23rd June,—London via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, J. Barber, 23rd June,—Nasagaki, Ballast.—Butterfield & Swire.
Albion (16 guns), British battleship, 1,250, Capt. T. H. M. Jerram, 23rd June,—Target Practice.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, H. Yada, 23rd June,—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,831, T. Harrison, 23rd June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Oyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, S. Kawano, 24th June,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, K. Sudzuki, 24th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Kenebec, British steamer, 3,301, Wallace, 24th June,—New York via ports, General.—Standard Oil Co.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,001, M. Nishihara, 24th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Badenia, German steamer, 4,243, A. Roerden, 25th June,—Tsingtau, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,419, M. J. Curnow, 25th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Prima, Norwegian steamer, 761, B. A. Mayer, 25th June,—Kobe, Ballast.—Captain.
Tartar, British steamer, 2,768, E. Beetham, 25th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Lyra, American steamer, 3,616, G. V. Williams, 25th June,—Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, Kuwahara, 25th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, from Shanghai via ports:—Consul and Mrs. Toyoshima and 2 children, Mrs. Y. Yoshiwara, Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawry, Capt. Willcox, Mr. R. Marshall, Mrs. G. S. Lapraik, Capt. Widdington, Mr. and Mrs. Muramatsu, Mr. T. Kori, Mr. C. D. Cobham, Mr. R. Masujima, and Mr. Z. Ashina, in cabin; Mr. Nabeshima, Mr. T. Kenny, Mr. Potehin, Mr. V. Potehin, Mr. Iwata, Mr. Kubota, Mr. Nagasaki, and 2 Chinese, in second class; 27 Japanese, and 24 Chinese, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Count F. M. Frizzo, Mr. C. E. Bigelow, Mrs. C. E. Bigelow, Miss Dorothy Bigelow, Master E. Bigelow, Miss M. Chenclot, Master Lyall Dean, Mr. F. L. Goodnow, Mrs. F. L. Goodnow, Mr. David Goodnow, Miss Isabel Goodnow, Miss Lois Goodnow, Mrs. Urma Lawrence Miss Pearle Mitchell, Mrs. L. P. Sebree, Miss I. Serrel, Dr. D. W. Bigelow, Mr. H. Bigelow, Mr. E. Illing, Mr. R. Illing, Mrs. G. A. Nunnink, and Rev. Ambrose Coleman, in cabin. For Kobe:—Mr. W. Siegfried, in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mr. R. L. Fulton, Mrs. R. L. Fulton, Miss Helen Fulton, and Miss M. Fulton, in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. Toche, in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. F. J. Buchanan, Mrs. F. J. Buchanan, Mrs. A. Colton, Mr. J. E. Johnstone, Mrs. J. E. Johnstone, Mr. F. A. Linforth, Mr. Eduardo Muelle, Mrs. G. A. Nugent, Mr. F. S. Pooles, and Mr. W. C. Welborn, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles via ports:—Mr. G. Bertrand Xavier, Mr. Agouba Masatochi, Mr. Yashikouda, Mr. Pottal, Mr. Burke Honan, Mr. Seiloroff, and Mr. Erkmann, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Preussen*, from Europe via ports:—Major C. T. Keate, Mr. W. Herman, Mrs. Fisdall, Mrs. Th. Meyer, Prince Gagarin, Mr. O. Grosser, Mrs. O. Grosser, Mr. R. Hunt, Mr. A. Munster, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. van Clare, Mr. O. Burri, Mr. H. Zeitler, Mr. O. Peetz, Mr. P. Floer, Mr. O. Clews, Mr B. Lorentz, Mr. J. Lorentz, and Mr. E. Vix, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tartar*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Jas. Moore, Mr. W. R. Darsey, and Mrs. P. B. Clarke, in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yawata Maru*, from Australia via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Preston, Miss M. Preston, Mr. Frank Stuart, Mr. H. Gully, Mr. H. Howland, Mr. D. Grant, Mr. C. C. Druce, Mrs. Druce, Miss Washington, Mr. A. Kingdon, Dr. and Mrs. A. Martin, Mr. J. T. Arundel, Miss Balgarnie, Miss Hatch, Miss Crossley, Mr. W. R. Devin, and Mrs. Patton, in cabin; Mr. V. Reyes, Mr. F. W. Loudon, Mr. Chong Kue Hin, Mr. Chon Tse Chon, Mr. Lai Yine Sik, Mr. and Mrs. Ito, and Mr. Murakami, in second class; 29, in steerage.

Per British steamer *Doric*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. L. L. Potter, Mrs. L. L. Potter, Mrs. Buell, Mr. W. H. Ickis, Mrs. Ickis and infant, Dr. F. D. Clum, Mr. W. W. Spencer, Mrs. Iott, Mr. G. Wilcox, Mrs. G. Wilcox, Mr. C. G. Hues, Mr. J. S. Hanna, Hon. R. W. Irwin, Mr. Jas. Hayes, Mr. Feicke, Mr. Komor, Mr. C. Wilson Porter, Mrs. Kikumoto and amah, Mr. E. V. Thorn, and Miss E. J. Clarke, in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Chester North, Mrs. H. Stephenson, Mrs. C. W. Vance, Mr. W. J. Powers, Mr. F. L. Powers, Mrs. F. L. Powers, Mr. Jose M. Guenco, Mr. J. B. Cumming, Mr. A. C. Kohler, Mr. H. G. B. Gully, Miss N. Pierce, Mr. A. Nivins, Miss M. E. Moulton, and Mr. T. Mackie, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Annam*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. M. C. Hunter, Miss Hunter, Mr. Merecki, Mr. G. Thompson, Mr. W. C. A. Potts, Mr. D. A. Greenwood, Mr. S. Shiba, Mr. Perugia, Mr. A. M. Reith, Mr. L. Moreau, Mr. K. Nakagawa, Mr. Y. Yuza, Mr. F. P. Fell, Mr. Casale, Mr. G. Ollier, Mr. C. Carrion, Mr. C. Quentrir, and Mr. M. Takanashi, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Alden, Miss Dr. M. Burnham, Mr. F. J. Buchanan, Mrs. F. J. Buchanan, Mr. W. N. Chandler, Mrs. A. Colton, Mr. R. L. Fulton, Mrs. R. L. Fulton, Miss Helen Fulton, Miss M. Fulton, Miss J. W. Holland, Mrs. B. C. Howard, Miss Howard, Dr. J. R. Hykes, Mr. R. W. Irwin, Mr. J. E. Johnstone, Mrs. J. E. Johnstone, Mr. F. A. Linforth, Mr. Eduardo Muelle, Mr. G. A. Nugent, Mr. F. S. Poole, Mr. W. Siegfried, Mr. J. Toche, Mr. W. C. Welburn, Dr. R. W. Weir, and Mrs. R. E. Weir, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Manila*, for London via ports:—Mr. A. L. Langley, Mr. and Mrs. L. Inglis, Mr. and Mrs. John Roberts and native servant, Dr. Curtis, Mr. Burwell, and Miss Burwell, in cabin.

The Japanese steamer *Hakuai Maru*, for Shanghai via ports:—Mr. K. Takayanagi, Mr. R. A. Marshall, Mr. Kaktin, Mr. W. E. McMillan, and Miss K. Furukawa, in cabin; Mr. T. Akiyoshi, Mr. K. Nozawa, Mrs. M. Ishiwatari, Mr. K. Oshima, Mr. K. Hagiwara, Mr. J. Ogasawara, Mr. T. Hagiwara, Mr. K. Mayeda, Mr. S. Iwata, Mr. S. Harayama, Mr. T. Miyazaki, Mr. Y. Yoshizawa, and Mr. Go Shi Kyo, in second class; 40, in steerage.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste silk shipped per steamer *Annam*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Option.	Italy.	Lyons.	Marseilles	France.	Marseilles	Austria.	Milan.
H. Bernardin & Co.	—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	17	—	—
	—	—	46	—	—	17	—	—

Per British steamer *Manila*, for London via ports:—Waste Silk for Europe, 20 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There is no change to report.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER YARD.
White Shirting—{40 yds. 36 in. / 50 yds. 36 in.}	0.09 to 0.1
	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirting—8¼ lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	V. 2.85 to 3.60
Grey Shirting—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.80 to 4.25
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches...	3.00 to 5.00
	PER YARD.
Cotton Italians and Satteens...	0.20 to 0.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannels	V. 0.35 to 0.50
Italian Cloth, 32 in....	0.30 to 0.50
Mousseline de Laine,—Crape, 24 yards, 30 inches...	0.16 to 0.33
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.50 to 0.95
Cloths—Presidents, 51 @ 65 inches ...	0.90 to 1.00
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches... ...	0.60 to 1.00
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb per lb	0.60 to 0.66
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	9.50 to 12.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches...	0.90 to 1.80
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3.0lb 24-25 yards, 30 inches...	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches...	2.50 to 3.65

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE.
Nos. 16/24, Singles	Y. 140.00 to 150.00
Nos. 28/32, Singles	—
Nos. 38/42, Singles	—

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Nos. 32, Doubles...	145.00 to 150.00
Nos. 42, Doubles...	155.00 to 160.00
Nos. 2/60, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/80, Plain	Nominal
Nos. 2/100, Plain...	Nominal
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	245.00 to 255.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	295.00 to 305.00
Nos. 2/100 ,Gassed	425.00 to 435.00

RAW COTTONS.

American Middling...	Nominal. 31
Indian Broach...	26
Chinese	23

METALS.

A small business continues.

	PER PICUL.
Round and square ⅜ inch and upward...	Y.4.00 to 4.30
Iron Plates, assorted	4.30 to 4.50
Sheet Iron...	4.50 to 6.80
Galvanised Iron sheets	10.10 to 11.10
Wire Nails, assorted	5.30 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box...	6.90 to 7.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	2.00 to 2.50
Hoop Iron (⅝ to 1¼ inch)	5.00 to 5.50

KEROSENE.

Nothing new in the Kerosene market.

American	$2.86
Russian	2.72
Langkat	2.40

SUGAR.

The market is quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	Y.6.50 to 6.60
Brown Manila...	6.00 to 7.10
Brown Daitong	5.30 to 6.50
Brown Canton...	6.00 to 7.80
White Java and Penang...	7.30 to 8.10
White Refined...	8.80 to 11.40

INDIGO.

The market is inactive.

	PICUL
Java, Medium to best...	280.00 to 330.00
Calcutta, Medium to best	200.00 to 285.00
Madras (*Kurpah*), Medium to best ...	135.00 to 165.00
Madras (Dry Leaf), Medium to best ..	100.00 to 140.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The Raw Silk market remains very quiet, advices from Europe and America being discouraging. New silk is now arriving, and a few sample lots have been purchased on the basis of quotations, but from present appearances prices must recede considerably before any general business can be done.

QUOTATIONS.

Filatures—Extra Best, Coarse ... Y.	—
Filatures—Extra, Fine	—
Filatures—Extra, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 1, Fine	1.050 to 1.060
Filatures—No. 1, Coarse	1.030 to 1.040
Filatures—No. 1½, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 1½, Coarse	—
Filatures—No. 2, Fine	—
Filatures—No. 2, Coarse	—
Common—Coarse	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	1.020 to 1.030
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Re-reels—No. 3	—
Kakedas—Extra	—
Kakedas—No. 1	—
Kakedas—No. 1½...	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½...	—

WASTE SILK.

The market for Waste Silk remains unchanged. New staple has not appeared so far, but quotations for new Kibiso are entered in our list, and as soon as supplies come to hand some business will probably be done.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Best	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Good...	—
Noshi—Bushiu, Medium	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Best	—
Noshi—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	160 to 165
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	145 to 150
Kibiso—Joshiu, Good	—
Kibiso—Bushu, Fair	—

TEA.

Second Crop arrivals have been small as yet. Quality thus far is good. Buyers have taken all arrivals as fast as they have been shown and prices are firm.

BAD COMPLEXIONS

Dry Thin and Falling Hair and Red Rough Hands Prevented by

CUTICURA SOAP

MILLIONS use CUTICURA SOAP, assisted by CUTICURA OINTMENT, for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, for cleansing the scalp of crusts, scales, and dandruff, and the stopping of falling hair, for softening, whitening, and soothing red, rough, and sore hands, for baby rashes, itchings, and chafings, in the form of baths for annoying irritations and inflammations, or too free or offensive perspiration, in the form of washes, for ulcerative weaknesses, and for many sanative, antiseptic, cleansing purposes which readily suggest themselves to women, especially mothers, and for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. CUTICURA SOAP combines delicate emollient properties derived from CUTICURA OINTMENT, the great skin cure, with the purest of cleansing ingredients and the most refreshing of flower odours. No other *medicated* soap is to be compared with it for preserving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, hair, and hands. No other foreign or domestic *toilet* soap, however expensive, is to be compared with it for all the purposes of the toilet, bath, and nursery. Thus it combines in ONE SOAP at ONE PRICE, the BEST skin and complexion soap, and the BEST toilet and baby soap in the world.

COMPLETE EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL TREATMENT FOR EVERY HUMOUR,

Consisting of CUTICURA SOAP, to cleanse the skin of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle; CUTICURA OINTMENT, to instantly allay itching, inflammation, and irritation, and soothe and heal; and CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS, to cool and cleanse the blood. A SINGLE SET is often sufficient to cure torturing, disfiguring humours, eczemas, rashes, and irritations, with loss of hair, when all else fails. Sold throughout the world. Australian Depot: R. TOWNS & Co., Sydney. British Depot: 27-28, Charterhouse Sq., London. French Depot: 5 Rue de la Paix, Paris. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

CUTICURA RESOLVENT PILLS (Chocolate Coated) are a new, tasteless, odourless, economical substitute for the celebrated liquid CUTICURA RESOLVENT, as well as for all other blood purifiers and humour cures. Put up in screw-cap pocket vials, containing 60 doses. CUTICURA PILLS are alterative, antiseptic, tonic, and digestive, and beyond question the purest, sweetest, most successful and economical blood and skin purifiers, humour cures, and tonic-digestives, yet compounded.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	...55 & upward
Choice	45 to 55
Finest	43 to 44
Fine...	38 to 41
Good Medium	35 to 37
Medium	30 to 33
Good Common	27 to 29
Common...	—

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama, June 25.

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, Hongkong sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and Shanghai unchanged have not caused any alterations to be made in local rates.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0$\frac{5}{8}$
— — Bills on demand.....	2/0$\frac{5}{8}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{3}{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight.....	2/1$\frac{1}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight.....	2/1$\frac{13}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight.....	263
— — 6 months' sight.....	264½
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100.	82*
— Private 10 days' sight do.	80*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	89½*
India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	156
America—Bank sight.....	50
— Private 30 days' sigh	50$\frac{1}{16}$ @ ⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51$\frac{3}{16}$ @ ½
Germany—Bank sight	210
— Private 4 months' sight	214½
Bar Silver (London)	24¼

* Nominal.

RAILWAY TIME TABLES.

LEAVE YOKOHAMA STATION.

For Shimbashi—5.30, 6, 6.30, 7.35, 8.10 (express), 8.20, 9, 9.40, 10.10, 10.43, 11.15 a.m., 12.20, 1.20, 1.50, 2.30, 3, 3.30, 4.10, 5, 5.30 (express), 5.40, 6, 7.25, 8.25, 9.10, 9.50, 10.40, and 11.20 p.m.

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TAVANNES WATCH, CO.

A. and F. PEARS, Limited, London,
World-renowned Soaps.

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Provisions of all sorts.

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Biscuits of every description.

Veuve Clicquot Ponsardin,
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J. Witkowski & Co.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR JAPAN.
Yokohama, March 17th, 1903. M.1y.

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POWER-OF-ATTORNEY FORMS.

FOR SALE at the OFFICE of the "JAPAN MAIL," No. 55, Main Street

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BOVRIL is food and drink combined. It is not only a delightful beverage, but a valuable nourisher and energiser as well.

Cooks find that BOVRIL doubles the value of soups, gravies, hashes, made dishes, &c.

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Cure Indigestion, Bile, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Palpitation, and all Internal Disorders.

THESE PILLS ARE PURELY VEGETABLE; they contain no deleterious matter, and may be taken by the most delicate.

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UNTOUCHED BY HAND.

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For INFANTS and INVALIDS.

MELLIN'S FOOD is free from Starch When prepared is similar to Breast Milk.

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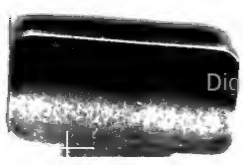
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